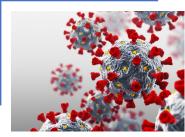


"Strategic Advice in an Era of Unprecedented Change"









Covid-19 "Vital Signs"

Issue # 351 October 11, 2021

Covid Snapshot – Comparing Last Week to Prior Weeks

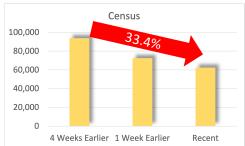
Across several key metrics, Covid experience is improving relative to a week ago and to four weeks ago.











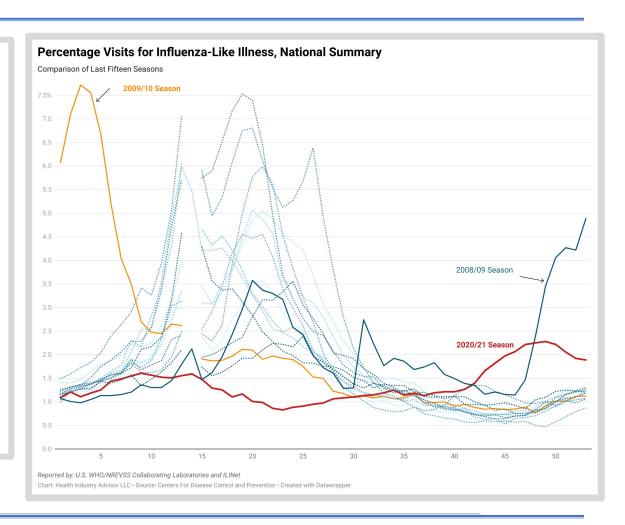




Comparison of Flu Seasons

After a concerning run-up in flu cases last month, these visits have slowed in recent weeks. However, they remain higher than experienced last winter.

- Last Winter, we enjoyed the mildest flu experience in at least fifteen years
- However, as we approach the 2021/22 season, we need to be vigilant of the possibility of a severe season this Winter:
 - We are seeing more visits than during the peak of the season last Winter
 - 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

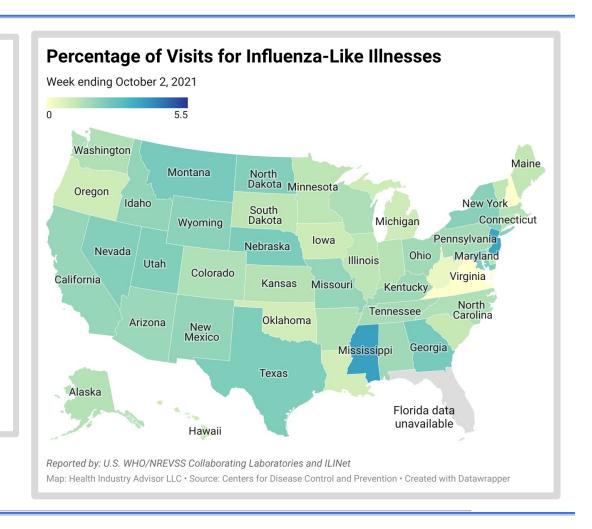


Flu Situation By State

Sixteen states are seeing more than twice as many flu visits as this time one year ago. Rates in four states exceed last year's peak visits.

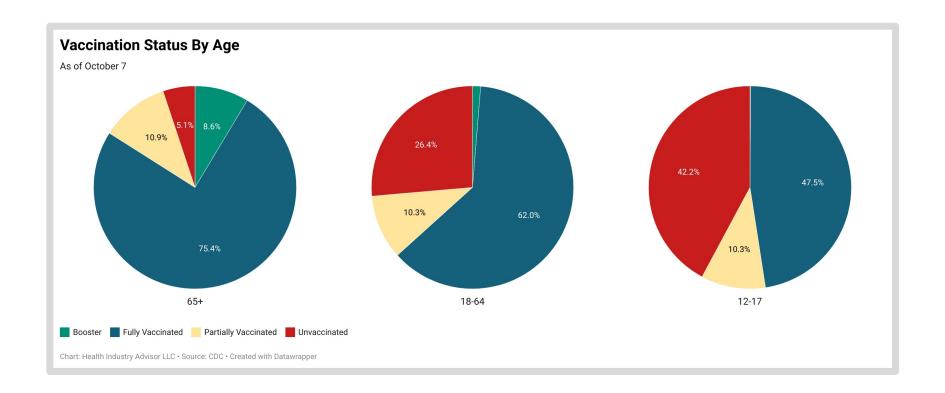
As of the week ending September 18:

- The 2021/22 flu season has just started
- However, four states are experiencing higher flu visit rates than at any time during the 2020/21 season:
 - Massachusetts, Montana, New Jersey, and Washington
- Rates in sixteen states are at least double what they were one year ago:
 - California, Delaware, Indiana, Maine, Maryland, Michigan, Nevada, New Jersey, New Mexico, North Carolina, Ohio, Pennsylvania, Texas, Utah, Washington, and Wyoming.



Vaccination Status By Age – United States

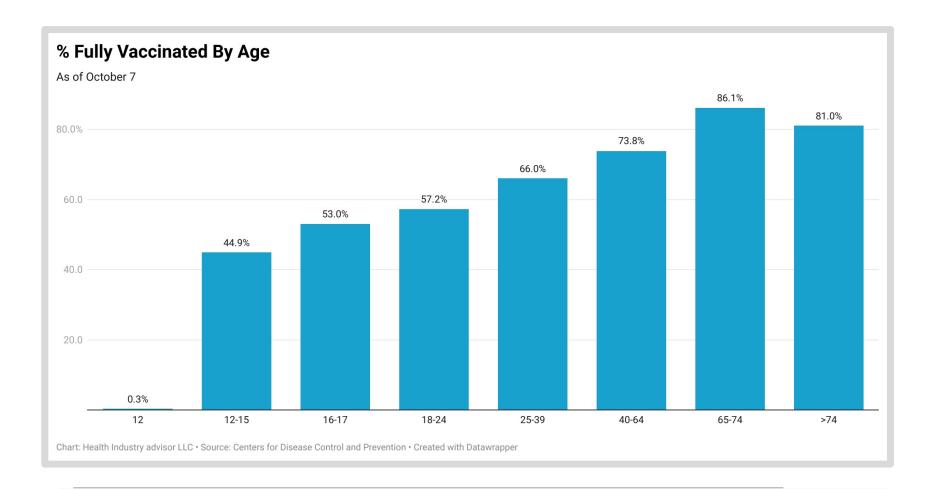
8.6% of seniors have received a booster shot already. This exceeds the number of seniors that remain unvaccinated. 42.2% of eligible teens and 26.4% of non-senior adults are unvaccinated.





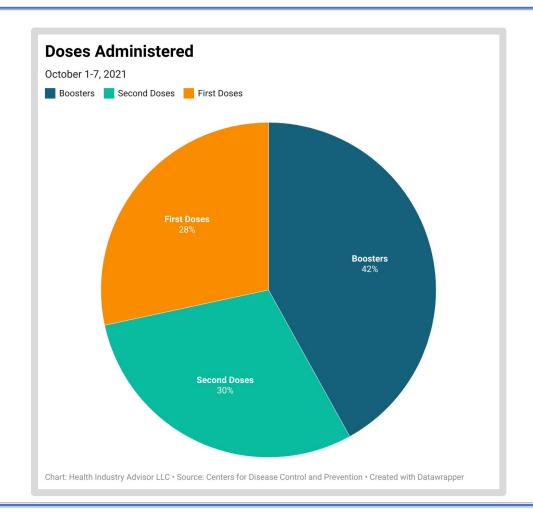
Vaccination Status By Age

Two-thirds of all adults 25-to-39-years-and older are fully vaccinated. More than four in five seniors are fully vaccinated. Fewer than half of those 12-to-15-years-old are fully vaccinated.

