



DAILY COVID-19 UPDATE

June 9, 2020

WHAT HAPPENED TODAY

Today, the Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) announced it is releasing the next round of provider relief funds. Specifically, HHS will allocate \$15 billion to eligible Medicaid and CHIP providers as well as \$10 billion for safety net hospitals. The disbursement to safety net hospitals is expected to occur this week.

Additionally, Senate HELP Committee Chairman Lamar Alexander (R-TN) released a white paper outlining five recommendations to prepare for future pandemics based on lessons learned from the coronavirus. Sen. Alexander is soliciting additional recommendations, feedback, and comments that his panel can utilize when drafting pandemic preparedness legislation later this year.

Notably, White House economic adviser Kevin Hassett **indicated** the likelihood of a Phase Four

LATEST STATISTICS

There are a total of **7,185,573** confirmed cases worldwide, 408,954 deaths and 3,352,665 people have recovered.

There are **1,973,803** confirmed cases of the coronavirus in the U.S., 111,751 deaths and 518,522 people have recovered.

LATEST PMJ RESOURCES

[COVID-19 Legislative Update](#)

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

stimulus package is "very, very high." However, in light of Friday's better than expected unemployment report, some Congressional Republicans believe further stimulus is not necessary at this point and are not enthusiastic about moving forward with an additional package. It is an issue that will be litigated over the next several weeks.

Moreover, Housing and Urban Development (HUD) Secretary Ben Carson appeared before the Senate Banking Committee to discuss COVID-19's impact on the housing market and steps Congress and HUD can take to mitigate those impacts.

Since our last update, the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services and 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.

[COVID State Reopening Tracker](#)

[Liability Reform State of Play](#)

[CARES Act State Funding](#)

[State and Local Funding Bills](#)

[COVID Legislative Tracker](#)

[Global COVID-19 Export Controls](#)

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

[Federal Reserve Lending Facilities Deck](#)

ECONOMIC UPDATE

Congressional

SENATE:

- Senate Banking Committee Chairman Mike Crapo's (R-ID) [opening statement](#) and Ranking Member Sherrod Brown's (D-OH) [opening statement](#) at today's hearing.
- Senate Finance Committee Chairman Chuck Grassley's (R-IA) [opening statement](#) and Ranking Member Ron Wyden's (D-OR) [opening statement](#) at today's hearing.

CONGRESSIONAL BUDGET OFFICE (CBO):

- The CBO [released](#) its Monthly Budget Review for May 2020.

Administration

WHITE HOUSE:

- White House economic adviser Kevin Hassett [claimed](#) the Trump Administration would support additional coronavirus relief legislation.

FEDERAL RESERVE ("FED"):

- The Fed [announced](#) that results from both its Dodd-Frank Act stress tests and the related Comprehensive Capital Analysis and Review (CCAR) will be released on June 25.

TREASURY:

- Treasury Secretary Steven Mnuchin [issued a statement](#) on the expansion of the Main Street Lending Program.

Articles of Interest

- 6/9 The Wall Street Journal published an article titled, "[Labor Secretary Eugene Scalia Opposes Extension of Extra \\$600 in Unemployment Benefits.](#)"
- 6/8 The Wall Street Journal published an article titled, "[Fed Makes Terms More Favorable for Main Street Lending Program.](#)"
- 6/8 Politico published an article titled, "[U.S. entered recession in February, ending record expansion.](#)"
- 6/8 The Washington Post published an article titled, "[Food banks and other key programs have received a fraction of allotted coronavirus money, angering some lawmakers.](#)"

PUBLIC HEALTH UPDATE

Congressional

HOUSE:

- Ways and Means Republicans published a coronavirus bulletin titled, "[Administration Outlines Steps to Help Black Americans and Other Racial and Ethnic Minorities Fight COVID-19.](#)"
- 30 House lawmakers sent a [letter](#) to HHS Secretary Azar regarding funding for clinical labs amid an unprecedented time for COVID-19 testing.
- Rep. Neal sent a [letter](#) to HHS Secretary Azar regarding COVID-19 related racial disparities.

SENATE:

- Sen. Alexander released "[Preparing for the Next Pandemic.](#)" a white paper with five recommendations to address future pandemics based on lessons learned from COVID-19 and the past 20 years of pandemic planning.
- Sens. Warren, Schumer, and Blumenthal sent a [letter](#) to Michael Horowitz, Acting Chair of the Pandemic Response Accountability Committee, formally requesting an investigation of Project Air Bridge. They also released new documents and information from the six major medical wholesalers or distribution companies involved in the project.

Administration

DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

- HHS [announced](#) additional distributions from the Provider Relief Fund to eligible Medicaid and Children's Health Insurance Program (CHIP) providers. HHS expects to distribute approximately \$15 billion to eligible providers that have not received a payment from the Provider Relief Fund General Allocation. HHS is also announcing the distribution of \$10 billion in Provider Relief Funds to safety net hospitals that serve our most vulnerable citizens. The safety net distribution will occur this week.

CENTERS FOR MEDICARE & MEDICAID SERVICES

- CMS released a [guide](#) for patients and beneficiaries as they consider their in-person care options. CMS is providing these recommendations to ensure that non-emergency healthcare resumes safely and that patients are receiving needed in-person treatment that may have been postponed due to the public health emergency.

FOOD AND DRUG ADMINISTRATION

- The FDA issued a guidance, titled "[Temporary Policy on Prescription Drug Marketing Act Requirements for Distribution of Drug Samples During the COVID-](#)

19 Public Health Emergency.” The guidance addresses questions FDA has received concerning prescription drug sample distribution under the Prescription Drug Marketing Act of 1987 (PDMA) during the COVID-19 pandemic.

- FDA published two new web pages to help the public access information:
 - (1) **Innovation to Respond to COVID-19** provides an overview of FDA’s innovative approaches to respond to COVID-19 as quickly and safely as possible and
 - (2) **Educational Resources** provides links to FDA-produced COVID-19-related resources that help explain FDA’s work.
- To date, the FDA has authorized 125 tests under EUAs, which include 107 molecular tests, 17 antibody tests, and 1 antigen test.

Articles of Interest

- 6/4 CNBC published an article titled, **“CDC is worried Americans aren’t following its advice as the number of U.S. coronavirus cases continues to rise.”**
 - 6/8 The Washington Post published an article titled, **“14 states and Puerto Rico hit highest seven-day average of new coronavirus infections.”**
 - 6/8 Modern Healthcare published an article titled, **“Tiny fraction of \$2 billion federal uninsured COVID-19 testing funds have gone out.”**
 - 6/8 New York Times Magazine published an article titled, **“Can a Vaccine for Covid-19 Be Developed in Record Time?”**
 - 6/9 USA Today published an article titled, **“WHO official walks back comments on asymptomatic transmission being 'very rare.'”**
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LABOR UPDATE

Congressional

SENATE:

- Sens. Murray and Wyden led six of their Democratic colleagues in a **letter** to Secretary Scalia, urging DOL to help states safeguard their unemployment programs following reports of organized fraud.

Administration

DEPARTMENT OF LABOR:

- DOL’s Wage and Hour Division (WHD) and Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA) will offer **two joint webinars** on June 10, 2020, to educate employers and employees in the Southeast on the paid sick leave, and expanded family and medical leave benefits available under the **Families First Coronavirus Response Act (FFCRA)** and whistleblower protections.

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.