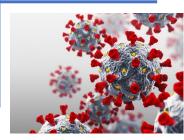


"Strategic Advice in an Era of Unprecedented Change"









Covid-19 "Vital Signs"

Issue # 349 September 27, 2021

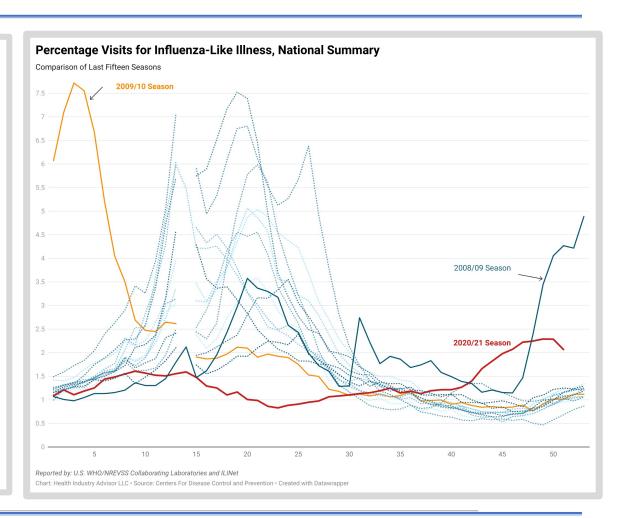
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Comparison of Flu Seasons

We may be on the verge of an early and severe flu season.

- Last Winter, we enjoyed the mildest flu experience in at least fifteen years
- However, as we approach the 2021/22 season, we may be on the verge of one of the worst flu seasons in fifteen years:
 - We are already seeing more visits than during the peak of the season last Winter – two weeks before this season officially starts
 - Only the 2008/09 season ended in worse shape than we are in now. The subsequent 2009/2010 season was among the worst we have experienced in fifteen years
 - This 2009/10 season also reached peak earlier than in any other season

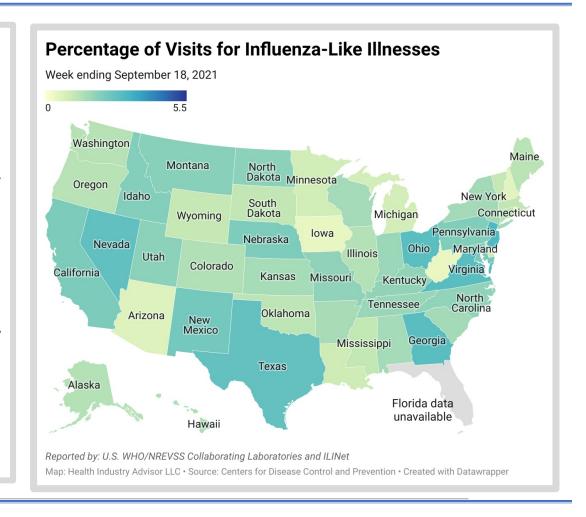


Flu Situation By State

Several states are seeing more than twice as many flu visits as one year ago. Ten have already surpassed last year's peak visits.

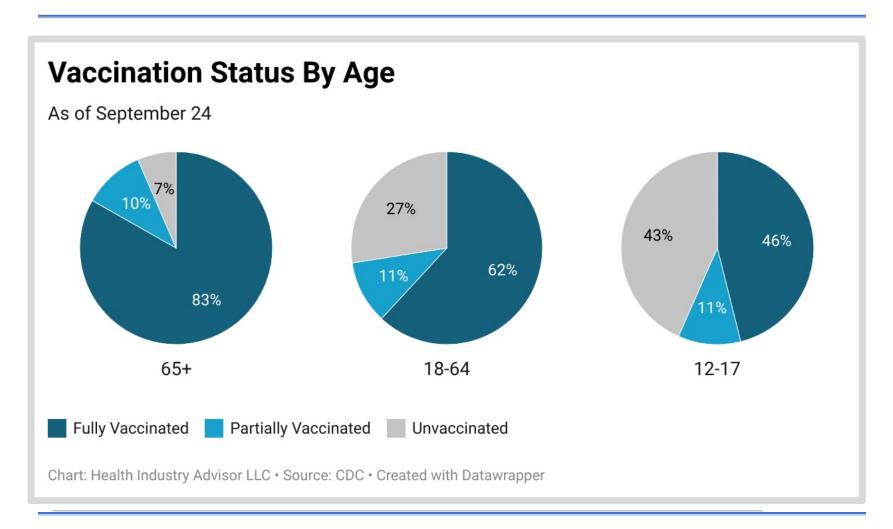
As of the week ending September 18:

