



COVID-19 Response + Recovery Cross- Functional Team Update

3.15.2021

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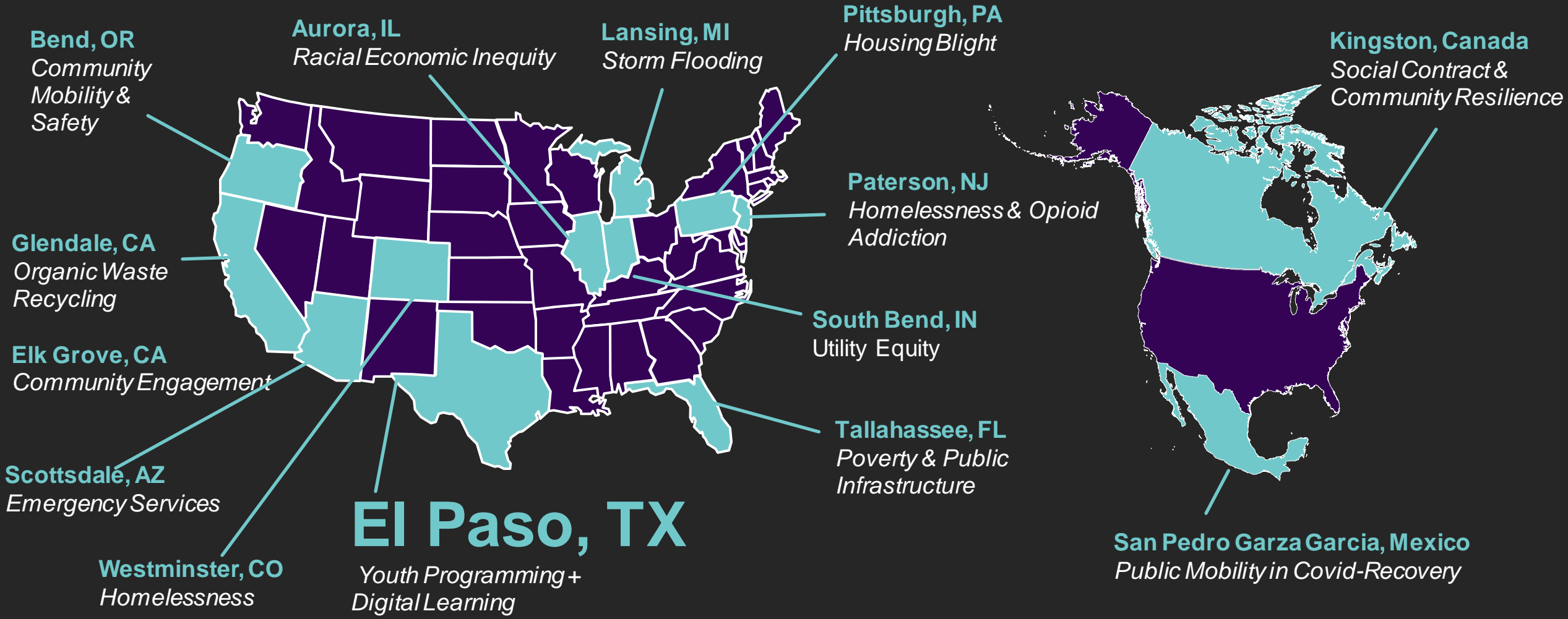
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1. Overview

Tommy Gonzalez

There are fourteen cities across North America participating in the Innovation Training Program (Bloomberg Philanthropies)





3. CAO Overview

- ❖ State Disaster Declarations
- ❖ Governor Abbott's Executive Order GA-34
- ❖ City Attorney's Office COVID-19 Support
- ❖ Legal Monitoring
- ❖ Courts Update

Karla Nieman

Governor Abbott's Disaster Declarations



Governor Abbott's Executive Order 34

Effective March 10, 2021

Allows businesses to be open at 100%

No mask mandate

If high hospitalization above 15% for 7 consecutive days, the County Judge can institute mitigation measures



But those measures cannot result in less than 50% operating capacity for businesses

GA-34 Rescinds the Following Executive Orders

GA-17

Governor's Strike Force

- Establishment of the Governor's Strike Force to Open Texas

GA-25

County and Municipal Jail In-person visits

- Prohibit In-person visitation at county and municipal jails during the COVID-19 disaster.

GA-29

Face Coverings

- With limited exceptions, use of a face covering remains required.

GA-31

Hospitals

- Postpone non-medically necessary procedures if high hospitalization area.
- Reserve 10% capacity for COVID-19 treatment.

GA-34 Keeps the Following Executive Orders

GA-10

Daily Reporting

- Daily reports of all hospitalization rates

GA-13

Detention in County and Municipal Jails

- Suspension of certain sections related to bonds in Article 17.03 of the Texas Code of Criminal Procedure.

No Longer a High Hospitalization Area

MARCH 6, 2021

El Paso is no longer considered a high-hospitalization area

Trauma Service Area I

- ✓ Seven Consecutive Days
- ✓ Number of COVID-19 hospitalized patients as a total of hospital capacity is 15% or less

www.dshs.texas.gov/ga3031



City Attorney's Office COVID-19 Support

- ❖ In order to align our Local Health Authority Orders with GA-34 some are:
 - ❖ remaining as Orders
 - ❖ others are becoming guidance
 - ❖ some are being terminated

Legal Monitoring

❖ Evictions

- ❖ U.S. District Court Judge J. Campbell Barker ruled that the CDC's eviction moratorium is unconstitutional but did not issue an injunction.
- ❖ Texas eviction cases are governed by the Texas Supreme Court's Emergency Order 34 which expires on March 31, 2021.
 - ❖ Requires certain information in an eviction petition and to be included with an eviction citation.
 - ❖ Limits eviction proceedings in certain circumstances.

Court Updates

MARCH 5, 2021

Texas Supreme Court issues
Emergency Order 36
authorizing in person hearings
with proper safety protocols in
place.

April 5, 2021

Municipal court hearings for
on-site pro-se cases will
commence. Virtual hearings
strongly encouraged.



