







COVID-19 Report

Issue # 142

Friday, August 21, 2020



- From mid-June through mid-July, the United States experienced an accelerating infection spread, largely driven by outbreaks in heavily-populated Arizona, California, Florida and Texas. Yesterday continued a month-long retreat:
 - New cases were down yesterday 15.1% on a week-over-week basis
 - These new cases were the fewest on a Thursday typically the highest or second-highest day of the week for cases - since June 25
 - On a trailing 7-day average basis, new infections per capita yesterday were the lowest since July 1. This rate has been trending down since the third week of July
- Nine states Alabama, Florida, Georgia, Idaho, Mississippi, Nevada, North Dakota, Tennessee and Texas - report new infections/million >200 for the past week. Nonetheless, the rates for all except North Dakota are significantly lower than their peak
- Stress on the healthcare system has been easing for at least the past month:
 - ICU census of COVID-19 patients fell by more than 8% yesterday alone and more than 23% since July 29
 - Florida and Texas, which currently have more COVID-19 inpatients than any state except California, saw at least 1,000 fewer inpatients yesterday than a week ago; California saw 212 fewer inpatients
 - COVID-19-like illnesses accounted for the smallest % of ER visits vesterday of any day since June 14. This % is less than 1/2 what it was in early June
- Deaths also appear to be trending down
 - Deaths reported vesterday were the fewest for a Thursday in five weeks
 - The 7-day average daily deaths as of yesterday were the fewest since July 27

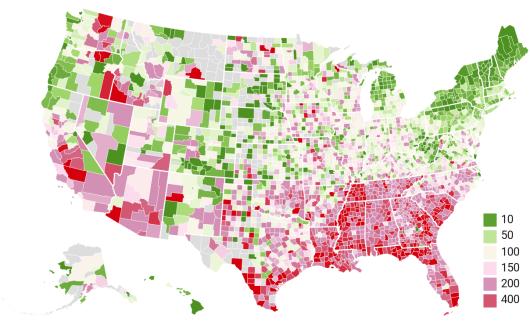
- Testing provides a less-encouraging perspective:
 - Test volume vesterday was the lowest for any day since July 11
 - On a week-over week basis, test volume declined 7%
 - The test-positive rate increased yesterday from Wednesday's rate; The longterm trend for this rate, however, continues downward
 - Twelve states reported test-positive rates >10% for the past week; eleven of these reported an increase in this rate from the prior week. Only Texas among theses states reported a declining rate
 - Mississippi reports the highest rate 27.4%
 - Eighteen states report a rate <5%
- In today's report, we look closer at infection rates by metro area:
 - Rates remain highest in metro areas in the Southeast; these rates, however, have eased during the month of August
 - There does not appear to be any significant difference in infection spread between urban and rural areas
 - Among metro metro counties, 4 of the highest 7 infection rates for the past week are found in Georgia; 14 of the top 15 are in the Southeast or Texas (the other is in California)
 - Among Large areas, Dallas and Miami-Dade report the highest infection rates for the past week; the rate in Miami-Dade, however, has dropped markedly in the past few weeks



Infection rates appear to be easing across the Southeast over the past 3 weeks

New Daily Infections Per Million Population

Trailing 7-Day Moving Average, As of August 1

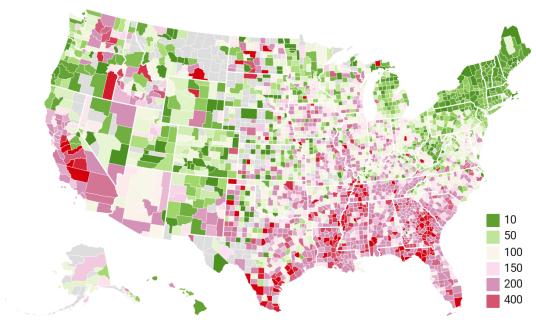


Health Industry Advisor LLC analysis

Map: Health Industry Advisor LLC • Source: New York Times • Created with Datawrapper

