







COVID-19 Report

Issue # 138

Monday, August 17, 2020



Today's Highlights

- As we set our baseline for monitoring infection rates in University towns, schools in the SEC territory are starting from a point of higher infections than their Big Ten counterparts (this should not be a surprise, if you have been following this report)
- Just how "good" was Sunday? Starting with tests, the test-positive rate for the day was just higher than the stringent WHO 5% standard (5.5%) and was the lowest for any day since June 21. The 7-day average was the lowest since June 26
- Test volume is up nearly 10% week-over-week; the 7-day average is its highest since July 30
- Twelve states still report test-positive rates above the CDCtarget of 10%; all except three of these saw this rate decline last week. An additional nineteen states are above the morestringent WHO target; none of these saw their rate increase in the past week

- Even with the improved testing, **new cases were the fewest on a Sunday since June 21**; week-over-week, new cases are down 6.2%
- New infections per capita, while still too high, have been declining since the third week of July, and have returned to early July levels
- A sign of the easing stress on the healthcare system Florida and Texas each have 1,000+ fewer COVID-19 inpatients than a week ago. Nationwide, COVID-19 inpatient census is down 23.5% since July 24
- ICU census for COVID-19 patients, as well as ER visits are similarly continuing to decline
- There were fewer deaths reported yesterday than any single day since August 2 and the 4th fewest in a month
- All-in-all, considering current infection rates, hospitalizations, case growth and test-positive rates, much of the country continues to warrant "high" or "moderately high" concern. Since the beginning of the month, however, there has been a marked shift in several states from a "high" to "moderately high" designation



University Towns – Will the return to school impact infection rates?

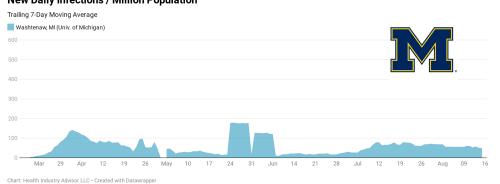
With the Fall Semester upon us, we begin to track Net Infections / Million for Select University Towns (1 of 2)

Selected metro areas encompass 7 of the 8 cities of 100k-1M population, in which student population accounts for largest % of total population, plus Tuscaloosa for my Roll Tide fan-readers

New Daily Infections / Million Population Trailing 7-Day Moving Average Tuscaloosa, AL (Univ. of Alabama) 500 500 400 300 Mar 29 Apr 12 19 26 May 10 17 24 31 Jun 14 21 28 Jul 12 19 26 Aug 09 16



Chart: Health Industry Advisor LLC • Created with Datawrappe



New Daily Infections / Million Population

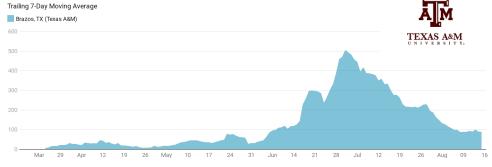
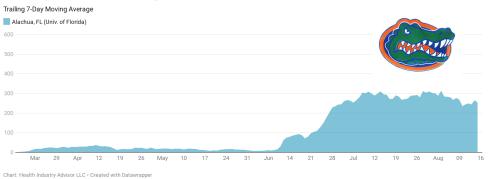


Chart: Health Industry Advisor LLC • Created with Datawrappe

New Daily Infections / Million Population



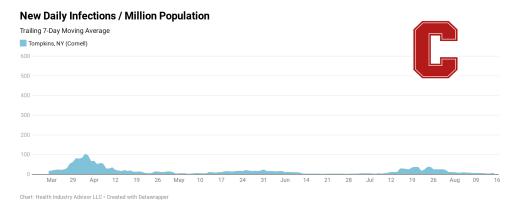
Logos are the property of the respective Universities. Used here for informational purposes only.

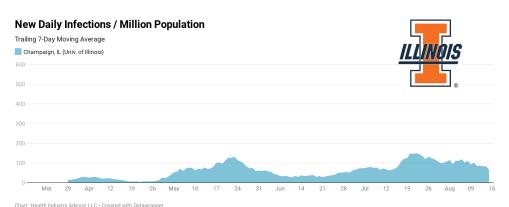


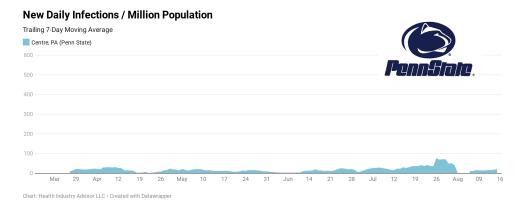
University Towns – Will the return to school impact infection rates?

