

STATE REPORT 11.29.2020 Issue 24

SUMMARY

- Kentucky is in the red zone for cases, indicating 101 or more new cases per 100,000 population, with the 23rd highest rate in the country. Kentucky is in the red zone for test positivity, indicating a rate at or above 10.1%, with the 16th highest rate in the country.
- Kentucky has seen stability in new cases and a decrease in test positivity.
- The following three counties had the highest number of new cases over the last 3 weeks: 1. Jefferson County, 2. Fayette County, and 3. Boone County. These counties represent 30.9% of new cases in Kentucky.
- 96% of all counties in Kentucky have moderate or high levels of community transmission (yellow, orange, or red zones), with 68% having high levels of community transmission (red zone).
- During the week of Nov 16 Nov 22, 34% of nursing homes had at least one new resident COVID-19 case, 56% had at least one new staff COVID-19 case, and 12% had at least one new resident COVID-19 death.
- Kentucky had 437 new cases per 100,000 population, compared to a national average of 349 per 100,000.
- Current staff deployed from the federal government as assets to support the state response are: 1 to support operations activities from FEMA.
- The federal government has supported surge testing in Louisville, KY and Lexington, KY.
- Between Nov 21 Nov 27, on average, 384 patients with confirmed COVID-19 and 118 patients with suspected COVID-19 were reported as newly admitted each day to hospitals in Kentucky. This is a minimal change in total COVID-19 hospital admissions.

RECOMMENDATIONS

- The COVID risk to all Americans is at a historic high. The national daily COVID incidence after Memorial Day, but before the summer surge, was fewer than 25,000 new cases/day and is now more than 180,000 new cases/day; COVID inpatients then were fewer than 30,000 but are now more than 90,000; fatalities have more than doubled. We are in a very dangerous place due to the current, extremely high COVID baseline and limited hospital capacity; a further post-Thanksgiving surge will compromise COVID patient care, as well as medical care overall.
- If state and local policies do not reflect the seriousness of the current situation, all public health officials must alert the state population directly. It must be made clear that if you are over 65 or have significant health conditions, you should not enter any indoor public spaces where anyone is unmasked due to the immediate risk to your health; you should have groceries and medications delivered. If you are under 40, you need to assume you became infected during the Thanksgiving period if you gathered beyond your immediate household. Most likely, you will not have symptoms; however, you are dangerous to others and you must isolate away from anyone at increased risk for severe disease and get tested immediately. If you are over 65 or have significant medical conditions and you gathered outside of your immediate household, you are at a significant risk for serious COVID infection; if you develop any symptoms, you must be tested immediately as the majority of therapeutics work best early in infection.
- We are also seeing clear improvement in many European countries that implemented strong public and private mitigation but
 preserved schooling. We are also seeing states and cities that aggressively mitigated achieving a high plateau and early stability
 in less than 4 weeks. However, in many areas of the USA, state mitigation efforts remain inadequate, resulting in sustained
 transmission or a very prolonged time to peak over 7 weeks. All states and all counties must flatten the curve now in order to
 sustain the health system for both COVID and non-COVID emergencies.
- New orders put in place by the Governor should result in a rapid decrease in transmission if compliance is high.
- Ensure testing data, case data, and hospitalizations are consistently tracked to show Kentuckians the impact their efforts have had to reduce COVID transmission.
- Where university students are returning to campus from Thanksgiving break, conduct testing of all students and test weekly until
 the semester ends.
- Stay vigilant with nursing home staff and residents; over half of nursing homes have at least one COVID positive staff member and a third have COVID positive residents, indicating unmitigated community spread. Ensure all nursing homes, assisted living, and elderly care sites have full testing capacity and are isolating positive staff and residents.
- Ensure compliance with public health orders, including wearing masks.
- Conduct active testing in schools for teachers and students where cases are increasing. In accordance with CDC guidelines, masks
 must be worn by students and teachers in K-12 schools. Consider pausing extracurricular school activities, even though athletics
 are not transmission risks, as the surrounding activities are where transmission is occurring.
- Ensure all hospitals, including mid-level and rural, have expansion and contingency plans and up-to-date treatment protocols, including outpatient management; ensure all hospitals, public and private, have maximal access to medications, supplies, and staffing and are accurately reporting current status of each.
- Ensure full flu immunizations across the state.
- Specific, detailed guidance on community mitigation measures can be found on the CDC website.

