



Health  
Industry  
Adv



Issue # 223  
Saturday, November 28, 2020

# COVID-19 Report

# Highlights

- The good:
  - **Test volume exceeded 10M for the week** - the highest of any week during the pandemic - and despite the above-mentioned reporting delays. **Volume has now doubled in the last ten weeks**
  - **The test-positive rate fell last week - the first time this has occurred since the first week of October**
  - The ratio of tests performed-to-new cases detected improved last week - for the first time since mid-September
  - Seven weeks into the 2020-21 flu season, it is proving to be a mild season (thus far): **influenza visits are running behind the comparable weeks for each of the past five years . . . for the most recent week, these were 57% behind last year**
- The bad:
  - **Covid-19 patients occupied 28% of all inpatient beds in the U.S. last week - doubling in the past 4 weeks**
  - Covid-19 patients in the ICU increased for the ninth consecutive week - nearly doubling in the past four weeks
  - Covid-19 patients on ventilators increased sharply last week and have now increased eight consecutive weeks
- **For the second consecutive week, more than 10,000 Americans died with coronavirus. Deaths have increased now six consecutive weeks**
- The Uncertain:
  - Notwithstanding the reporting delays around the holiday, **the underlying trends in new case detection were improving**: Through Wednesday, the week-over-week change in new cases had declined fifteen consecutive days (these continued to decline through yesterday but, the reporting delays raise questions about the relevance of the data for the past two days)
  - We should anticipate that state reporting will be caught-up in the next few days
  - **Further, the impact of holiday gatherings on new cases may begin to become evident by the middle of next week. Will the holiday prove to reverse the positive trends since early November or simply serve as a pause?**

10 million tests were conducted last week - setting a record high for the tenth consecutive week

Testing has doubled in the last ten weeks

Test-positive rate fell last week – after increasing for seven consecutive weeks

### Weekly Tests - United States

For the 7 days ending on date shown

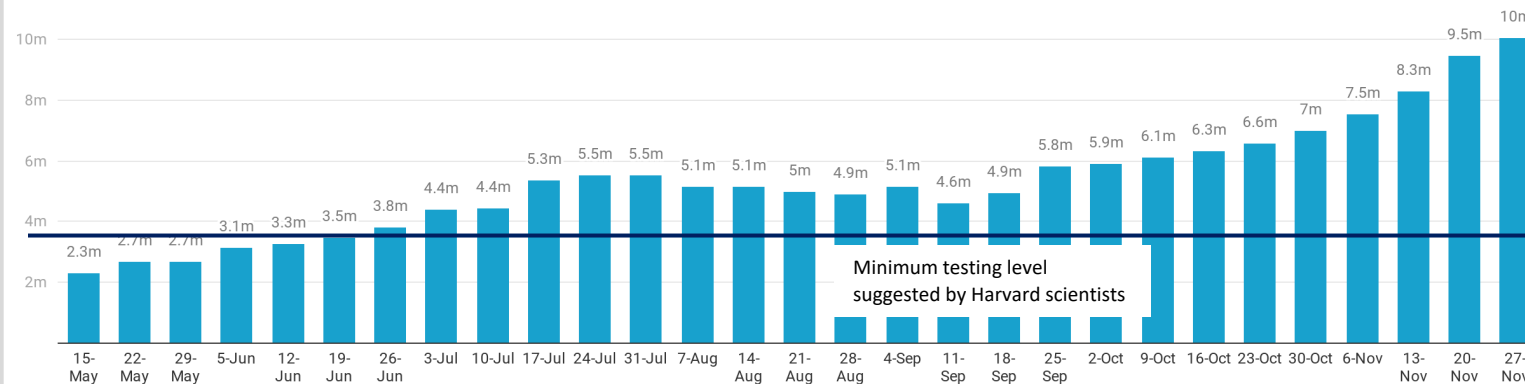


Chart: Health Industry Advisor LLC • Source: The Atlantic's Covid Tracking Project • Created with Datawrapper

### Weekly Test-Positive% - United States

For the 7 days ending on date shown

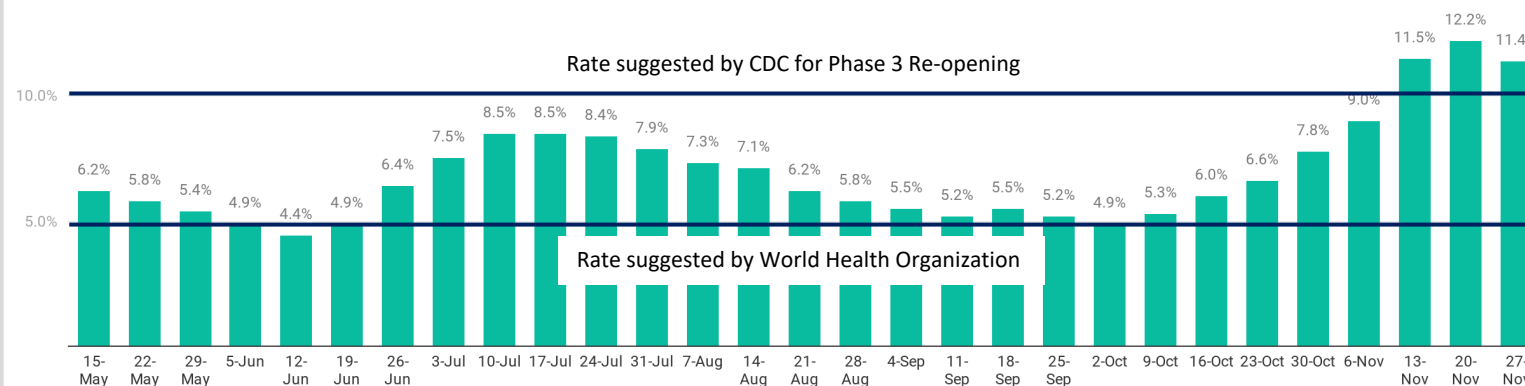


Chart: Health Industry Advisor LLC • Source: The Atlantic's Covid Tracking project • Created with Datawrapper

The ratio of tests performed to new cases detected has improved last week, after dropping eight consecutive weeks

The higher this ratio, the more adequate testing is at identifying spread; a low measure suggests that testing isn't keeping pace

## Weekly Tests / Newly Detected Case - United States

For the 7 days ending on date shown

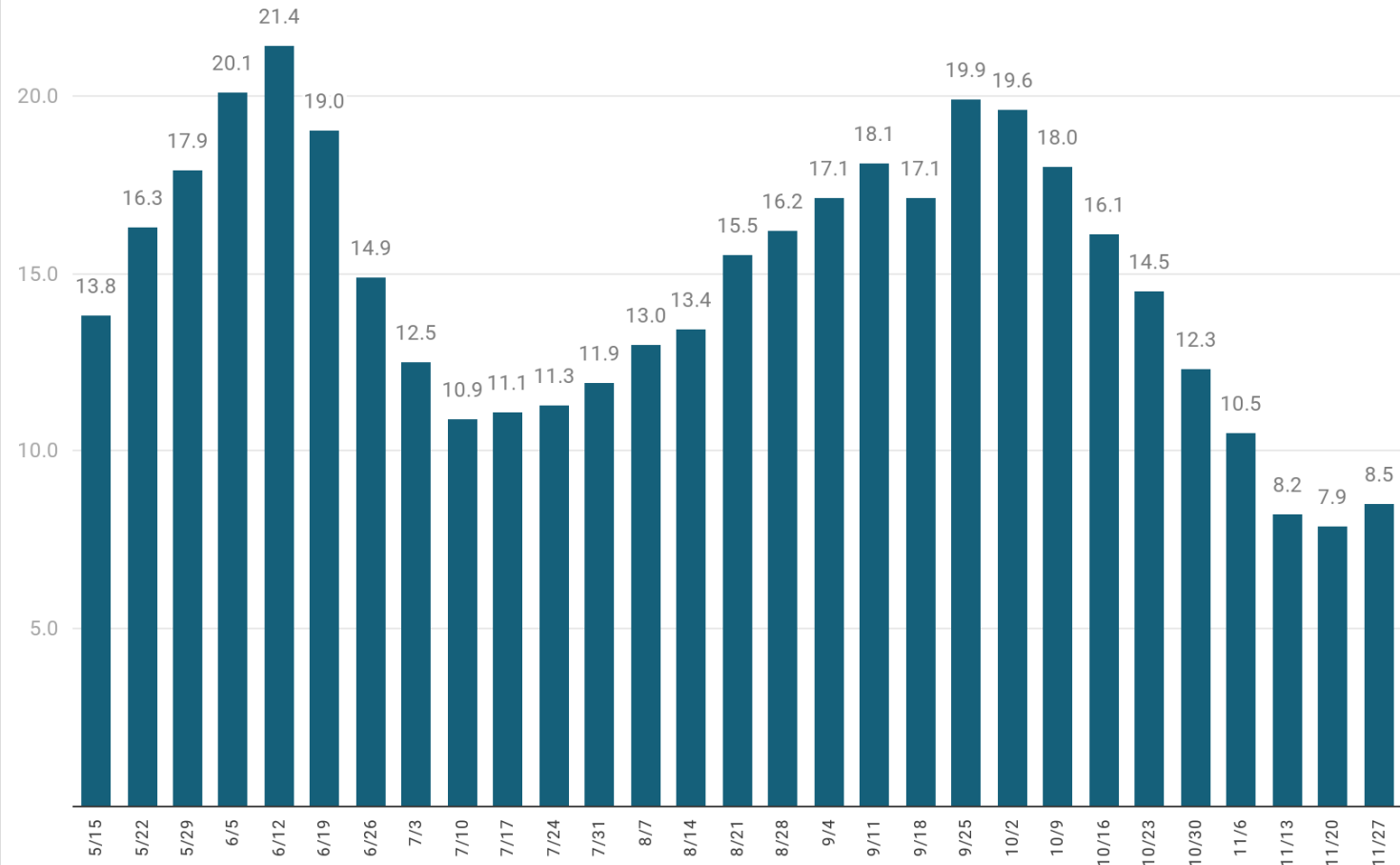


Chart: Health Industry Advisor LLC • Source: The Atlantic's Covid Tracking Project & worldometers.info • Created with Datawrapper

*Thanksgiving reporting-  
delay impact?*

Newly detected cases  
declined last week, after  
increasing each of the ten  
preceding weeks

