



# IOWA

## SUMMARY

- Iowa is in the red zone for cases, indicating 101 or more new cases per 100,000 population, with the 6th highest rate in the country. Iowa is in the red zone for test positivity, indicating a rate at or above 10.1%, with the 7th highest rate in the country.
- Iowa has seen a decrease 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. Polk County, 2. Linn County, and 3. Scott County. These counties represent 27.5% of new cases in Iowa.
- 100% of all counties in Iowa have moderate or high levels of community transmission (yellow, orange, or red zones), with 98% having high levels of community transmission (red zone).
- During the week of Nov 16 - Nov 22, 32% of nursing homes had at least one new resident COVID-19 case, 62% had at least one new staff COVID-19 case, and 10% had at least one new resident COVID-19 death.
- Iowa had 650 new cases per 100,000 population, compared to a national average of 349 per 100,000.
- Between Nov 21 - Nov 27, on average, 169 patients with confirmed COVID-19 and 35 patients with suspected COVID-19 were reported as newly admitted each day to hospitals in Iowa. This is a decrease of 23% 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.
- Cases may be reaching a plateau in Iowa, although the percent of nursing homes with at least one positive staff member and positive residents continues to be at very high levels, indicating virus spread is still broad. COVID-related hospitalizations will continue in the coming weeks.
- Testing and case trends should be cautiously interpreted this week given the Thanksgiving holiday weekend.
- 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 60% of nursing homes have at least one COVID positive staff member and over 30% 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.
- Effective practices to decrease transmission in public spaces include limiting restaurant indoor capacity to <25% and limiting bar hours until cases and test positivity decrease to the yellow zone.
- 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.
- Continue to promote weekly testing of all Tribal communities, regardless of symptoms. Test results should be rapid, and isolation and contact tracing conducted immediately. Ensure sufficient facilities for isolation and quarantine with support services.
- Specific, detailed guidance on community mitigation measures can be found on the [CDC website](#).





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STATE REPORT | 11.29.2020

	STATE, % CHANGE FROM PREVIOUS WEEK			FEMA/HHS REGION	UNITED STATES
	STATE	WEEK			
<b>NEW COVID-19 CASES</b> (RATE PER 100,000)	<b>20,511</b> (650)	<b>-26%</b>	<b>79,932</b> (565)	<b>1,146,921</b> (349)	
<b>VIRAL (RT-PCR) LAB TEST POSITIVITY RATE</b>	<b>18.1%</b>	<b>-4.0%*</b>	<b>18.4%</b>	<b>9.7%</b>	
<b>TOTAL VIRAL (RT-PCR) LAB TESTS (TESTS PER 100,000)</b>	<b>126,376**</b> (4,005**)	<b>+1%**</b>	<b>322,957**</b> (2,284**)	<b>10,846,839**</b> (3,305**)	
<b>COVID-19 DEATHS</b> (RATE PER 100,000)	<b>222</b> (7.0)	<b>+23%</b>	<b>713</b> (5.0)	<b>10,169</b> (3.1)	
<b>SNFs WITH ≥1 NEW RESIDENT COVID-19 CASE</b>	<b>32%</b>	<b>+2%*</b>	<b>33%</b>	<b>25%</b>	
<b>SNFs WITH ≥1 NEW STAFF COVID-19 CASE</b>	<b>62%</b>	<b>-6%*</b>	<b>59%</b>	<b>46%</b>	
<b>SNFs WITH ≥1 NEW RESIDENT COVID-19 DEATH</b>	<b>10%</b>	<b>+0%*</b>	<b>12%</b>	<b>9%</b>	
<b>TOTAL NEW COVID-19 HOSPITAL ADMISSIONS</b> (RATE PER 100 BEDS)	<b>1,433</b> (18)	<b>-23%</b> (-24%)	<b>7,921</b> (23)	<b>135,904</b> (19)	

\* Indicates absolute change in percentage points.

