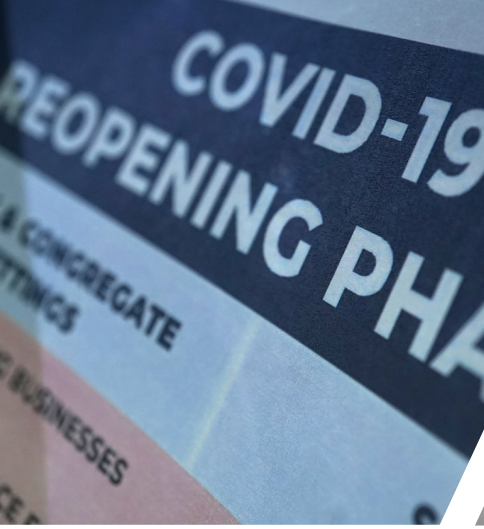

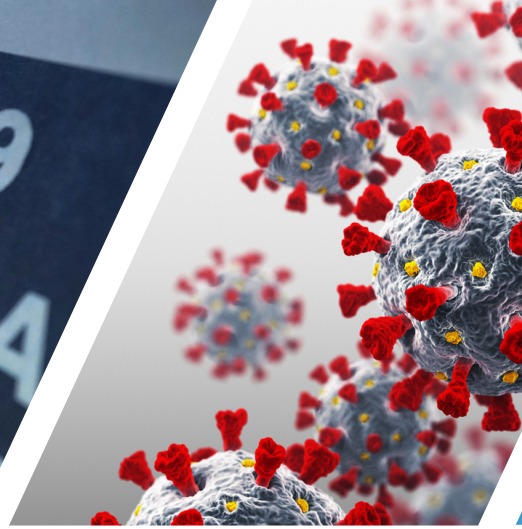

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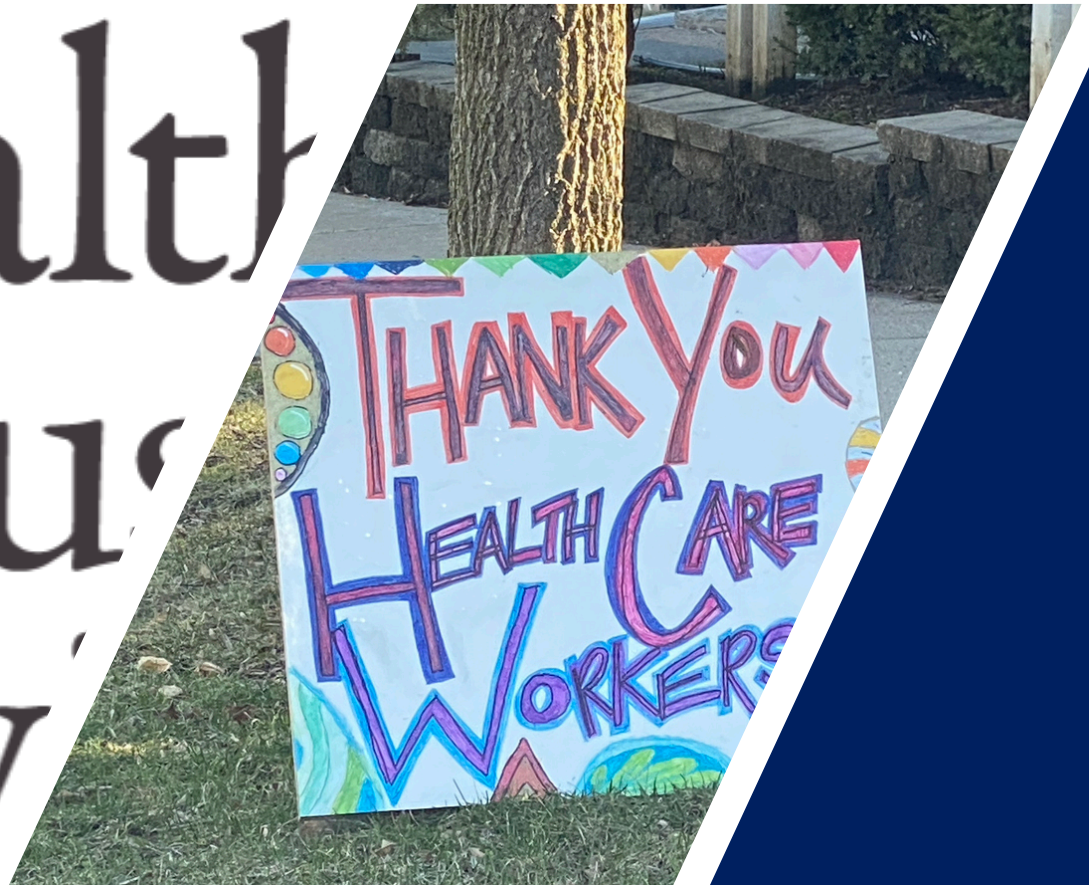

