



COVID-19


Leading and Learning in Uncertain Times

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- A large, detailed image of a coronavirus particle is centered on the slide. The particle is spherical with a textured, greyish surface and is covered in numerous red, spike-like protrusions. Small yellow dots are scattered across the surface of the particle.
- COVID-19 Preliminary Assessment
 - Development and Timeline
 - Preliminary Impact Assessment
 - Continuity of Service
 - Planning for the Recovery
 - Connect SoCal and Existing Work Plan
 - SCAG Leadership and Initiatives

COVID-19 Pandemic Development

➤ Identification and spread

- A novel coronavirus first identified in China in December 2019
- As of May 5, 2020, US leads in confirmed cases (1,812,000) and deaths (69,100)*
- SCAG region: 36,525 confirmed cases and 1,620 deaths*

➤ Controlling the spread

- California's statewide stay-at-home order began March 19
- As of early May, some states have begun to relax restrictions

➤ Monitoring the impact

- Standard forecasting toolkits are challenged since “the virus makes the timeline”
- Substantial uncertainty in public health implementation timeline, ability to resume economic activity, and consumer response

➤ Accelerating existing trends

- E.g. telework, telemedicine, decline in brick-and-mortar retail

Preliminary Impact: GDP and Employment

- **2020 first quarter GDP dropped 4.8%**
 - But only 2 out of the 12 weeks took place under “lockdown”
- **Over 30 million US jobless claims since mid-March**
 - 21 percent of US nonfarm workers
 - Suggests one in four Americans now effectively unemployed
 - SCAG region: higher reliance on tourism, hospitality, etc. may increase impact here

Real GDP: Percent change from preceding quarter

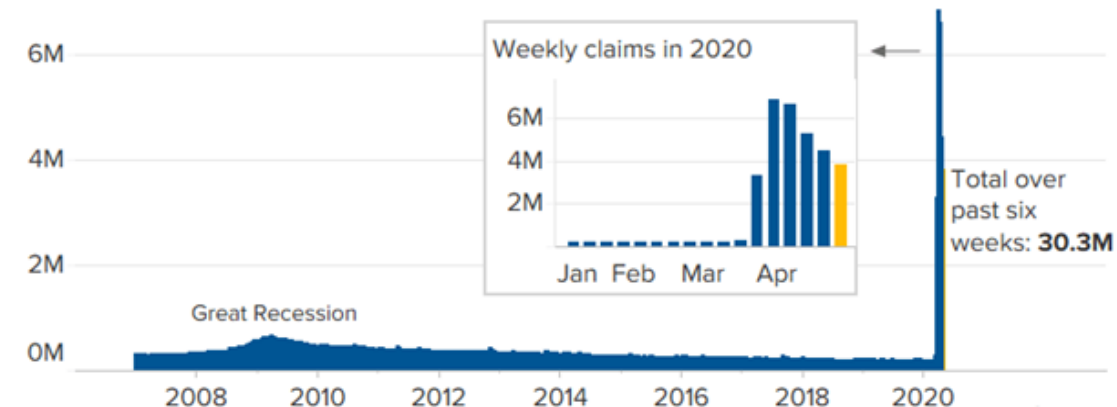


U.S. Bureau of Economic Analysis

Seasonally adjusted at annual rates

Surge in initial claims continues

Weekly initial unemployment insurance claims



SOURCE: Department of Labor. Data is seasonally adjusted.

Preliminary Assessment: What is happening?

➤ Health Care

- Connect SoCal already expects employment to outpace any other industry through 2045
- Despite recent gains, coverage gaps and unemployment expose vulnerabilities

➤ Supply Chains and Global Demand

- Erratic consumer demand and effect of lockdown on suppliers impacts supply chains
- Greater impact? Virus origination in China, importance of Asian trade to the SCAG region
- E-commerce puts pressure on warehousing and fulfillment
- Rail, truck, and port traffic declines
- Significant air passenger declines (95% drop at LAX by mid-April)

➤ Housing

- 6.4% of all US mortgages (3.4M) now in COVID-related forbearance plans
- Census data showed both housing permits and starts declined in March

➤ Public Finance

- National League of Cities survey: 96% of all cities report unanticipated revenue declines and expenditure increase