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

**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.

**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.

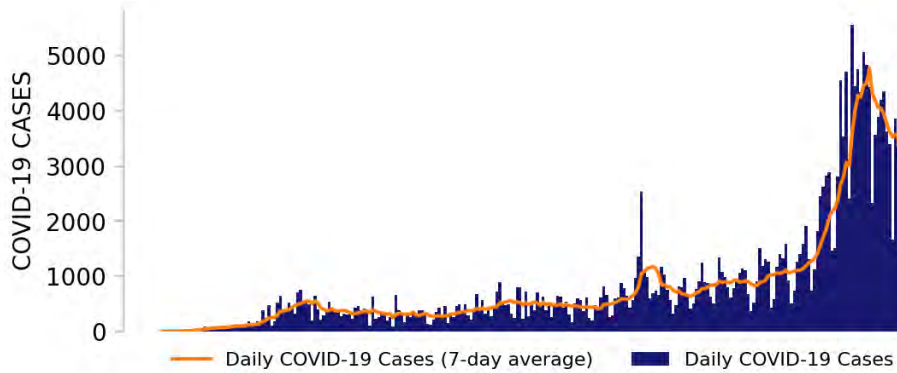
Hospitals explicitly identified by states/regions as those from which we should not expect reports were excluded from the totals. Totals include confirmed and suspected COVID-19 admissions.



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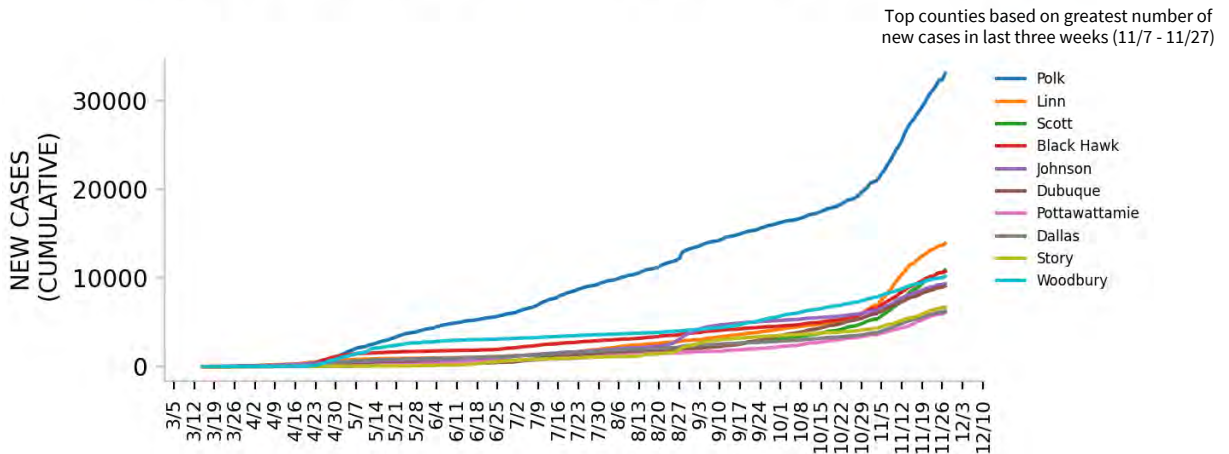
## NEW CASES