Issue # 173

Tuesday, September 29, 2020

COVID-19 Report

Highlights

- Despite widespread media reports, **the new daily infection rate in the United States has been effectively flat for the past eleven days; It has not spiked, as is being reported based on faulty data** (lag in reporting due to Labor Day; inclusion of significant numbers of older cases)
- **There were more tests reported in the U.S. yesterday than any other day except September 19**; the 7-day average daily tests was the highest ever reported
- **The test-positive rate yesterday was the lowest it has ever been**; the 7-day average test-positive rate is as low as it has been since June 20
- New cases were up 1.2% on a week-over-week basis; New cases yesterday were consistent with three of the past four Mondays - the exception being Labor Day
- North and South Dakota, Wisconsin and Utah experienced the highest new infection rates over the past week; Each state had >300 new daily cases per million population over the past week
- South Dakota, Wisconsin, Utah, North Dakota and Montana experienced the sharpest increase in these rates versus two weeks ago; Rhode Island, Louisiana, Georgia and Virginia, the largest declines
- **Inpatient COVID-19 census appears now to have leveled off - this daily census has not varied by more than 600 patients in the past week**
- **ICU and ventilator census, as a % of patient COVID-19 census, has declined** - in the case of ICU days, this decline has been over the past week; in the case of ventilators, it has declined for the past five months
- The 7-day average daily deaths with the coronavirus has been stable over the past week; **Other than Labor Day, there were fewer deaths reported yesterday than any other Monday since June 21**

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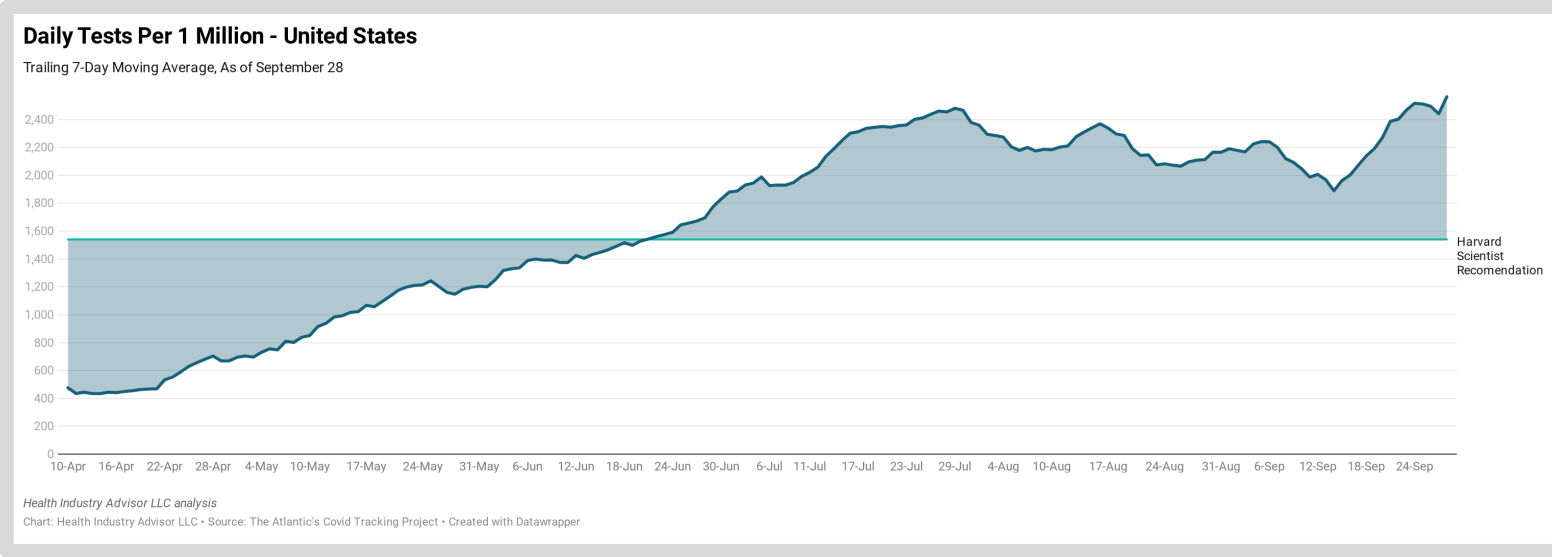
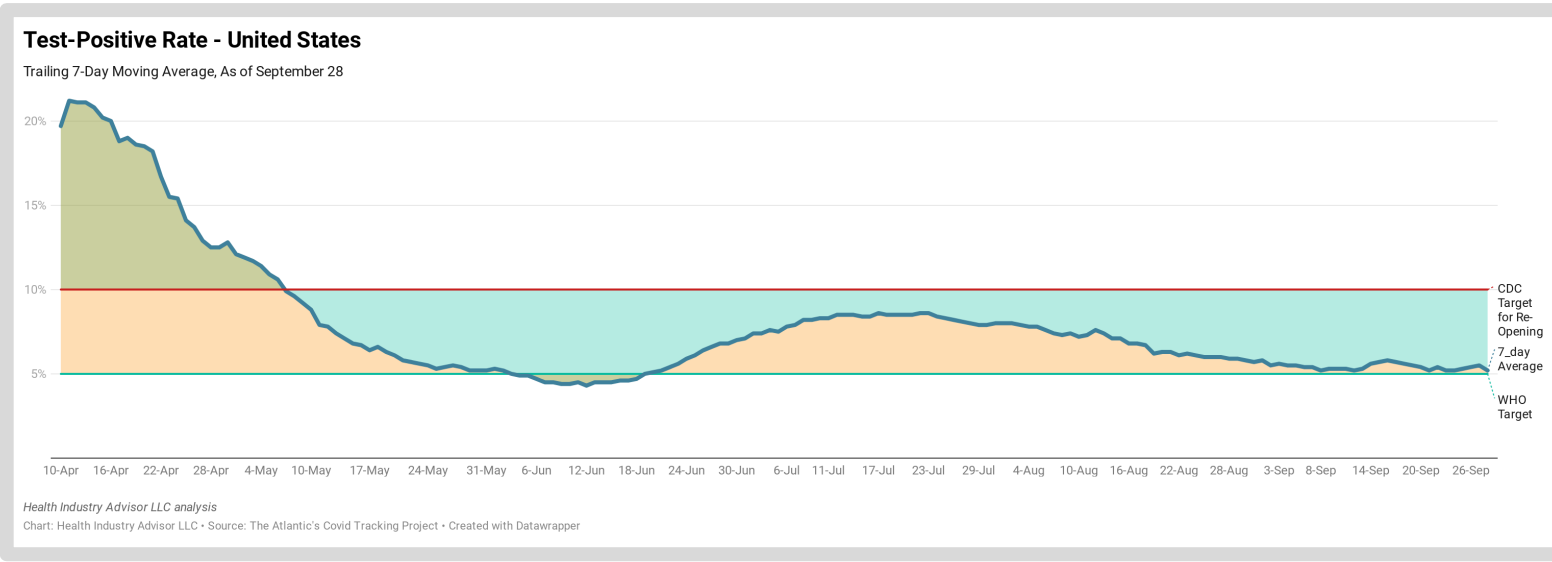
Yesterday's test volume was the second highest to-date; the 7-day average is the highest recorded to-date

