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**

* [College football players fear stigma of sitting out could outlast pandemic (Washington Post)](https://www.washingtonpost.com/sports/2020/08/05/college-football-players-fear-stigma-sitting-out-could-outlast-pandemic/)

Member: Sheldon Jacobson

* [GovExec Daily: The Upcoming Vaccine Logistics Questions (Government Executive)](https://www.govexec.com/technology/2020/08/govexec-daily-upcoming-vaccine-logistics-question/167458/)

Member: Julie Swann

* [Recasting how we cast votes (The Hill)](https://thehill.com/opinion/campaign/509978-recasting-how-we-cast-votes)

Member: Sheldon Jacobson

**U.S. Federal Policy Update**

* Senate Majority Leader Mitch McConnell (R-KY) announced that the Senate is “certainly going to be in session next week,” in order to come to a consensus in the ongoing negotiations for a fourth coronavirus stimulus package. The key negotiators from the House, Senate, and Trump administration have indicated that they’ve made some progress, but they still have differences on a number of provisions – including unemployment benefits, housing aid, and funding for state and local governments.
* Senators Mitt Romney (R-UT), Susan Collins (R-ME), and Martha McSally (R-AZ) [introduced](https://www.romney.senate.gov/romney-collins-mcsally-introduce-measure-extend-expired-ui-benefits-through-end-year) a measure that would extend currently-expired unemployment insurance benefits through the end of the year, by gradually lowering the benefit amount over the next few months. This would begin with a $500-per-week benefit in August, followed by $400-per-week in September, and then an 80% wage replacement mechanism for October through December. However, in the October – December timeframe, states would be able to apply for a waiver if they are unable to pay the 80% replacement and can instead opt to pay $300 per week.
* The Internal Revenue Service [announced](https://www.irs.gov/coronavirus/non-filers-enter-payment-info-here) that the agency would be issuing a $500 direct payment for each qualifying child of eligible individuals that used the agency’s Non-Filers tool before May 17th.
* Pharmaceutical company Johnson & Johnson [announced](https://www.hhs.gov/about/news/2020/08/05/hhs-dod-collaborate-with-johnson-and-johnson-to-produce-millions-of-covid-19-investigational-vaccine-doses.html) that they have agreed to supply 100 million doses of their COVID-19 vaccine in a $1 billion deal with the Departments of Defense and Health & Human Services.
* Democratic National Convention organizers confirmed that candidate Joe Biden will accept his presidential nominate virtually this month, as he is avoiding traveling to Milwaukee due to coronavirus concerns.
* Health & Human Services Secretary Alex Azar announced that the “U.S. now has six vaccines that the government has placed major investments in,” with “four of them having already reported out Phase 1 clinical trial results and two of them in advanced final Phase 3 studies.”

**State Update**

* Rhode Island Governor Gina Raimondo announced that the state would be implementing heightened coronavirus restrictions, including a mandatory two-week quarantine for travelers from 33 “hot zone” states.
* New York City Mayor Bill de Blasio announced that they would set up “quarantine checkpoints” for travelers driving in from states that are on the [tri-state quarantine list](https://coronavirus.health.ny.gov/covid-19-travel-advisory).
* Chicago Public Schools System announced that their students would be starting the 2020-2021 school year with entirely remote learning.
* Boston Public Schools Superintendent Brenda Cassellius announced that the district will not have fully in-person instruction in the 2020-2021 school year. However, the school system’s official plan has not yet been finalized.

**Economic Update**

* U.S. stocks were on the rise today with all three indices reporting minor increases. The Nasdaq Composite closed up by 0.52%, the S&P 500 by 0.64% and the Dow Jones Industrial Average by 1.39%.

**Latest Impact Data**

* In the United States: Over 4,969,687 cases and 161,521 deaths in 50 states, 4 territories, and Washington, D.C.
* Worldwide: Over 18,944,391 and 709,844 deaths in at least 204 countries and territories.

**In the News**

* [Trump threatens executive actions as coronavirus relief deal remains elusive on Capitol Hill (Washington Post)](https://www.washingtonpost.com/us-policy/2020/08/05/congress-unemployment-trump-stimulus/?hpid=hp_hp-top-table-high_bailouthill-940am%3Ahomepage%2Fstory-ans)
* [Lawmakers demand explanation for cutting federal funding to states for National Guard deployments (Politico)](https://www.politico.com/news/2020/08/05/lawmakers-demand-explanation-cut-national-guard-funding-392001)
* [White House warns there's likely no deal with no agreement by Friday (The Hill)](https://thehill.com/homenews/senate/510729-white-house-warns-theres-likely-no-deal-with-no-agreement-by-friday)
* [Covid-19 Vaccine Makers Signal Prices (The Wall Street Journal)](https://www.wsj.com/articles/covid-19-vaccine-makers-signal-prices-11596648639)
* [Fauci says regulators promise politics will not guide vaccine timing (Reuters)](https://www.reuters.com/article/us-health-coronavirus-fauci-exclusive/exclusive-fauci-says-regulators-promise-politics-will-not-guide-vaccine-timing-idUSKCN25133S)