2. CFT Operations Overview

Chief Mario D'Agostino

CoEP Phased Return to Work Site

(Telecommuting Administrative Workforce)

Phase	% Returning to Work	Conditions Required:
Phase I	25% Returning to Work Site	75% fully immunized (16 yrs. and older) <i>With the following conditions met/sustained:</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Hospitalization rate less than 12%• 7-day rolling average (less than 25 per 100K)
Phase II	50% (60 days following Phase I)	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Hospitalization rate less than 12%• 7-day rolling average (less than 25 per 100K)
Phase III	75-100% (60 days following Phase II)	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Hospitalization rate less than 12%• 7-day rolling average (less than 25 per 100K)

COVID-19 Local Response Efforts

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Financial Focus

- Updating forecasts based on operational plans
- Ensuring costs are captured in the appropriate program
- Reviewing costs weekly and updating forecasts monthly
- Incrementally establish the budget based on forecasts
 - next period is March through May

COVID-19 Public Health and Safety Response

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- The City expended all of the Coronavirus Relief Funds as of the original Dec. 30, 2020 deadline
- Our planned transition to redeploy resources allowed the public health and safety response efforts to continue
- The estimated monthly cost to continue the public health and safety response is approximately \$2.5 million (which the City has been covering since January)

FY 2021 Estimates

Description	Monthly Avg.
Logistics	\$50,000
Isolation & quarantine	131,000
Compliance & Education	218,000
EOC & response	32,600
Lab testing & collection	476,095
Epidemiology & contact tracing	770,053
Preparedness & vaccinations	765,852
Re-open El Paso – City facilities	88,000
Total	\$2,531,600

City Costs - Public Health and Safety Response

Description	Budget	Encumbered	Expenses	Remaining
Logistics	\$0.25	-	0.03	0.22
Isolation & Quarantine	0.28	0.03	0.04	0.21
Compliance	0.50	-	0.34	0.16
Education	0.26	-	0.28	(0.20)
EOC & Response	0.15	-	0.11	0.04
Lab Testing & Collection	3.81	1.00	1.44	1.37
Epidemiology & Contact Tracing	3.66	0.19	1.73	1.74
Preparedness & Immunizations	1.80	0.71	0.04	1.05
Re-open El Paso – City Facilities	0.8	0.03	0.30	0.47
Total	\$11.51M	\$1.96M	\$4.31M	\$5.24M

*Budget reflects estimated operating costs Jan - May 2021

American Rescue Plan Act State and Local Fiscal Recovery Funds

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- \$159.2 million – City of El Paso allocation
- Funds will be distributed in two tranches:
 - Tranche One – no later than 60 days from 3/11/2021
 - Tranche Two – no later than 12 months from 3/11/2021
- Funds must be spent by the end of calendar year 2024
- Recipient governments must provide periodic reports to the Treasury Department with a detailed accounting of the use of funds
- Funds can be recouped by the Treasury Department if the recipient does not comply with the eligible uses

American Rescue Plan Act

State and Local Fiscal Recovery Funds

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- Eligible Use of Funds
 - COVID-19 response or negative economic impacts of it (assistance to households, small businesses, nonprofits, aid to impacted industries)
 - For the provision of government services to the extent of the reduction in revenue “due to the COVID-19 public health emergency relative to revenues collected in the most recent full fiscal year of the metropolitan city prior to the pandemic”
 - Include premium pay for eligible workers performing essential work (as determined by each state) during the pandemic
 - Necessary investments in water, sewer or broadband infrastructure
- Similar to the Coronavirus Relief Funds, we are awaiting additional guidance from the Treasury Dept. on clarification on use of funds to ensure full compliance

Quality of Life Reopening Plan

- All Departments Adding Services for the Community
 - Zoo
 - Parks and Recreation
 - Libraries
 - Museums
 - Destination El Paso
- Approach
 - Phased
 - Regional
 - Quality
- Considerations
 - Health and Safety - Community and Workforce
 - Budgetary Constraints

4. Team Lead Reports



1. Health Focus

Hector I. Ocaranza, M.D.

Changes on LHA Orders due to GA-34

❖ Orders Replaced with Guidances:

- Workplace Guidance
- Homeless Shelters
- Visitation LTC Facilities

❖ The following orders and guidance stay unchanged:

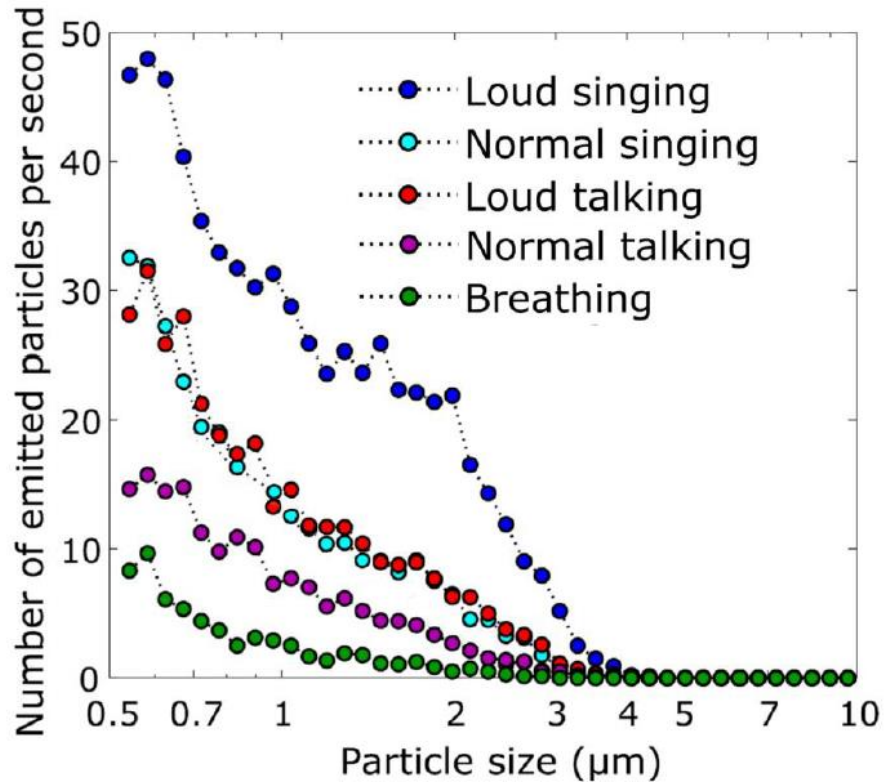
- Funeral homes reporting
- Home Isolation
- HCW and FR guidance return to work

❖ The following are being updated:

- LTC Facilities Testing
- Home-based facilities for the elderly Testing

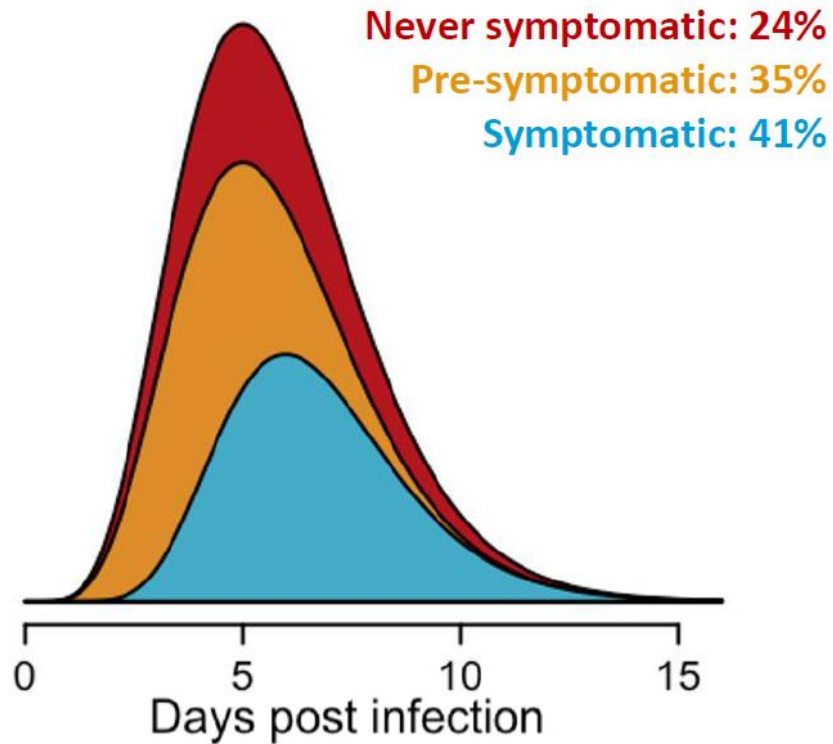


How People Get Infected with COVID-19



- ❖ Infection is spread primarily through infected respiratory droplets when people speak, breath, sing, cough or sneeze.
- ❖ Exposure is greater the closer a person is to the infected individual.
- ❖ Mask trap large droplets and filter smaller ones.

Reduction of Risk



- ❖ More 50% of the infections come from people who do not exhibit symptoms but are infectious to others
- ❖ Risk of infection is reduced by about 70% when all wear masks
- ❖ Wearing masks not only reduces the risk of COVID-19 but other respiratory viruses

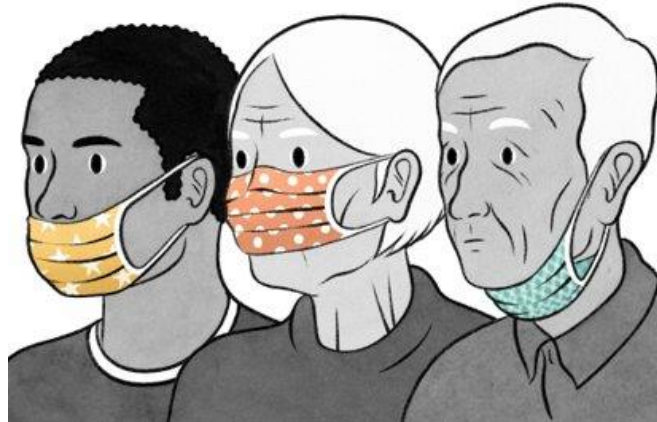
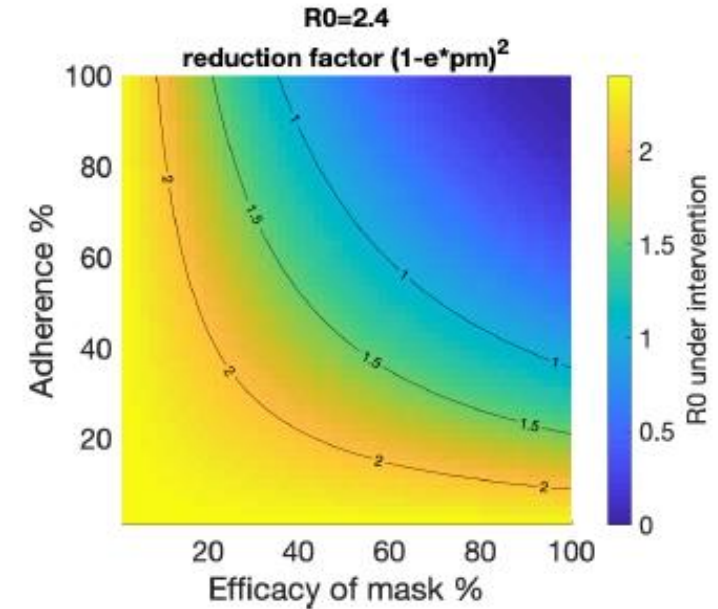
Level of Scientific Evidence

Three Types of Scientific Research Demonstrate the Benefit of Community Masking to Control SARS-CoV-2

1. Controlled laboratory based experimental studies of cloth masks
 - Proved **Source Control**. Blocking infected exhaled respiratory particles
 - Proved **Personal Protection**. Reducing the inhalation of these infected droplets by the wearer 2.
2. Epidemiological investigations
 - Outbreaks
 - Cohort and case control studies
3. Population level community studies
 - Across multiple levels (e.g., hospital system, city, state, country, multi country)

