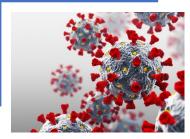


"Strategic Advice in an Era of Unprecedented Change"









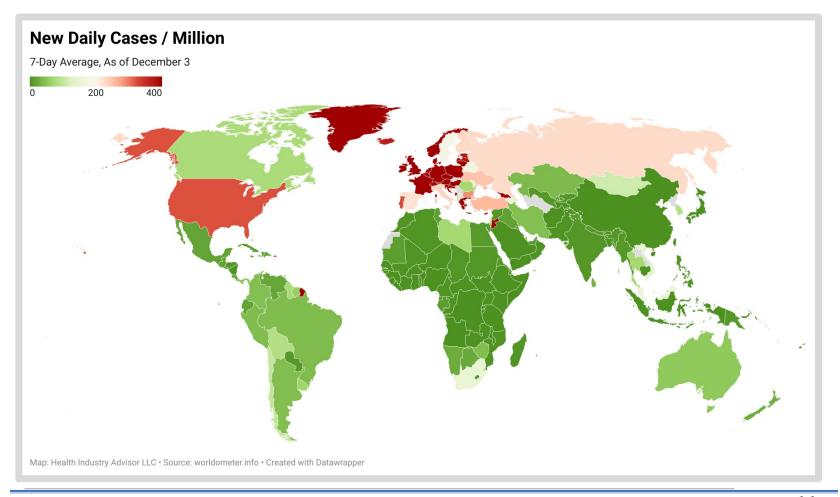
Covid-19 "Vital Signs"

Issue # 359 December 6, 2021



Newly Detected Cases / Million

Delta and now, Omicron, drove infection rates higher last week across Europe and the United States. Rates are generally low in many other parts of the world.

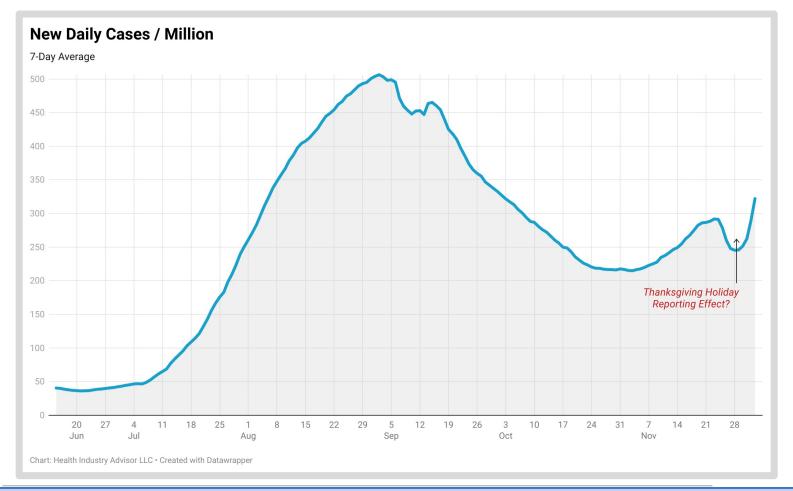






Newly Detected Cases / Million - US

The new case rate spiked to its highest level on Friday since early October. Positing that Thanksgiving holiday reporting issues artificially lowered reported cases, the new case rate continued a five-week climb.

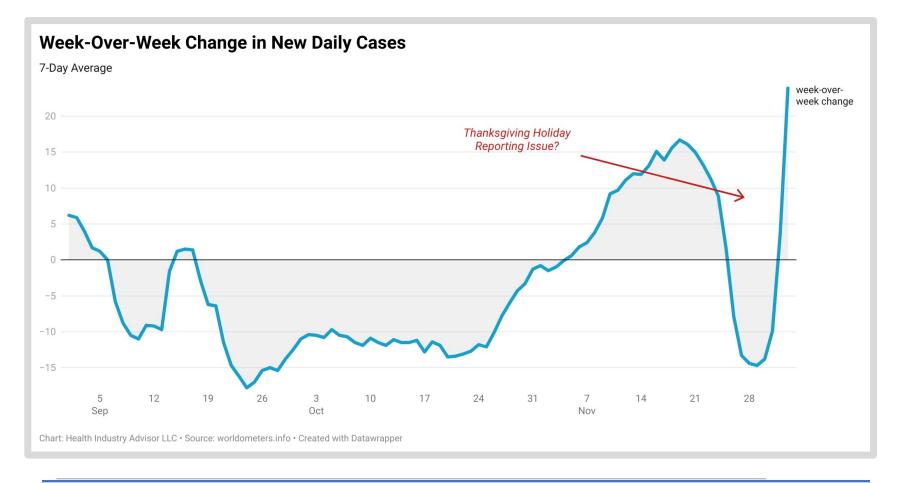






Week-Over-Week Changes in New Cases – U.S.