1.2M new cases were  
detected in the past seven  
days

## Weekly New Detected Cases - United States

For the 7 days ending on date shown

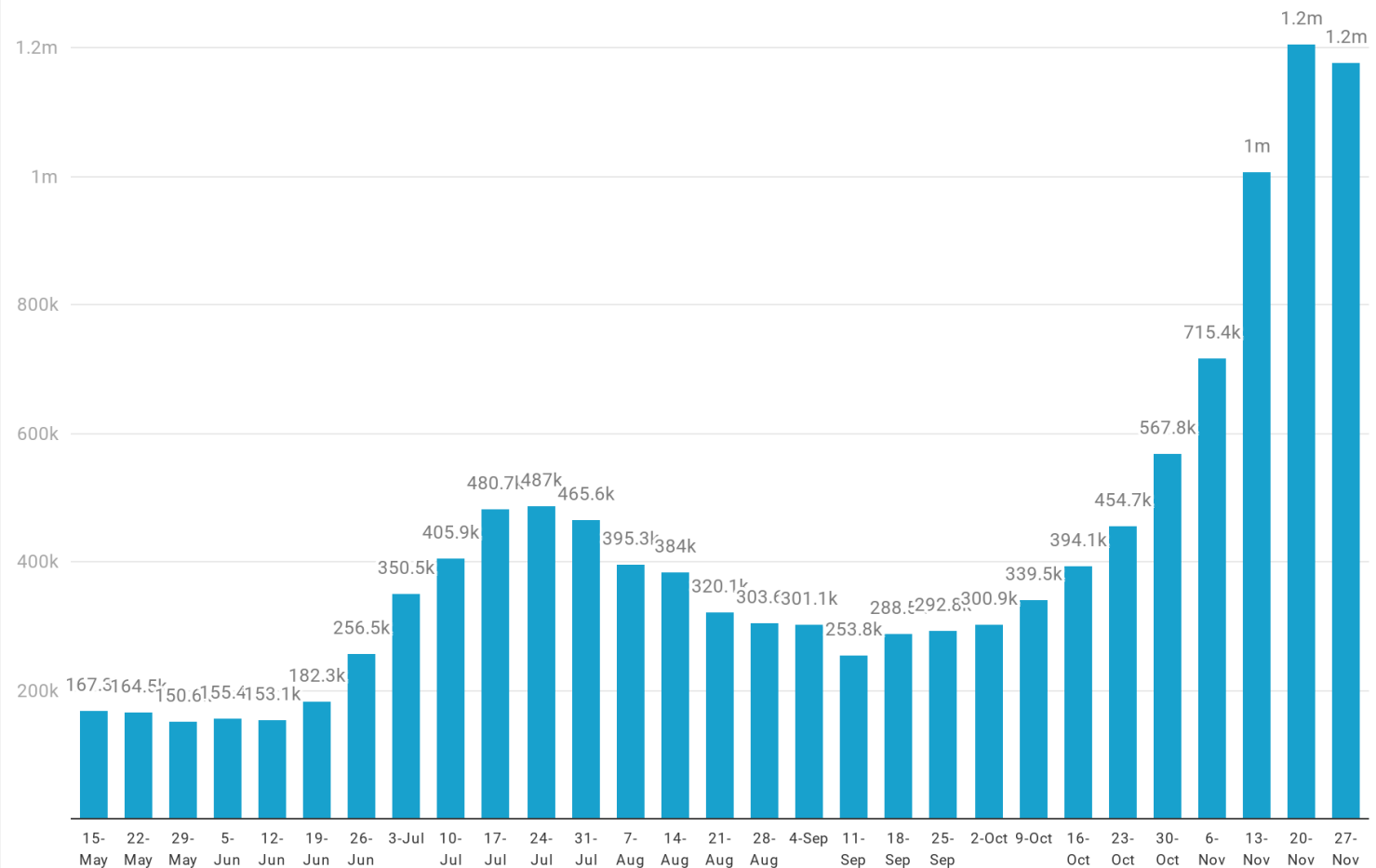


Chart: Health Industry Advisor LLC • Source: worldometers.info • Created with Datawrapper

There were fewer new cases detected this week than last, likely because of reporting delays around the Thanksgiving holiday

## Week-Over-Week Change in Newly Detected Cases - United States

For the 7 days ending on date shown

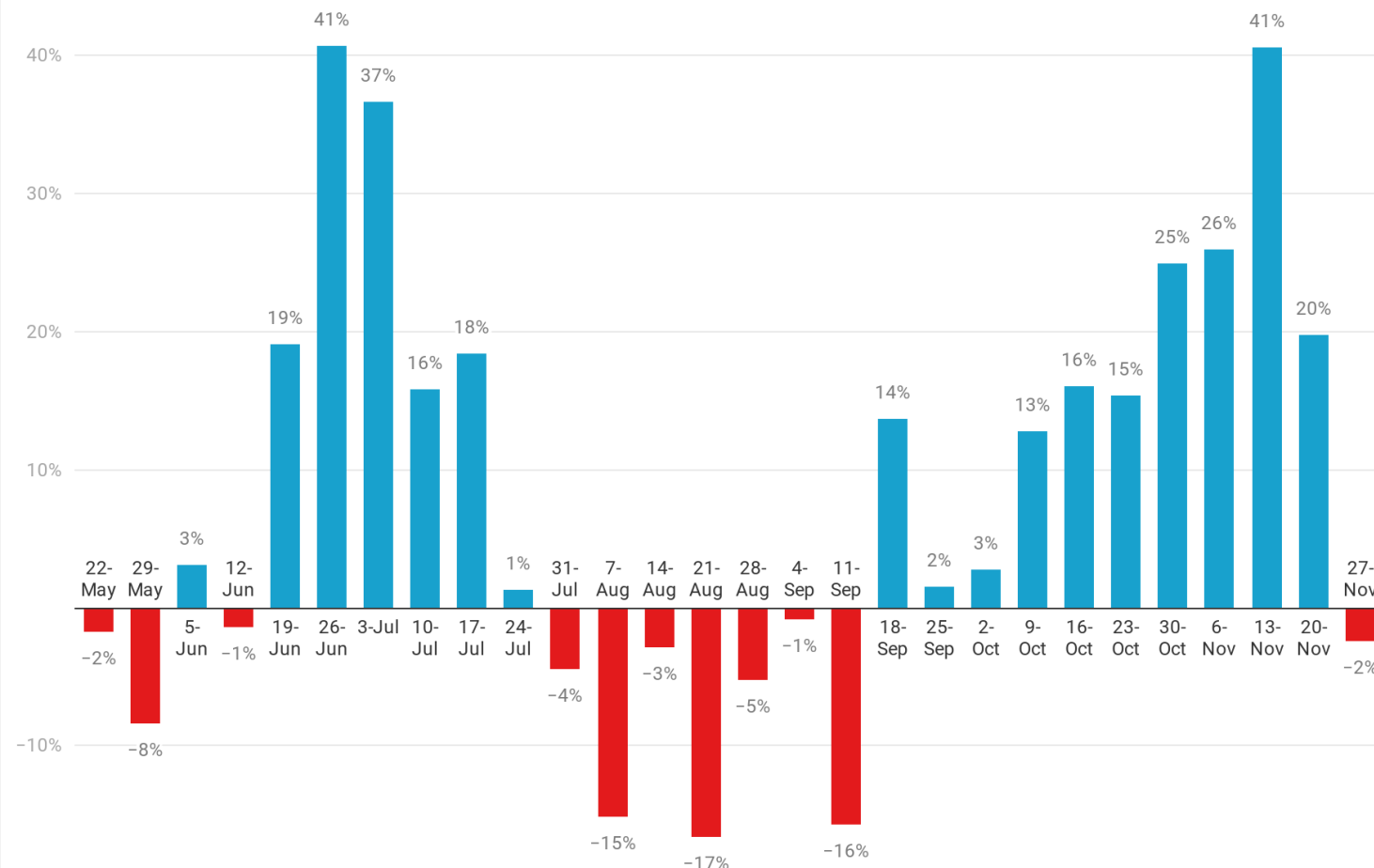


Chart: Health Industry Advisor LLC • Source: worldometers.info • Created with Datawrapper

California, Illinois, Ohio and Texas recorded the highest number of newly detected cases over the past seven days

## New Weekly Detected Cases - By State

November 21 - 27

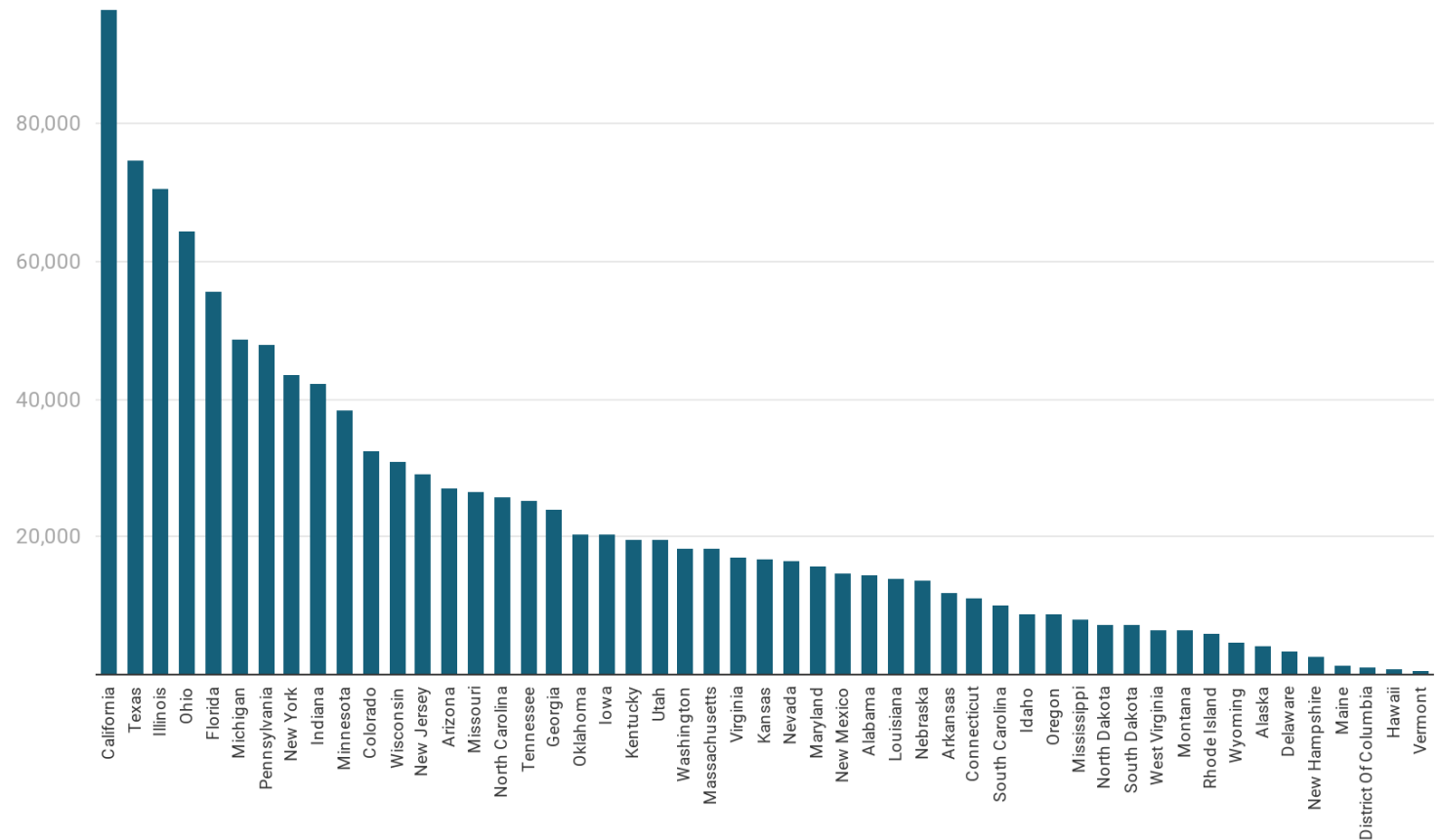


Chart: Health Industry Advisor LLC • Source: worldometers.info • Created with Datawrapper

California experienced the largest increase in new cases relative to the prior week

Most states experienced declines in the number of new cases this week – how much of this is due to the Thanksgiving holiday?

