VERMONT

SUMMARY

- Vermont's control of its COVID epidemic stabilized last week but remains at a critical juncture. Vermont is in the orange zone for cases, indicating between 51 and 100 new cases per 100,000 population, with the 50th highest rate in the country. Vermont is in the green zone for test positivity, indicating a rate at or below 4.9%, with the 51st highest rate in the country.
- After several weeks of steep increases in cases and an increase in test positivity, Vermont has seen a decrease in new cases and a decrease in test positivity last week.
- The following three counties had the highest number of new cases over the last 3 weeks: 1. Washington County, 2. Chittenden County, and 3. Orange County. These counties represent 60.5% of new cases in Vermont.
- Mitigation: On Nov 14, intensified mitigation measures went into effect. The Governor has asked residents who attended multi-household Thanksgiving celebrations to quarantine and be tested.
- No counties in Vermont have moderate or high levels of community transmission (yellow, orange, or red zones). Surveillance testing of >9,000 public school staff throughout the state identified 21 positives without indicating a higher prevalence in any defined locality.
- During the week of Nov 16 - Nov 22, 3% of nursing homes had at least one new resident COVID-19 case, 12% had at least one new staff COVID-19 case, and none had at least one new resident COVID-19 death. Several outbreaks in LTCF are being followed by the state.
- Vermont had 88 new cases per 100,000 population, compared to a national average of 349 per 100,000.
- Current staff deployed from the federal government as assets to support the state response are: 2 to support operations activities from FEMA and 1 to support operations activities from USCG.
- Between Nov 21 - Nov 27, on average, 4 patients with confirmed COVID-19 and 5 patients with suspected COVID-19 were reported as newly admitted each day to hospitals in Vermont. This is an increase of 97% in total COVID-19 hospital admissions.

RECOMMENDATIONS

- The COVID risk to all Americans is at a historic high. The national daily COVID incidence after Memorial Day, but before the summer surge, was fewer than 25,000 new cases/day and is now more than 180,000 new cases/day; COVID inpatients then were fewer than 30,000 but are now more than 90,000; fatalities have more than doubled. We are in a very dangerous place due to the current, extremely high COVID baseline and limited hospital capacity; a further post-Thanksgiving surge will compromise COVID patient care, as well as medical care overall.
- If state and local policies do not reflect the seriousness of the current situation, all public health officials must alert the state population directly. It must be made clear that if you are over 65 or have significant health conditions, you should not enter any indoor public spaces where anyone is unmasked due to the immediate risk to your health; you should have groceries and medications delivered. If you are under 40, you need to assume you became infected during the Thanksgiving period if you gathered beyond your immediate household. Most likely, you will not have symptoms; however, you are dangerous to others and you must isolate away from anyone at increased risk for severe disease and get tested immediately. If you are over 65 or have significant medical conditions and you gathered outside of your immediate household, you are at a significant risk for serious COVID infection; if you develop any symptoms, you must be tested immediately as the majority of therapeutics work best early in infection.
- We are also seeing clear improvement in many European countries that implemented strong public and private mitigation but preserved schooling. We are also seeing states and cities that aggressively mitigated achieving a high plateau and early stability in less than 4 weeks. However, in many areas of the USA, state mitigation efforts remain inadequate, resulting in sustained transmission or a very prolonged time to peak – over 7 weeks. All states and all counties must flatten the curve now in order to sustain the health system for both COVID and non-COVID emergencies.
- We share the strong concern of Vermont leaders that the current situation remains critical and that despite the improvement in cases and test positivity last week, the population and health care system must do everything possible to prepare for and limit a post-Thanksgiving resurgence. Improved public observance of social distancing measures is urgently needed to limit overrunning hospital capacity and additional preventable deaths. Limiting travel throughout the next several weeks is an additional key mitigation measure this holiday season as the spread across jurisdictions makes control measures much more difficult and leads to additional outbreaks. The modest proportion of Vermonters who, in a national survey, indicated plans to spend Thanksgiving with other households is encouraging. The Governor's continued personal guidance and recent actions on these measures are critical and are commended.
- Ensure all clinical facilities, including mid-level and rural, have expansion and contingency plans and up-to-date treatment protocols, including outpatient management; ensure all facilities, public and private, have maximal access to medications, supplies, and staffing, and are accurately reporting current status of each resource. Ensure support for platforms for efficient intra- and inter-state patient transfers as needed.
- Additional measures should be taken, including communications to reinforce messaging around social gatherings throughout the ongoing holiday season. Maximizing control of transmission now will also allow for greater and earlier resumption of business activity in addition to limiting cases, hospitalizations, and deaths.
- The silent community spread that precedes and continues throughout these COVID disease surges can only be identified and interrupted through proactive and increased testing and surveillance. This approach can be adapted to communities in the orange or red zone with proactive weekly testing of groups from the community. These cases should be analyzed with data from cases among LTCF staff to identify geographic areas with high numbers of asymptomatic and pre-symptomatic cases, which should then trigger widespread proactive testing and isolation of positive cases. These efforts to identify and reduce asymptomatic transmission should run concurrently with testing of symptomatic persons and contact tracing of cases.
- Expand strategic use of point-of-care antigen tests for all individuals that gather across households. Antigen tests perform well in the highly infectious window and will be effective in identification of the asymptomatic and pre-symptomatic infectious cases. Requiring use only in symptomatic individuals is preventing adequate testing and control of the pandemic. Antigen tests do not perform well after 8-10 days post infection, when nucleic acid cycle times are >30.
- Proactive testing must be part of the mitigation efforts inclusive of universal masking, physical distancing, hand hygiene, and the active promotion of activities in outdoor settings. Mitigation measures to limit transmission in personal gatherings need continued strengthening. Local influencers are critical; hospital personnel are frequently trusted in the community and have been successfully recruited to amplify these messages locally.
- Given increasing outbreaks in nursing homes, ensure increased frequency of long-term care facility testing and rapid implementation of vaccination into LTCF as vaccine becomes available.
- Ensure all K-12 schools are following CDC guidelines, including mask wearing, and utilize the Abbott BinaxNOW tests to routinely test all teachers as another indicator of the degree of community spread. Ensure all universities planning to bring students back to campus after winter break move to mandatory weekly testing of all on and off campus students. Planning for that must begin now. Vermont's exemplary testing program at IHEs is commended.
- Specific, detailed guidance on community mitigation measures can be found on the CDC website.

COVID-19

VERMONT

STATE REPORT | 11.29.2020

	STATE	STATE, % CHANGE FROM PREVIOUS WEEK	FEMA/HHS REGION	UNITED STATES
NEW COVID-19 CASES (RATE PER 100,000)	546 (88)	-24%	39,813 (268)	1,146,921 (349)
VIRAL (RT-PCR) LAB TEST POSITIVITY RATE	1.6%	-0.8%*	4.3%	9.7%
TOTAL VIRAL (RT-PCR) LAB TESTS (TESTS PER 100,000)	45,083** (7,225**)	+18%**	901,789** (6,075**)	10,846,839** (3,305**)
COVID-19 DEATHS (RATE PER 100,000)	5 (0.8)	+67%	382 (2.6)	10,169 (3.1)
SNFs WITH ≥1 NEW RESIDENT COVID-19 CASE	3%	+3%*	16%	25%
SNFs WITH ≥1 NEW STAFF COVID-19 CASE	12%	+6%*	34%	46%
SNFs WITH ≥1 NEW RESIDENT COVID-19 DEATH	0%	N/A*	4%	9%
TOTAL NEW COVID-19 HOSPITAL ADMISSIONS (RATE PER 100 BEDS)	63 (6)	+97% (+40%)	4,085 (12)	135,904 (19)

* Indicates absolute change in percentage points.
** Due to delayed reporting, this figure may underestimate total diagnostic tests and week-on-week changes in diagnostic tests.