- The 2021/22 flu season does not begin for another week
- However, ten states are experiencing higher flu visit rates than at any time during the current 2020/21 season:
 - Maine, Maryland, Montana, Nevada, New York, Ohio, Pennsylvania, Virginia, Washington, and Wisconsin
- Rates in twenty-two states are at least double what they were one year ago:
 - California, Delaware, Idaho, Maine, Maryland, Michigan, Montana, Nevada, New Hampshire, New Jersey, New York, North Carolina, North Dakota, Ohio, Pennsylvania, Texas, Utah, Virginia, Washington, and West Virginia



Vaccination Status By Age — United States

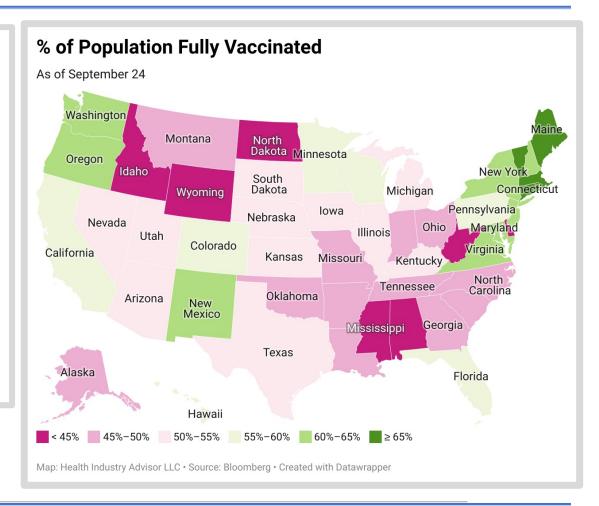
More than one of every four non-senior adults (18-64 years old) are refusing to be vaccinated. Among eligible teenagers, more than four in ten are resisting.



Vaccine Tracking - % of Population Vaccinated

The United States still has a long way to go in getting enough people vaccinated against Covid-19.

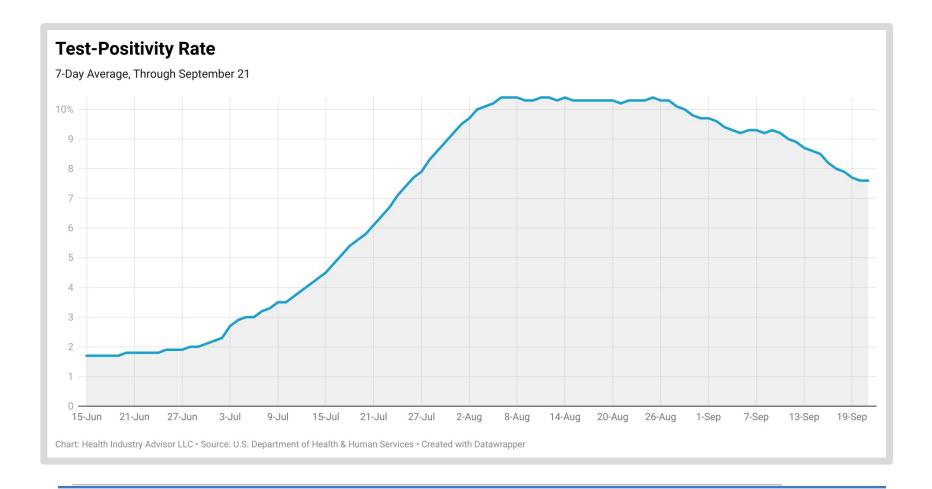
- Alabama, Delaware, Idaho
 Mississippi, North Dakota, West
 Virginia, and Wyoming trail the rest
 of the country in vaccination rates.
- Other states that have vaccinated fewer than half of their citizens: Alaska, Arkansas, Georgia, Indiana, Louisiana, Missouri, Montana, North Carolina, Ohio, Oklahoma, and South Carolina.
- Connecticut, Maine,
 Massachusetts, Rhode Island, and
 Vermont have done the best job of
 vaccinating citizens.
- Other states that have vaccinated at least 60% of their citizens: Maryland, New Hampshire, New Jersey, New Mexico, New York, Oregon, Virginia, and Washington.