## Week-Over-Week Change In Newly Detected Cases - By State

November 21-27 v. November 14-20

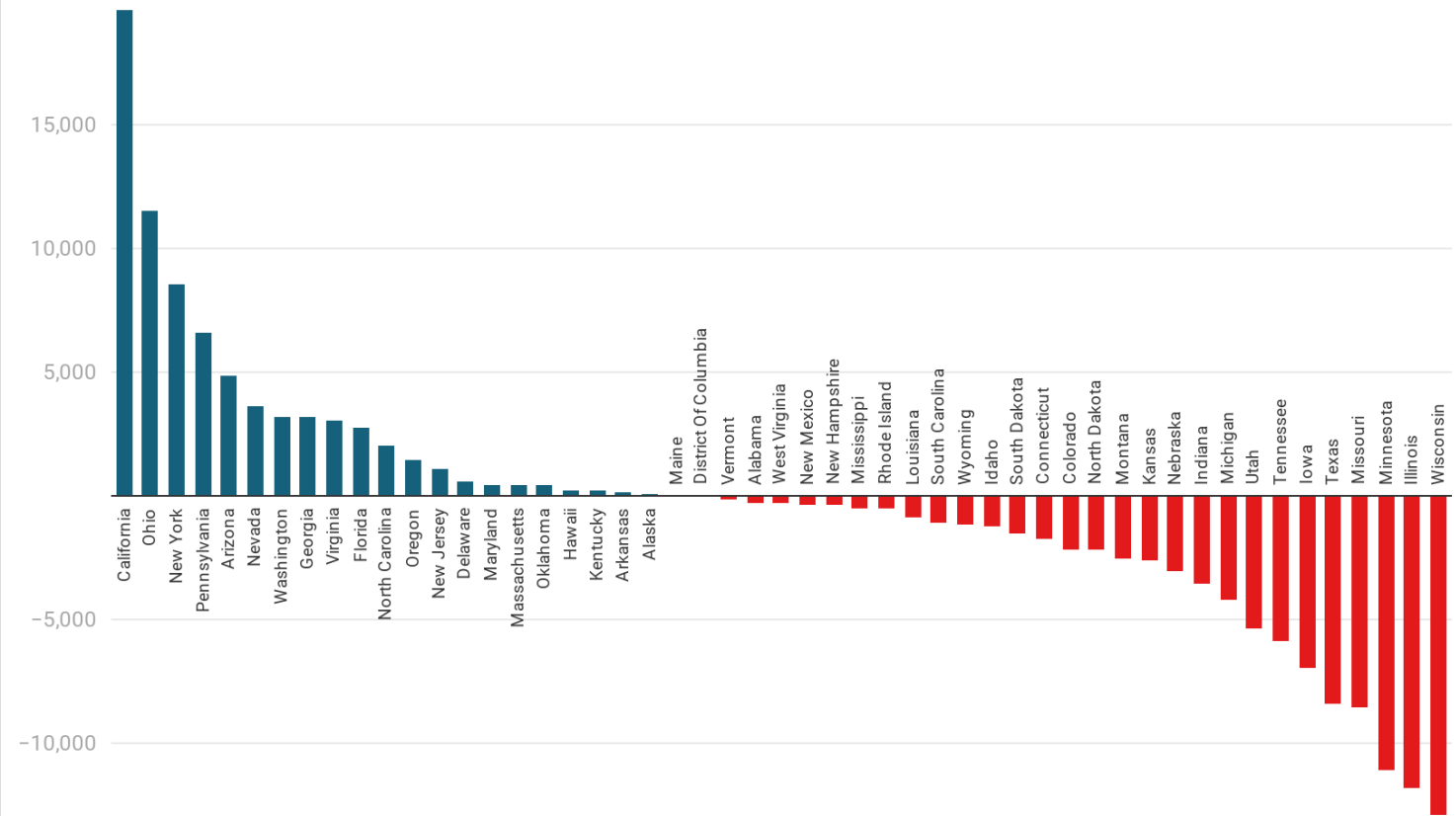


Chart: Health Industry Advisor LLC • Source: worldometers.info • Created with Datawrapper

Gu\* estimates there were 4.1M new infections (detected + undetected) during the week of November 7-13

These estimated new infections have been rising each week since the end of August

Based on Youyang Gu's Covid Projection Mode  
Last update: November 26

## Weekly New Estimated Infections - United States

For the 7 days ending on date shown

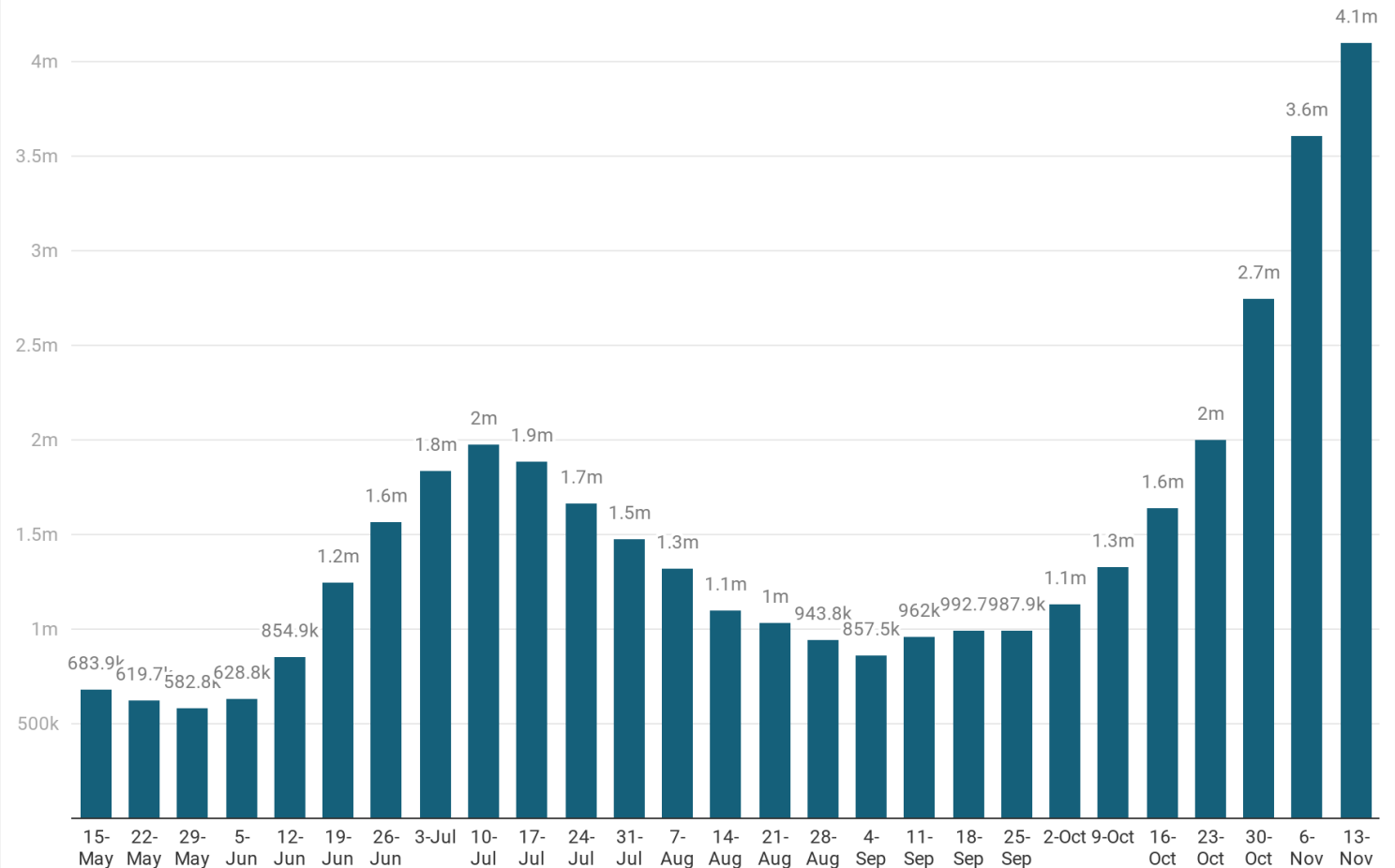


Chart: Health Industry Advisor LLC • Source: <https://covid19-projections.com> • Created with Datawrapper

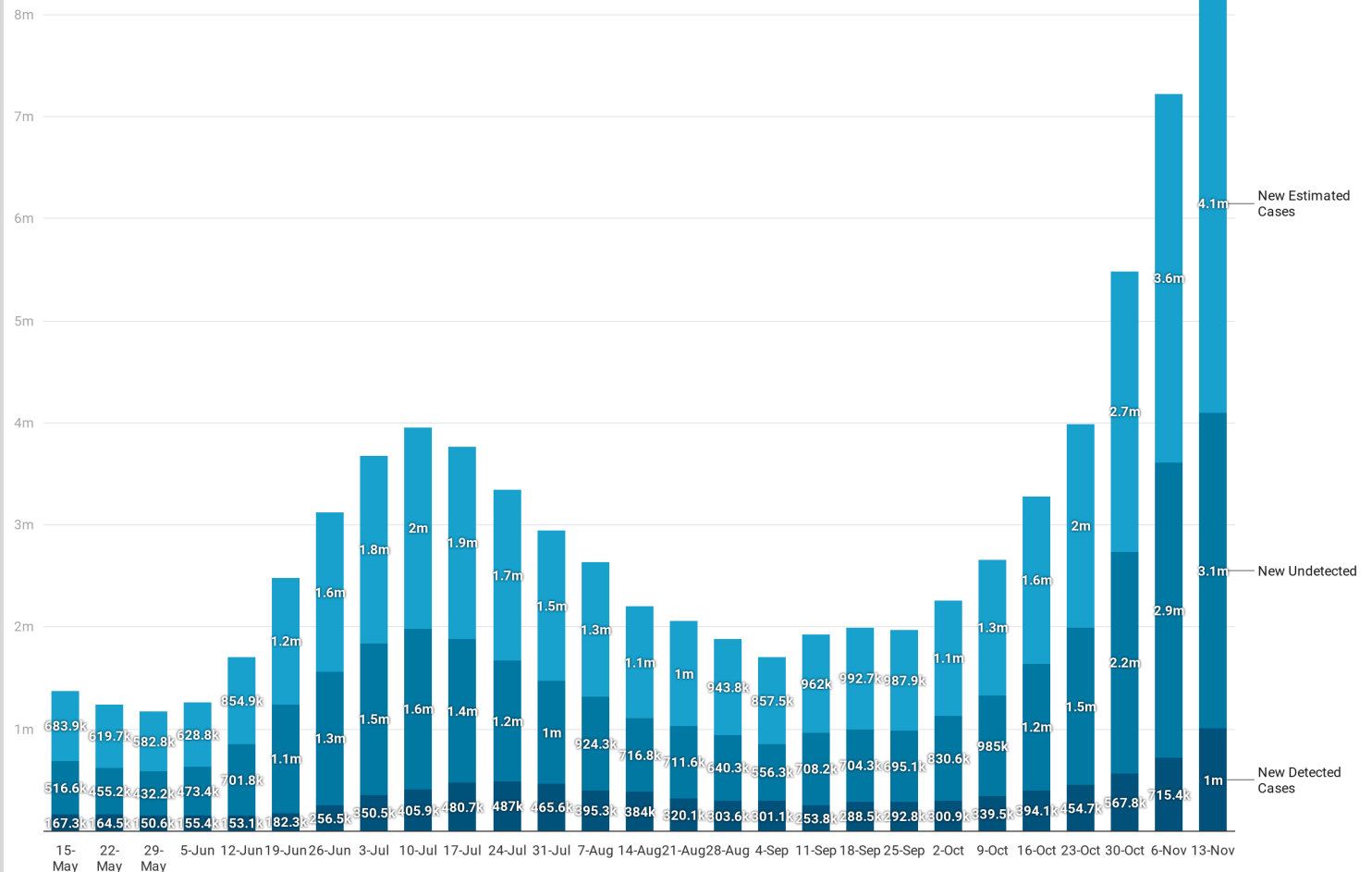
Undetected cases are significantly greater than cases detected via testing