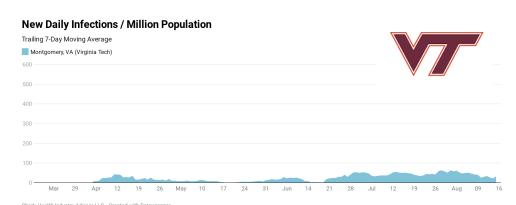
With the Fall Semester upon us, we begin to track Net Infections / Million for Select University Towns (2 of 2)

Selected metro areas encompass 7 of the 8 cities of 100k-1M population, in which student population accounts for largest % of total population, plus Tuscaloosa for my Roll Tide fan-readers









Logos are the property of the respective Universities. Used here for informational purposes only.

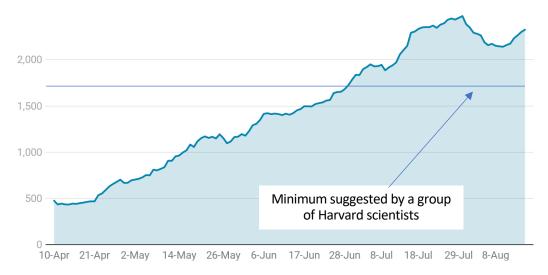


Testing volume up 9.6% week-over-week, 7-day average is highest since July 30 Test-positive % on Sunday (5.5%) was lowest for any day since June 21; 7-day average is lowest since June 26

Testing refers to tests for active infection, as reported via state health agencies; does not reflect antibody testing for prior infection

Daily Tests Per 1 Million - United States

Trailing 7-Day Moving Average, As of August 16



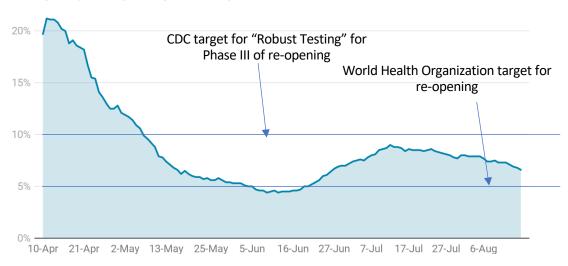
Health Industry Advisor LLC analysis

 $\textbf{Chart: Health Industry Advisor LLC \cdot Source: The Atlantic's Covid Tracking Project \cdot Created with Datawrapper}$

Note: On August 11, North Carolina made a significant adjustment, removing 220,000 tests from their YTD totals. We manually removed this negative adjustment from the August 11 data to better reflect actual testing for that date

Test-Positive Rate - United States

Trailing 7-Day Moving Average, As of August 16



Health Industry Advisor LLC analysis

Chart: Health Industry Advisor LLC • Source: The Atlantic's Covid Tracking Project • Created with Datawrapper

Note: Due to a computer glitch, Washington has only reported positive results since August 1. Therefore, test-positive rates from that point forward are slightly overstated by $^{\circ}0.1\%$



Twelve states have test-positive rates above the CDC-target for Phase III reopening; only three of these saw increasing rates this week Nineteen others are above the more-stringent WHO-recommended target; nine of these saw increasing rates week-over-week

Testing refers to tests for active infection, as reported via state health agencies; does not reflect antibody testing for prior infection