DATA SOURCES – Additional data details available under METHODS

Note: Some dates may have incomplete data due to delays in reporting. Data may be backfilled over time, resulting in week-to-week changes.
Cases and Deaths: State values are calculated by aggregating county-level data from USAFacts; therefore, the values may not match those reported directly by the state. Data is through 11/27/2020; previous week is 11/14 - 11/20.
Testing: CELR (COVID-19 Electronic Lab Reporting) state health department-reported data through 11/25/2020. Previous week is 11/12 - 11/18.
SNFs: Skilled nursing facilities. National Healthcare Safety Network. Data are reported separately for cases among residents and staff. Data is through 11/22/2020, previous week is 11/9-11/15. Facilities that are undergoing reporting quality review are not included in the table, but may be included in other NHSN analyses.
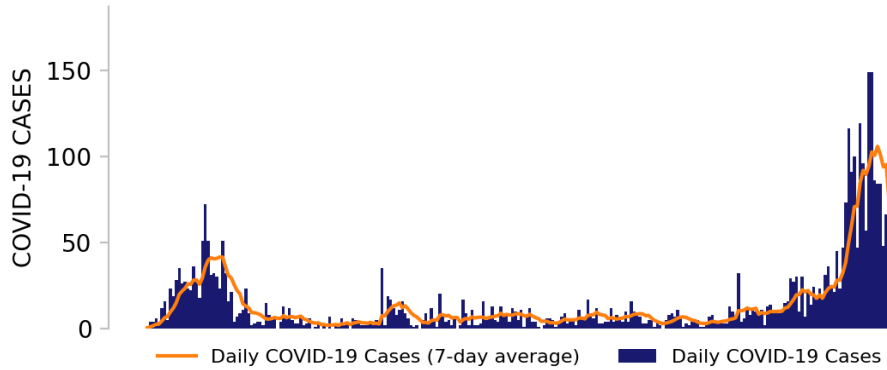**Admissions:** Unified hospitalization dataset in HHS Protect. These data exclude psychiatric, rehabilitation, and religious non-medical hospitals. Hospitals explicitly identified by states/regions as those from which we should not expect reports were excluded from the totals. Totals include confirmed and suspected COVID-19 admissions.
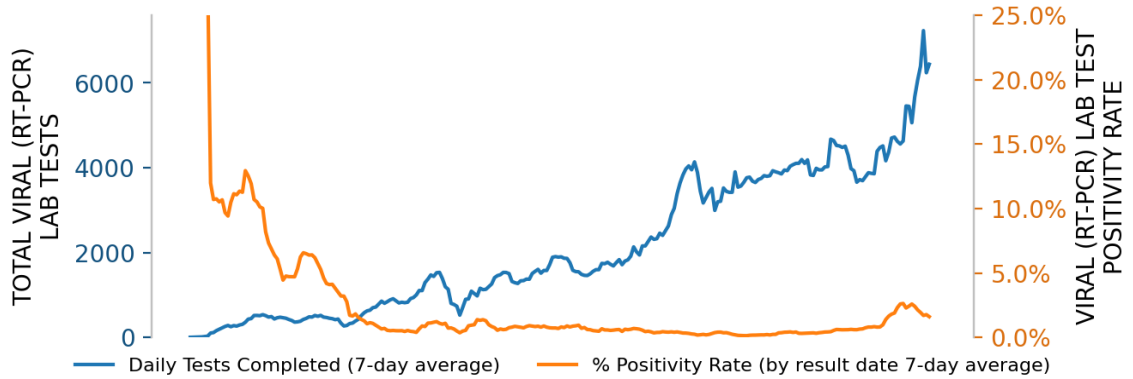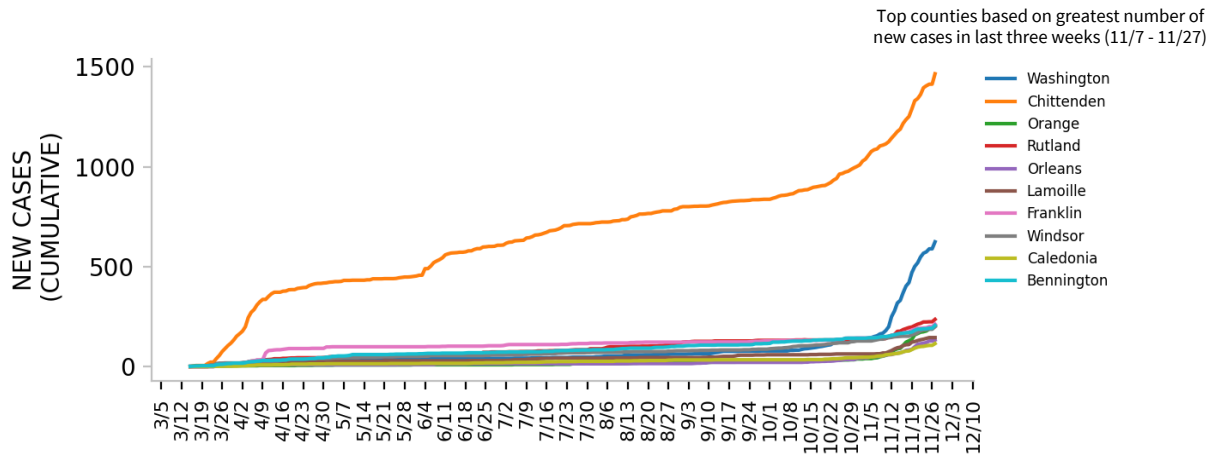
VERMONT

STATE REPORT | 11.29.2020

NEW CASES ▶

Daily COVID-19 Cases (7-day average) — Daily COVID-19 Cases

TESTING ▶

Daily Tests Completed (7-day average) — % Positivity Rate (by result date 7-day average)

TOP COUNTIES ▶

Top counties based on greatest number of new cases in last three weeks (11/7 - 11/27)

- Washington
- Chittenden
- Orange
- Rutland
- Orleans
- Lamoille
- Franklin
- Windsor
- Caledonia
- Bennington

