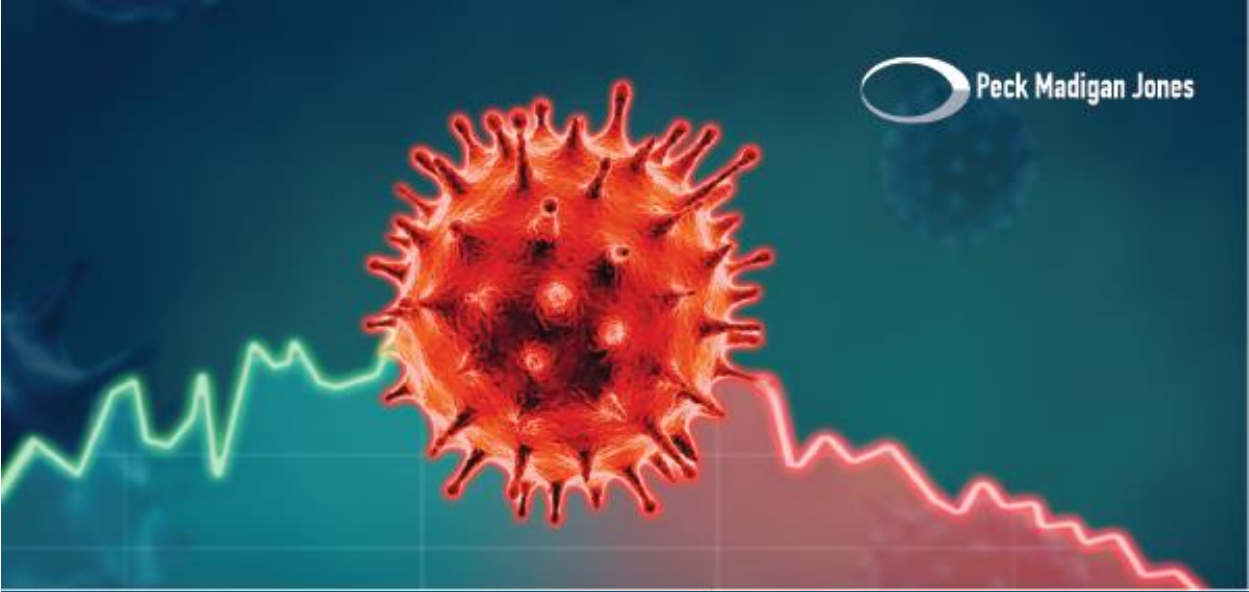




DAILY COVID-19 UPDATE

June 18, 2020

WHAT HAPPENED TODAY

During an [interview](#) with Fox News last night, President Trump stated COVID-19 is "fading away" and noted that while spikes will be addressed "very quickly...we won't be closing the country again." Trump also called for schools to reopen, noting the number of coronavirus cases among children "are very, very small, almost nonexistent."

Yesterday, the House Energy and Commerce Health Subcommittee held a hearing to examine the disproportionate impacts of COVID-19 on communities of color. Among other things, witnesses recommended aggressive testing and contact tracing in minority communities, implicit bias training for providers, and increased broadband internet development for access to telehealth.

Notably, Federal Reserve Chairman Jerome Powell made his most explicit [statement](#) yet in support for

LATEST STATISTICS

There are a total of **8,410,682** confirmed cases worldwide, 450,835 deaths and 4,115,294 people have recovered.

There are **2,177,842** confirmed cases of the coronavirus in the U.S., 118,175 deaths and 592,191 people have recovered.

The U.S. continues to add more than 20,000 new COVID-19 cases per day, with no indication the virus is abating.

LATEST PMJ RESOURCES

expanded unemployment, indicating, "It probably is going to be important that it be continued in some form. I wouldn't say what form, but you wouldn't want to go all the way to zero on that."

Since our last update, the Department of Labor and 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-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](#)

ECONOMIC UPDATE

Congressional

SENATE:

- Senate Banking Committee Ranking Member Sherrod Brown (D-OH) [released a statement](#) on the extension of suspension of foreclosures on FHA-insured and Fannie Mae- and Freddie Mac-backed mortgages until August.