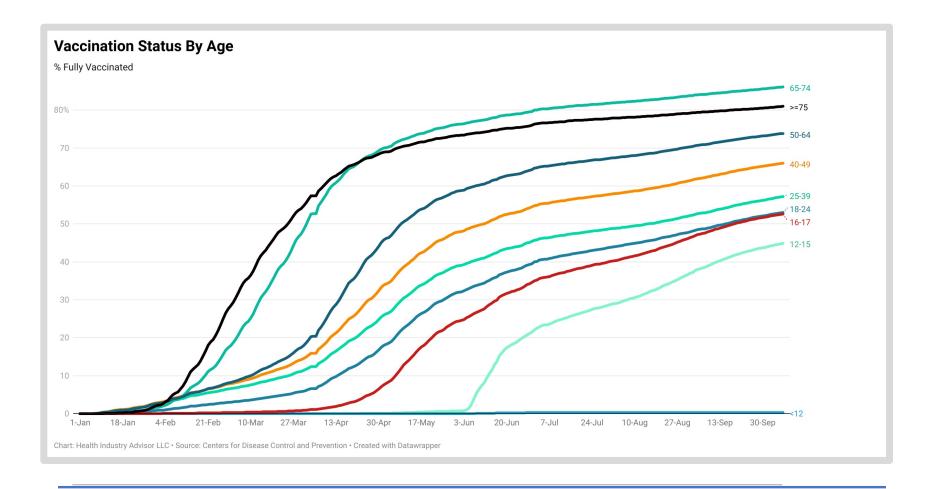


Vaccinations Last Week

Four in ten vaccines administered last week were booster shots. Three in ten were initial vaccinations.



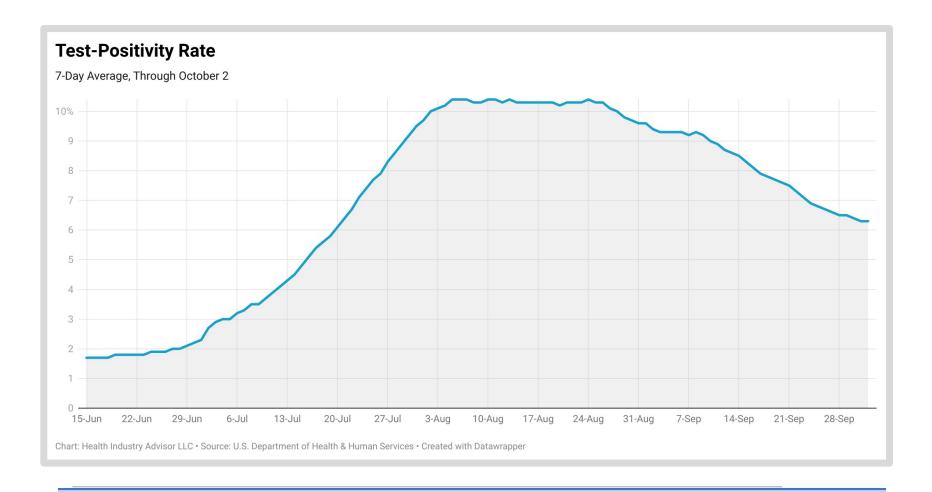
Vaccination Trends By Age
Persons 65-to-74-years old are most likely to be fully vaccinated, followed by persons 75-and-older. Eligible teenagers are least likely to be vaccinated but, rates are increasing fastest among this age group.





Test-Positive Rate

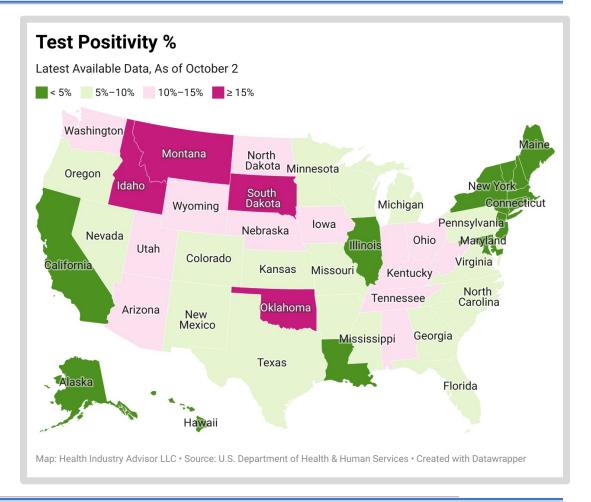
The test-positive rate continues to drop.