DATA SOURCES – Additional data details available under METHODS
Note: Some dates may have incomplete data due to delays in reporting. Data may be backfilled over time, resulting in week-to-week changes.
Cases: State values are calculated by aggregating county-level data from USAFacts; therefore, the values may not match those reported directly by the state. Data is through 11/27/2020.
Testing: CELR (COVID-19 Electronic Lab Reporting) state health department-reported data through 11/25/2020.
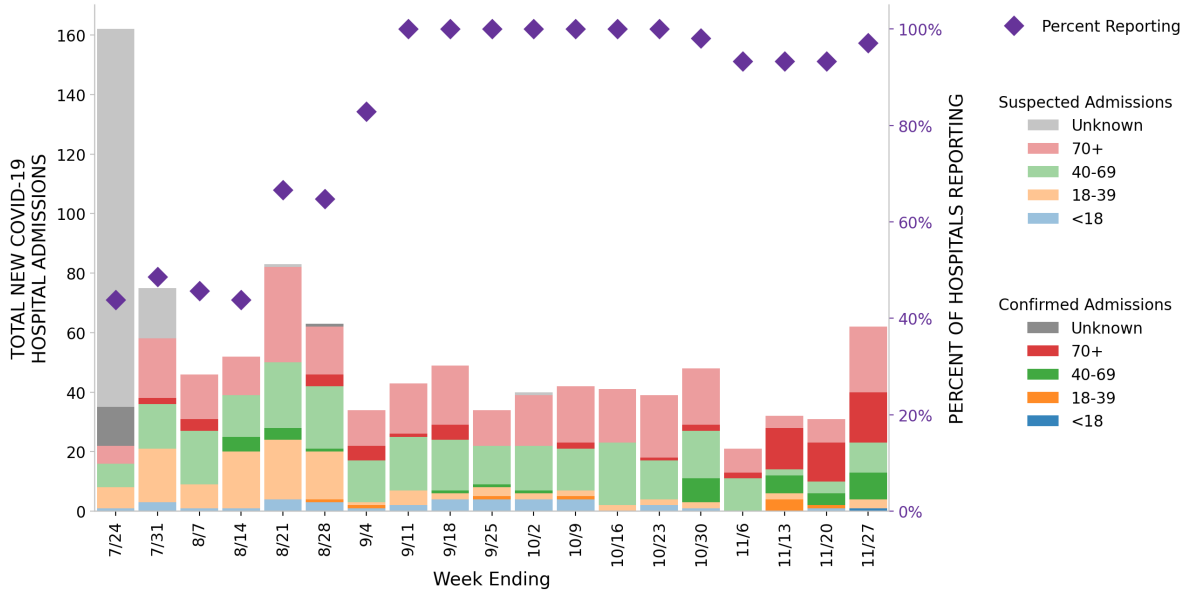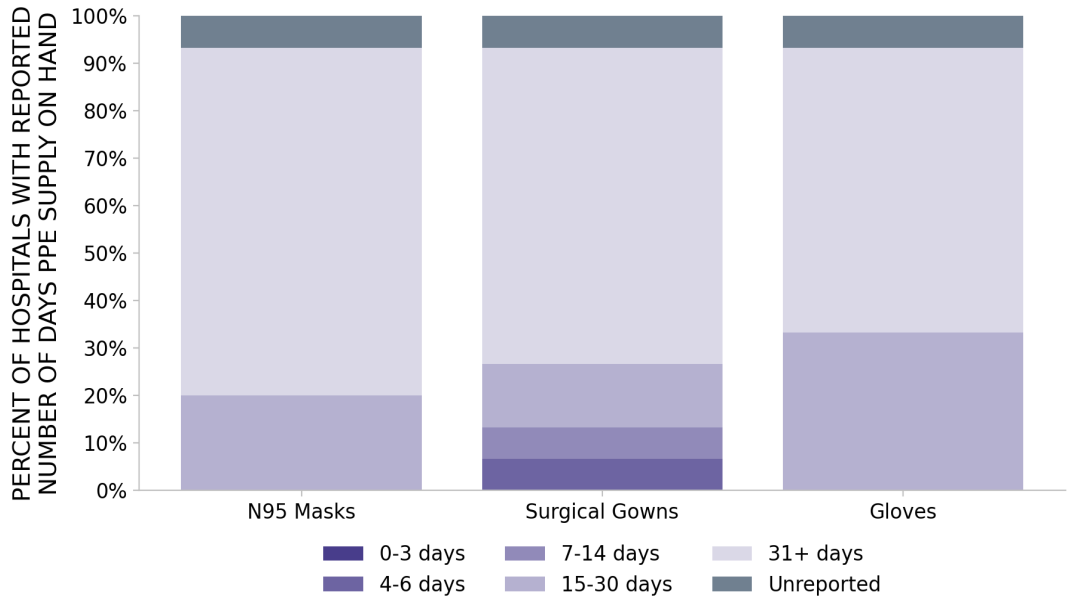
VERMONT

STATE REPORT | 11.29.2020

15 hospitals are expected to report in Vermont

HOSPITAL ADMISSIONS ▶

TOTAL NEW COVID-19 HOSPITAL ADMISSIONS (left axis)

PERCENT OF HOSPITALS REPORTING (right axis)

Week Ending

◆ Percent Reporting

Suspected Admissions
- Unknown
- 70+
- 40-69
- 18-39
- <18

Confirmed Admissions
- Unknown
- 70+
- 40-69
- 18-39
- <18

HOSPITAL PPE SUPPLIES ▶

PERCENT OF HOSPITALS WITH REPORTED NUMBER OF DAYS PPE SUPPLY ON HAND

N95 Masks — Surgical Gowns — Gloves

- 0-3 days
- 4-6 days
- 7-14 days
- 15-30 days
- 31+ days
- Unreported

VERMONT
STATE REPORT | 11.29.2020

COVID-19 COUNTY AND METRO ALERTS*
Top 12 shown in table (full lists below)

	METRO AREA (CBSA)		COUNTIES	
LOCALITIES IN RED ZONE	**0** ■ **(+0)**	N/A	**0** ■ **(+0)**	N/A
LOCALITIES IN ORANGE ZONE	**0** ■ **(+0)**	N/A	**0** ▼ **(-1)**	N/A
LOCALITIES IN YELLOW ZONE	**0** ▼ **(-1)**	N/A	**0** ▼ **(-3)**	N/A

Change from previous week's alerts: ▲ Increase   ■ Stable   ▼ Decrease

* Localities with fewer than 10 cases last week have been excluded from these alerts.