Holiday case reporting issues cloud week-to-week comparisons. Nevertheless, new cases are spiking.

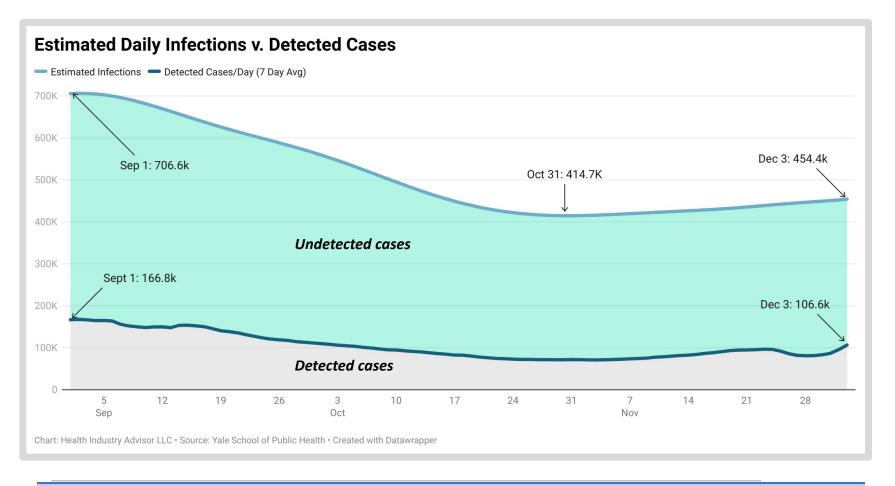






Estimated Daily Infections & New Case Rates – U.S.

Estimated daily infections increased 10% over the past five weeks.

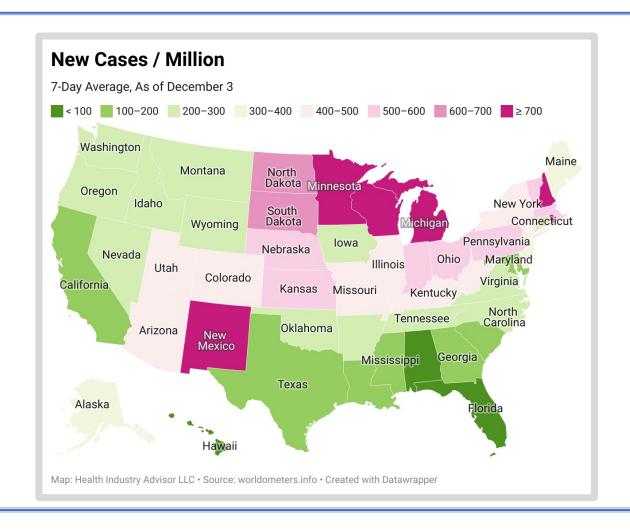




Covid-19 "Vital Signs"

New Daily Cases Per Capita By State

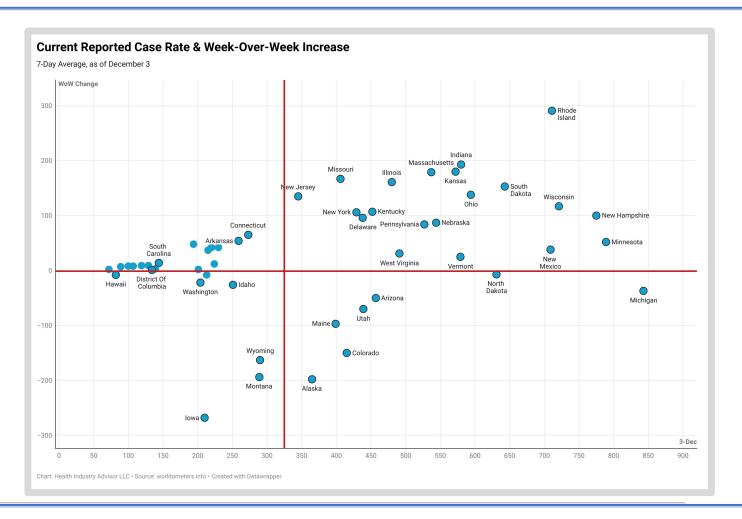
Infections spiked last week across the Midwest and Northeast. Michigan, Minnesota, New Hampshire, New Mexico, and Wisconsin posted the highest new case rates of all states.



