

## Coronavirus News – March 13, 2020

The FDA approved a new high-speed virus test that can produce results in 3 and a half hours. The company responsible for this, Roche, says there are millions of test kits ready to go.

Drive-thru testing is also being integrated into different states. For Alabama, we have 2 drive-thru locations that opened today. Those locations are at 727 Memorial Drive in Bessemer and 2868 Acton Road in Vestavia Hills. If you are showing any symptoms (fever, cough, shortness of breath), please visit a test site.

President Trump held a press conference at 3:30 EST (2:30 CST). In this press conference, Trump declared a national emergency and made an effort to relieve some of the strain on our healthcare system. Why declare a national state of emergency? Doing so frees up funding, up to \$50 billion, for states during national disasters.

Some additional actions taken by the government today: the waiving of interest on student loans indefinitely and the intention to purchase oil for the U.S. strategic reserve.

Markets were up roughly 4% today before Trump's news conference. They rallied after a very positive press conference and closed up over 9%.

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