

Visit our Website



WASHINGTON WATCH



November 2020

Pfizer Announces COVID-19 Vaccine May Be More Than 90 Percent Effective

The drug company Pfizer said that early analysis showed its vaccine candidate for COVID-19 is more than 90 percent effective in preventing infection.

Read more [here](#).



Biden Projected to Win White House After Taking Pennsylvania

Former Vice President Joe Biden was projected to win the White House after taking an insurmountable lead in Pennsylvania, which gave him 273 electoral votes.

Read more [here](#).



Democrats Retain Control of House; Republicans Holding on in Senate

Democrats are projected to keep control of the House after the General Election and Republicans are holding control in the Senate, pending the results of two runoffs in Georgia.

Read more [here](#).



Private Payroll Growth Slows in October, Well Below Expectations

Companies added 365,000 positions for the month, according to ADP, well below the 600,000 estimate from a Dow Jones economist survey.

Read more [here](#).



751,000 Seek U.S. Jobless Benefits as Virus Hobbles Economy

The number of Americans seeking unemployment benefits fell slightly to 751,000, a still historically high level that shows many employers cutting jobs in the face of the accelerating pandemic.

Read more [here](#).



Fed Holds Interest Rates Steady with Economy Still Below Pre-Pandemic Levels

The Federal Reserve held short-term borrowing rates near zero at its most recent meeting, characterizing the economy as growing but nowhere near where it was before the pandemic.

Read more [here](#).



Productivity Increases 4.9 Percent in Third Quarter

U.S. productivity increased 4.9 percent between July and September, the Labor Department reported.

Read more [here](#).



Trade Deficit Declines as Exports Outpace Imports

The U.S. trade deficit fell in September after hitting a 14-year high the previous month as exports outpaced imports.

Read more [here](#).



Factory Orders Rise; Further Gains Uncertain

New orders for U.S.-made goods increased, but further gains could be limited amid an anticipated slowdown in consumer spending as COVID-19 government funds run out.

Read more [here](#).



U.S. Formally Exits Paris Climate Agreement

The U.S. formally left the Paris Agreement, a global pact it helped forge five years ago to avert the threat of climate change.

Read more [here](#).



Recruitment Push Fuels Record Number of Women in House GOP

House Republicans are poised to add at least 13 women – if not more – to their ranks next year after a record-breaking recruitment effort.

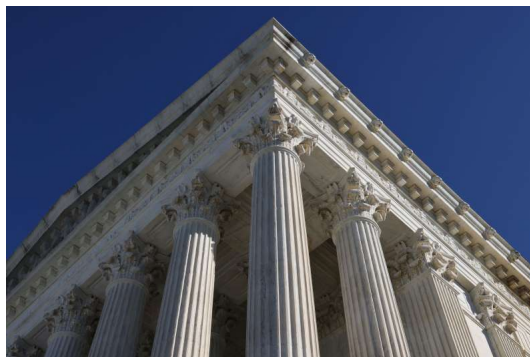
Read more [here](#).



SCOTUS Receives Request for Extension to Respond to Refiners' Biofuel Petition

The Trump Administration has asked the Supreme Court for an extension to respond to a petition from oil refiners requesting that the court review a decision that cast doubt on a program exempting refiners from biofuel blending obligations.

Read more [here](#).



Stock Market Rises as Investors Price in Gridlock in Washington

Wall Street's main indexes have surged recently as investors bet on a gridlock in Congress that would reduce the chance of major policy changes.

Read more [here](#).



STAY CONNECTED



Arkansas State Chamber of Commerce/Associated Industries of Arkansas
1200 W. Capitol Ave., Little Rock, AR 72201
P.O. Box 3645, Little Rock, AR 72203
501-372-2222 | arkansasstatechamber.com