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# Coronavirus Disease 2019 (COVID-19) Outbreak: CRS Experts

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On December 31, 2019, the World Health Organization (WHO) was informed of a cluster of pneumonia cases in Wuhan, China. Illnesses have since been linked to a new strain of coronavirus, designated Coronavirus disease 2019, or COVID-19. The disease has spread to many other countries, including the United States. The situation is rapidly changing, and both WHO and the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) post frequent updates.<sup>1</sup> CRS products on the outbreak are available under the “Coronavirus Resources” banner at <https://www.crs.gov/>.

The following table lists names and contact information for CRS experts on policy concerns involving the COVID-19 outbreak. Policy areas identified include

- public health, virology, and epidemiology;
- international response activities;
- domestic response activities; and
- legal issues.

Legislative Issue	Name/Title	Phone	Email
<b>Public Health—General</b>			
	<b>Sarah A. Lister</b> Specialist in Public Health and Epidemiology	7-....	-redacted-@crs.loc.gov
	<b>Kavya Sekar</b> Analyst in Health Policy	7-....	-redacted-@crs.loc.gov
<b>Public Health—Disease and Epidemiology</b>			
	<b>Laurie A. Harris</b> Analyst in Science and Technology Policy	7-....	-redacted-@crs.loc.gov
	<b>Sarah A. Lister</b> Specialist in Public Health and Epidemiology	7-....	-redacted-@crs.loc.gov
<b>International Response Activities</b>			
General, outbreak response	<b>Sara M. Tharakan</b> Analyst in Global Health and International Development	7-....	-redacted-@crs.loc.gov
General, World Health Organization (WHO), international authorities	<b>Tiaji Salaam-Blyther</b> Specialist in Global Health	7-....	-redacted-@crs.loc.gov
State Department	<b>Cory R. Gill</b> Analyst in Foreign Affairs	7-....	-redacted-@crs.loc.gov
China: Economics and trade	<b>Karen M. Sutter</b> Specialist in Asian Trade and Finance	7-....	-redacted-@crs.loc.gov

<sup>1</sup> WHO, “Coronavirus disease (COVID-2019) situation reports,” <https://www.who.int/emergencies/diseases/novel-coronavirus-2019/situation-reports>; and CDC, “Coronavirus Disease 2019 (COVID-19) Situation Summary,” <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/summary.html>.

Legislative Issue	Name/Title	Phone	Email
International economic effects	<b>Andres B. Schwarzenberg</b> Analyst in International Trade and Finance	7-....	-redacted-@crs.loc.gov
Multilateral Economic Institutions: World Bank, International Monetary Fund	<b>Martin A. Weiss</b> Specialist in International Trade and Finance	7-....	-redacted-@crs.loc.gov
Legal and illegal wildlife trade and zoonotic diseases	<b>Pervaze A. Sheikh</b> Specialist in Natural Resources Policy	7-....	-redacted-@crs.loc.gov
	<b>Katarina C. O'Regan</b> Analyst in Foreign Policy	7-....	-redacted-@crs.loc.gov
<b>Domestic Response Activities</b>			
<b>Economics and Employment</b>			
Economics: Consumer Finance and Credit Reporting	<b>Cheryl R. Cooper</b> Analyst in Financial Economics	7-....	-redacted-@crs.loc.gov
	<b>Andrew P. Scott</b> Analyst in Financial Economics	7-....	-redacted-@crs.loc.gov
Economics: Economic effects	<b>Marc Labonte</b> Specialist in Macroeconomic Policy	7-....	-redacted-@crs.loc.gov
Economics: Tax and spending options	<b>Mark P. Keightley</b> Specialist in Economics	7-....	-redacted-@crs.loc.gov
	<b>Don Marples</b> Specialist in Public Finance	7-....	-redacted-@crs.loc.gov
	<b>Molly F. Sherlock</b> Specialist in Public Finance	7-....	-redacted-@crs.loc.gov
Economics: Small Business Administration (SBA)	<b>Bruce R. Lindsay</b> Analyst in American National Government	7-....	-redacted-@crs.loc.gov
	<b>Robert Jay Dilger</b> Senior Specialist in American National Government	7-....	-redacted-@crs.loc.gov
Employment, Labor: Unemployment Insurance (UI), Disaster Unemployment Assistance (DUA)	<b>Katelin P. Isaacs</b> Specialist in Income Security	7-....	-redacted-@crs.loc.gov
	<b>Julie M. Whittaker</b> Specialist in Income Security	7-....	-redacted-@crs.loc.gov
Employment, Labor: Occupational safety and health, workers' compensation	<b>Scott D. Szymendera</b> Analyst in Disability Policy	7-....	-redacted-@crs.loc.gov
Employment, Labor: State Temporary Disability Insurance	<b>Will Morton</b> Analyst in Disability Policy	7-....	-redacted-@crs.loc.gov
<b>Immigration and Criminal Justice</b>			
Criminal Justice: Health Care in Jails and Prisons	<b>Nathan James</b> Analyst in Crime Policy	7-....	-redacted-@crs.loc.gov