Covid-19 "Vital Signs"

Estimated Daily Infections & New Case Rates Holiday reporting issues require us to view week-to-week comparisons with caution.

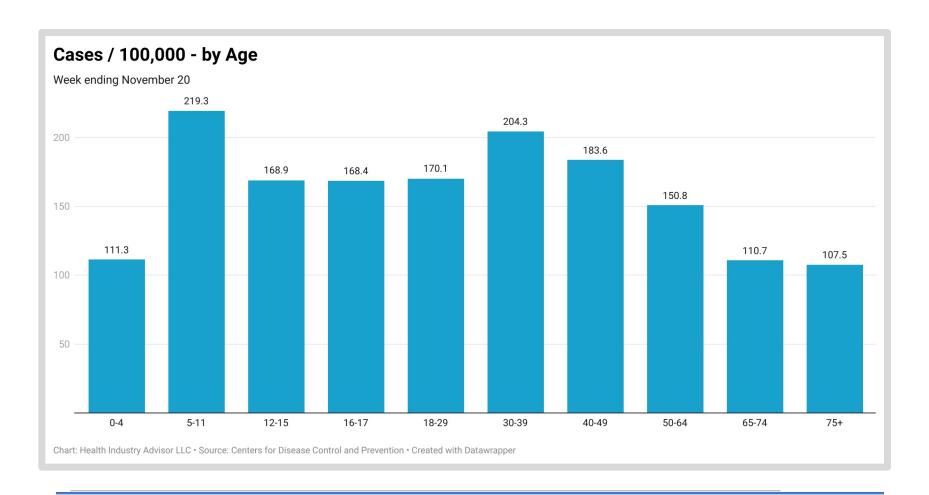
Holiday reporting issues require us to view week-to-week comparisons with caution. Still, states with both high cases rates and significant week-to-week increased cases warrant attention (upper right quadrant in chart below.)



Cases Per Capita By Age Group

Covid-19 "Vital Signs"

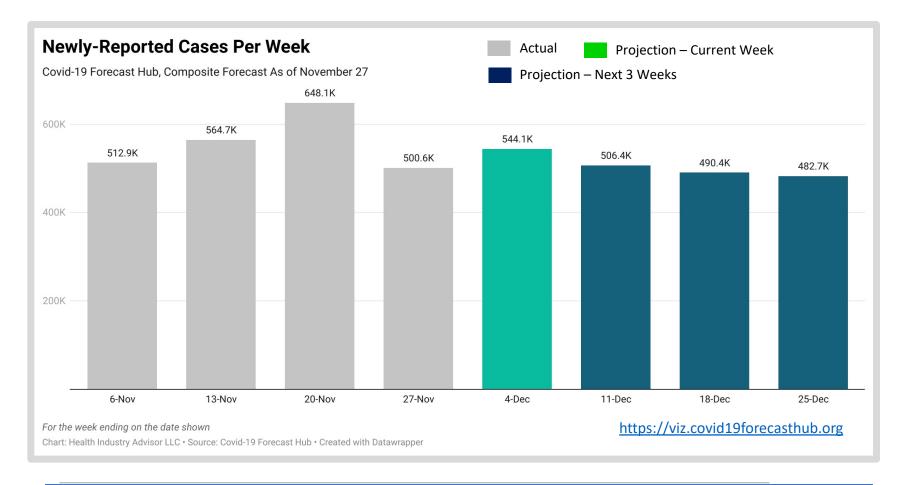
Infants and toddlers (0-to-4-years-old) continue to report a low infection rate per capita. Seniors, thanks to impressive vaccination rates, benefit from lower rates than any other age group. With the highest infection rate, children 5-to-11-years old should benefit from increasing vaccinations.





Covid-19 Cases: Ensemble Forecast

The most-recent ensemble - formulated before Omicron surfaced - predicted a slowly declining infection rate.

