



## DAILY COVID-19 UPDATE

**July 23, 2020**

**The Daily COVID-19 Update will be taking a break from July 24 to 27 and will resume on July 28.**

### WHAT HAPPENED TODAY

Today, Treasury Secretary Steven Mnuchin announced the White House and Senate Republicans have reached "a fundamental agreement" on a \$1 trillion GOP coronavirus relief package. While lawmakers expected Senate Majority Leader McConnell would begin unveiling a series of bills making up the aid package as early as this morning, the timeline for the roll-out has now slipped to Monday as the White House and Senate Republicans continue negotiations on key priorities such as boosted unemployment benefits and direct stimulus payments for Americans.

### LATEST STATISTICS

There are a total of **15,321,211** confirmed cases worldwide, 625,888 deaths and 8,721,542 people have recovered.

There are **4,007,859** confirmed cases of the coronavirus in the U.S., 143,846 deaths and 1,210,849 people have recovered.

Meanwhile, Senate Democratic Leader Chuck Schumer (D-NY) indicated the GOP stimulus plan "won't get the job done," and urged Republican lawmakers to work in a bipartisan manner to provide greater aid to Americans amid the pandemic.

Yesterday, FEMA Administrator Pete Gaynor [testified](#) at a House Homeland Security Committee hearing on the national response to the worsening coronavirus pandemic. He stated, "we have a ways to go" to ensuring sufficient personal protective equipment. He also acknowledged we may see shortages across the U.S. as COVID-19 cases and related hospitalizations continue to increase.

In addition, President Trump suggested he may consider an [executive order mandating masks](#) for the White House and federal buildings across the U.S.

Since our last update, the Federal Reserve 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.

Today, the U.S. surpassed 4 million coronavirus infections.

## 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](#)

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## ECONOMIC UPDATE

### *Congressional*

#### HOUSE:

- House Finance Committee Chairwoman Maxine Waters (D-CA) [sent a letter](#) to Ranking Member Patrick McHenry (R-NC) rejecting his request to reschedule the committee's hearing on the Heroes Act.
- Chairwoman Water's [opening statement](#) at the committee's hearing on the Heroes Act.

#### JOINT ECONOMIC COMMITTEE:

- The Joint Economic Committee [released a new report](#) on cost of gaps in paid sick leave during the COVID-19 pandemic.

### *Administration*

#### FEDERAL RESERVE ("FED"):

- The Fed **broadened** the set of firms eligible to transact with and provide services through the Term Asset-Backed Securities Loan Facility (TALF), the Commercial Paper Funding Facility (CPFF), and the Secondary Market Corporate Credit Facility (SMCCF).

#### TREASURY:

- Secretary Mnuchin **announced** a payroll tax cut will not be included in the next coronavirus relief legislation.

#### INTERNAL REVENUE SERVICE (IRS):

- The IRS **added** publicly available COVID-19 and unemployment data to a new tool providing statistical geographic analysis of the agency's resources and employees overlaid with available tax collection work.

#### Articles of Interest

- 7/23 The Washington Post published an article titled, "[White House, GOP kill payroll tax cut but flounder over broader coronavirus bill.](#)"
- 7/23 Politico published an article titled, "[As unemployment grows, White House and Senate GOP stumble on virus talks.](#)"
- 7/23 The Wall Street Journal published an article titled, "[States Brace for Changes to \\$600-a-Week Unemployment Benefits.](#)"
- 7/22 Politico published an article titled, "['It's a mess': Congress prepares to lurch over unemployment aid cliff.](#)"
- 7/22 The Hill published an article titled, "[Bipartisan support grows for inclusion of election funding in Senate stimulus package.](#)"

## PUBLIC HEALTH UPDATE

### *Congressional*

#### HOUSE:

- Republicans on the House Ways and Means Committee unveiled a **series of bills** that are part of Republicans' agenda for economic growth and increasing American innovation in U.S. medicines and cures as we continue to fight the novel coronavirus.