## TESTING



## TOP COUNTIES



**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.

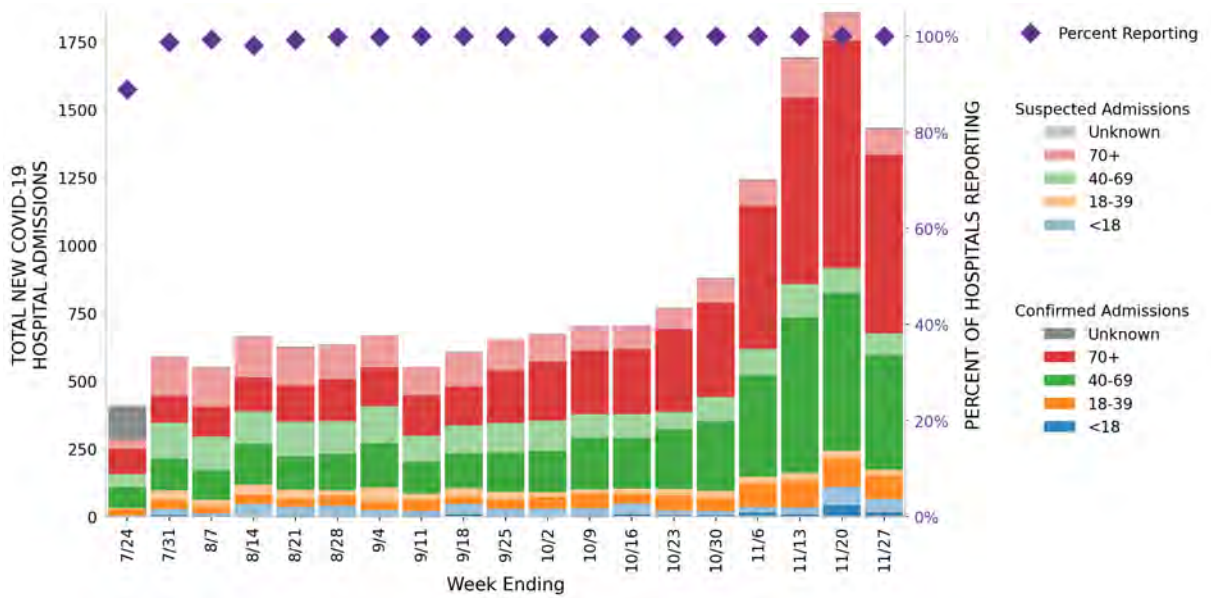


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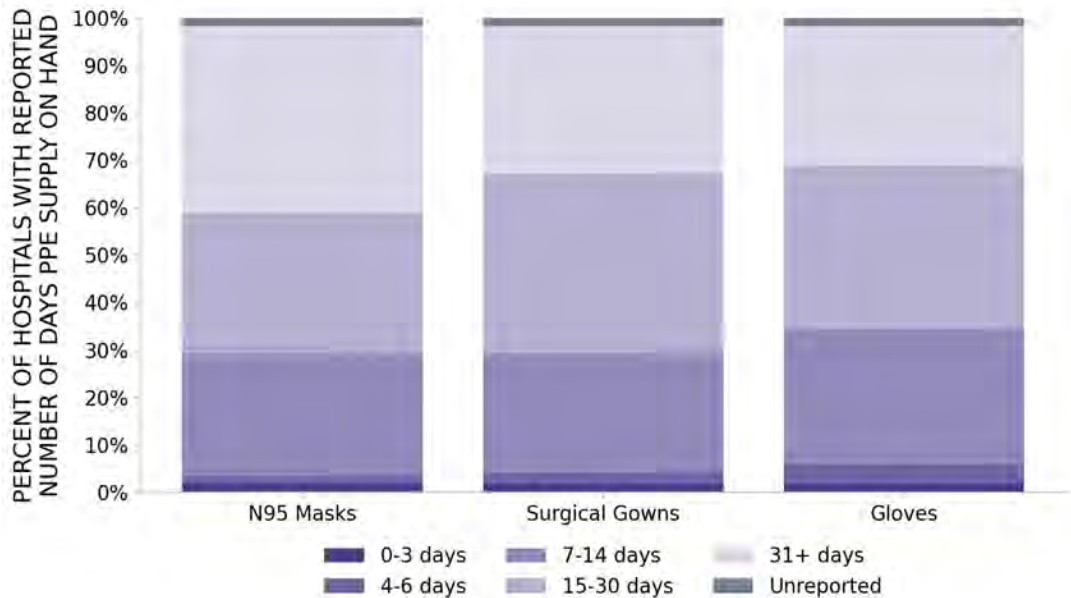
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119 hospitals are expected to report in Iowa

## HOSPITAL ADMISSIONS



## HOSPITAL PPE SUPPLIES



**DATA SOURCES** – Additional data details available under METHODS

**Hospitalizations:** 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 percent reporting figure.

**PPE:** 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 percent reporting figure. Values presented show the latest reports from hospitals in the week ending 11/25/2020.



