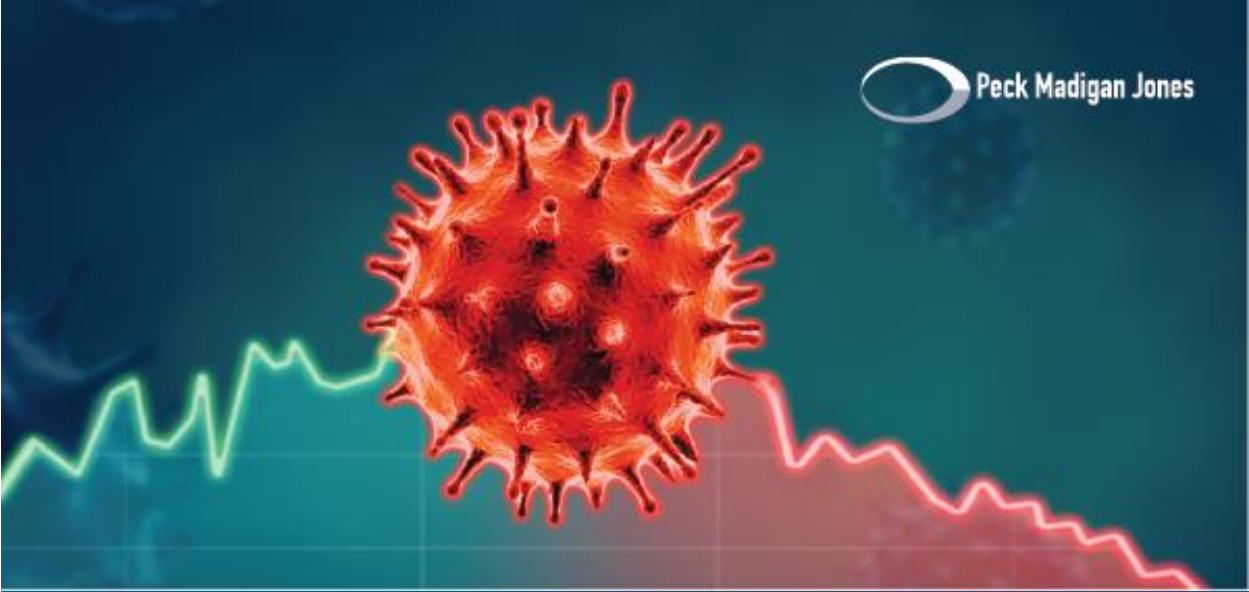




DAILY COVID-19 UPDATE

June 23, 2020

WHAT HAPPENED TODAY

Today, President Trump **signaled support** for a second round of stimulus checks for Americans as part of a potential Phase Four coronavirus aid package. However, top GOP lawmakers and some senior White House officials remain skeptical, citing concerns about costs. In an **interview** yesterday, the President stated, "We will be doing another stimulus package. It'll be very good, it'll be very generous."

Notably, top health officials testified at the House Energy and Commerce Committee on the Trump administration's response to the COVID-19 pandemic. Drs. Fauci, Giroir, Hahn, and Redfield recommended expanding surveillance; urged a commitment to sustainable, long-term funding for pandemic preparedness; noted the importance of ramping up domestic production of personal protective equipment (PPE); requested Congress' support for real-world evidence generation and bolstering the national data

LATEST STATISTICS

There are a total of **9,158,912** confirmed cases worldwide, 473,930 deaths and 4,585,946 people have recovered.

There are **2,392,637** confirmed cases of the coronavirus in the U.S., 120,927 deaths and 640,198 people have recovered.

LATEST PMJ RESOURCES

[COVID-19 Legislative Update](#)

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

infrastructure and vaccine infrastructure in the U.S.; and warned that the looming double threat of COVID-19 and influenza this fall and winter could place a significant burden on our healthcare system.

Additionally, three House Democratic committee chairs criticized the Treasury Department and Small Business Administration (SBA) for "insufficient" Paycheck Protection Program (PPP) loan disclosure requirements. The chairs **stated**, "Treasury and the SBA have agreed to a minimum level of transparency, but still fall short of taxpayers' expectations."

Since our last update, the Food and Drug Administration and Consumer Financial Protection Bureau issued 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.

[Coronavirus 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

HOUSE:

- House Financial Services Committee Chairwoman Maxine Waters (D-CA), Ways and Means Committee Chairman Richard Neal (D-MA), and Small Business Committee Chairwoman Nydia Valázquez (D-NY) **issued** a statement on full Paycheck Protection Program transparency.
- Treasury Secretary Steven Mnuchin and Federal Reserve Chairman Jerome Powell **will appear** before the House Financial Services Committee on June 30.

SENATE:

- Senate Banking Committee Ranking Member Sherrod Brown (D-OH) **released a statement** after the Consumer Financial Protection Bureau's (CFPB) release of a proposed Ability to Repay and Qualified Mortgage rule.

Administration

FEDERAL RESERVE ("FED") :

- Four federal agencies in conjunction with the state bank and credit union regulators today **issued** examiner guidance to promote consistency and flexibility in the supervision and examination of financial institutions affected by the COVID-19 pandemic.

INTERNAL REVENUE SERVICE (IRS):

- The IRS **announced** that anyone who already took a required minimum distribution (RMD) in 2020 from certain retirement accounts now has the opportunity to roll those funds back into a retirement account following the CARES Act RMD waiver for 2020.