Yesterday’s test-positive rate was the lowest recorded to-date; the 7-day average test-positive rate is as low as its been since June 20





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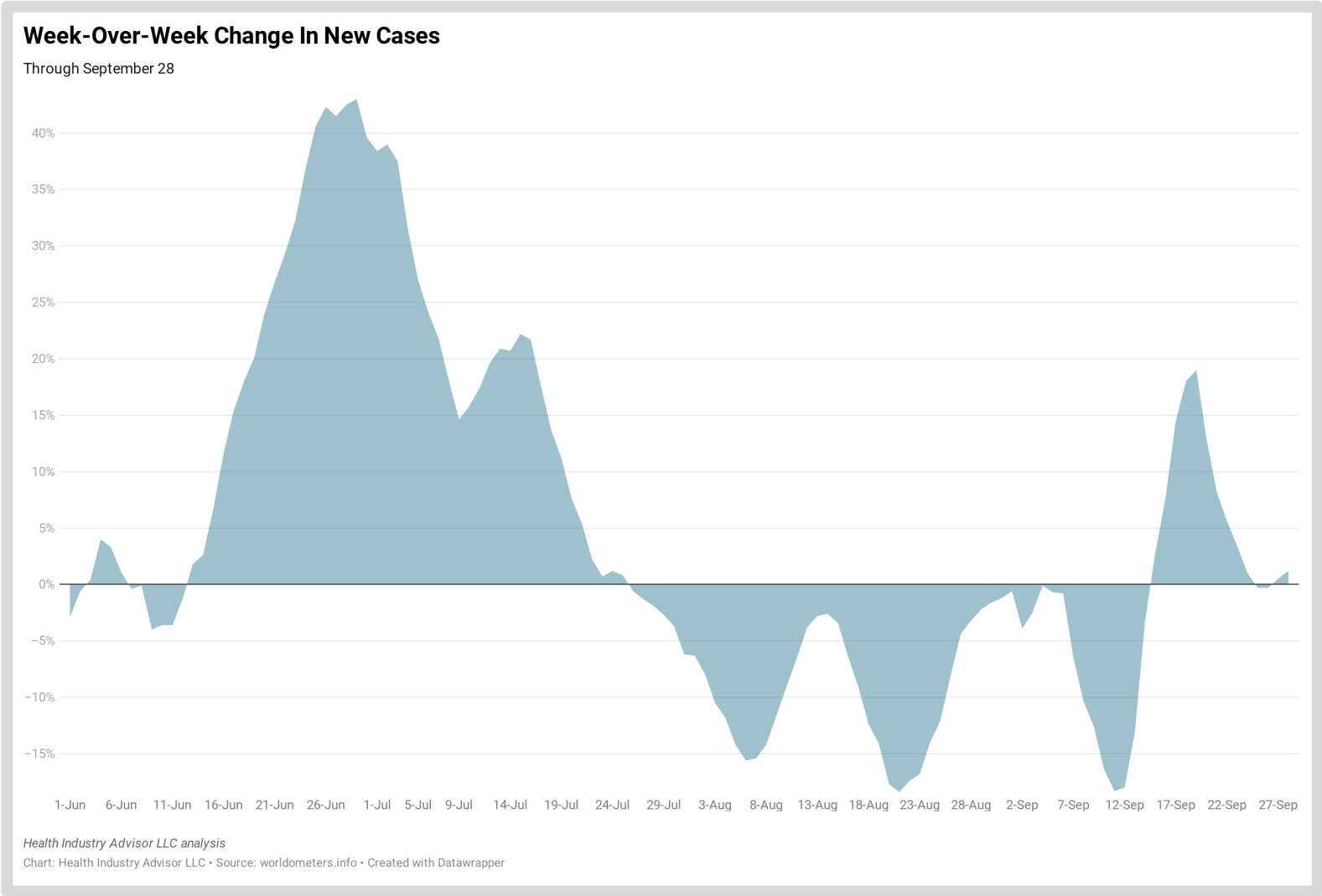
Following a seven-week period of decline, new cases began increasing on a week-over-week basis on September 15

