



DAILY COVID-19 UPDATE

April 28, 2020

WHAT HAPPENED TODAY

Today, after speaking with the House physician, Majority Leader Steny Hoyer (D-MD) told reporters the chamber will no longer reconvene on May 4 amid rising cases of the coronavirus in the District.

Additionally, President Trump held an event with small business owners who are recipients of a loan through the Paycheck Protection Program (PPP). Meanwhile, Vice President Mike Pence visited the Mayo Clinic in Minnesota to learn about the medical center's coronavirus testing "moonshot."

Since our last update, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention and the Federal Reserve published additional guidance. Please see below for more details.

LATEST PMJ RESOURCES

- [COVID Legislative Tracker](#)
- [COVID State Reopening Tracker](#)
- [Drug Shortage and Medical Supply Chain Tracker](#)
- [COVID-19 Travel Restrictions](#)
- [Global COVID-19 Export Controls](#)
- [Memo - Federal Reserve COVID-19 Announcements](#)
- [Federal Reserve Lending Facilities Deck](#)

ECONOMIC UPDATE

Congressional

• **House**

- House Ways and Means Ranking Member Kevin Brady (R-TX) discussed reopening the economy in an interview on "Breitbart News Sunday."

• **Senate**

- In a letter, Senate Banking Committee Ranking Member Sherrod Brown (D-OH), along with other Senate Democrats, pushed U.S. Treasury

Secretary Steven Mnuchin and Federal Reserve Chairman Jerome Powell to make sure that minority and low- and moderate- income (LMI) communities have access to assistance under the CARES Act and the Paycheck Protection Program and Health Care Enhancement Act (PPP Enhancement Act).

- In a [letter](#) to Majority Leader Mitch McConnell (R-KY), Senate Democrats urged Leader McConnell to make COVID-19 related matters and oversight of all COVID-related legislation the central focus when the Senate reconvenes May 4th.

Administration

- Federal Reserve
 - The Federal Reserve [announced](#) updated guidance for the Municipal Liquidity Facility (MLF). The new guidance expands the scope of the facility by lowering eligible population thresholds to U.S. counties with a population of at least 500,000 residents and U.S. cities with a population of at least 250,000 residents.
- Securities and Exchange Commission (SEC)
 - The Securities and Exchange Commission (SEC) [announced](#) charges against Praxsyn Corp. and its CEO for allegedly issuing false and misleading press released claiming the company was able to acquire and supply large quantities of N95 or similar masks to protect against COVID-19 virus.

Articles of Interest

- 4/28 Reuters published an article titled, "[U.S. banks battle technology issues in race for \\$310 billion in new small-business aid.](#)"
- 4/28 Politico published an article titled, "[Mnuchin warns big companies of criminal penalties over small business loans.](#)"
- 4/28 Politico published an article titled, "[Fault lines emerge in oversight body as Toomey, former Warren aide split.](#)"
- 4/28 The Washington Post published an article titled, "[Mnuchin Says Relief Loans Over \\$2 Million Will Be Audited.](#)"
- 4/28 The Wall Street Journal published an article titled, "[SBA to Face Big Challenges Ensuring Coronavirus Loans Aren't Misspent.](#)"

PUBLIC HEALTH UPDATE

Congressional

- 40 senators and representatives sent a [letter](#) to congressional leaders urging adding the text of a bill to establish a national suicide prevention hotline to the next COVID-19 relief measure.
- **House**
 - Sen. Murray issued a [statement](#) on a document released by the Trump Administration that reiterates its current efforts on testing capacity.
 - Reps. DeGette and Upton released the concept paper for their bipartisan "Cures 2.0." The [12-page concept paper](#) unveils high-level areas of focus for Cures 2.0, which will look to modernize the delivery of health care in the wake of the coronavirus pandemic.