CONSUMER FINANCIAL PROTECTION BUREAU (CFPB):

- The CFPB **issued** an interim final rule to amend Regulation X.

Articles of Interest

- 6/23 The Washington Post published an article titled, **“Trump tells aides he supports second round of stimulus checks, but White House divisions remain.”**
- 6/23 The Wall Street Journal published an article titled, **“Delivery Firm Got PPP Loan Even as Demand Rose During Pandemic.”**
- 6/23 The Hill published an article titled, **“Senators offer bill to expand charitable giving tax break.”**
- 6/22 The Hill published an article titled, **“Top Democrats: Trump administration’s plan for PPP disclosure ‘inadequate.’”**

PUBLIC HEALTH UPDATE

Congressional

HOUSE:

- Rep. Clyburn sent a **letter** to Vice President Pence, HHS Secretary Azar, and CDC Director Redfield regarding limiting COVID-19 testing.
- Reps. Pallone and DeGette sent a **letter** to HHS, DOJ, and DHS regarding medical supply procurement.
- Reps. Kaptur and Gibbs introduced the **COVID-19 Hospital Forgiveness Act**, which forgives loans made to hospitals and healthcare providers through the Medicare Accelerated and Advance Payments program.
- Rep. Porter introduced the **Patients Before Profits Act**, which would bar insurers from renegotiating contracts or decreasing reimbursement rates for doctors and other healthcare workers while a pandemic is ongoing.
- Reps. Schakowsky, Doggett, Rooney, DeLauro, DeFazio introduced **bipartisan bills** to prevent price-gouging, prohibit monopolies, and ensure transparency on taxpayer funded COVID-19 drugs.
- Rep. Blunt Rochester introduced **legislation** that would expand tobacco cessation coverage to all Medicaid beneficiaries during the COVID-19 public health emergency.

SENATE:

- Sens. Murray and DeLauro sent a **letter** to HHS Secretary Azar about the Trump Administration’s recent removal of BARDA employees from project leadership roles on several COVID-19 vaccine contracts.

Administration

THE WHITE HOUSE

- The White House provided a **readout** from Vice President Pence’s Governors Briefing on COVID-19 response and recovery.

DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

- HHS' Office of Minority Health **announced** the selection of the Morehouse School of Medicine as the awardee for a new \$40 million initiative to fight COVID-19 in racial and ethnic minority, rural and socially vulnerable communities.

CENTERS FOR MEDICARE & MEDICAID SERVICES

- CMS is calling for a renewed national commitment to **value-based care based on Medicare claims data** that provides an early snapshot of the impact of COVID-19 on the Medicare population. The data shows that older Americans and those with chronic health conditions are at the highest risk for COVID-19 and confirms long-understood disparities in health outcomes for racial and ethnic minority groups and among low-income populations.

NATIONAL INSTITUTES OF HEALTH

- More than 300 scientists and clinicians from the federal government, industry and academia published a **report** of their conclusions and recommendations on COVID-19 serology studies online in *Immunity*. The NIH workshop attendees assessed efforts to better understand the implications of serology test results, to produce and validate test kits, and to quantify undetected cases of SARS-CoV-2 infection.
- NIH investigators and colleagues have discovered that when the immune system first responds to infectious agents such as viruses or bacteria, a natural brake on the response prevents overactivation. Their new **study** describes this brake and the way pathogens such as SARS-CoV-2, the virus that causes COVID-19, turn it on.

CENTERS FOR DISEASE CONTROL AND PREVENTION

- CDC released a **Morbidity and Mortality Report** titled, "Potential Indirect Effects of the COVID-19 on Use of Emergency Departments for Acute Life-Threatening Conditions - United States, January-May 2020.

FOOD AND DRUG ADMINISTRATION

- The FDA issued a **guidance document**, titled "Effects of the COVID-19 Public Health Emergency on Formal Meetings and User Fee Applications for Medical Devices - Questions and Answers," with answers to frequently asked questions.
- To date, the FDA has authorized 145 tests under EUAs; these include 122 molecular tests, 22 antibody tests, and 1 antigen test.

Articles of Interest

- 6/21 The New York Times published an article titled, "**Public Health Experts Reject President's View of Fading Pandemic.**"
- 6/22 NPR published an article titled, "**Black Medicare Patients With COVID-19 Nearly 4 Times As Likely To End Up In Hospital.**"
- 6/23 Politico published an article titled, "**Trump team weighs a CDC scrubbing to deflect mounting criticism.**"
- 6/23 The Associated Press published an article titled, "**Fauci hopeful for a vaccine by late 2020, early 2021.**"
- 6/23 CNN published an article titled, "**Study suggests 80% of COVID-19 cases in the US went undetected in March.**"

LABOR UPDATE

Administration

THE WHITE HOUSE

- President Trump issued a [proclamation](#) suspending the entry of immigrants who present a risk to the U.S. labor market following the coronavirus outbreak.

DEPARTMENT OF LABOR:

- Secretary of Labor Eugene Scalia issued a [statement](#) regarding President Trump's Proclamation: Suspension Of Entry Of Immigrants And Nonimmigrants Who Present A Risk To The United States Labor Market During The Economic Recovery Following The 2019 Novel Coronavirus Outbreak.

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.