Yesterday, this rate was up 1.2% on a week-over-week basis



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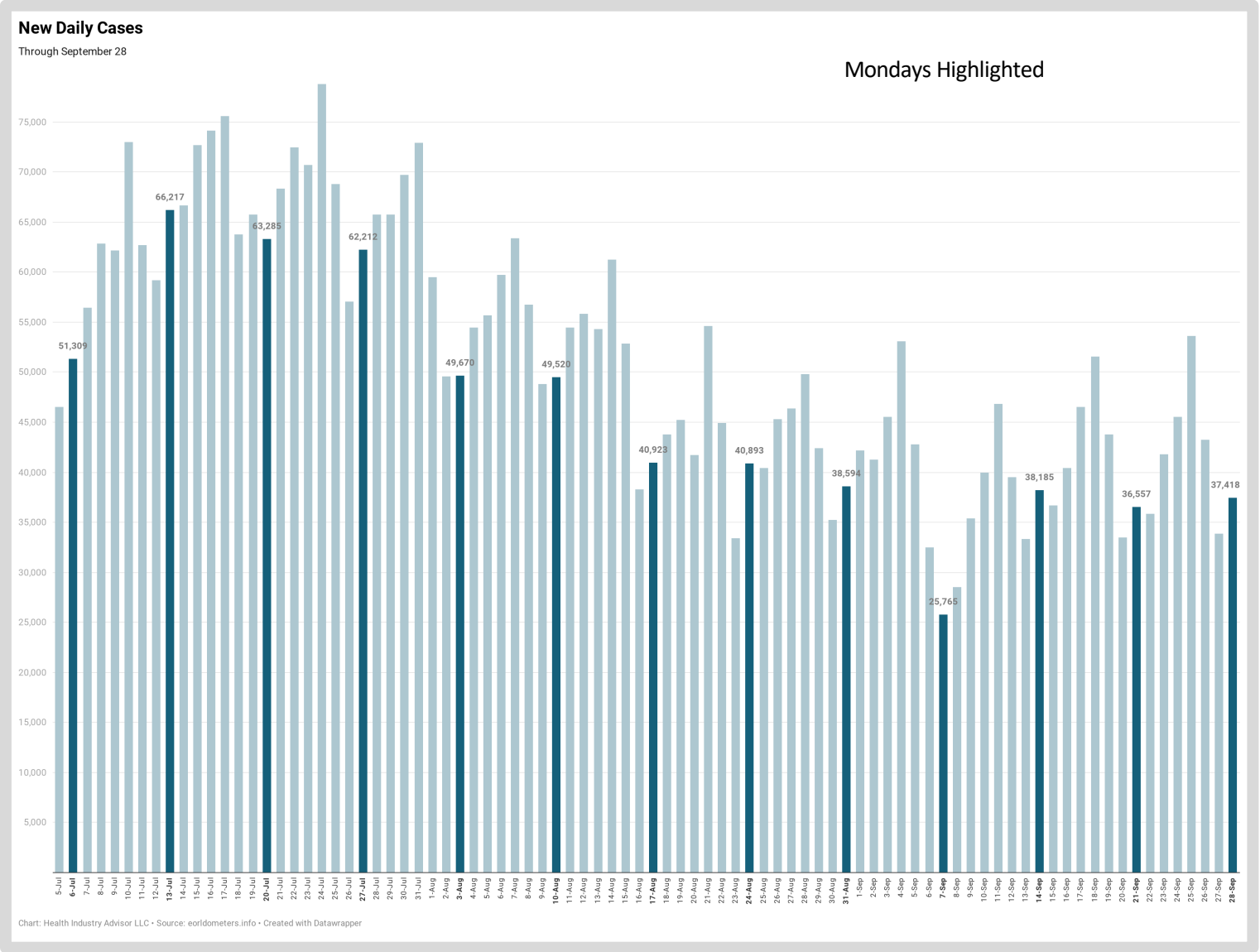
More-and-more, Labor Day week is looking like an anomaly:

New cases on Labor Day were sharply lower than any preceding or subsequent Monday – likely due in large part to reporting issues