7-Day Average Test-Positivity %

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

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

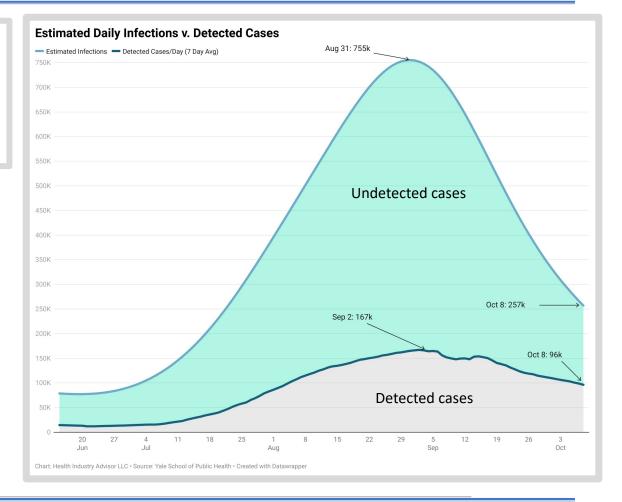




Estimated Daily Infections & New Case Rates

Estimated infections are falling even faster than detected cases.

- Estimated new daily cases peaked on August 31
- Since then, these infections plunged 65%
- Infections are lower than they have been in more than eleven weeks.

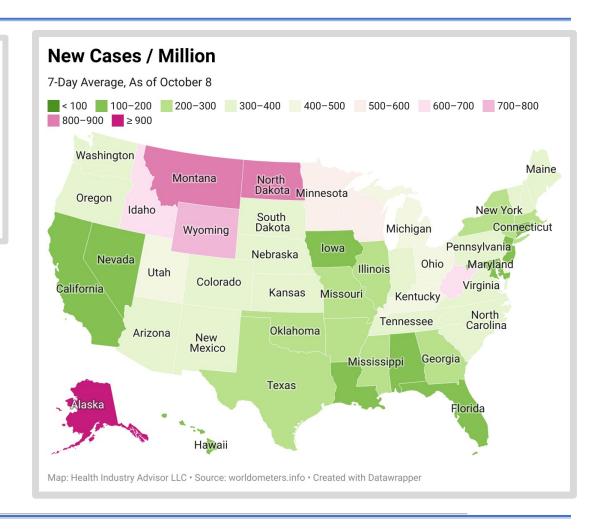




New Daily Cases per Capita By State

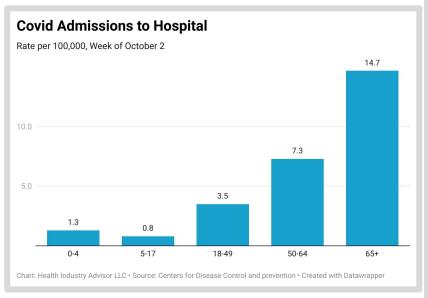
Pockets of high case rates are found across the country.

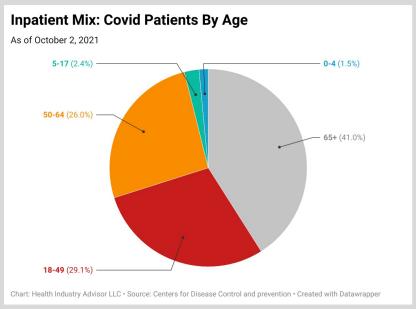
- Alaska, Idaho, Montana, North Dakota, West Virginia, and Wyoming posted the highest rates of new cases per capita, as of Friday
- Alabama, California, Connecticut, Florida, Hawaii, Louisiana, Maryland, Nevada, and New Jersey have the lowest rates in the country.



Covid Admissions and Hospital Census By Age

Seniors are twice as likely to be admitted for Covid reasons than 50–to-64-year-olds; in turn, 50–to-64-year-olds are twice as likely to be admitted as 18–to-49-year-olds. Children and teenagers remain relatively unlikely to require hospitalization.

