



## DAILY COVID-19 UPDATE

June 11, 2020

### WHAT HAPPENED TODAY

Today, Treasury Secretary Steven Mnuchin told reporters the Trump administration is "**very seriously considering**" a second round of economic stimulus payments. However, a decision has not yet been made on whether to include them in a Phase Four coronavirus relief package. Mnuchin also indicated that if there is a second wave of COVID-19 cases, the U.S. should not shut down its economy again because it will "create more damage."

Additionally, the House Financial Services Task Force on Financial Technology held a hearing, during which members discussed utilizing the FedNow program to rapidly deliver stimulus payments and leveraging financial technologies for future disaster assistance.

### LATEST STATISTICS

There are a total of **7,440,350** confirmed cases worldwide, 418,392 deaths and 3,506,297 people have recovered.

There are **2,013,940** confirmed cases of the coronavirus in the U.S., 113,467 deaths and 533,504 people have recovered.

The U.S. now accounts for more than 25% of global deaths from COVID-19, but only 4.3% of the global population.

### LATEST PMJ RESOURCES

Notably, House Majority Whip James Clyburn (D-SC) **announced** the staff of the House Select Committee on the Coronavirus Crisis.

Since our last update, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention and the Internal Revenue Service 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-19 Legislative Update](#)

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

[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](#)

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## ECONOMIC UPDATE

### *Congressional*

#### HOUSE:

- House Financial Services Task Force on Financial Technology's **memo** for today's hearing.

#### SENATE:

- The Senate Budget Committee **approved** Russell T. Vought to be director of the White House Office of Management and Budget (OMB).
- Senators Jack Reed (D-RI) and Sheldon Whitehouse (D-RI) **urged** the Trump Administration to step up efforts to identify, halt, and prosecute unemployment insurance fraud and retrieve stolen funds.

### *Administration*

#### TREASURY:

- Treasury **released** data that found the deficit for May reached \$399 billion.

#### INTERNAL REVENUE SERVICE (IRS):

- The IRS **provided guidance** for employers whose employees forgo sick, vacation, or personal leave because of the COVID-19 pandemic.

#### SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION (SEC):

- The SEC's New York Regional Office **will host** an educational telephone town hall about avoiding scams related to COVID-19 on June 23.

## Articles of Interest

- 6/11 The Wall Street Journal published an article titled, "[Steven Mnuchin Says White House Considering Second Round of Stimulus Payments.](#)"
- 6/10 Politico published an article titled, "[Fed's dire outlook: GDP seen shrinking by 6.5 percent this year.](#)"
- 6/10 The Washington Post published an article titled, "[U.S. budget deficit widened to \\$1.88 trillion over eight months amid spending blitz to combat coronavirus downturn.](#)"
- 6/10 The Hill published an article titled, "[Fed chairman warns of 'long road' to recovery.](#)"
- 6/10 The Hill published an article titled, "[Republicans prepare to punt on next COVID-19 relief bill.](#)"

## PUBLIC HEALTH UPDATE

### *Congressional*

#### HOUSE:

- Reps. Pallone, Walden, Grassley, and Wyden **commended** HHS for taking the first steps to address the needs of Medicaid-dependent providers by awarding \$25 billion to providers with vulnerable patient populations. The bipartisan House members also noted that more needs to be done to address the ongoing needs of large numbers of Medicaid-dependent providers that will not benefit from the award.
- Ways and Means Republicans published a coronavirus bulletin titled, "**Good News: Help for Patients to See Their Health-Care Providers for Non-COVID Treatments.**"
- Ways and Means Republicans issued a press release titled, "**Administration Boosts Health Care Funding to Help Children, Vulnerable Citizens.**"

#### SENATE:

- Sen. Schumer sent a **letter** to President Trump and Majority Leader McConnell, calling for immediate action on the HEROES Act, while also highlighting the adverse impact that continued inaction will have on communities of color that are disproportionately affected by the coronavirus.
- Sen. Feinstein released a **statement** calling for a recommitment to public health measures after increases in coronavirus cases and hospitalizations were reported in California.
- Sen. Peters joined a group of bipartisan senators in a **letter** to HHS Secretary Azar and CMS Administrator Verma, urging the Trump Administration to provide greater federal resources and guidance to support nursing homes and long-term care facilities as they continue to combat the COVID-19 pandemic.