Note: this graphic uses Youyang Gu's estimates of true infections

Gi estimated that undetected cases outnumbered detected cases by 3:1 during the week of November 6-13, down from 4:1 the prior week

## Weekly New Detected and Estimated Undetected Cases - United States

For the 7 days ending on date shown



Undetected cases based on Youyang Gu's Covid-19 Projection Model

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

There are an estimated 5.2 million people in the U.S. currently recovering from detected Covid-19 infections

The estimated number of active, detected cases in the U.S. increased for the 8th consecutive week, following six weeks of relative stability

### Current Active Cases - United States

For the 7 days ending on date shown

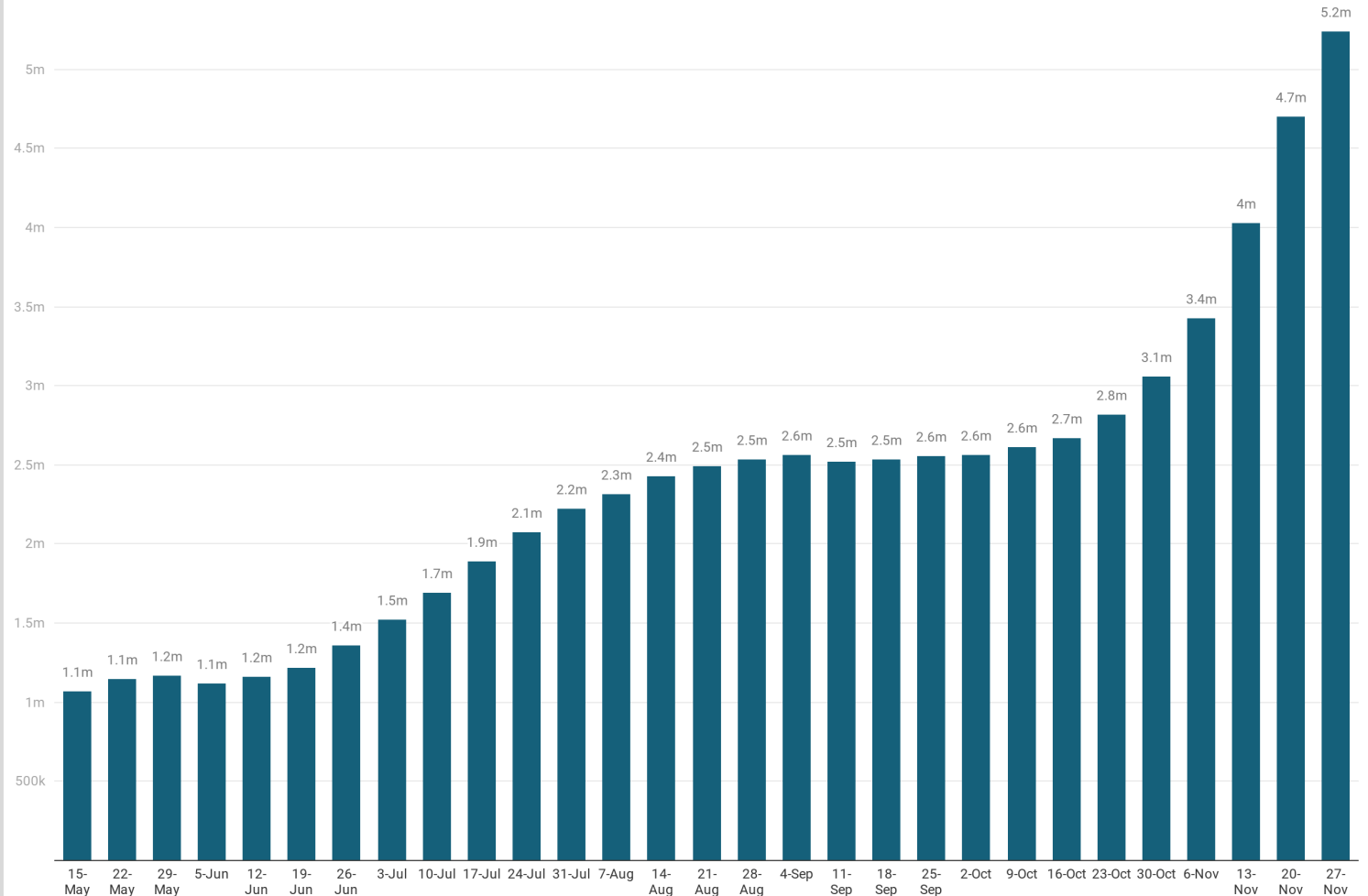


Chart: Health Industry Advisor LLC • Source: worldometers.info • Created with Datawrapper

There were more than 630k people that recovered from a detected SARS-CoV-2 infection in the U.S. last week

Recoveries from detected infections in the U.S. increased each of the past five weeks

Nearly 8M people in the U.S. have now recovered from a detected SARS-CoV-2 infection

### Weekly Recoveries - United States

For the 7 days ending on date shown

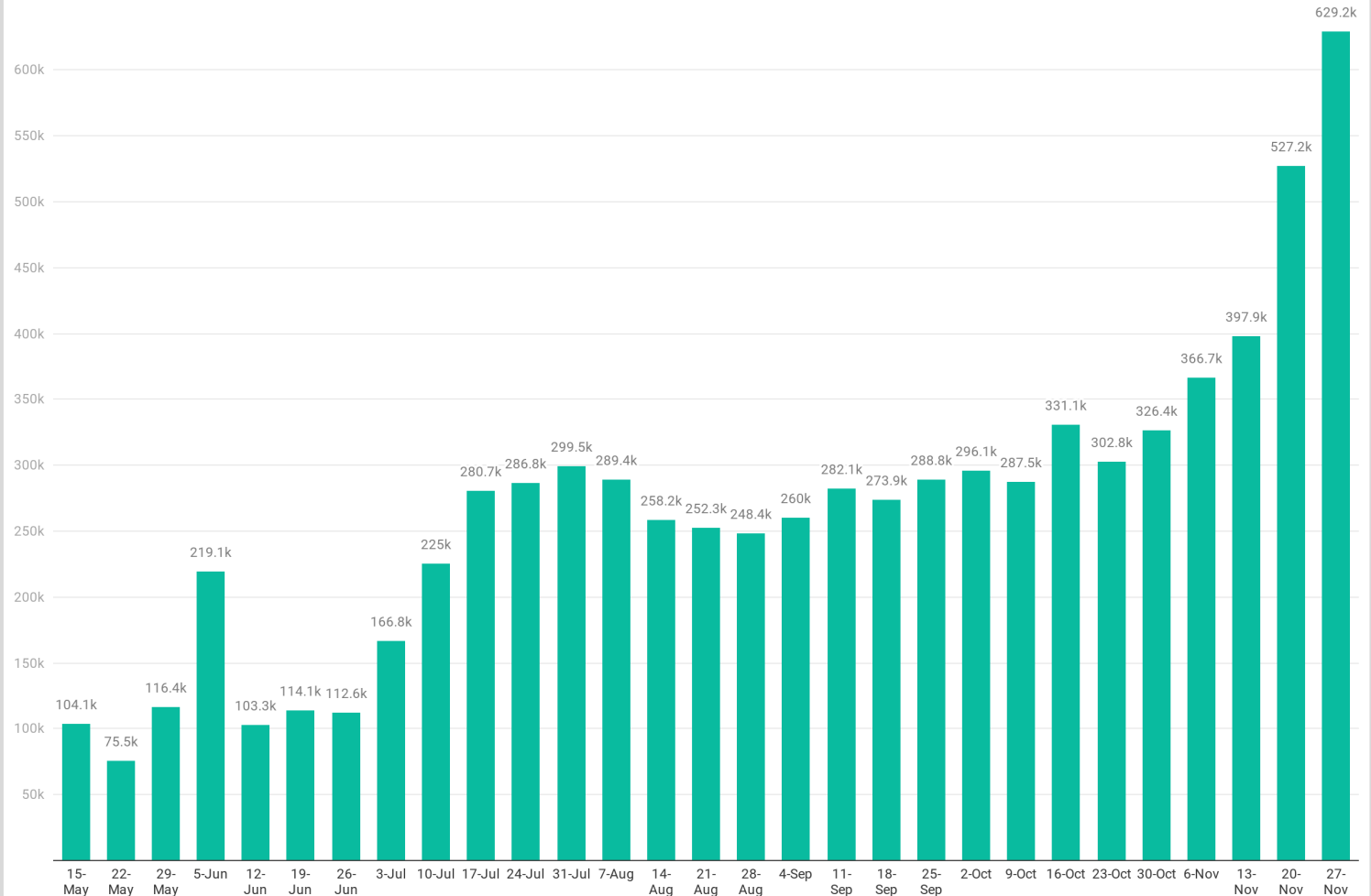


Chart: Health Industry Advisor LLC • Source: worldometers.info • Created with Datawrapper

Over time, more –and– more persons infected by the SARS-CoV-2 virus have successfully recovered

The number of active cases, as a % of all detected cases, have recently increased