Test-Positive Rate

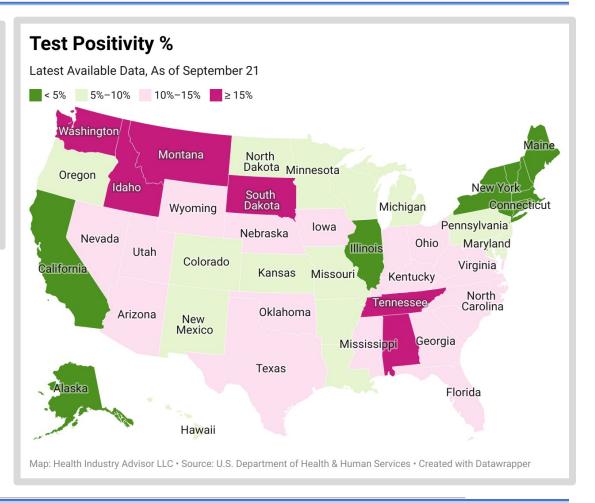
The test-positive has fallen over the past four weeks.



7-Day Average Test-Positivity %

Test-positivity rates are improving nut, still higher than recommended by public health officials.

- Several states continue to post high test-positive rates (>15%):
 - Alabama, Idaho, Montana, South Dakota, Tennessee, and Washington
- Several states report rates that beat recommended targets (,5%):
 - Alaska, California, Connecticut, Illinois, Maine, New Hampshire, New York, Rhode Island, and Vermont.

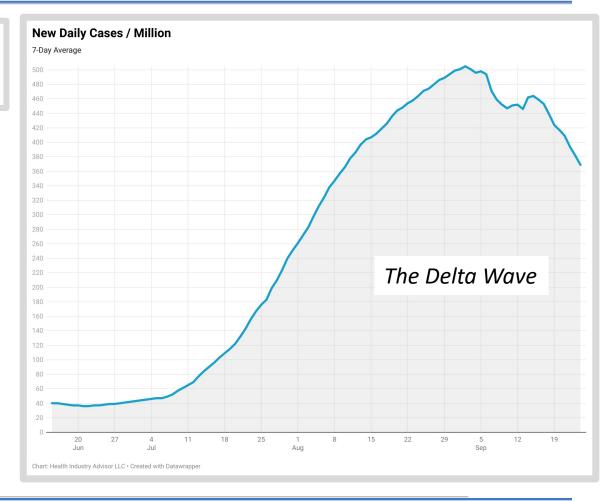




Newly Detected Cases

New cases (7-day average) fell to a six-week low on Friday.

