

# Memo - COVID-19: Considerations for Reopening Economy

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This memo provides a staged strategy for how to safely reopen society following the initial peak of COVID-19 in the U.S. based on emerging knowledge that this virus is not as fatal as previously thought, but still remains highly contagious. The recommendations offered emphasize the importance of:

1. managing transmission of COVID-19 to preserve health care capacity and protect high-risk groups,
2. identifying strategies that are responsive to the needs of children and families,
3. outlining preparedness actions to mitigate the impact of seasonal influenza and COVID-19, and
4. building herd immunity to prevent a simultaneous surge of COVID-19 and influenza in the late fall and winter.

The authors also explain why when and how to safely reopen communities depends on population density in an April 27 [New York Times opinion piece](#).

To learn more about PolicyLab's response to the COVID-19 pandemic, view our [policy review](#) of literature to inform COVID-19 mitigation following community reopening and a [project](#) that is forecasting the impact of weather, population density and social distancing on the disease's transmission across the U.S.

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