Given that new cases on subsequent Mondays have been relatively consistent suggests that any post-Holiday infection spike has been minimal, at most



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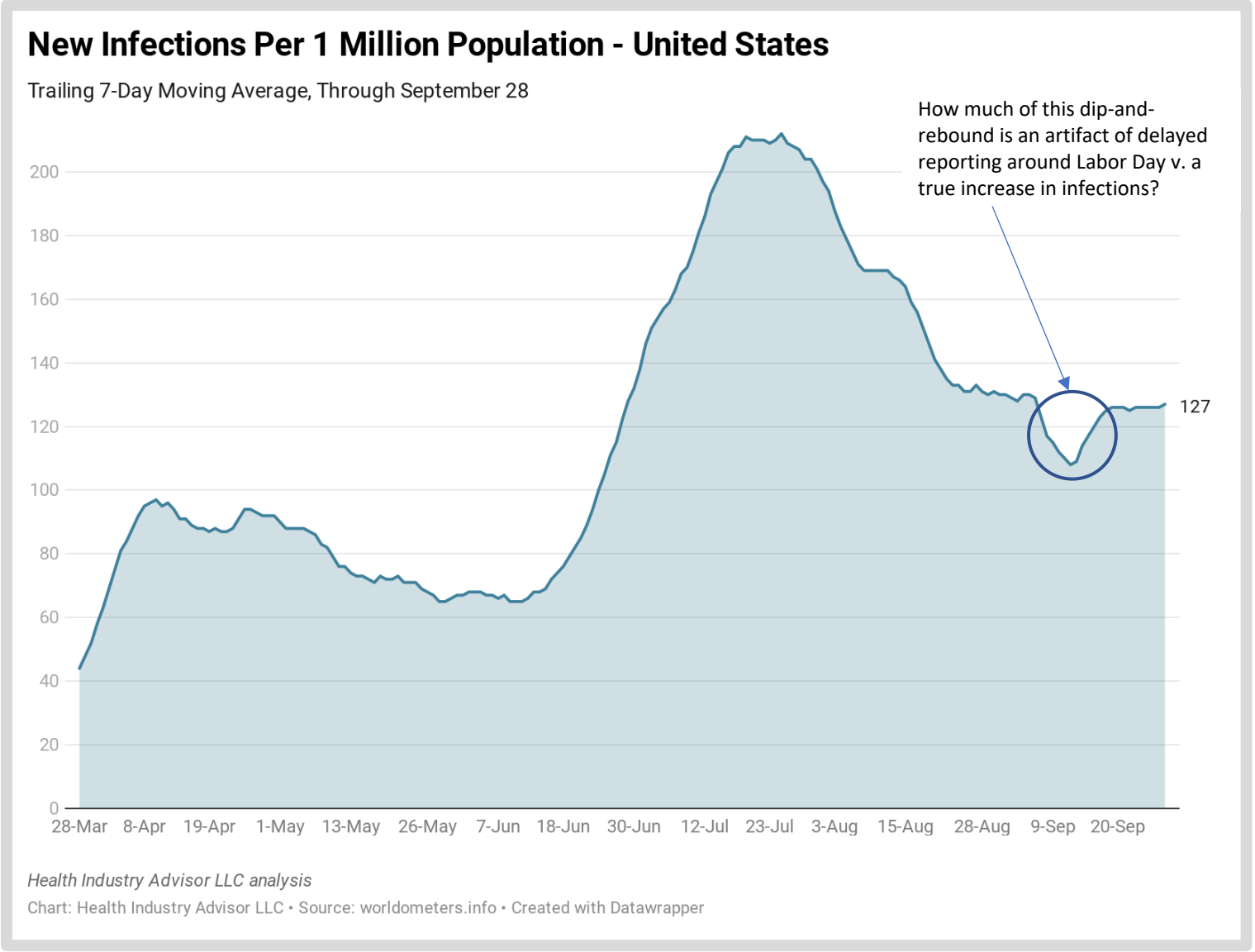
New infections per capita in the U.S.* bottomed-out on September 12 – this is likely due to the impact of Labor Day reporting issues