New Daily Infections Per Million Population

Trailing 7-Day Moving Average, As of August 20



Health Industry Advisor LLC analysis

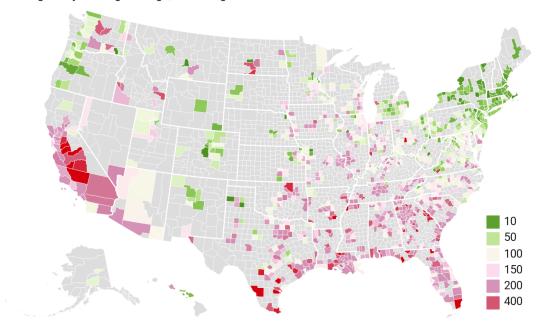
Map: Health Industry Advisor LLC • Source: New York Times • Created with Datawrapper



Urban v Rural: High infection rates are impervious to community size; geographical experience is similar for dense and sparsely-populated areas

New Daily Infections Per Million Population - Large Central, Large Fringe, Medium and Small Metro Areas

Trailing 7-Day Moving Average, As of August 20

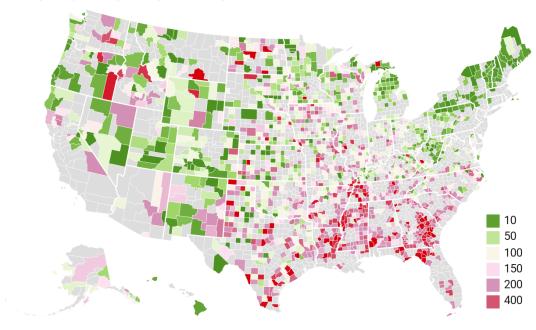


Health Industry Advisor LLC analysis

Map: Health Industry Advisor LLC • Source: New York Times • Created with Datawrapper

New Daily Infections Per Million Population - Micropolitan and Non Core Areas

Trailing 7-Day Moving Average, As of August 20



Health Industry Advisor LLC analysis

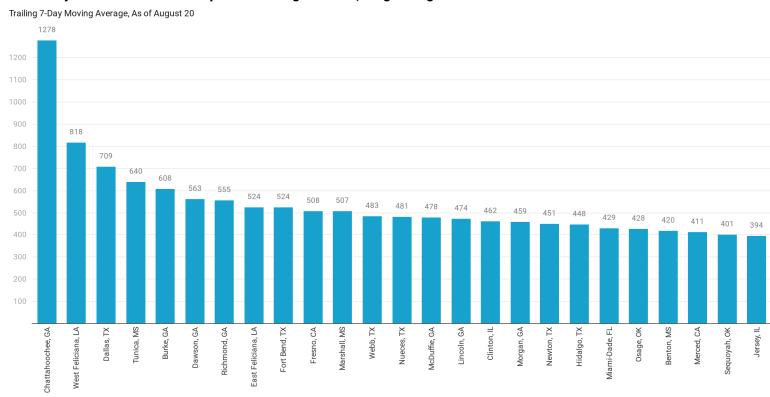
Map: Health Industry Advisor LLC • Source: New York Times • Created with Datawrapper



County-By-County

Large Central, Large Fringe & Medium Metro Areas with highest infections per capita over the past week; Dallas and Miami-Dade headline the list

New Daily Infections / Million Population - Large Central, Large Fringe and Medium Metros



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 its lowest point since July 1

New Infections Per 1 Million Population - United States

Trailing 7-Day Moving Average, Through August 20



Health Industry Advisor LLC analysis

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

ng average



Most states have come down markedly from their peak infection rates – even those states with the highest current rates. Hawaii, Iowa, Kansas, North Dakota and Wyoming, however, are near their peak

