



## DAILY COVID-19 UPDATE

March 9, 2021

### WHAT HAPPENED TODAY

Today, the House will take procedural steps to set up final approval of the Senate-passed [American Rescue Plan](#) tomorrow morning. The final vote has been delayed by a day as the Senate did not transmit bill-processing papers to the House until this morning.

Speaker Nancy Pelosi (D-CA) noted that she isn't concerned that changes made to the legislation by the Senate will result in a loss of support from House Democrats who previously voted for the \$1.9 trillion relief package. She stated, "A bill is not always just a personal document, it's a compromise. And it's excellent." Additionally, House Democratic Caucus Chair Hakeem Jeffries (D-NY) indicated he is "110% confident that the votes exist to pass" the bill.

President Joe Biden told reporters yesterday that he intends to sign the measure into law as soon as it reaches his desk.

Additionally, Treasury Secretary Janet Yellen dismissed concerns that the additional COVID relief bill will cause inflation. She stated inflation before the

### LATEST STATISTICS

**123,232,775** COVID-19 vaccines have been distributed in the U.S and **61,088,527** Americans have received the first dose.

There are a total of **117,406,737** confirmed cases worldwide, 2,607,782 deaths and 66,518,397 people have recovered.

There are **29,078,898** confirmed cases of the coronavirus in the U.S. and 527,341 deaths.

### LATEST PMJ RESOURCES

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

[Coronavirus State Reopening Tracker](#)

onset of the pandemic "was too low rather than too high," and that the Treasury and the Federal Reserve have the tools to respond if the additional stimulus "turns out to be inflationary."

Since our last update, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention and the Federal Reserve have released guidance related to the coronavirus pandemic. Please see below for more details.

[President Biden EO Tracker](#)

[Lame Duck Preview Memo](#)

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## ECONOMIC UPDATE

### *Congress*

#### HOUSE

- House Majority Whip James Clyburn (D-SC) [stated](#) Americans could start receiving the \$1,400 stimulus checks as early as next week.

### *Administration*

#### FEDERAL RESERVE ("FED")

- The Federal bank regulatory agencies [announced an interim final rule](#) that supports the Treasury Department's implementation of a program established by Congress to make capital investments in minority depository institutions and community development financial institutions.

#### Articles of Interest

- 3/9 Politico published an article titled, "[Dems ready to leap on Biden's \\$1.9T Covid aid plan as final vote nears.](#)"
- 3/9 The Wall Street Journal published an article titled, "[What's new in the third Covid-19 stimulus package?](#)"
- 3/8 The Wall Street Journal published an article titled, "[House progressives back revised Covid-19 aid bill as vote nears.](#)"

## PUBLIC HEALTH UPDATE

### *Congressional*

#### SENATE

- Sens. Chris Van Hollen (D-MD) and Maggie Hassan (D-NH), led 11 of their Democratic colleagues in a [letter](#) to DOJ's Civil Rights Division and HHS' Office for Civil Rights, urging them to ensure that the COVID-19 vaccine distribution process is accessible for individuals with disabilities.

### *Administration*

#### DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

- HHS' Office of Minority Health (OMH) [announced](#) an effort to invest \$250 million in health literacy grants to localities to encourage COVID-19 safety and vaccination among underserved populations.

#### **NATIONAL INSTITUTES OF HEALTH**

- NIH Director Dr. Francis Collins penned a [blog post](#) titled, "Israeli Study Offers First Real-World Glimpse of COVID-19 Vaccines in Action."

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

- CDC issued [guidance](#) for organizing large events and gatherings during the ongoing COVID-19 public health emergency.
- CDC released a [science brief](#) providing background rationale and evidence for public health recommendations for fully vaccinated people.
- CDC published a [Morbidity and Mortality Weekly Report](#) titled, "Body Mass Index and Risk for COVID-19–Related Hospitalization, Intensive Care Unit Admission, Invasive Mechanical Ventilation, and Death — United States, March–December 2020."

#### **Articles of Interest**

- 3/7 Former FDA Commissioners Scott Gottlieb and Mark McClellan penned an op-ed in the Wall Street Journal titled, [“The Road to Reopening Won’t Be a Straight Line.”](#)
- 3/8 CNN published an article titled, [“Biden to mark one year of Covid-19 shutdown in primetime address Thursday.”](#)
- 3/8 The New York Times published an article titled, [“Many ‘Long COVID’ Patients Had No Symptoms From Their Initial Infection.”](#)
- 3/8 The Hill published an article titled, [“New study warns Pfizer and Moderna COVID-19 vaccines could be far less effective against South Africa variant.”](#)
- 3/9 The Wall Street Journal published an article titled, [“As COVID-19 Vaccine Eligibility Expands, Interest Could Wane.”](#)