## How has the status of cases changed over time?

As of the date shown

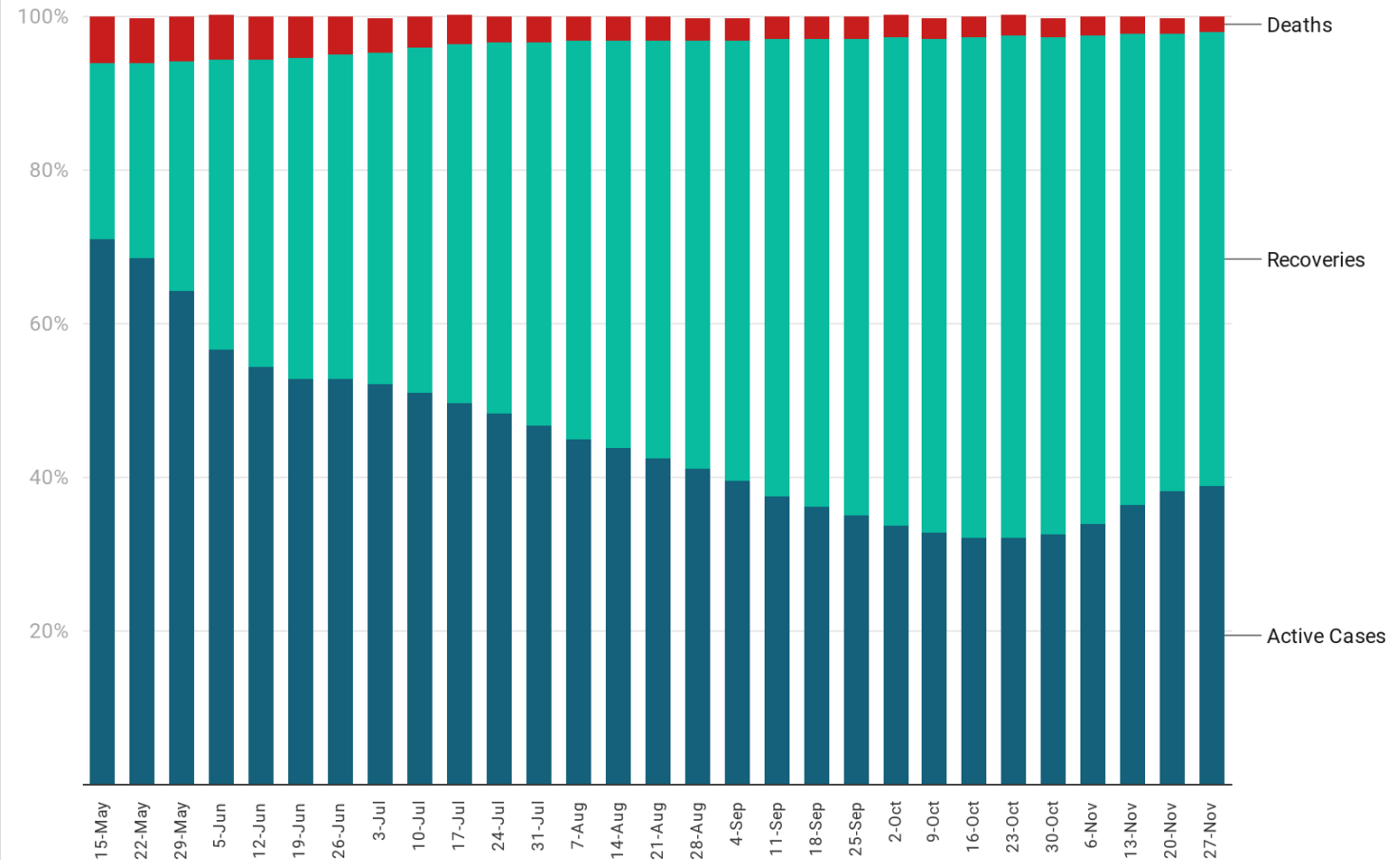


Chart: Health Industry Advisor LLC • Source: worldometers.info • Created with Datawrapper

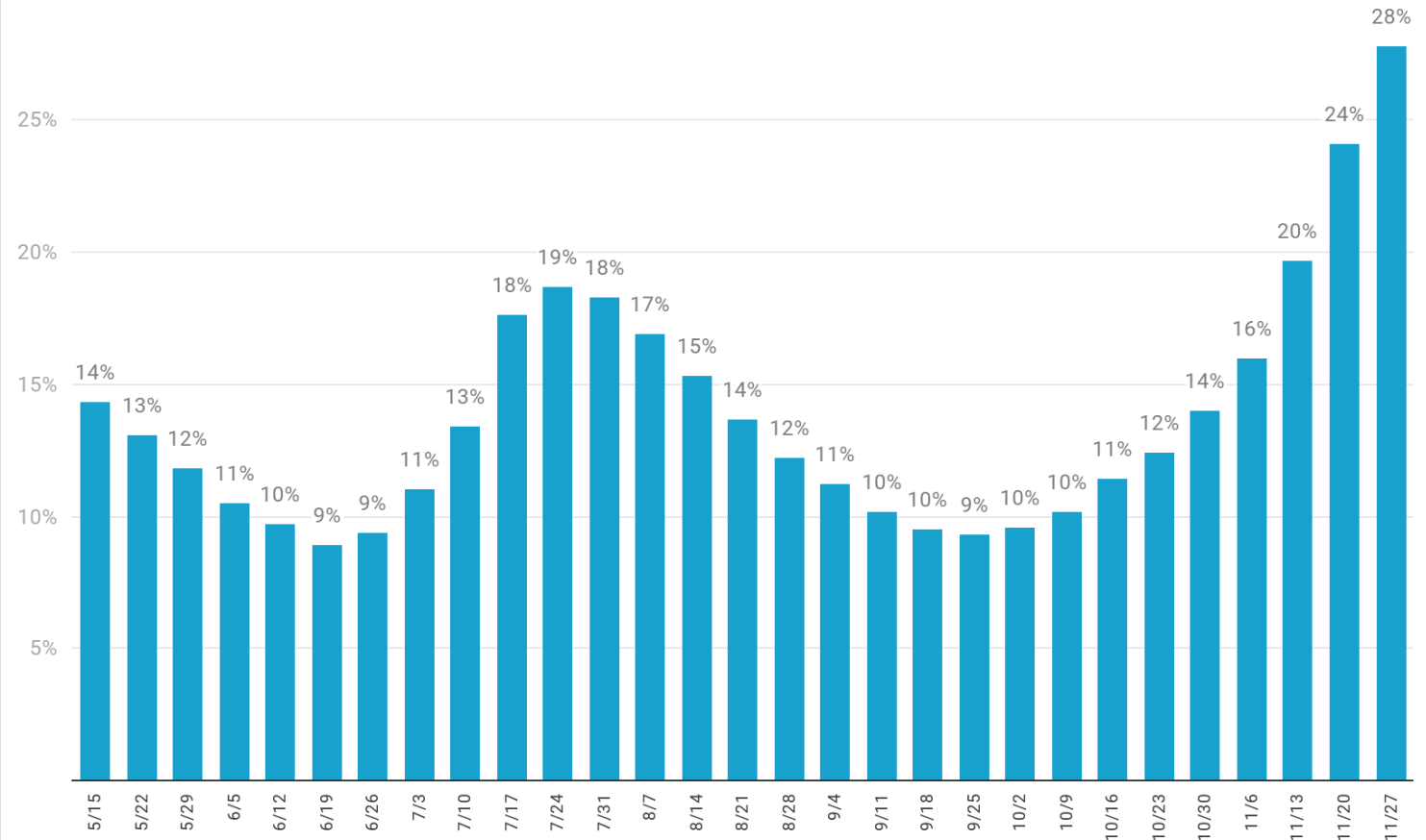
In the United States, Covid-19 patients occupied 28% of available inpatient beds last week

This occupancy rate has increased each week since the end of September

This rate has doubled in just four weeks

## Covid-19 Occupancy - % of Inpatient Beds - United States

For the 7 days ending on date shown



The following states started reporting data on: HI, 7/14; KS, 7/25

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

Covid-19 inpatient days per 100 new cases increased last week, partially due to delays in new case reporting over the Thanksgiving holiday