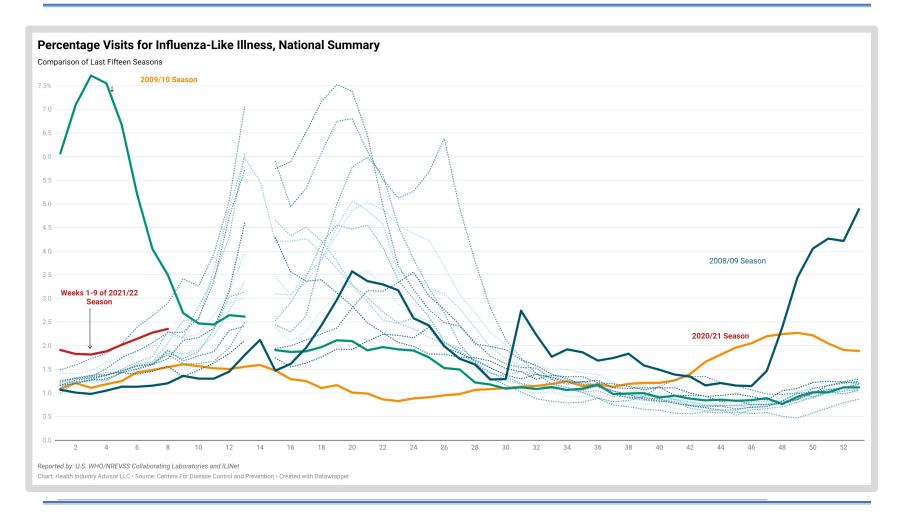






Comparison of Flu Seasons

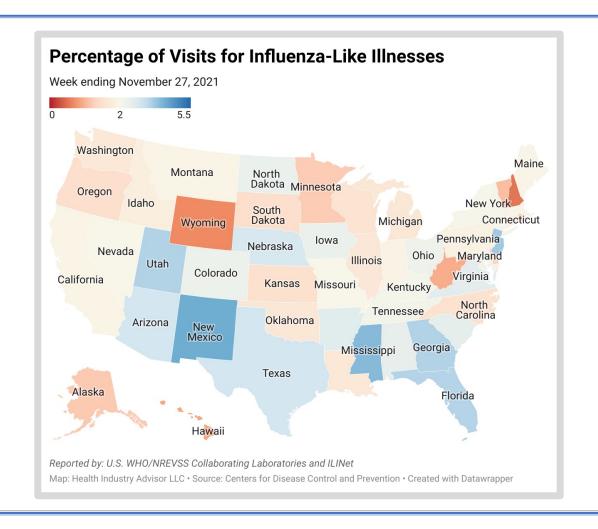
The United States' flu visit rate exceeds the rate for the comparable week during all but two of the last fifteen seasons. The peak of the typical flu season lies ahead of us.





Flu Situation By State

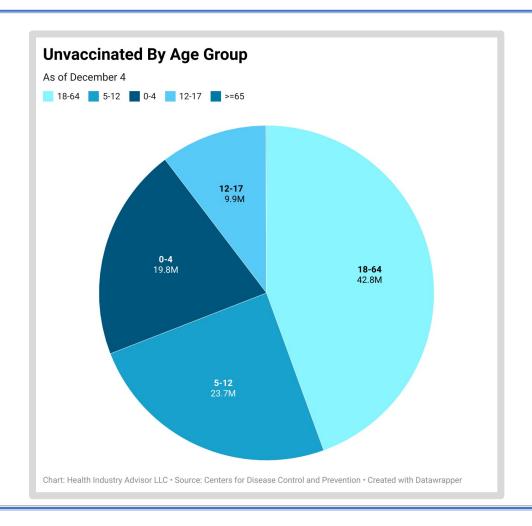
Flu visits are highest across the southern United States.



Covid-19 "Vital Signs"

How Many Americans Remain Unvaccinated?

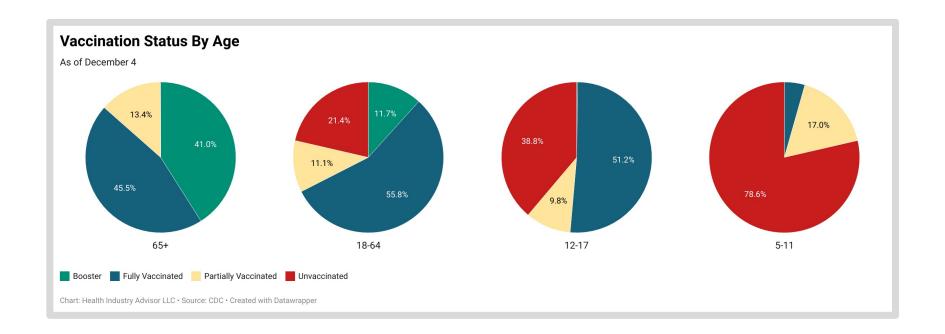
96 million Americans remain unvaccinated - half of them are working age adults. Twenty million are too young to be vaccinated (under 5 years old). Twenty-four million are grade school aged (5 to 12 years old.)