The purpose of this report is to develop a shared understanding of the current status of the pandemic at the national, regional, state and local levels. We recognize that data at the state level may differ from that available at the federal level. Our objective is to use consistent data sources and methods that allow for comparisons to be made across localities. We appreciate your continued support in identifying data discrepancies and improving data completeness and sharing across systems. We look forward to your feedback.





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	STATE	STATE, % CHANGE FROM PREVIOUS WEEK	FEMA/HHS REGION	UNITED STATES	
NEW COVID-19 CASES (RATE PER 100,000)	19,540 (437)	+1%	171,312 (256)	1,146,921 (349)	
VIRAL (RT-PCR) LAB TEST POSITIVITY RATE	13.3%	-1.0%*	9.0%	9.7%	
TOTAL VIRAL (RT-PCR) LAB TESTS (TESTS PER 100,000)	45,005** (1,007**)	-48%**	1,527,595** (2,283**)	10,846,839** (3,305**)	
COVID-19 DEATHS (RATE PER 100,000)	108 (2.4)	-8%	1,680 (2.5)	10,169 (3.1)	
SNFs WITH ≥1 NEW RESIDENT COVID-19 CASE	34%	+6%*	22%	25%	
SNFs WITH ≥1 NEW STAFF COVID-19 CASE	56%	+1%*	41%	46%	
SNFs WITH ≥1 NEW RESIDENT COVID-19 DEATH	12%	+2%*	7%	9%	
TOTAL NEW COVID-19 HOSPITAL ADMISSIONS (RATE PER 100 BEDS)	3,512 (29)	+1% (+1%)	24,045 (16)	135,904 (19)	

^{*} Indicates absolute change in percentage points.

DATA SOURCES - Additional data details available under METHODS

Note: Some dates may have incomplete data due to delays in reporting. Data may be backfilled over time, resulting in week-to-week changes. **Cases and Deaths:** State values are calculated by aggregating county-level data from USAFacts; therefore, the values may not match those reported directly by the state. Data is through 11/27/2020; previous week is 11/14 - 11/20.

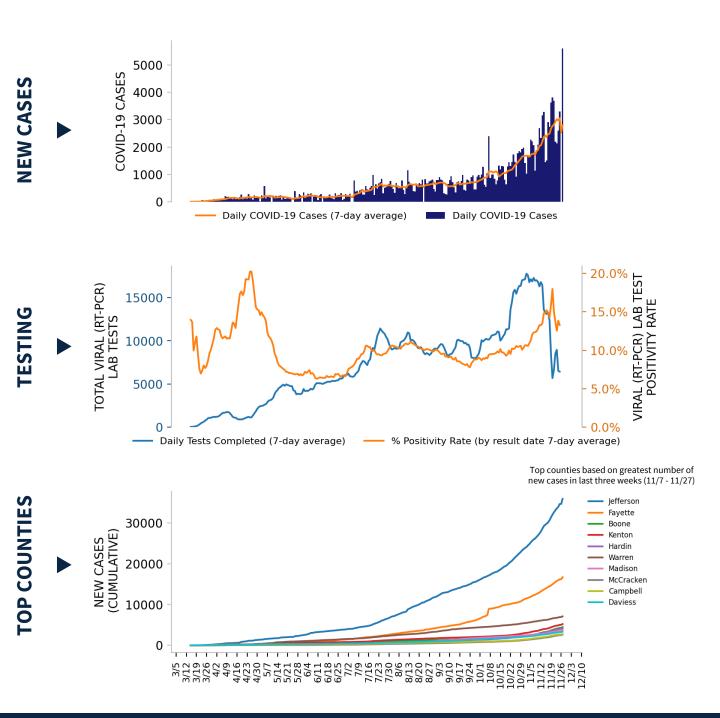
Testing: CELR (COVID-19 Electronic Lab Reporting) state health department-reported data through 11/25/2020. Previous week is 11/12 - 11/18. We understand that testing data after 11/23 has not yet been received by CELR, which may affect the values shown above.