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## COVID-19 COUNTY AND METRO ALERTS\*

Top 12 shown in table (full lists below)

### METRO AREA (CBSA)

### COUNTIES

<b>LOCALITIES IN RED ZONE</b>	<b>24</b> ■ (+0)	Des Moines-West Des Moines Cedar Rapids Waterloo-Cedar Falls Davenport-Moline-Rock Island Iowa City Omaha-Council Bluffs Dubuque Ames Sioux City Mason City Clinton Fort Dodge	<b>97</b> ▼ (-1)	Polk Linn Scott Black Hawk Johnson Dubuque Pottawattamie Dallas Story Woodbury Cerro Gordo Clinton
<b>LOCALITIES IN ORANGE ZONE</b>	<b>0</b> ■ (+0)	N/A	<b>2</b> ▲ (+2)	Poweshiek Shelby
<b>LOCALITIES IN YELLOW ZONE</b>	<b>0</b> ■ (+0)	N/A	<b>0</b> ▼ (-1)	N/A
<b>Change from previous week's alerts:</b>		▲ Increase	■ Stable	▼ Decrease

**All Red CBSAs:** Des Moines-West Des Moines, Cedar Rapids, Waterloo-Cedar Falls, Davenport-Moline-Rock Island, Iowa City, Omaha-Council Bluffs, Dubuque, Ames, Sioux City, Mason City, Clinton, Fort Dodge, Muscatine, Marshalltown, Burlington, Fort Madison-Keokuk, Ottumwa, Pella, Storm Lake, Carroll, Spencer, Spirit Lake, Oskaloosa, Fairfield

**All Red Counties:** Polk, Linn, Scott, Black Hawk, Johnson, Dubuque, Pottawattamie, Dallas, Story, Woodbury, Cerro Gordo, Clinton, Webster, Warren, Jones, Muscatine, Marshall, Des Moines, Bremer, Sioux, Benton, Lee, Wapello, Marion, Plymouth, Jasper, Calhoun, Buena Vista, Carroll, Washington, Henry, Hamilton, Page, Jackson, Buchanan, Hardin, Fayette, Floyd, Boone, Mills, Clay, Butler, Kossuth, Dickinson, Cedar, Delaware, Union, Appanoose, Clayton, Tama, Grundy, Chickasaw, Mahaska, Mitchell, Lyon, Iowa, Winneshiek, O'Brien, Jefferson, Hancock, Wright, Sac, Winnebago, Cherokee, Humboldt, Keokuk, Allamakee, Franklin, Harrison, Greene, Guthrie, Palo Alto, Crawford, Emmet, Madison, Cass, Pocahontas, Louisa, Howard, Davis, Montgomery, Osceola, Ida, Adair, Worth, Taylor, Monroe, Monona, Van Buren, Fremont, Decatur, Clarke, Wayne, Ringgold, Lucas, Audubon, Adams

\* 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.

