Message
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From: Alexander, Paul (HHS/ASPA) (VOL) [/O=EXCHANGELABS/OU=EXCHANGE ADMINISTRATIVE GROUP (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/CN=RECIPIENTS/CN=BC4EDA8AD333439EB3D296AE0E0F9634-ALEXANDER,]
Sent: 5/17/2020 10:52:00 PM
To: Paul Elias Alexander ███████████████████
Subject: FW: COVID Lockdown - SUICIDE Impact

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From: Alexander, Paul (HHS/ASPA) (VOL)
Sent: Sunday, May 17, 2020 6:52 PM
To: Caputo, Michael (HHS/ASPA) ████████████████████████ Traverse, Brad (HHS/ASPA) ████████████████████
Subject: COVID Lockdown - SUICIDE Impact

300,000 additional deaths for 2020 based on the lockdown and deaths of despair due to COVID-19; this is 90.1 deaths per 100,000 US population

Michael, I have given Patrick stuff he is using for Peter Navvaro e.g. 40,000 cancer deaths for 2020 etc.; do I give him this too or do you want this for the President?

Below is the modelling approach for the suicide deaths for 2020 (additional deaths of despair).

Paul

Researchers warn the COVID-19 lockdown will take its own toll on health:

https://www.reuters.com/investigates/special-report/health-coronavirus-usa-cost/

https://protect2.fireeye.com/url?k=21573c75-7d0235a5-21570d4a-0cc47a6a52de-a6ff85176f49c7d9&u=https://wellbeingtrust.org/wp-content/uploads/2020/05/WBT_Deaths-of-Despair_COVID-19-FINAL-FINAL.pdf

References:

Phillips, Julie A., and Colleen N. Nugent. 2014. "Suicide and the Great Recession of 2007-2009: The Role of Economic Factors in the 50 U.S. States." Social Science & Medicine (1982) 116 (September): 22–31.

Luo, Feijun, Curtis S. Florence, Myriam Quispe-Agnoli, Lijing Ouyang, and Alexander E. Crosby. 2011. "Impact of Business Cycles on US Suicide Rates, 1928-2007." American Journal of Public Health 101 (6): 1139–46.

We are modelling deaths of despair as a consequence of COVID-19 and based on drugs, alcohol, and suicidal causes

- I am modelling based on 1% increase in unemployment yields 1.6 % deaths of despair/suicide (Phillips and Nugent, 2014); note WBT models based on this assumption of 1%:1.6%

- We are modelling due to COVID-19

- We are modelling due to the effects of lockdown and isolation/uncertainty and the resulting uptick in deaths of despair

- Based on that and accepting a "medium" recovery rate of economy (this is based on the exceptional impact the President's policies had pre- COVID-19 lockdown getting the economy to 3.5% unemployment; note that we could have modeled as due to a 'slow' recovery' or 'fast' but we handicapped and chose the middle group.

-We will use a US 2018 population of 327,167,434, and so rounded to 330,000,000

- Therefore, for 2020, for a medium rate of recovery, there are 15, 000 deaths projected per 1.6 % increase in deaths of despair (WBT based model)

- Therefore, assuming the employment rate was 4% when lockdown started (but it was 3.5 %), then as of May 17, 2020, the unemployment rate hovers at around 15%

- Therefore, this means an 11% point increase

- Some suggest it will get to 20%, some to 22%

- We will split the difference of 22% - 15% = 17 % /2 = 8.5 %

- 11% (present rise from 4% unemployment fbefore COVID-19 lockdown)+ 8.5 % = approx 20%

- Thus with a 20 point increase, and based on a 1.6 % increase or 15K deaths per point increase

- Therefore 20 x 15,000 = 300,000 additional deaths for 2020 based on the lockdown and deaths of despair due to COVID-19; this is 90.1 deaths per 100,000 US population