Administration

WHITE HOUSE:

- President Trump [held](#) a roundtable with governors on reopening small businesses amid COVID-19.

FEDERAL RESERVE ("FED"):

- Chairman Powell [urged](#) Congress to continue expanded unemployment benefits "in some form."

Articles of Interest

- 6/18 The Wall Street Journal published an article titled, ["Mnuchin, Powell Defend Borrower Requirements Under Emergency Lending Programs."](#)
- 6/18 The Wall Street Journal published an article titled, ["Former Fed Economists Urge Easier Terms for 'Main Street' Loans."](#)

- 6/18 The Wall Street Journal published an article titled, [“Americans Skip Millions of Loan Payments as Coronavirus Takes Economic Toll.”](#)
- 6/18 AP published an article titled, [“Persistently high layoffs suggest a slow US economic rebound.”](#)
- 6/18 Reuters published an article titled, [“IMF says deeper-than-expected contraction in U.S. economy likely in second quarter.”](#)

PUBLIC HEALTH UPDATE

Congressional

HOUSE:

- 66 House lawmakers sent a [letter](#) to Speaker Pelosi and Minority Leader McCarthy regarding a 22 month extension of CMS' emergency telehealth waivers to be included in a potential Phase Four coronavirus aid package.

SENATE:

- Sens. Cruz and Blackburn introduced the [Equal Access to Care Act](#) - legislation to expand access to telemedicine during the coronavirus emergency period by allowing licensed health care providers to treat patients over the phone and online wherever the patient is located.
- Sens. Duckworth and Durbin introduced the [COVID-19 Special Enrollment Period Act](#) to provide uninsured Americans in Illinois and throughout the country the freedom to purchase health insurance coverage through the federal health insurance marketplace exchange by establishing a one-time special enrollment period (SEP) beginning on July 1, 2020 and ending on October 1, 2020.

Administration

DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

- HHS through the Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA), [announced](#) awards totaling \$107.2 million to 310 recipients to increase the health workforce in rural and underserved communities. Recipients across 45 states and U.S. territories received funding to improve the quality, distribution and diversity of health professionals serving across the country.

FOOD AND DRUG ADMINISTRATION

- FDA took an additional step in harnessing real-world data to help inform the agency's overall response to COVID-19 by [announcing](#) its participation in the COVID-19 Diagnostics Evidence Accelerator, a multi-stakeholder collaborative project to advance the development of diagnostics.
- FDA published the [Statistical Considerations for Clinical Trials During the COVID-19 Public Health Emergency Guidance for Industry](#). This guidance shares recommendations on statistical considerations to address the impact of COVID-19 on meeting objectives of clinical trials conducted during this public health emergency.
- FDA issued [warning letters](#) to three companies for marketing adulterated and misbranded COVID-19 antibody tests.

INTERNAL REVENUE SERVICE

- The IRS [alerted](#) nursing home and other care facilities that Economic Impact Payments (EIPs) generally belong to the recipients, not the organizations providing the care. The

IRS issued this reminder following concerns that people and businesses may be taking advantage of vulnerable populations who received the Economic Impact Payments.

- The IRS **advised** that new rules under the CARES Act provide flexibility for health care spending that may be helpful in the current environment where more people may need at-home services due to measures to fight the coronavirus.

Articles of Interest

- 6/16 The Hill published an article titled, "[Fauci: why the public wasn't told to wear masks when the coronavirus pandemic began.](#)"
 - 6/17 Politico published an article titled, "[Next testing debacle: The fall virus surge.](#)"
 - 6/17 CNBC published an article titled, "[Coronavirus deaths in U.S. projected to surpass 200,000 by October.](#)"
 - 6/18 Bloomberg Law published an article titled, "[Protests Prompt Re-Examination of Inequality in Medical Research.](#)"
 - 6/18 NPR published an article titled, "[As States Reopen, Do They Have The Workforce They Need To Stop Coronavirus Outbreaks?](#)"
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LABOR UPDATE

Administration

DEPARTMENT OF LABOR:

- DOL released the [Unemployment Insurance Weekly Claims Report](#) for the week ending June 13.
 - DOL's Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA) has issued **guidance** to assist employers reopening non-essential businesses and their employees returning to work during the evolving coronavirus pandemic.
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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.