

# IIMHL & IIDL Briefing V

This briefing highlights three articles on the economic impact of Covid-19 on health outcomes

Janet Peters - 20 April 2020

## England

### Recessions and health: the long-term health consequences of responses to the coronavirus

The Institute for Fiscal Studies, April 2020

The current lockdown and social distancing measures brought about by the coronavirus crisis, coupled with the direct effects of the virus on workers and firms, are having a huge impact on economies in the UK and around the world. Existing literature on the health impacts of business-cycle fluctuations and recessions shows that the resulting economic downturn will have significant consequences on people's health outcomes in the short and longer term.

A debate has started on whether the adverse health effects of a recession may be greater than the increased morbidity and mortality within the pandemic itself. This briefing note discusses some of the mechanisms through which shocks to macroeconomic conditions may affect health.

<https://www.ifs.org.uk/uploads/BN281-Recessions-and-health-The-long-term-health-consequences-of-responses-to-COVID-19-FINAL.pdf>

## US

### Berkley Conversations: COVID-19: Economic impact, human solutions

Berkley University

April 10th 2020

The COVID-19 pandemic is confronting every level of the U.S. economy with an unprecedented challenge, and the government must mount a sustained, ambitious economic response lasting months and perhaps years, UC Berkeley economists said in an online forum today.

In the latest event in the [Berkeley Conversations: COVID-19](#) series, some of the nation's leading economists and policy experts said the effort will require expansive additional measures to relieve workers, state governments and businesses. And they agreed that the recovery program must focus on workers and communities of colour who are bearing the brunt of the crisis.

The recovery program likely will cost trillions of dollars, on top of relief measures already approved by Congress and President Donald Trump. But, they said,

aggressive investment and well-designed policy could bring the economy back more quickly and with less long-term distress for workers and businesses. They concluded that the nation can afford the investment

<https://news.berkeley.edu/2020/04/10/covid-19-economic-impact-human-solutions/>

## London School of Economics

### COVID-19: Communique from G20 Extraordinary Leaders' Summit April 2020

A letter to G20 leaders has called for immediate international action to help emerging and developing countries in the Covid-19 crisis.

Coordinated by Professor Erik Berglof, Director of LSE's Institute of Global Affairs, Gordon Brown, the former UK Prime Minister, and Sir Jeremy Farrar, Director of the Wellcome Trust, it has been signed by more than 200 former world leaders, leading economists and global health experts.

*It says: "The communique from the G20 Extraordinary Leaders' Summit on March 26, 2020, recognised the gravity and urgency of the entwined public health and economic crises, but we now require urgent specific measures that can be agreed on with speed and at scale: emergency support for global health initiatives led by the World Health Organisation and emergency measures to restore the global economy. Both require world leaders to commit to funding far beyond the current capacity of our existing international institutions."*

Letter

<http://www.lse.ac.uk/News/News-Assets/PDFs/2020/FINAL-LETTER-2-to-G20-leaders.pdf>

Signatories

<http://www.lse.ac.uk/News/News-Assets/PDFs/2020/Final-Letter-2-to-G20-leaders-SIGNATURES.pdf>