Covid-19 "Vital Signs"

Vaccination Status By Age — United States *Two of five senior citizens have received a booster shot. Fewer than 60,000 are*

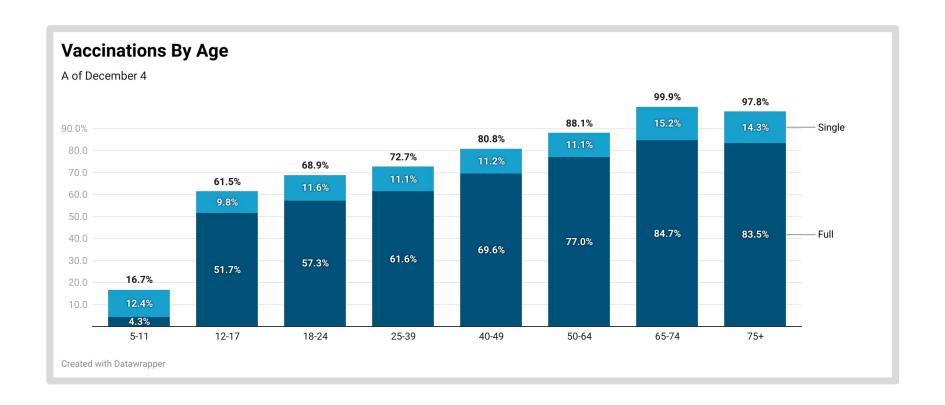
Two of five senior citizens have received a booster shot. Fewer than 60,000 are unvaccinated. Nearly one-in-five grade school children have received an initial vaccination. Two-in-five 12-to-17-year-olds have yet to receive even a single dose.





Vaccination Status By Age

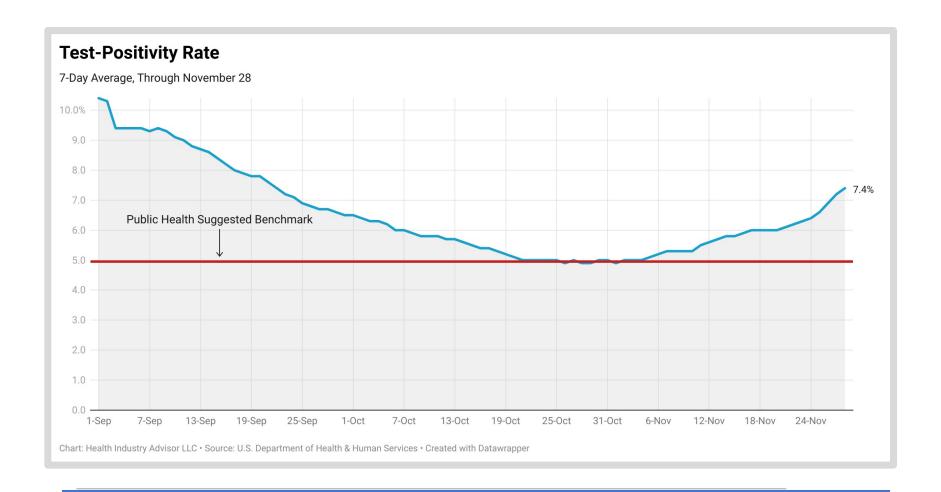
Vaccine status increases with age, at least through age 74. Across most age groups, one-in-ten people have received an initial shot but not the second.