## Covid-19 Inpatient Days / 100 New Cases

For the 7 days ending on the date shown

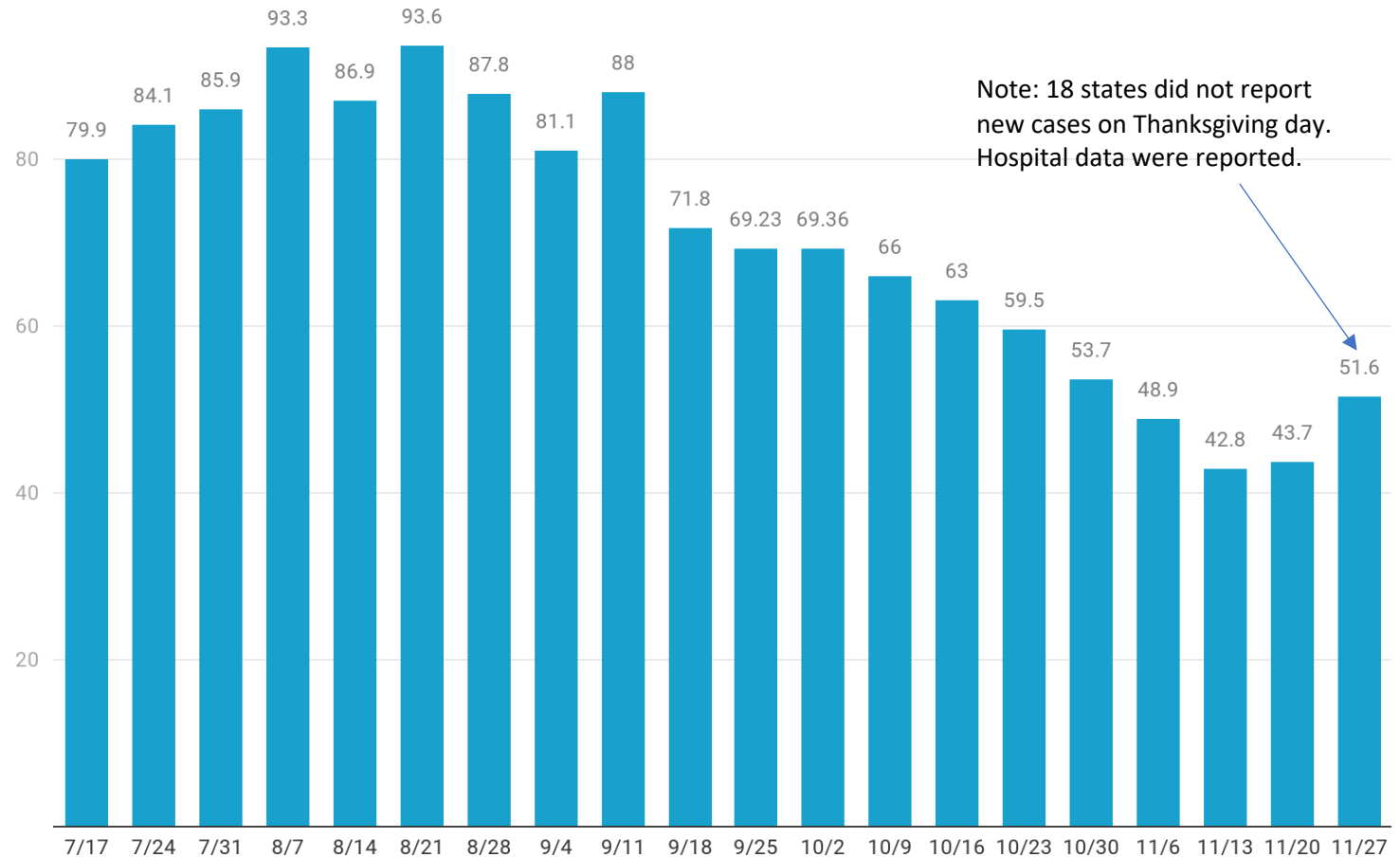


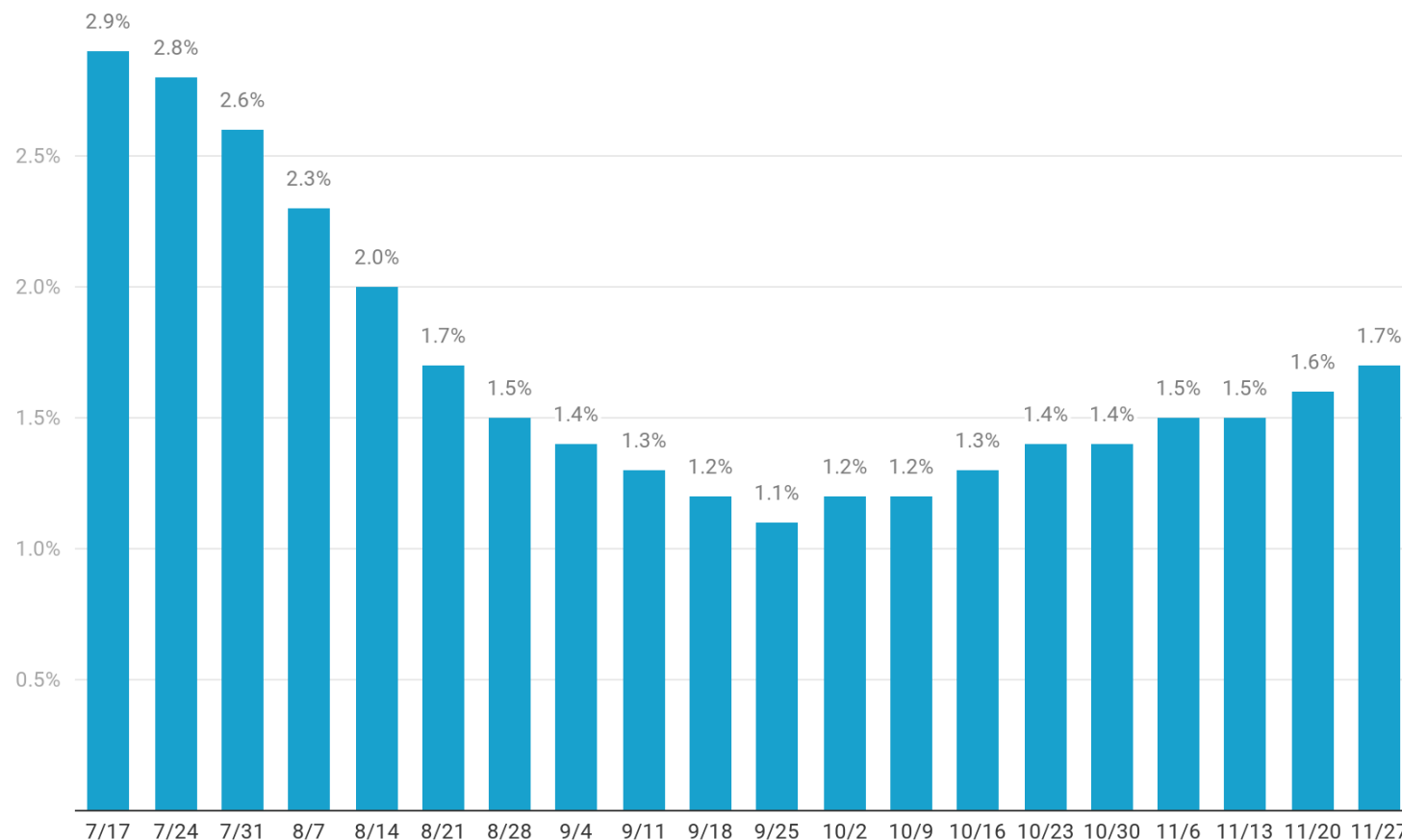
Chart: Health Industry Advisor LLC • Source: The Atlantic's Covid Tracking Project & worldometers.info • Created with Datawrapper

Only about 1.7% of actively-infected persons are in the hospital – slightly higher than the past several weeks

Despite the recent increase in Covid-19 inpatients, the likelihood of a detected & actively-infected person being in the hospital is significantly lower than what it was in mid-July

## Estimated % of Detected & Active Covid-19 Patients in the Hospital

For the 7 days ending on date shown



The following states started reporting data on: HI, 7/14; KS, 7/25

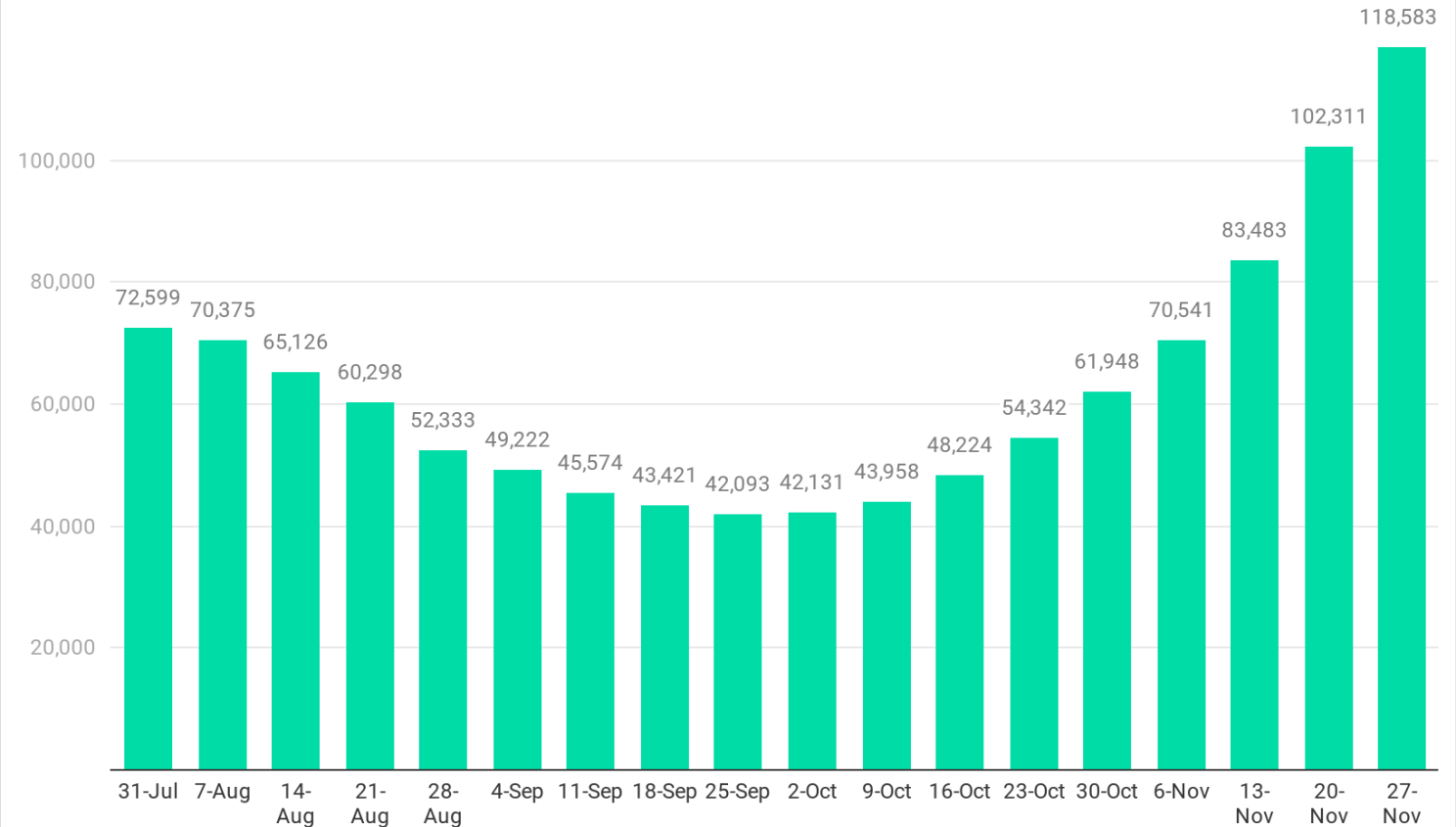
Chart: Health Industry Advisor LLC • Source: The Atlantic's Covid Tracking Project & Worldometers.info • Created with Datawrapper

Covid-19 patients collectively spent more than 118,000 days in the ICU last week

Covid-19 ICU census has now increased nine consecutive weeks – nearly doubling in four weeks

## Weekly ICU Covid-19 Census - United States

For the 7 days ending on date shown



The following states started reporting data on: HI, 7/30; ND, 8/19; SC, 7/28; TN, 8/12. The following states do not report: AL, AK, AR, CO, CT, FL, GA, LA, MO, MT, NE, NH, NM, PA, SD, VT, WA

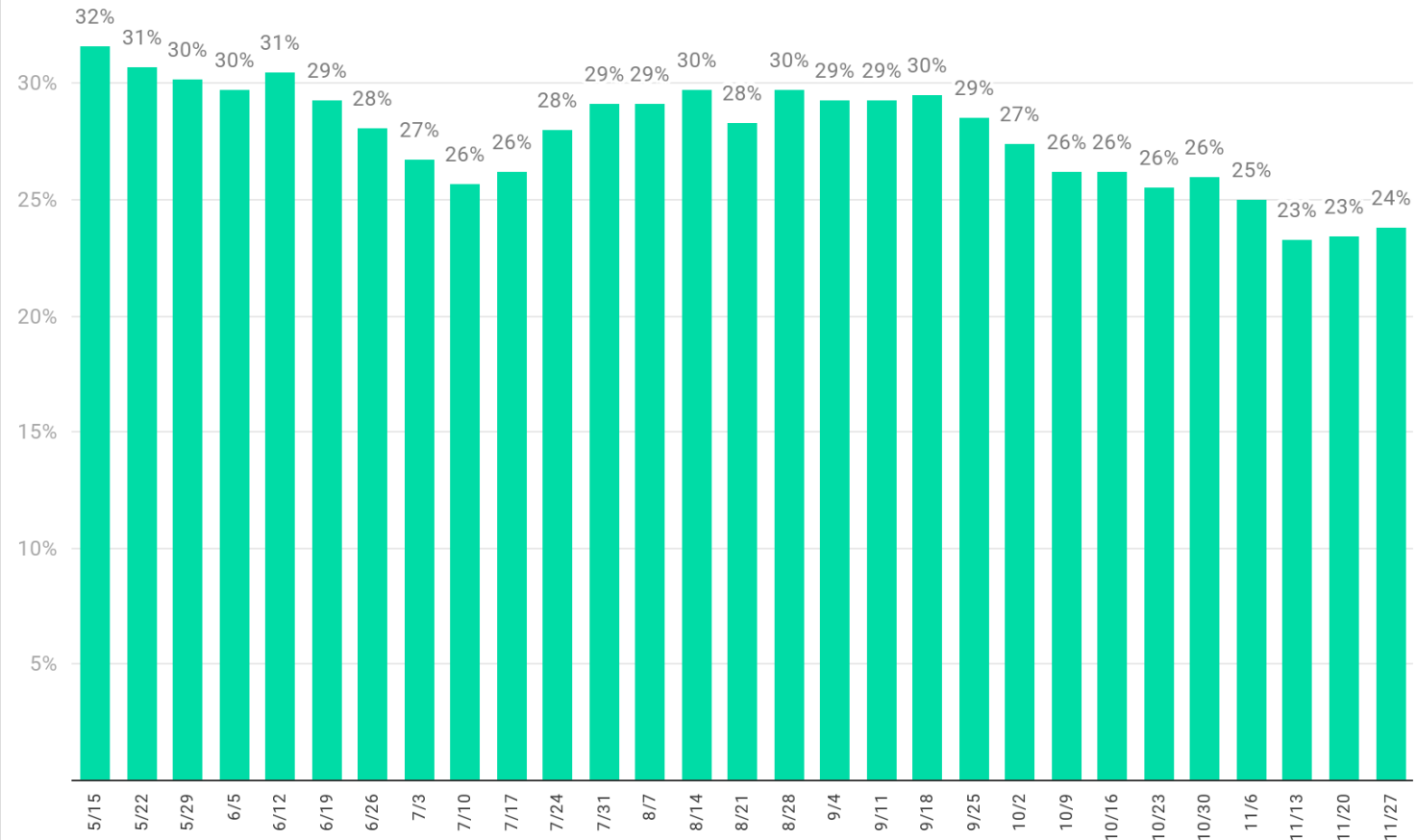
Chart: Health Industry Advisor LLC • Source: The Atlantic's Covid Tracking Project • Created with Datawrapper