Note: Lists of red, orange, and yellow localities are sorted by the number of new cases in the last 3 weeks, from highest to lowest. Some dates may have incomplete data due to delays in reporting. Data may be backfilled over time, resulting in week-to-week changes.
DATA SOURCES – Additional data details available under METHODS
Cases and Deaths: State values are calculated by aggregating county-level data from USAFacts; therefore, the values may not match those reported directly by the state. Data is through 11/27/2020.
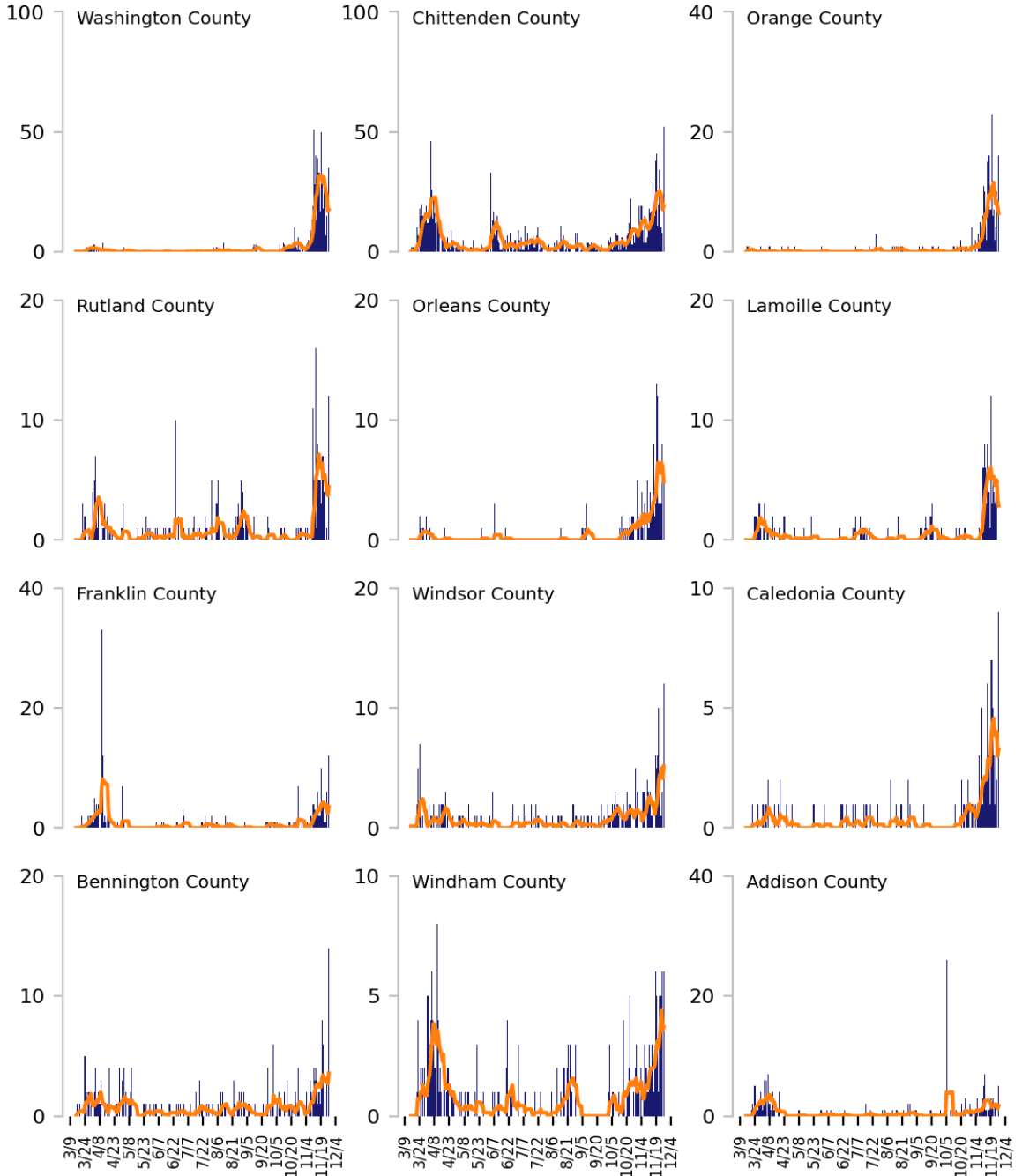**Testing:** CELR (COVID-19 Electronic Lab Reporting) state health department-reported data through 11/25/2020.

Top 12 counties based on number of new cases in the last 3 weeks

— Daily COVID-19 Cases (7-day average)   ▬ Daily COVID-19 Cases
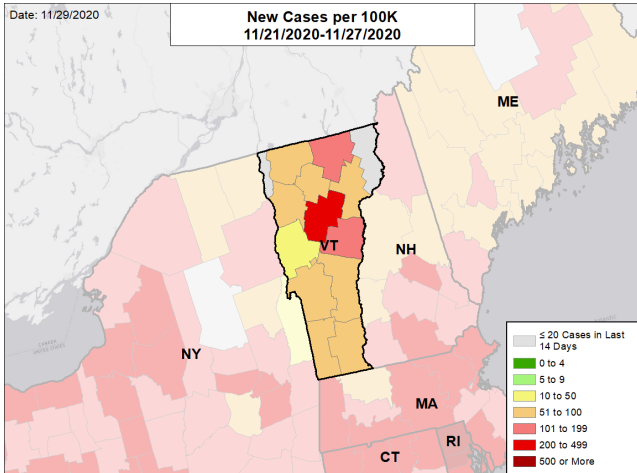
TOTAL DAILY CASES

VERMONT
STATE REPORT | 11.29.2020

CASE RATES AND VIRAL LAB TEST POSITIVITY

NEW CASES PER 100,000

Date: 11/29/2020

New Cases per 100K
11/21/2020-11/27/2020

ME
VT
NH
NY
MA
RI
CT

New Cases per 100K
- ≤ 20 Cases in Last 14 Days
- 0 to 4
- 5 to 9
- 10 to 50
- 51 to 100
- 101 to 199
- 200 to 499
- 500 or More

VIRAL (RT-PCR) LABORATORY TEST POSITIVITY

Date: 11/29/2020

Viral (RT-PCR) Lab Test Positivity
11/19/2020-11/25/2020

ME
VT
NH
NY
MA
RI
CT

Test Positivity
- ≤ 20 Cases in Last 14 Days
- 0.0% to 2.9%
- 3.0% to 4.9%
- 5.0% to 7.9%
- 8.0% to 10.0%
- 10.1% to 19.9%
- 20% or More

NEW CASES PER 100,000 ONE MONTH BEFORE

Date: 11/29/2020

New Cases per 100K
10/24/2020-10/30/2020

ME
VT
NH
NY
MA
RI
CT

Cases per 100K
- ≤ 20 Cases in Last 14 Days
- 0 to 4
- 5 to 9
- 10 to 50
- 51 to 100
- 101 to 199
- 200 to 499
- 500 or More
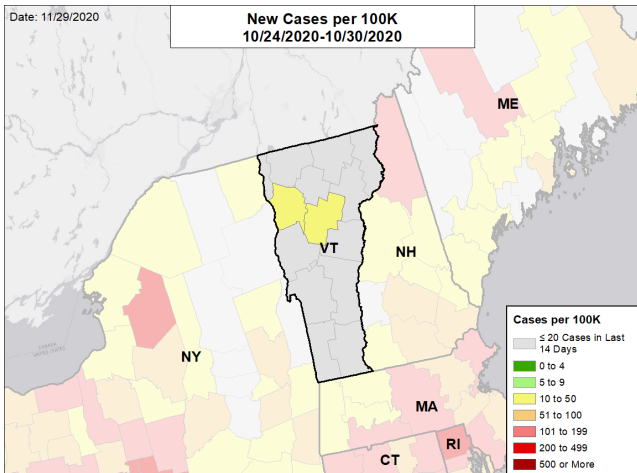
VIRAL (RT-PCR) LABORATORY TEST POSITIVITY ONE MONTH BEFORE
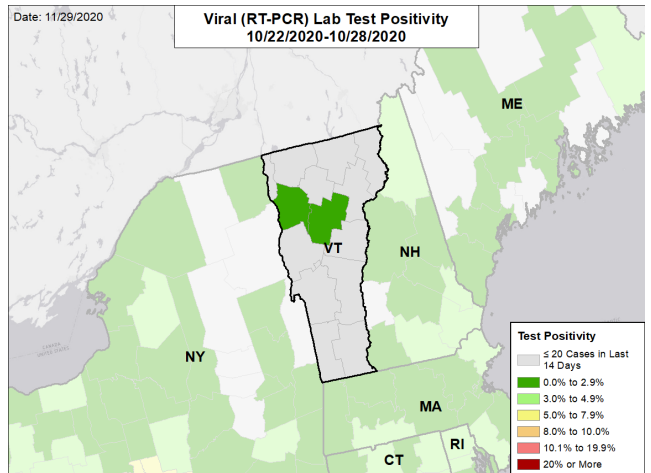
Date: 11/29/2020