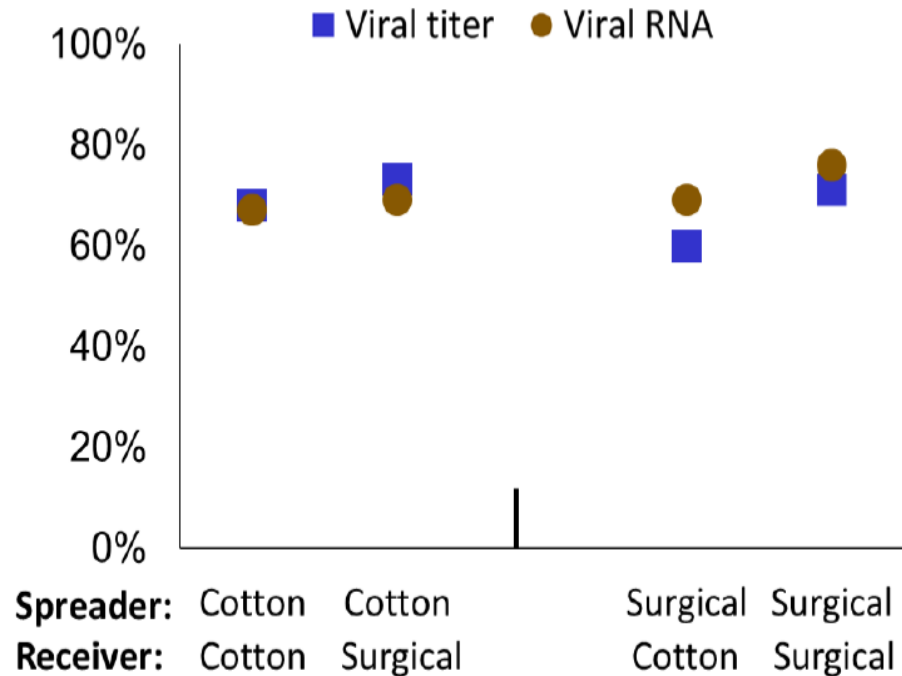
The Mask and the Science

- ❖ Effectiveness of masks is high in reduction of viral infections, particularly when worn correctly and by ALL people.
- ❖ Healthcare Workers use of PPE provide maximum protection filtering 95% of particles (N95)
- ❖ Multi-layer cloth masks block small respiratory droplets as much as 50 - 70% (Similar to Surgical Masks)

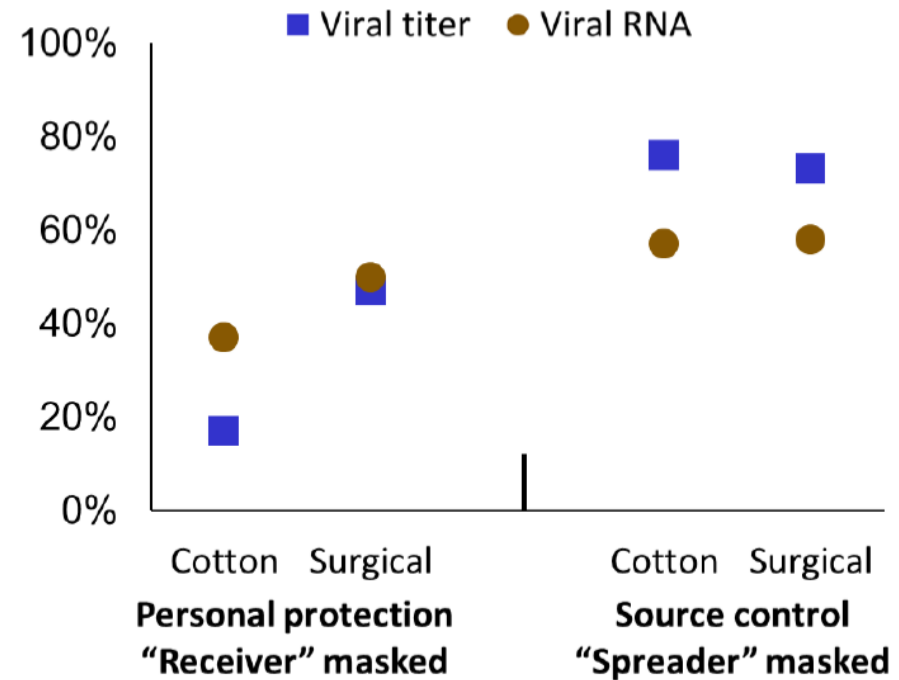


Mask Material and Reduction of Spread

Relative Percentage Reduction in Collection Received
Cotton and Surgical Masks: **Combined**



Relative Percentage Reduction in Collection Received
Cotton and Surgical Masks: **Separately**



Effectiveness of Face Coverings



Community requirements that affect universal mask use are associated with changes in spread of COVID-19

IN COUNTIES WHERE STATES
REQUIRED MASKS



Case and death rates
slowed*



IN COUNTIES WHERE STATES
ALLOWED ON-SITE RESTAURANT DINING



Case and death rates
sped up*



Community requirements that support mask use are associated with reduced spread

REDUCE SPREAD

PREVENT INFECTIONS

PREVENT DEATHS

* Data on state mandates were compared with county-level changes in COVID-19 case and death rates

CDC.GOV

bit.ly/MMWR3521

MMWR

Mask Recommendation

- ❖ Compelling scientific evidence regarding benefits of Universal Mask Wearing to control SARS-CoV-2 Pandemic.
 - ❖ Effective and Inexpensive Non-Pharmacological approach
 - ❖ Serves as another level of protection
 - ❖ Minimal contraindications to wearing masks
-
- ❖ It is **STRONGLY RECOMMENDED** to continue wearing masks until effective immunization levels are achieved

Wear your Mask!



References

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- Brooks JT, Butler JC. Effectiveness of Mask Wearing to Control Community Spread of SARS-CoV-2. *JAMA.* 2021;325(10):998–999. doi:10.1001/jama.2021.1505



2. Vaccination Update

Angela Mora

Education Taskforce City Senior Center Outreach

Target Population 1,680 (meals enrollment)

- Total centers=11: Hilos de Plata Happiness Center, Grandview, Eastside, Polly Harris, South El Paso, Wellington Chew, Chihuahua, Memorial, Friendly, Pavo Real

City & County Senior Centers Outreach

Meals program – curbside pick up

- ❖ 1516 reached
- ❖ 191 registered

Homebound meals program outreach – phone calls, home visits

- ❖ Target 1866
- ❖ Reached to date 349
- ❖ Registered 29
- ❖ Vaccinated 214



Downtown Walk-in Center

220 S. Stanton St. - walk-in clinic -registration & information

Monday – Friday 8 am – 5 pm

Full-service center

1072 registered as of 3/12/2021

Business Outreach

Table set up for on-site registration:

- ❖ Grocery stores all areas
- ❖ Recreation center
- ❖ 302/86 = 388 as of 3/12/2021

Total registered = 1680

Long Term Care Facilities Update

Administrati ng Source	SNF	ALF	Foster & Host Home	Hospice	Independent Living	Intermediate Care Facilities for Individuals with an Intellectual Disability	First Dose Total (as of 2/25/21)	Second Dose Total (as of 2/25/21)
DSHS	2	5	0	0	0	0	205	36
Fire/DPH	0	21	62	8 (partially)	1	0	1431	1062
Pharmacy	19	15	1	1	2	0	1613	1012
Pending	0	3 (closed)	27	11 (4 closed)	1	14	N/A	N/A
Total	21	44	90	20	4	14	3249	2110

Next Steps:

- ❖ Vaccination for homebound
- ❖ Senior center vaccination
- ❖ Chamizal neighborhood door-to-door
- ❖ Target other sites for registration