Fewer than a ¼ of Covid-19 inpatients were in the ICU last week

This % is slightly higher than the prior two weeks yet, significantly lower than it was through September

## % of Hospitalized Covid-19 Patients in the ICU

For the date shown



The following states started reporting data on: HI, 7/14; KS, 7/25

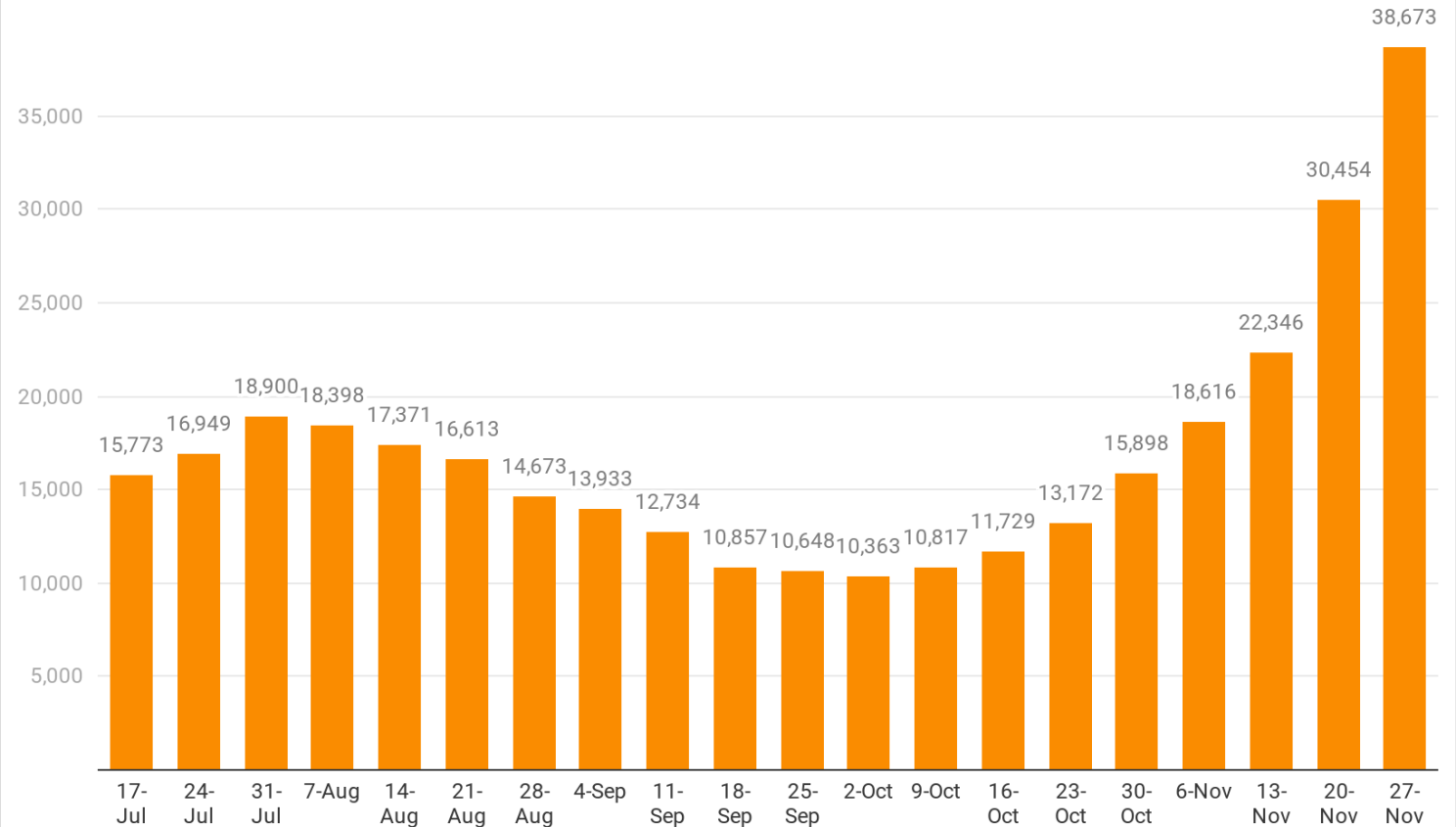
Chart: Health Industry Advisor LLC • Source: Atlantic's Covid Tracking project • Created with Datawrapper

Covid-19 patients on ventilators increased sharply last week, totaling more than 38,000 days on ventilators last week

This census of COVID-19 patients on ventilators increased for the eighth consecutive week

## Ventilator Days COVID-19 - United States

For the 7 days ending on date shown



The following states started reporting data: HI, 7/31; KS, 7/16; SC, 7/24; TN, 8/12. The following states do not report: AL, CA, CO, CT, FL, GA, ID, KY, MD, MN, MT, NH, NM, NC, ND, OK, SD, TX, UT, VT, WI, WY

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

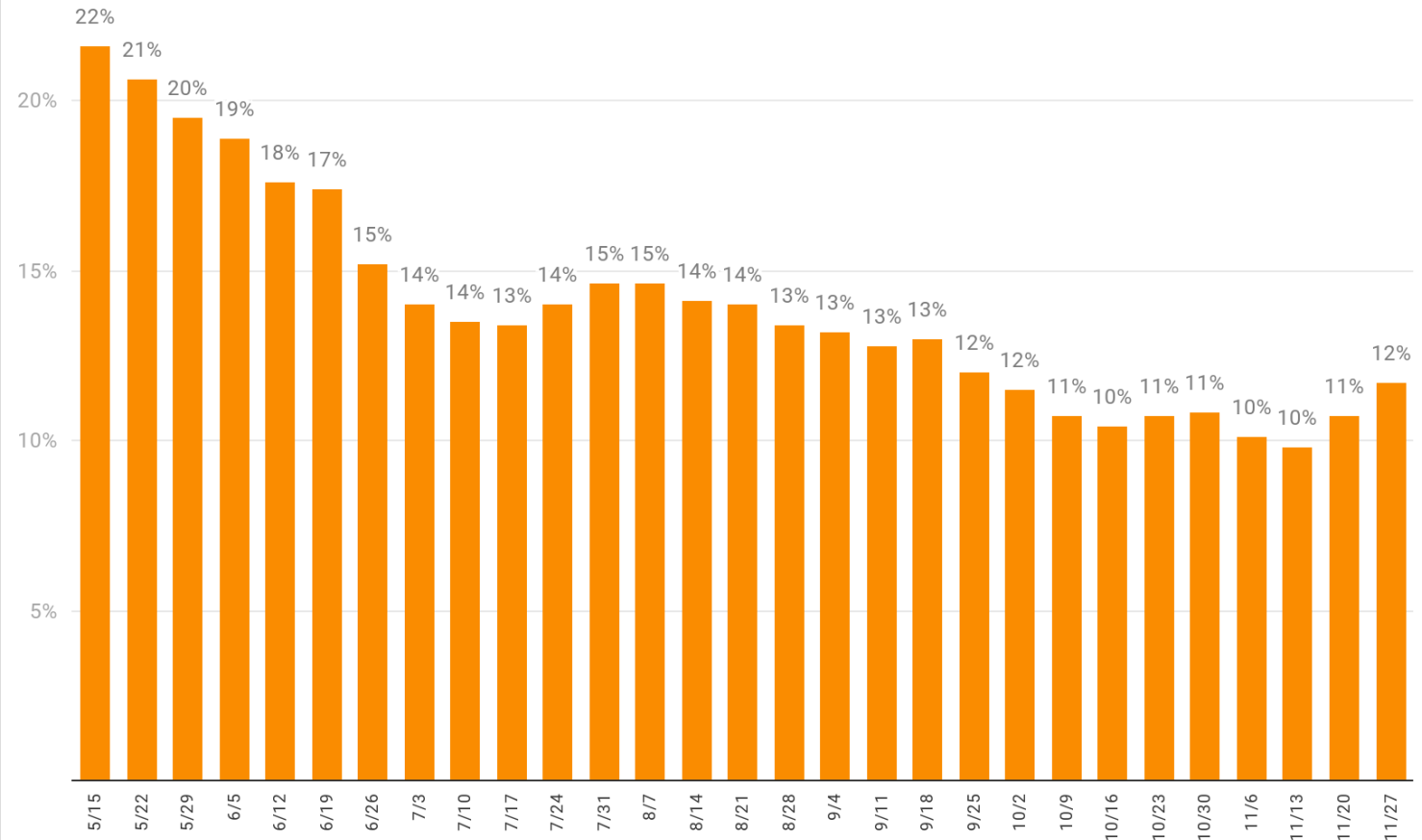
The likelihood of a hospitalized Covid-19 patient would be on a ventilator increased slightly each of the past two weeks

Nearly 12% of Covid-19 inpatients were on a ventilator last week

A reflection of changing treatment protocols, the likelihood of a person hospitalized with a SARS-CoV-2 infection has been cut nearly in ½ since mid-May

## Weekly Comparison of the % of Hospitalized Covid-19 Patients on Ventilators

For the 7 days as of the date shown



The following states started reporting data on: HI, 7/14; KS, 7/25

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

Tragically, more than 10,000 people died with the coronavirus in the U.S. for the second consecutive week

Deaths reported with the coronavirus in the U.S. increased for the sixth consecutive week— likely a result of the recent case surge

