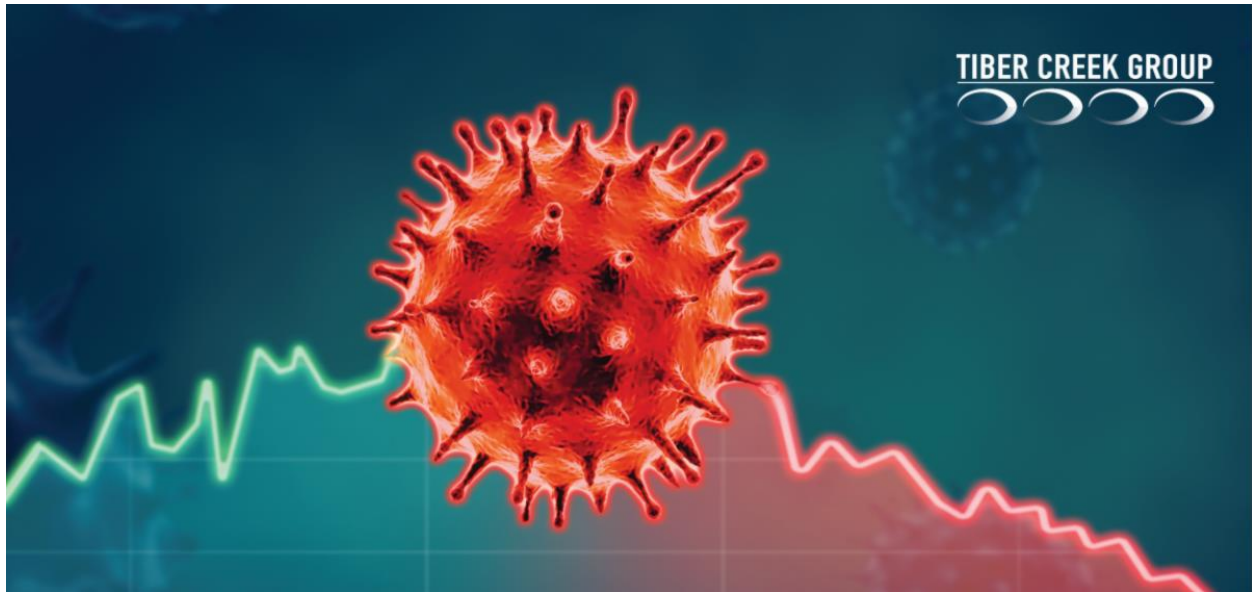




DAILY COVID-19 UPDATE

April 19, 2021

Since Congress and the White House have shifted focus to a broader set of policy issues, we will be pausing distribution of the Daily COVID-19 Update starting this Friday, April 23. However, we will continue to include COVID related health and economic updates in our Daily Dose and the Financial Services Week Ahead.

WHAT HAPPENED TODAY

Today, the Biden Administration announced that it will allocate \$145 million in grant funding from the American Rescue Plan to health center look-alikes (LALs) to boost the COVID-19 response in underserved communities for vulnerable populations. The funding will be made available to these community-based healthcare providers through the Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA). [Applications](#) are due by May 14, 2021.

Individuals 16 years of age and older in all 50 states, Washington, D.C., and Puerto Rico are now eligible to sign up to receive the COVID-19 vaccine, meeting the target set by President Joe Biden that moved the deadline from May 1 to April 19. Notably, the Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices (ACIP) will reconvene this Friday to continue discussions on Johnson & Johnson's COVID-19 vaccine.

LATEST STATISTICS

264,505,725 COVID-19 vaccines have been distributed in the U.S and **132,321,628** Americans have received the first dose.

There are a total of **141,684,613** confirmed cases worldwide, **3,024,290** deaths and **81,018,628** people have recovered.

There are **31,717,631** confirmed cases of the coronavirus in the U.S. and **567,557** deaths.

LATEST PMJ RESOURCES

Moreover, the State Department will update its "Level 4: Do Not Travel" advisories to include approximately 80% of countries, which is a "significant increase" to the previous travel advisories according to the department. The agency is updating its travel advisories to better reflect the CDC's epidemiological assessments.