➤ Environment and Sustainability

- Temporary regional air quality improvements – a glimpse of future potential?
- Pandemic exposes key vulnerabilities – planning for the next disaster

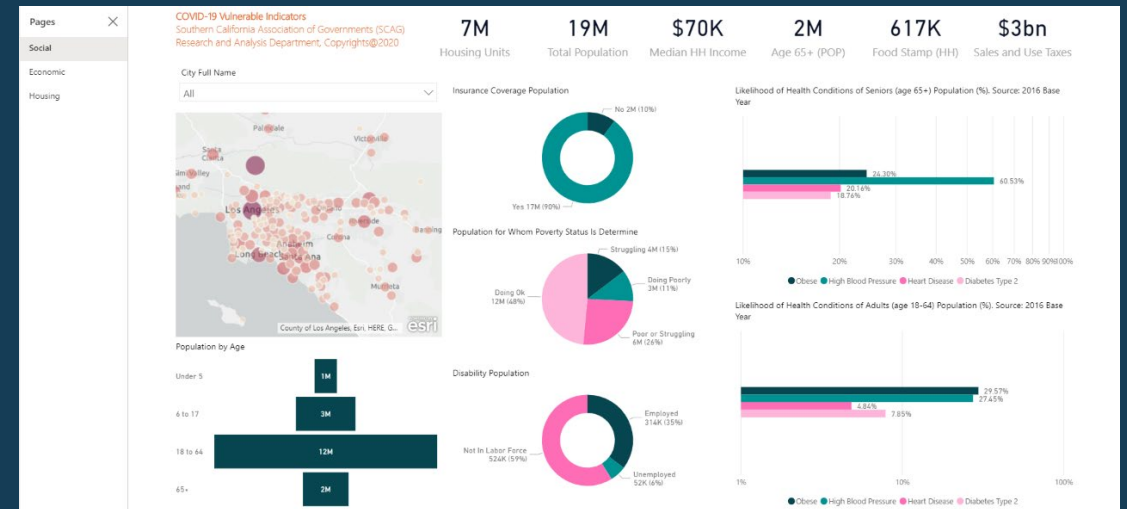
Preliminary Assessment: What is Happening?

➤ Scenarios and Pace of Recovery

- SCAG beginning to model possible impacts on taxable sales and employment
- The recovery will be fragile, partial and slow

➤ Economic Vulnerability and Resiliency – Uneven Across Region

- Vulnerability dashboard in development



Continuity of Service



➤ Public Transportation

- Federal CARES act provided \$1.4B region-wide
- SCAG collaborated with FTA and CTCs to apportion \$1.4B regionwide
- Developed online platform for transit operators to share COVID-19 data & policies

➤ Transportation and Local Planning Programs

- Grant Extensions, Scope Revisions
- Innovating on Outreach – *GoHuman* mini-grants to CBOs to identify/respond to emerging mobility, safety issues

➤ E-government Support

- Future Communities Pilot Program funding online permitting and licensing systems for Riverside and Cerritos
- Collaborative broadband study with CA Emerging Technology Fund

➤ Technical Assistance, Data Resources

- Continued development and launch of tools to improve data-driven governance and operational efficiency
- SCAG Aerial Imagery Consortium – cost-savings for local jurisdictions

- **Connect SoCal Adoption/Implementation**
- **Regional Housing Program**
 - Legislative Platform
 - Regional Early Action Program—AB 101
- **Regional Resilience Framework**
- **Future Communities Initiative**
 - Regional Data Platform
 - Pilot Projects & Broadband Study
- **Regional Economic Summit**



Regional Economic Recovery Strategy

➤ Continuing to monitor the situation

- Impacts of COVID-19 will continue to unfold over coming months/years
- Staff will keep monitoring key indicators

➤ Develop framework for Regional Economic Recovery Strategy

- Assess gaps and need for regional convening and leadership
- Explore alignment with SCAG planning programs, resources, expertise

➤ Seeking your input

- Seek input from the Regional Council
- Staff will report back with additional analyses and recommendations



**Questions?
Comments?**

Read more at:

www.connectsocal.org

www.scag.ca.gov

