



DAILY COVID-19 UPDATE

March 31, 2021

WHAT HAPPENED TODAY

Today, as part of the White House's \$2.25 trillion infrastructure plan, the Biden Administration unveiled a [proposal](#) for an investment of \$30 billion over the next four years to help prevent future pandemics. Specifically, the funds would be directed to shore up the Strategic National Stockpile; develop tests, treatments, and prototype vaccines for emerging diseases; and improve technology for rapid vaccine production.

Also, the Consumer Financial Protection Bureau (CFPB) [announced](#) it is rescinding seven policy statements issued last year that provided temporary flexibilities to financial institutions in consumer financial markets in response to COVID-19 disruptions. Acting Director Dave Uejio stated that since many financial institutions have "developed more robust remote capabilities and demonstrated improved operations, it is no longer prudent to maintain these flexibilities."

Notably, the Pfizer-BioNTech vaccine has been found to be 100% effective in protecting children ages 12-15 against symptomatic cases of COVID-19.

LATEST STATISTICS

195,581,725 COVID-19 vaccines have been distributed in the U.S and **97,593,290** Americans have received the first dose.

There are a total of **128,557,304** confirmed cases worldwide, **2,808,907** deaths and **72,970,179** people have recovered.

There are **30,437,755** confirmed cases of the coronavirus in the U.S. and **551,747** deaths.

LATEST PMJ RESOURCES

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

[Coronavirus State Reopening Tracker](#)

Additionally, according to a study by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, the U.S. death rate increased by 15.9% in 2020 amid the coronavirus pandemic.

We have updated our Biden Administration Transition Tracker. It is linked under Latest PMJ Resources.

[Biden Administration Transition Tracker](#)

[President Biden EO Tracker](#)

ECONOMIC UPDATE

Administration

WHITE HOUSE

- President Biden's [remarks](#) at the signing of the PPP Extension Act of 2021.

TREASURY

- Secretary Yellen's [remarks](#) at the U.S. Hispanic Chamber of Commerce virtual legislative summit.

SMALL BUSINESS ADMINISTRATION

- SBA Administrator Isabella Casillas Guzman's [statement](#) on President Biden signing the PPP Extension Act of 2021 into law.

PUBLIC HEALTH UPDATE

Administration

WHITE HOUSE

- The White House released a [transcript](#) of today's press briefing by the COVID-19 response team and public health officials.

NATIONAL INSTITUTES OF HEALTH

- NIH and the CDC have launched a [community health initiative](#) called "Say Yes! COVID Test." Approximately 160,000 residents across two communities in Pitt County, NC and Chattanooga/Hamilton County, TN will have access to free, rapid antigen tests that they can administer themselves to use three times a week for one month.

CENTERS FOR DISEASE CONTROL AND PREVENTION

- CDC released a [Morbidity and Mortality Weekly Report](#) (MMWR) titled, "Provisional Mortality Data — United States, 2020."

Articles of Interest

- 3/31 The New York Times published an article titled, "[The Pfizer-BioNTech Vaccine Is Said to Be Powerfully Protective in Adolescents.](#)"

- 3/31 NPR published an article titled, "[CDC: COVID-19 Was Third Leading Cause Of Death In 2020, People Of Color Hit Hardest.](#)"
- 3/30 The Atlantic published an article titled, "[The Fourth Surge Is Upon Us. This Time, It's Different.](#)"
- 3/30 Politico published an article titled, "[Biden administration builds volunteer network to boost vaccine confidence.](#)"
- 3/30 The Wall Street Journal published an article titled, "[U.S. Calls for Independent Study of Covid-19 Origin.](#)"