There were more deaths last week than any week since May 9-15

### Weekly Deaths - United States

For the 7 days ending on date shown

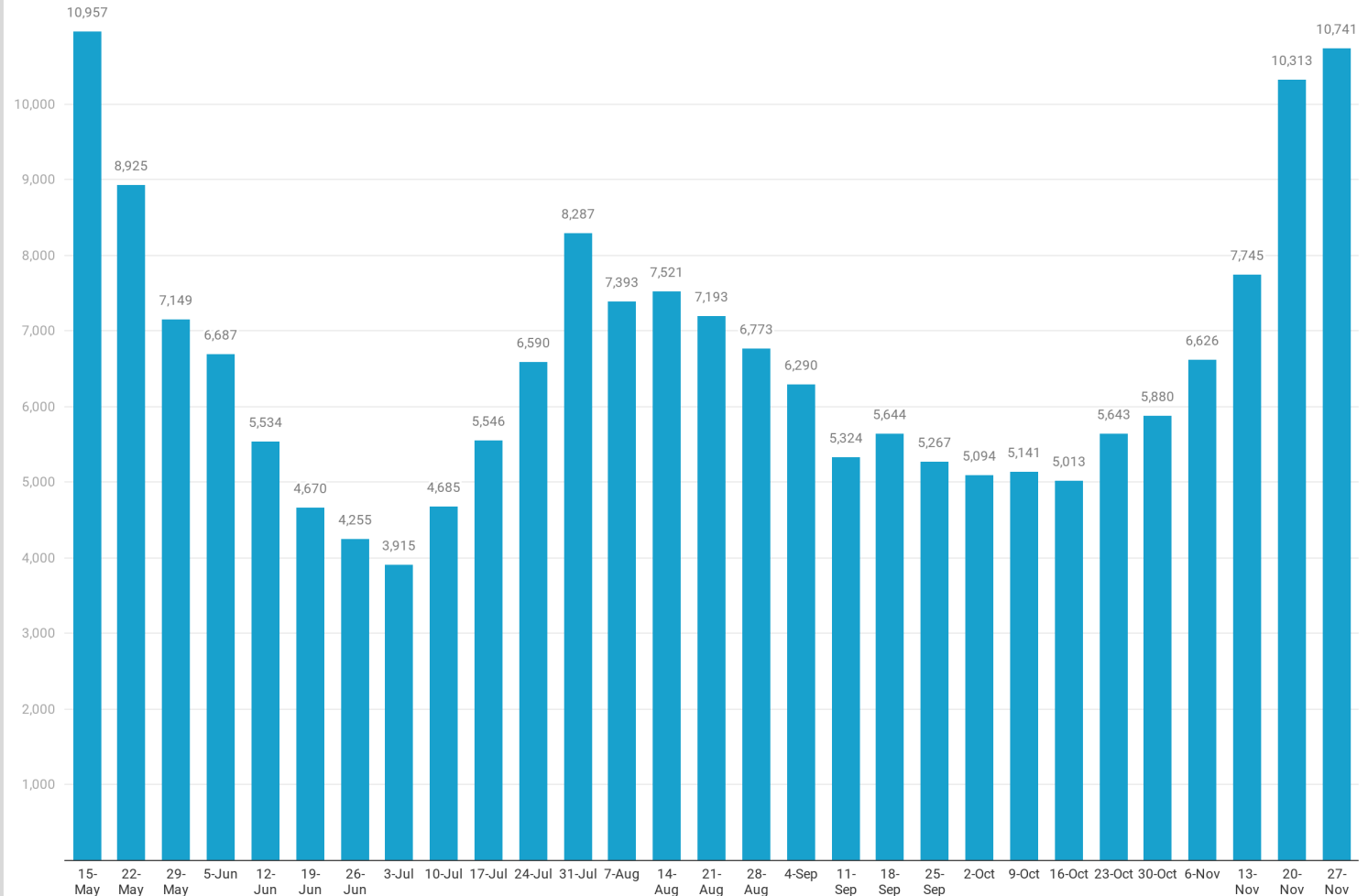


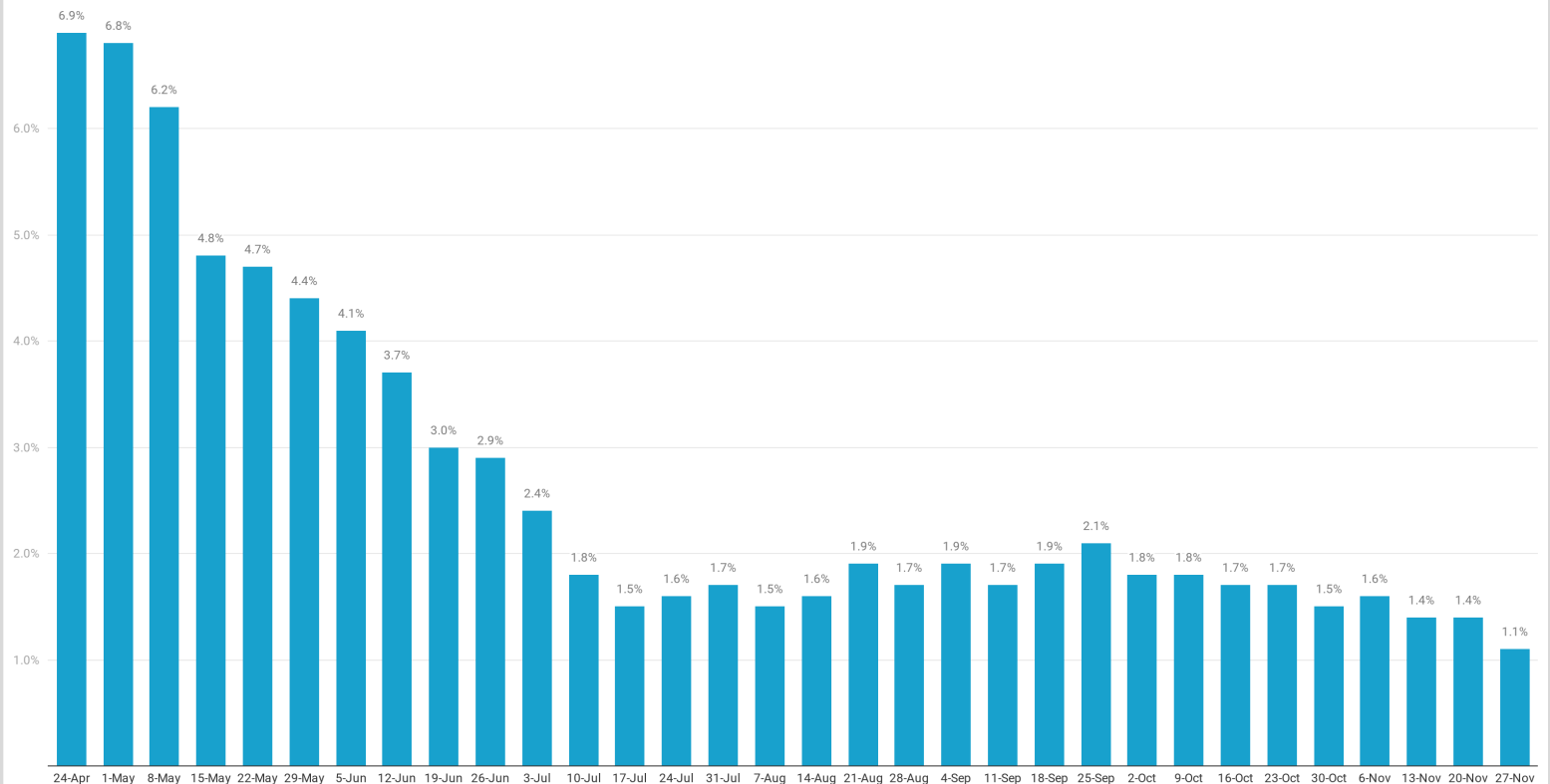
Chart: Health Industry Advisor LLC • Source: worldometers.info • Created with Datawrapper

The case fatality rate has declined modestly since late-September

Last week's decline is likely impacted by delays in state reporting of deaths during the Thanksgiving holiday

### Case Fatality Rate (2-Week Case Lag) - United States

For the 7 days ending on date shown



Deaths : New Cases, 2 week lag

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

Now seven weeks into the 2020-21 flu season, flu visits are trending lower than each of the past five years - and, currently 57% lower than last year

## % of Visits For Influenza-Like Illnesses, National Summary

By Week & Flu Season

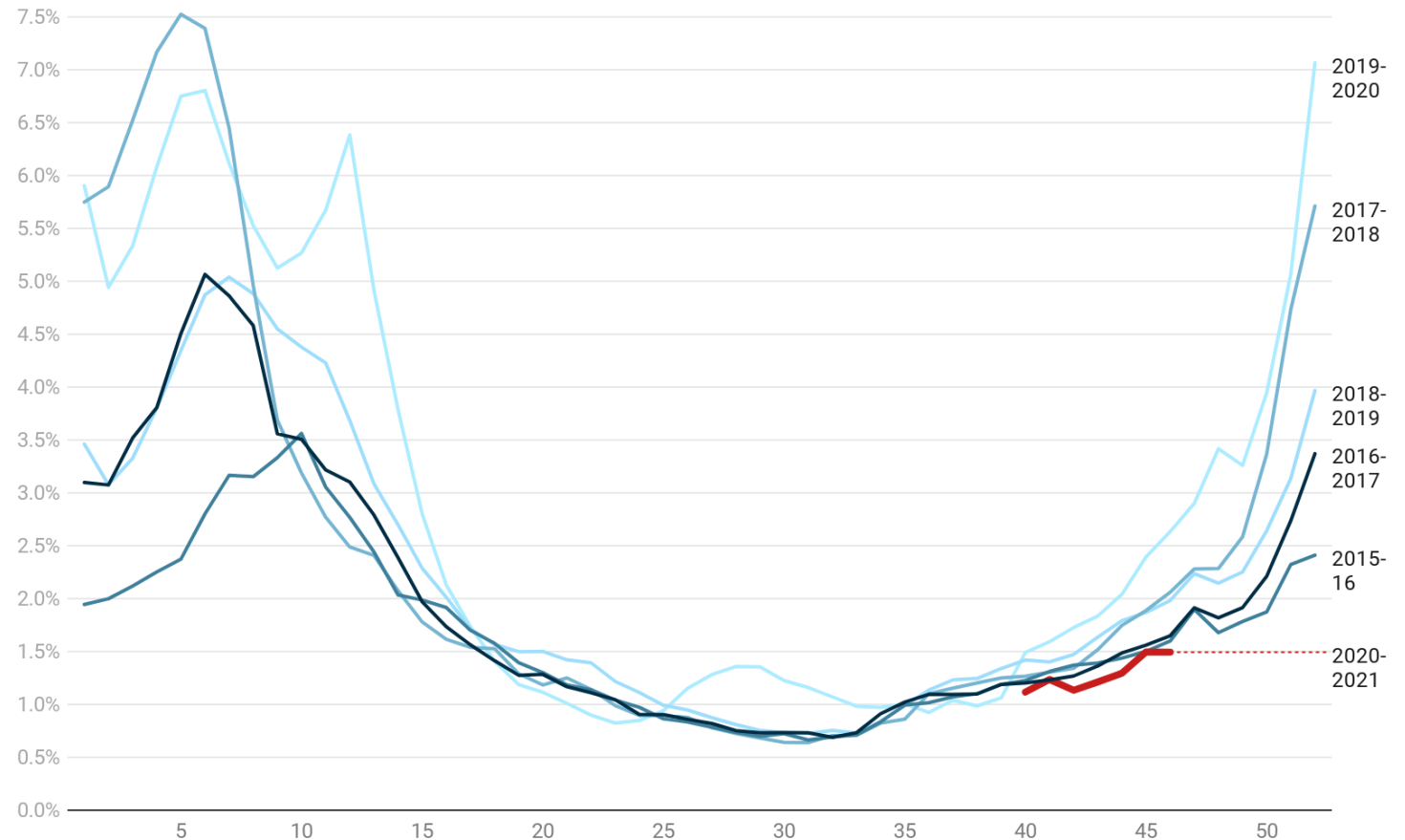


Chart: Health Industry Advisor LLC • Source: Centers for Disease Control & Prevention • Created with Datawrapper

# 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](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>
- Oliver Wyman Pandemic Navigator, <https://pandemicnavigator.oliverwyman.com/forecast?mode=country&region=United%20States&panel=mortality>