COVID-19 Related News Resources:

**Macro-Economic Update, Week Ending April 11, 2020:**

*Federal Reserve Unveils Main Street Lending Program, Other Steps to Shore Up Economy*

The Federal Reserve announced an expansion of nine different programs that will support $2.3 trillion in lending to U.S. businesses and states, including the new Main Street Lending Program (MSLP). The MSLP facilitates four-year loans to companies with 10,000 or less employees and revenues under $2.5 billion. Many of the requirements are similar to those in the CARES Act Paycheck Protection Program (PPP) direct loan, although its aim is help larger businesses. MSLP has a minimum loan size of $1 million and the first year principal and interest payments are deferred. Firms who take advantage of the PPP loan— which is limited to companies with less than 500 employees—may also take out Main Street loans, according the Fed. *The Wall Street Journal* reports that the Fed has not had a direct lending program such as this since the 1930s.

*Federal Deficit Grew 8% in First Half of Fiscal Year*

The federal budget deficit grew by eight percent in the first half of the 2020 fiscal year (October – March), reaching $743.6 billion, according to Department of Treasury numbers released Friday, April 10. *The Wall Street Journal* reports this is the largest budget gap for a sixth month period since 2012, when the United States was still recovering from the Great Recession. The deficit is expected to increase even more dramatically in the second half of FY2020, as federal revenue from taxes is reduced and economic rescue efforts ramp up as the economic impact of COVID-19 is realized. Goldman Sachs expects the deficit to reach $3.6 trillion for the full fiscal year. A key metric economists will watch for is the U.S. deficit as a percentage of gross domestic product (GDP). At the end of FY2019 the deficit was 4.6 percent of GDP; this ratio was highest in recent decades during FY2009, when the deficit was 9.8% of GDP, according to Brookings.

**New IRS Guidance Released:**

- The IRS issued guidance on deferral of employment tax deposits and payments through December 31, 2020.

- Informed Infrastructure on 4/10/20: [ACEC Expands Its Thought Leadership Capabilities with New Research Institute](https://www.informedinfrastructure.com/2020/04/10/acec-expands-its-thought-leadership-capabilities-with-new-research-institute/)
- ACEC Board of Directors and ExCom meetings will be held virtually on 4/25 – more details to come.
• ACEC’s new Government Affairs Update podcast for today is now streaming here.
• ACEC released its announcement on the formation of the ACEC Research Institute.
• Treasury and the Federal Reserve announced a new lending program for small and mid-sized businesses, with additional details here.
• The Treasury Department released Q&A guidance late yesterday on the Paycheck Protection Act, and made further updates which were just released this evening: Paycheck Protection Loans: Frequently Asked Questions.
• Feds eye loosening rules to allow some to return to work
• Schumer proposes $25,000 ‘heroes’ pay for frontline workers
• Coalition Letter to President Trump on Essential Infrastructure
• ACEC podcast with Mitch Simpler and Sean Goldwasser with Black & Veatch
• We have redesigned the Coronavirus Resource Center to make it more user friendly
• CNN on 4/3/20: Pelosi says infrastructure may have to wait
• ACEC Government Affairs Update Podcast for 4-2-20: https://www.podbean.com/eu/pb-yfd2hd80342
• Subscribe to ACEC’s Last Word for Regular Updates on Coronavirus Response.
• Bookmark ACEC’s Coronavirus Resource Center for up-to-the-minute information on ACEC’s actions to respond to the coronavirus.
• State by State Coronavirus Information from the National Governors Association
• National Council of State Legislatures
• Washington Post Live Updates
• AXIOS Continuous Coverage

Federal Action on Coronavirus:
• March 27 – President signs Memorandum on Order Under the Defense Production Act Regarding General Motors Company.
• March 27 – President signs Executive Order Delegating Additional Authority Under the DPA with Respect to Health and Medical Resources to Respond to the Spread of COVID-19.
• March 27 – President signs Executive Order to Order the Select Reserve and Certain Members of the Individual Ready Reserve of the Armed Forces to Active Duty
• March 27, 2020 — The Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security Act was signed by President Trump.
• March 27, 2020 — The Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security Act was approved the U.S. House.
• March 26 – Department of Health and Human Services issues designation of scarce COVID-19 resources subject to hoarding prevention measures.
• March 22 – President Trump authorized the use of National Guard under Title 32, 502(f) for California, New York and Washington
• March 22 – President Trump approved Major Disaster Declarations for Washington and California
• March 20 – President Trump Approves Major Disaster Declaration for New York.
• March 19 – USDA and DOL Announce Information Sharing to Assist H-2A Employers.
• March 18, 2020 – President Trump signed the Families First Coronavirus Response Act.
• March 18, 2020 – The U.S. Senate passed the Families First Coronavirus Response Act.
• March 18 – HUD Provides Immediate Relief For Homeowners Amid Nationwide Coronavirus Response. HUD announces a suspension of all foreclosure and evictions for the next 60 days.

Global Snapshot from the World Health Organization:¹

Useful link: COVID-19 Situation Dashboard

Globally²:

- Cases: 1,773,084+
- Deaths: 111,652+

WHO RISK ASSESSMENT: Global Level Very High

U.S. COVID-19 Statistics³:

COVID-19 at a Glance in the U.S.:

- Total cases: 571,694+
- Total deaths: 23,036+


Regional COVID-19 Statistics:

COVID-19 Cases in DC:⁴

- Number of people tested overall: 10,934
- Number of positives: 1,955
- Number of Deaths: 52
- Number of People who have Recovered: 507

Current DC Health Advisory (as of March 20th)

March 30th Stay at Home Order

COVID-19 Cases in Maryland:⁵

- Number of positive COVID-19 tests: 8,936
- Number of Deaths: 262

¹ All data is drawn from the WHO’s COVID-19 daily Situation Reports.
⁵ https://phpa.health.maryland.gov/Pages/Novel-coronavirus.aspx
• Hospitalizations: 1,975
• Negative Tests: 42,815
• Released from Isolation: 603

COVID-19 Cases in Virginia:\(^6\)
• Total tests conducted: 41,401
• Cases of COVID-19: 5,747
• Hospitalized: 903
• Deaths: 149

*Data include both confirmed and presumptive positive cases of COVID-19 reported to CDC or tested at CDC since January 21, 2020, with the exception of testing results for persons repatriated to the United States from Wuhan, China and Japan. State and local public health departments are now testing and publicly reporting their cases. In the event of a discrepancy between CDC cases and cases reported by state and local public health officials, data reported by states should be considered the most up to date.

Conventions and Event Status for Groups and Associations:

For an updated list of events visit: