



WISCONSIN

STATE REPORT

11.01.2020

Issue 20

SUMMARY

- Wisconsin is seeing an unrelenting rise in cases and test positivity over the last two months with an ongoing health emergency that will continue to lead to increasing hospitalizations and deaths; a more comprehensive mitigation strategy is needed. The rise in test positivity, hospitalizations, and deaths confirm increasing disease activity, while testing has increased in response to the increased disease activity. Wisconsin is in the red zone for cases, indicating 101 or more new cases per 100,000 population, with the 3rd highest rate in the country. Wisconsin is in the red zone for test positivity, indicating a rate at or above 10.1%, with the 8th highest rate in the country.
- Wisconsin has seen an increase in new cases and an increase in test positivity.
- The state reported more than 4,500 cases a day last week on average; hospitalizations and deaths continued to increase last week. Intense community virus transmission is seen throughout the state with none of 72 counties reporting less than 100 cases per 100,000 population.
- The following three counties had the highest number of new cases over the last 3 weeks: 1. Milwaukee County, 2. Brown County, and 3. Dane County. These counties represent 25.6% of new cases in Wisconsin.
- 97% of all counties in Wisconsin have moderate or high levels of community transmission (yellow, orange, or red zones), with 85% having high levels of community transmission (red zone).
- During the week of Oct 19 - Oct 25, 22% of nursing homes had at least one new resident COVID-19 case, 54% had at least one new staff COVID-19 case, and 9% had at least one new resident COVID-19 death.
- Wisconsin had 543 new cases per 100,000 population, compared to a national average of 165 per 100,000.
- Current staff deployed from the federal government as assets to support the state response are: 7 to support operations activities from FEMA; 47 to support medical activities from ASPR; 9 to support operations activities from ASPR; 1 to support epidemiology activities from CDC; 1 to support operations activities from USCG; 7 to support medical activities from VA; and 1 to support operations activities from VA.
- The federal government has supported surge testing in Neenah, WI.
- Between Oct 24 - Oct 30, on average, 337 patients with confirmed COVID-19 and 135 patients with suspected COVID-19 were reported as newly admitted each day to hospitals in Wisconsin. An average of greater than 95% of hospitals reported either new confirmed or new suspected COVID patients each day during this period.

RECOMMENDATIONS

- As you can see from the time sequence of maps at the back of your packet, there is a continued increase in cases, hospitalizations, and fatalities nationally, spreading southward from the coldest climates as the population moves indoors and cases increase exponentially. These maps demonstrate the previous impact of comprehensive mitigation efforts when implemented effectively in many areas and that partial or incomplete mitigation leads to prolonged community spread, hospitalizations, and increased fatalities.
- We share the strong concern of Wisconsin leaders that the current situation is severe and continues to worsen; additional government action and community engagement can limit further cases, hospitalizations, and deaths. The Governor's continued personal guidance on these measures is critical and is commended.
- At this point, the continued increase in cases and test positivity throughout Wisconsin indicates that additional measures should be taken in addition to upward adjustment of mitigation to avoid falling behind the rapid spread. Additional measures should include communications to reinforce messaging around social gatherings and a new asymptomatic surveillance approach.
- Changes in mitigation measures should be taken in response to changes in local disease activity. Given the trajectory of disease activity, efforts to keep less intense mitigation levels are unlikely to succeed and will continue to result in high levels of preventable morbidity and mortality. Initiating appropriate levels of mitigation now will allow for earlier control of disease and earlier resumption of business activity than a lagging upward adjustment.
- Mitigation measures to limit transmission in personal gatherings need further strengthening beyond adjustment of county mitigation levels. Communication from state, local, and community leaders of a clear and shared message asking Wisconsinites to wear masks, physically distance, and avoid gatherings in both public and private spaces, especially indoors, is needed. Hospital personnel are frequently trusted in the community and have been successfully recruited to amplify these messages locally.
- Continue to use testing and case investigations strategically to identify and mitigate areas of increasing disease activity and transmission venues. In addition to testing symptomatic individuals and their contacts, devote resources to rapidly increase surveillance for silent community spread. Given their ease of use at sites, the Abbott BinaxNOW or other antigen tests should be used to augment nucleic acid testing (NAT) and allow for implementation of weekly repeat surveillance in critical populations to monitor degree of asymptomatic community spread. Information from the cases identified and available wastewater surveillance data should be used to identify high transmission zip codes or venues for additional testing. In these high transmission localities, work with local communities and businesses to maximize testing for asymptomatic spread, especially among 18-35 year olds, potentially including incentives.
- Community spread continues at social and family gatherings where observance of social distancing and mask wearing is not followed due to people assuming that "healthy" family members and friends are not infected with COVID since they do not have symptoms. Highly infectious asymptomatic COVID individuals then cause ongoing transmission, frequently infecting multiple people in a single gathering. Increase efforts to address these venues through communication and pivot to surveillance for asymptomatic infections.
- In red and orange counties, both public and private gatherings should be as small as possible and optimally, not extend beyond the immediate family. Maintaining or increasing restrictions on indoor gathering sizes will help limit the superspreader events that appear to be critical to rapid epidemic spread.
- All antigen results must be reported with both the number of positive results and total tests conducted; positives must be reported as COVID cases. Confirmation of positives identified by antigen testing among asymptomatic individuals with NAT is ideal; however, given the high and increasing rates of disease transmission, the positive predictive value of an antigen test is increased as well.
- Ensure all K-12 schools are following CDC guidelines. Ensure university students continue their mitigation behaviors to ensure no further outbreaks on or off campus. Ensure appropriate testing and behavior change in the 10 days prior to student departure to hometowns for the holiday season.
- Specific, detailed guidance on community mitigation measures can be found on the [CDC website](#).

The purpose of this report is to develop a shared understanding of the current status of the pandemic at the national, regional, state and local levels. We recognize that data at the state level may differ from that available at the federal level. Our objective is to use consistent data sources and methods that allow for comparisons to be made across localities. We appreciate your continued support in identifying data discrepancies and improving data completeness and sharing across systems. We look forward to your feedback.



COVID-19



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STATE REPORT | 11.01.2020

	STATE, % CHANGE FROM PREVIOUS WEEK		FEMA/HHS REGION	UNITED STATES
	STATE			
NEW COVID-19 CASES (RATE PER 100,000)	31,596 (543)	+25%	144,919 (276)	542,805 (165)
VIRAL (RT-PCR) LAB TEST POSITIVITY RATE	13.7%	+1.7%*	8.6%	6.7%
TOTAL VIRAL (RT-PCR) LAB TESTS (TESTS PER 100,000)	99,204** (1,704**)	-58%**	1,590,603** (3,027**)	7,430,977** (2,264**)
COVID-19 DEATHS (RATE PER 100,000)	232 (4.0)	+37%	1,132 (2.2)	5,623 (1.7)
SNFs WITH ≥1 NEW RESIDENT COVID-19 CASE	22%	+4%*	15%	13%
SNFs WITH ≥1 NEW STAFF COVID-19 CASE	54%	+7%*	33%	26%
SNFs WITH ≥1 NEW RESIDENT COVID-19 DEATH	9%	+4%*	5%	4%

* 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 10/30/2020; previous week is 10/17 - 10/23.

Testing: CELR (COVID-19 Electronic Lab Reporting) state health department-reported data through 10/28/2020. Previous week is 10/15 - 10/21. We understand that the data shown may be incomplete or inaccurate until data issues are resolved.

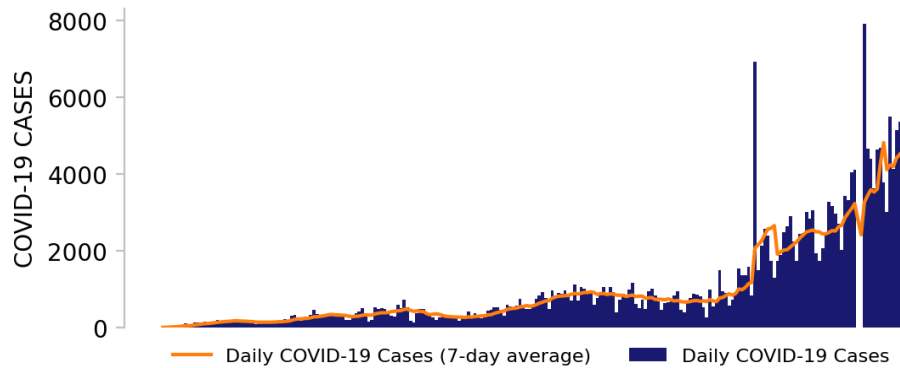
SNFs: Skilled nursing facilities. National Healthcare Safety Network. Data are reported separately for cases among residents and staff. Data is through 10/25/2020, previous week is 10/12-10/18. Facilities that are undergoing reporting quality review are not included in the table, but may be included in other NHSN analyses.



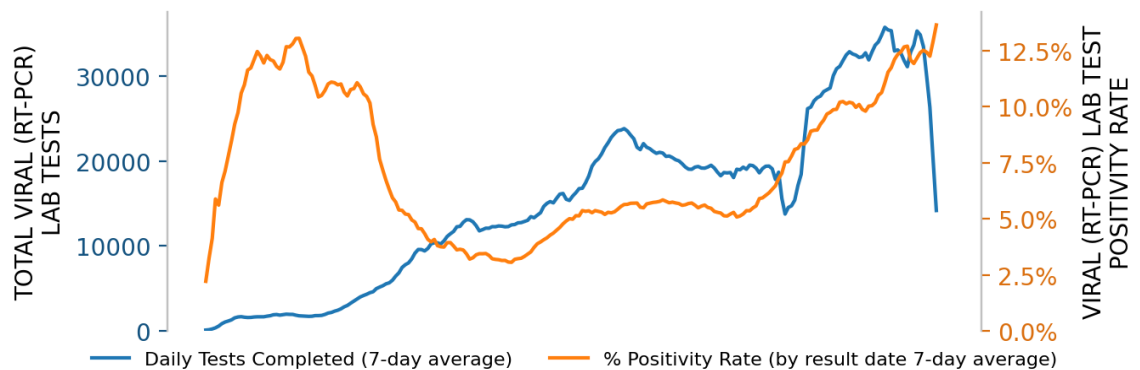
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STATE REPORT | 11.01.2020

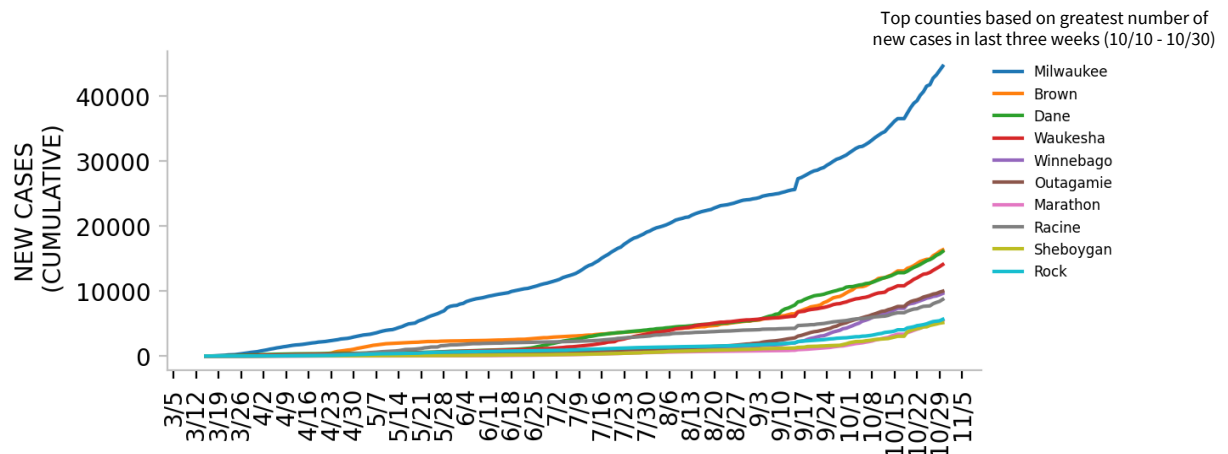
NEW CASES



TESTING



TOP COUNTIES



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 10/30/2020.

Testing: CELR (COVID-19 Electronic Lab Reporting) state health department-reported data through 10/28/2020. We understand that the data shown may be incomplete or inaccurate until data issues are resolved.

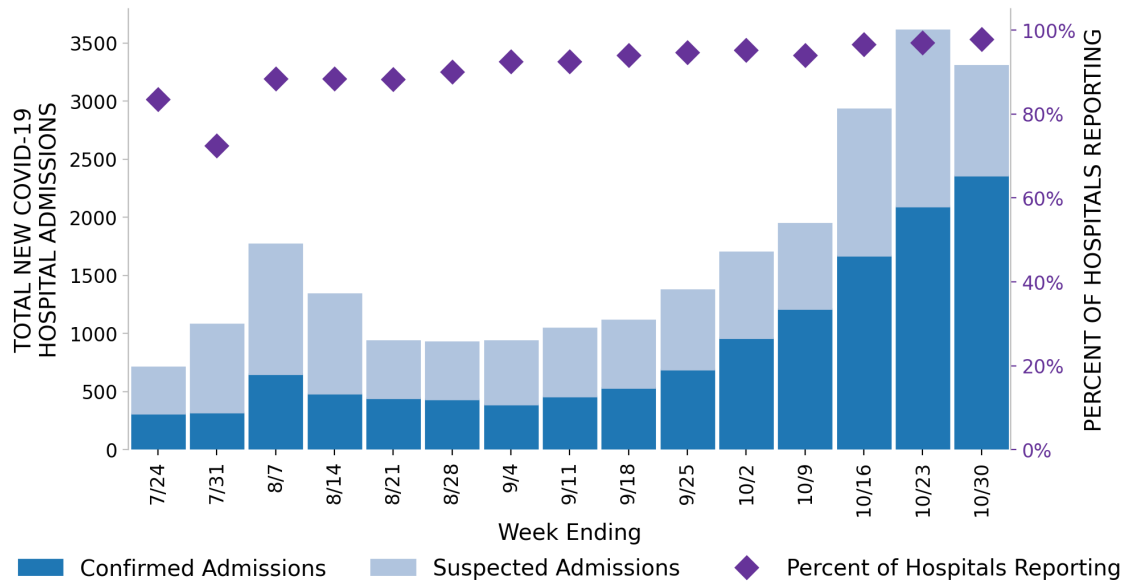


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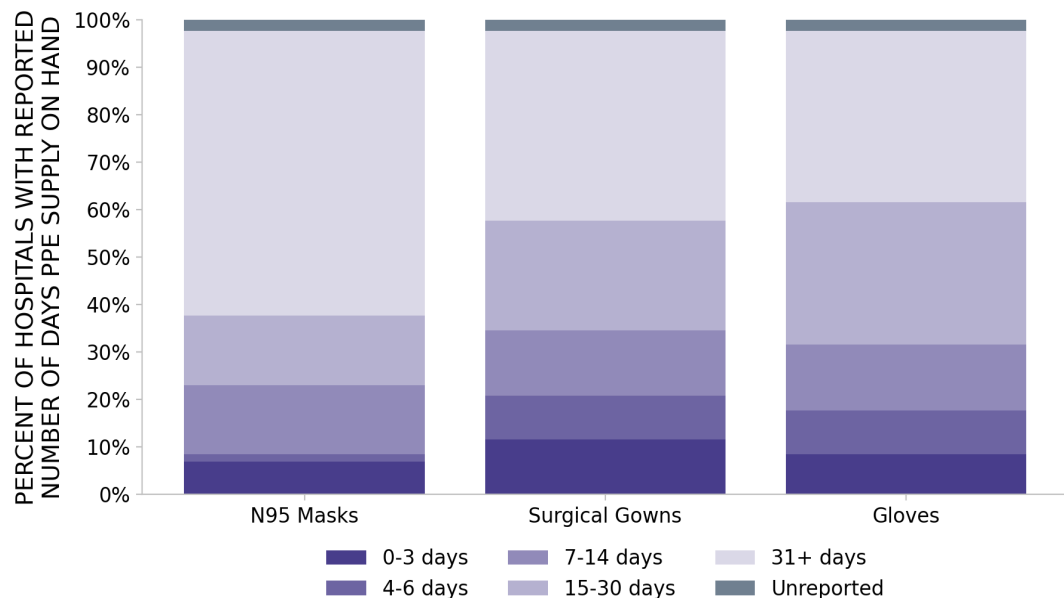
STATE REPORT | 11.01.2020

130 hospitals are expected to report in Wisconsin

HOSPITAL ADMISSIONS



HOSPITAL PPE SUPPLIES

**DATA SOURCES** – Additional data details available under METHODS**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.**PPE:** 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. Values presented show the latest reports from hospitals in the week ending 10/28/2020.



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STATE REPORT | 11.01.2020

COVID-19 COUNTY AND METRO ALERTS*

Top 12 shown in table (full lists below)

METRO AREA (CBSA)

COUNTIES

LOCALITIES IN RED ZONE	25 ▲ (+6)	Milwaukee-Waukesha Green Bay Appleton Oshkosh-Neenah Wausau-Weston Racine Sheboygan Eau Claire Janesville-Beloit Fond du Lac Beaver Dam Manitowoc	61 ▲ (+6)	Milwaukee Brown Waukesha Winnebago Outagamie Marathon Racine Sheboygan Rock Fond du Lac Dodge Washington
	0 ▼ (-4)	N/A	4 ▼ (-4)	Iowa Douglas Buffalo Iron
	2 ▼ (-2)	Madison Duluth	5 ▼ (-3)	Dane Pierce Crawford Bayfield Ashland
Change from previous week's alerts: ▲ Increase ■ Stable ▼ Decrease				

All Red CBSAs: Milwaukee-Waukesha, Green Bay, Appleton, Oshkosh-Neenah, Wausau-Weston, Racine, Sheboygan, Eau Claire, Janesville-Beloit, Fond du Lac, Beaver Dam, Manitowoc, Chicago-Naperville-Elgin, Shawano, Stevens Point, Watertown-Fort Atkinson, Minneapolis-St. Paul-Bloomington, La Crosse-Onalaska, Wisconsin Rapids-Marshfield, Whitewater, Baraboo, Platteville, Marinette, Menomonie, Iron Mountain

All Red Counties: Milwaukee, Brown, Waukesha, Winnebago, Outagamie, Marathon, Racine, Sheboygan, Rock, Fond du Lac, Dodge, Washington, Manitowoc, Kenosha, Eau Claire, Portage, Waupaca, Jefferson, Chippewa, Shawano, Calumet, La Crosse, Ozaukee, Columbia, St. Croix, Wood, Oconto, Walworth, Sauk, Grant, Marinette, Langlade, Barron, Oneida, Lincoln, Waushara, Monroe, Clark, Door, Green Lake, Dunn, Jackson, Kewaunee, Green, Marquette, Trempealeau, Juneau, Adams, Vilas, Polk, Taylor, Richland, Vernon, Lafayette, Menominee, Price, Rusk, Forest, Washburn, Florence, Pepin

* 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

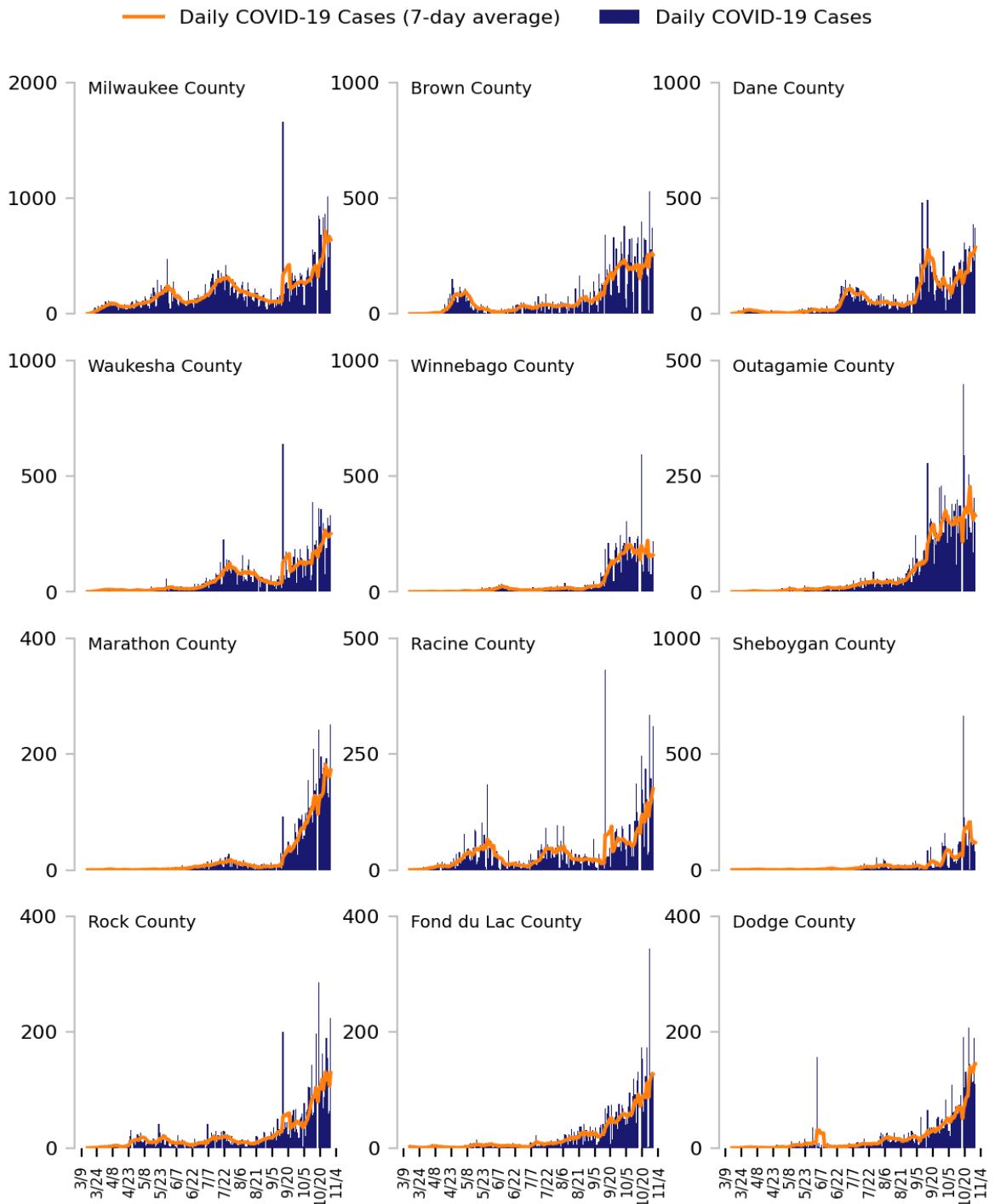
Cases and Deaths: State values are calculated by aggregating county-level data from USAFacts; therefore, the values may not match those reported directly by the state. Data is through 10/30/2020.

Testing: CELR (COVID-19 Electronic Lab Reporting) state health department-reported data through 10/28/2020. We understand that the data shown may be incomplete or inaccurate until data issues are resolved.



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

TOTAL DAILY CASES



DATA SOURCES – Additional data details available under METHODS

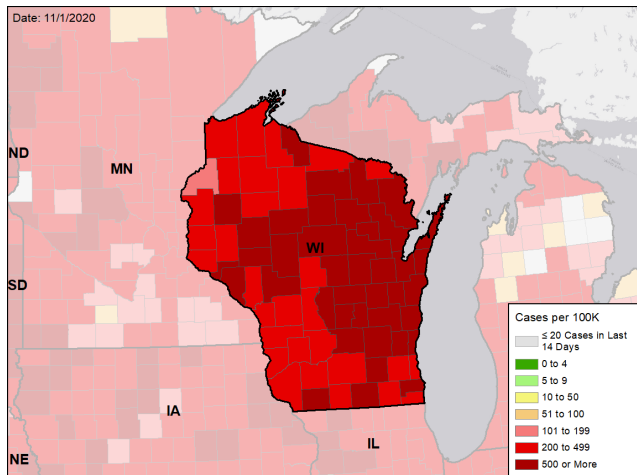
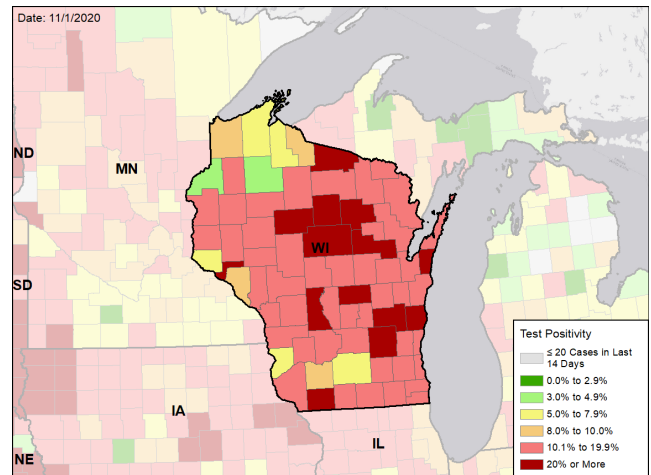
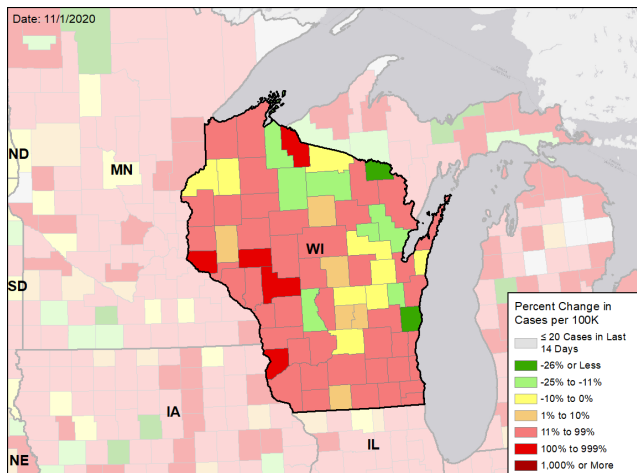
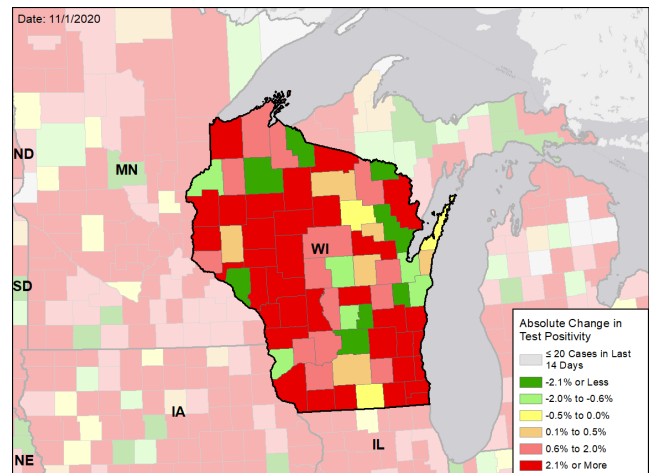
Cases: State values are calculated by aggregating county-level data from USAFacts; therefore, the values may not match those reported directly by the state. Data is through 10/30/2020. Last 3 weeks is 10/10 - 10/30.



WISCONSIN

STATE REPORT | 11.01.2020

CASE RATES AND VIRAL LAB TEST POSITIVITY

NEW CASES PER 100,000**VIRAL (RT-PCR) LABORATORY TEST POSITIVITY****WEEKLY CHANGE IN NEW CASES PER 100,000****WEEKLY CHANGE IN VIRAL (RT-PCR) LABORATORY TEST POSITIVITY****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.

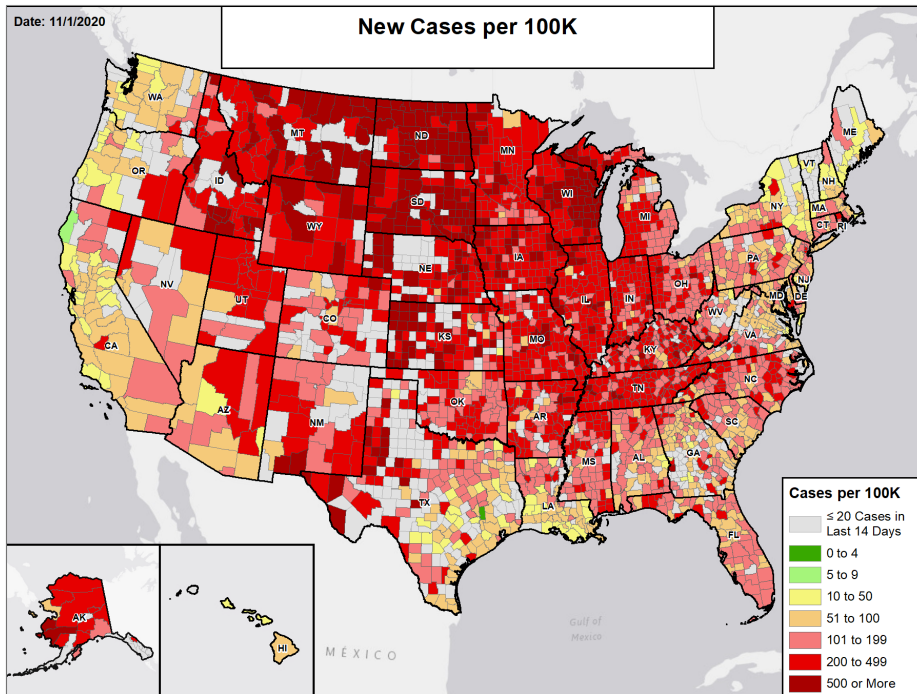
Cases: State values are calculated by aggregating county-level data from USAFacts; therefore, the values may not match those reported directly by the state. Data is through 10/30/2020. Previous week is 10/17 - 10/23.

Testing: CELR (COVID-19 Electronic Lab Reporting) state health department-reported data through 10/28/2020. Previous week is 10/15 - 10/21. We understand that the data shown may be incomplete or inaccurate until data issues are resolved.



National Picture

NEW CASES PER 100,000

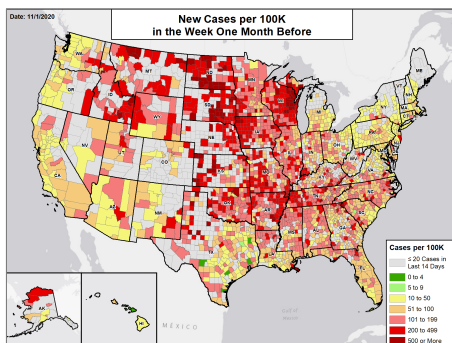


NATIONAL RANKING OF NEW CASES PER 100,000

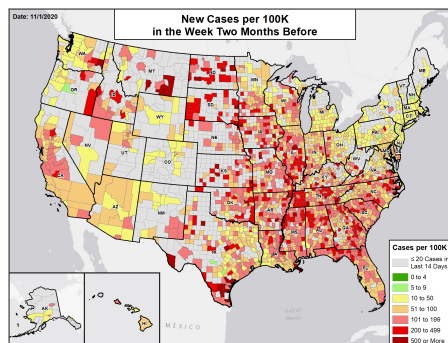
National Rank	State	National Rank	State
1	ND	27	NC
2	SD	28	TX
3	WI	29	WV
4	MT	30	CT
5	WY	31	SC
6	IA	32	FL
7	AK	33	AL
8	NE	34	MA
9	UT	35	NJ
10	ID	36	PA
11	KS	37	AZ
12	IL	38	DE
13	MN	39	GA
14	NM	40	VA
15	IN	41	MD
16	TN	42	DC
17	RI	43	CA
18	KY	44	LA
19	MO	45	OR
20	AR	46	NY
21	CO	47	WA
22	MI	48	NH
23	NV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

NEW CASES PER 100,000 IN THE WEEK:

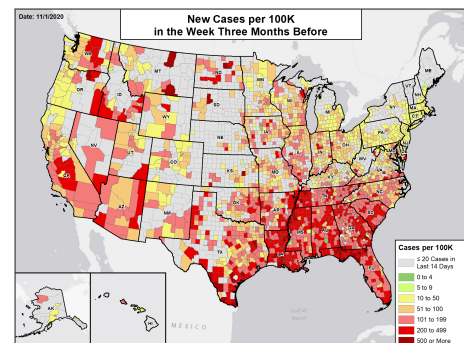
ONE MONTH BEFORE



TWO MONTHS BEFORE



THREE MONTHS BEFORE



DATA SOURCES

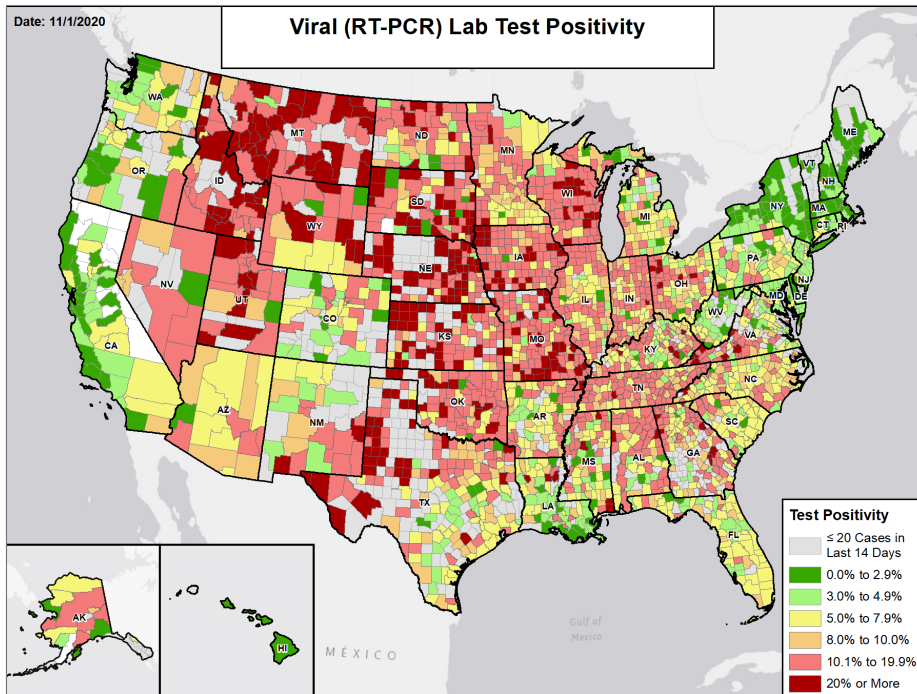
Note: Some dates may have incomplete data due to delays in reporting. Data may be backfilled over time, resulting in week-to-week changes.

