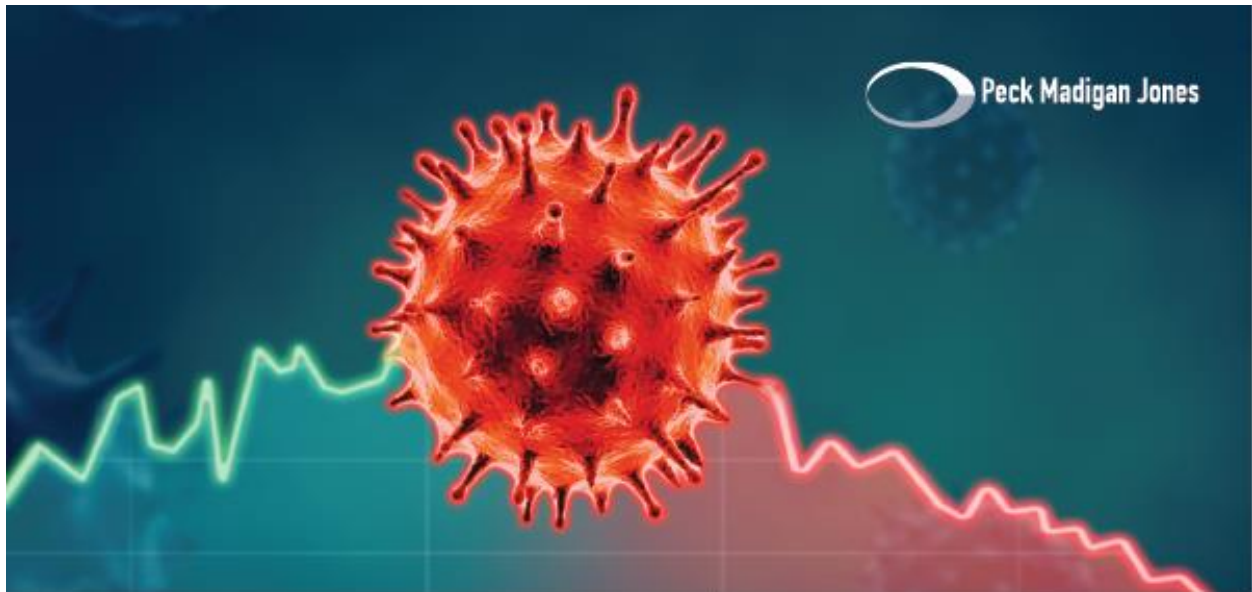




DAILY COVID-19 UPDATE

April 7, 2021

WHAT HAPPENED TODAY

Today, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) announced \$3 billion in funding to assist 64 jurisdictions in expanding their COVID-19 vaccination programs and bolstering equitable distribution, access, and administration.

Additionally, participants at the most recent Federal Open Market Committee (FOMC) meeting agreed to keep low interest rates in place and continue large monthly bond purchases to support the economy. According to a readout from the meeting, the committee also anticipates consumer spending to increase as a result of the "recently enacted fiscal stimulus packages as well as by accommodative monetary policy."

Notably, CDC Director Dr. Rochelle Walensky announced that the U.K. coronavirus variant, B.1.1.7., is now the dominant strain of the virus in the U.S.

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

LATEST STATISTICS

225,294,435 COVID-19 vaccines have been distributed in the U.S and 109,995,734 Americans have received the first dose.

There are a total of 132,775,013 confirmed cases worldwide, 2,880,681 deaths and 75,412,047 people have recovered.

There are 30,907,352 confirmed cases of the coronavirus in the U.S. and 558,956 deaths.

LATEST PMJ RESOURCES

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

[Coronavirus State Reopening Tracker](#)

ECONOMIC UPDATE

Congress

HOUSE

- House Financial Services Committee Chairwoman Maxine Waters (D-CA) and Senator Mark Warner (D-VA) [sent a letter](#) to Treasury Secretary Janet Yellen urging the extension of the Emergency Capital Investment Program (ECIP) application deadline to ensure the highest level of participation from eligible community development financial institutions (CDFIs) and minority depository institutions (MDIs).

Administration

FEDERAL RESERVE

- The Federal Reserve Board and the Federal Open Market Committee [released](#) the attached minutes of the Committee meeting held on March 16-17, 2021.

TREASURY

- Treasury, the Internal Revenue Service, and the Bureau of the Fiscal Service [announced](#) they are disbursing more than 25 million payments in the fourth batch of Economic Impact Payments from the American Rescue Plan.
- [Readout](#) of Secretary Janet Yellen's briefing with the House Democratic Caucus.

Articles of Interest

- 4/7 The Wall Street Journal published an article titled, [“Fed Minutes Show Expectations for Stronger Economic Recovery.”](#)

PUBLIC HEALTH UPDATE

Administration

THE WHITE HOUSE

- The White House released a transcript of today's [press briefing](#) by the COVID-19 response team and public health officials.
- The White House released a transcript of yesterday's [remarks](#) by President Joe Biden marking the 150 millionth COVID-19 vaccine shot.
- The White House released a transcript of yesterday's [remarks](#) by President Joe Biden during a tour of a vaccination site in Alexandria, VA.

DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

- HHS Secretary Xavier Becerra [announced](#) that all HRSA-funded health centers and Health Center Program look-alikes (LALs) will be invited to participate in the Health Center COVID-19 Vaccine Program. This will expand the total number of health centers that have been invited to the program to 1,470 nationwide.
- HHS Secretary Xavier Becerra [announced](#) that more than 500,000 Americans have enrolled in healthcare coverage through HealthCare.gov during the Special Enrollment Period (SEP) for the COVID-19 public health emergency.

NATIONAL INSTITUTES OF HEALTH

- NIH researchers have begun a [clinical trial](#) to determine whether people who are highly allergic or have a mast cell disorder are at increased risk for an immediate, systemic allergic reaction to the Moderna or Pfizer-BioNTech COVID-19 vaccines.

CENTERS FOR DISEASE CONTROL AND PREVENTION

- CDC [awarded](#) \$3 billion in funding to 64 jurisdictions to support local efforts to expand COVID-19 vaccine programs and ensure greater equity, access, distribution, and administration of the vaccine for those individuals disproportionately affected by the virus.
- CDC Director Dr. Rochelle Walensky issued a [media statement](#) announcing that nearly 80% of Pre-K-12 teachers, school staff, and childcare workers have now received at least one dose of the COVID-19 vaccine.

Articles of Interest

- 4/7 CNBC published an article titled, ["U.S. begins study assessing allergic reactions to Pfizer and Moderna Covid vaccines."](#)
 - 4/7 The Hill published an article titled, ["EU regulator finds 'possible link' between AstraZeneca vaccine, blood clots."](#)
 - 4/7 The Washington Post published an article titled, ["U.K. variant dominates U.S. amid record-setting vaccinations."](#)
 - 4/7 CNN published an article titled, ["Five states account for 43% of the country's new Covid-19 cases in the past week."](#)
 - 4/6 The Hill published an article titled, ["CDC Distributes \\$3 Billion for Vaccine Preparedness."](#)
 - 4/6 The New York Times published an article titled, ["Likely Legal, 'Vaccine Passports' Emerge as the Next Coronavirus Divide."](#)
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LABOR UPDATE

Administration

DEPARTMENT OF LABOR

- DOL issued [guidance](#) implementing the American Rescue Plan's Continuation of Health Coverage premium assistance provisions to provide full COBRA premium assistance to certain individuals who have experienced a reduction in hours or involuntary termination of employment.