Good evening,  
  
Please find today's Daily COVID-19 Update below and attached. Please let me know if you have any comments or questions.  
  
Thank you,  
  
Ashley Smith

**INFORMS Members in the News**

* [NITIE Logistics Eves series on Supply Chain Resilience (The Times of India)](https://timesofindia.indiatimes.com/home/education/news/nitie-logistics-eves-series-on-supply-chain-resilience/articleshow/77280110.cms)

Member: David Simchi-Levi

**U.S. Federal Policy Update**

* Both the House and the Senate departed for the weekend, without a fix for the $600 weekly unemployment benefit that is set to expire tonight at midnight. The negotiations are at a standstill over partisan tensions between House & Senate Democrats and Republicans from Congress & the Trump administration – as demonstrated by a [press release](https://www.mcconnell.senate.gov/public/index.cfm/pressreleases?ID=4C3E42B8-3598-4EAD-9F16-B208046BB0DA) from Senate Majority Leader Mitch McConnell (R-KY) and [interview remarks](https://www.speaker.gov/newsroom/73120) from House Speaker Nancy Pelosi (D-CA).
* U.S. Health and Human Services Secretary Alex Azar announced that the department has entered an agreement worth an investment of $2.1 billion for 100 million doses of a vaccine with European pharmaceutical companies GlaxoSmithKline and Sanofi Pasteur.
* The Defense Department announced a [$31 Million](https://www.defense.gov/Newsroom/Releases/Release/Article/2296205/dod-announces-31-million-in-defense-production-act-title-iii-covid-19-actions/) Defense Production Act Title III Agreement with North American Forgemasters to strengthen domestic shipbuilding industrial base.
* The White House published a [fact sheet](https://www.whitehouse.gov/briefings-statements/president-donald-j-trump-administration-created-best-covid-19-testing-system-world/) on “President Trump and his administration having created the best COVID-19 testing system in the world.”
* The National Institutes of Health announced that the agency would invest $248.7 million in Rapid Acceleration of Diagnostics technologies, which would improve the U.S.’s COVID-19 testing mechanisms.

**Global Response**

* The European Union announced that the economy shrank by 11.9% in the second quarter of this year, largely due to ramifications of the COVID-19 pandemic.
* Beginning tomorrow, all travelers coming into Germany will have access to free coronavirus testing for up to 72 hours – with the German Health Ministry stating that “whoever returns from a trip should get a test – voluntarily and free of charge.”
* The Peruvian government extended the country’s state of emergency and their local quarantine restrictions until August 31st.
* Hong Kong’s Chief Executive Carrie Lam announced that their Legislative Council elections were postponed, which were originally scheduled for September 6th.
* Argentinian President Alberto Fernández announced that the country’s current COVID-19 quarantine measures will be extended up until August 16th for the country’s capital city of Buenos Aires.

**State Update**

* Vermont Governor Phil Scott announced that over 200,000 free masks will be distributed across the state, in an effort to help residents comply with the state’s new official mandate which goes into effect on Saturday.
* New York City Mayor Bill de Blasio announced that the COVID-19 infection rate has to be under 3% for schools to reopen in the city.

**Economic Update**

* U.S. stocks were on the rise today with the three indices reporting increases. The Nasdaq Composite closed up by 1.49%, the S&P 500 by 0.77% and the Dow Jones Industrial Average by 0.44%.

**Latest Impact Data**

* In the United States: Over 4,700,571 cases and 156,701 deaths in 50 states, 4 territories, and Washington, D.C.
* Worldwide: Over 17,727,757 and 681,936 deaths in at least 204 countries and territories.

**In the News**

* [Pelosi duels with White House as unemployment aid set to expire (Politico)](https://www.politico.com/news/2020/07/31/white-house-democrats-unemployment-benefits-389540)
* [Fauci 'cautiously optimistic' coronavirus vaccine will be ready before end of 2020 (The Hill)](https://thehill.com/policy/healthcare/509962-fauci-cautiously-optimistic-coronavirus-vaccine-will-be-ready-before-end-of)
* [Sanofi, GlaxoSmithKline Ink Vaccine Deal With U.S. (The Wall Street Journal)](https://www.wsj.com/articles/sanofi-glaxosmithkline-ink-coronavirus-vaccine-deal-with-u-s-11596193203?mod=hp_lead_pos5)
* [Trump planning for U.S. rollout of coronavirus vaccine falling short, officials warn (Reuters)](https://www.reuters.com/article/us-health-coronavirus-usa-vaccine/trump-planning-for-u-s-rollout-of-coronavirus-vaccine-falling-short-officials-warn-idUSKCN24W1ON)