

MLC

MICHIGAN LEGISLATIVE CONSULTANTS

COVID-19 SPECIAL UPDATE 8.31.2020



MICHIGAN

Weekly Cases: 4,808
Total Cases: 102,468
Weekly Deaths: 83
Total Deaths: 6,480

OHIO

Weekly Cases: 7,100
Total Cases: 116,666
Weekly Deaths: 149
Total Deaths: 3,854

INDIANA

Weekly Cases: 6,604
Total Cases: 94,196
Weekly Deaths: 69
Total Deaths: 3,077

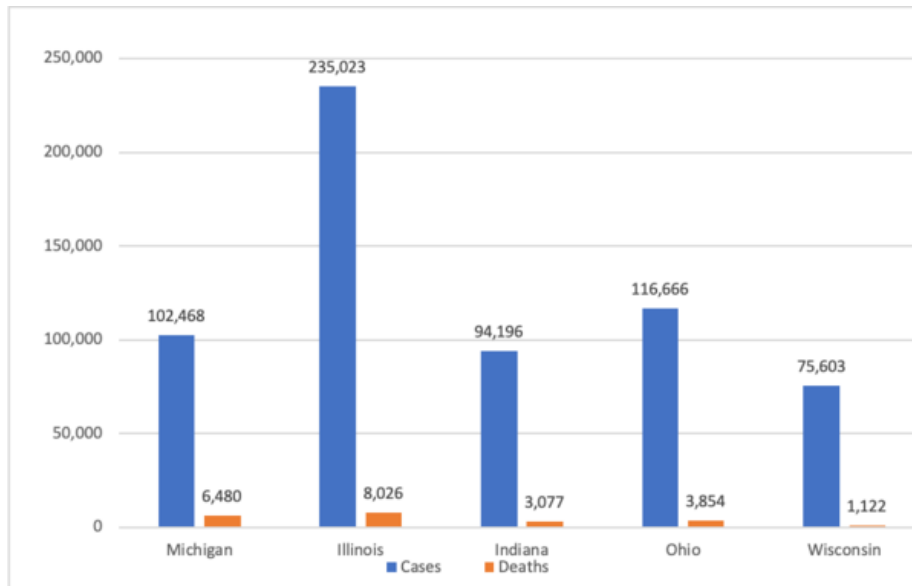
ILLINOIS

Weekly Cases: 13,233
Total Cases: 235,023
Weekly Deaths: 138
Total Deaths: 8,026

WISCONSIN

Weekly Cases: 4,749
Total Cases: 75,603
Weekly Deaths: 41
Total Deaths: 1,122

Statistics updated 08/31/2020



Governor Gretchen Whitmer issued three new Executive Orders (hyperlinks below with recent EOs) since our last update:

- **Executive Order 2020-172** - Prohibits employers from discharging, disciplining, or retaliating against employees who make the decision to stay home when they or their close contacts are sick.

- **Executive Order 2020-173** - Extends a previous order allowing business to be conducted remotely by permitting expanded use of e-notaries and e-signatures.
- **Executive Order 2020-174** - Continues the limited and temporary restrictions on the entry of individuals into health care facilities, residential care facilities, congregate care facilities, and juvenile justice facilities.



Federal Update From our Partners at Foley & Lardner

FOLEY & LARDNER LLP

When members of the House and Senate return to Capitol Hill next week for the last month in session before the November elections, they will need to pass legislation to fund the government beyond September 30, 2020, and work on a COVID relief deal. The House already passed its versions of both in the HEROES Act and several minibus appropriations packages. The Senate has introduced legislation but has not voted on anything. The Senate Appropriations Committee has not taken up legislation on FY 2021 funding, due to partisan disputes within the committee. A Continuing Resolution to extend current funding beyond September 30 will likely be the solution to avert a government shutdown; Democrats are pushing for a funding bill through November, 2020, while Republicans would like a CR through the end of March, 2021. White House Chief of Staff Mark Meadows also stated last week that Republicans are in favor of including relief funding in the stopgap bill, most notably to extend the Payroll Support Program (which directly supports airline industry), and provide further funding to airlines and transit systems.

Earlier this month, President Trump signed four Executive Orders as the result of the inability of the House and Senate to pass another COVID relief bill. One of the most controversial orders is his Memorandum on Deferring Payroll Tax Obligations in Light of the Ongoing COVID-19 Disasters, which will defer the employee portion of the payroll tax under the Federal Insurance Contributions Act from September 1, 2020 through December 31, 2020. Last Friday, the Treasury Department released guidance explaining the plan: Among other measures, any taxes deferred would be owed in installments between January 1, 2021 and April 30, 2021. The program has been deemed optional for employers.



PPE Grant Program Announced

The Department of Health and Human Services announced a \$25 million grant program for personal protective equipment (PPE) that will allow medical facilities and other providers to keep patients and staff safe. The grant is funded through the federal CARES Act and aims to assist facilities facing increased costs for PPE for up to 90 days. Eligible facilities include long-term care facilities, dialysis centers, outpatient medical facilities, home health care providers, dental offices, pharmacies, EMS providers, funeral and mortuary services, long-term acute care hospitals, and residential congregate facilities. For more information, please [click here](#).

MICHIGAN ARTICLES

A deal for hazard pay and COVID-19 testing will keep **Detroit public school teachers** from a safety strike. [Click here to read more.](#)

The **MHSAA** is asking Governor Whitmer to reconsider social distancing guidelines outlined in an executive order, which may allow for high school football to return in the fall. [Click here to read more.](#)

Beaumont Health is lifting the ban on hospital visitors at one of their facilities. [Click here to read more.](#)

NATIONAL ARTICLES

How safe is **air travel** during the pandemic? [Click here to read more.](#)

Despite rising cases, **health experts** believe the U.S. still has a path out of the pandemic. [Click here to read more.](#)

More than **6 million Americans** have tested positive for COVID-19. [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 2020-169](#) - 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.

[Executive Order 2020-172](#) - Prohibits employers from discharging, disciplining, or retaliating against employees who make the decision to stay home when they or their close contacts are sick.

[Executive Order 2020-173](#) - Extends a previous order allowing business to be conducted remotely by permitting expanded use of e-notaries and e-signatures.

[Executive Order 2020-174](#) - Continues the limited and temporary restrictions on the entry of individuals into health care facilities, residential care facilities, congregate care facilities, and juvenile justice facilities.

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.

To keep up-to-date on the latest information in and around the capitol, follow MLC on [Twitter](#) or Like us on [Facebook](#).

Julie Cook, 110 W. Michigan Ave., Suite 500, Lansing, MI 48933, United States

You may [unsubscribe](#) or [change your contact details](#) at any time.