

CDC Director: ‘Mitigation Works, if We Embrace It.’



We all must do our part to reduce the spread of COVID-19, said Dr. Robert Redfield, head of the Centers for Disease Control, in a [conversation](#) with Chamber president Suzanne Clarke on Wednesday’s special episode of *Path Forward* that was featured on CNN's home page and [PBS](#).

“Mitigation works, if we embrace it. It’s not going to work if half of us do what we need to do, or probably if three-quarters of us do. This virus is going to require all of us to be vigilant.”

On reducing the spread: “Mask wearing is not a political decision — it’s a public health tool. A very powerful public health tool. Very simple, but very powerful,” Dr. Redfield explained.

On vaccine developments: “We have four vaccines now that are deep into Phase III trials,” he said. “It’s very probable before February, we’ll have three to four vaccines approved in the U.S... And I think we’ll have two of them approved before the first of the year.”

On keeping the economy open while staying safe: “I don’t think we benefit at all in our nation in controlling COVID by broadly shutting down businesses,” Redfield added. “Clearly, if schools and airlines can learn how to do this safely and responsibly — businesses can learn how to do this safely and responsibly.”

Learn more:

- Blog post: [CDC Director Says Masks are Powerful Tool for Combating Virus](#)
- [Reopening Business Digital Resource Center](#)

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