Test-Positive Rate

Trailing 7-Day Moving Average, August 15 v. August 9



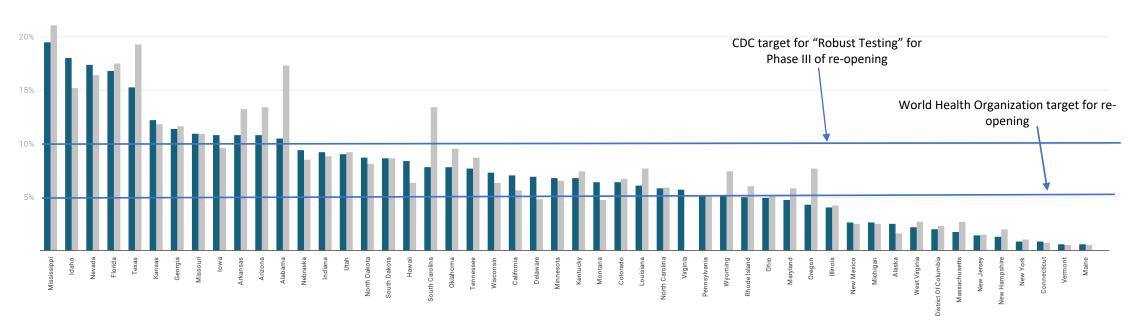
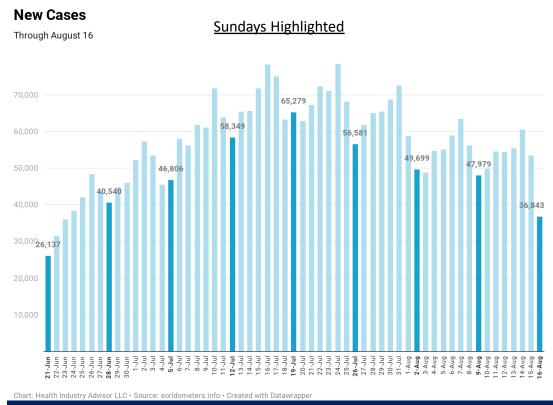


Chart: Health Industry Advisor LLC • Source: The Atlantic's Covid Tracking Projects • Created with Datawrapper

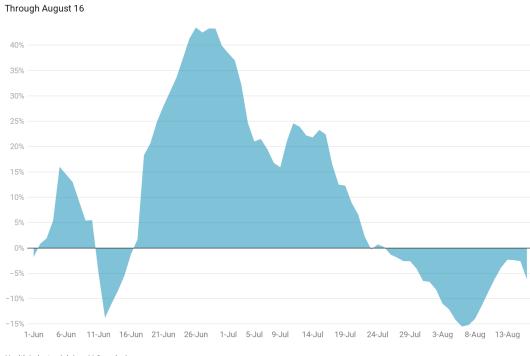
Note: Due to a computer glitch, Washington has only reported positive results since August 1.



New cases were down sharply again yesterday; were the fewest new cases on a Sunday since June 21; Week-over-week, new cases are down 6.2%



Week-Over-Week Change In New Cases



Health Industry Advisor LLC analysis

Chart: Health Industry Advisor LLC • Source: worldometers.info • Created with Datawrapper

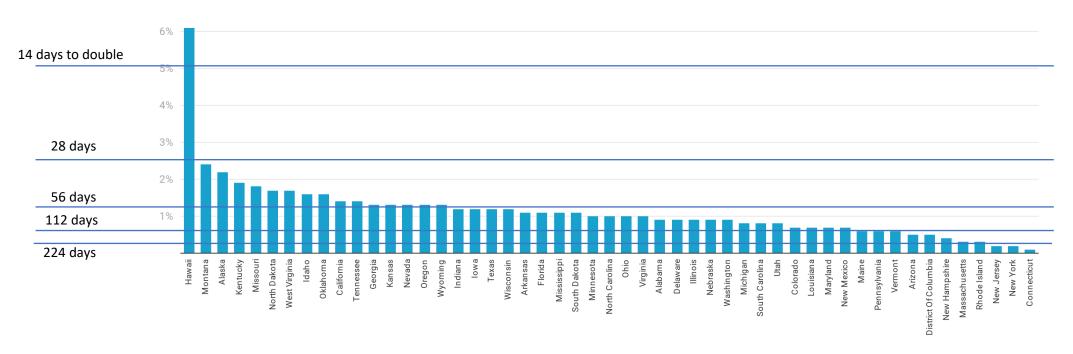
Note the daily pattern: new cases are typically low on Sunday, then increase each day through the week



Case growth is slowing but, Hawaii remains the outlier. At current rates, cases are doubling every 12 days in Hawaii; every 825 days in Connecticut; 83 days for the United States overall

