



DAILY COVID-19 UPDATE

October 5, 2020

WHAT HAPPENED TODAY

A deal on another coronavirus relief package remains elusive as Congressional Democrats and the administration continue negotiations but are unable to find common ground on the price tag, unemployment insurance, aid for state and local governments, and funding for COVID-19 testing and contact tracing, among other things.

However, Speaker Pelosi (D-CA) has expressed optimism that Congress will deliver "imminent" relief in the wake of President Trump's recent positive coronavirus diagnosis, which she has indicated will help Republicans realize "this is a vicious virus."

Notably, over the weekend, President Trump urged Congress to pass a COVID-19 bill, [tweeting](#), "Our great USA wants and needs stimulus. Work together and get it done."

LATEST STATISTICS

There are a total of **35,333,085** confirmed cases worldwide, 1,038,958 deaths and 24,565,066 people have recovered.

There are **7,447,363** confirmed cases of the coronavirus in the U.S., 210,043 deaths and 2,911,789 people have recovered.

LATEST PMJ RESOURCES

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

Since our last update, the Department of Labor published additional guidance related to the pandemic. Please see below for more details.

We have updated our Coronavirus State Reopening Tracker and the Drug Shortage and Medical Supply Chain Tracker. Both are 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:

- Rep. Don Beyer (D-VA), along with a bipartisan group of 43 other members, [sent a letter](#) to Treasury Secretary Steven Mnuchin urging the Trump Administration to allow members of the military and federal employees to opt out of the payroll tax deferral.

SENATE:

- Senator Chris Van Hollen (D-MD), member of the Senate Banking Committee, [sent a letter](#) to Secretary Mnuchin and Office of Management and Budget Director Russell Vought urging the agencies to make the payroll tax deferral optional for federal employees and service members.

Administration

FEDERAL RESERVE ("FED"):

- Federal Reserve Bank of Chicago President Charles Evans claimed that failure to pass additional coronavirus stimulus could hinder the COVID-19 economic recovery.

SMALL BUSINESS ADMINISTRATION (SBA):

- The SBA is seeking public comments on two proposed rules that would revise the small business size standards for business sectors in order to increase small business eligibility for SBA's loan and contracting programs.

Articles of Interest

- 10/5 The Wall Street Journal published an article titled, "States Overpaid Coronavirus Unemployment Claims, and They Want the Money Back."
- 10/5 The Wall Street Journal published an article titled, "The Covid Economy Carves Deep Divide Between Haves and Have-Nots."
- 10/4 The Washington Post published an article titled, "Coronavirus relief deal elusive as Pelosi says Democrats await agreement from the administration."
- 10/3 The Washington Post published an article titled, "President urges stimulus deal, but obstacles remain."

PUBLIC HEALTH UPDATE

Congressional

HOUSE

- Ways and Means Republicans published a blog post titled, "Americans' Leadership in Medicine Manufacturing Can Stop the Next Pandemic: Former FDA Commissioner."

Administration

THE WHITE HOUSE

- President Trump issued an Executive Order on Saving Lives Through Increased Support for Mental and Behavioral Health Needs.
- The White House released a fact sheet titled, "President Trump is Safeguarding Americans' Mental Health and Preventing The Tragedy of Suicide."

DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

- The World Health Organization is hosting a special session of its Executive Board (EB) to focus on the COVID-19 pandemic and response. HHS Assistant Secretary for Health Admiral Brett Giroir, M.D., will lead a small delegation from the United States attending the meeting through a virtual platform.

FOOD AND DRUG ADMINISTRATION

- The FDA posted a transcript of Dr. Stephen M. Hahn, M.D.'s remarks to the National Consumers League earlier this week about the vaccine review process.

Articles of Interest

- 10/2 The Wall Street Journal published an article titled, [“Covid-19 Vaccines Should First Go to Health Workers, First Responders, Group Recommends.”](#)
 - 10/2 Politico published an article titled, [“Warp Speed’s focus on vaccines may have shortchanged antibody treatments.”](#)
 - 10/5 KHN published an article titled, [“5 Things to Know About a COVID Vaccine: It Won’t Be a ‘Magic Wand.’”](#)
 - 10/5 Bloomberg Law published an article titled, [“Covid ‘Long Haulers’ Ask Who Pays When Sickness Just Won’t End.”](#)
 - 10/5 The New York Times published an article titled, [“As Trump Seeks to Project Strength, Doctors Disclose Alarming Episodes.”](#)
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LABOR UPDATE

Administration

DEPARTMENT OF LABOR

- DOL's Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA) issued [temporary guidance](#) for enforcing initial and annual fit-testing requirements related to tight-fitting powered air-purifying respirators.
- Since the start of the coronavirus pandemic, the DOL's OSHA has [cited](#) 37 establishments for violations, resulting in proposed penalties totaling \$484,069.