



## DAILY COVID-19 UPDATE

**August 3, 2020**

### WHAT HAPPENED TODAY

Today, Speaker Nancy Pelosi (D-CA) and Senate Democratic Leader Chuck Schumer (D-NY) met with White House Chief of Staff Mark Meadows and Treasury Secretary Steven Mnuchin to continue discussions and bridge the gaps on the next coronavirus relief package. Though negotiators reported having a productive meeting over the weekend, Meadows stated he is "not optimistic there will be a solution in the very near term." Democratic leaders echoed his sentiments, noting they were nowhere near reaching a compromise. Restoring boosted unemployment benefits remains one of the biggest areas of contention but both sides have expressed a commitment to meet everyday until they come to an agreement.

The House was scheduled to begin its August recess this week, however, they will remain in session until a deal is struck on the coronavirus relief legislation, at

### LATEST STATISTICS

There are a total of **18,157,379** confirmed cases worldwide, 690,701 deaths and 10,754,672 people have recovered.

There are **4,696,573** confirmed cases of the coronavirus in the U.S., 155,165 deaths and 1,468,689 people have recovered.

### LATEST PMJ RESOURCES

[COVID-19 Legislative Outlook](#)

which point members will be given 24 hour notice to return to D.C. for a vote.

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:

- Ways and Means Committee Chairman Richard Neal (D-MA) **held a listening session** with recipients of the Federal Pandemic Unemployment Compensation (FPUC).

#### SENATE:

- Senate Finance Committee Ranking Member Ron Wyden (D-OR), Senate Banking Committee Ranking Member Sherrod Brown (D-OH), and Senator Catherine Cortez Masto (D-NV) **called** for the \$600 in boosted unemployment benefits to be reinstated.
- Ranking Member Brown **sent two letters** to financial agencies and regulators urging the extension and expansion of existing provisions key to providing relief and economic stability.
- Ranking Member Brown, and Senators Elizabeth Warren (D-MA) and Kamala Harris (D-CA), sent a letter to Consumer Financial Protection Bureau (CFPB) Director Kathy Kraninger **urging the agency** to take immediate actions to address potential violations of the Equal Credit Opportunity Act (ECOA).

### *Administration*

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

- The **July 2020** senior loan officer opinion survey on bank lending practices.

## TREASURY:

- **Readout** from a Treasury and Small Business Administration (SBA) Roundtable Discussion with Minority Depository Institutions.

## Articles of Interest

- 8/3 Politico published an article titled, "[Top GOP lawmakers urges regulators to extend relief for renters, banks.](#)"
- 8/3 The Washington Post published an article titled, "[Trump administration examining options for unilateral action if no coronavirus deal is reached with Congress.](#)"
- 8/3 The Wall Street Journal published an article titled, "[Coronavirus Stimulus Talks to Resume After Jobless Aid Lapses.](#)"
- 8/3 The Wall Street Journal published an article titled, "[Covid Supercharges Federal Reserve as Backup Lender to the World.](#)"
- 8/2 The Washington Post published an article titled, "[Pelosi, Mnuchin, Meadows point to disagreements as deal on unemployment benefits, coronavirus relief remains elusive.](#)"

## PUBLIC HEALTH UPDATE

### *Congressional*

#### HOUSE:

- Speaker Pelosi (D-CA) penned a **Dear Colleague letter** regarding discussions with the Trump administration over the urgently needed coronavirus relief bill.
- Rep. Krishnamoorthi (D-IL), the Chairman of the Subcommittee on Economic and Consumer Policy, released a **staff report** based on new documents detailing the Trump Administration's failures to supply ventilators during the coronavirus crisis and squandering of more than \$500 million in taxpayer funds.
- Rep. Brady (R-TX) penned an **op-ed** in the National Review titled, "Make Growth and Medical Independence from China Priorities in the Stimulus Package."

#### SENATE:

- Sen. Van Hollen (D-MD) led a bipartisan group of senators in sending a **letter** to Majority Leader Mitch McConnell and Minority Leader Chuck Schumer urging them to include maximum telework requirements for federal employees and contractors in the next coronavirus relief package.

### *Administration*

#### THE WHITE HOUSE

- The White House released a fact sheet titled, "[President Donald J. Trump and His Administration Have Created The Best Covid-19 Testing System In The World.](#)"
- The White House released a transcript of **remarks** by President Trump in a COVID-19 response and storm preparedness roundtable held last Friday in Belleair, FL.

#### DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

- As part of its ongoing efforts to provide financial relief to healthcare providers impacted by COVID-19, HHS **announced** an application deadline extension for the Phase 2

general distribution to Medicaid, Medicaid managed care, CHIP and dental providers. HHS also plans to allow certain Medicare providers who experienced challenges in the Phase 1 Medicare General Distribution application period a second opportunity to receive funding. Both groups will have until Friday, August 28, 2020 to apply.

- HHS **announced** that more than 59 million COVID-19 tests have now been completed nationally – averaging over 810,000 per day over the past seven days. Over the past month, the percentage of lab tests that were completed within three days was 45; over the last seven days, it was over 56.

#### **FOOD AND DRUG ADMINISTRATION**

- FDA Commissioner Dr. Stephen Hahn and Deputy Commissioner for Medical and Scientific Affairs Dr. Anand Shah penned an **FDA Voices** titled, “Investing in Advanced Manufacturing to Support Public Health Preparedness.”
- The FDA authorized the **first two COVID-19 serology tests** that display an estimated quantity of antibodies present in the individual’s blood. Both tests from Siemens, the ADVIA Centaur COV2G and Atellica IM COV2G, are what are known as “semi-quantitative” tests, meaning that they do not display a precise measurement, but estimate the quantity of a patient’s antibodies produced against infection with the virus that causes COVID-19.
- As part of the FDA’s effort to protect consumers, the agency issued a warning letter jointly with the Federal Trade Commission to one company for selling fraudulent COVID-19 related products. The company, **Vapore, LLC, dba Mypurmist**, sells Mypurmist with misleading claims that the product can mitigate, prevent, treat, diagnose, or cure COVID-19 in people.

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

- CDC published a **Morbidity and Mortality Weekly Report** (MMWR) titled, “SARS-CoV-2 Transmission and Infection Among Attendees of an Overnight Camp — Georgia, June 2020.”
- CDC issued a **media statement** noting that the MMWR on SARS-CoV-2 transmission at an overnight camp in Georgia found efficient spread of the virus among campers and staff while noting key steps to minimize the risk for SARS-CoV-2 introduction and transmission in camps were not strictly followed.

#### **Articles of Interest**

- 7/31 NY Governor Andrew Cuomo penned an op-ed in the New York Times titled, **“Let’s End the Wait for Coronavirus Test Results. Here’s How.”**
- 7/31 ProPublica published an article titled, **“How Many People in the U.S. Are Hospitalized With COVID-19? Who Knows?”**
- 8/2 The Washington Post published an article titled, **“A coronavirus vaccine won’t change the world right away.”**
- 8/3 NPR published an article titled, **“WHO Chief Warns ‘There Might Never Be’ A Silver Bullet For Coronavirus.”**
- 8/3 Reuters published an article titled, **“Rival drugmakers launch joint trial of medicines for COVID-19.”**

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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.*