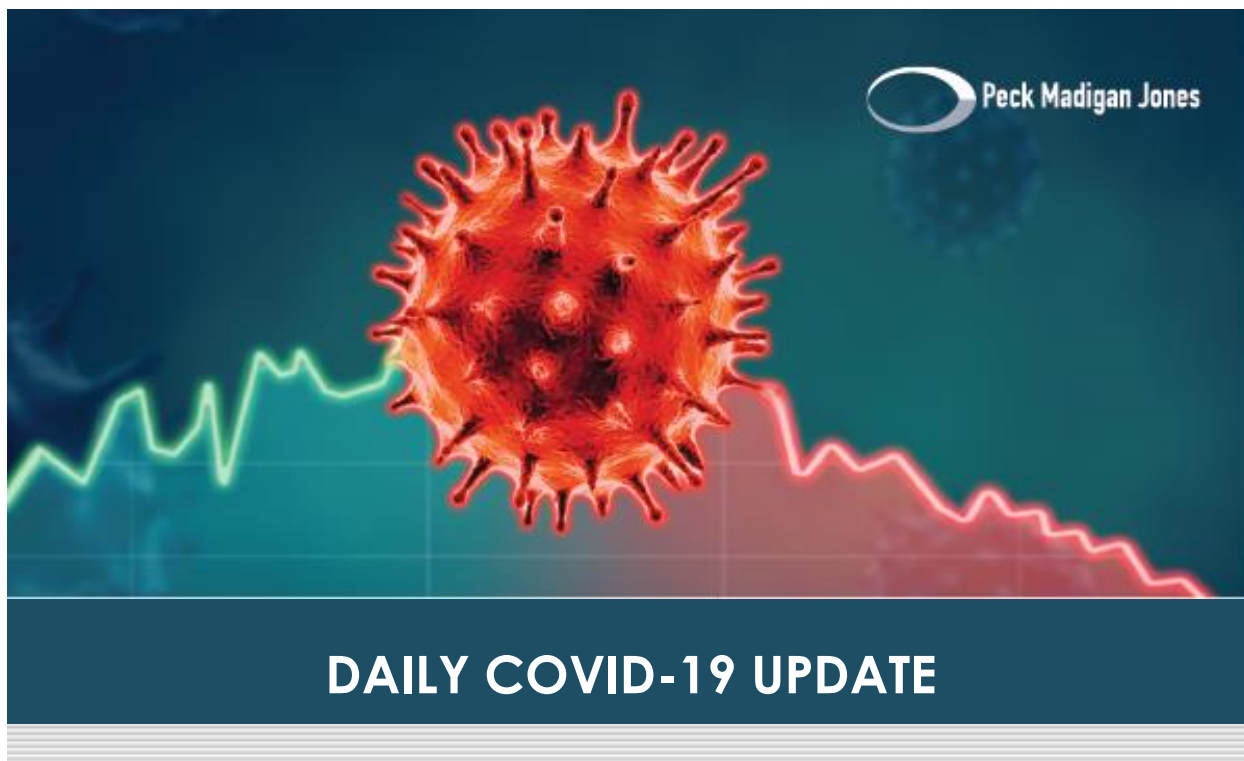




September 21, 2020

WHAT HAPPENED TODAY

The odds of passing another coronavirus relief package prior to the election significantly narrowed this past Friday with the death of Justice Ruth Bader Ginsburg. The political battle to fill the vacant Supreme Court seat has quickly overshadowed lawmakers' fall agenda on Capitol Hill and shows no sign of abating.

A recent Congressional Budget Office (CBO) report [showed](#) the emergency COVID-19 relief bills passed earlier this year added 4.7% to the gross domestic product (GDP) in 2020 and will add another 3.1% in 2021. The Federal Reserve estimates the economy will shrink by 3.7% this year, meaning without the congressional relief measures, the economic downturn could have been nearly twice as severe.

LATEST STATISTICS

There are a total of **31,175,205** confirmed cases worldwide, 962,076 deaths and 21,294,229 people have recovered.

There are **6,835,013** confirmed cases of the coronavirus in the U.S., 199,743 deaths and 2,590,695 people have recovered.

LATEST PMJ RESOURCES

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

Since our last update, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention published additional guidance related to the pandemic. Please see below for more details.

We have updated our Coronavirus State Reopening Tracker. It is linked under Latest PMJ Resources.

[Coronavirus State Reopening Tracker](#)

[President Trump EO Tracker](#)

[COVID-19 Legislative Outlook](#)

[State Responses to EO on Unemployment Insurance](#)

[Healthcare Chart on COVID Legislation](#)

[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

SENATE:

- Senate Banking Committee Ranking Member Sherrod Brown (D-OH) and Senator Mark Warner (D-VA) [urged](#) the Government Accountability Office (GAO) to report on companies' increased use of subcontracted and contingent workers, including a study on if these workers have faced additional economic hurdles due to the COVID-19 pandemic.
- Senate Finance Committee Ranking Member Ron Wyden (D-OR), along with 31 other Senators, [urged](#) President Trump to work with Congress to provide emergency rental assistance and protections.

CONGRESSIONAL BUDGET OFFICE (CBO):

- The CBO released a report titled, ["The Effects of Pandemic-Related Legislation on Output."](#)

Articles of Interest

- 9/21 The Wall Street Journal published an article titled, ["House Democrats Introduce Spending Bill to Fund Government Through Dec. 11."](#)
- 9/21 The Wall Street Journal published an article titled, ["New CBO Projections Show Weaker Economic Growth."](#)

PUBLIC HEALTH UPDATE

Congressional

HOUSE

- Rep. Harder [introduced](#) the *Safe Indoor Spaces Act*, which would direct HHS to administer a \$5 million one-time prize for innovation in making indoor environments safer for living and working during the COVID-19 pandemic.

SENATE

- In an attempt to increase transparency and provide clarity, Sen. Cruz (R-TX) released CDC Director Redfield's [responses](#) to a [letter](#) Sen. Cruz sent in August regarding the lack of clarity and commonly accepted facts about the coronavirus and the nation's response to the pandemic.

Administration

CENTERS FOR DISEASE CONTROL AND PREVENTION

- CDC updated its [guidance](#) for how COVID-19 spreads via airborne transmission from person to person.

FOOD AND DRUG ADMINISTRATION

- The FDA [reissued](#) the Emergency Use Authorization (EUA) for the Abbott ID Now COVID-19 test.

Articles of Interest

- 9/18 The Atlantic published an article titled, ["How We Survive the Winter."](#)
- 9/18 Forbes published an article titled, ["Trump Backtracks On Vaccine: Now Says It Will Be Available By April, Not 2020."](#)
- 9/20 CNN published an article titled, ["Updated CDC guidance acknowledges coronavirus can spread through the air."](#)
- 9/20 Wall Street Journal published an article titled, ["What It Would Take for Herd Immunity to Stop the Coronavirus Pandemic."](#)
- 9/20 Former FDA Commissioner Scott Gottlieb penned an op-ed in the Wall Street Journal titled, ["You Can Trust the FDA's Vaccine Process."](#)

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.