



DAILY COVID-19 UPDATE

November 12, 2020

WHAT HAPPENED TODAY

Today, Speaker Nancy Pelosi (D-CA) and Senate Democratic Leader Chuck Schumer (D-NY) held a joint press conference to push for an additional multi-trillion dollar relief package. Citing President-elect Joe Biden's election win and surging COVID-19 cases, Pelosi and Schumer **stated** President Trump's refusal to accept the election results is "making it even harder to address the massive health and economic crisis."

In response to their remarks, Senate Majority Leader Mitch McConnell (R-KY) rejected their call for a larger relief bill. He **indicated** that the "level at which the economy is improving further underscores" the appropriateness of a \$500 billion relief package. He added that Pelosi and Schumer's proposal is "not a place...we're willing to go." However, McConnell did reiterate his support for another relief package.

Additionally, NIAID Director Dr. Anthony Fauci expressed optimism that the coronavirus pandemic **will not last "a lot longer"** as a result of the vaccines that are currently under development.

LATEST STATISTICS

There are a total of **52,538,595** confirmed cases worldwide, 1,290,095 deaths and 33,950,610 people have recovered.

There are **10,500,259** confirmed cases of the coronavirus in the U.S., 242,436 deaths and 3,997,204 people have recovered.

LATEST PMJ RESOURCES

[Lame Duck Preview Memo](#)

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

[Coronavirus State Reopening Tracker](#)

However, he warned it is unlikely we will be able to eradicate COVID-19, adding "it may... become endemic."

Dr. Michael Osterholm, a member of President-elect Biden's newly formed coronavirus advisory board, floated the idea of a [four to six week nationwide lockdown](#) to drive down the numbers of COVID-19 infections and hospitalizations and revive the economy. Dr. Osterholm suggested that the federal government "...could pay for a package right now to cover all of the lost wages for individual workers...companies...city, state, county governments."

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

[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

Administration

FEDERAL RESERVE ("FED")

- During a webinar hosted by the European Central Bank, Federal Reserve Chairman Jerome Powell [stated](#) the U.S. economy will likely need further support from Congress and the Fed even if the coronavirus vaccine becomes available by the end of the year.

TREASURY

- Treasury released its [Monthly Treasury Statement](#) which shows the federal deficit for October reached \$284 billion, [over double](#) the deficit from last October.

Articles of Interest

- 11/12 The Washington Post published an article titled, ["Democrats allege GOP refusal to accept election results is imperiling U.S. coronavirus response as cases, death spike."](#)
- 11/12 The Wall Street Journal published an article titled, ["Fed Chair Powell Says Rising Virus Cases Could Challenge Economic Recovery."](#)

- 11/12 The Wall Street Journal published an article titled, [“Monthly U.S. Budget Gap More Than Doubled in October.”](#)

PUBLIC HEALTH UPDATE

Congressional

HOUSE

- Speaker Pelosi's (D-CA) office provided a [readout](#) of President-elect Biden's call with Congressional leaders, during which they spoke about COVID-19 and the economic impact the pandemic has had on this country.

SENATE

- Senate Majority Leader McConnell (R-KY) delivered [remarks](#) on the Senate floor regarding the recent COVID-19 vaccine announcement. He also urged Americans to continue wearing masks, social distancing, etc. McConnell stated, "This virus is not going to magically leave us alone if we decide we are fed up with taking precautions."

Administration

CENTERS FOR MEDICARE & MEDICAID SERVICES

- CMS [announced](#) that as of November 10, Medicare beneficiaries can receive coverage of monoclonal antibodies to treat COVID-19 with no cost-sharing during the public health emergency. CMS' coverage of monoclonal antibody infusions applies to bamlanivimab, which received an emergency use authorization (EUA) from the FDA earlier this week.

CENTERS FOR DISEASE CONTROL AND PREVENTION

- CDC published [guidance](#) on the use of masks to help slow the spread of COVID-19.
- CDC published a [scientific brief](#) on community use of cloth masks to control the spread of SARS-CoV-2.

NATIONAL INSTITUTES OF HEALTH

- NIH Director Dr. Francis Collins penned a [blog post](#) titled, "Planning Your Holidays During the COVID-19 Pandemic."
- COVID-19 treatments for people with [early infection](#) are needed urgently, according to a JAMA Viewpoint article by NIAID Director Dr. Anthony Fauci and colleagues. Treating people early in the course of infection with SARS-CoV-2, would speed their recovery, reduce the likelihood that they develop severe outcomes and reduce demand on the healthcare system, they write.

FOOD AND DRUG ADMINISTRATION

- Today, the FDA hosted a virtual [FDA Grand Rounds: Facial Coverings During the COVID-19 Pandemic: How well do they flatten the curve?](#) This presentation provided an overview of the agency's research to evaluate the ability of facial coverings to reduce the spread of infection and how the FDA is

developing a comprehensive risk-assessment tool to predict the probability of infection with individuals wearing a non-surgical face mask or face covering.

Articles of Interest

- 11/10 Washington Post published an article titled, [“With coronavirus cases spiking nationwide, all signs point to a harrowing autumn.”](#)
 - 11/10 ProPublica published an article titled, [“Most States Aren’t Ready to Distribute the Leading COVID-19 Vaccine.”](#)
 - 11/11 Politico published an article titled, [“Biden forms special COVID transition team.”](#)
 - 11/12 New York Times published an article titled, [“New Type of Test May Better Discern Immunity to the Coronavirus.”](#)
 - 11/12 Stat published an article titled, [“With a meteoric rise in deaths, talk of waves is misguided, say COVID-19 modelers.”](#)
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LABOR UPDATE

Administration

DEPARTMENT OF LABOR

- DOL released the [Unemployment Insurance Weekly Claims Report](#) for the week ending November 7.