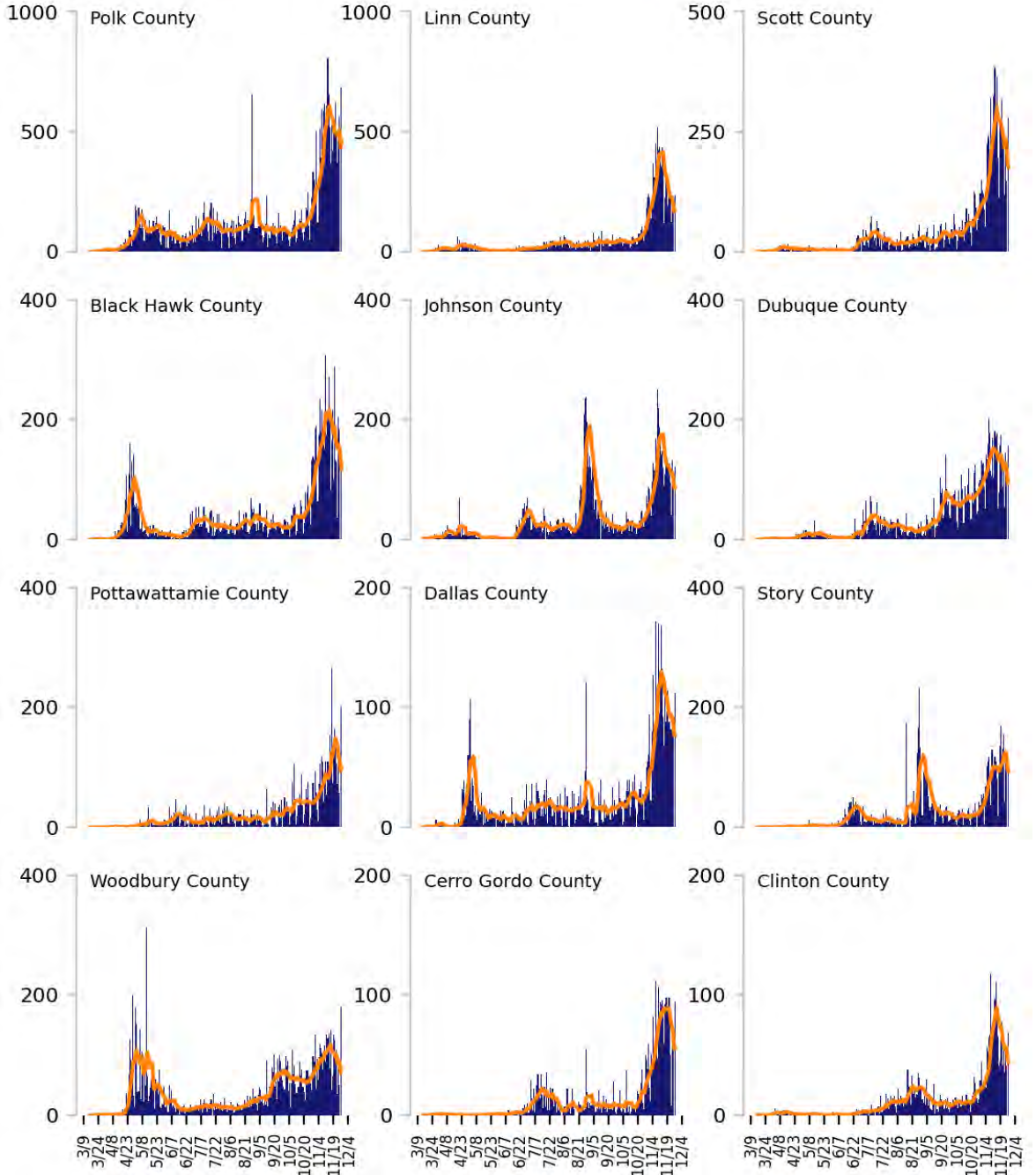
**Testing:** CELR (COVID-19 Electronic Lab Reporting) state health department-reported data through 11/25/2020.