- Reps. Johnson and Marshall sent a [letter](#) to congressional leaders and top administration officials regarding Republican Study Committee recommendations for the healthcare system amid the COVID-19 pandemic.
- Reps. Kuster and Katko introduced [bipartisan legislation](#) to support smaller organizations on frontlines of opioid crisis as the COVID-19 pandemic continues. H.R. 6620 would provide emergency grants for states and community-based organizations that serve individuals with substance use disorder.
- **Senate**
 - Senate Minority Leader [Schumer](#) and Democratic senators sent a [letter](#) to Senate Majority Leader [McConnell](#) and Republican chairmen urging them to hold oversight hearings on the Trump administration's handling of the coronavirus crisis.
 - Senate Minority Leader Schumer appeared on MSNBC's Morning Joe where he [called for](#) the Senate to begin oversight hearings over the Trump administration's failure to properly implement the coronavirus relief packages passed by Congress. He also stated Trump is hurting potential recovery without sufficient testing.
 - Senate Majority Leader McConnell appeared on the Guy Benson show to [discuss](#) the upcoming Senate schedule and ongoing COVID-19 relief proposals.

Administration

- White House
 - Vice President Pence participated in a [roundtable discussion](#) with Mayo Clinic employees to learn about a new coronavirus testing "moonshot" through which the clinic is partnering with the state and its flagship university to quickly boost Minnesota's capacity to 20,000 tests a day.
 - President Trump unveiled the Opening Up America Again [Testing Overview](#) and [Testing Blueprint](#) designed to facilitate State development and implementation of the robust testing plans and rapid response programs described in the President's Opening Up America Again Guidelines. The President's Blueprint sets forth the partnership between Federal, State, local, and tribal governments, along with the private-sector and professional associations, all of which will play important roles in meeting the Nation's testing needs.
 - The White House released [remarks](#) by President Trump in a meeting with industry executives on COVID-19 response, which includes discussions around medial diagnostics and testing, among other things.
 - The White House released a [fact sheet](#) titled, "President Donald J. Trump Is Ensuring States Have The Testing Capacity Needed To Safely Open Up America Again."
- Health and Human Services
 - HHS through the Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA), launched a new COVID-19 Uninsured Program Portal, allowing health care providers who have conducted COVID-19 testing or provided treatment for uninsured COVID-19 individuals on or after February 4, 2020 to submit claims for reimbursement. Providers can access the portal at [COVIDUninsuredClaim.HRSA.gov](#).
- Centers for Disease Control and Prevention
 - The CDC released new [interim guidance](#), alongside a new White House testing blueprint that outlines steps the U.S. will need to take to safely reopen. The

document notes that states will have to monitor for potential outbreaks "throughout the summer and beyond" and calls attention to the threat that coronavirus outbreaks could coincide with flu season in the fall.

- After a small number of animals, including dogs and cats, were reportedly infected with COVID-19, CDC issued [guidelines](#) recommending people restrict their pets from interacting with other animals when outside their house, keeping cats indoors when possible, and walking dogs on a leash while maintaining at least six feet from other people and animals.
- Food and Drug Administration
 - FDA released [Frequently Asked Questions](#) (FAQs) on the Emergency Use Authorization for Face Masks (Non-Surgical).

Articles of Interest

- 4/27 NBC published an article titled, "[Antibody tests can't yet say who's immune to COVID-19, but they can show who's at risk.](#)"
- 4/27 The Hill published an article titled, "[Case fatality rates rise as coronavirus runs deadly course.](#)"
- 4/28 The Associated Press published an article titled, "[The US reopening is coming, but 'normal' is still a ways off.](#)"
- 4/28 CNN published an article titled, "[US coronavirus cases surpass 1 million as projections show deaths could rise in coming weeks.](#)"
- 4/28 The New York Times published an article titled, "[Trump Vows More Coronavirus Testing, but Less Than What May Be Needed.](#)"
- 4/28 Reuters published an article titled, "[Exclusive: U.S. medical testing, cancer screenings plunge during coronavirus outbreak - data firm analysis.](#)"

SUPPLY CHAIN/CRITICAL INFRASTRUCTURE UPDATE

Please click [here](#) to view a readout of today's CISA COVID-19 call.

Please click [here](#) to view a readout of yesterday's CISA COVID-19 call.

Please note this daily update may not encompass all public guidance documents on implementation; as such, we encourage you to review public agency websites. Please let us know of any questions.