The current rate has relatively stable for eleven days

* - 7-day moving average basis



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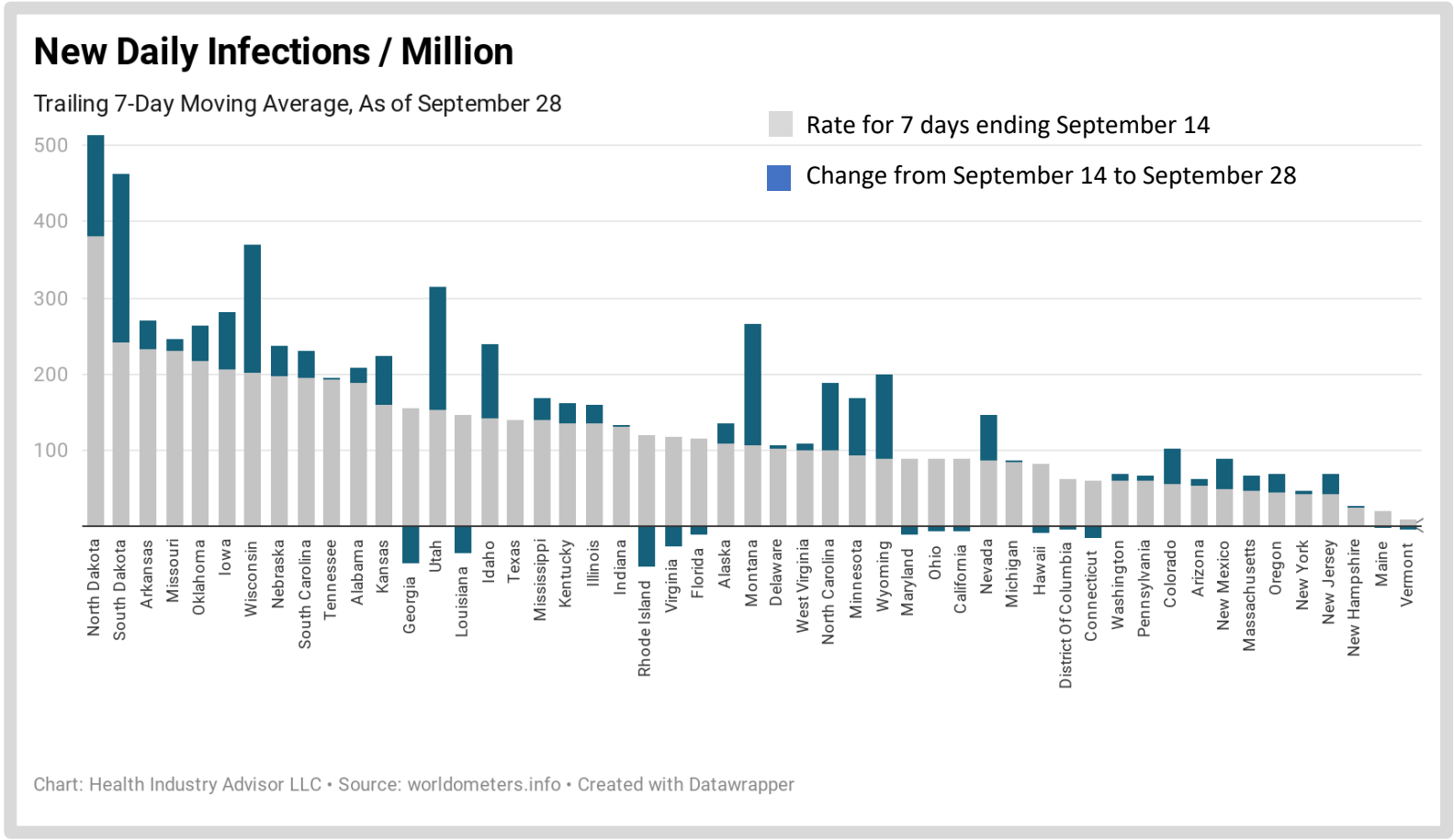
South Dakota, Wisconsin Utah, North Dakota and Montana have experienced sharp increases in new infections per capita* over the past two weeks,

Rhode Island, Georgia, Louisiana and Virginia experienced the steepest declines in this rate

* - 7-day moving average basis



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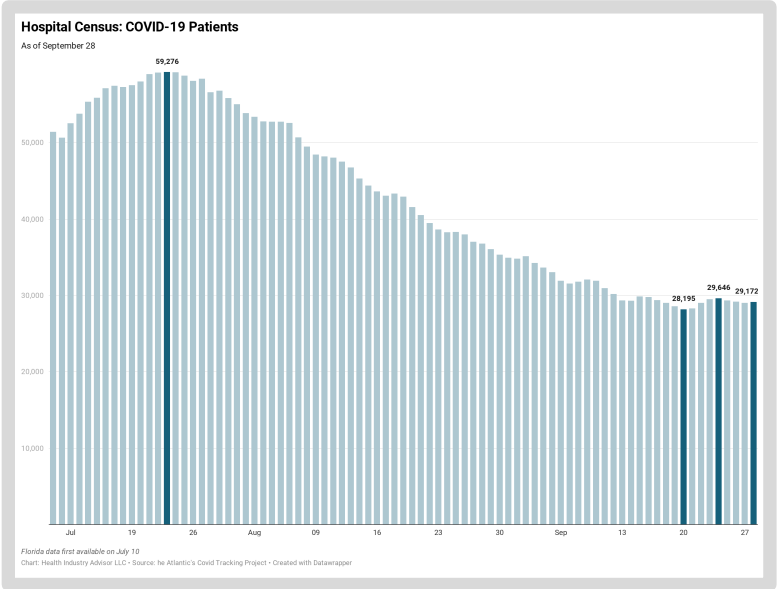
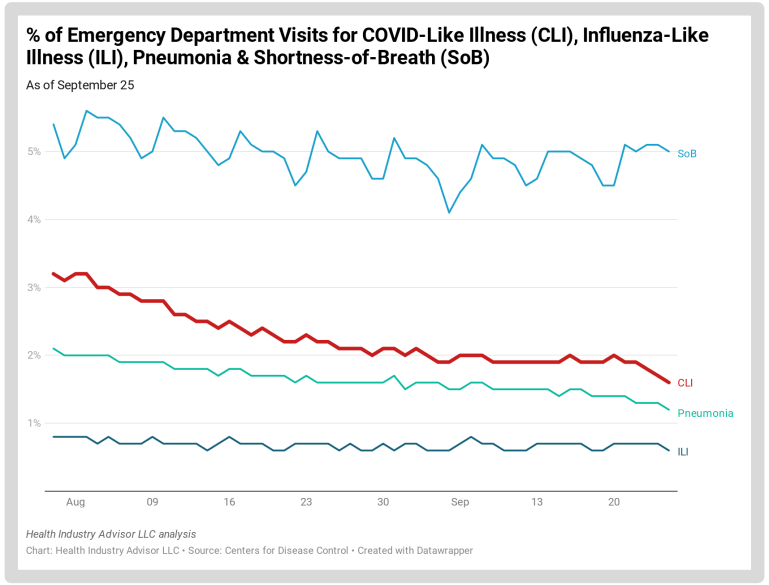
Inpatient COVID-19 census has been essentially level over the past week – varying by less than 600 patients /day

