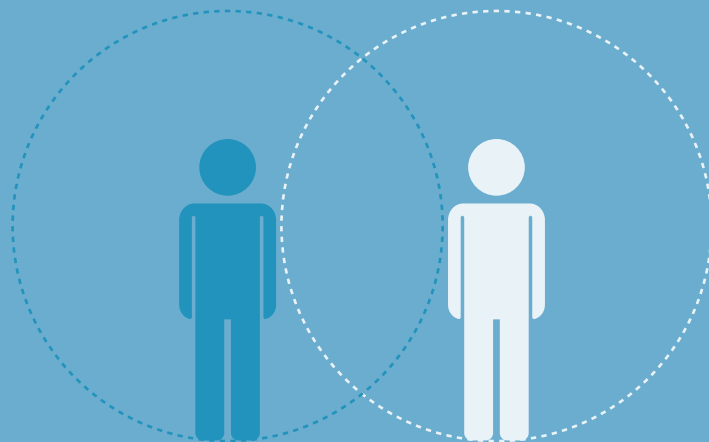


# EARLIER MANDATORY MASK POLICY IN THE U.S. COULD HAVE SAVED THOUSANDS OF LIVES, ARGUES NEW COVID-19 WORKING PAPER

**Policies** and **information** on **transmission risks** are important determinants of people's social distancing behavior.



**Removing all policies** would have led to seven times more additional cases by the end of May



**Stay-at-home orders alone** helped reduce cases by 25 to 170% by the end of May



**Nationally mandating face masks** for public workers on April 1 would have led to **17 to 55%** fewer reported cases by the end of May, which translates into roughly **17,000 to 57,000 lives saved**