### *Administration*

#### DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

- HHS **awarded** \$8 million to 73 organizations that provide training and technical assistance to HRSA-funded health centers nationwide. These organizations will provide critical COVID-19 resources to health centers, including support and expertise to advance health centers' ability to prevent, prepare, and respond to the COVID-19 pandemic.

#### CENTERS FOR MEDICARE & MEDICAID SERVICES

- CMS published a [press release](#) on nursing home residents' right to retain federal economic incentive payments, following allegations that some nursing homes are seizing residents stimulus checks authorized under the CARES Act. CMS notes this practice is prohibited and nursing homes that engage in it could be subject to federal enforcement actions, including potential termination from participation in the Medicare and Medicaid programs.

#### **NATIONAL INSTITUTES OF HEALTH**

- NIH researchers identified [genomic features](#) of SARS-CoV-2, the virus that causes COVID-19, and other high-fatality coronaviruses that distinguish them from other members of the coronavirus family. This research could be a crucial step in helping scientists develop approaches to predict the severity of future coronavirus disease outbreaks and detect animal coronaviruses that have the potential to infect humans.

#### **FOOD AND DRUG ADMINISTRATION**

- FDA and NIH have made updates to the [CURE ID](#) crowd-sourcing app to make it easier for healthcare providers to share - via mobile device or website - their experiences treating COVID-19 patients who are unable to be enrolled in a clinical trial. [CURE ID's External Link Disclaimer](#) web-based repository lets providers share experiences with novel uses of existing drugs in treating difficult-to-treat infectious diseases.
- FDA issued an emergency use authorization (EUA) to Illumina, Inc., for the [first COVID-19 diagnostic test utilizing next-generation sequence technology](#).

#### **CENTERS FOR DISEASE CONTROL AND PREVENTION**

- CDC updated their [information for laboratories](#) and their [FAQs](#) for accessing laboratory testing with COVID-19.
- CDC [updated interim guidance](#) on breastfeeding and breast milk feeds in the context of COVID-19. Specific updates were made to [evaluation and management considerations for neonates at risk for COVID-19](#).
- CDC released [guidance](#) to describe the landscape of telehealth services and provide considerations for healthcare systems, practices, and providers using telehealth services to provide virtual care during and beyond the COVID-19 pandemic.
- CDC [updated guidance](#) on how to protect oneself and others from COVID-19 when running errands such as grocery shopping, getting take-out, banking, and getting gas.
- CDC updated [guidance](#) on contact tracing resources for getting and keeping America open by supporting states, tribes, localities, and territories.
- CDC released updated [guidance](#) on how to properly wear a cloth face covering to help slow the spread of COVID-19 when combined with every day preventive actions and social distancing in public settings.

#### **FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION**

- FCC'S Wireline Competition Bureau [approved](#) an additional 67 funding applications for the COVID-19 Telehealth Program. Health care providers in both urban and rural areas of the country will use this \$20.18 million in funding to provide telehealth services during the coronavirus pandemic.

#### **Articles of Interest**

- 6/8 Nature published an article titled, "[The effect of large-scale anti-contagion policies on the COVID-19 pandemic.](#)"
- 6/10 Politico published an article titled, "[Quarantine fatigue: Governors reject new lockdowns as virus cases spike.](#)"

- 6/10 Fierce Healthcare published an article titled, "[Study: Annual costs for diagnostic tests up to \\$25B, antibody tests up to \\$19B.](#)"
  - 6/10 The Wall Street Journal published an article titled, "[Coronavirus Vaccine Candidates' Pivotal U.S. Testing to Start This Summer.](#)"
  - 6/11 The Hill published an article titled, "[US showing signs of retreat in battle against COVID-19.](#)"
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## LABOR UPDATE

### *Administration*

#### DEPARTMENT OF LABOR:

- DOL released its [Unemployment Insurance Weekly Claims Report](#), which found that 1.5 million Americans filed new jobless claims during the first week of June. In addition, approximately 705,676 Americans filed new claims for Pandemic Unemployment Assistance (PUA), an extension of jobless benefits to workers who lost their jobs during the pandemic but do not qualify for standard unemployment insurance.
  - DOL's Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA) published a series of [frequently asked questions and answers](#) regarding the use of masks in the workplace.
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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.*