



DAILY COVID-19 UPDATE

July 17, 2020

WHAT HAPPENED TODAY

Today, the Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) announced it is releasing \$10 billion in a second round of funding to hospitals located in high impact COVID-19 areas. The disbursement is expected to begin next week.

Notably, White House spokesman Judd Deere issued a **statement** that President Trump will not sign into law a phase four coronavirus relief package that does not include a payroll tax cut. This is a provision that both House Democrats and Senate Republicans have rejected.

Additionally, Treasury Secretary Steven Mnuchin and Small Business Administrator Jovita Carranza appeared before the House Small Business Committee. Secretary Mnuchin voiced support for additional aid to the hardest-hit industries based on "revenue tests" that determine whether or not the

LATEST STATISTICS

There are a total of **13,921,699** confirmed cases worldwide, 593,072 deaths and 7,795,469 people have recovered.

There are **3,622,702** confirmed cases of the coronavirus in the U.S., 138,910 deaths and 1,090,645 people have recovered.

The U.S. reported more than **75,600** new cases of COVID-19 yesterday, breaking the record for new cases in a single day. This is the 11th time in the last month that the U.S. has broken the single-day record.

business experienced a significant decline in revenue due to COVID-19.

Moreover, HHS Assistant Secretary for Health Brett Giroir signaled the Department will be releasing guidance advising against repeat tests for most COVID-19 positive patients as the surge in cases nationwide threatens to overwhelm laboratories.

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

Congress

HOUSE:

- Members of the Blue Dog Coalition **sent a letter** to House and Senate leadership urging them to include further oversight on COVID-related spending.

SENATE:

- Senate Democrats unveiled a proposal titled the **Economic Justice Act**, that would offer \$350 billion in child care, job training, health care, and minority community investments.

Administration

FEDERAL RESERVE ("FED"):

- The Fed **modified** the Main Street Lending Program (MSLP) in order to provide greater access to credit for nonprofit organizations such as educational institutions, hospitals, and social service organizations.

- The Fed **purchased** \$12 million so far in loans through the MSLP according to its weekly reserve balance report.

TREASURY:

- Secretary Mnuchin's **testimony** before the House Small Business Committee.
- Secretary Mnuchin's **statement** on the expansion of the Main Street Lending Program to support lending to nonprofit organizations.

COMMODITY FUTURES TRADING COMMISSION (CFTC):

- The CFTC Division of Swap Dealer and Intermediary Oversight (DSIO) **announced**, due to continuing challenges from the COVID-19 pandemic, it will extend the time period for the targeted no-action relief provided in CFTC Staff Letter No. 20-16.

Articles of Interest

- 7/17 The Wall Street Journal published an article titled, "**Fed Unveils Plan to Extend Emergency Loans to Nonprofits.**"
- 7/17 The Wall Street Journal published an article titled, "**Mnuchin Suggests Automatic Forgiveness of Smallest PPP Loans.**"
- 7/17 The Wall Street Journal published an article titled, "**Jobs Recovery Shows Signs of Slowing as Coronavirus Surges.**"
- 7/16 Politico published an article titled, "**Trump demands payroll tax cut in the next Covid relief bill.**"
- 7/16 The Washington Post published an article titled, "**White House warns stimulus package 'must' include Trump payroll tax cut proposal.**"

PUBLIC HEALTH UPDATE

Congressional

HOUSE:

- Reps. Thompson, Welch, Johnson, Schweikert, and Matsui introduced the ***Protecting Access to Post-COVID-19 Telehealth Act***, which would continue the expanded use of telehealth beyond the coronavirus pandemic by eliminating restrictions on the use in Medicare, providing a bridge for patients currently using the practices because of the crisis, and requiring a study on the use of telehealth during COVID-19.
- Rep. Richmond (D-LA) introduced the ***COVID Testing Transparency Act***, which would require the Trump Administration to share COVID-19 testing data with Congress and the public.

SENATE:

- 6 Senators sent a **letter** to HHS Secretary Azar regarding remdesivir pricing.

Administration

DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

- HHS, through the Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA), **announced** it will begin distributing \$10 billion in a second round of high impact COVID-19 area funding to hospitals starting next week.

NATIONAL INSTITUTES OF HEALTH

- NIH Director Dr. Collins published a [blog post](#) titled, "Researchers Publish Encouraging Early Data on COVID-19 Vaccine."

CENTERS FOR DISEASE CONTROL AND PREVENTION

- CDC released a [Morbidity and Mortality Weekly Report](#) (MMWR) titled, "Symptom Profiles of a Convenience Sample of Patients with COVID-19 — United States, January–April 2020."

FOOD AND DRUG ADMINISTRATION

- The FDA announced that at 8:00 p.m. this evening, it will close its COVID-19 Industry Hotline. To meet current needs, the FDA is providing support for industry and laboratory questions about COVID-19 and medical devices through the following directory: [Contacts for Medical Devices During the COVID-19 Pandemic](#).
- FDA's MedWatch Alert webpage on safety and reported adverse events includes information on the latest [recalls](#) of several hand sanitizers due to potential methanol contamination.

Articles of Interest

- 7/16 KFF published an article titled, ["Millions of Seniors Live In Households with School-Age Children."](#)
 - 7/16 Reuters published an article titled, ["Fauci implores young people to stay vigilant on coronavirus risk."](#)
 - 7/16 Politico published an article titled, ["CDC to recommend against retesting coronavirus patients before they end isolation."](#)
 - 7/17 The Center for Public Integrity published an article titled, ["Exclusive: White House Document Shows 18 States in Coronavirus 'Red Zone.'"](#)
 - 7/17 The New York Times published an article titled, ["Mask Rules Expand Across U.S. as Clashes Over the Mandates Intensify."](#)
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LABOR UPDATE

Congressional

HOUSE:

- Ways and Means Republicans published a [coronavirus bulletin](#) titled, "Support Grows for W&M GOP Healthy Workplace Legislation."
 - Reps. Morelle (D-NY) and Takano (D-CA) introduced legislation to create a massive new jobs training program to combat COVID-19 and help communities across the country safely re-open. The [Jobs to Fight COVID-19 Act](#) will help states across the country hire more than a million workers to perform critical mitigation, containment, and tracing work to prevent future outbreaks.
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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.