



DAILY COVID-19 UPDATE

June 24, 2020

WHAT HAPPENED TODAY

Today, the Senate Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs Committee held a hearing on the role of the strategic national stockpile in pandemic response. Witnesses emphasized the importance of sustained funding for the agency to maintain critical supplies, advocating for consistent Congressional appropriations, the ability to work with a partner foundation for philanthropic donations, and the authority to realize income from sales of expiring products.

In an interview, Treasury Secretary Steven Mnuchin discussed potential components of an additional stimulus package. He **stated**, "We're talking about a bunch of different ideas that we may need to do in another bill...whatever we do it'll be...more focused on bringing back jobs and making sure we take care of our kids."

LATEST STATISTICS

There are a total of **9,326,423** confirmed cases worldwide, 479,310 deaths and 4,683,736 people have recovered.

There are **2,366,961** confirmed cases of the coronavirus in the U.S., 121,746 deaths and 647,548 people have recovered.

34,700 new cases of coronavirus were reported yesterday in the U.S., the highest single day total since April.

Notably, Secretary Mnuchin indicated the U.S. economy will be out of a recession by the end of the year. He noted that though the economy had a "very bad" second quarter, we should see a "[**spectacular rebound**](#) off the bottom in the third quarter."

We have updated our Drug Shortage and Medical Supply Tracker. It is linked under Latest PMJ Resources.

LATEST PMJ RESOURCES

[COVID-19 Legislative Update](#)

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

[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:

- A bipartisan group of Representatives, led by Rep. Van Taylor (R-TX), [**urged**](#) Treasury Secretary Steven Mnuchin and Federal Reserve Chairman Jerome Powell to create a lending facility to support businesses in the commercial mortgage backed securities market.
- In a letter, Rep. Emmanuel Cleaver (D-MO) [**urged**](#) the Treasury Department to report to Congress on the availability of pandemic insurance as the economy reopens.

Administration

FEDERAL RESERVE ("FED") :

- The Fed, the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation, and the Office of the Comptroller of the Currency [**announced**](#) the availability of the 2020 list of distressed or underserved nonmetropolitan middle-income geographies.

Articles of Interest

- 6/24 The Wall Street Journal published an article titled, "[**The Urgency of Returning to Full Employment.**](#)"

- 6/24 AP published an article titled, [**"Virus pummels commercial real estate, could end long boom."**](#)
- 6/24 The Washington Post published an article titled, [**"IMF says global economic collapse caused by coronavirus will be even worse than feared."**](#)
- 6/24 The Hill published an article titled, [**"Senate Democrats raise concerns about debit cards used for stimulus payments."**](#)
- 6/23 The Hill published an article titled, [**"Mnuchin leaves door open to further extending tax deadline."**](#)

PUBLIC HEALTH UPDATE

Congressional

HOUSE:

- Reps. Pallone, Neal, and Scott unveiled [**The Patient Protection and Affordable Care Enhancement Act**](#), a legislative package that aims to make health care and prescription drugs more affordable as Americans face the COVID-19 pandemic and the economic downturn.
- Rep. Walorski joined the Ripon Society and Franklin Center recently to [**discuss**](#) how COVID-19 is impacting Indiana and the importance of telehealth and innovation in locking down this virus.

SENATE:

- Eight Democratic Senators sent a [**letter**](#) to Leaders McConnell and Schumer, urging investment in public health and prevention in the U.S. amid the coronavirus pandemic.
- Sens. Hassan, Warren, Casey, and Schumer sent a [**letter**](#) to FEMA Administrator Gaynor regarding availability of personal protective equipment for nursing homes and long-term care facilities.
- Sens. Duckworth, Van Hollen, and King introduced legislation to strengthen the national response to pandemics by modernizing the production of critical medical supplies for frontline healthcare providers. [**The Public Health Emergency \(PHE\) Production Act**](#) would ensure the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) fully leverages its allocation authorities under the Defense Production Act (DPA) to respond to current and future emergencies.
- Sen. Loeffler introduced [**legislation**](#) to permanently extend a provision of the CARES Act that temporarily allows health savings account eligible high-deductible health plans to offer first-dollar coverage of telehealth services.

Administration

FOOD AND DRUG ADMINISTRATION

- FDA Commissioner Hahn published a [**FDA Voices blog post**](#) titled, "FDA Maintains the Pace of Meeting its Goals on Applications for Medical Products During the Pandemic."
- The FDA is partnering with the Critical Path Institute (C-Path) and the National Institutes of Health's National Center for Advancing Translational Sciences (NCATS) on the [**CURE Drug Repurposing Collaboratory**](#). CDRC is a forum for the exchange of clinical practice data to inform potential new uses of existing drugs for areas of high unmet medical need, advancing research in these areas.

CENTERS FOR DISEASE CONTROL AND PREVENTION

- CDC issued a [report](#) to Congress on the CARES Act and COVID-19 Public Health Surveillance and Data Collection.

Articles of Interest

- 6/23 Politico published an article titled, [“Trump swing state allies break with White House on Covid-19.”](#)
 - 6/23 The Hill published an article titled, [“CDC director: US has about 28,000 contact tracers, needs 100,000.”](#)
 - 6/23 The Commonwealth Fund published an article titled, [“An Early Look at the Potential Implications of the COVID-19 Pandemic for Health Insurance Coverage.”](#)
 - 6/24 The Hill published an article titled, [“GOP warns against ramping down coronavirus testing.”](#)
 - 6/24 AP News published an article titled, [“Some states break virus records as US caseload grows anew.”](#)
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LABOR UPDATE

Administration

DEPARTMENT OF LABOR:

- DOL launched an interactive [online tool](#) to help workers determine if they qualify for paid sick leave or extended family and medical leave to cover time away from work for reasons related to the coronavirus.
 - DOL will host a [webinar](#) for medical professionals and other stakeholders who provide care for current and former workers eligible for benefits administered by the Office of Workers' Compensation Programs' Division of Energy Employees Occupational Illness Compensation (DEEOIC).
 - DOL's Wage and Hour Division (WHD) in Kansas City is joining with the IRS and the U.S. Small Business Administration to present a [webinar](#) to review paid sick leave requirements, tax relief and other coronavirus-related information critical for employers and business owners.
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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.