



## DAILY COVID-19 UPDATE

January 29, 2021

### WHAT HAPPENED TODAY

Today, Senate Majority Leader Chuck Schumer (D-NY) and Speaker Nancy Pelosi (D-CA) announced Democrats will move forward with the budget reconciliation process to pass additional COVID-related aid. In floor remarks, Leader Schumer stated the Senate will act "as early as next week" to begin the process of considering a "very strong COVID-19 relief bill." Both Democratic leaders emphasized their willingness to proceed regardless of GOP support.

In order to pass a stimulus relief bill, Democrats will need their entire caucus to vote in favor of budget reconciliation. Senator Joe Manchin (D-WV) has consistently reiterated his opposition to President Biden's \$1.9 trillion proposal, but yesterday he sidestepped reporters' questions asking if he would vote for the budget resolution. Senator Manchin only conceded that Democrats are "doing everything we can to make sure Joe Biden [is] successful."

Additionally, in a phase 3 global clinical trial, the single-shot Johnson & Johnson coronavirus vaccine was found to have **66% efficacy** in preventing moderate to serious disease. Notably, the

### LATEST STATISTICS

**49,216,500** COVID-19 vaccines have been distributed in the U.S and **22,858,318** Americans have received the first dose.

There are a total of **101,860,188** confirmed cases worldwide, 2,200,432 deaths and 56,246,379 people have recovered.

There are **25,863,057** confirmed cases of the coronavirus in the U.S. and 435,089 deaths.

### LATEST PMJ RESOURCES

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

[Coronavirus State Reopening Tracker](#)

pharmaceutical company says the vaccine is 85% effective against severe disease and 100% effective against preventing hospitalization and death, 28 days after inoculation. In comparison, both the Pfizer and Moderna two-shot vaccines are 95% effective.

Since our last update, the Food and Drug Administration has released guidance related to the pandemic. Please see below for more details.

[Lame Duck Preview Memo](#)

[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](#)

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## ECONOMIC UPDATE

### *Administration*

#### TREASURY

- Treasury [released a readout](#) of Secretary Janet Yellen's meeting with small business owners to discuss the public health and economic crises.

#### Articles of Interest

- 1/29 Politico published an article titled, "[Stimulus payments being cut for some with government debts.](#)"
- 1/29 The Wall Street Journal published an article titled, "[Repeal of state-tax deduction cap pitch for Covid-19 relief bill.](#)"
- 1/28 The Washington Post published an article titled, "[New Georgia Democratic senators push for fast action on new stimulus checks to fulfill campaign pledge.](#)"

## PUBLIC HEALTH UPDATE

## ***Congressional***

### **HOUSE**

- Reps. Ann Kuster (D-NH) and Larry Bucshon (R-IN) **introduced** bipartisan legislation to bolster and quicken the nationwide COVID-19 vaccine rollout. *The Immunization Infrastructure Modernization Act*, would improve and expand information-sharing between state and federal governments, as well as public and private health care providers, to ensure vaccines are being administered effectively and efficiently across all states and territories.
- Rep. Lauren Underwood (D-IL) sent a **letter** to President Joe Biden urging him to prioritize public health investments in response to COVID-19, expand access to affordable health care, and advance evidence-based maternal health equity policies in the president's annual budget.

## ***Administration***

### **DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES**

- In accordance with the Executive Order issued yesterday by President Biden, HHS **announced** a Special Enrollment Period (SEP) for individuals and families for Marketplace coverage in response to the COVID-19 Public Health Emergency. This SEP will allow individuals and families in states with Marketplaces served by the HealthCare.gov platform to enroll in 2021 health insurance coverage from February 15, 2021 through May 15, 2021.

### **CENTERS FOR MEDICARE & MEDICAID SERVICES**

- CMS **issued** a fact sheet on the 2021 Special Enrollment Period in response to the COVID-19 Public Health Emergency.

### **NATIONAL INSTITUTES OF HEALTH**

- According to NIH, an investigational COVID-19 vaccine **developed** by Janssen Pharmaceuticals appears to be safe and effective at preventing moderate and severe COVID-19 in adults, according to an interim analysis of Phase 3 clinical data conducted Jan. 21. The vaccine, called Ad.26.COV2.S or JNJ-78436725, requires only a single injection and can be stored in a refrigerator for months.

### **FOOD AND DRUG ADMINISTRATION**

- FDA **issued** guidance to provide a policy to help expand the availability of coagulation systems for measurement of whole blood viscoelastic properties that are used to assess hemostasis, for the duration of the COVID-19 public health emergency.

### **CENTERS FOR DISEASE CONTROL AND PREVENTION**

- CDC **released** a Morbidity and Mortality Weekly Report titled, "Allergic Reactions Including Anaphylaxis After Receipt of the First Dose of Moderna COVID-19 Vaccine — United States, December 21, 2020–January 10, 2021."
- CDC **posted** a webpage on implementing a workplace vaccination program and reopening the workplace.
- CDC **posted** a webpage providing detailed information about the requirement for proof of negative COVID-19 test or recovery from COVID-19 for all airline passengers arriving in the U.S.

- CDC [posted](#) a webpage on the variety of seroprevalence surveys the agency is conducting on specific populations in order to learn more about COVID-19.

### Articles of Interest

- 1/28 The New York Times published an article titled, [“Novavax’s Vaccine Works Well — Except on Variant First Found in South Africa.”](#)
  - 1/28 The Hill published an article titled, [“Biden to implement special ACA enrollment period amid pandemic.”](#)
  - 1/29 Stat published an article titled, [“J&J one-dose Covid vaccine is 66% effective, a weapon but not a knockout punch.”](#)
  - 1/29 KHN published an article titled, [“As Vaccine Rollout Expands, Black Americans Still Left Behind.”](#)
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## LABOR UPDATE

### *Administration*

#### DEPARTMENT OF LABOR

- DOL [announced](#) that its Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA) has issued stronger worker safety guidance to help employers and workers implement a coronavirus prevention program and better identify risks which could lead to exposure and contraction. Last week, President Biden directed OSHA to release clear guidance for employers to help keep workers safe from COVID-19 exposure.