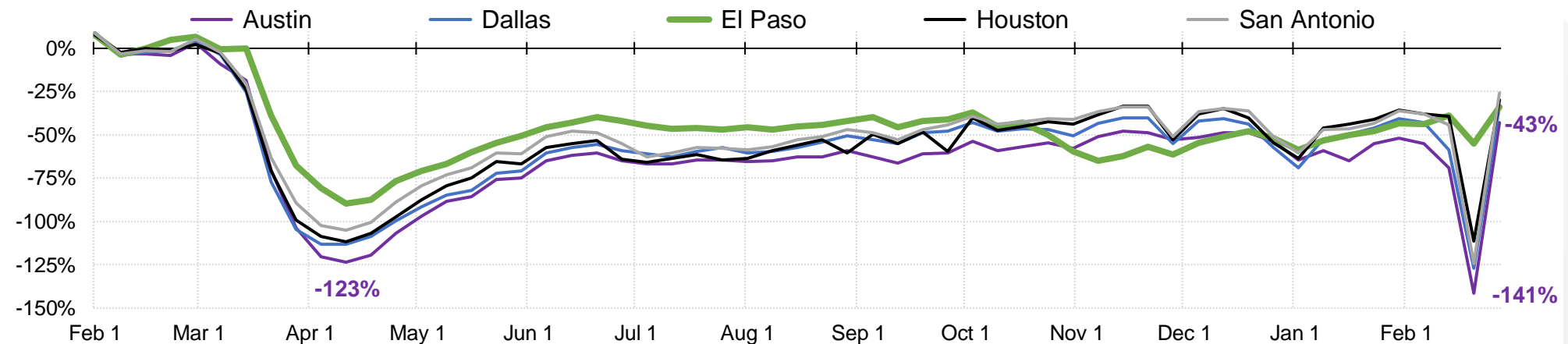
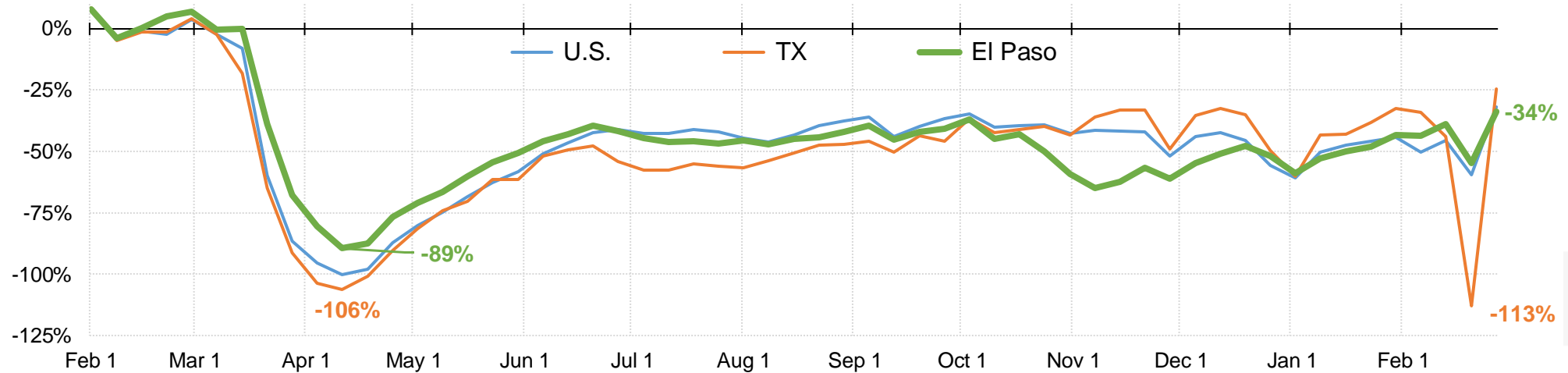