New Infections / Million - Current v. Peak Rate

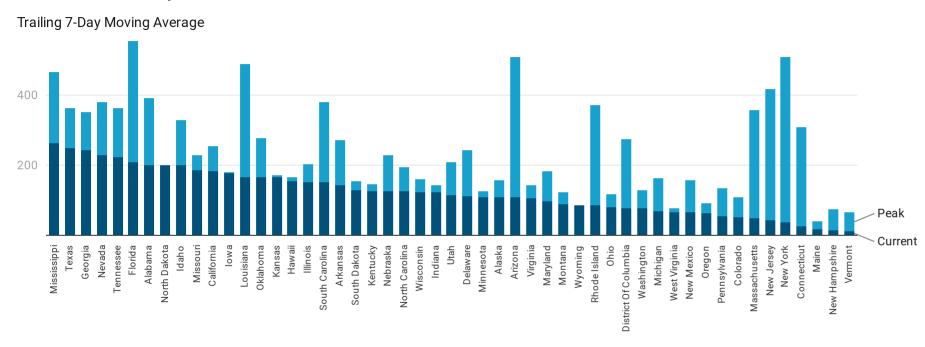


Chart: Health Industry Advisor LLC · Created with Datawrapper

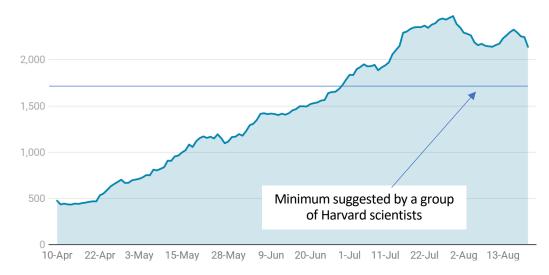


Testing volume was lowest since July 11; testing down 7% week-over-week; Test-positive rate was up slightly yet still indicating longer-term decline

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 20



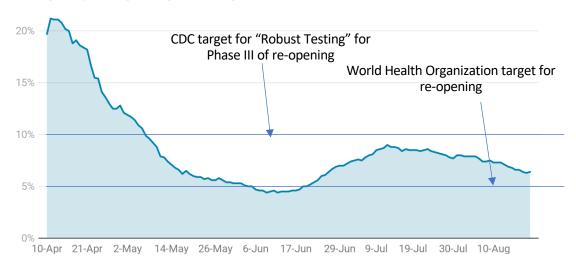
Health Industry Advisor LLC analysis

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

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 20



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 $^{\sim}0.1\%$



Several states, led by Mississippi, Nevada, Idaho Florida and Kansas have high and increasing test-positive rates

Test-Positive Rate



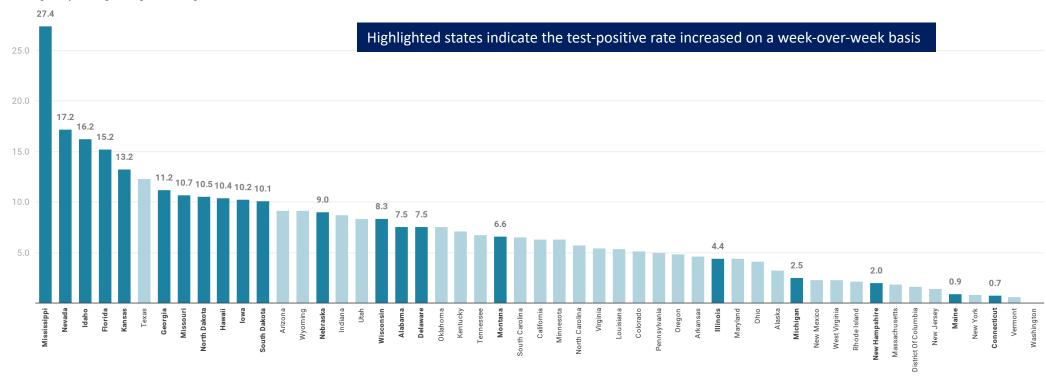
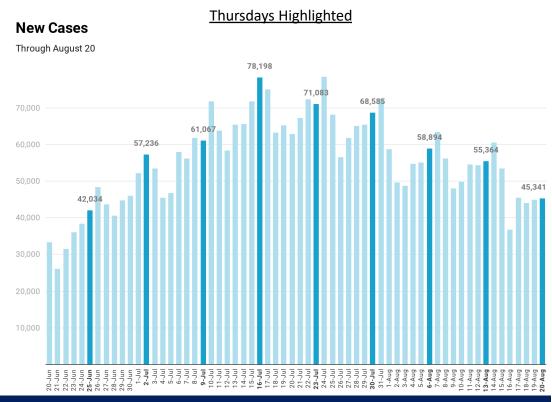