SNFs: Skilled nursing facilities. National Healthcare Safety Network. Data are reported separately for cases among residents and staff. Data is through 11/22/2020, previous week is 11/9-11/15. Facilities that are undergoing reporting quality review are not included in the table, but may be included in other NHSN analyses. Admissions: Unified hospitalization dataset in HHS Protect. These data exclude psychiatric, rehabilitation, and religious non-medical hospitals. Hospitals explicitly identified by states/regions as those from which we should not expect reports were excluded from the totals. Totals include confirmed and suspected COVID-19 admissions.

^{**} Due to delayed reporting, this figure may underestimate total diagnostic tests and week-on-week changes in diagnostic tests.



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DATA SOURCES - Additional data details available under METHODS

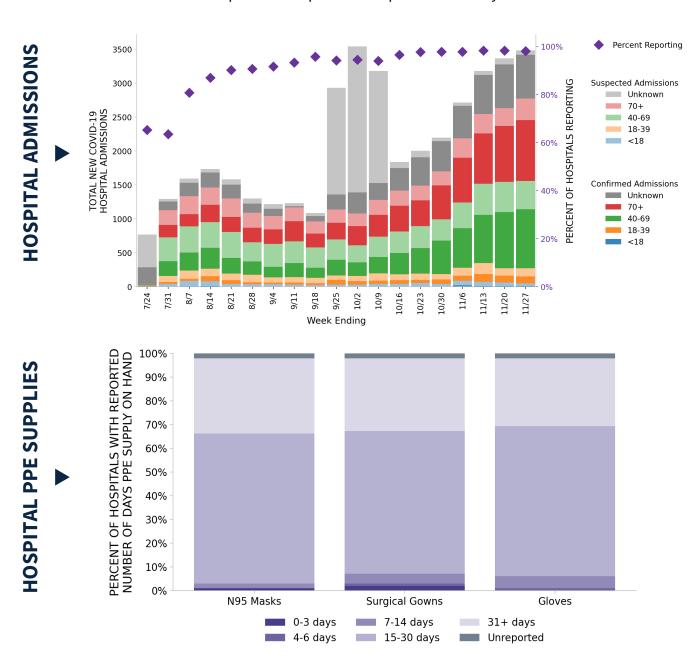
Note: Some dates may have incomplete data due to delays in reporting. Data may be backfilled over time, resulting in week-to-week changes. **Cases:** State values are calculated by aggregating county-level data from USAFacts; therefore, the values may not match those reported directly by the state. Data is through 11/27/2020.

Testing: CELR (COVID-19 Electronic Lab Reporting) state health department-reported data through 11/25/2020. We understand that testing data after 11/23 has not yet been received by CELR, which may affect the values shown above.



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98 hospitals are expected to report in Kentucky





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COVID-19 COUNTY AND METRO ALERTS*

Top 12 shown in table (full lists below)

METRO AREA (CBSA)

COUNTIES

LOCALITIES IN RED ZONE	19 ▼ (-2)	Louisville/Jefferson County Lexington-Fayette Cincinnati Elizabethtown-Fort Knox Bowling Green London Richmond-Berea Paducah Owensboro Bardstown Mayfield Frankfort	81 ▼ (-3)	Fayette Boone Kenton Hardin Warren Madison McCracken Campbell Daviess Bullitt Nelson Boyd
LOCALITIES IN ORANGE ZONE	3 ▲ (+2)	Huntington-Ashland Clarksville Danville	19 ▲ (+6)	Jefferson Christian Laurel Whitley Scott Monroe Knox Anderson Caldwell Bourbon Letcher Breathitt
LOCALITIES IN YELLOW ZONE	3 ■ (+0)	Glasgow Somerset Middlesborough	15 ▲ (+1)	Lee Pulaski Barren Bell Adair Wayne Casey Jackson Lewis Wolfe Lyon Owen
	Change from pre	vious week's alerts:	e	Stable ▼ Decrease