Additionally, recent research [published](#) by the Federal Reserve ("Fed") found that fewer than 200,000 businesses in the U.S. may have failed during the first year of the pandemic. Previously, the Fed estimated that from March 2020 through February 2021 the typical average of 600,000 business failures could have increased by as much as one-third due to COVID-19. The newly published study's "results may represent an optimistic update to views about pandemic-related business failure," according to the authors.

Since our last update, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention has released guidance related to the coronavirus pandemic.

We have updated our Coronavirus State Reopening Tracker and our Drug Shortage and Medical Supply Chain Tracker. Both are listed under Latest PMJ Resources.

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

[Coronavirus State Reopening Tracker](#)

[Biden Administration Transition Tracker](#)

[President Biden EO Tracker](#)

ECONOMIC UPDATE

Administration

WHITE HOUSE

- The White House published a blog titled, ["The Pandemic's Effect on Measured Wage Growth."](#)

SMALL BUSINESS ADMINISTRATION (SBA)

- The Small Business Administration (SBA) [announced](#) key details on application requirements, eligibility, and a program guide for the Restaurant Revitalization Fund (RRF).

CONSUMER FINANCIAL PROTECTION BUREAU (CFPB)

- The Consumer Financial Protection Bureau (CFPB) issued an [interim final rule](#) that requires debt collectors to provide written notice to tenants of their rights under the eviction moratorium and prohibits debt collectors from misrepresenting tenants' eligibility for protection from eviction under the moratorium.

Articles of Interest

- 4/19 Politico published an article titled, ["CFPB targets debt collectors in bid to protect renters."](#)
- 4/18 The Wall Street Journal published an article titled, ["Economic growth is set to surge. Hiring might not keep up."](#)

PUBLIC HEALTH UPDATE

Congressional

HOUSE

- Reps. David Trone (D-MD) and John Joyce (R-PA) introduced the Strengthening our Health Security Through Resilient Medical Supply Chains Annual Review Act. This [legislation](#) would require the Department of Homeland Security (DHS) to produce an annual report detailing the United States' dependence on critical devices, supplies, and drugs sourced outside of the country and provide recommendations to strengthen domestic medical supply chains.

Administration

DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

- HHS [announced](#) that it will allocate \$145 million in grant funding from the American Rescue Plan to health center look-alikes (LALs) to boost the COVID-19 response in underserved communities for vulnerable populations.
- HHS Secretary Xavier Becerra [announced](#) commitments from national organizations to support Latino outreach and enrollment efforts during the current Special Enrollment Period (SEP) made available on HealthCare.gov by President Joe Biden due to the COVID-19 public health emergency.

NATIONAL INSTITUTES OF HEALTH

- NIH [announced](#) that it will fund a large, randomized, placebo-controlled Phase 3 clinical trial to test several existing prescription and over-the-counter medications for people to self-administer to treat symptoms of COVID-19.

FOOD AND DRUG ADMINISTRATION

- The FDA [revoked](#) the emergency use authorization (EUA) that allowed for the investigational monoclonal antibody therapy bamlanivimab, when administered alone, to be used for the treatment of mild-to-moderate COVID-19 in adults and certain pediatric patients.

CENTERS FOR DISEASE CONTROL AND PREVENTION

- CDC issued [guidance](#) for jurisdictions planning to operate COVID-19 vaccination clinics.
- CDC published a new [web page](#) titled, "What You Should Know About the Possibility of COVID-19 Illness After Vaccination."
- CDC published a new [web page](#) titled, "Pfizer-BioNTech COVID-19 Vaccine Overview and Safety."

Articles of Interest

- 4/19 The Seattle Times published an article titled, ["COVID once spared the young. Now more are being hospitalized."](#)
- 4/19 The Washington Post published an article titled, ["The race to untangle the secrets of rare, severe blood clots after Johnson & Johnson vaccination."](#)
- 4/19 The Hill published an article titled, ["All adults in US now eligible for COVID-19 vaccine."](#)
- 4/19 CNN published an article titled, ["In the race between Covid-19 vaccines and the virus, hesitancy gives dangerous variants a leg up, expert says."](#)
- 4/18 NPR published an article titled, ["More Than Half Of U.S. Adults Have Gotten At Least One COVID-19 Vaccine Dose."](#)