Data Analysis

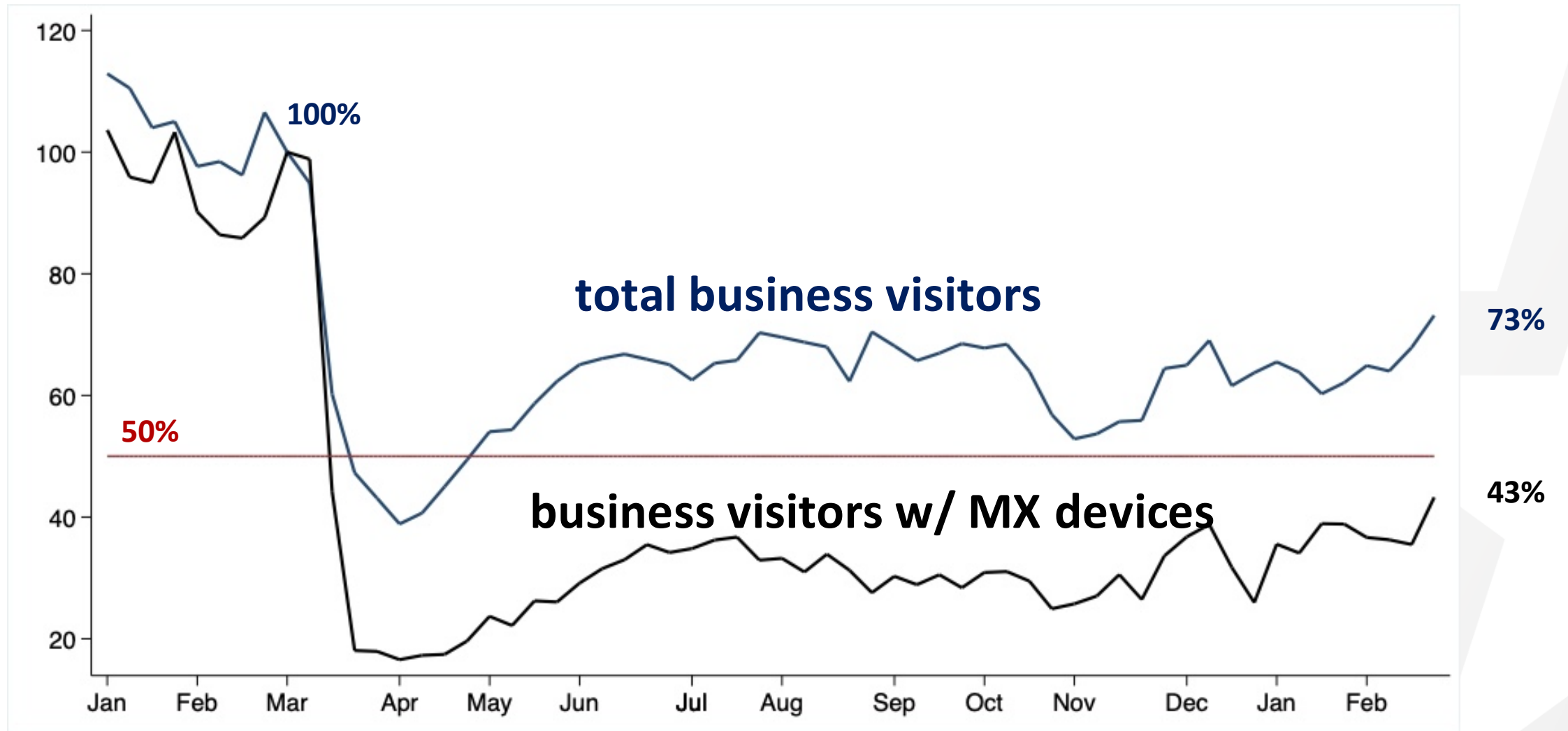
David A. Coronado, MPA

Mobility & Engagement Index

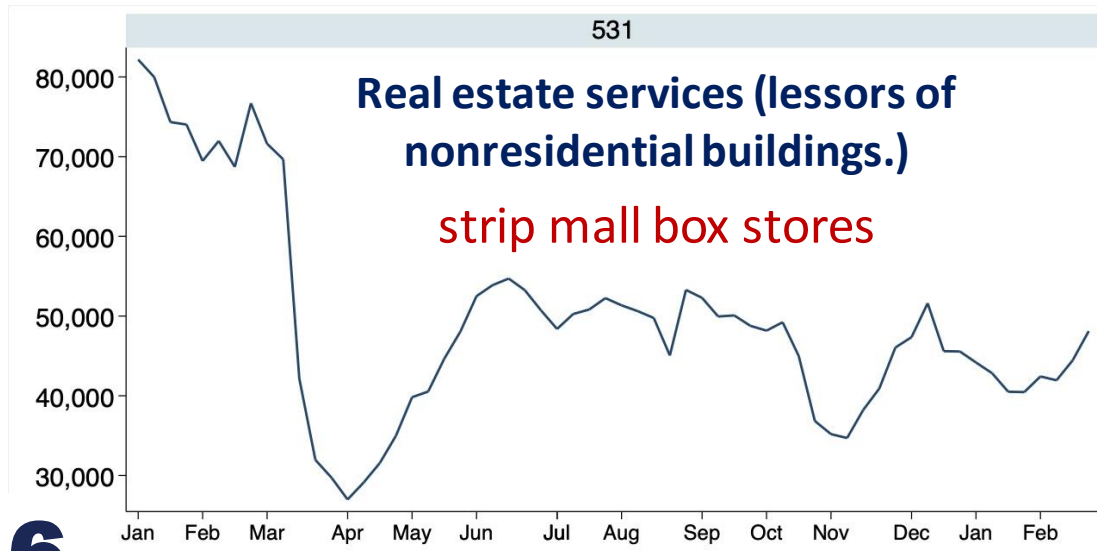
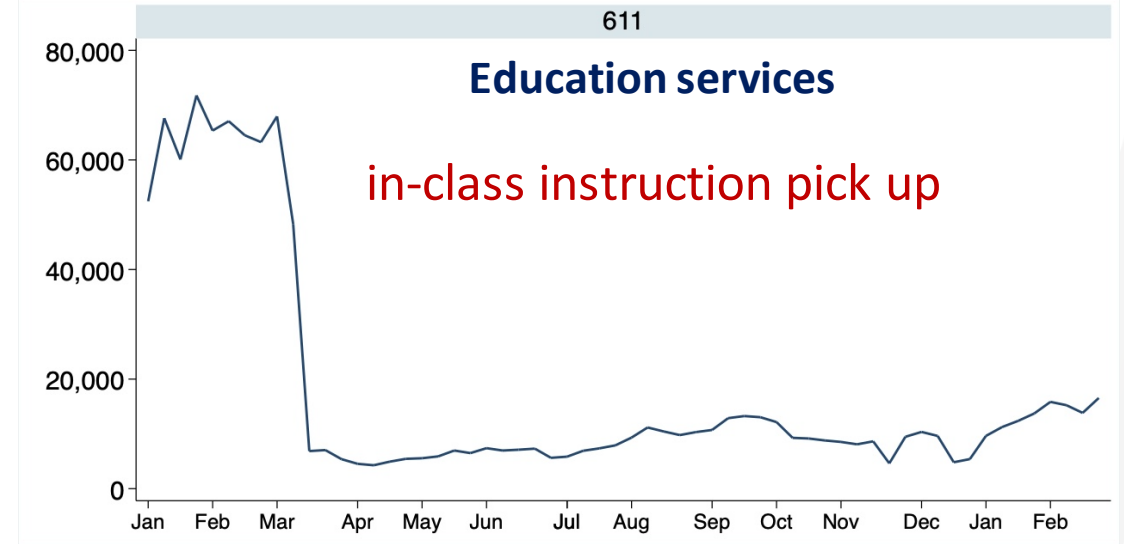
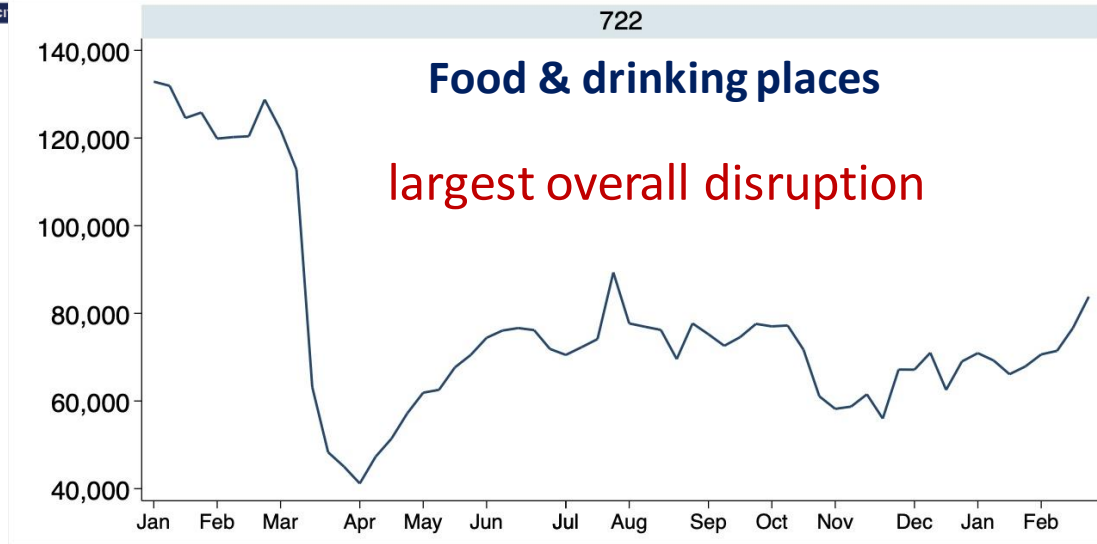
Percent change of mobility compared to January-February, 2020 average (Baseline)



