

Outbreak Breakdown

July 10, 2020

This weekly report is provided as an informal information resource for certain AdvaMed member work groups. Content is provided by staff and is not to be construed as conveying AdvaMed viewpoints or endorsement. AdvaMed's COVID-19 response is led by [Chris White](#), AdvaMed COVID Action Team Leader, COO & General Counsel. Newsletter contacts: [Andy Fish](#), Chief Strategy Officer and [Kristina Shultz](#), Manager, Strategy & Policy.

AdvaMed Notes & Resources

AdvaMed Letter to HHS on Public Health Emergency: On July 1, AdvaMed sent a letter to HHS Secretary Azar requesting he extend the declared federal public health emergency beyond its expiration date. The letter, and AdvaMed's press release, can be read [here](#).

MedTech Conference: AdvaMed's MedTech Conference is going virtual this year! Live keynote addresses, panel sessions, and networking events will be held October 5-9, 2020. Additional programming and business development opportunities will be available on-demand throughout September and October. Check out the Program Spotlight [here](#). For additional information, please visit the conference [website](#).

AdvaMed Resources:

[PPE Sourcing Program](#)

[MedTech Responds](#)

Something Completely Different

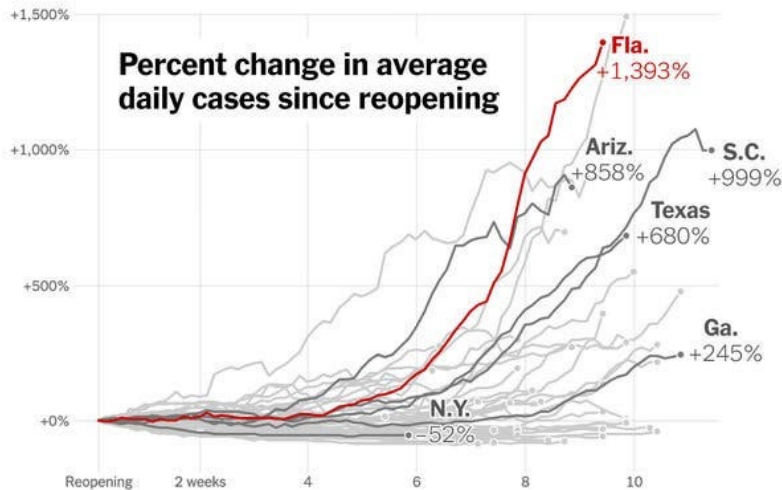
We're still on the waitlist for a [Concept 2 Model D Rower](#), but now that we also have to have this new [Stouffer's Mac and Cheese Dispenser](#) a calorie equilibrium is probably the best-case scenario. In the event of a worst-case scenario, grab this [survival guide](#).

Pandemic Snapshot

Global: Current Cases: [12,272,700+](#) Deaths: [554,953](#)

United States: Current Cases: [3,131,500+](#) Deaths: [133,079](#)

- New daily cases have tripled over the past few weeks and are now averaging ~60,000 new cases per day
- After a long, steady decline since its peak in mid-April, the 7-day average of new reported deaths has started to increase
- Test positivity increased in [30 states](#) over this past week
- States that were among the first to reopen have seen some of the greatest increases in new cases (see figure below):



Source: [New York Times](#)

[Johns Hopkins Daily COVID-19 Situation Reports](#)
[AdvaMed COVID-19 Modeling & Data Visualization Resources](#)

News & Insights

White House Coronavirus Task Force Briefing: The Task Force [held a briefing](#) on Wednesday, July 8. Key messages included optimistic notes regarding a fatality rate that so far seems to be relatively low and early indications of declining test positivity rates and emergency room admissions in some of the hardest hit areas. [School reopenings and CDC's guidance](#) on that topic this week were discussed. In reaction to President Trump's criticism of the CDC guidance, Vice President Pence indicated that the agency would issue new guidance but in [subsequent statements](#) the CDC and the White House indicated that the CDC instead would issue additional materials in support of the original guidance. Dr. Anthony Fauci did not participate in the briefing but later advised that states with the highest resurgence of cases "[seriously look at shutting down](#)".