All Red CBSAs: Louisville/Jefferson County, Lexington-Fayette, Cincinnati, Elizabethtown-Fort Knox, Bowling Green, London, Richmond-Berea, Paducah, Owensboro, Bardstown, Mayfield, Frankfort, Madisonville, Murray, Evansville, Campbellsville, Mount Sterling, Central City, Maysville

All Red Counties: Fayette, Boone, Kenton, Hardin, Warren, Madison, McCracken, Campbell, Daviess, Bullitt, Nelson, Boyd, Oldham, Graves, Pike, Floyd, Greenup, Shelby, Hopkins, Calloway, Jessamine, Henderson, Franklin, Marion, Muhlenberg, Taylor, Marshall, Logan, Carter, Clark, Rowan, Grayson, Ohio, Grant, Powell, Clay, Johnson, Mercer, Woodford, Lincoln, Spencer, Elliott, Montgomery, Simpson, Magoffin, Harlan, Washington, Pendleton, Lawrence, Larue, Garrard, Meade, Mason, Hart, Webster, Union, Knott, Martin, Edmonson, Henry, Morgan, McLean, Estill, Trigg, Fleming, Green, Livingston, Hancock, Owsley, Bath, Clinton, Todd, Leslie, Carroll, Rockcastle, Gallatin, Carlisle, Bracken, Crittenden, Robertson, Hickman

All Orange Counties: Jefferson, Christian, Laurel, Whitley, Scott, Monroe, Knox, Anderson, Caldwell, Bourbon, Letcher, Breathitt, Russell, Breckinridge, Metcalfe, Allen, McCreary, Trimble, Ballard

All Yellow Counties: Lee, Pulaski, Barren, Bell, Adair, Wayne, Casey, Jackson, Lewis, Wolfe, Lyon, Owen, Cumberland, Fulton, Nicholas

* Localities with fewer than 10 cases last week have been excluded from these alerts.

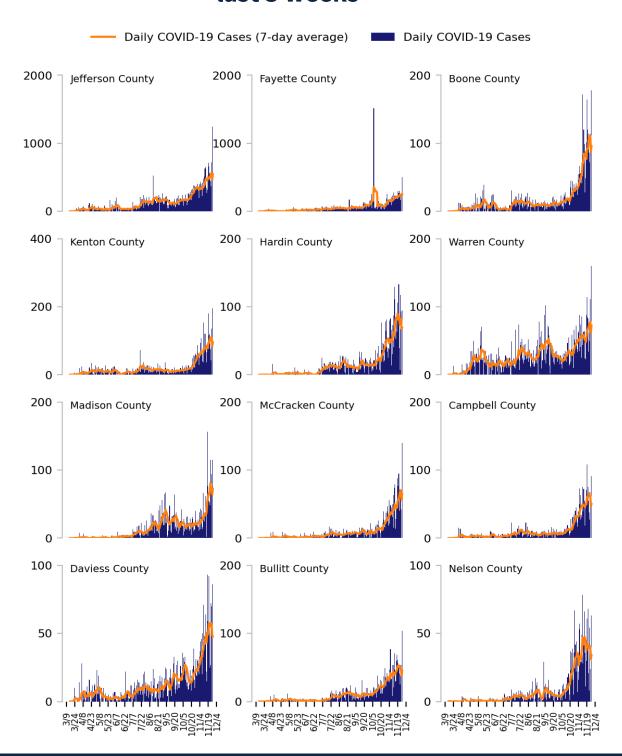
Note: Lists of red, orange, and yellow localities are sorted by the number of new cases in the last 3 weeks, from highest to lowest. Some dates may have incomplete data due to delays in reporting. Data may be backfilled over time, resulting in week-to-week changes. **DATA SOURCES** – Additional data details available under METHODS

Cases and Deaths: State values are calculated by aggregating county-level data from USAFacts; therefore, the values may not match those reported directly by the state. Data is through 11/27/2020.