El Paso County Index

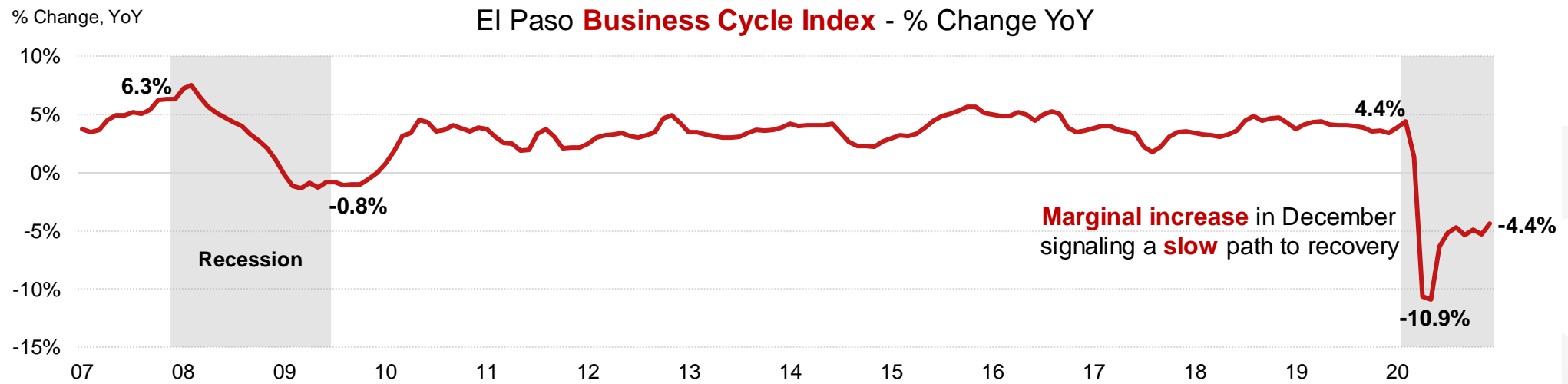


Total Business Visits



Business Cycle Index

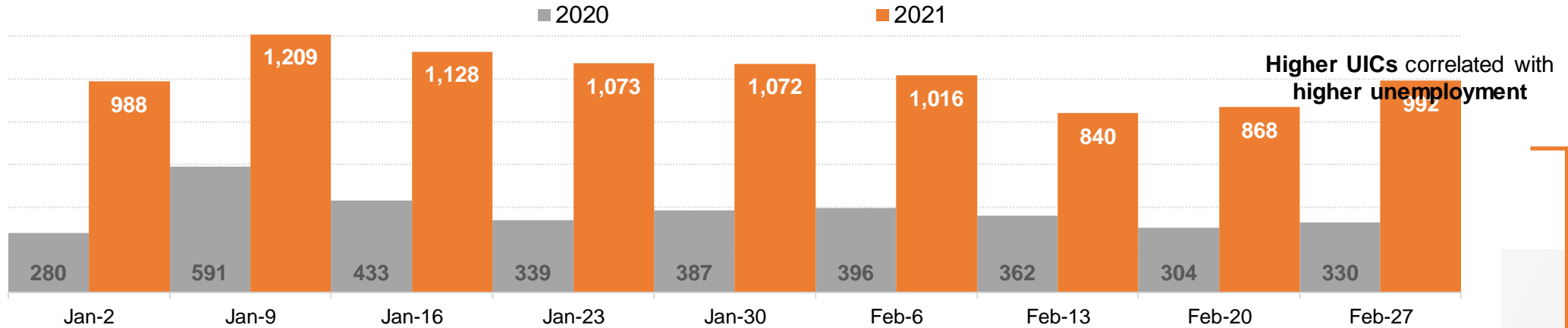
The path to economic recovery seems to be losing steam driven by **higher unemployment**



Source: Federal Reserve Bank of Dallas. Last observation: December, 2020

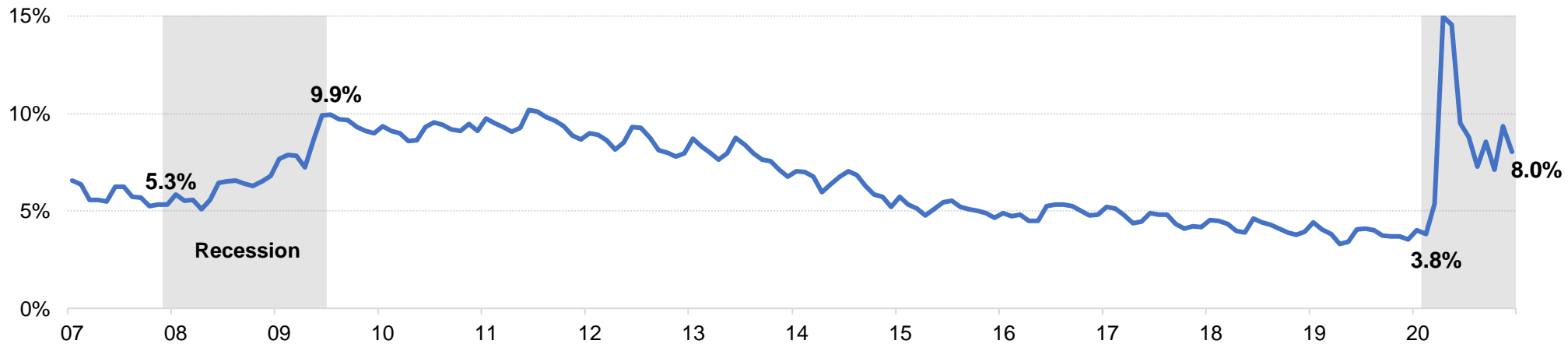
El Paso County Unemployment

El Paso County Weekly **Unemployment Insurance Claims** (in thousands)