Risk Factors for COVID-19 Death: A [study](#) published Wednesday in Nature examined the risk factors associated with COVID-19 death in 17 million patients, which is the [largest study](#) of its kind so far. The results reinforce previous observations that men, older people, those with underlying conditions, and racial and ethnic minority groups are at elevated risk for death. Researchers also found an increased risk of death in patients with severe asthma. Previous studies have provided conflicting evidence on whether asthma increases the risk of severe disease or not.

Racial Inequities: The New York Times published an [in-depth analysis](#) this week of the racial inequities of COVID-19 based on federal data on 1.5 million COVID-19 cases. The analysis found that Black and Latino people are three times more likely to become infected as white individuals and twice as likely to die from the virus. These disparities persist across all states and regions and in urban, suburban, and rural areas. Native Americans and Asians are also disproportionately affected by COVID-19.

Airborne Transmission: The World Health Organization published a [scientific brief](#) yesterday highlighting the potential role of aerosols in SARS-CoV-2 transmission. This report follows an [open letter](#) sent last week by 239 scientists in 32 countries urging WHO and other national and international bodies to

recognize the potential for airborne transmission and adjust their recommendations for prevention and mitigation accordingly. On Thursday, WHO updated its [description](#) of how COVID-19 is spread to include airborne transmission.

PPE Shortages: Concern is growing that personal protective gear supplies are running low once again as new cases surge across the country. During a Congressional [hearing](#) last week, Rear Adm. John Polowczyk, who has oversight of coronavirus-related supplies for the White House, [stated](#) that more than one-quarter of U.S. states have less than a 30-day supply of PPE. Last week, the American Medical Association sent a [letter](#) to Vice President Pence raising concerns about PPE shortages and urging the Administration to use the Defense Production Act to increase supplies.

NYC Seroprevalence Study: The New York Times [reported yesterday](#) on results of seroprevalence studies performed at CityMD clinics in various New York City neighborhoods that found very high percentages of positive tests in some areas. In Corona, a working-class neighborhood in Queens, more than 68% of tests were positive. In Jackson Heights, 56% of tests were positive for antibodies. In nearby Cobble Hill, a comparatively white and wealthy neighborhood, only 13% tested positive. The methods of the study haven't been made public and the results have not been published, so it's unclear whether the results may have been inflated by sampling bias, but their results highlight the disparities between different NYC neighborhoods. The New York Times also highlighted the possibility that the neighborhoods with the highest percentage of positive antibody tests may have some protection against a second wave of the virus, but the scientific evidence on immunity, and therefore the implications for herd immunity, is still unclear.

[Medical Care for Very Ill COVID-19 Patients Is Getting Better](#) | USA Today, July 9

[COVID-19 Test Results Take Longer as Infections Rise Sharply](#) | Wall Street Journal, July 9

[COVID-19 Cases Are Rising, So Why Are Deaths Flatlining?](#) | The Atlantic, July 9

[Is COVID-19 a Seasonal Disease?](#) | World Economic Forum, July 9

[Warning of Serious Brain Disorders in People With Mild Coronavirus Symptoms](#) | The Guardian, July 8

[Contact Tracing Isn't Keeping up With America's Reopening](#) | Wall Street Journal, July 8

[Can Boosting Interferons, the Body's Frontline Virus Fighters, Beat COVID-19?](#) | Science, July 8

[Why Arizona Is Suffering the Worst COVID-19 Outbreak in the US](#) | Vox, July 8

[Sweden Has Become the World's Cautionary Tale](#) | New York Times, July 7

[School Openings Across Globe Suggest Ways to Keep Coronavirus at Bay, Despite Outbreaks](#) | Science, July 7

[Months into Virus Crisis, U.S. Still Lacks Testing Capacity](#) | New York Times, July 6

[Fever Checks Are a Flawed Way to Flag COVID-19 Cases. Experts Say Smell Tests Might Help.](#) | STAT News, July 2

More News

[MIT Technology Review Coronavirus Coverage](#)

[Tulane Outbreak Daily](#)

[Prevent Epidemics Weekly Science Review](#)

[Helio COVID-19 Resource Center](#)