Growth Rate in Total Cases

Trailing 5-Day Moving Average, Through August 16



Health Industry Advisor LLC analysis

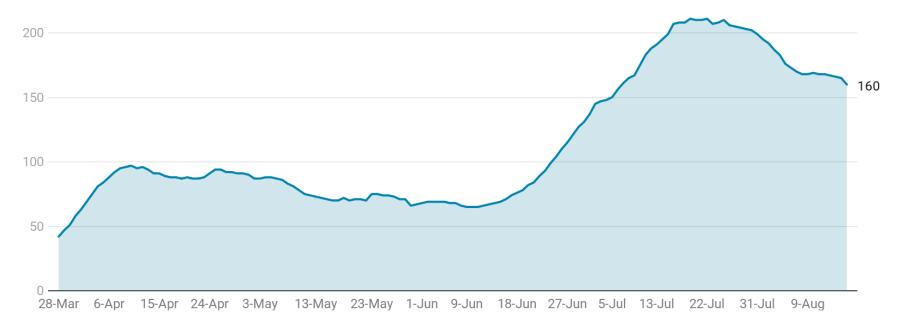
Chart: Health Industry Advisor LLC • Source: worldometers.info • Created with Datawrapper



New infections per capita* declining since peaking in third week of July; Now at lowest point since July 6

New Infections Per 1 Million Population - United States

Trailing 7-Day Moving Average, Through August 16



Health Industry Advisor LLC analysis

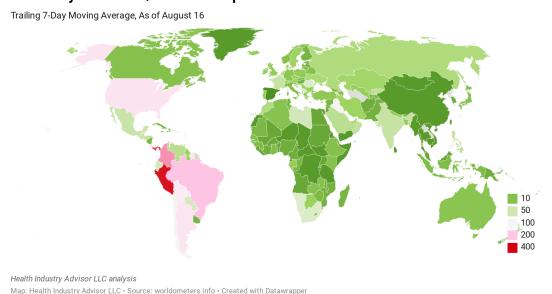
Chart: Health Industry Advisor LLC • Source: worldometers.info • Created with Datawrapper

* - per million per day, trailing 7-day moving average



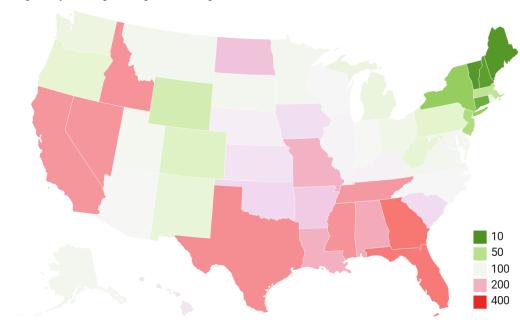
Peru, Colombia and Brazil have high New Daily Infection Rates; Rest of the world and much of the US is generally seeing an easing in rates. Rates still highest in South and parts of West

New Daily Infections / 1 Million Population



New Daily Infections Per 1 Million Population

Trailing 7-Day Moving Average, As of August 16



Map: Health Industry Advisor LLC • Source: worldometers.info • Created with Datawrapper

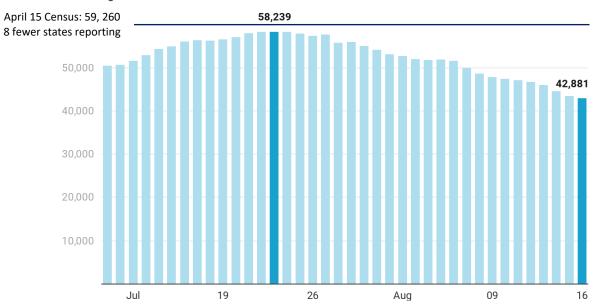
* - per million per day, trailing 7-day moving average



COVID-19 census has declined 23.5% since July 24; Florida and Texas leading the way in fewer patients

Hospital Census: COVID-19 Patients

As of August 16



Florida data first available on July 10

Chart: Health Industry Advisor LLC • Source: he Atlantic's Covid Tracking Project • Created with Datawrapper

