



## DAILY COVID-19 UPDATE

September 30, 2020

### WHAT HAPPENED TODAY

Today, Speaker Pelosi (D-CA) and Secretary Mnuchin **met in-person**, for the first time since stimulus negotiations stalled over a month ago, to discuss the House's scaled-down \$2.2 trillion coronavirus relief package.

Following the 90-minute meeting, Secretary Mnuchin noted "there is more work to do" before the pair reach an agreement. Separately, Speaker Pelosi **stated** she and Secretary Mnuchin "found areas where [they] are seeking further clarification" and noted "conversations will continue." She also announced the House will proceed with a vote tonight on their stimulus bill.

Meanwhile, Senate Majority Leader Mitch McConnell (R-KY) **indicated** the updated HEROES Act is a "far-left wish list" that contains the same "poison pills" as

### LATEST STATISTICS

There are a total of **33,799,264** confirmed cases worldwide, 1,010,381 deaths and 23,456,820 people have recovered.

There are **7,219,635** confirmed cases of the coronavirus in the U.S., 206,665 deaths and 2,813,305 people have recovered.

### LATEST PMJ RESOURCES

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

the previous version of the proposal. He also added the price tag of the bill is far too high.

Additionally, the Treasury **announced** it will begin forgiving Paycheck Protection Program (PPP) loans by late this week or early next week. Loan applicants are expected to be approved quickly, apart from those with loans over \$2 million.

We have updated our Drug Shortage and Medical Supply Chain 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* HOUSE:

- House Small Business Committee Chairwoman Nydia Velazquez (D-NY) **issued a statement** regarding the scaled-back HEROES Act.

### *Administration* TREASURY:

- Treasury **announced** that it has closed loans to seven large passenger air carriers in accordance with the CARES Act.

### Articles of Interest

- 9/30 The Washington Post published an article titled, **"Pelosi, Mnuchin meet on economic relief deal as both sides express optimism."**
- 9/29 The Wall Street Journal published an article titled, **"U.S. to Start Forging PPP Loans After Borrowers Complained."**
- 9/29 Reuters published an article titled, **"Fed's Main Street lending may be missing core group of firms."**

## PUBLIC HEALTH UPDATE

### *Congressional*

#### HOUSE:

- Speaker Pelosi **issued** a statement following a meeting with Treasury Secretary Mnuchin on coronavirus relief.

#### SENATE:

- Senate Majority Leader Mitch McConnell (R-KY) **delivered** remarks on the Senate floor regarding COVID-19 relief.

### *Administration*

#### THE WHITE HOUSE

- The White House Press Secretary **issued** a statement regarding the Global Health Security Agenda Annual Report.

#### DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

- HHS **announced** five cooperative agreements to health information exchange organizations (HIEs) to help support state and local public health agencies in their efforts to respond to public health emergencies, including disasters and pandemics such as COVID-19.

#### CENTERS FOR MEDICARE & MEDICAID SERVICES

- CMS **announced** an update to the methodology the agency employs to determine the rate of COVID-19 positivity in counties across the country. This information is critical to nursing homes, which are required to test their staff for COVID-19 at a frequency based on the positivity rate of their respective counties.

#### NATIONAL INSTITUTES OF HEALTH

- NIH **awarded** nearly \$234 million to improve COVID-19 testing for underserved and vulnerable populations. A part of the Rapid Acceleration of Diagnostics (RADx) initiative, the **RADx Underserved Populations (RADx-UP)** program will support 32 institutions across the United States and will focus on populations disproportionately affected by the pandemic.
- A **Phase 1 trial** of an investigational mRNA vaccine to prevent SARS-CoV-2 infection has shown that the vaccine is well-tolerated and generates a strong immune response in older adults.

### Articles of Interest

- 9/28 Stat published an article titled, **“A layperson’s guide to how — and when — a Covid-19 vaccine could be authorized.”**
- 9/29 The Washington Post published an article titled, **“Trump administration’s new rapid coronavirus tests plagued by confusion and a lack of planning.”**
- 9/29 NPR published an article titled, **“How Operation Warp Speed’s Big Vaccine Contracts Could Stay Secret.”**

- 9/29 Seven former FDA Commissioners penned an op-ed in the Washington Post titled, **“The Trump administration is undermining the credibility of the FDA.”**
  - 9/30 KHN published an article titled, **“What We Know About the Airborne Spread of the Coronavirus.”**
- 

*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.*