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

TOTAL DAILY CASES

— Daily COVID-19 Cases (7-day average)    ■ Daily COVID-19 Cases



**DATA SOURCES** – Additional data details available under METHODS

**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. Last 3 weeks is 11/7 - 11/27.

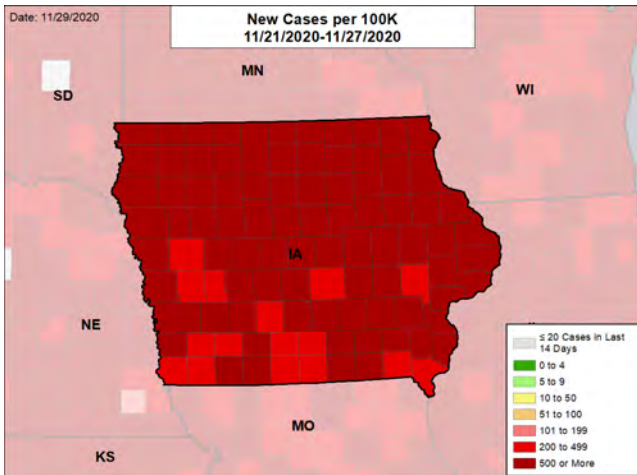


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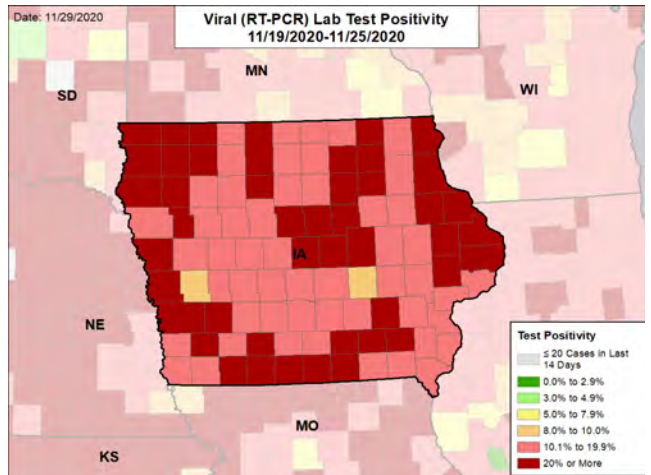
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## CASE RATES AND VIRAL LAB TEST POSITIVITY

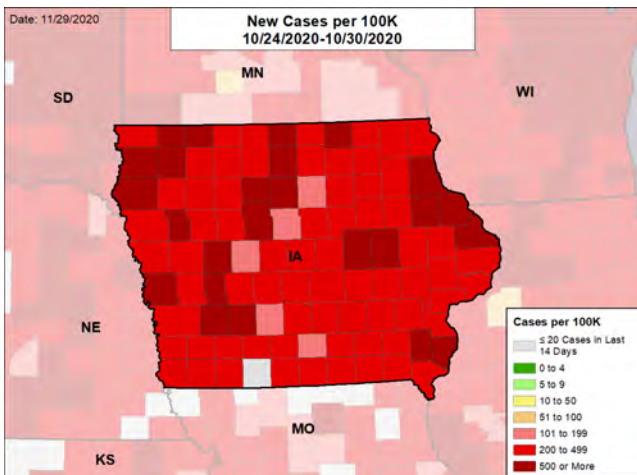
### NEW CASES PER 100,000



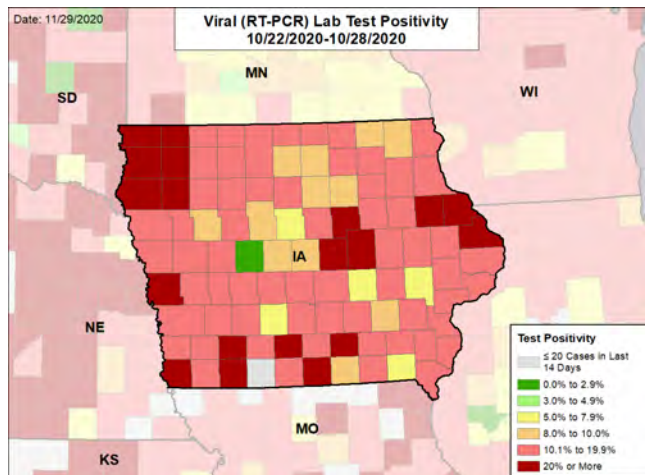
### VIRAL (RT-PCR) LABORATORY TEST POSITIVITY



### NEW CASES PER 100,000 ONE MONTH BEFORE



### VIRAL (RT-PCR) LABORATORY TEST POSITIVITY ONE MONTH BEFORE



#### 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. The week one month before is 10/24 - 10/30.

**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.