

MLC

MICHIGAN LEGISLATIVE CONSULTANTS

## COVID-19 SPECIAL UPDATE 8.24.2020



### MICHIGAN

Weekly Cases: 4,475  
**Total Cases: 97,660**  
Weekly Deaths: 72  
**Total Deaths: 6,397**

### OHIO

Weekly Cases: 6,989  
**Total Cases: 109,566**  
Weekly Deaths: 157  
**Total Deaths: 3,705**

### INDIANA

Weekly Cases: 6,586  
**Total Cases: 87,592**  
Weekly Deaths: 82  
**Total Deaths: 3,008**

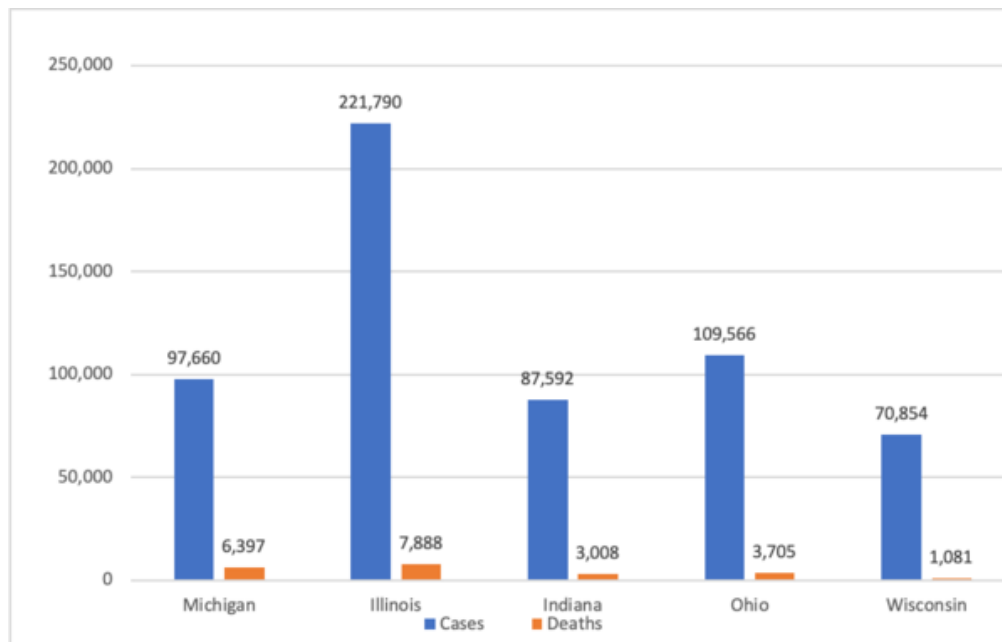
### ILLINOIS

Weekly Cases: 13,936  
**Total Cases: 221,790**  
Weekly Deaths: 132  
**Total Deaths: 7,888**

### WISCONSIN

Weekly Cases: 4,658  
**Total Cases: 70,854**  
Weekly Deaths: 42  
**Total Deaths: 1,081**

*Statistics updated 08/24/2020*



**Governor Gretchen Whitmer** issued one new Executive Order (hyperlinks below with recent EOs) since our last update:

- **Executive Order 2020-170** - Requires the Department of Corrections to conduct testing at the entry, transfer, and release of any prisoner.



*Federal Update From our Partners  
at Foley & Lardner*

**FOLEY & LARDNER LLP**

Last week, Senate Republicans drafted the "Delivering Immediate Relief to America's Families, Schools and Small Businesses Act," which is considered a 'skinny' version of the HEALS Act that they proposed last month. It is a counter measure to the House Democrats' Heroes Act, which was passed by the House in late May. The draft bill would, amongst other things, provide up to \$10 billion to USPS; include liability protections for businesses, schools, and hospitals; allow for \$300/week in unemployment benefits through December 27; and, authorize a second round of PPP loans.

The "skinny" bill may be the path forward for negotiations between Republicans and Democrats. Following the Republican National Convention this week, the White House and Senate Republicans are likely to re-engage with Leaders Pelosi and Schumer on COVID relief discussions. With the expiration of supplemental unemployment and COVID assistance funds for businesses, the urgency of any relief bill passage will depend on the strength of the economy. Should the economy show signs of weakening, there will be greater urgency to pass a bill by mid-September. It is otherwise likely that a relief bill will not get passed until the end of September.

Despite both the House and the Senate being out of session until early September, Speaker Pelosi convened the House last Saturday, August 22, for a vote to approve a \$25 billion emergency funding bill for the United States Postal Service. The bill passed 257-150 and will be sent to the Senate. 26 Republicans, many in swing districts, also backed the bill. It would require the Postal Service to prioritize any election-related mail as "first-class," and would also block any operational changes



## Unemployed Workers to Receive Additional Funds

FEMA approved Governor Whitmer's request for an additional \$300 per week funding for Michigan residents receiving unemployment benefits. The Unemployment Insurance Agency estimates that under the program, about 910,000 Michiganders would receive at least \$300 per week in supplemental benefits. The program allows for existing Unemployment Trust Fund payments delivered by Michigan's Unemployment Insurance Agency to count as 25% matching funds required for participation. Eligible claimants will be paid benefits retroactive to August 1. It is unclear at this time how long funding for the program will last. The additional funds aim to help residents who remain unemployed due to the ongoing pandemic.

## MICHIGAN ARTICLES

Some **Michigan industries** are thriving despite the pandemic. [Click here to read more.](#)

**Governor Whitmer** announced the allocations of \$65 million in Federal funding to schools across the state. [Click here to read more.](#)

The director of the **Department of Health and Human Services** issued an Emergency Order requiring COVID-19 tests for all Department of Corrections staff. [Click here to read more.](#)

## NATIONAL ARTICLES

The first case of **reinfection** of the virus has been documented by researchers. [Click here to read more.](#)

Despite concerns by the scientific community, the **FDA** has authorized plasma treatment for those infected with COVID-19. [Click here to read more.](#)

The lack of **Congressional** action on passing another round of stimulus is hurting the economy. [Click here to read more.](#)

## Description and Links to Governor Whitmer's Executive Orders Related to COVID-19:

We are sharing executive orders with you as they are announced. A complete list with links to each of the Executive Orders is [available here](#).

[Executive Order 2020-166](#) - Reinstates protections for workers who stay home when they're sick.

[Executive Order 2020-167](#) - Creates the Food Security Council, which will work to identify and analyze origins of and solutions for food insecurity, especially prevalent during the pandemic.

[Executive Order 2020-168](#) - Extends existing safety measures to protect consumers and employees at grocery stores and pharmacies.

[Executive Order 2020-169](#) - Maintains the infection control protocols in nursing homes and protects residents from eviction and employees from retaliatory action for staying home when exhibiting symptoms.

[Executive Order 2020-170](#) - Requires the Department of Corrections to conduct testing at the entry, transfer, and release of any prisoner.

Additionally, the following website is a source for updated information from the administration: <https://www.michigan.gov/coronavirus/>

While these are very uncertain times, please know that the MLC Team is available to answer your questions. Additionally, we will provide regular updates as more information becomes available.

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