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



National Picture

VIRAL (RT-PCR) LAB TEST POSITIVITY

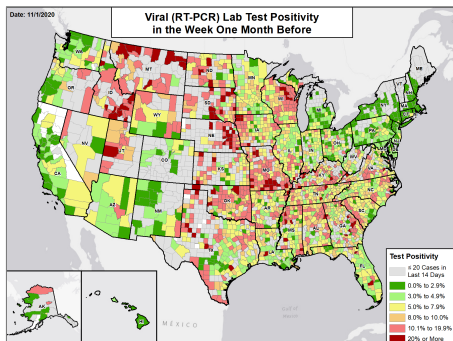


NATIONAL RANKING OF TEST POSITIVITY

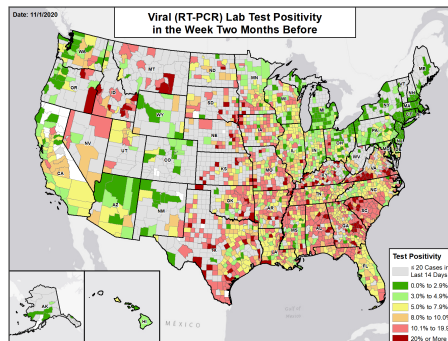
National Rank	State	National Rank	State
1	MT	27	SC
2	SD	28	MI
3	ID	29	CO
4	UT	30	NC
5	IA	31	OR
6	KS	32	AZ
7	NE	33	FL
8	WI	34	PA
9	ND	35	OH
10	MO	36	NJ
11	OK	37	CT
12	NV	38	LA
13	NM	39	MD
14	TN	40	WV
15	TX	41	WA
16	IN	42	CA
17	MN	43	DE
18	AL	44	RI
19	KY	45	NH
20	MS	46	HI
21	IL	47	MA
22	WY	48	NY
23	AK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

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

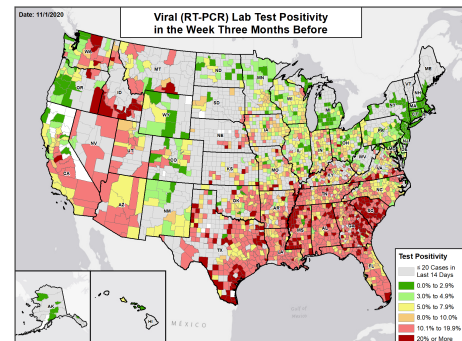
ONE MONTH BEFORE



TWO MONTHS BEFORE



THREE MONTHS BEFORE



DATA SOURCES

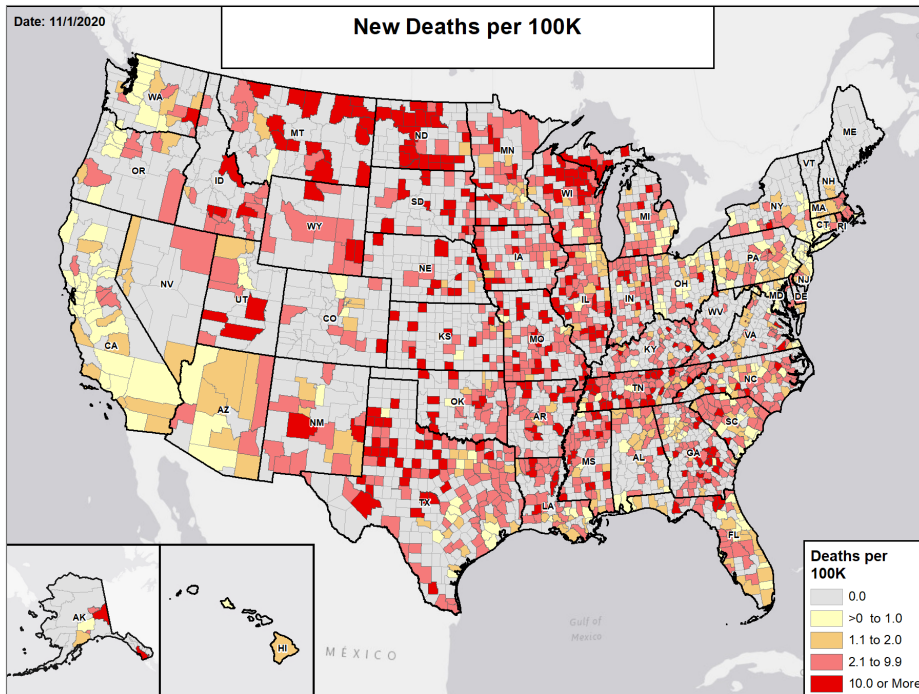
Note: Some dates may have incomplete data due to delays in reporting. Data may be backfilled over time, resulting in week-to-week changes.

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 10/28/2020. The week one month before is 9/24 - 9/30; the week two months before is 8/27 - 9/2; the week three months before is 7/30 - 8/5.



