



## DAILY COVID-19 UPDATE

**June 1, 2020**

### WHAT HAPPENED TODAY

Today, in opening floor remarks, Senate Majority Leader Mitch McConnell (R-KY) stated he expects the Senate will soon pass [H.R. 7010](#), the *Paycheck Protection Flexibility Act*, which was advanced by the House last week. The bipartisan bill modifies the Paycheck Protection Program (PPP) to extend the window small businesses have to use funds from eight weeks to 24 weeks, and allow businesses to repay loans over a five-year period instead of two years.

Additionally, Rep. Kevin Brady (R-TX) introduced [legislation](#) that would create a "return to work bonus." Under the proposal, workers would receive a payment of \$1200, the equivalent of two weeks of unemployment benefits, if they accept a job offer. The boosted unemployment benefit of \$600 per week is set to expire on July 31.

### LATEST STATISTICS

There are a total of **6,229,408** confirmed cases worldwide, 373,973 deaths and 2,672,161 people have recovered.

There are **1,799,747** confirmed cases of the coronavirus in the U.S., 104,702 deaths and 444,758 people have recovered.

### LATEST PMJ RESOURCES

[Drug Shortage and Medical Supply Chain Tracker](#)

[COVID State Reopening Tracker](#)

Notably, lawmakers on both sides of the aisle have **expressed support** for expanding the employee retention tax credit (ERTC) established under the *CARES Act*. The House-passed *HEROES Act* contains a section that would expand the employee retention tax credit by increasing the amount of credit so that businesses could get a credit of 80% on up to \$15,000 of wages per employee each quarter. The provision would also allow employers to be eligible for both the credit and the PPP.

Since our last update, the Food and Drug Administration published additional guidance related to the pandemic. Please see below for more details.

We have updated our Drug Shortage and Medical Supply Tracker. It is linked under Latest PMJ Resources.

[Liability Reform State of Play](#)

[CARES Act State Funding](#)

[State and Local Funding Bills](#)

[COVID Legislative Update](#)

[2020 Political Outlook](#)

[COVID Legislative Tracker](#)

[COVID-19 Travel Restrictions](#)  
[Global COVID-19 Export Controls](#)

[Memo - Federal Reserve COVID-19 Announcements](#)

[Federal Reserve Lending Facilities Deck](#)

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## ECONOMIC UPDATE

### *Congressional*

#### HOUSE:

- House Ways and Means Chairman Richard Neal (D-MA) **expressed support** for expanding the employee retention tax credit (ERTC).
- In a **tweet**, Rep. Stephanie Murphy (D-FL) claimed expanding the employee retention tax credit “continues to gain meaningful bipartisan support.”
- Rep. Darin LaHood (R-IL) **introduced** a bill that would provide businesses with a temporary tax break for the costs of cleaning their locations.
- House Financial Services Committee Chairwoman Maxine Waters (D-CA) **released a statement** regarding the Treasury’s and Small Business Administration’s announcement to set aside \$10 billion in Paycheck Protection Program (PPP) funds for Community Development Financial Institutions (CDFIs).

#### SENATE:

- Senate Banking Committee Ranking Member Sherrod Brown (D-OH) **released a statement** on the resignation of Joseph Otting as the Comptroller of the Currency.
- Senator Bernie Sanders (I-VT) **urged** the Senate to pass further coronavirus aid legislation.

### *Administration*

#### FEDERAL RESERVE

- Federal Reserve Chairman Jerome Powell **announced** the Main Street Lending Program (MSLP) will soon begin purchasing loans.

#### OFFICE OF THE COMPTROLLER OF THE CURRENCY (OCC)

- Acting Comptroller of the Currency Brian P. Brooks **expressed concerns** about the effects of regional and local responses to COVID-19 on the federal banking system.