- New cases are dropping sharply, after peaking on September 2
- This rate is 27% lower than its recent peak

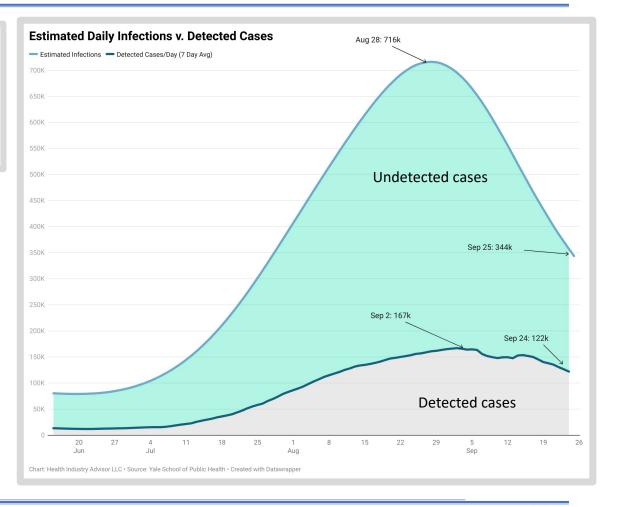




Estimated Daily Infections & New Case Rates

Estimated infections are falling too, even faster than detected cases.

- Estimated new daily cases peaked on August 28
- Since then, these infections plunged more than 50%
- Infections lower than they have been in eight-and-one-half weeks
- Detected cases have dropped 27%.

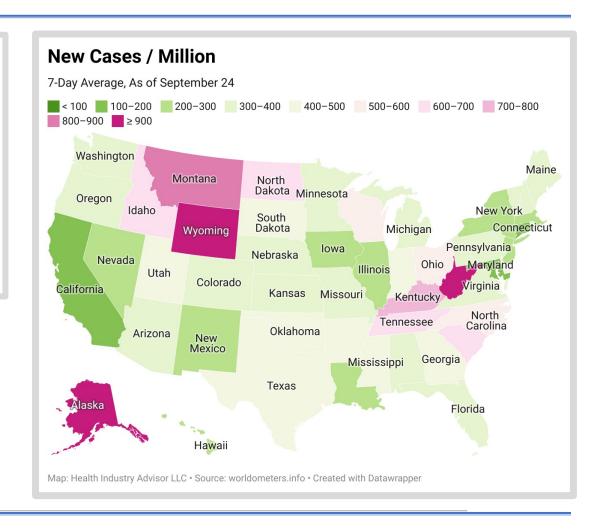




New Daily Cases per Capita By State

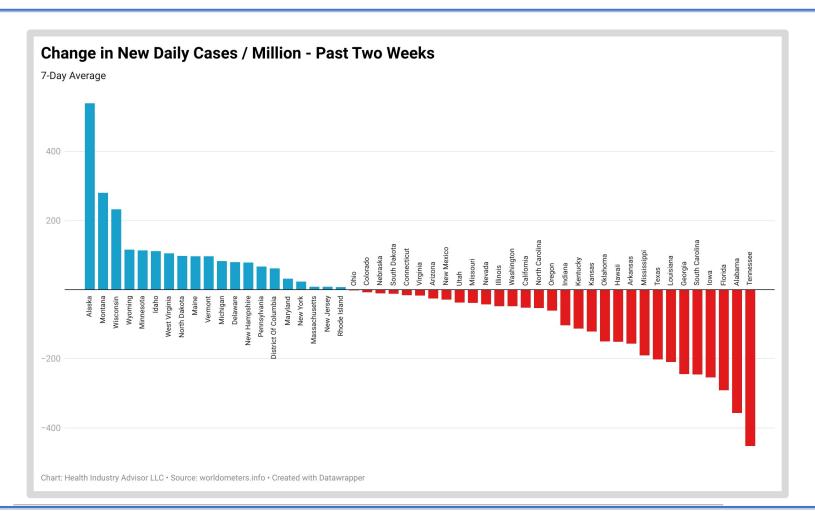
Pockets of high case rates are found across the country..