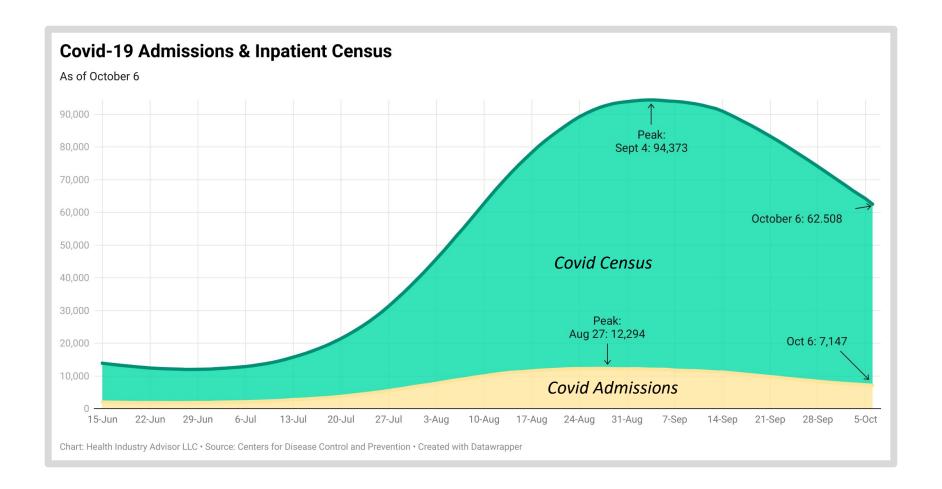






Inpatient Covid Admissions and Census

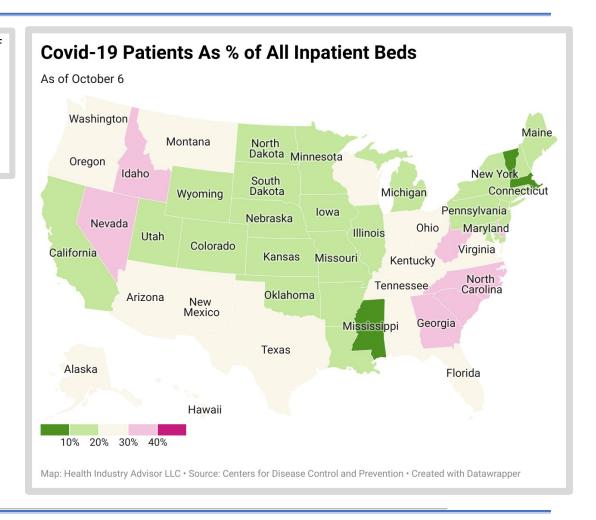
Inpatient census and admissions are declining for the United States in total. Admissions have dropped 42% since late August. Census has declined 32% since early September.



Covid Hospital Occupancy By State

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

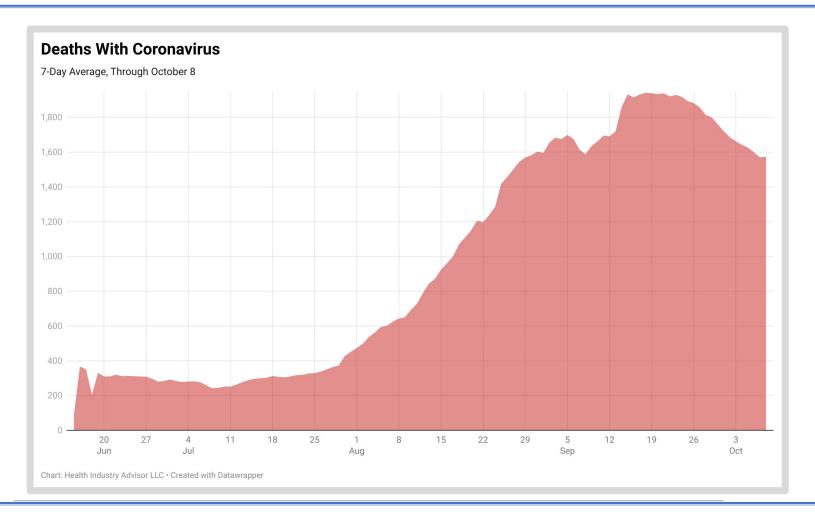
- Covid patients account for one-third of available beds in Delaware, Georgia, Idaho, Nevada, North Carolina, South Carolina, and West Virginia
- In Massachusetts, Mississippi, and Vermont, Covid patients occupy fewer than 10% of available beds





Deaths with Covid-19

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





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

