



## DAILY COVID-19 UPDATE

September 23, 2020

### WHAT HAPPENED TODAY

Today, the Senate HELP Committee held a [hearing](#) on the federal response to the coronavirus pandemic. Dr. Fauci noted there is "growing optimism" that scientists will find one or more safe and effective COVID-19 vaccines by the end of the year or early 2021, with enough doses available for all Americans by next April. CDC Director Dr. Redfield warned that as many as 90% of Americans still haven't been infected with the virus and are still susceptible to it. Dr. Hahn vowed that the FDA will not authorize or approve any COVID-19 vaccine before it has met the rigorous expectations for safety and effectiveness.

Additionally, Federal Reserve Chairman Jerome Powell testified before the House Select Subcommittee on the Coronavirus Crisis, during which he [remained firm](#) on previous statements regarding the need for additional fiscal support and to

### LATEST STATISTICS

There are a total of **31,735,542** confirmed cases worldwide, 973,443 deaths and 21,798,488 people have recovered.

There are **6,925,840** confirmed cases of the coronavirus in the U.S., 201,617 deaths and 2,646,959 people have recovered.

### LATEST PMJ RESOURCES

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

follow public health protocols in order to mitigate the impact of the virus on the economy. When asked about the size and scope of an additional COVID-related stimulus package, Chairman Powell responded he has a "strong desire to not play a role in [these] discussions."

Yesterday, the Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices (ACIP), which advises the CDC, was slated to vote on formal recommendations for **which groups would be prioritized** when limited doses of a COVID-19 vaccine become available. However, the committee made a decision to wait until Phase 3 clinical data about the characteristics and logistical requirements of the vaccine is available.

Notably, only 42% of voters now say they are likely to **get a coronavirus vaccine** when it becomes available, down from 58% in July.

[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 ExportControls](#)

[Memo - Federal Reserve COVID-19 Announcements](#)

[Federal Reserve Lending Facilities Deck](#)

---

## ECONOMIC UPDATE

### *Administration*

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

- Federal Reserve Vice Chair for Supervision Randal Quarles gave a speech titled, **"Optimism in the Time of COVID."**

#### Articles of Interest

- 9/23 The Washington Post published an article titled, **"Mnuchin, Kudlow split points to leadership vacuum behind coronavirus stimulus stalemate."**
- 9/23 Politico published an article titled, **"Millions at risk of missing economic payments, watchdog warns."**
- 9/23 The Wall Street Journal published an article titled, **"U.S. Economy Continues Steady Recovery in September, Business Survey Show."**
- 9/23 The Wall Street Journal published an article titled, **"Fed Officials Maintain Calls for More Government Spending to Support Economic Recovery."**

## PUBLIC HEALTH UPDATE

## Congressional

### SENATE

- Sens. Murray (D-WA) and Schumer (D-NY) led 32 of their Senate Democratic colleagues in **introducing** the *Science and Transparency Over Politics* (STOP) Act, legislation to fight back against political interference in the work of experts and the nation's public health agencies to respond to the COVID-19 pandemic.
- Sens. Casey (D-PA) and Wyden (R-OR) released a **report** titled, "The Cost of Inaction: 11 Deaths in an Hour - An Update on the Trump Administration's Response to COVID-19 in Nursing Homes."

## Administration

### DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

- HHS **announced** upcoming action by CDC to provide \$200 million to 64 jurisdictions through the existing Immunizations and Vaccines for Children cooperative agreement to help states prepare for the COVID-19 vaccine.

### CENTERS FOR MEDICARE & MEDICAID SERVICES

- CMS **announced** the availability of up to \$165 million in supplemental funding to states currently operating Money Follows the Person (MFP) demonstration programs. States could use this funding opportunity to plan and implement the use of telehealth for nursing facility transition activities that would normally be conducted in-person or to redesign service delivery models to reduce the risk of COVID-19 infection among MFP participants.

### NATIONAL INSTITUTES OF HEALTH

- A **fourth Phase 3 clinical trial** evaluating an investigational vaccine for COVID-19 has begun enrolling up to 60,000 adult volunteers at up to nearly 215 clinical research sites in the U.S. and internationally. The trial is designed to evaluate if the investigational Janssen COVID-19 vaccine can prevent symptomatic COVID-19 after a single dose regimen.

## Articles of Interest

- 9/22 NPR published an article titled, **"America's 200,000 COVID-19 Deaths: Small Cities And Towns Bear A Growing Share."**
- 9/22 The New York Times published an article titled, **"The Toll Since Coronavirus Struck: 250,000 More Deaths Than Normal."**
- 9/23 Fierce Healthcare published an article titled, **"Fauci offers defense of why Americans can trust the approval process for a potential COVID-19 vaccine."**
- 9/23 CNBC published an article titled, **"Most voters worry Trump is trying to release coronavirus vaccine too quickly, to help his reelection, polls say."**
- 9/23 The Hill published an article titled, **"Despair at CDC after Trump influence: 'I have never seen morale this low.'"**

---

*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.*

