



"Strategic Advice in an Era of Unprecedented Change"

COVID19 VITAL SIGNS

ISSUE #372

MONDAY, MARCH 7, 2022

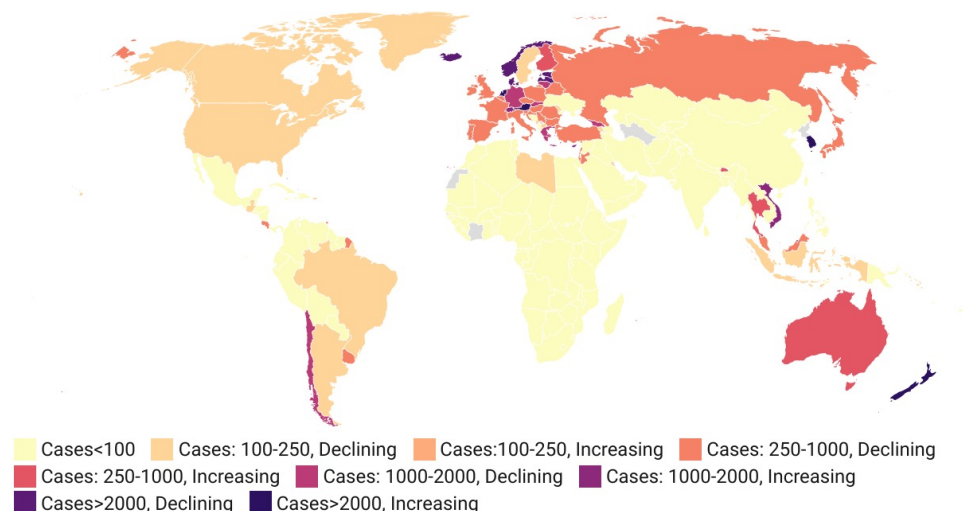
Highlights – As of March 4

- The United States enjoyed its seventh consecutive week of receding Covid cases
 - Case rates plunged more than 90% during this time, reaching the lowest point since July 2021
 - Experts expect cases to decline another 60% in the next three weeks
- More than 90% of the United States population resides in areas designated by the CDC as low or medium Covid risk (as of March 4)
 - This rate improved from the 70% reported a week ago
 - A low or medium designation relaxes the recommended masking restrictions for a community
- Hospitals gained further relief from Covid and flu patients last week
 - Covid admissions and census reached lows not seen since last July
 - This flu season continues to report lower visits rates than fourteen of the past fifteen years (the 2020/21 season was historically low)
- Deaths with Covid declined again last week
 - Half as many people died with Covid last week than did four weeks ago
 - Experts predict deaths will decline by half again in the next three weeks
- Covid exploded across parts of Asia, Europe, and Oceania last week
 - Hong Kong posted a near 5x increase in cases from the prior week and a more than 4x increase in Covid related deaths
 - South Korea witnessed 40% increases in both cases and deaths in the last week
 - Cases in New Zealand spiked by more than 4x over the prior week
- Fifteen countries reported daily cases per million >2,000 last week including Austria, Brunei, Denmark, Hong King, Iceland, the Netherlands, South Korea, Singapore, and South Korea
 - Surprisingly, most of these fifteen countries have vaccinated their citizens at a higher rate than the United States.
 - Also, most claim greater natural infection rates (total cases per capita) than the United States
 - Brunei, Hong Kong, New Zealand, Norway, Singapore, and South Korea each claim lower natural infection immunity than the United States

Covid spread fastest last week across Asia, Europe, and Oceania. By comparison, cases fell 35% in the U.S., to 141 cases per million

Virus Spread

Daily Cases per Million ("Cases") & Weekly Change in Cases



7-Day Average, As of March 3

Map: Health Industry Advisor LLC • Source: Worldometers.info • Created with Datawrapper

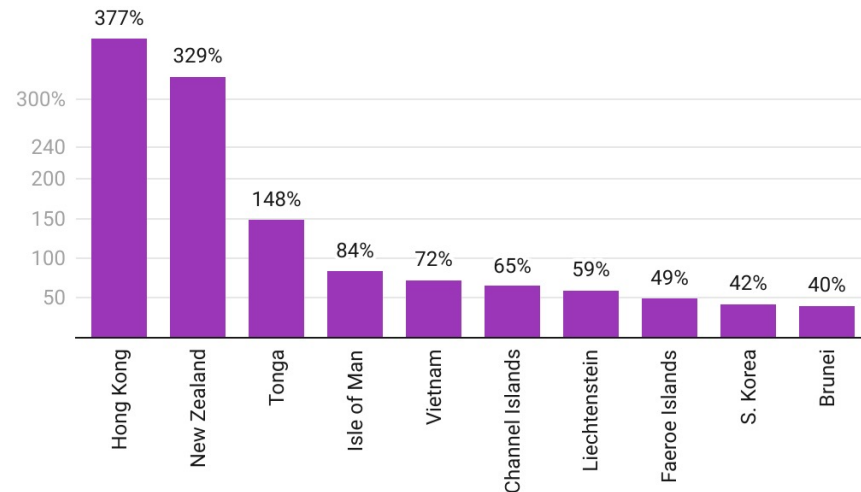
Countries With More Than 2000 New Daily Cases per Million and Increasing Rates Week-over-Week

Country	Cases /Day/M (7-Day Average)	Weekly Change
South Korea	3598	42%
Hong Kong	5167	377%
Austria	3107	7%
New Zealand	3747	329%
Brunei	9396	40%
Faeroe Islands	6371	49%
Netherlands	2498	16%
Channel Islands	2303	65%
Liechtenstein	3766	59%

Cases exploded last week in Hong Kong, New Zealand, and Tonga. Hong Kong suffered a large spike in deaths too. South Korea's cases and deaths increased >40%