## Articles of Interest

- 6/1 The Wall Street Journal published an article titled, **“Output Decline at Factories Eases, But Recovery Set to Be Slow.”**
- 5/31 The Wall Street Journal published an article titled, **“Democrats Stick With Tax-Rise Policies as They Make Plans for 2021 Majority.”**
- 5/31 Politico published an article titled, **“McConnell and Pelosi’s next battle: How to help the 40 million unemployed.”**
- 5/29 Politico published an article titled, **“Millions of paper tax returns go unopened at short-staffed IRS.”**

## PUBLIC HEALTH UPDATE

### *Congressional*

#### HOUSE:

- Reps. Larson and Courtney **announced** they will be introducing *the Pandemic Essential Supplies Act*. The Act will instruct the Defense Logistics Agency to lead the federal management, procurement and distribution of emergency supplies that are critical for our nation’s COVID-19 response.
- Speaker Pelosi participated in an **interview** with ABC’s This Week to discuss *The Heroes Act*.

#### SENATE:

- Sen. Alexander released a **statement** disagreeing with President Trump’s decision to terminate the United States’ membership in the World Health Organization (WHO).
- Sens. Hassan, Murray, and Sanders sent a **letter** to CDC Director Redfield regarding declining childhood immunization rates amid the coronavirus pandemic.
- Sen. Markey led a bipartisan group of 12 senators in a **letter** to Majority Leader McConnell and Minority Leader Schumer, urging them to prioritize medical research funding for Myalgic Encephalomyelitis/Chronic Fatigue Syndrome (ME/CFS) in any upcoming coronavirus relief package.

### *Administration*

#### THE WHITE HOUSE

- The White House announced the U.S. government has **delivered** 2 million doses of hydroxychloroquine (HCQ) to Brazil and will also be sending 1,000 ventilators to Brazil as well. Additionally, the White House announced a joint United States-Brazilian research effort that will include randomized controlled clinical trials further evaluating the safety and efficacy of HCQ for prophylaxis and the early treatment of COVID-19.

#### DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

- As part of the Trump Administration’s Operation Warp Speed, HHS **announced** a task order with Emergent BioSolutions to advance manufacturing capabilities and capacity for a potential COVID-19 vaccine as well as therapeutics. The task order is worth approximately \$628 million and falls under an existing contract with BARDA.

#### CENTERS FOR DISEASE CONTROL AND PREVENTION

- CDC released a [media statement](#) titled, "United States Coronavirus Death Toll Surpasses 100,000."

#### FOOD AND DRUG ADMINISTRATION

- FDA is making its previously developed FDA [MyStudies app](#) available to investigators as a free platform to securely obtain patients' informed consent for eligible clinical trials when face-to-face contact is not possible or practical due to COVID-19 control measures.
- The FDA [took steps](#) to further support the development of COVID-19 tests for at-home self-collection by providing on its website a template that may be used to facilitate submission of requests for emergency use authorizations (EUA) for at-home sample collection kits.

#### Articles of Interest

- 5/29 Reuters published an article titled, "[U.S. hospitals slash use of drug championed by Trump as coronavirus treatment.](#)"
  - 5/31 The Washington Post published an article titled, "[Crowded protests spark concerns about fresh outbreaks of the deadly coronavirus.](#)"
  - 6/1 The New York Times published an article titled, "[Is America's Pandemic Waning or Raging? Yes.](#)"
  - 6/1 Reuters published an article titled, "[Eli Lilly starts human study of potential COVID-19 antibody treatment.](#)"
  - 6/1 Stat published an article titled, "[Anthony Fauci on Covid-19 reopenings, vaccines, and moving at 'warp speed.'](#)"
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## LABOR UPDATE

### *Congressional*

#### HOUSE:

- Rep. Brady [introduced](#) the *Reopening America by Supporting Workers and Businesses Act of 2020*, which would help local businesses rebuild their workforce quickly by turning these unemployment benefits into a back-to-work bonus that will provide a bump to workers and help accelerate our economic recovery.
- The House Oversight and Reform Subcommittee on Government Operations held a [briefing](#) today with Scott Dahl, Inspector General of the Department of Labor.

### *Administration*

#### DEPARTMENT OF LABOR

- DOL recapped a [range of actions](#) it took last week to aid American workers and employers amid the coronavirus pandemic.
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## SUPPLY CHAIN/CRITICAL INFRASTRUCTURE UPDATE

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