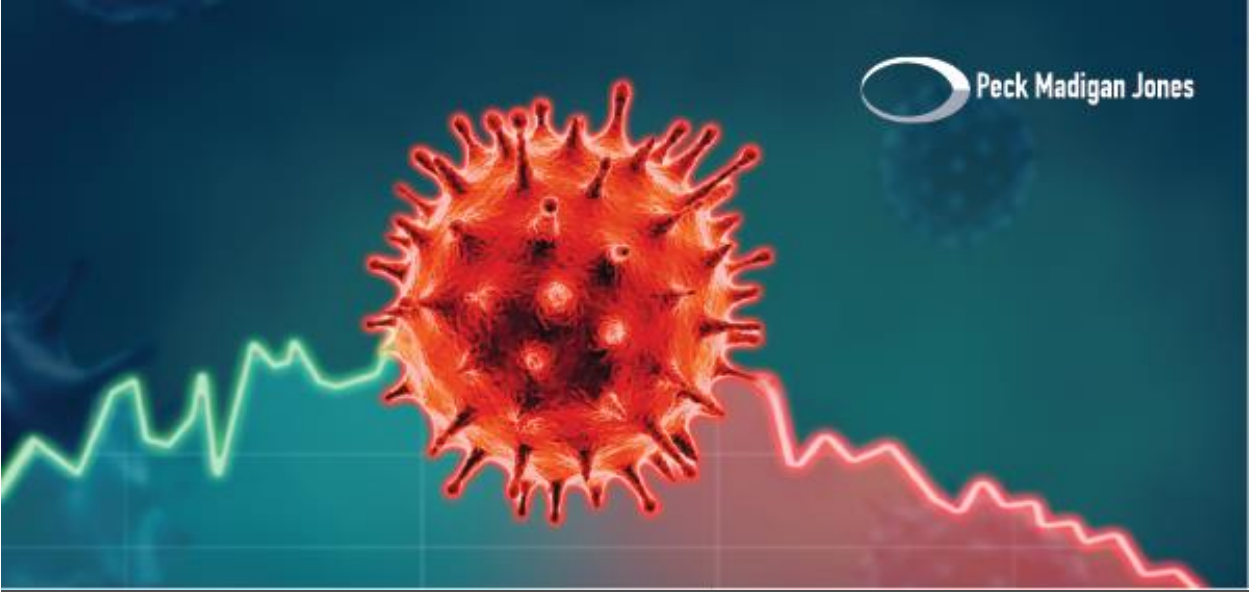




DAILY COVID-19 UPDATE

July 8, 2020

WHAT HAPPENED TODAY

Today, the White House Coronavirus Task Force held a **press briefing** to provide an update on the COVID-19 response. Vice President Pence indicated that while the supply of personal protective equipment (PPE) "remains very strong...we're encouraging healthcare workers to begin now...to preserve and reuse PPE."

Additionally, a House Appropriations subcommittee **approved** the FY 2021 LHHS spending bill 9-6 on a party line vote. Republicans expressed disapproval of the fact that the measure includes \$24.4 billion in supplemental appropriations to address the COVID-19 outbreak. They indicated "additional emergency spending for coronavirus needs to be negotiated as part of a free standing supplemental..."

LATEST STATISTICS

There are a total of **11,900,855** confirmed cases worldwide, 545,728 deaths and 6,491,377 people have recovered.

There are **3,022,899** confirmed cases of the coronavirus in the U.S., 131,960 deaths and 936,476 people have recovered.

Arizona, Florida, and South Carolina have become the global coronavirus capital. COVID-19 cases are increasing more rapidly in the Sun Belt than in any other country worldwide.

Notably, Vice President Pence's Chief of Staff Marc Short **told** Bloomberg Radio that the Trump Administration wants Congress to pass another stimulus package before members leave for August recess. He stated the package should cost no more than \$1 trillion, and it should include a payroll tax cut, liability reform, tax incentives, and a potential back-to-work bonus.