Week-over-Week Increase in Covid Cases

As of March 4

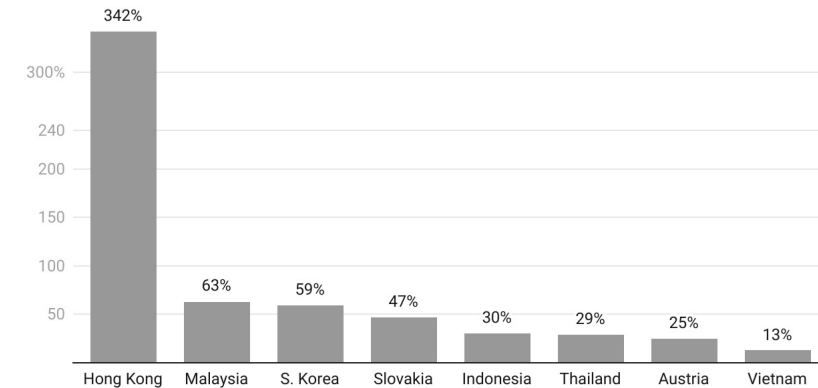


Countries with a minimum of 100 daily cases prior week

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

Week-over-Week Increase in Covid Deaths

As of March 4



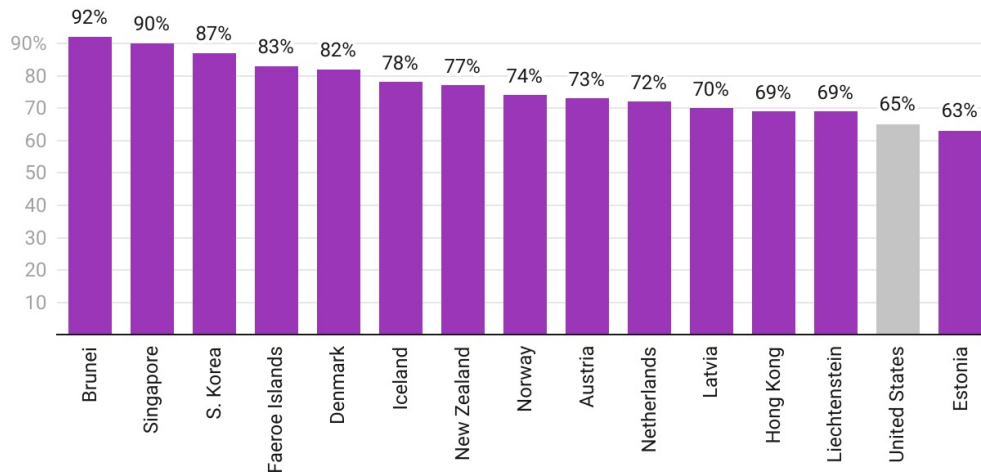
Countries with a minimum of 100 deaths prior week

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

Surprisingly, most countries suffering with the highest current case rates outpace the United States in vaccination and natural infection rates

Full Vaccination Rate

Countries with a current daily case rate >2,000/M, plus the United States

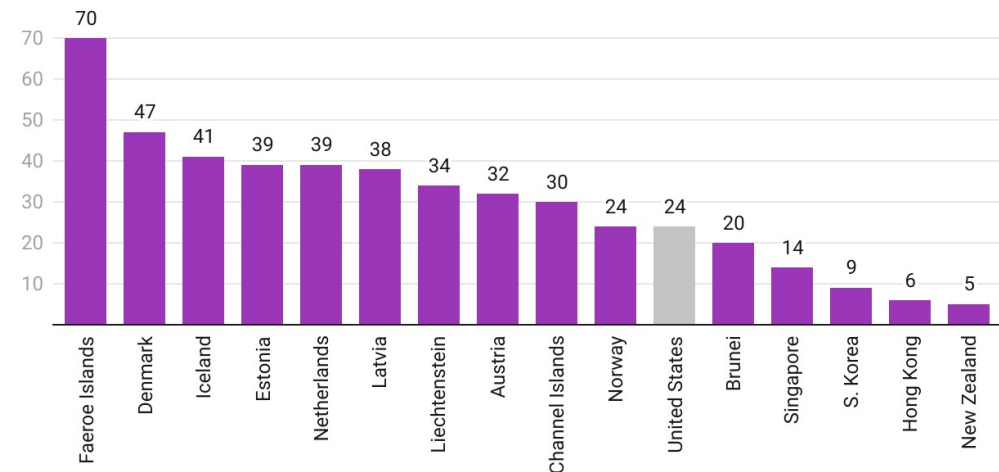


As of March 5

Chart: Health Industry Advisor LLC • Source: Our World In Data • Created with Datawrapper

Cases / 100 Population - Pandemic-To-Date

Countries with a current daily case rate >2,000/M, plus the United States



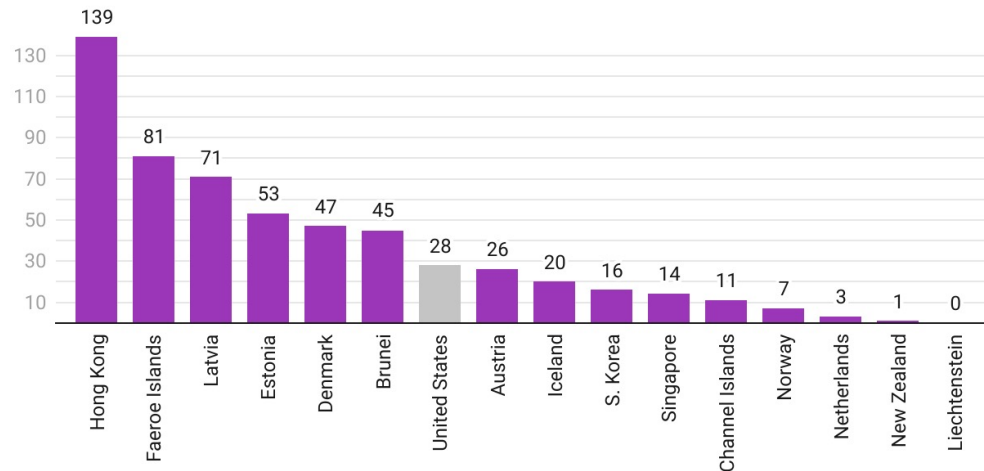
As of March 5

Chart: Health Industry Advisor LLC • Source: world-meters.info • Created with Datawrapper

Hong Kong suffered high and increasing death rates last week, in addition their high case rates. The country also claims low natural infection rates but high vaccination rates. Brunei faced similar circumstances

Deaths / M Population - Last Week

Countries with a current daily case rate >2,000/M, plus the United States

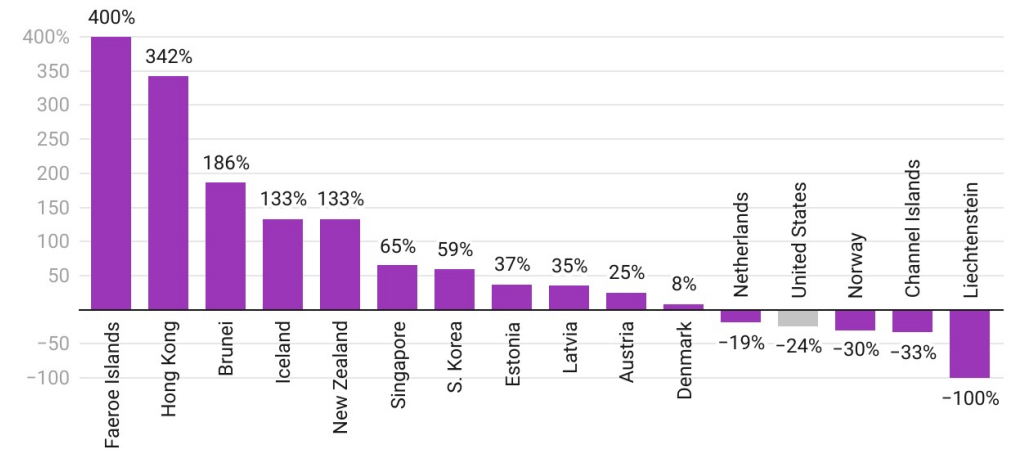


As of March 5

Chart: Health Industry Advisor LLC • Source: world-meters.info • Created with Datawrapper

Week-over-Week Change in Deaths

Countries with a current daily case rate >2,000/M, plus the United States

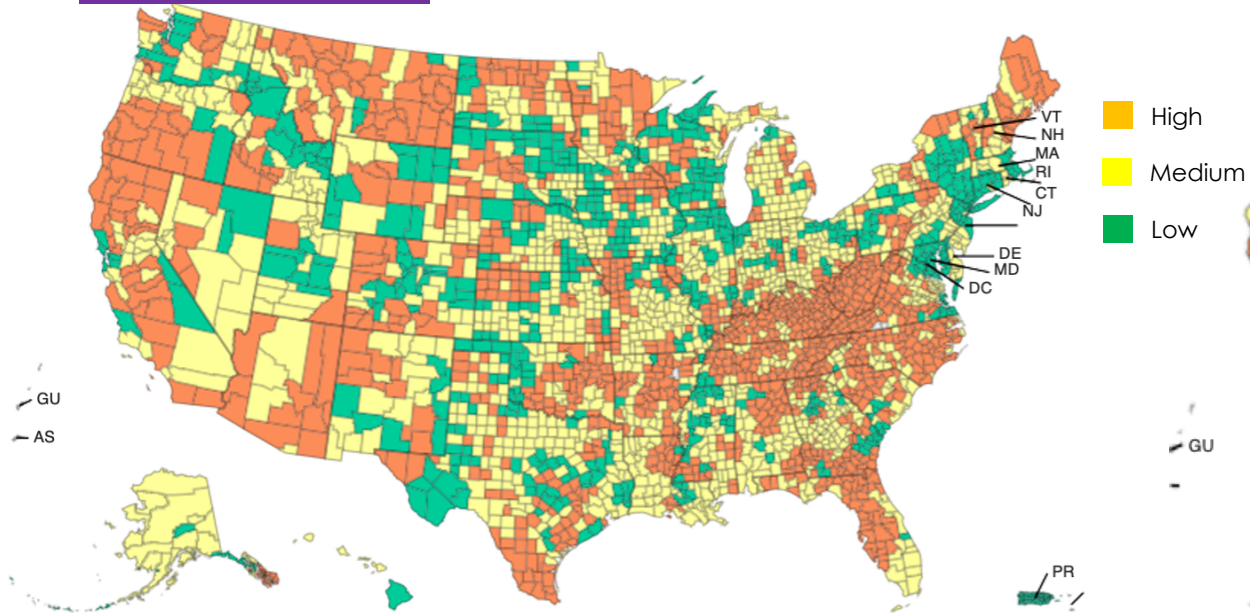


As of March 5

Chart: Health Industry Advisor LLC • Source: world-meters.info • Created with Datawrapper

Community Levels improved during the past week, with much of the country now rated “Low” risk

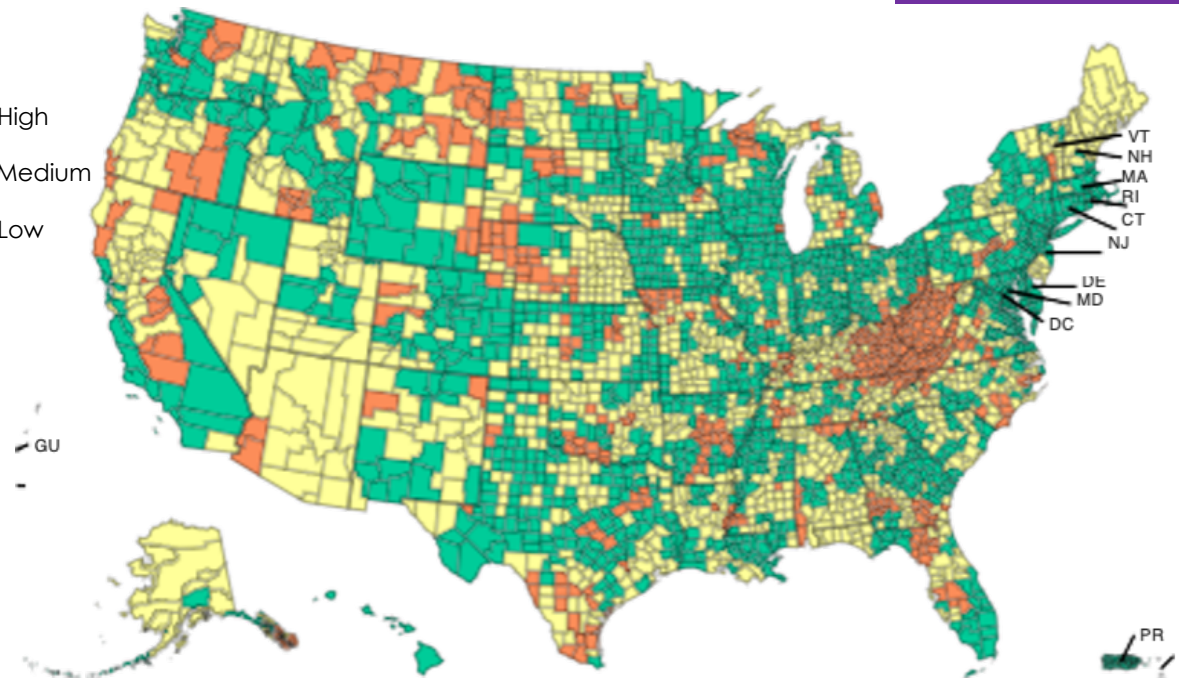
As of February 24



Source: CDC, As of February 24, 2022 and March 4, 2022
<https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/your-health/covid-by-county.html>

70% of population living in areas designated “low” or “medium”

As of March 4



90% of population living in areas designated “low” or “medium”

CDC Community Level Scoring Table

COVID-19 Community Levels

COVID-19 Community Levels – Use the Highest Level that Applies to Your Community				
New COVID-19 Cases				
Per 100,000 people in the past 7 days	Indicators	Low	Medium	High
Fewer than 200	New COVID-19 admissions per 100,000 population (7-day total)	<10.0	10.0-19.9	≥20.0
	Percent of staffed inpatient beds occupied by COVID-19 patients (7-day average)	<10.0%	10.0-14.9%	≥15.0%
200 or more	New COVID-19 admissions per 100,000 population (7-day total)	NA	<10.0	≥10.0
	Percent of staffed inpatient beds occupied by COVID-19 patients (7-day average)	NA	<10.0%	≥10.0%

The COVID-19 community level is determined by the higher of the new admissions and inpatient beds metrics, based on the current level of new cases per 100,000 population in the past 7 days

Source: Centers for Disease Control and Prevention,
<https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/science/community-levels.html>

The test-positive rate dropped below the 5% public health guideline for the first time since last July.

Test-Positivity Rate

7-Day Average, Through February 25

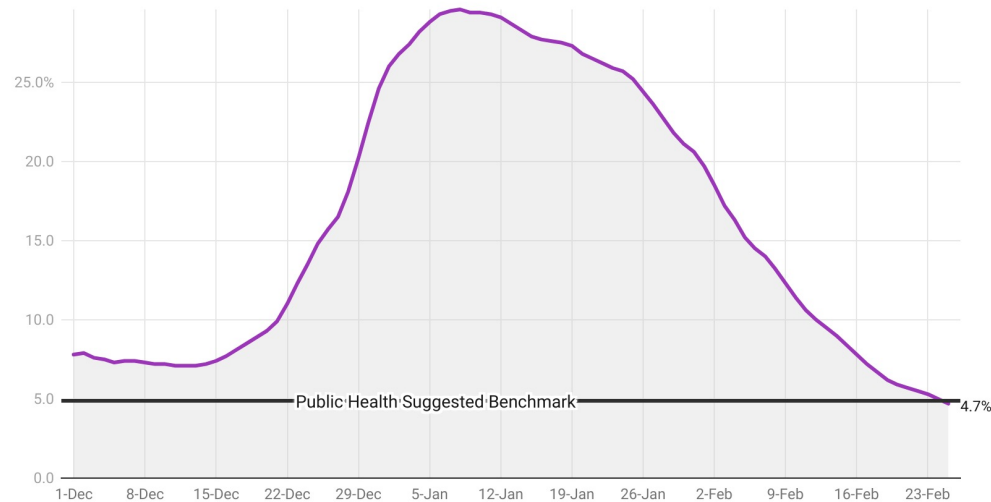
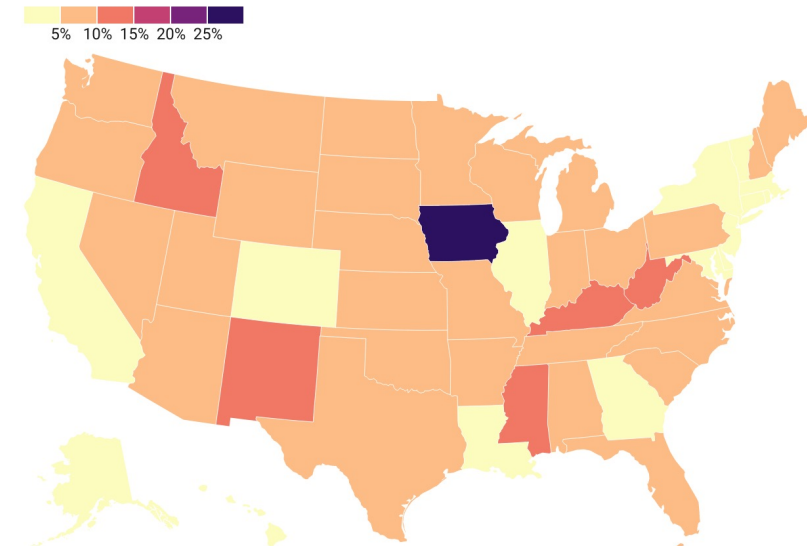


Chart: Health Industry Advisor LLC • Source: U.S. Department of Health & Human Services • Created with Datawrapper

Test Positivity %

7-Day Average, As of February 25



Note: Iowa only reported positive test results for the week

Map: Health Industry Advisor LLC • Source: U.S. Department of Health & Human Services • Created with Datawrapper

Cases tumbled 94% in the past seven weeks. The ensemble forecast predicts infections will retreat another 60% in the next three weeks. Already, the case rate is lower than anytime since July 21, 2021

New Daily Cases / Million

7-Day Average

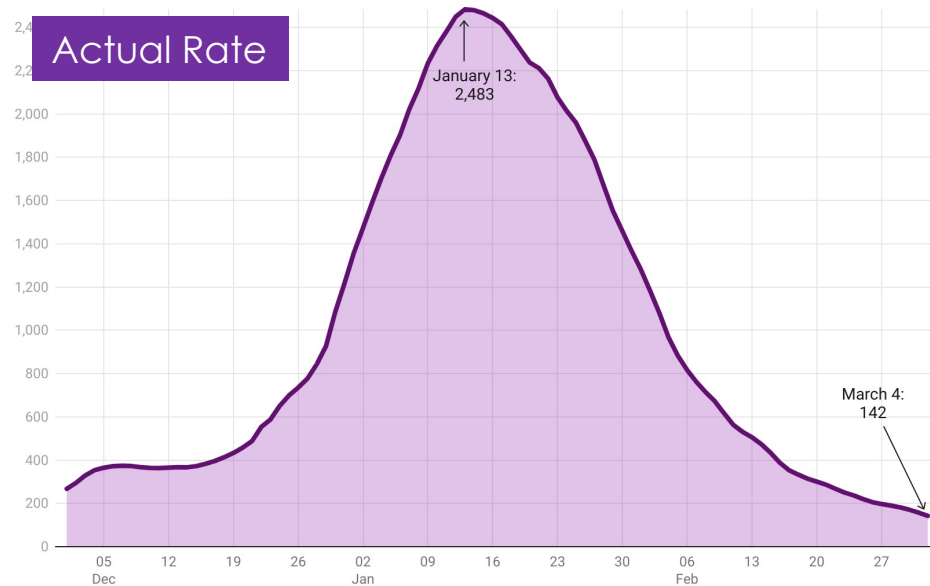
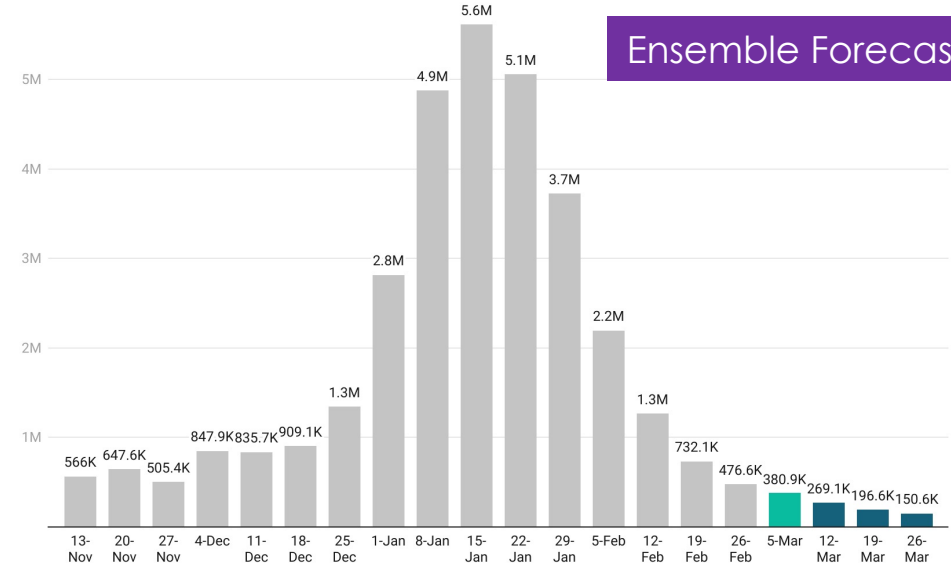


Chart: Health Industry Advisor LLC • Source: worldometers.info • Created with Datawrapper

Newly-Reported Cases Per Week

Covid-19 Forecast Hub, Composite Forecast As of February 26



For the week ending on the date shown

Chart: Health Industry Advisor LLC • Source: Covid-19 Forecast Hub • Created with Datawrapper

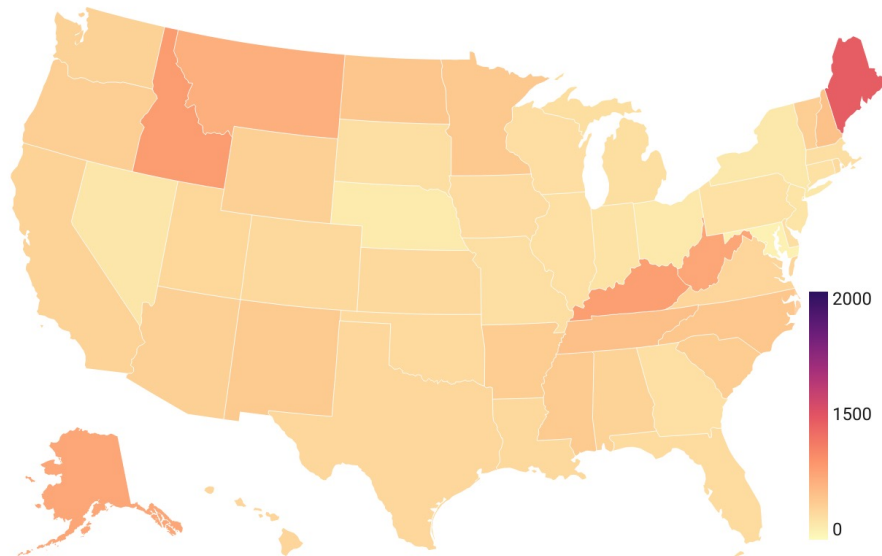
Source: Covid-19 Forecast Hub

New case rates fell across the country. Idaho reports the highest case rate of all states

As of February 17

New Cases / Million

7-Day Average, As of February 17

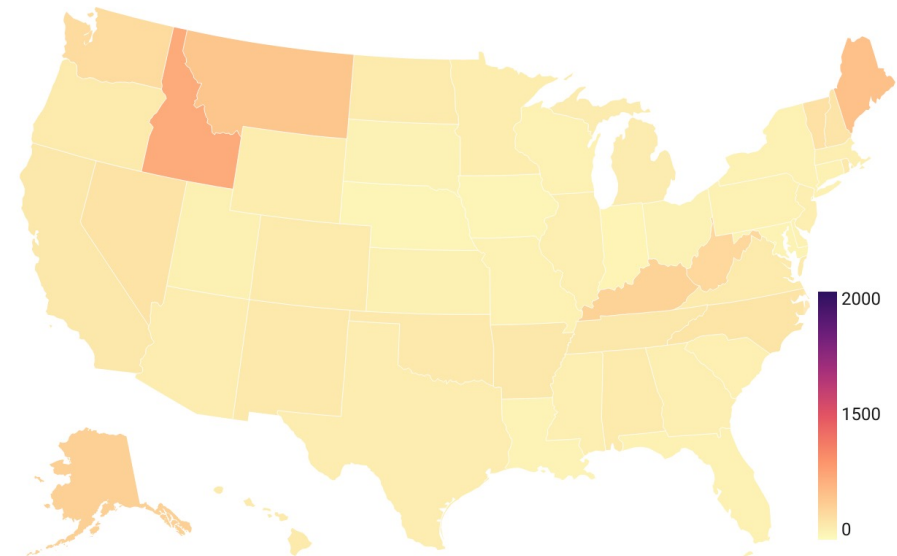


Map: Health Industry Advisor LLC • Source: worldometers.info • Created with Datawrapper

As of March 3

New Cases / Million

7-Day Average, As of March 3



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

Nationwide, Covid admissions and patient days receded to levels unseen since last July

Covid-19 Admissions & Census

7-Day Average, As of March 2

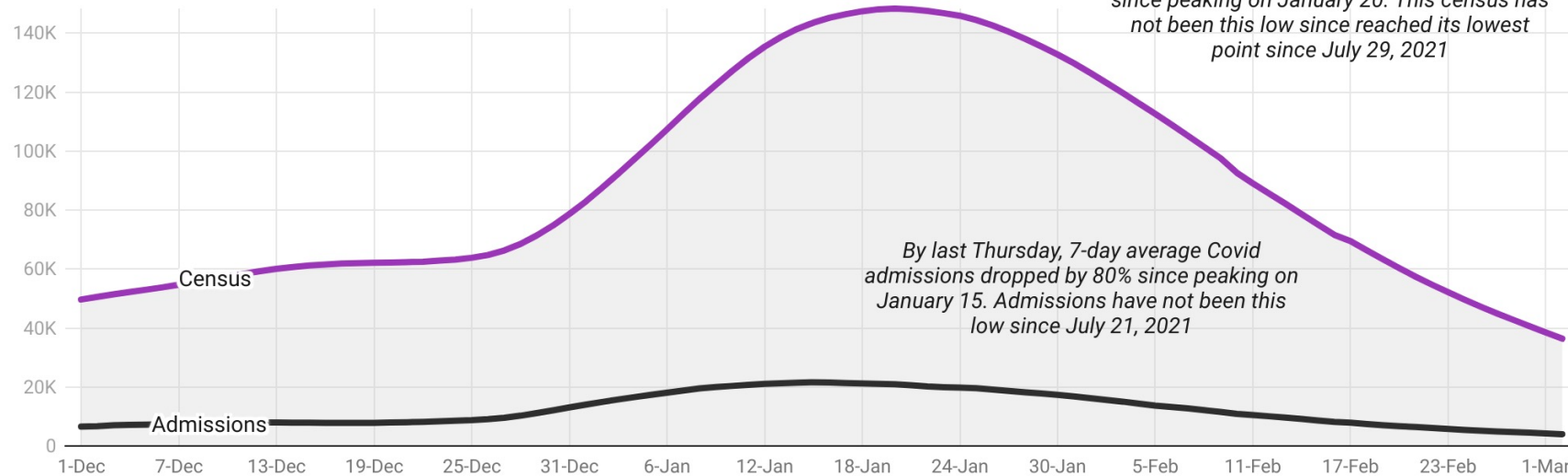


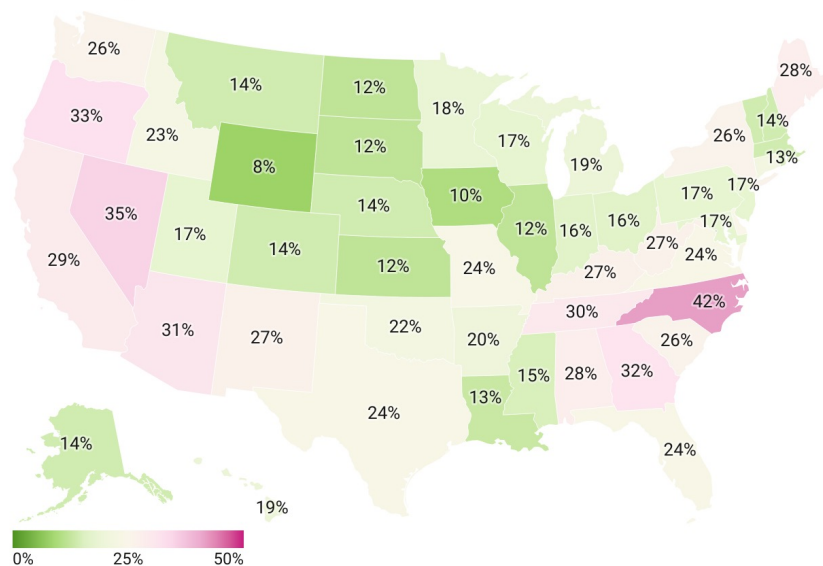
Chart: Health Industry Advisor LLC • Source: Centers for Disease Control and Prevention • Created with Datawrapper

Hospital Covid census eased during the past two weeks.
No state requires even one-fourth of its beds for Covid patients. Two weeks ago, fourteen states felt this strain

As of February 17

Covid-19 Patients As % of All Inpatient Beds

As of February 17

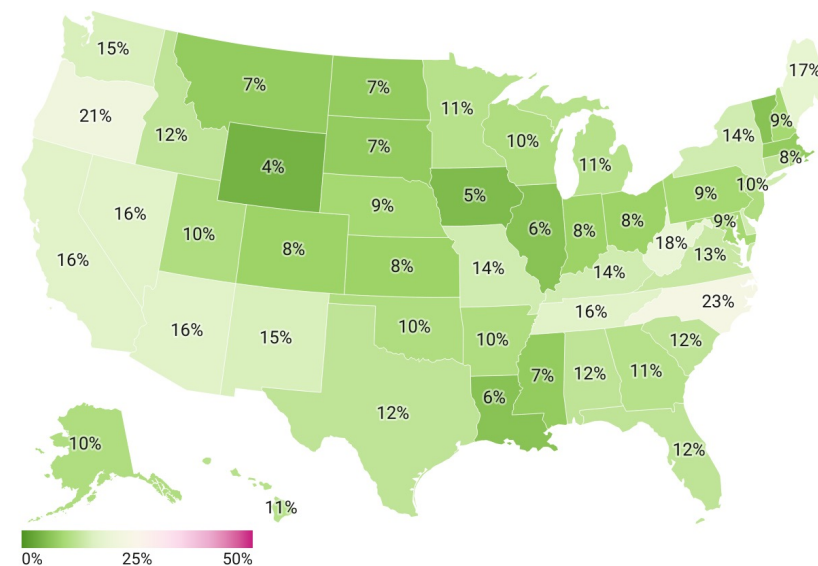


Map: Health Industry Advisor LLC • Source: Centers for Disease Control and Prevention • Created with Datawrapper

As of March 2

Covid-19 Patients As % of All Inpatient Beds

As of March 2

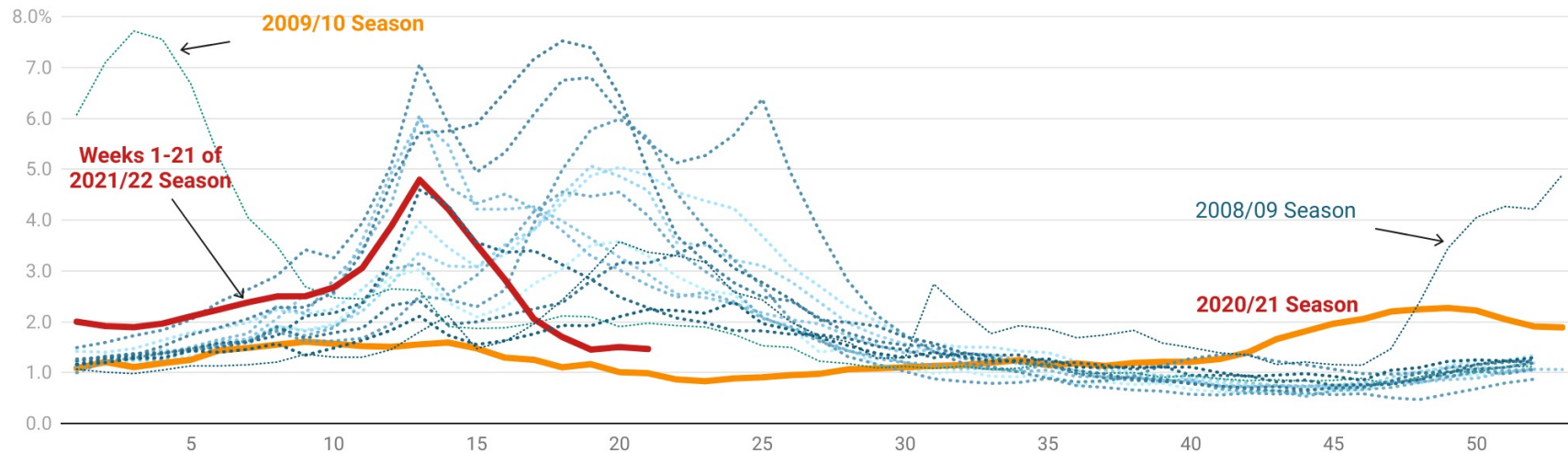


Map: Health Industry Advisor LLC • Source: Centers for Disease Control and Prevention • Created with Datawrapper