Legislative Issue	Name/Title	Phone	Email
Criminal Justice: COVID-19 Related Cybercrime and Fraud	<b>Kristin Finklea</b> Specialist in Domestic Security	7-....	-redacted-@crs.loc.gov
Immigration: Eligibility for Public Benefits and Public Charge	<b>Abigail F. Kolker</b> Analyst in Immigration Policy	7-....	-redacted-@crs.loc.gov
Immigration: Health Care Immigration Detention	<b>Audrey Singer</b> Specialist in Immigration Policy	7-....	-redacted-@crs.loc.gov
Immigration: Border screening, Customs and Border Protection (CBP), Detention and Removal, Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE)	<b>Audrey Singer</b> Specialist in Immigration Policy	7-....	-redacted-@crs.loc.gov
Immigration: Foreign Health Care Workers	<b>Jill H. Wilson</b> Analyst in Immigration Policy	7-....	-redacted-@crs.loc.gov
Immigration: Non- Immigrant Visas	<b>Jill H. Wilson</b> Analyst in Immigration Policy	7-....	-redacted-@crs.loc.gov
Immigration: Temporary Worker Programs (H2A and H2B)	<b>Andorra Bruno</b> Specialist in Immigration Policy	7-....	-redacted-@crs.loc.gov
Immigration: Immigrant Visas	<b>William A. Kandel</b> Analyst in Immigration Policy	7-....	-redacted-@crs.loc.gov
<b>Industry</b>			
Transportation: Aviation	<b>Rachel Y. Tang</b> Analyst in Transportation and Industry	7-....	-redacted-@crs.loc.gov
	<b>Bart Elias</b> Specialist in Aviation Policy	7-....	-redacted-@crs.loc.gov
Broadband and Digital Divide	<b>Colby Leigh Rachfal</b> Analyst in Telecommunications Policy	7-....	-redacted-@crs.loc.gov
Federal Communications Commission	<b>Angele A. Gilroy</b> Specialist in Telecommunications Policy	7-....	-redacted-@crs.loc.gov
	<b>Colby Leigh Rachfal</b> Analyst in Telecommunications Policy	7-....	-redacted-@crs.loc.gov
Critical Infrastructure	<b>Brian E. Humphreys</b> Analyst in Science and Technology Policy	7-....	-redacted-@crs.loc.gov
<b>Legal</b>			
Isolation and Quarantine	<b>Edward C. Liu</b> Legislative Attorney	7-....	-redacted-@crs.loc.gov
Emergency Authorities	<b>Jennifer K. Elsea</b> Legislative Attorney	7-....	-redacted-@crs.loc.gov