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 ExportControls](#)

[Memo - Federal Reserve COVID-19 Announcements](#)

[Federal Reserve Lending Facilities Deck](#)

ECONOMIC UPDATE

Congressional

HOUSE:

- House Appropriations Financial Services Subcommittee **approved** the Fiscal Year 2021 financial services and general government funding bill that would increase Treasury funding.

Administration

FEDERAL RESERVE ("FED"):

- New York Fed Executive Vice President Daleep Singh **announced** the Fed may re-bid contracts for emergency lending facilities in order to diversify potential vendors and counterparties involved across facility activities.

Articles of Interest

- 7/8 The Wall Street Journal published an article titled, "[Recession Forces Spending cuts on States, Cities Hit by Coronavirus.](#)"
- 7/8 The Wall Street Journal published an article titled, "[New Coronavirus Surges Slow Economic Recovery.](#)"

- 7/7 The Wall Street Journal published an article titled, ["Covid Still Poses Challenges for Financial System, Fed's Quarles Says."](#)
- 7/7 Politico published an article titled, ["Congress wary on future aid as well-connected businesses rake in millions."](#)

PUBLIC HEALTH UPDATE

Congressional

HOUSE:

- Reps. Schneider and Katko introduced bipartisan [legislation](#) to require the federal government to report to Congress on their preparation planning to address the effects of a potential COVID-19 resurgence.

SENATE:

- Sens. Gardner, Smith, Cassidy led 35 of their colleagues in a [letter](#) to HHS Secretary Azar and CMS Administrator Verma, urging the administration to provide Congress with a written plan and timeline about any potential changes to Medicare rules governing telehealth.
- Sen. McSally and 48 Members of Congress sent a [letter](#) to HHS Secretary Azar, strongly urging the administration to quickly provide relief to rural health care providers affected by the COVID-19 pandemic.
- Sens. Tester, Murray, Brown and Blumenthal sent a [letter](#) to VA Secretary Wilkie regarding the Electronic Health Record Modernization program.
- Sens. Grassley, Daines, and McSally introduced the [**Emergency Support for Nursing Homes and Elder Justice Reform Act of 2020**](#), which would improve existing programs to protect older Americans while also providing help to nursing homes in light of the COVID-19 pandemic that has posed serious problems for these facilities.

Administration

THE WHITE HOUSE

- The White House provided a [readout](#) from Vice President Pence's Governors briefing on COVID-19 response and best practices on safely reopening America's schools.
- The White House issued a [transcript](#) of President Trump's remarks on safely reopening America's schools amid the coronavirus pandemic.

FOOD AND DRUG ADMINISTRATION

- FDA issued a [letter](#) to Clinical Laboratory Staff and Health Care Providers alerting them of an increased risk of a false positive result with BD SARS-CoV-2 Reagents for the BD Max System test. In one study, the manufacturer found approximately three percent (3%) of results were false positive results.
- The FDA updated the [Molecular Diagnostic templates](#) on FDA.gov to provide more detailed recommendations for the validation of assays intended to be used for pooling patient samples.

NATIONAL INSTITUTES OF HEALTH

- The National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases (NIAID) [established](#) a new clinical trials network that aims to enroll thousands of volunteers in large-scale clinical trials testing a variety of investigational vaccines and monoclonal antibodies intended to protect people from COVID-19.

- Dr. Francis Collins posted a NIH Director's [Blog Post](#) titled, "Seeing Coronavirus Replicate in Kidney Cells."
- Dr. Francis Collins and Dr. Anthony Fauci had a video-conference [conversation on COVID-19](#).

Articles of Interest

- 7/7 Politico Magazine published an article titled, [“The Dangerous Race for the Covid Vaccine.”](#)
- 7/8 The Hill published an article titled, [“Why the US is falling behind in COVID-19 fight.”](#)
- 7/8 NPR published an article titled, [“More States Require Masks In Public As COVID-19 Spreads, But Enforcement Lags.”](#)
- 7/8 The Associated Press published an article titled, [“‘Desperation science’ slows the hunt for coronavirus drugs.”](#)
- 7/8 The Washington Examiner published an article titled, [“Hospitals feeling strain of coronavirus surge.”](#)

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.