National Picture

NEW DEATHS PER 100,000

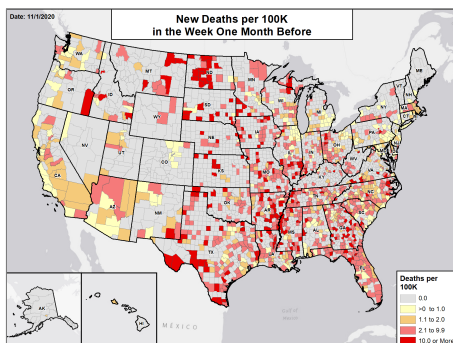


NATIONAL RANKING OF NEW DEATHS PER 100,000

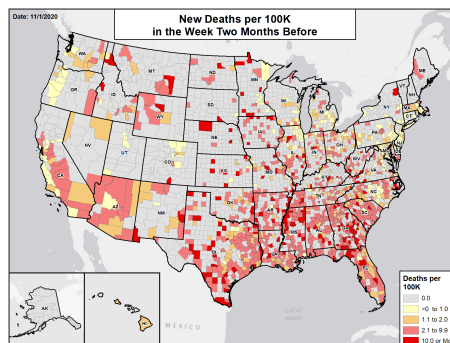
National Rank	State	National Rank	State
1	ND	27	MI
2	MT	28	KY
3	SD	29	AK
4	WI	30	FL
5	TN	31	WV
6	AR	32	AL
7	MO	33	NV
8	ID	34	PA
9	WY	35	VA
10	MS	36	CO
11	IN	37	CT
12	NE	38	UT
13	IA	39	MD
14	DE	40	AZ
15	SC	41	WA
16	IL	42	OH
17	OK	43	NH
18	RI	44	CA
19	NM	45	NJ
20	MN	46	NY
21	MA	47	HI
22	NC	48	OR
23	LA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

NEW DEATHS PER 100,000 IN THE WEEK:

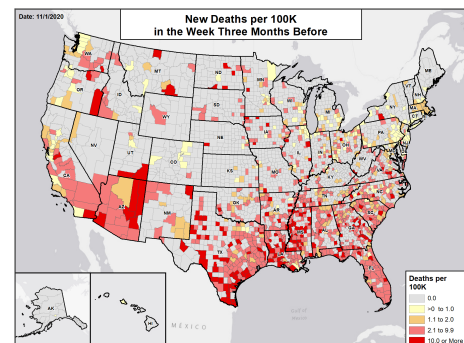
ONE MONTH BEFORE



TWO MONTHS BEFORE



THREE 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.

Deaths: County-level data from USAFacts through 10/30/2020. The week one month before is 9/26 - 10/2; the week two months before is 8/29 - 9/4; the week three months before is 8/1 - 8/7.



METHODS

STATE REPORT | 11.01.2020

COLOR THRESHOLDS: Results for each indicator should be taken in context of the findings for related indicators (e.g., changes in case incidence and testing volume). Values are rounded before color classification.

Metric	Dark Green	Light Green	Yellow	Orange	Red
New cases per 100,000 population per week	≤4	5 – 9	10 – 50	51 – 100	≥101
Percent change in new cases per 100,000 population	≤-26%	-25% – -11%	-10% – 0%	1% – 10%	≥11%
Diagnostic test result positivity rate	≤2.9%	3.0% – 4.9%	5.0% – 7.9%	8.0% – 10.0%	≥10.1%
Change in test positivity	≤-2.1%	-2.0% – -0.6%	-0.5% – 0.0%	0.1% – 0.5%	≥0.6%
Total diagnostic tests resulted per 100,000 population per week	≥2001	1001 – 2000	750 – 1000	500 – 749	≤499
Percent change in tests per 100,000 population	≥26%	11% – 25%	1% – 10%	-10% – 0%	≤-11%
COVID-19 deaths per 100,000 population per week	0.0		0.1 – 1.0	1.1 – 2.0	≥2.1
Percent change in deaths per 100,000 population	≤-26%	-25% – -11%	-10% – 0%	1% – 10%	≥11%
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%

DATA NOTES

- Some dates may have incomplete data due to delays in 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.
- Cases and deaths:** County-level data from USAFacts as of 18:13 EST on 11/01/2020. State values are calculated by aggregating county-level data from USAFacts; therefore, values may not match those reported directly by the state. Data are reviewed on a daily basis against internal and verified external sources and, if needed, adjusted. Last week data are from 10/24 to 10/30; previous week data are from 10/17 to 10/23; the week one month before data are from 9/26 to 10/2.
- 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 laboratory test (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. Some states did not report on certain days, which may affect the total number of tests resulted and positivity rate values. Because the data are deidentified, total viral (RT-PCR) laboratory tests are the number of tests performed, not the number of individuals tested. Viral (RT-PCR) laboratory test positivity rate is the number of positive tests divided by the number of tests performed and resulted. Resulted tests are assigned to a timeframe based on this hierarchy of test-related dates: 1. test date; 2. result date; 3. specimen received date; 4. specimen collection date. Resulted tests are assigned to a county based on a hierarchy of test-related locations: 1. patient residency; 2. provider facility location; 3. ordering facility location; 4. performing organization location. States may calculate test positivity other using other methods. Last week data are from 10/22 to 10/28; previous week data are from 10/15 to 10/21; the week one month before data are from 9/24 to 9/30. HHS Protect data is recent as of 10:22 EST on 11/01/2020. Testing data are inclusive of everything received and processed by the CELR system as of 19:00 EDT on 10/31/2020.
- Hospitalizations:** 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. 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 18:40 EST on 11/01/2020.
- 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. In addition, 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 18:58 EDT on 10/31/2020.
- 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 10/19-10/25, previous week is 10/12-10/18. 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.”