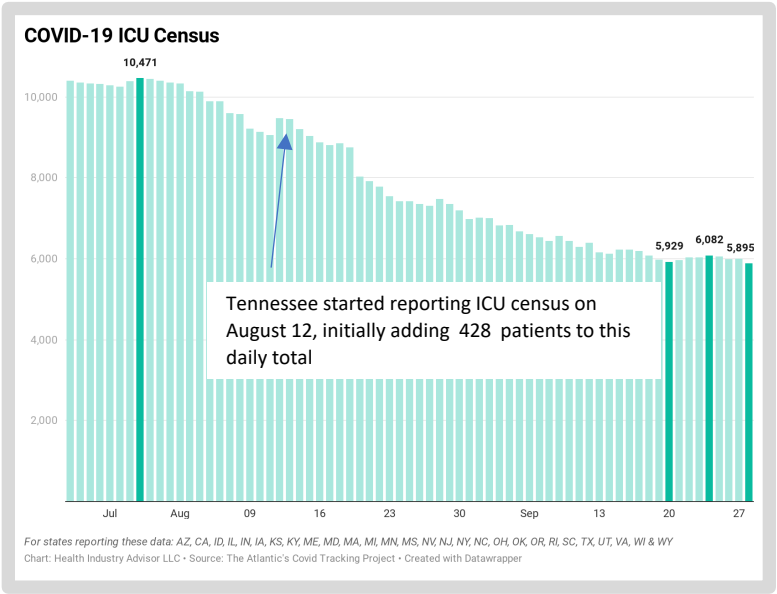
ICU days and ventilator use declined as a % of patients

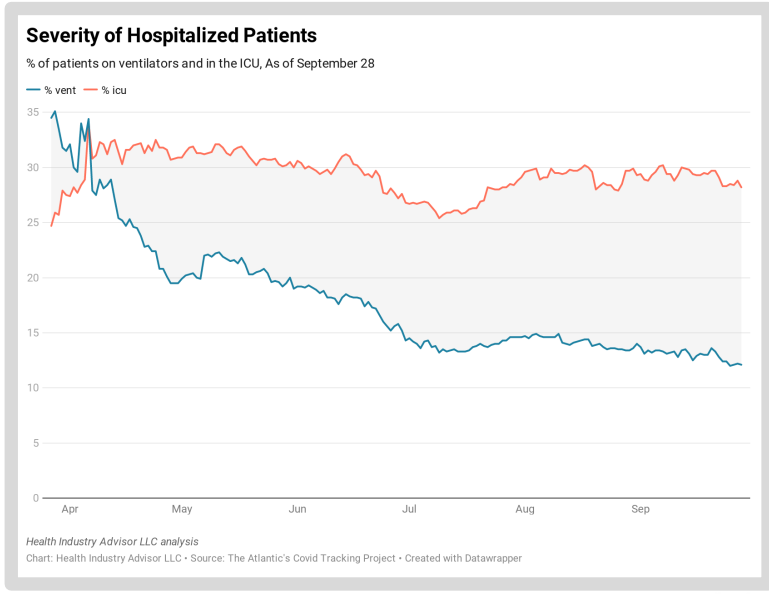
ER visits for COVID-19-like illness as a % of all ER visits has declined sharply since early July