Chart: Health Industry Advisor LLC • Source: The Atlantic's Covid Tracking Projects • Created with Datawrapper

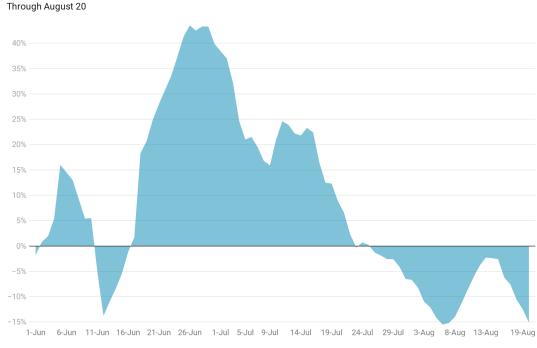


Fewest new cases on a Thursday since June 25; Week-overweek, new cases are down 15.1%



Note the daily pattern: new cases are typically low on Sunday, then increase each day through the week. While we have been noting this for the past few weeks, researchers from MIT, Boston University and Harvard Medical School confirmed this in a report published by CIDRAP on August 17

Week-Over-Week Change In New Cases



Health Industry Advisor LLC analysis

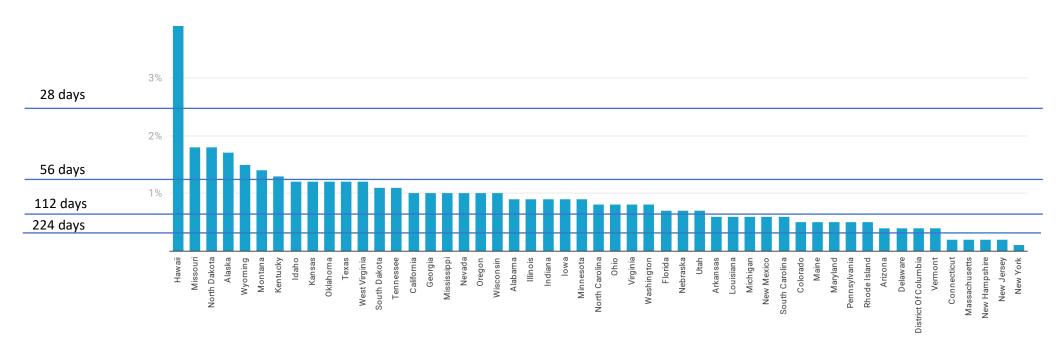
Chart: Health Industry Advisor LLC • Source: worldometers.info • Created with Datawrapper



Case growth is slowing - even Hawaii is seeing a slowdown. At current rates, cases are doubling every 18 days in Hawaii; every 475 days in New York; every 90 days for the United States overall

