



DAILY COVID-19 UPDATE

August 10, 2020

WHAT HAPPENED TODAY

President Trump signed **four executive orders** (EOs) over the weekend after negotiations on the next coronavirus relief package collapsed Friday afternoon. The EOs are designed to suspend payroll taxes, restore a moratorium on evictions, extend boosted unemployment benefits, and provide relief to student loan borrowers.

Prospects for a bipartisan legislative agreement remain elusive as Speaker Nancy Pelosi (D-CA), Senate Democratic Leader Chuck Schumer (D-NY), Secretary Mnuchin, and White House Chief of Staff Meadows remain far apart on major issues including the overall cost of the legislation, enhanced unemployment insurance, state and local funding, and liability protections.

Last Friday, the Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) announced it is releasing the next

LATEST STATISTICS

There are a total of **19,947,340** confirmed cases worldwide, 732,650 deaths and 12,150,055 people have recovered.

There are **5,071,179** confirmed cases of the coronavirus in the U.S., 163,252 deaths and 1,656,864 people have recovered.

The U.S. surpassed 5 million COVID cases, with five states accounting for more than 40% of infections - CA, GA, TX, FL, and NY.

round of [provider relief funds](#). Specifically, HHS will allocate \$5 billion to nursing homes. The initial \$2.5 billion disbursement is expected to occur in mid-August. The distribution of the remaining \$2.5 billion will be linked to performance and a nursing home's ability to mitigate spread of the virus and limit COVID-related fatalities among its residents.

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

LATEST PMJ RESOURCES

[Drug Shortage and Medical Supply Chain Tracker](#)

[Coronavirus State Reopening Tracker](#)

[Healthcare Chart on COVID Legislation](#)

[COVID-19 Legislative Outlook](#)

[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

Congressional

HOUSE:

- House Financial Services Chairwoman Maxine Waters (D-CA) [issued a statement](#) in response to President Trump's Executive Orders.

SENATE:

- Senate Banking Committee Chairman Mike Crapo (R-ID) and House Financial Service Committee Ranking Member Patrick McHenry (R-NC) [sent a letter](#) to Treasury Secretary Steven Mnuchin and Federal Reserve Chairman Jerome Powell.

CONGRESSIONAL BUDGET OFFICE (CBO):

- The CBO published its [Monthly Budget Review for July 2020](#).

Congressional

FEDERAL RESERVE ("FED"):

- The Fed **announced** individual large bank capital requirements, which will be effective on October 1.

TREASURY:

- Secretary Steven Mnuchin **issued a statement** following the signing of Executive Orders by President Trump.

Articles of Interest

- 8/10 The Wall Street Journal published an article titled, "**Trump, Democrats Open to Restarting Coronavirus Talks but Neither Side Budging.**"
- 8/10 The Washington Post published an article titled, "**Trump, Mnuchin try to pressure Democrats back into negotiations on economic relief talks.**"
- 8/9 The Washington Post published an article titled, "**Trump's executive orders spark confusion among businesses and state officials as Democrats assail them as 'unworkable.'**"
- 8/7 Politico published an article titled, "**Businesses blast key Fed program, saying banks not interested in lending.**"

PUBLIC HEALTH UPDATE

Congressional

HOUSE:

- Speaker Pelosi (D-CA) and Senate Democratic Leader Schumer (D-NY) issued a **joint statement** after President Trump signed an executive order and memoranda to provide limited relief amid the coronavirus pandemic.

SENATE:

- Senate Majority Leader McConnell issued a **statement** following President Trump's announcement about signing four executive orders.
- Sens. Toomey (R-PA) and Hassan (D-NH) **introduced** two bipartisan bills that aim to address persistent nationwide shortages by temporarily cutting taxes on imported PPE, requiring interagency coordination around domestic PPE supply, and directing the United States International Trade Commission (ITC) to regularly update its current list of medical products needed to fight COVID-19.
- Sens. Warner (D-VA) and Scott (R-SC) **introduced** the *Getting Early Treatment and Comprehensive Assessments Reduces Emergencies (GET CARE) Act*, which would authorize a public awareness campaign to educate the public on the importance of resuming routine procedures and screenings – something Americans were discouraged from doing for a period of time during the COVID-19 outbreak.

Administration

THE WHITE HOUSE

- The White House released a **fact sheet** titled, "President Trump's Historic Coronavirus Response."

DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

- HHS **publicly posted** the July through December COVID-19 Testing Plans from all states, territories, and localities on HHS.gov. The State Testing Plans serve as a roadmap developed in partnership with the Federal government for each jurisdiction's monthly 2020 testing strategy for SARS-CoV-2, the virus that causes COVID-19. The plans include details on responding to surges in cases and reaching vulnerable populations including minorities, immunocompromised individuals and older adults.
- HHS, through the Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA), **announced** the details of the next CARES Act-authorized nursing home Provider Relief Fund (PRF) distribution. Consistent with the Administration's announcement in late July, the PRF distribution will total approximately \$5 billion, and will be used to protect residents of nursing homes and long-term care facilities from the impact of COVID-19.

CENTERS FOR MEDICARE & MEDICAID SERVICES

- CMS Administrator Verma **convened** a roundtable discussion with Boston-area health care leaders to discuss the effects COVID-19 has had on care delivery, and the impact of telehealth on patient access to care. Massachusetts has had one of the highest rates of telemedicine use in the country, with nearly half of all Medicare fee-for-service (FFS) beneficiaries - approximately 430,000 out of 980,000 - receiving a telemedicine service since the start of the pandemic, compared to nearly one-third of Medicare FFS beneficiaries nationwide.

NATIONAL INSTITUTES OF HEALTH

- NIH has **announced** research funding to encourage the development of approaches that identify children at high risk for developing Multisystem Inflammatory Syndrome in Children (MIS-C), thought to be a severe complication of COVID-19. Up to \$20 million will be awarded to successful research proposals over four years.

FOOD AND DRUG ADMINISTRATION

- The FDA **revoked the emergency use authorization (EUA)** for Autobio Diagnostics Co., Ltd.'s, Anti-SARS-CoV-2 Rapid Test, a SARS-CoV-2 antibody test, due to performance concerns with the accuracy of the test.
- FDA updated its **Coronavirus Treatment Acceleration Program (CTAP) webpage** with new metrics and FAQs. As of July 31, 570+ drug development programs are in the planning stages and 270+ trials have been reviewed by FDA.

Articles of Interest

- 8/7 Stat published an article titled, **[“Study finds racial bias in the government’s formula for distributing Covid-19 aid to hospitals.”](#)**
- 8/7 The New York Times published an article titled, **[“Why the Coronavirus Is More Likely to ‘Superspread’ Than the Flu.”](#)**
- 8/8 Axios published an article titled, **[“Indoor air is the next coronavirus frontline.”](#)**
- 8/9 The Wall Street Journal published an article titled, **[“Latest Research Points to Children Carrying, Transmitting Coronavirus.”](#)**
- 8/10 NPR published an article titled, **[“Tracking The Pandemic: Are Coronavirus Cases Rising Or Falling In Your State?”](#)**

LABOR UPDATE

Administration

THE WHITE HOUSE

- The White House issued a [Presidential Memorandum](#) on Authorizing the Other Needs Assistance Program for Major Disaster Declarations Related to Coronavirus Disease 2019.

DEPARTMENT OF LABOR

- U.S. Secretary of Labor Eugene Scalia issued a [statement](#) regarding the signed Presidential Memorandum Authorizing the Other Needs Assistance Program for Major Disaster Declarations Related to Coronavirus Disease 2019.

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.