No discernable start yet to the impact of flu season









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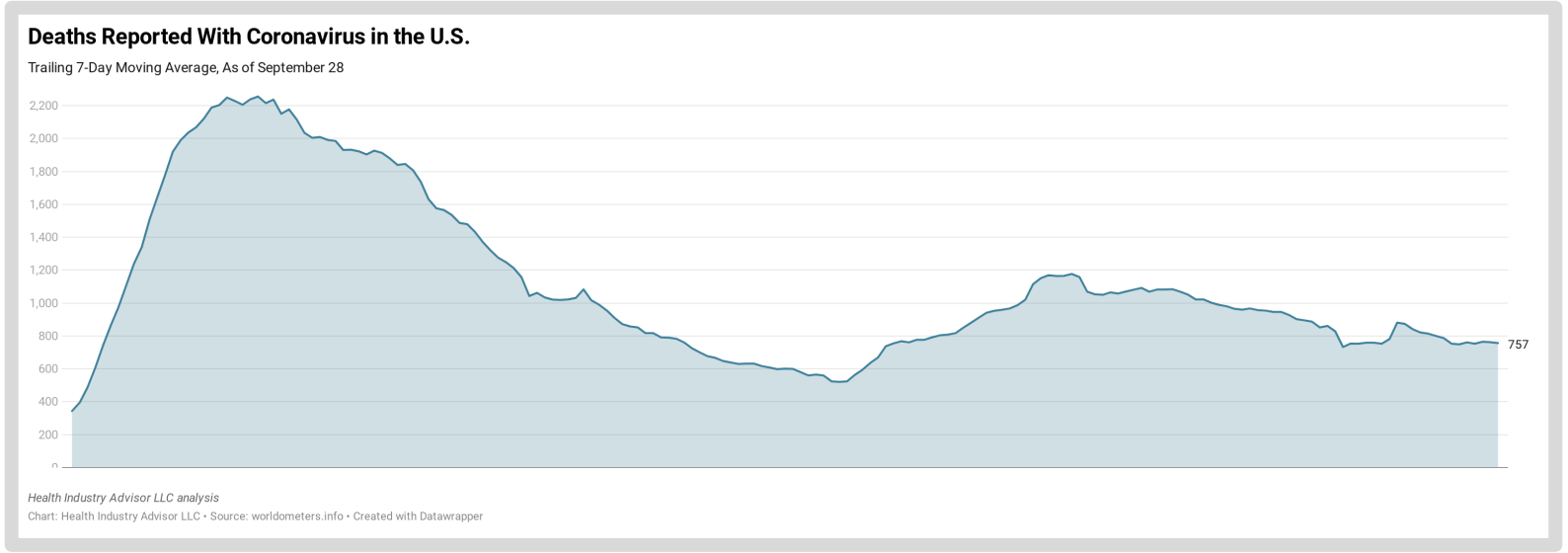
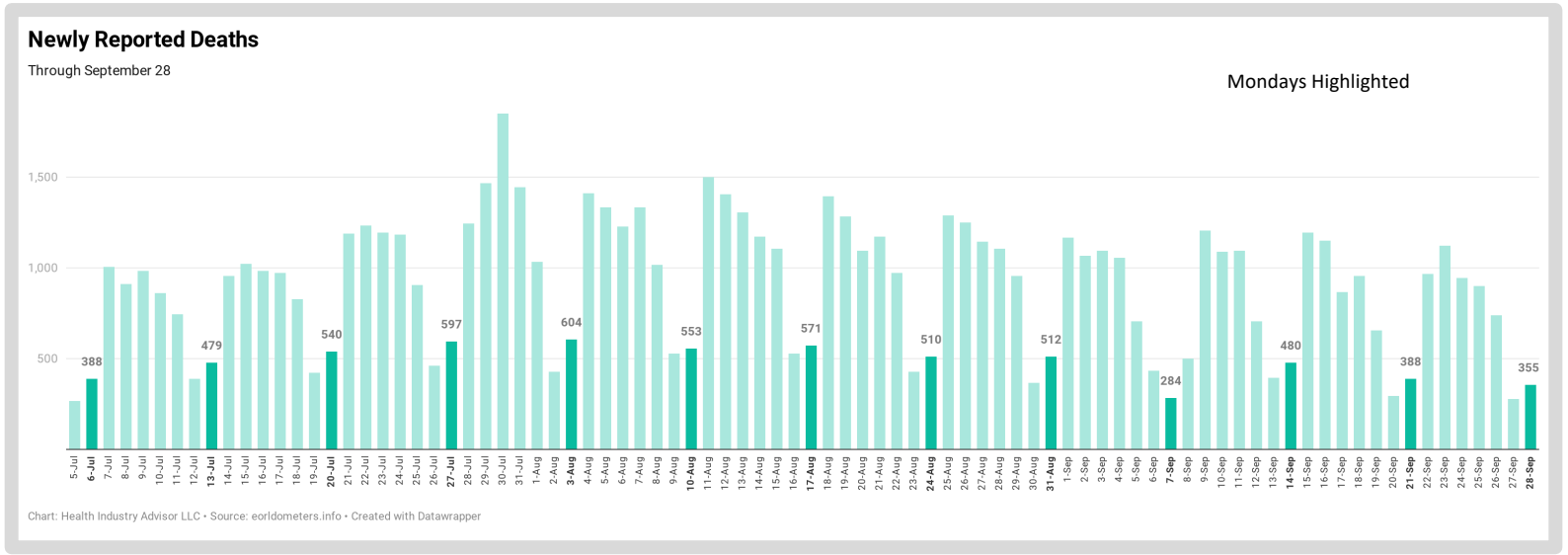
7-day average daily deaths has been stable over the past week

Except for Labor Day, here were fewer deaths reported yesterday than any other Monday since June 21





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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

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