Week-Over-Week Change in COVID-19 Hospital Census

August 16 v. August 9

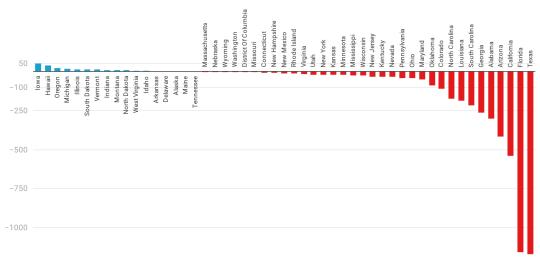


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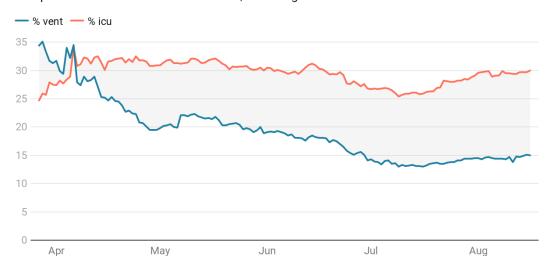


Stress on ICU beds and ventilators is also easing; ICU census is >18% below its recent peak; 43% lower than its mid-April peak

As hospital census declines, % in ICU is stable

Severity of Hospitalized Patients

% of patients on ventilators and in the ICU, As of August 16



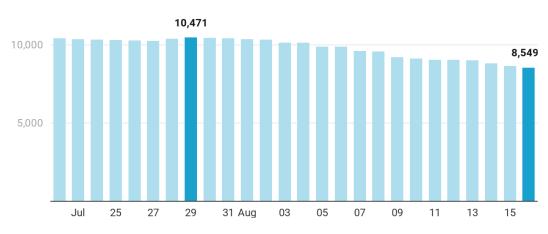
Health Industry Advisor LLC analysis

Chart: Health Industry Advisor LLC • Source: The Atlantic's Covid Tracking Project • Created with Datawrapper

ICU COVID-19 Census Also Down

COVID-19 ICU Census

15,000 April 22 Census: 15,013 8 fewer states reporting



For states reporting these data: AZ, CA, ID, IL, IN, IA, KS, KY, ME, MD, MA, MI, MN, MS, NV, NJ, NY, NC, OH, OK, OR, RI, SC, TX, UT, VA, WI & WY

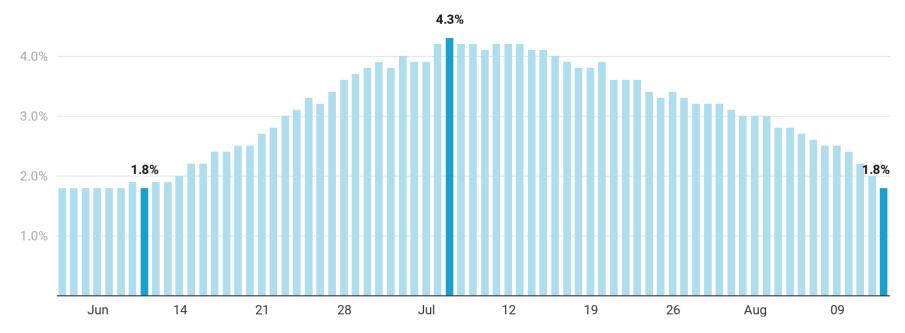
Chart: Health Industry Advisor LLC • Source: The Atlantic's Covid Tracking Project • Created with Datawrapper



ER visits for COVID-19-like illnesses continue to decline; Now, ~40% of its peak rate and as low as its been since at least the beginning of June

% of Emergency Department Visits for COVID-Like Illness

As of August 13



Health Industry Advisor LLC analysis

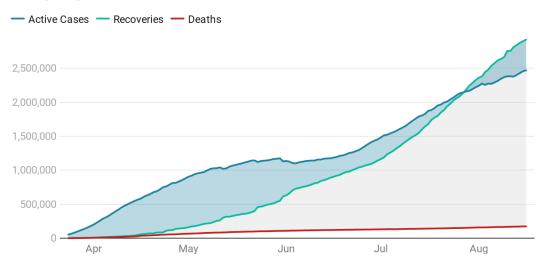
Chart: Health Industry Advisor LLC • Source: Centers for Disease Control • Created with Datawrapper



Nearly 2.9 million have recovered from the coronavirus in the U.S.; Nearly 17 recovered persons for each death