Testing: CELR (COVID-19 Electronic Lab Reporting) state health department-reported data through 11/25/2020. We understand that testing data after 11/23 has not yet been received by CELR, which may affect the values shown above.



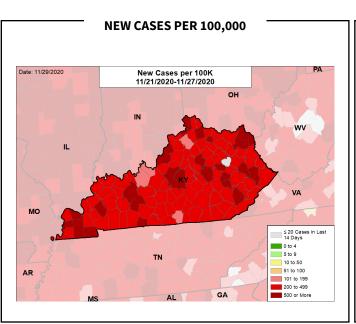
Top 12 counties based on number of new cases in the last 3 weeks

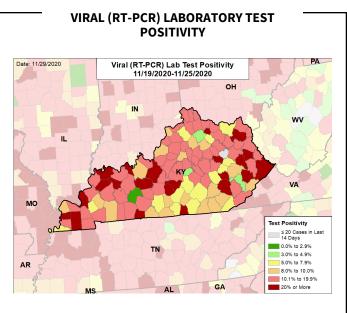


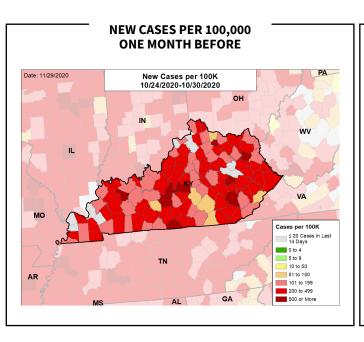


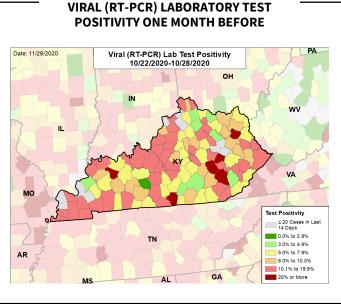
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CASE RATES AND VIRAL LAB TEST POSITIVITY









DATA SOURCES – Additional data details available under METHODS

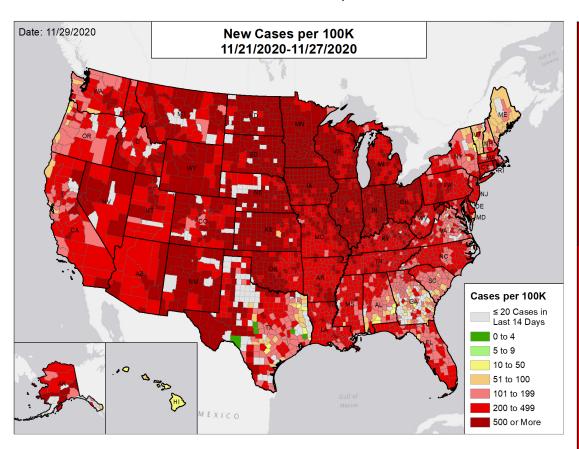
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Testing: CELR (COVID-19 Electronic Lab Reporting) state health department-reported data through 11/25/2020. The week one month before is 10/22 - 10/28. We understand that testing data after 11/23 has not yet been received by CELR, which may affect the values shown above.



NATIONAL RANKING OF NEW CASES PER 100,000

NEW CASES PER 100,000



Europe is experiencing a fall surge similar to the USA and is showing early signs of improvement through country-specific mitigation efforts.

- 80% (48/60 countries) require wearing masks in all public settings
 - Most countries have imposed fines for non-compliance
- 93% (56/60) have significant restrictions on gathering size
- 63% (38/60) have some form of nonessential business closures, initially focused on bars and reducing restaurant capacity
- 60% (37/60) have some form of entertainment or public space restriction
- 65% (39/60) have deployed a contact tracing app

National	
Rank	State
1	ND
2	SD
3 4	WY
5	NM MN
6	IA
7	NE
8	IN
9	KS
10	MT
11	UT
12	WI
13	AK
14	CO
15 16	RI IL
17	OH
18	NV
19	OK
20	MI
21	ID
22	MO
23	KY
24	AR
25	PA
26	AZ
27 28	TN WV
29	DE
30	NJ
31	СТ
32	LA
33	MS
34	MA
35	MD
36	FL
37	WA
38 39	TX
39 40	CA NC
41	NY
42	AL
43	OR
44	VA
45	SC
46	NH
47	DC
48	GA
49	ME
50 51	VT HI
JI	-111