Viral (RT-PCR) Lab Test Positivity
10/22/2020-10/28/2020

ME
VT
NH
NY
MA
RI
CT

Test Positivity
- ≤ 20 Cases in Last 14 Days
- 0.0% to 2.9%
- 3.0% to 4.9%
- 5.0% to 7.9%
- 8.0% to 10.0%
- 10.1% to 19.9%
- 20% or More

DATA SOURCES – Additional data details available under METHODS
Note: Some dates may have incomplete data due to delays in reporting. Data may be backfilled over time, resulting in week-to-week changes.
Cases: State values are calculated by aggregating county-level data from USAFacts; therefore, the values may not match those reported directly by the state. Data is through 11/27/2020. The week one month before is 10/24 - 10/30.
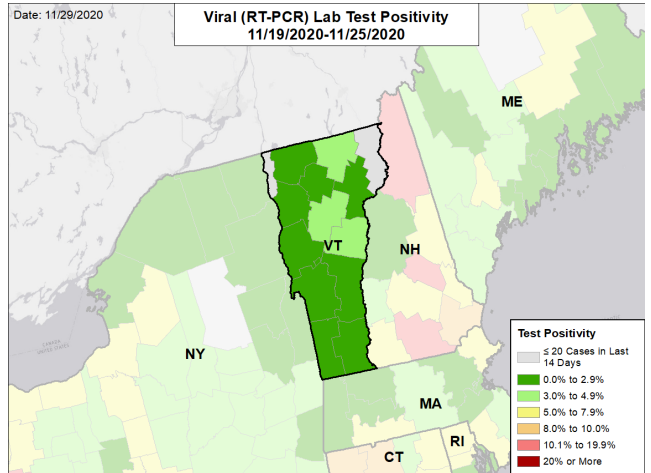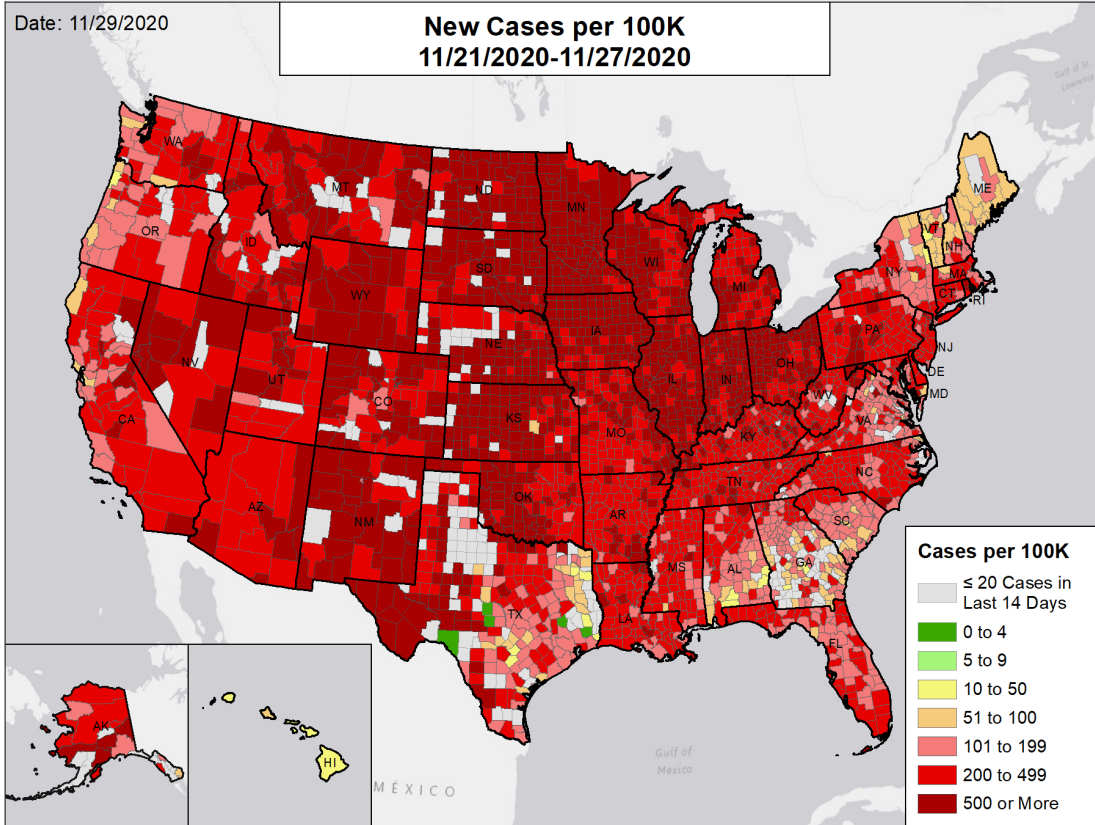**Testing:** CELR (COVID-19 Electronic Lab Reporting) state health department-reported data through 11/25/2020. The week one month before is 10/22 - 10/28.

National Picture

NATIONAL RANKING OF NEW CASES PER 100,000

NEW CASES PER 100,000

Date: 11/29/2020

**New Cases per 100K
11/21/2020-11/27/2020**

Cases per 100K
- ≤ 20 Cases in Last 14 Days
- 0 to 4
- 5 to 9
- 10 to 50
- 51 to 100
- 101 to 199
- 200 to 499
- 500 or More

National Rank	State
1	ND
2	SD
3	WY
4	NM
5	MN
6	IA
7	NE
8	IN
9	KS
10	MT
11	UT
12	WI
13	AK
14	CO
15	RI
16	IL
17	OH
18	NV
19	OK
20	MI
21	ID
22	MO
23	KY
24	AR
25	PA
26	AZ
27	TN
28	WV
29	DE
30	NJ
31	CT
32	LA
33	MS
34	MA
35	MD
36	FL
37	WA
38	TX
39	CA
40	NC
41	NY
42	AL
43	OR
44	VA
45	SC
46	NH
47	DC
48	GA
49	ME
50	VT
51	HI

Europe is experiencing a fall surge similar to the USA and is showing early signs of improvement through country-specific mitigation efforts.
- 80% (48/60 countries) require wearing masks in all public settings
  - Most countries have imposed fines for non-compliance
- 93% (56/60) have significant restrictions on gathering size
- 63% (38/60) have some form of nonessential business closures, initially focused on bars and reducing restaurant capacity
- 60% (37/60) have some form of entertainment or public space restriction
- 65% (39/60) have deployed a contact tracing app