Active Cases v. Recoveries & Deaths

Through August 16

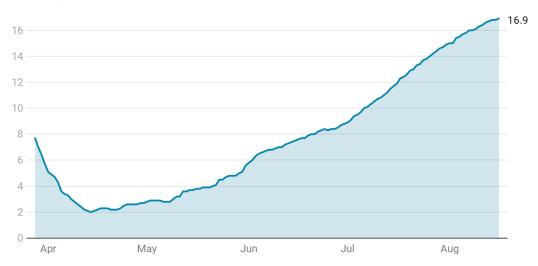


Health Industry Advisor LLC analysis

Chart: Health Industry Advisor LLC • Source: worldometers.info • Created with Datawrapper

Recoveries: Deaths - United States

As of August 16



Health Industry Advisor LLC analysis

Chart: Health Industry Advisor LLC • Source: worldometers.info • Created with Datawrapper



Fewest deaths reported on a single day since August 2 and the 4th fewest in a month. Seven-day average down 9% in past five days Deaths per case down to 3.121%

Deaths Recorded With Coronavirus in the U.S.

Trailing 7-Day Moving Average, As of August 16



Health Industry Advisor LLC analysis

Chart: Health Industry Advisor LLC • Source: worldometers.info • Created with Datawrapper

Deaths Per Case

As of August 16

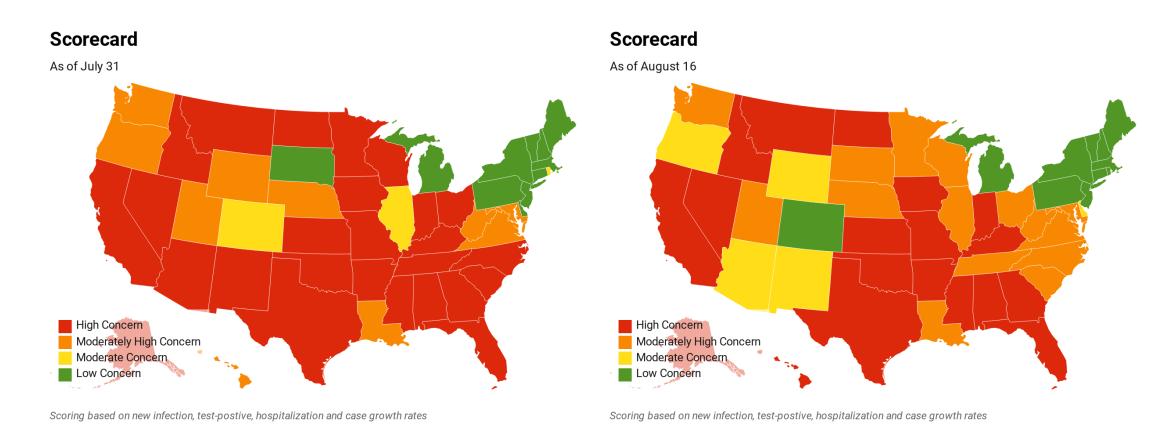


Health Industry Advisor LLC analysis

Chart: Health Industry Advisor LLC • Source: worldometers.info • Created with Datawrapper



Finally, some very modest improvement in multi-factor scores – fewer people living in states designated as "high concern"



Map: Health Industry Advisor LLC · Created with Datawrapper

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Data Sources

The following data sources are accessed on a daily or weekly basis:

- The Atlantic's Covid Tracking Project: https://covidtracking.com
- Worldometers.info: https://www.worldometers.info/coronavirus/
- Centers for Disease Control, National, Regional, and State Level Outpatient Illness and Viral Surveillance https://gis.cdc.gov/grasp/fluview/fluportaldashboard.html
- Centers for Disease Control, COVID-19 Laboratory-Confirmed Hospitalizations https://gis.cdc.gov/grasp/COVIDNet/COVID19 5.html
- Centers for Disease Control, COVID Data Tracker https://www.cdc.gov/covid-data-tracker/index.html#mobility
- Institute for Health Metrics and Evaluation, COVID-19 estimate downloads http://www.healthdata.org/covid/data-downloads
- New York Times, Covid-19 data https://github.com/nytimes/covid-19-data
- COVID-19 Data Repository by the Center for Systems Science and Engineering (CSSE) at Johns Hopkins University https://github.com/CSSEGISandData/COVID-19
- COVID-19 Projections Using Machine Learning, https://covid19-projections.com