



DAILY COVID-19 UPDATE

June 12, 2020

WHAT HAPPENED TODAY

Yesterday, Joe Biden, the former Vice President and the presumptive Democratic nominee for President, unveiled an [eight-step plan to safely reopen the economy](#) amid the coronavirus pandemic. Biden's plan calls for increased COVID-19 testing, building a national contact tracing task force, ensuring anyone who must return to work has access to personal protective equipment (PPE), and guaranteeing paid sick leave for anyone who gets sick with COVID-19, among other things.

Notably, Dr. Anthony Fauci, Director of the National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases, said earlier this week during a conference held by the Biotechnology Innovation Organization (BIO), that he is "almost certain" more than one vaccine candidate for COVID-19 will be successful. He also warned that the deadly coronavirus outbreak is far from over,

LATEST STATISTICS

There are a total of **7,570,801** confirmed cases worldwide, 422,981 deaths and 3,581,020 people have recovered.

There are **2,031,173** confirmed cases of the coronavirus in the U.S., 114,065 deaths and 540,292 people have recovered.

LATEST PMJ RESOURCES

[COVID-19 Legislative Update](#)

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

especially now that the U.S. and other nations are emerging from lockdowns.

Since our last update, the Department of Health and Human Services' Office of Civil Rights as well as 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 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

Administration

FEDERAL RESERVE ("FED"):

- The Fed **released** its Monetary Policy Report.
- The Fed **released** its report, "Fed Listens: Perspectives from the Public."

TREASURY:

- Treasury Secretary Steven Mnuchin **spoke** with UK Chancellor of the Exchequer Rishi Sunak and discussed safely reopening economies.

INTERNAL REVENUE SERVICE (IRS):

- The IRS and Treasury **provided tax relief** for certain taxpayers affected by the COVID-19 pandemic involved in new markets tax credit transactions.

Articles of Interest

- 6/12 The Washington Post published an article titled, "[Senators weigh allowing corporations to accelerate federal tax breaks in next coronavirus bill.](#)"
- 6/12 The Hill published an article titled, "[Mnuchin: White House seriously considering second round of stimulus checks.](#)"
- 6/11 The Wall Street Journal published an article titled, "[Steven Mnuchin Says White House Considering Second Round of Stimulus Payments.](#)"
- 6/11 The Hill published an article titled, "[Trump blasts Fed as stocks plunge, coronavirus cases rise.](#)"
- 6/11 The Wall Street Journal published an article titled, "[Trump Says Fed's Forecasts Are too Gloomy.](#)"

PUBLIC HEALTH UPDATE

Congressional

HOUSE:

- Reps. Pallone and Neal issued a **statement** after CMS released guidance addressing concerns the Chairmen recently raised with the agency regarding the seizure of nursing home residents' economic impact payments.
- Reps. Torres-Small and Newhouse introduced the ***Increasing Rural Health Access During the COVID-19 Public Health Emergency Act***, a bipartisan bill that would invest \$50 million in rural communities to increase access to telehealth during the COVID-19 pandemic. Senators McSally and Jones introduced companion legislation in the Senate.
- Reps. Thompson and Butterfield introduced the bipartisan ***Helping Ensure Access to Local TeleHealth***, or the HEALTH Act. The bill will codify Medicare reimbursement for community health centers and rural health clinics for telehealth services.

SENATE:

- Sen. Grassley and Wyden sent a **letter** to HHS Secretary Azar asking the Department to publish which healthcare providers received portions of the \$210 billion in stimulus money allocated by Congress. They specifically requested increased transparency through a "single, comprehensive and publicly available data source that...shows the amount of funding received by each provider."
- Sens. Warner, Jones, Durbin, and Shaheen led 35 of their colleagues in a **letter** to House and Senate leaders, urging them to ensure that any upcoming COVID-19 relief bill includes strong provisions to expand access to quality and affordable healthcare coverage in the wake of this public health crisis.
- Sens. Gillibrand and Markey led four other senators in a **letter** to President Trump urging the reinstatement of the National Security Council's Global Health Security Directorate to protect America from COVID-19 as well as future pandemics.
- Sens. Loeffler, Ernst, and Cruz introduced the ***Bring Entrepreneurial Advancements to Consumers Here In North America*** (BEAT CHINA) Act to incentivize pharmaceutical and medical device and supply manufacturers to relocate to the United States.
- Sen. Thune introduced legislation that would extend for two years the FDA's ***Temporary Policy for Preparation of Certain Alcohol-Based Hand Sanitizer Products During the Public Health Emergency***. Extending the FDA's guidance will grant additional certainty for ethanol operations that have made investments or changes in operations to serve the current and projected need for hand sanitizer, providing a longer timeline to recoup such costs.

Administration

DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

- HHS' Office for Civil Rights issued **guidance** on how HIPAA permits covered healthcare providers to contact their patients who have recovered from COVID-19 to inform them about how they can donate their blood and plasma containing antibodies to help other patients with COVID-19.

FOOD AND DRUG ADMINISTRATION

- FDA issued an FDA Voices titled, ***Rare Disease Therapy Development and Access Remain Top FDA Priorities During COVID-19.***

- FDA published a [Frequently Asked Questions](#) page on hospital beds, stretchers, and mattresses during the COVID-19 pandemic.

CENTERS FOR DISEASE CONTROL AND PREVENTION

- Today, CDC Director Redfield and held a [media telebriefing](#) to provide an update to the media on COVID-19 response.
- CDC released a Morbidity and Mortality Weekly Report titled, "[Impact of the COVID-19 Pandemic on Emergency Department Visits — United States, January 1, 2019– May 30, 2020.](#)"
- CDC [released guidance](#) on how to keep patients safe from COVID-19 in dialysis facilities.
- CDC [released a social media toolkit](#) to help localize efforts in responding to COVID-19. The toolkit provides messages and graphics that help ensure current, correct messaging from a trusted source, create collateral materials, and share resources.
- CDC released a [forecast](#) for new hospitalizations amid the COVID-19 pandemic, predicting there will be between 2,500 and 12,000 new COVID-19 hospitalizations per day in the U.S.

Articles of Interest

- 6/11 The Associated Press published an article titled, "[Final tests of some COVID-19 vaccines to start next month.](#)"
- 6/11 The Wall Street Journal published an article titled, "[Covid-19 Hospitalizations Surge in Some States.](#)"
- 6/11 NPR published an article titled, "[Five Coronavirus Treatments In Development.](#)"
- 6/12 The Hill published an article titled, "[COVID-19 spikes, but most governors signal they're staying the course.](#)"
- 6/12 The New Yorker published an article titled, "[What The W.H.O. Meant To Say About Asymptomatic People Spreading the Coronavirus.](#)"

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.