DATA SOURCES

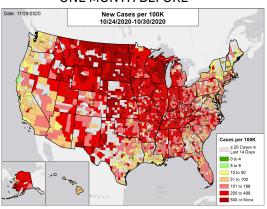
Note: Some dates may have incomplete data due to delays in reporting. Data may be backfilled over time, resulting in week-to-week changes.

Cases: County-level data from USAFacts through 11/27/2020.

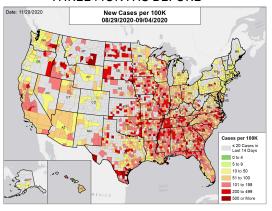
European community mitigation information sourced from European CDC — Situation Update Worldwide.

NEW CASES PER 100,000 IN THE WEEK:

ONE MONTH BEFORE



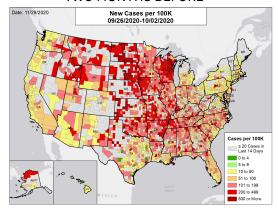
THREE MONTHS BEFORE



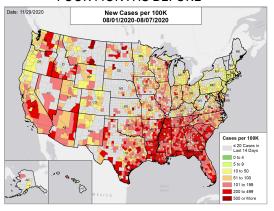
FIVE MONTHS BEFORE



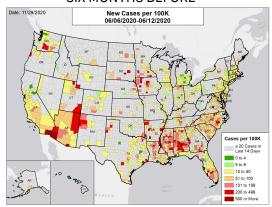
TWO MONTHS BEFORE



FOUR MONTHS BEFORE



SIX MONTHS BEFORE



DATA SOURCES

Note: Some dates may have incomplete data due to delays in reporting. Data may be backfilled over time, resulting in week-to-week changes.

Cases: County-level data from USAFacts through 11/27/2020. The week one month before is 10/24 - 10/30; the week two months before is 9/26 - 10/2; the week three months before is 8/29 - 9/4; the week four months before is 8/1 - 8/7; the week five months before is 7/4 - 7/10; the week six months before is 6/6 - 6/12.



VIRAL (RT-PCR) LAB TEST POSITIVITY

Date: 11/29/2020 Viral (RT-PCR) Lab Test Positivity 11/19/2020-11/25/2020 Test Positivity \$ 20 Cases in Last 14 Days 0.0% to 2.9% 3.0% to 4.9% 5.0% to 7.9% 8.0% to 10.0% 10.1% to 19.9% 20% or More

NATIONAL RANKING OF TEST POSITIVITY

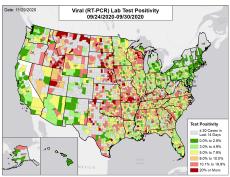
Natior	nal		National	
Rank			Rank	State
1		ID		TX
2	MT		27 28	OR
3	KS		29	NJ
4	OK		30	AR
5	МО		31	SC
6	UT		32	СТ
7	IA		33	FL
8	NE		34	AK
9	NV		35	NH
10	IN		36	WA
11	NM		37	GA
12	SD		38	LA
13	ОН		39	NC
14	WY		40	WV
15	MI		41	VA
16	KY		42	MD
17	TN		43	CA
18	ND		44	RI
19	AL		45	DE
20	MS		46	NY
21	IL		47	ME
22	MN		48	MA
23	WI		49	DC
24	PA		50	HI
25	AZ		51	VT
26	CO			

VIRAL (RT-PCR) LAB TEST POSITIVITY IN THE WEEK:

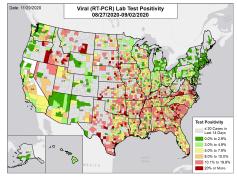
ONE MONTH BEFORE



TWO MONTHS BEFORE



THREE MONTHS BEFORE



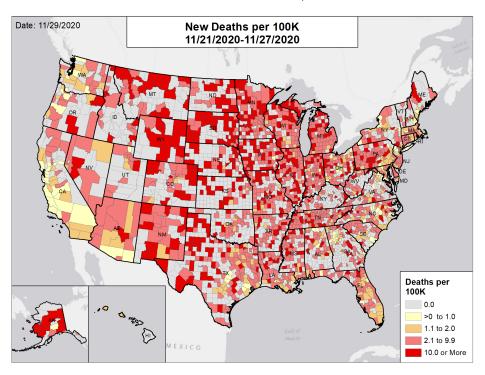
DATA SOURCES

Note: Some dates may have incomplete data due to delays in reporting. Data may be backfilled over time, resulting in week-to-week changes.

Testing: Combination of CELR (COVID-19 Electronic Lab Reporting) state health department-reported data and HHS Protect laboratory data (provided directly to Federal Government from public health labs, hospital labs, and commercial labs) through 11/25/2020. Tthe week one month before is 10/22 - 10/28; the week two months before is 9/24 - 9/30; the week three months before is 8/27 - 9/2.



NEW DEATHS PER 100,000



NATIONAL RANKING OF NEW DEATHS PER 100,000

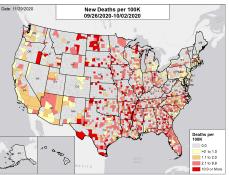
National		National	
<u>Rank</u>	State	Rank	State
1	SD	27	TX
2	ND	28	MD
3	NM	29	NJ
4	MT	30	OK
5	WY	31	AL
6	IA	32	AK
7	MI	33	KY
8	MN	34	MA
9	IN	35	UT
10	IL	36	FL
11	WI	37	SC
12	NE	38	AZ
13	RI	39	NC
14	TN	40	NY
15	MO	41	OR
16	MS	42	DE
17	PA	43	VA
18	KS	44	GA
19	CO	45	ME
20	WV	46	CA
21	AR	47	WA
22	СТ	48	DC
23	ID	49	HI
24	NV	50	VT
25	LA	51	NH
26	OH		

NEW DEATHS PER 100,000 IN THE WEEK:

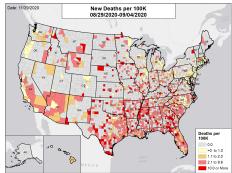
ONE MONTH BEFORE



TWO MONTHS BEFORE



THREE MONTHS BEFORE



DATA SOURCES

Note: Some dates may have incomplete data due to delays in reporting. Data may be backfilled over time, resulting in week-to-week changes.

Deaths: County-level data from USAFacts through 11/27/2020. The week one month before is 10/24 - 10/30; the week two months before is 9/26 - 10/2; the week three months before is 8/29 - 9/4.



METHODS

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Metric	Dark Green	Light Green	Yellow	Orange	Light Red	Red	Dark Red
New cases per 100,000 population per week	≤4	5 – 9	10 - 50	51 – 100	101 – 199	200 – 499	≥500
Percent change in new cases per 100,000 population	≤-26%	-25% – -11%	-10% – 0%	1% - 10%	11% - 99%	100% – 999%	≥1000%
Diagnostic test result positivity rate	rate ≤2.9% 3.0% – 4.9% 5.0%		5.0% - 7.9%	8.0% - 10.0%	10.1% – 19.9%		≥20.0%
Change in test positivity	≤-2.1%	-2.0%0.6%	-0.5% - 0.0%	0.1% - 0.5%	0.6% - 2.0%		≥2.1%
Total diagnostic tests resulted per 100,000 population per week Percent change in tests per 100,000 population	≥2001	1001 – 2000	750 – 1000	500 - 749	250 - 499		≤249
	≥26%	11% - 25%	1% - 10%	-10% – 0%	-25% – -11%		≤-26%
COVID-19 deaths per 100,000 population per week	0.0		0.1 - 1.0	1.1 – 2.0	2.1 - 3.0		≥3.1
Percent change in deaths per 100,000 population	≤-26%	-25% – -11%	-10% – 0%	1% - 10%	11% – 25%		≥26%
Skilled Nursing Facilities with at least one resident COVID-19 case, death	0%		1% -	% – 5%		≥6%	
Change in SNFs with at least one resident COVID-19 case, death	≤-2%		-1% - 1%		≥2%		
Total new COVID-19 hospital admissions per 100 beds	≤2	3 – 5	6 – 10	11 – 20	21 -	- 30	≥31
Change in total new COVID-19 hospital admissions per 100 beds	≤-26%	-25% – -11%	-10% – 0%	1% - 10%	11% -	- 25%	≥26%