DATA SOURCES
Note: Some dates may have incomplete data due to delays in reporting. Data may be backfilled over time, resulting in week-to-week changes.
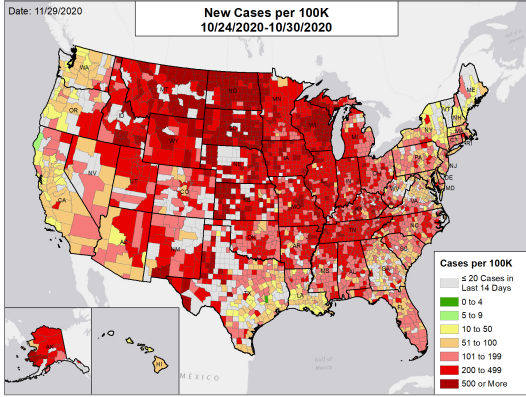**Cases:** County-level data from USAFacts through 11/27/2020.
European community mitigation information sourced from European CDC — Situation Update Worldwide.
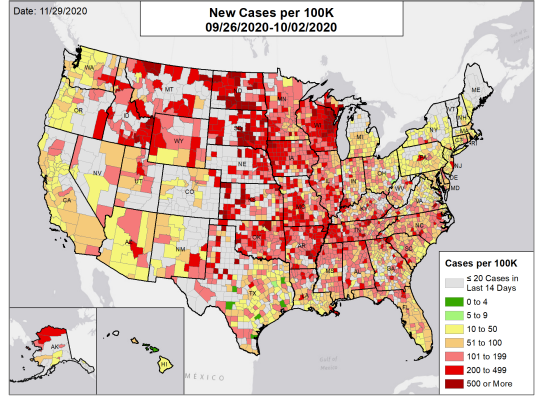
National Picture

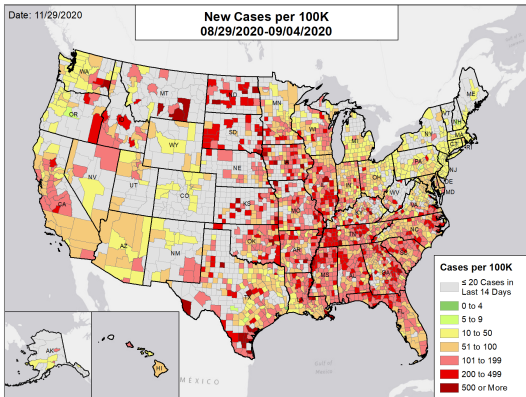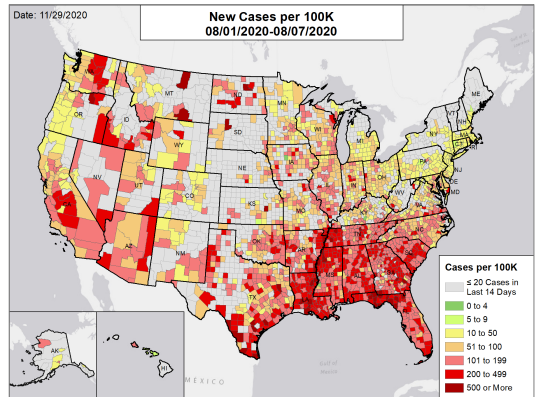NEW CASES PER 100,000 IN THE WEEK:

ONE MONTH BEFORE

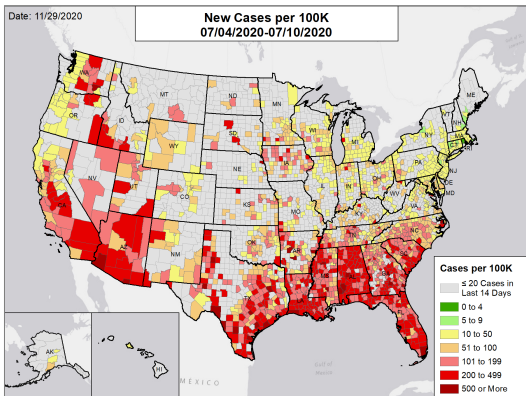## TWO MONTHS BEFORE

THREE MONTHS BEFORE

FOUR MONTHS BEFORE

FIVE MONTHS BEFORE

SIX MONTHS BEFORE
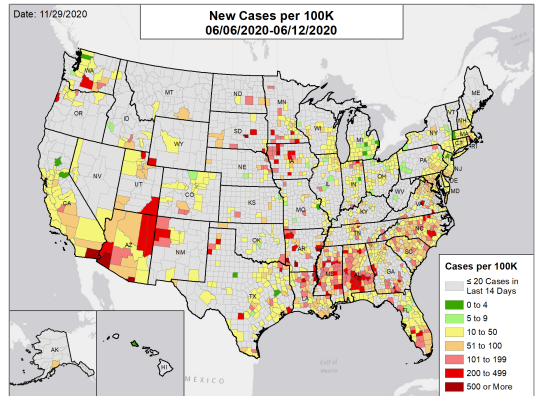
DATA SOURCES
Note: Some dates may have incomplete data due to delays in reporting. Data may be backfilled over time, resulting in week-to-week changes.

Cases: County-level data from USAFacts through 11/27/2020. The week one month before is 10/24 - 10/30; the week two months before is 9/26 - 10/2; the week three months before is 8/29 - 9/4; the week four months before is 8/1 - 8/7; the week five months before is 7/4 - 7/10; the week six months before is 6/6 - 6/12.

National Picture

VIRAL (RT-PCR) LAB TEST POSITIVITY

Date: 11/29/2020

**Viral (RT-PCR) Lab Test Positivity
11/19/2020-11/25/2020**

Test Positivity
- ≤ 20 Cases in Last 14 Days
- 0.0% to 2.9%
- 3.0% to 4.9%
- 5.0% to 7.9%
- 8.0% to 10.0%
- 10.1% to 19.9%
- 20% or More

NATIONAL RANKING OF TEST POSITIVITY

National Rank	State	National Rank	State
1	ID	27	TX
2	MT	28	OR
3	KS	29	NJ
4	OK	30	AR
5	MO	31	SC
6	UT	32	CT
7	IA	33	FL
8	NE	34	AK
9	NV	35	NH
10	IN	36	WA
11	NM	37	GA
12	SD	38	LA
13	OH	39	NC
14	WY	40	WV
15	MI	41	VA
16	KY	42	MD
17	TN	43	CA
18	ND	44	RI
19	AL	45	DE
20	MS	46	NY
21	IL	47	ME
22	MN	48	MA
23	WI	49	DC
24	PA	50	HI
25	AZ	51	VT
26	CO		

VIRAL (RT-PCR) LAB TEST POSITIVITY IN THE WEEK:

ONE MONTH BEFORE

Date: 11/29/2020

**Viral (RT-PCR) Lab Test Positivity
10/22/2020-10/28/2020**

TWO MONTHS BEFORE

Date: 11/29/2020

**Viral (RT-PCR) Lab Test Positivity
09/24/2020-09/30/2020**

THREE MONTHS BEFORE

Date: 11/29/2020

**Viral (RT-PCR) Lab Test Positivity
08/27/2020-09/02/2020**

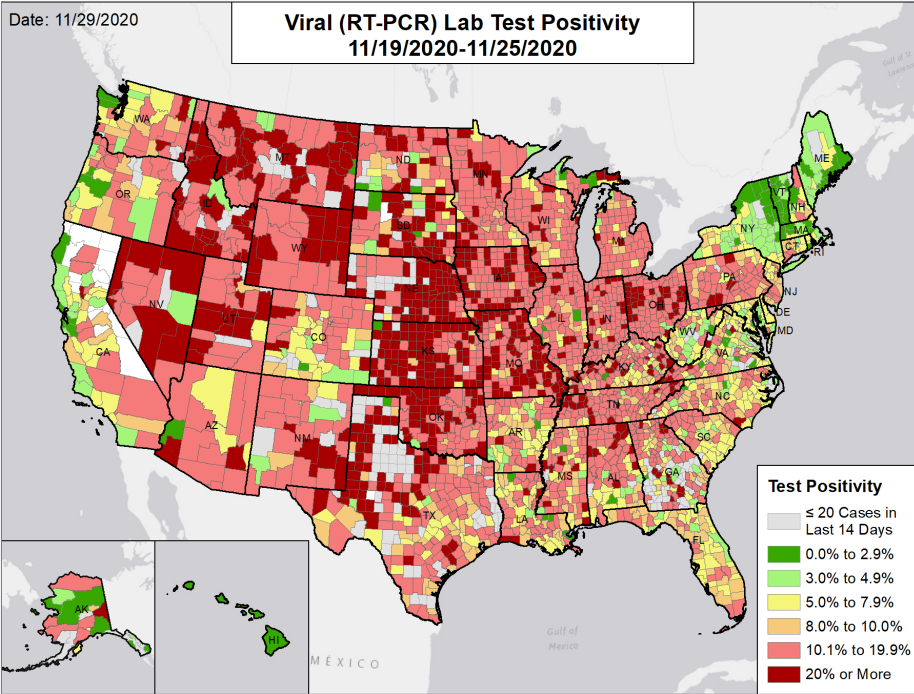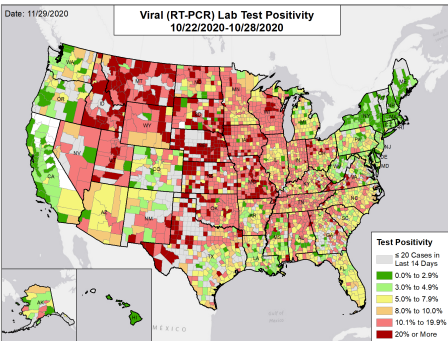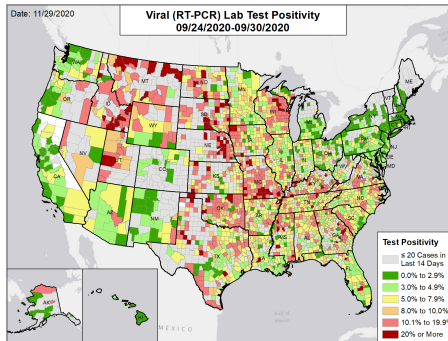**DATA SOURCES**

Note: Some dates may have incomplete data due to delays in reporting. Data may be backfilled over time, resulting in week-to-week changes.

Testing: Combination of CELR (COVID-19 Electronic Lab Reporting) state health department-reported data and HHS Protect laboratory data (provided directly to Federal Government from public health labs, hospital labs, and commercial labs) through 11/25/2020. Tthe week one month before is 10/22 - 10/28; the week two months before is 9/24 - 9/30; the week three months before is 8/27 - 9/2.

National Picture

NEW DEATHS PER 100,000

Date: 11/29/2020

New Deaths per 100K
11/21/2020-11/27/2020

Deaths per 100K
- 0.0
- >0 to 1.0
- 1.1 to 2.0
- 2.1 to 9.9
- 10.0 or More

NATIONAL RANKING OF NEW DEATHS PER 100,000

National Rank	State	National Rank	State
1	SD	27	TX
2	ND	28	MD
3	NM	29	NJ
4	MT	30	OK
5	WY	31	AL
6	IA	32	AK
7	MI	33	KY
8	MN	34	MA
9	IN	35	UT
10	IL	36	FL
11	WI	37	SC
12	NE	38	AZ
13	RI	39	NC
14	TN	40	NY
15	MO	41	OR
16	MS	42	DE
17	PA	43	VA
18	KS	44	GA
19	CO	45	ME
20	WV	46	CA
21	AR	47	WA
22	CT	48	DC
23	ID	49	HI
24	NV	50	VT
25	LA	51	NH
26	OH		

NEW DEATHS PER 100,000 IN THE WEEK:
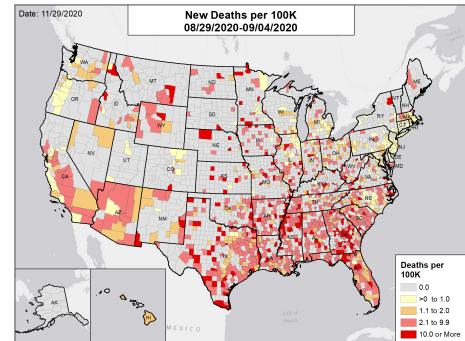
ONE MONTH BEFORE

Date: 11/29/2020

New Deaths per 100K
10/24/2020-10/30/2020

TWO MONTHS BEFORE

Date: 11/29/2020

New Deaths per 100K
09/26/2020-10/02/2020

THREE MONTHS BEFORE

Date: 11/29/2020
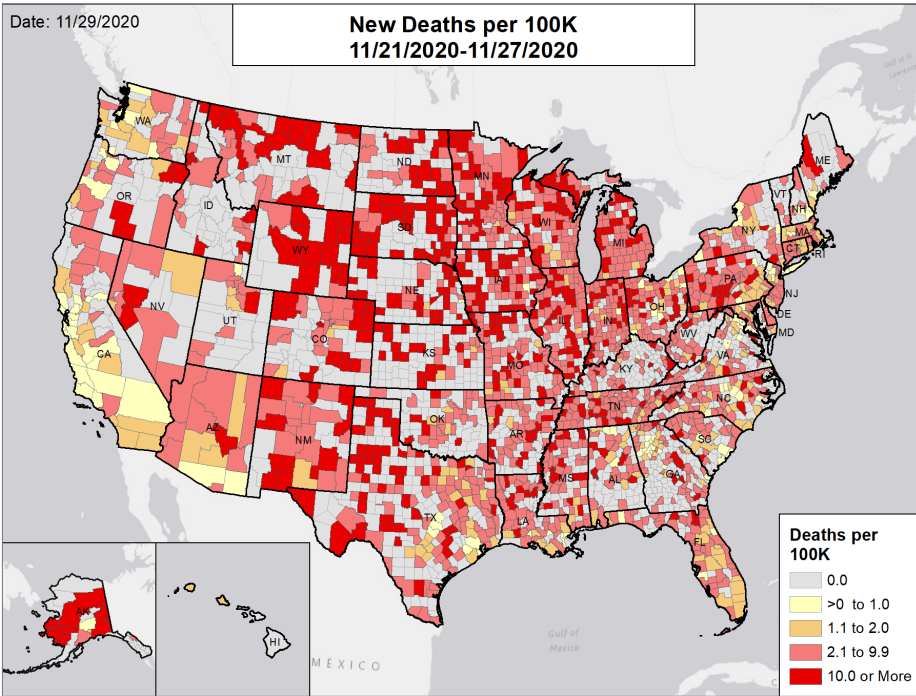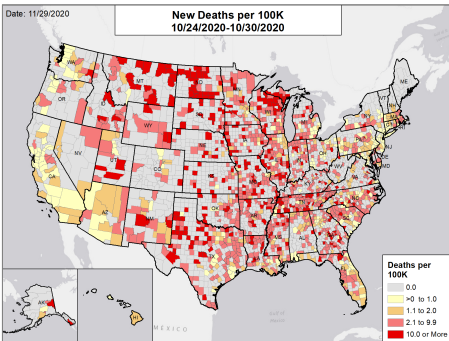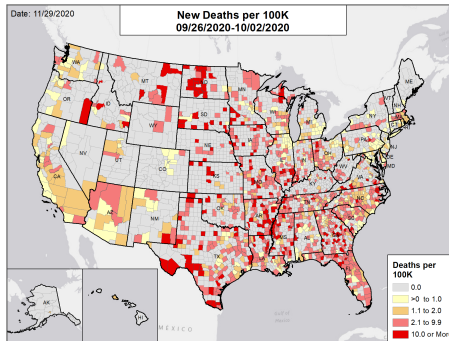
New Deaths per 100K
08/29/2020-09/04/2020

DATA SOURCES
Note: Some dates may have incomplete data due to delays in reporting. Data may be backfilled over time, resulting in week-to-week changes.
Deaths: County-level data from USAFacts through 11/27/2020. The week one month before is 10/24 - 10/30; the week two months before is 9/26 - 10/2; the week three months before is 8/29 - 9/4.

METHODS
STATE REPORT | 11.29.2020

Metric	Dark Green	Light Green	Yellow	Orange	Light Red	Red	Dark Red
New cases per 100,000 population per week	≤4	5 – 9	10 – 50	51 – 100	101 – 199	200 – 499	≥500
Percent change in new cases per 100,000 population	≤-26%	-25% – -11%	-10% – 0%	1% – 10%	11% – 99%	100% – 999%	≥1000%
Diagnostic test result positivity rate	≤2.9%	3.0% – 4.9%	5.0% – 7.9%	8.0% – 10.0%	10.1% – 19.9%		≥20.0%
Change in test positivity	≤-2.1%	-2.0% – -0.6%	-0.5% – 0.0%	0.1% – 0.5%	0.6% – 2.0%		≥2.1%
Total diagnostic tests resulted per 100,000 population per week	≥2001	1001 – 2000	750 – 1000	500 – 749	250 – 499		≤249
Percent change in tests per 100,000 population	≥26%	11% – 25%	1% – 10%	-10% – 0%	-25% – -11%		≤-26%
COVID-19 deaths per 100,000 population per week	0.0		0.1 – 1.0	1.1 – 2.0	2.1 – 3.0		≥3.1
Percent change in deaths per 100,000 population	≤-26%	-25% – -11%	-10% – 0%	1% – 10%	11% – 25%		≥26%
Skilled Nursing Facilities with at least one resident COVID-19 case, death	0%		1% – 5%		≥6%		
Change in SNFs with at least one resident COVID-19 case, death	≤-2%		-1% – 1%		≥2%		
Total new COVID-19 hospital admissions per 100 beds	≤2	3 – 5	6 – 10	11 – 20	21 – 30		≥31
Change in total new COVID-19 hospital admissions per 100 beds	≤-26%	-25% – -11%	-10% – 0%	1% – 10%	11% – 25%		≥26%

- Some dates may have incomplete data due to delays and/or differences in state reporting. Data may be backfilled over time, resulting in week-to-week changes. It is critical that states provide as up-to-date data as possible. Figures and values may also differ from state reports due to differing methodologies.
- Color threshold values are rounded before color classification.
- **Cases and deaths:** County-level data from USAFacts as of 17:59 EST on 11/29/2020. State values are calculated by aggregating county-level data from USAFacts. Data are reviewed on a daily basis against internal and verified external sources and, if needed, adjusted.
- **Testing:** The data presented represent viral COVID-19 laboratory diagnostic and screening test (reverse transcription polymerase chain reaction, RT-PCR) results—not individual people—and exclude antibody and antigen tests, unless stated otherwise. CELR (COVID-19 Electronic Lab Reporting) state health department-reported data are used to describe county-level viral COVID-19 RT-PCR result totals when information is available on patients' county of residence or healthcare providers' practice location. HHS Protect laboratory data (provided directly to Federal Government from public health labs, hospital labs, and commercial labs) are used otherwise. Because the data are deidentified, total RT-PCR tests are the number of tests performed, not the number of individuals tested. RT-PCR test positivity rate is the number of positive tests divided by the number of tests performed and resulted. Last week data are from 11/19 to 11/25; previous week data are from 11/12 to 11/18; the week one month before data are from 10/22 to 10/28. HHS Protect data is recent as of 14:31 EST on 11/29/2020. Testing data are inclusive of everything received and processed by the CELR system as of 19:00 EST on 11/28/2020.
- **Hospitalizations:** Unified hospitalization dataset in HHS Protect. These data exclude psychiatric, rehabilitation, and religious non-medical hospitals. In addition, hospitals explicitly identified by states/regions as those from which we should not expect reports were excluded from the percent reporting figure. The data presented represents raw data provided; we are working diligently with state liaisons to improve reporting consistency. Data is recent as of 18:53 EST on 11/29/2020.
- **Hospital PPE:** Unified hospitalization dataset in HHS Protect. This figure may differ from state data due to differences in hospital lists and reporting between federal and state systems. These data exclude psychiatric, rehabilitation, and religious non-medical hospitals. Hospitals explicitly identified by states/regions as those from which we should not expect reports were excluded from the percent reporting figure. Data is recent as of 18:00 EST on 11/28/2020.
- **Skilled Nursing Facilities:** National Healthcare Safety Network (NHSN). Data report resident and staff cases independently. Quality checks are performed on data submitted to the NHSN. Data that fail these quality checks or appear inconsistent with surveillance protocols may be excluded from analyses. Data presented in this report are more recent than data publicly posted by CMS. Last week is 11/16-11/22, previous week is 11/9-11/15. Facilities that are undergoing reporting quality review are not included in the table, but may be included in other NHSN analyses.
- **County and Metro Area Color Categorizations**
    - **Red Zone:** Those core-based statistical areas (CBSAs) and counties that during the last week reported both new cases at or above 101 per 100,000 population, and a lab test positivity result at or above 10.1%.
    - **Orange Zone:** Those CBSAs and counties that during the last week reported both new cases between 51–100 per 100,000 population, and a lab test positivity result between 8.0–10.0%, or one of those two conditions and one condition qualifying as being in the "Red Zone."
    - **Yellow Zone:** Those CBSAs and counties that during the last week reported both new cases between 10–50 per 100,000 population, and a lab test positivity result between 5.0–7.9%, or one of those two conditions and one condition qualifying as being in the "Orange Zone" or "Red Zone."