



DAILY COVID-19 UPDATE

September 22, 2020

WHAT HAPPENED TODAY

Today, Treasury Secretary Mnuchin and Federal Reserve Chairman Powell testified before the House Financial Services Committee. They indicated that the Treasury and the Federal Reserve ("Fed") cannot provide the necessary economic support through the agencies' lending powers so direct fiscal support from Congress is needed for the hardest-hit sectors.

According to a new report released by the Government Accountability Office (GAO), HHS has taken back control of buying, distributing, and tracking COVID-19 personal protective equipment (PPE) such as masks and gloves for the Strategic National Stockpile as well as fulfilling supply requests from state and local governments. Previously, FEMA and the Department of Defense were supporting HHS in this role.

LATEST STATISTICS

There are a total of **31,434,340** confirmed cases worldwide, 967,035 deaths and 21,546,694 people have recovered.

There are **6,884,032** confirmed cases of the coronavirus in the U.S., 200,541 deaths and 2,615,974 people have recovered.

The coronavirus has killed more than 200,000 Americans.

LATEST PMJ RESOURCES

We have updated our Drug Shortage and Medical Supply Chain Tracker. It is linked under Latest PMJ Resources.

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

[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

HOUSE:

- House Financial Services Committee Chairwoman Maxine Waters' (D-CA) [**opening statement**](#) during the committee's hearing on oversight of the Treasury Department's and the Federal Reserve's pandemic response.

CONGRESSIONAL BUDGET OFFICE (CBO):

- The CBO released a report titled, "[**The 2020 Long-Term Budget Outlook.**](#)"

Administration

FEDERAL RESERVE ("FED"):

- Federal Reserve Chairman Jerome Powell's [**testimony**](#) before the House Financial Services Committee today.

TREASURY:

- Secretary Mnuchin's [testimony](#) before the House Financial Services Committee today.

Articles of Interest

- 9/22 The Washington Post published an article titled, "[Pelosi, Mnuchin renew search for bipartisan deal to avert government shutdown.](#)"
- 9/22 The Wall Street Journal published an article titled, "[Mnuchin, Powell Say Fed Programs Are Serving Their Purpose, Urge More Spending.](#)"
- 9/22 The Wall Street Journal published an article titled, "[Laid-Off Workers Cut Spending, Hunt for Jobs as Extra Unemployment Benefits Run Out.](#)"

PUBLIC HEALTH UPDATE

Congressional

HOUSE

- Speaker Pelosi (D-CA) issued a [statement](#) after the United States surpassed the milestone of having lost 200,000 American lives to the coronavirus.
- Speaker Pelosi (D-CA) issued a [statement](#) after CDC withdrew guidelines on COVID-19 airborne transmission.
- Reps. Budd (R-NC) and Schakowsky (D-IL) introduced the [Make PPE in America Act](#). The bill requires the Defense Logistics Agency to issue longer-term contracts to make personal protective equipment in America.

SENATE

- Sens. Collins (R-ME) and Wicker (R-MS) introduced a [bill](#) that would give passenger air carriers, cargo air carriers and airline contractors would receive an additional \$28 billion in pandemic aid. Under the bill, airlines who accept aid would be generally barred from laying off workers until March 31.

Administration

NATIONAL INSTITUTES OF HEALTH

- NIH Director Dr. Francis Collins published a [blog post](#) titled, "How COVID-19 Took Hold in North America and Europe."
- NIH [expanded](#) enrollment in two randomized, placebo-controlled clinical trials to further evaluate convalescent plasma as a treatment for patients hospitalized with COVID-19.

FOOD AND DRUG ADMINISTRATION

- A new video entitled, [Beware of Fraudulent Coronavirus Tests, Vaccines and Treatments](#) explains to consumers that there are currently no FDA-approved drugs or vaccines to treat or prevent COVID-19.

Articles of Interest

- 9/19 The New York Times published an article titled, "[How to Ship a Vaccine at -80°C, and Other Obstacles in the Covid Fight.](#)"

- 9/21 The Wall Street Journal published an article titled, ["Fresh Surge in U.S. Coronavirus Cases Feared, as Death Toll Nears 200,000."](#)
 - 9/21 The Hill published an article titled, ["Government watchdog finds supply shortages are harming US coronavirus response."](#)
 - 9/21 Bloomberg published an article titled, ["Global Covid Vaccine Plan Moves Ahead, Without China for Now."](#)
 - 9/22 Stat published an article titled, ["The Road Ahead: Charting the coronavirus pandemic over the next 12 months — and beyond."](#)
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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.