- Alaska, West Virginia, and Wyoming posted the highest rates of new cases per capita, as of Friday
- Rates are high in Idaho, Kentucky, Montana, North Dakota, Ohio, South Carolina, Tennessee, and Wisconsin too
- California and Maryland have the lowest rates in the country, followed by Hawaii, Illinois, Iowa, Louisiana, Massachusetts, Nevada, and New York



Week-Over-Week Change in New Daily Cases per Capita

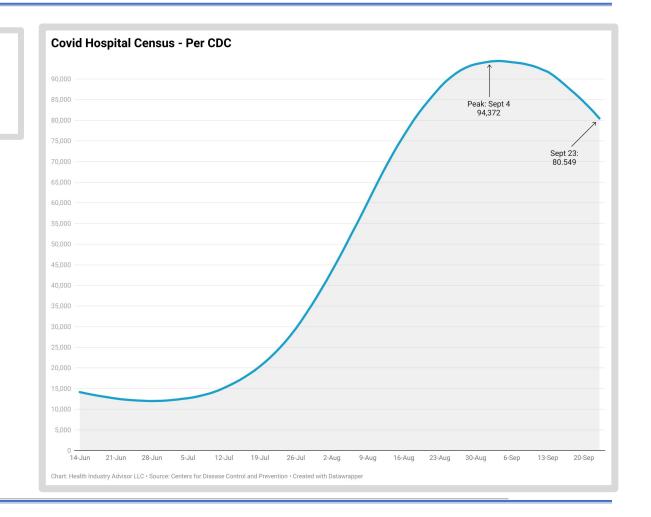
New cases are spiking in Alaska, as well as Montana and Wisconsin. Cases are plunging in most of the states, led by Alabama, Florida and Tennessee.



Inpatient Covid Census

Inpatient census is declining for the United States to total.

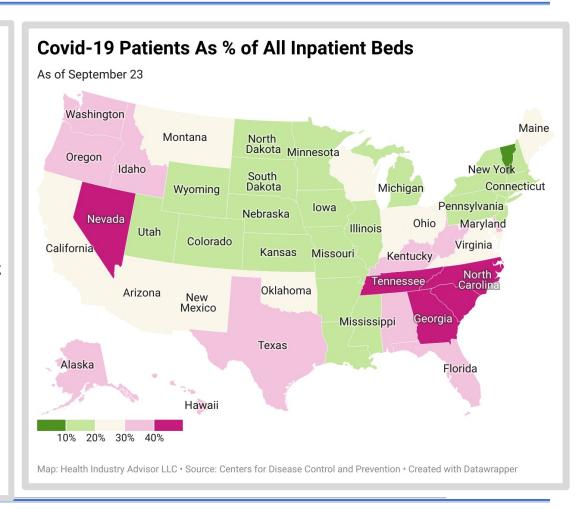
- Covid census recently peaked on September 4
- Since than, census dropped 15%,.



Covid Hospital Occupancy By State

Covid inpatient census is falling but, remains too high in several states.