<b>Legislative Issue</b>	<b>Name/Title</b>	<b>Phone</b>	<b>Email</b>
Health: Vaccines, Treatments, Patent Issues	<b>Kevin J. Hickey</b> Legislative Attorney	7-....	-redacted-@crs.loc.gov
Immigration: Border Screening, Customs and Border Protection (CBP)	<b>Ben Harrington</b> Legislative Attorney	7-....	-redacted-@crs.loc.gov
Procurement, Defense Production Act	<b>David H. Carpenter</b> Legislative Attorney	7-....	-redacted-@crs.loc.gov
<b>Medicare and Medicaid</b>			
Health: Medicare and Medicaid Oversight	<b>Cliff Binder</b> Analyst in Health Care Financing	7-....	-redacted-@crs.loc.gov
Health: Medicare and Medicaid Part B Prescription Drugs	<b>Cliff Binder</b> Analyst in Health Care Financing	7-....	-redacted-@crs.loc.gov
Health: Medicaid and CHIP Eligibility and Benefits	<b>Evelyne P. Baumrucker</b> Specialist in Health Care Financing	7-....	-redacted-@crs.loc.gov
Health: Medicaid and CHIP Financing	<b>Alison Mitchell</b> Specialist in Health Care Financing	7-....	-redacted-@crs.loc.gov
Health: Telehealth Medicare	<b>Jim Hahn</b> Specialist in Health Care Financing	7-....	-redacted-@crs.loc.gov
Health: Telehealth Medicaid	<b>Evelyne P. Baumrucker</b> Specialist in Health Care Financing	7-....	-redacted-@crs.loc.gov
Health: Medicare Physician Issues	<b>Jim Hahn</b> Specialist in Health Care Financing	7-....	-redacted-@crs.loc.gov
Health: Medicare Hospital Payments	<b>Marco A. Villagrana</b> Analyst in Health Care Financing	7-....	-redacted-@crs.loc.gov
Health: Medicare Advantage	<b>Paulette C. Morgan</b> Specialist in Health Care Financing	7-....	-redacted-@crs.loc.gov
Health: Nursing home and home health agency oversight	<b>Phoenix Voorhies</b> Analyst in Health Care Financing	7-....	-redacted-@crs.loc.gov
<b>Nutrition Programs and Income Security</b>			
Food: child nutrition programs during school closures, The Emergency Food Assistance Program (TEFAP)	<b>Kara Clifford Billings</b> Analyst in Social Policy	7-....	-redacted-@crs.loc.gov
Food: Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP), Special Supplemental Nutrition Program for Women, Infants, and Children (WIC)	<b>Randy Alison Aussenberg</b> Specialist in Nutrition Assistance Policy	7-....	-redacted-@crs.loc.gov
Paid and Unpaid Leave	<b>Sarah A. Donovan</b> Specialist in Labor Policy	7-....	-redacted-@crs.loc.gov