Covid-19 "Vital Signs"

Test-Positive Rate

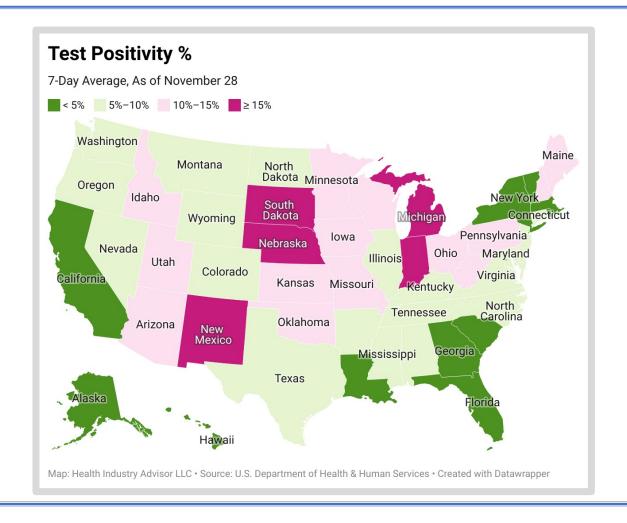
The test-positive rate has increased steadily since Halloween.



Covid-19 "Vital Signs"

7-Day Average Test-Positivity %

Indiana, Michigan, Nebraska, New Mexico, and South Dakota posted the highest testpositivity rates of all states last week.

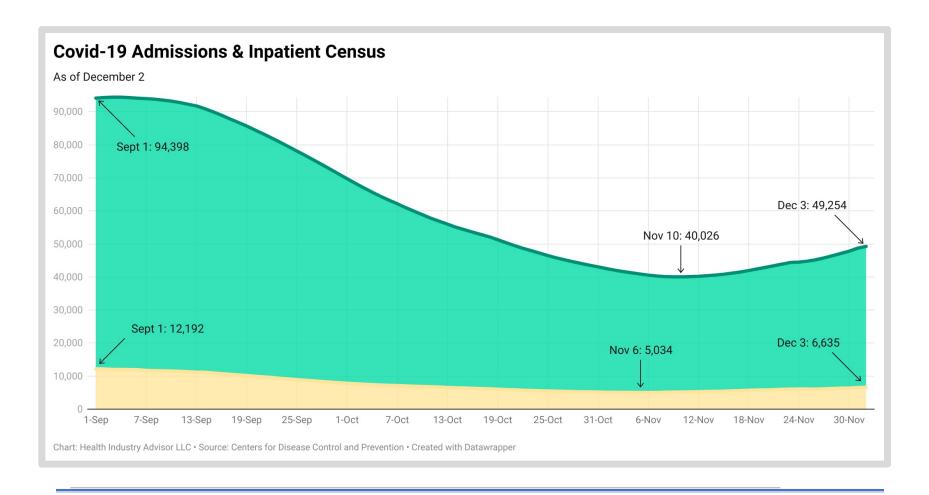






Inpatient Covid Admissions and Census

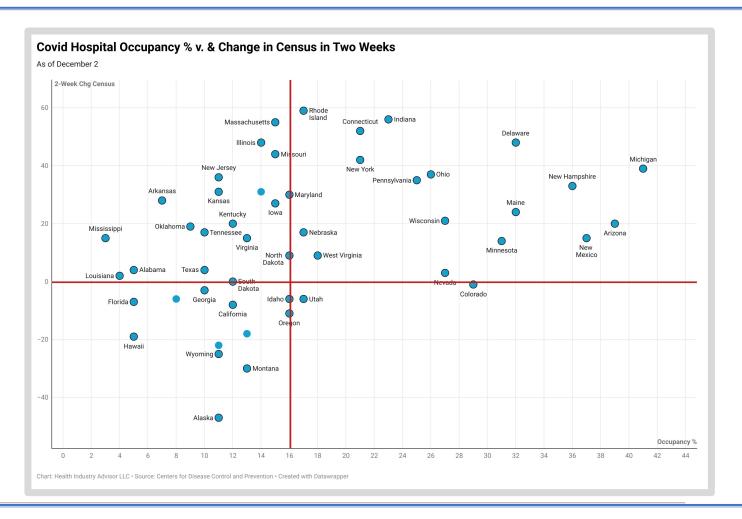
Covid admissions began rising early in November, increasing 32% already. Covid census started increasing shortly thereafter. Census is up 23% in the past month. Fortunately, both measures are sharply lower than early Spetember.



