



## DAILY COVID-19 UPDATE

**July 28, 2020**

### WHAT HAPPENED TODAY

Yesterday, Senate Republicans unveiled the highly anticipated series of bills making up their \$1 trillion GOP coronavirus relief package. **The Health, Economic Assistance, Liability Protection, and Schools (HEALS) Act** includes a second round of direct stimulus payments for Americans; another round of loans for the Paycheck Protection Program (PPP); five years of liability protections for businesses, healthcare providers, and schools from lawsuits related to COVID-19; a reduction of the unemployment additional payment to \$200 per week followed by a cap of 70% of lost wages; \$16 billion for COVID-19 testing and contact tracing; \$25 billion for provider relief; and \$105 billion in funding for schools, among other things.

Senate Democratic Leader Chuck Schumer (D-NY) and Speaker of the House Nancy Pelosi (D-CA) are scheduled to meet this afternoon with Treasury

### LATEST STATISTICS

There are a total of **16,540,137** confirmed cases worldwide, 655,300 deaths and 9,616,147 people have recovered.

There are **4,309,230** confirmed cases of the coronavirus in the U.S., 148,298 deaths and 1,325,840 people have recovered.

### LATEST PMJ RESOURCES

[COVID-19 Legislative Update](#)

Secretary Steven Mnuchin and White House Chief of Staff Mark Meadows to continue negotiations on the next COVID-19 aid package. Democratic leaders have dismissed the GOP proposal, calling it inadequate and a non-starter, setting the stage for tough and extensive negotiations.

Since our last update, the Internal Revenue Service and the Federal Reserve published additional guidance related to the pandemic. Please see below for more details.

We have updated our Coronavirus State Reopening Tracker and the Drug Shortage and Medical Supply Tracker. Both are linked under Latest PMJ Resources.

[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:

- Speaker Nancy Pelosi (D-CA) and Senate Democratic Leader Chuck Schumer (D-NY) media availability [transcript](#) with Treasury Secretary Steven Mnuchin and White House Chief of Staff Mark Meadows.
- House Financial Services Chairwoman Maxine Waters (D-CA) made a [statement](#) regarding the expiration of the federal eviction moratorium.

#### SENATE:

- Senate Appropriations Committee Chairman Richard Shelby (D-AL) [introduced](#) legislation containing \$306 billion in emergency appropriations to aid American families and businesses suffering from the COVID-19 pandemic.
- Senate Finance Committee Chairman Chuck Grassley (R-IA) [introduced](#) legislation that builds on the CARES Act.
- Senate Small Business Committee Chairman Marco Rubio (R-FL) [introduced](#) the *Continuing Small Business Recovery and Paycheck Program Act*, a federal relief package that builds on the Paycheck Protection Program (PPP).
- Senate Banking Committee Ranking Member Sherrod Brown's (D-OH) [statement](#) following the passage of a bill to protect CARES Act recovery payments from garnishment by private debt collectors.
- Ranking Member Brown [pushed](#) for emergency rental assistance to help individuals struggling to pay rent.

## ***Administration***

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

- The Fed **announced** an extension through December 31 of its lending facilities that were scheduled to expire on or around September 30.

### **TREASURY:**

- Secretary Mnuchin **issued** the following statement on the extension of the Fed's emergency lending facilities.

### **INTERNAL REVENUE SERVICE (IRS):**

- The IRS **issued** a temporary regulation and proposed regulation to reconcile advance payments of refundable employment tax credits and recapture the benefit of these credits when necessary.

## **Articles of Interest**

- 7/28 The Wall Street Journal published an article titled, "[Fed Outlook Turns Gloomier as Coronavirus Spreads.](#)"
- 7/28 The Wall Street Journal published an article titled, "[Fed Extends Emergency Lending Programs by Three Months.](#)"
- 7/27 Politico published an article titled, "[New GOP small business rescue plan sparks lobbying fight.](#)"
- 7/27 The Wall Street Journal published an article titled, "[GOP Releases Coronavirus Relief Proposal After Delay.](#)"
- 7/27 Politico published an article titled, "[McConnell's warning of lawsuit 'epidemic' undercut by lack of litigation.](#)"

## **PUBLIC HEALTH UPDATE**

### ***Congressional***

#### **HOUSE:**

- Rep. Neal (D-MA) sent a **letter** to HHS Secretary Azar regarding the Department's decision to abruptly change the reporting process of key COVID-19 data previously provided to the CDC.
- Rep. Fudge (D-OH) introduced the ***Pandemic Community Reserve and Public Health Response Act*** to expand the capacity for state, local and Tribal public health departments to combat COVID-19.