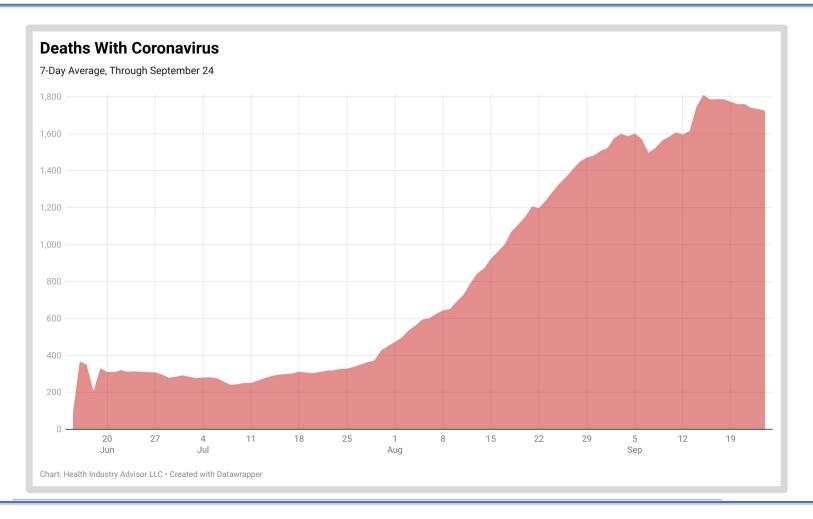
- Covid patients account for more than 40% of available beds in Georgia, Nevada, North Carolina, South Carolina, and Tennessee
- Eleven states are using at least 30% of their beds for treating Covid patients:
 - Alabama, Alaska, Delaware, Florida, Hawaii, Idaho, Kentucky, Oregon, Texas, Washington, and West Virginia
- In Vermont, Covid patients occupy less than 10% of available beds
- Twenty-four additional states are using fewer than one of every five beds for Covid patients:
 - Arkansas, Colorado, Connecticut, Illinois, Iowa, Kansas, Louisiana, Massachusetts, Maryland, Michigan, Minnesota, Mississippi, Missouri, Nebraska, New Hampshire, New Jersey, New York, North Dakota, Pennsylvania, Rhode Island, South Dakota, Utah, Vermont, and Wyoming.





Deaths with Covid-19

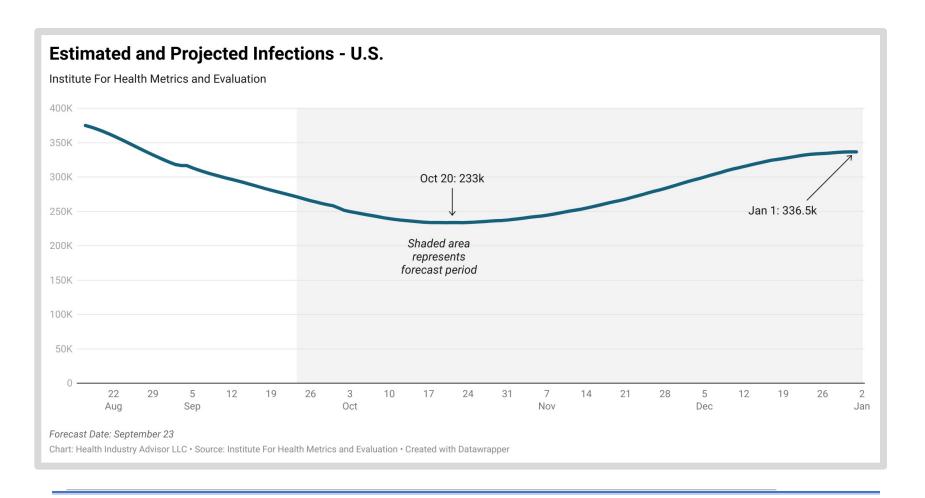
Deaths with Covid-19 are dropping, following an extended rise in late-Summer.





Estimated Infections- IHME Projections

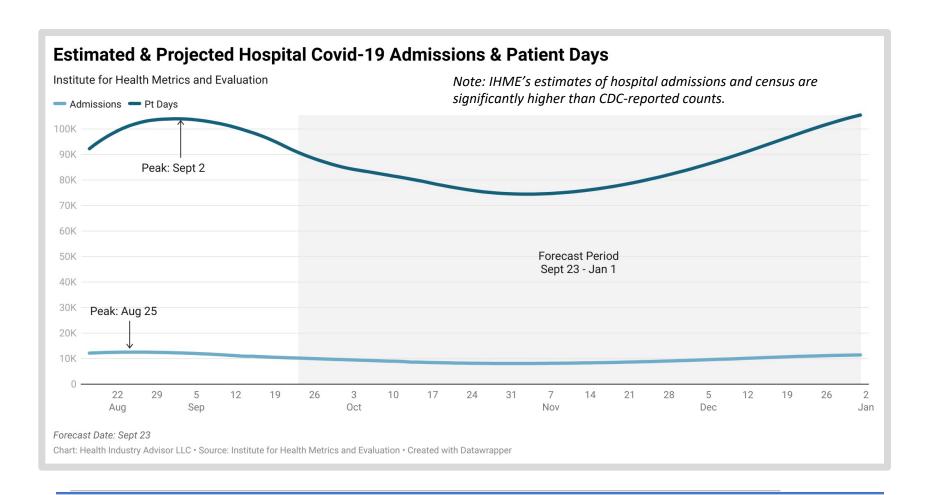
IHME's latest model (published September 23) anticipates that infections will decline for another month, then increase through New Year's Day..





