

Trump Knew.

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DPCC

DEMOCRATIC POLICY & COMMUNICATIONS COMMITTEE
CHAIRWOMAN DEBBIE STABENOW

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President Trump knew from Day 1 how deadly COVID-19 was, but he ignored the experts and lied to the American people.

His lies have cost nearly 200,000 American lives and thrown the U.S. economy into its worst recession in modern history.

To date, no other country has more coronavirus cases and deaths than the U.S.

It did not have to be this bad.

By February 7, President Trump reportedly knew the coronavirus was airborne and deadly.

"This is deadly stuff," he professed behind the scenes. Publicly, he told a completely different story.

By March 7, President Trump knew the coronavirus was a threat to people of all ages, including children: *"It's not just old, older. Young people too, plenty of young people."*

But all summer, he demanded schools reopen, telling the American people that children were "almost immune."

Date	President Trump's Lies	Mounting Cases and Deaths
Feb. 10, 2020	President Trump: "Looks like by April, you know, in theory, when it gets a little warmer, it miraculously goes away." ¹	12 confirmed cases in the U.S. ²
Feb. 14, 2020	President Trump: "There's a theory that, in April, when it gets warm — historically, that has been able to kill the virus. So we don't know yet; we're not sure yet. But that's around the corner, so that'll be a great thing in China and other places." ³	15 confirmed cases in the U.S. ⁴
Feb. 26, 2020	President Trump: "Now, you treat this like you treat the flu... You know, in many cases, when you catch this, it's very light; you don't even know there's a problem." ⁵	58 confirmed cases in the U.S. ⁶
Feb. 27, 2020	President Trump: "'It's going to disappear. One day – it's like a miracle – it will disappear." ⁷	60 confirmed cases in the U.S. ⁸
Mar. 4, 2020	In an interview with Sean Hannity, President Trump calls the WHO's estimate of the global death rate "false," calls the coronavirus the "corona flu" and says it's "very mild," and suggests those infected can get better by "sitting around" and "going to work." ⁹	More than 150 confirmed cases and 11 deaths. ¹⁰

March 7,
2020

President Trump: "No, I'm not concerned at all... No, we've done a great job."¹¹

U.S. cases top 400.¹²

Mar. 9, 2020

President Trump compares coronavirus to the flu on Twitter:

"So last year 37,000 Americans died from the common Flu. It averages between 27,000 and 70,000 per year. Nothing is shut down, life & the economy go on. At this moment there are 546 confirmed cases of CoronaVirus, with 22 deaths. Think about that!"¹³

U.S. cases top 680,¹⁴ with 22 deaths.¹⁵

Mar. 10, 2020

President Trump: "Well, this was unexpected... It will go away. Just stay calm. It will go away."¹⁶

U.S. cases top 1,000, with at least 31 deaths.¹⁷

Mar. 18, 2020

President Trump says the virus "snuck up on us," calls it a "very unforeseen thing."¹⁸

U.S. cases surpass 8,500, with 145 deaths.¹⁹

July 22, 2020

President Trump: "[Children] don't catch it easily."²⁰ "They don't bring it home easily, and if they do catch it, they get better fast."²¹

U.S. cases near 4 million, with 142,000 deaths.²²

Aug. 5, 2020 **President Trump** on the staggering death toll: "It is what it is."²³

President Trump insisting it's safe for children to return to school: "If you look at children, children are almost — I would almost say definitely — but almost immune from this disease... They just don't have a problem."²⁴

U.S. cases top 4.7 million, with more than 157,000 deaths.²⁵

More than **97,000 children tested positive** for coronavirus in the last two weeks of July.²⁶

Aug. 10, 2020 **President Trump:** "I think, for the most part, they don't get very sick.... It's also a case where there's a tiny fraction of death, tiny fraction, and they get better very quickly."²⁷

U.S. cases top 5 million, with more than 163,000 deaths.²⁸

The American Academy of Pediatrics and Children's Hospital Association report a **90% increase in the number of child COVID-19 cases** from July to August.²⁹

Today, the United States has 6.3 million confirmed cases and nearly 200,000 deaths.

Over half a million children have tested positive for COVID-19.

At least 29 million people are still out of work.

And millions of families are facing severe hardship.

Endnotes

- 1 <https://factba.se/transcript/donald-trump-speech-kag-rally-manchester-new-hampshire-february-10-2020>
- 2 <https://coronavirus.jhu.edu/map.html>
- 3 <https://www.whitehouse.gov/briefings-statements/remarks-president-trump-national-border-patrol-council-members/>
- 4 <https://www.cnn.com/asia/live-news/coronavirus-outbreak-02-14-20-intl-hnk/index.html>
- 5 <https://www.whitehouse.gov/briefings-statements/remarks-president-trump-vice-president-pence-members-coronavirus-task-force-press-conference/>
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