- Some dates may have incomplete data due to delays and/or differences in state reporting. Data may be backfilled over time, resulting in week-to-week changes. It is critical that states provide as up-to-date data as possible. Figures and values may also differ from state reports due to differing methodologies.
- Color threshold values are rounded before color classification.
- Cases and deaths: County-level data from USAFacts as of 17:59 EST on 11/29/2020. State values are calculated by aggregating county-level data from USAFacts. Data are reviewed on a daily basis against internal and verified external sources and, if needed, adjusted.
- Testing: The data presented represent viral COVID-19 laboratory diagnostic and screening test (reverse transcription polymerase chain reaction, RT-PCR) results—not individual people—and exclude antibody and antigen tests, unless stated otherwise. CELR (COVID-19 Electronic Lab Reporting) state health department-reported data are used to describe county-level viral COVID-19 RT-PCR result totals when information is available on patients' county of residence or healthcare providers' practice location. HHS Protect laboratory data (provided directly to Federal Government from public health labs, hospital labs, and commercial labs) are used otherwise. Because the data are deidentified, total RT-PCR tests are the number of tests performed, not the number of individuals tested. RT-PCR test positivity rate is the number of positive tests divided by the number of tests performed and resulted. Last week data are from 11/19 to 11/25; previous week data are from 11/12 to 11/18; the week one month before data are from 10/22 to 10/28. HHS Protect data is recent as of 14:31 EST on 11/29/2020. Testing data are inclusive of everything received and processed by the CELR system as of 19:00 EST on 11/28/2020.
- **Hospitalizations:** Unified hospitalization dataset in HHS Protect. These data exclude psychiatric, rehabilitation, and religious non-medical hospitals. In addition, hospitals explicitly identified by states/regions as those from which we should not expect reports were excluded from the percent reporting figure. The data presented represents raw data provided; we are working diligently with state liaisons to improve reporting consistency. Data is recent as of 18:53 EST on 11/29/2020.
- Hospital PPE: Unified hospitalization dataset in HHS Protect. This figure may differ from state data due to differences in hospital lists and
 reporting between federal and state systems. These data exclude psychiatric, rehabilitation, and religious non-medical hospitals. Hospitals
 explicitly identified by states/regions as those from which we should not expect reports were excluded from the percent reporting figure. Data is
 recent as of 18:00 EST on 11/28/2020.
- Skilled Nursing Facilities: National Healthcare Safety Network (NHSN). Data report resident and staff cases independently. Quality checks are performed on data submitted to the NHSN. Data that fail these quality checks or appear inconsistent with surveillance protocols may be excluded from analyses. Data presented in this report are more recent than data publicly posted by CMS. Last week is 11/16-11/22, previous week is 11/9-11/15. Facilities that are undergoing reporting quality review are not included in the table, but may be included in other NHSN analyses.
- County and Metro Area Color Categorizations
 - Red Zone: Those core-based statistical areas (CBSAs) and counties that during the last week reported both new cases at or above 101 per 100,000 population, and a lab test positivity result at or above 10.1%.
 - **Orange Zone:** Those CBSAs and counties that during the last week reported both new cases between 51–100 per 100,000 population, and a lab test positivity result between 8.0–10.0%, or one of those two conditions and one condition qualifying as being in the "Red Zone."
 - **Yellow Zone:** Those CBSAs and counties that during the last week reported both new cases between 10–50 per 100,000 population, and a lab test positivity result between 5.0–7.9%, or one of those two conditions and one condition qualifying as being in the "Orange Zone" or "Red Zone."