Flu visits plunged over the past eight weeks. Only one season in the past fifteen years witnessed lower flu visit rates at this point in the flu season

Percentage Visits for Influenza-Like Illness, National Summary

Comparison of Last Fifteen Seasons



Reported by: U.S. WHO/NREVSS Collaborating Laboratories and ILINet

Chart: Health Industry Advisor LLC • Source: Centers For Disease Control and Prevention • Created with Datawrapper

Deaths with Covid19 peaked four weeks ago, falling by one-half since. Forecasted deaths drop by one-half again in the next three weeks

Actual Rate

Deaths With Coronavirus

7-Day Average, Through March 4

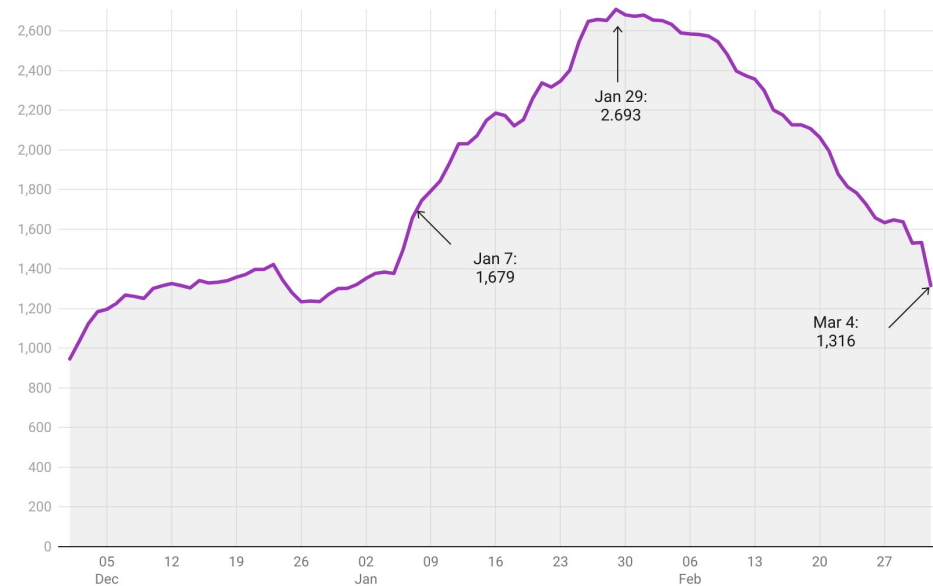
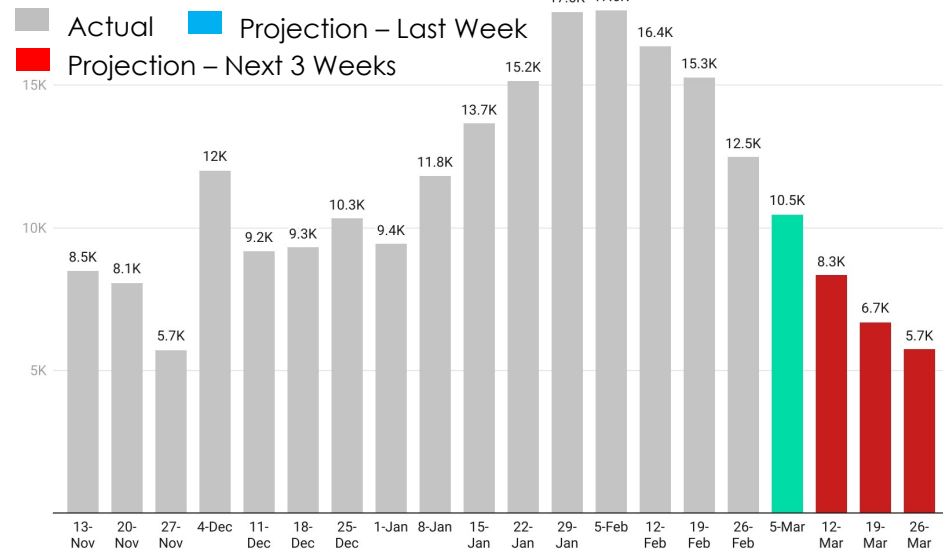


Chart: Health Industry Advisor LLC • Source: worldometers.info • Created with Datawrapper

Ensemble Forecast

Newly-Reported Deaths Per Week

Covid-19 Forecast Hub, Composite Forecast As of February 26



For the week ending on the date shown

Chart: Health Industry Advisor LLC • Source: Covid-19 Forecast Hub • Created with Datawrapper

Sources

- ▶ Bloomberg Vaccine Trackers, <https://www.bloomberg.com/graphics/covid-vaccine-tracker-global-distribution/?sref=Z0b6TmH>
- ▶ 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, COVID-19 Laboratory-Confirmed Hospitalizations https://gis.cdc.gov/grasp/COVIDNet/COVID19_5.html
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- ▶ Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, Vaccines, <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/vaccines/index.html>
- ▶ COVID-19 Data Repository by the Center for Systems Science and Engineering (CSSE) at Johns Hopkins University <https://github.com/CSSEGISandData/COVID-19>
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