#### **SENATE:**

- Sens. Stabenow (D-MI) and Maloney (D-NY) sent a **letter** to Comptroller General of the U.S. Dodaro, requesting that GAO conduct a review of the federal government's investment into the research and development of the antiviral medication remdesivir.
- Sen. Grassley (R-IA) released **Finance Committee provisions** in the next coronavirus relief package, including boosted unemployment insurance, direct stimulus payments to Americans, state tax certainty for employees and employers, support for patients, nursing home residents and hospitals, revenue assistance for state and local governments.

## **Administration**

### **DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES**

- HHS **reserved** the available advanced manufacturing capability and capacities of the Center for Innovation in Advanced Development and Manufacturing (CIADM) at the Texas A&M University System for use in manufacturing COVID-19 vaccines. The task order to the CIADM includes accelerating expansion of that manufacturing capacity for potential COVID-19 vaccines.
- As part of an ongoing collaboration between HHS and the U.S. Department of Defense (DOD), the two departments **awarded** an undefinitized contract action with a ceiling of \$7.6 million awarded to Hologic Inc. to expand production of custom sample collection and processing consumables for COVID-19 testing.
- HHS **announced** that the Public Health Emergency (PHE) declaration for COVID-19 will be renewed for another 90 days through October 22.

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

- CMS **released** its first monthly update of data that provides a snapshot of the impact of COVID-19 on the Medicare population. For the first time, the snapshot includes data for American Indian/Alaskan Native Medicare beneficiaries.
- CMS Administrator Verma **convened** a roundtable discussion on the impact of COVID-19 at the Sam Nunn Federal Center in Atlanta alongside U.S. Sen. Kelly Loeffler. Georgia health care leaders, providers, disease organizations, and advocacy groups met to discuss the impact COVID-19 has had on Georgia's most vulnerable populations.
- CMS Administrator Verma **convened** two roundtable discussions with Ohio officials, Cleveland health care leaders, providers, educators, and other community stakeholders to discuss the impact of and response to COVID-19 on vulnerable populations in Ohio and the flexibilities that have been made available during the public health emergency.

### **NATIONAL INSTITUTES OF HEALTH**

- A **Phase 3 clinical trial** designed to evaluate if an investigational vaccine can prevent symptomatic COVID-19 in adults has begun. The vaccine, known as mRNA-1273, was co-developed by the Cambridge, Massachusetts-based biotechnology company Moderna, Inc., and the National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases (NIAID), part of the National Institutes of Health. The trial, which will be conducted at U.S. clinical research sites, is expected to enroll approximately 30,000 adult volunteers who do not have COVID-19.

### **FOOD AND DRUG ADMINISTRATION**

- The FDA reissued the **LabCorp COVID-19 RT-PCR Test** emergency use authorization (EUA) to include two new indications for use: testing for people who do not have COVID-19 symptoms or who have no reason to suspect COVID-19 infection, and to allow pooled sample testing.
- The FDA approved an abbreviated new drug application, or generic, for **heparin sodium**. The FDA continues to work to help patients suffering from COVID-19 by reviewing and approving generic medicines, such as anti-coagulants, used in the prevention and treatment of blood clotting.
- FDA issued **emergency use authorizations** (EUAs) to two companies for serology-based tests for the qualitative detection and differentiation of IgG and IgM antibodies to SARS-CoV-2. The tests are intended for use as an aid in identifying individuals with an adaptive immune response to SARS-CoV-2, indicating recent or prior infection.

- The FDA **[continues to warn consumers](#)** and health care professionals not to use **[certain](#)** alcohol-based hand sanitizers due to the dangerous presence of methanol.

## CENTERS FOR DISEASE CONTROL AND PREVENTION

- CDC released a **[transcript](#)** of the telebriefing on new resources and tools to support opening schools amid the coronavirus pandemic.
- CDC released new **[resources and tools](#)** to support opening schools.

## Articles of Interest

- 7/27 Reuters published an article titled, **[“The U.S. has more COVID-19 testing than most. So why is it falling so short?”](#)**
  - 7/27 Stat published an article titled, **[“Covid-19 infections leave an impact on the heart, raising concerns about lasting damage.”](#)**
  - 7/27 Modern Healthcare published an article titled, **[“Vaccine developed under Operation Warp Speed is put to its biggest test.”](#)**
  - 7/28 NPR published an article titled, **[“Pandemic Is Overwhelming U.S. Public Health Capacity In Many States. What Now?”](#)**
  - UCSF published an article to appear next week in the Journal of General Internal Medicine titled, **[“Masks Do More than Protect Others during COVID-19: Reducing the Inoculum of SARS-CoV-2.”](#)**
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## LABOR UPDATE

### *Administration*

#### DEPARTMENT OF LABOR

- Director Laurie Todd-Smith of the U.S. Department of Labor Women’s Bureau traveled to Denver, Colorado, with Senator Cory Gardner and Advisor to the President Ivanka Trump underscoring the importance of **[childcare as the nation’s economy safely reopens](#)**.
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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.*