Covid-19 Inpatient Admissions & Census – IHME

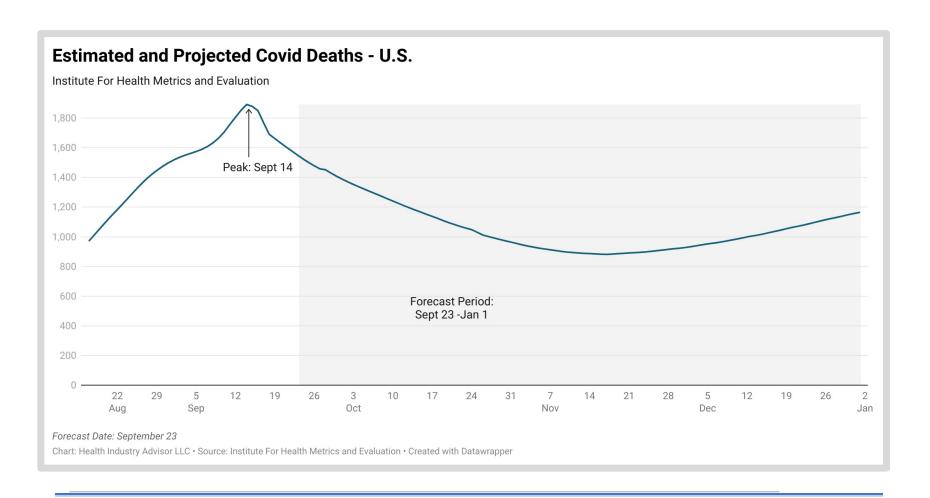
IHME suggests that Covid hospital admissions peaked one month ago and Covid hospital census peaked three weeks ago. Both measures are expected to increase in November and December.





Deaths With Covid-19: IHME Projection

IHME's model suggests that we have seen the peak of daily deaths from the Delta variant. Deaths are expected to drop through mid-November, before rising again in the last six weeks of the year.





Sources

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

- U.S. Department of Health & Human Services: https://healthdata.gov/dataset/covid-19-estimated-patient-impact-and-hospital-capacity-state
- U.S. Department of Health & Human Services https://beta.healthdata.gov/dataset/COVID-19-Diagnostic-Laboratory-Testing-PCR-Testing/j8mb-icvb
- Worldometers.info: https://www.worldometers.info/coronavirus/
- Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, National, Regional, and State Level Outpatient Illness and Viral Surveillance https://gis.cdc.gov/grasp/fluview/fluportaldashboard.html
- Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, COVID-19 Laboratory-Confirmed Hospitalizations https://gis.cdc.gov/grasp/COVIDNet/COVID19 5.html
- Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, COVID Data Tracker https://www.cdc.gov/covid-data-tracker/index.html#mobility
- Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, Vaccines, https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/vaccines/index.html
- 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
- Our World In Data, https://ourworldindata.org/covid-vaccinations
- Covid-19 Forecast Hub, https://viz.covid19forecasthub.org
- Yale School of Public Health & Harvard TH Chan School of Public Health, https://covidestim.org
- Bloomberg Vaccine Trackers, https://www.bloomberg.com/graphics/covid-vaccine-tracker-global-distribution/?sref=Z0b6TmH