Source: Texas Workforce Commission. Last observation: February 27, 2021

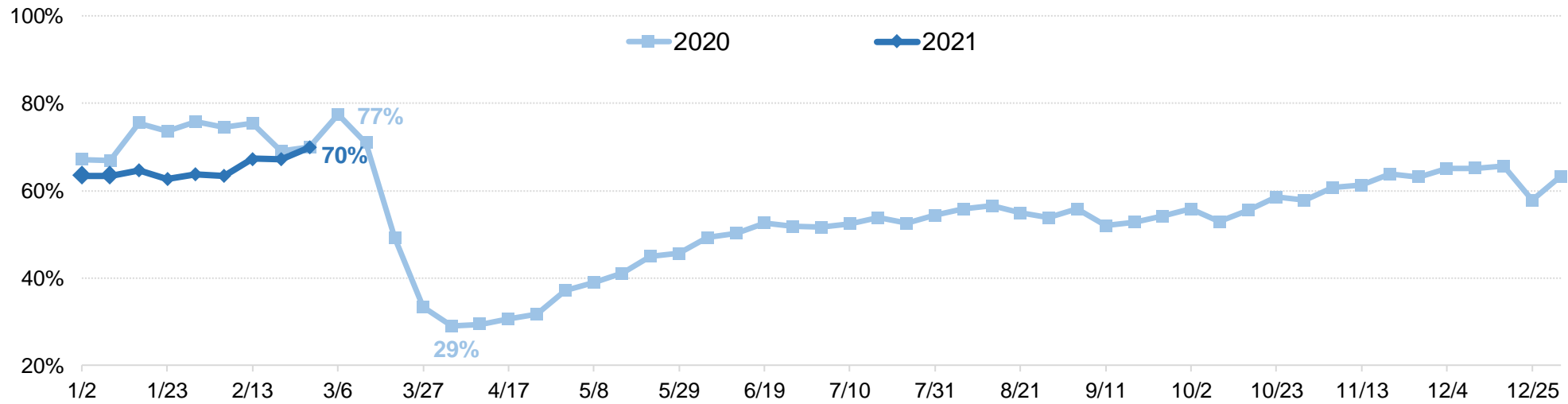
El Paso County Monthly **Unemployment Rate**



Source: Texas Workforce Commission. Last observation: December, 2020

Hotel Occupancy

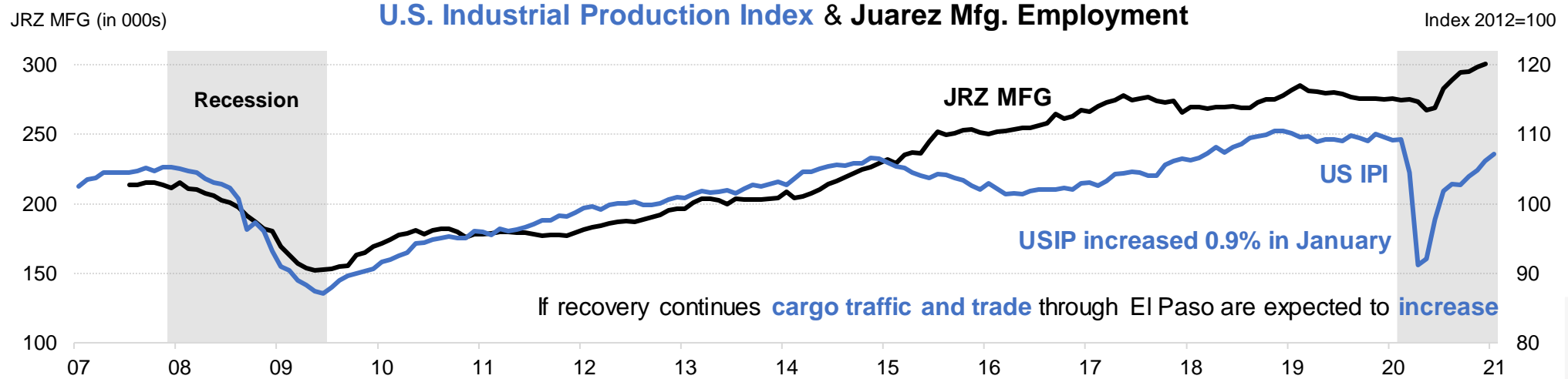
Hotel Occupancy (weekly average) currently at 2020 pre-pandemic levels (70%)



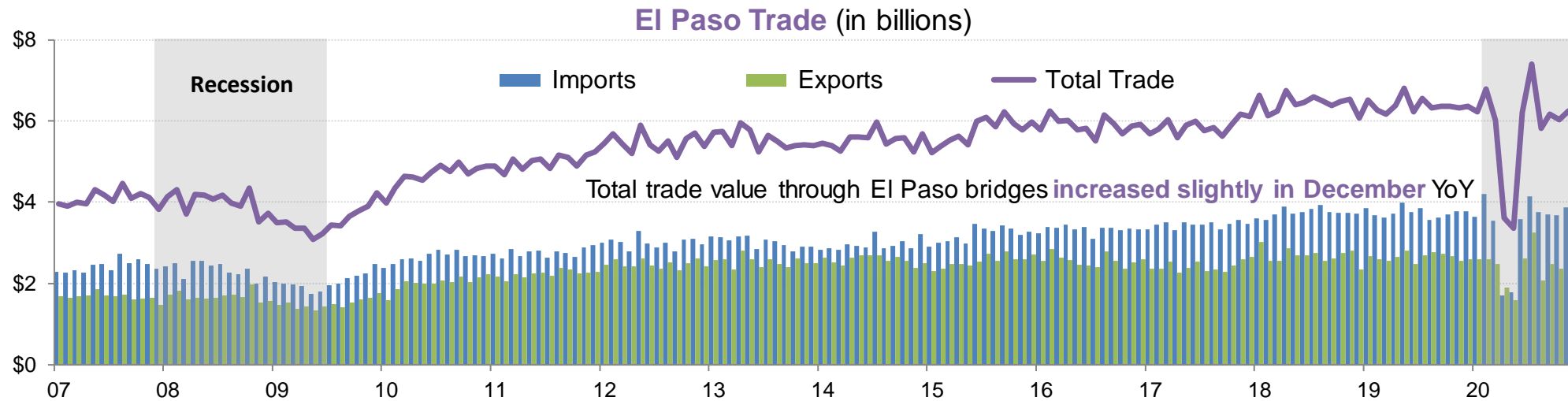
Source: Destination El Paso. Last observation: February 27, 2021

January 2021
U.S = 39.3%
Texas = 43.3%

Manufacturing Activity & Trade



Source: FRED and INEGI data Seasonally Adjusted. USIP last observation: January, 2021. JRZ MFG last observation: December, 2020



Source: U.S. Bureau of Transportation Statistics. Last observation: December, 2020



Thank you!