Covid-19 "Vital Signs"

Covid Hospital Occupancy Trends

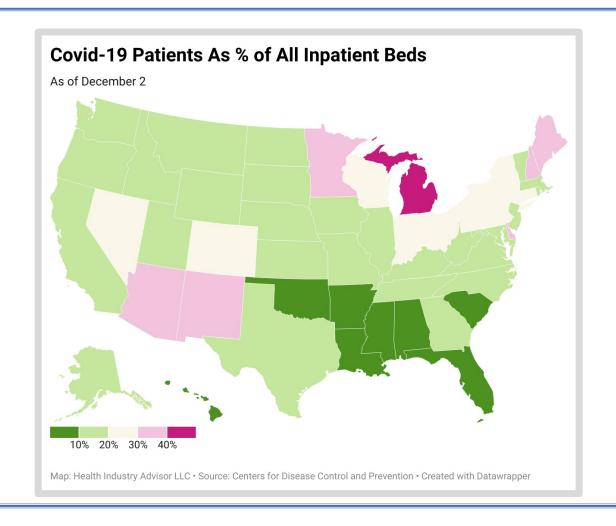
Covid census in most states increased over the past two weeks. Of particular concern are states with high occupancy rates already, including Arizona, Michigan, New Hampshire, and New Mexico.



Covid-19 "Vital Signs"

Covid Hospital Occupancy By State

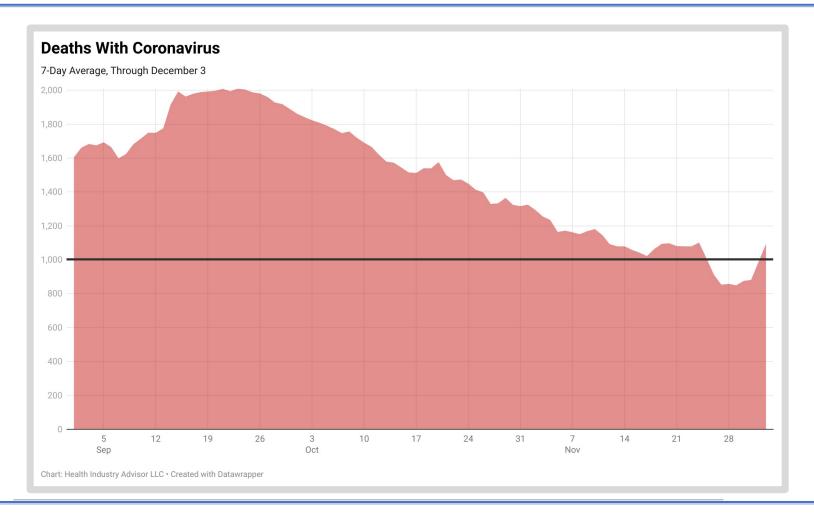
Covid hospitalization levels reached concerning levels last week in Arizona, Maine, Michigan, Minnesota, New Hampshire, and New Mexico. Rates remain relatively low in across the Southeast.





Deaths with Covid-19

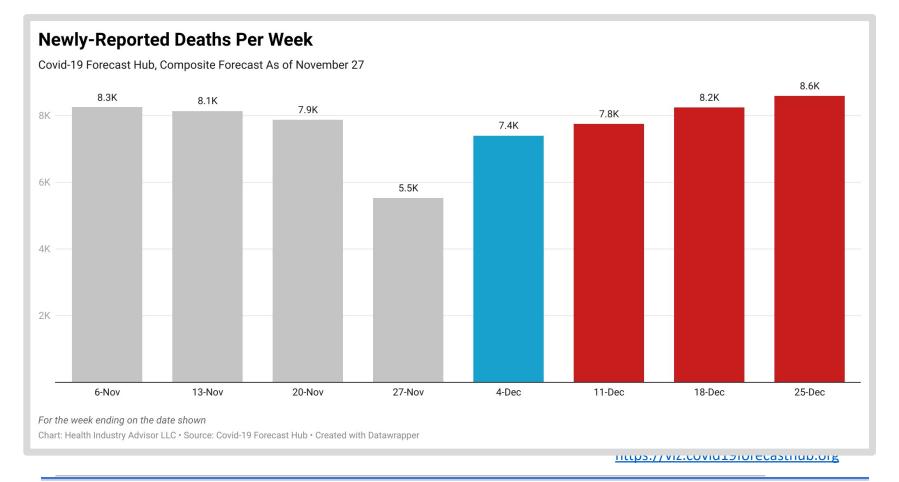
Deaths with Covid increased last week, returning to the pre-Thanksgiving level. The current rate is above 1,000 per day.





Death Projections – Ensemble Forecast

The ensemble forecast – formulated before Omicron emerged - predicted rising Covid deaths over the next few weeks.







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