Legislative Issue	Name/Title	Phone	Email
Payments to Social Security and Certain Other Federal Beneficiaries	<b>William R. Morton</b> Analyst in Income Security	7-....	-redacted-@crs.loc.gov
	<b>Paul S. Davies</b> Specialist in Income Security	7-....	-redacted-@crs.loc.gov
Retirement: withdrawals, required distributions, and pension funding relief	<b>John J. Topoleski</b> Specialist in Income Security	7-....	-redacted-@crs.loc.gov
	<b>Elizabeth A. Myers</b> Analyst in Income Security	7-....	-redacted-@crs.loc.gov
Temporary Assistance: Short-term loans for repatriated U.S. citizens	<b>Karen E. Lynch</b> Specialist in Social Policy	7-....	-redacted-@crs.loc.gov
<b>Other</b>			
Federal Manufacturing Research and Development	<b>John F. Sargent, Jr.</b> Specialist in Science and Technology Policy	7-....	-redacted-@crs.loc.gov
Defense Production Act	<b>Michael H. Cecire</b> Analyst in Intergovernmental Relations and Economic Development Policy	7-....	-redacted-@crs.loc.gov
	<b>Heidi M. Peters</b> Analyst in U.S. Defense Acquisition Policy	7-....	-redacted-@crs.loc.gov
School and University Closures and Online Operations	<b>Rebecca R. Skinner</b> Specialist in Education Policy	7-....	-redacted-@crs.loc.gov
	<b>Alexandra Hegji</b> Analyst in Social Policy	7-....	-redacted-@crs.loc.gov
	<b>Cassandra Dortch</b> Specialist in Education Policy	7-....	-redacted-@crs.loc.gov
Congressional Operations	<b>Ida A. Brudnick</b> Specialist on the Congress	7-....	-redacted-@crs.loc.gov
	<b>R. Eric Petersen</b> Specialist in American National Government	7-....	-redacted-@crs.loc.gov
Judicial Operations	<b>Barry J. McMillion</b> Analyst in American National Government	7-....	-redacted-@crs.loc.gov
Tax Credits, Paid Sick Leave, and Paid Family and Medical Leave	<b>Molly F. Sherlock</b> Specialist in Public Finance	7-....	-redacted-@crs.loc.gov
Election Administration and Voting	<b>R. Sam Garrett</b> Specialist in American National Government	7-....	-redacted-@crs.loc.gov
Emergency Management: Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA)	<b>Bruce R. Lindsay</b> Analyst in American National Government	7-....	-redacted-@crs.loc.gov
	<b>Erica A. Lee</b> Analyst in Emergency Management and Disaster Recovery	7-....	-redacted-@crs.loc.gov

Legislative Issue	Name/Title	Phone	Email
	<b>Elizabeth M. Webster</b> Analyst in Emergency Management and Disaster Recovery	7-....	-redacted-@crs.loc.gov
<b>Private Health Insurance</b>			
Health: Private health insurance, health tax credits	<b>Bernadette Fernandez</b> Specialist in Health Care Financing	7-....	-redacted-@crs.loc.gov
Health: Private health insurance, covered benefits, exchanges	<b>Vanessa C. Forsberg</b> Analyst in Health Care Financing	7-....	-redacted-@crs.loc.gov
Health: Private health insurance, surprise medical billing, employer sponsored coverage, including COBRA coverage	<b>Ryan J. Rosso</b> Analyst in Health Care Financing	7-....	-redacted-@crs.loc.gov
Health: Private health insurance, surprise medical billing, telehealth	<b>Noah D. Isserman</b> Analyst in Health Care Financing	7-....	-redacted-@crs.loc.gov
<b>Public Health</b>			
Health: Public health, Health and Human Services (HHS), Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), funding	<b>Sarah A. Lister</b> Specialist in Public Health and Epidemiology	7-....	-redacted-@crs.loc.gov
	<b>Kavya Sekar</b> Analyst in Health Policy	7-....	-redacted-@crs.loc.gov
	<b>Laurie A. Harris</b> Analyst in Science and Technology Policy	7-....	-redacted-@crs.loc.gov
Health: Medical countermeasures (tests, vaccines, treatments, patent issues)	<b>Agata Dabrowska</b> Analyst in Health Policy	7-....	-redacted-@crs.loc.gov
	<b>Amanda K. Sarata</b> Specialist in Health Policy	7-....	-redacted-@crs.loc.gov
	<b>Frank Gottron</b> Specialist in Science and Technology Policy	7-....	-redacted-@crs.loc.gov
	<b>Kavya Sekar</b> Analyst in Health Policy	7-....	-redacted-@crs.loc.gov
Health: Biodefense	<b>Laurie A. Harris</b> Analyst in Science and Technology Policy	7-....	-redacted-@crs.loc.gov
	<b>Frank Gottron</b> Specialist in Science and Technology Policy	7-....	-redacted-@crs.loc.gov
Health: Drug Enforcement Administration's Regulatory Role	<b>Lisa N. Sacco</b> Analyst in Illicit Drugs and Crime Policy	7-....	-redacted-@crs.loc.gov

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