

## TOPIC: HOW DO TESTING STRATEGIES SUPPORT THE REOPENING OF OUR ECONOMY?

### STATE OF PLAY: WHAT'S THE LATEST

In late April, Georgia Governor Brian Kemp granted permission to restaurants, barbershops, gyms and other businesses to [begin reopening](#). [South Carolina](#) and [Tennessee](#) Governors followed suit. As states begin to chart their own paths toward reopening, we explore the relationship between testing and long-term recovery.

### THE BIG PICTURE: WHY TESTING MATTERS, WHAT MIGHT BE NEXT?

Economic reopening is expected to follow a phased, incremental approach. Until a COVID-19 cure or vaccine is discovered and administered, broad-based testing is needed to assess the ongoing virus incidence rate and to assess the success - or failure - of a particular reopening policy. *Molecular tests* give us real-time information about who is infected. *Antibody tests* fill data gaps on the true incidence rate of the virus, may provide information on whether an individual is immune to a viral strain, and could lead to policies like [immunity passports](#).

Ongoing research indicates that [up to 50% of cases are asymptomatic](#) and that countries have consistently [underestimated disease incidence](#) by testing only symptomatic patients. The U.S. is currently administering approximately [200-300 thousand molecular tests](#) per day. Yet, America-focused testing models suggest that [500 thousand to 10 million](#) molecular tests per day are needed to adequately diagnose symptomatic and asymptomatic patients.

Over the next six months, we believe that broad-based testing, robust [contact tracing](#) efforts, and consistent self-isolation policies will be critical to charting a return to the new normal. Currently, states and health systems are struggling to source the swabs and the reagents needed for molecular testing. Further, while mass-market antibody tests are [just beginning to emerge](#), some have [lacked the accuracy needed](#) to meaningfully interpret their results. For businesses beginning to re-open, ensuring the safety of workers and consumers in a new economic landscape will require novel approaches to management.

### POTENTIAL IMPACT FOR YOUR ORGANIZATION / THE QUESTIONS WE'RE ASKING

Your Organization And Workers	Government Institutions
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• What are the main challenges my organization will face as I work to maintain social distancing and personal protective equipment guidelines?</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• How will the federal government work with state governments and institutions to quickly share best practices emerging from states?</li><li>• How can the national institutions</li></ul>

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• What new safety guidelines (on personal protective equipment, disinfecting policies) will be needed in my business to ensure the ongoing safety of my workers and customers?</li> <li>• Does my organization have access to guidelines, best practices, or lessons learned from within my industry?</li> <li>• Will my organization take on testing responsibilities or health system partnerships to facilitate appropriate access to care for my workers?</li> </ul>	<p>continue to support expanded testing manufacturing for critical supply constraints and novel tests?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• As the nation shifts to reopening policies, how can we ensure the appropriate levels of healthcare infrastructure for potential future waves of transmission?</li> <li>• What do county-based public health offices and federally qualified health centers (FQHCs) need to successfully test and treat vulnerable patients?</li> </ul>
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## WHAT STS IS DOING ABOUT IT

Stop the Spread is working to increase America’s testing capabilities by facilitating funding to scale testing production, by matching innovative companies with manufacturers, and by working with research, medical, and public institutions to form connections that advance and support new treatment and tracing efforts.

- [Columbia University Precise Viral Load Testing](#): Stop the Spread is working to facilitate philanthropic funding for expanded manufacturing of novel tests currently used in COVID-19 treatment clinical trials.
- [Formlabs](#): Stop the Spread introduced Formlabs, a swab company, to a large contract manufacturer with matching capabilities for expanded swab production and processing.
- Further, Stop the Spread is working with public health and humanitarian organizations to accelerate existing efforts around plasma donation and contact tracing.

## LEARN MORE: OTHER EXPERTS AND SOURCES

- [The White House](#) Economic Reopening Plan
- [American Enterprise Institute](#), [Harvard’s Safra Center for Ethics](#), and [FREOPP](#) recovery roadmaps and policy suggestions
- [The COVID Tracking Project](#) Daily Test Data
- [New Jersey Manufacturing Expansion Program](#) (MEP) Recovery and Return Guide for Businesses
- [Partners in Health \(PIH\)](#) 1,000-person contact tracing effort in Massachusetts
- [Stop the Spread Testing Resources](#)

