

The Anecdotal Experience of Edward David Botterbusch

I'm a college student at the University of Arizona, and I've been in quarantine for close to seven and half weeks. During the start of the major restrictions, I was in Tucson after quickly returning from a spring break trip. I helped friends quickly pack-up their dorms and get ready to return back home. By March 18th, everyone I knew in Tucson had either quarantined themselves or traveled back to their respected homes. As for me, I was getting ready to isolate myself in my apartment. But being an out-of-stater living by myself, I was afraid of the cabin fever.

As time progressed, I noticed that my hometown of Denver was getting hit hard, and the Governor was ready to start isolating the city as well as declaring stay-at-home orders for the rest of the state. Afraid of what that meant and the shortages getting worse, my friend, Brandon Gehrke, flew-out to stay with me; he arrived around the end of March. For the next month, we both stayed indoors while only going out for groceries or much needed walks. Yet, we both noticed the situation was better in Tucson.

Back home, Denver experienced shortages and greater isolation all the way into late April. Yet, we were able to start buying everything we needed in early to mid April, and there were still many people going outside- joggers, people in the parks, etc. Eventually, Denver reached similar conditions and with the promise of re-opening the state in May, my friend returned back home. Though it's early in the pandemic, more and more of normal life is returning, and things are looking better going into the summer.