



DAILY COVID-19 UPDATE

August 11, 2020

WHAT HAPPENED TODAY

Negotiations on a coronavirus relief package remain at a standstill, with a deal unlikely in the near future, as Democratic and Republican leaders continue to **blame each other** for the failure to reach an agreement.

Yesterday, Majority Leader Steny Hoyer (D-MD) **announced** there will be no votes in the House until September 14, unless there is a deal on COVID legislation.

According to data released by the Department of Labor, the federal government **spent** nearly \$250 billion on the Federal Pandemic Unemployment Compensation, the additional \$600 in unemployment benefits under the CARES Act.

LATEST STATISTICS

There are a total of **20,166,415** confirmed cases worldwide, 738,266 deaths and 12,388,925 people have recovered.

There are **5,124,050** confirmed cases of the coronavirus in the U.S., 164,329 deaths and 1,670,755 people have recovered.

Global coronavirus cases topped 20 million, with the United States, Brazil and India accounting for more than 50% of those infections.

Since our last update, the Food and Drug Administration published additional guidance related to the pandemic. Please see below for more details.

We have updated our Drug Shortage and Medical Supply Chain Tracker. It is 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) **released** a one-pager addressing frequently asked questions regarding President Trump's Executive Order on housing.

SENATE:

- Senate Finance Committee Chairman Chuck Grassley (R-IA) **stated** he would support President Trump's payroll tax holiday if it was coupled with a larger reform to ensure long-term solvency of Social Security.
- Senate Small Business Committee Chairman Marco Rubio (R-FL) and Senator Susan Collins (R-ME) **continue to receive support** for their *Continuing Small Business Recovery and Paycheck Protection Program Act*.

Congressional

FEDERAL RESERVE ("FED"):

- The Federal Reserve Bank of New York released the [July 2020 Survey of Consumer Expectations](#), which shows household expectations regarding their employment prospects and their year-ahead financial situation slightly deteriorated in July after two months of gradual improvement.

Articles of Interest

- 8/11 The Wall Street Journal published an article titled, [“Employers Cast Wary Eye on Trump Payroll-Tax Deferral.”](#)
- 8/11 The Wall Street Journal published an article titled, [“Federal Government Sent Workers Nearly \\$250 Billion in \\$600-a-Week Jobless Aid.”](#)
- 8/10 The Wall Street Journal published an article titled, [“Trump, Democrats Open to Restarting Coronavirus Talks Despite Stalemate.”](#)
- 8/10 The Washington Post published an article titled, [“Nation’s governors raise concerns about implementing Trump executive moves, call on Congress to act.”](#)

PUBLIC HEALTH UPDATE

Congressional

HOUSE:

- Speaker Pelosi (D-CA) **joined** Joy Reid on MSNBC’s The ReidOut to discuss the House-passed Heroes Act, the latest on the COVID-19 response package and other news of the day.

SENATE:

- Senate Majority Leader McConnell (R-KY) delivered **remarks** on the Senate floor regarding COVID-19 relief. He stated, "...the Democrats' are playing hardball...against kids, workers, and vulnerable Americans who need help. They are playing hardball against our medical system."

Administration

THE WHITE HOUSE

- The White House provided a **readout** from Vice President Pence's Governors briefing on COVID-19 response and best practices.

NATIONAL INSTITUTES OF HEALTH

- NIH Director Dr. Collins penned a **blog post** titled, "Addressing the Twin Challenges of Substance Use Disorders and COVID-19."
- Two Phase 3, randomized, placebo-controlled, double-blind clinical trials testing whether experimental monoclonal antibodies (mAbs) can prevent infection by SARS-CoV-2 coronavirus are **now enrolling** healthy adults at clinical trial sites in the United States. Many of the trial sites and study investigators are part of the **COVID-19 Prevention Network** (CoVPN), **recently established** by the National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases (NIAID).

FOOD AND DRUG ADMINISTRATION

- FDA has taken additional action to help ensure that hand sanitizers produced under the agency’s temporary guidances do not contain unsafe levels of methanol. FDA has updated its **guidances** to provide clarification that companies test each lot of the active ingredient (ethanol or isopropyl alcohol (IPA)) for methanol, if the ethanol or IPA is obtained from another source. FDA has also included an additional denaturant formula in the temporary guidances. Denaturing alcohol in hand sanitizers is critical to deter children from unintentional ingestion.
- FDA issued an Emergency Use Authorization to George Washington University Public Health Laboratory for its **GWU SARS-CoV-2 RT-PCR Test**. This molecular test is for use by health care providers for the qualitative detection of nucleic acid from SARS-CoV-2 in upper respiratory specimens (e.g., nasal, mid-turbinate, nasopharyngeal and oropharyngeal swabs) from individuals suspected of having contracted COVID-19.
- The FDA issued a warning letter to one firm for selling unapproved products with fraudulent COVID-19 claims. The company, **H-Lab Life**, sells “Multi-Use Spray” products, with misleading claims that the products can mitigate, prevent, treat, diagnose, or cure COVID-19 in people.

Articles of Interest

- 8/9 Axios published an article titled, **“Elevator anxiety will stifle reopenings.”**
- 8/10 The Wall Street Journal published an article titled, **“Covid-19 Cases Top 20 Million World-Wide.”**
- 8/11 The Washington Post published an article titled, **“Russia unveils covid vaccine ‘Sputnik V’, claiming breakthrough in global race before final testing complete.”**
- 8/11 Bloomberg Businessweek published an article titled, **“The Path to a Covid Vaccine.”**
- 8/11 Stat published an article titled, **“Antibody drugs could be one of the best weapons against Covid-19. But will they matter?”**

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.