Growth Rate in Total Cases

Trailing 5-Day Moving Average, Through August 20



Health Industry Advisor LLC analysis

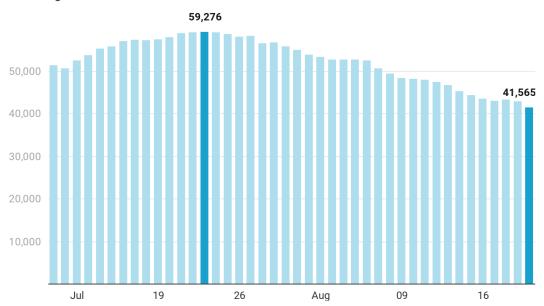
Chart: Health Industry Advisor LLC • Source: worldometers.info • Created with Datawrapper



COVID-19 inpatient declined yesterday, continuing a trend for at least the past month; California, Florida and Texas account for most inpatients; each saw fewer patients this week than last

Hospital Census: COVID-19 Patients

As of August 20



Inpatient COVID-19 Census

August 20 v August 13

20-Aug 13-Aug

13-Au

Florida data first available on July 10

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



Stress on ICU beds, and ventilators continues to ease

ICU census is down since early July

COVID-19 ICU Census 10,471 Tennessee started reporting ICU census on August 12, initially adding 428 (now, 385) patients to this daily total 8,000 4,000 4,000 Jul Aug 09 16

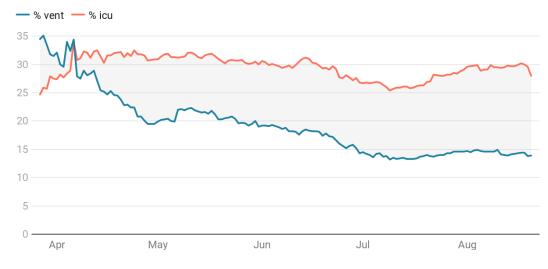
For states reporting these data: AZ, CA, ID, IL, IN, IA, KS, KY, ME, MD, MA, MI, MN, MS, NV, NJ, NY, NC, OH, OK, OR, RI, SC, TX, UT, VA, WI & WY

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

As hospital census declines, % in ICU and on ventilators is stable/declining

Severity of Hospitalized Patients

% of patients on ventilators and in the ICU, As of August 20



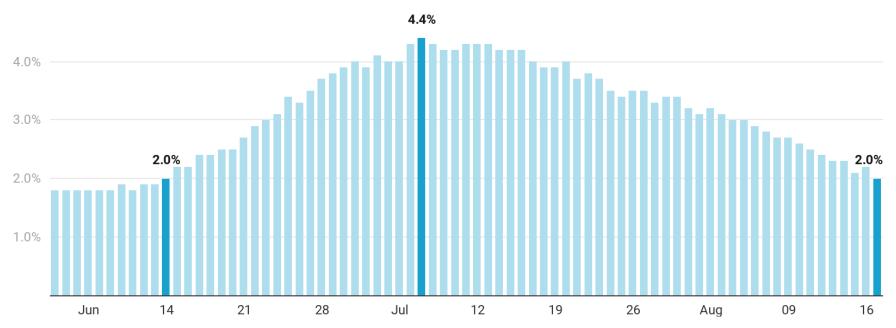
Health Industry Advisor LLC analysis

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

ER Visits for COVID-Like Illness at its lowest level since June 14

% of Emergency Department Visits for COVID-Like Illness

As of August 17



Health Industry Advisor LLC analysis

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



Deaths reported yesterday were lower than each of the four most recent Thursdays; Weekly average is its lowest since July 27

Deaths Recorded With Coronavirus in the U.S.

Trailing 7-Day Moving Average, As of August 20



Health Industry Advisor LLC analysis

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

Thursdays Highlighted

Daily Deaths Reported

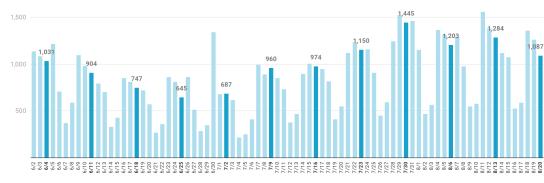


Chart: Health Industry Advisor LLC • Created with Datawrapper



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