#### SENATE:

- Sen. Warren (D-MA) sent a **letter** to CDC Director Redfield requesting information on CDC's legal authority to stem the surge in COVID-19 cases in states and localities.
- Sens. Graham (R-SC), Capito (R-WV), and Rounds (R-SD) introduced the ***U.S. MADE Act of 2020*** to decrease U.S. dependence on countries like China for critical personal protective equipment (PPE) for our healthcare providers.
- Sens. Menendez (D-NJ) and Cardin (D-MD) introduced the ***COVID-19 Health Disparities Action Act*** to address the disproportionate impact COVID-19 on communities of color.
- Sens. Manchin (D-WV) and Gardner (R-CO) introduced the ***Crisis Care Improvement and Suicide Prevention Act*** which would direct states to utilize 5% of their Mental Health Block Grant for crisis care services, particularly during the COVID-19 pandemic.

## **Administration**

### **THE WHITE HOUSE**

- The White House released a [fact sheet](#) titled, "President Donald J. Trump is Protecting Our Nation's Vulnerable Seniors."

### **CENTERS FOR MEDICARE & MEDICAID SERVICES**

- CMS [announced](#) several new initiatives designed to protect nursing home residents from COVID-19 including new funding, enhanced testing, additional technical assistance and support, and weekly data on high risk nursing homes.

### **FOOD AND DRUG ADMINISTRATION**

- The FDA created a new [website section](#) about COVID-19 for people with cancer and health care professionals to highlight FDA resources and how FDA is working diligently to meet the needs of this vulnerable community during this critical time.
- The FDA updated its [Frequently Asked Questions \(FAQs\) on Testing for SARS-CoV-2](#).
- To date, the FDA has currently authorized 187 tests under EUAs; these include 154 molecular tests, 31 antibody tests, and 2 antigen tests.

### **CENTERS FOR DISEASE CONTROL AND PREVENTION**

- CDC updated [contact tracing resources](#) and considerations that jurisdictions can use to develop a protocol for the tracing of close contacts. CDC also updated its interim COVID-19 [contact tracing communications toolkit for health departments](#) and released a [step-by-step guide for conducting a COVID-19 case investigation](#), including operational questions that a jurisdiction should consider while planning their activities.
- CDC Director Dr. Redfield released a [statement](#) on the media reports on SARS-CoV-2 infections across the U.S. regarding the data from the large scale seroprevalence surveys.

### **NATIONAL INSTITUTES OF HEALTH**

- In a [paper in the New England Journal of Medicine](#) scientific leaders from the NIH set forth a framework to increase significantly the number, quality and type of daily tests for detecting COVID-19, and help reduce inequities for underserved populations that have been disproportionately affected by the disease. The authors describe the current testing landscape and explain the urgent need for nationwide deployment of low-complexity, point-of-care molecular diagnostics with rapid results.

### **Articles of Interest**

- 7/22 USA Today published an article titled, "[It's not just dexamethasone: Other steroids may be used to treat critically ill COVID-19 patients, study says.](#)"
  - 7/22 CNBC published an article titled, "[U.S. hospitals scramble to adopt new HHS coronavirus data system, some states see 'data blackout.'](#)"
  - 7/22 The New York Times published an article titled, "[U.S. Hospitalizations for the Coronavirus Near April Peak.](#)"
  - 7/23 CNN published an article titled, "[US Coronavirus: The Country Reported More Cases In The Last Two Weeks Than It Did For All Of June.](#)"
  - 7/23 The Washington Post published an article titled, "[Can you get coronavirus twice? Doctors are unsure even as anecdotal reports mount.](#)"
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## LABOR UPDATE

### *Administration*

#### DEPARTMENT OF LABOR

- DOL released its [Unemployment Insurance Weekly Claims Report](#) for the week ending July 18. It found that last week, more than 1.4 million Americans applied for unemployment benefits for the first time since March amid a surge in COVID-19 cases.
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## SUPPLY CHAIN/CRITICAL INFRASTRUCTURE UPDATE

- Please click [here](#) to view a readout of today's FEMA-led COVID-19 call.
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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.*