

RUPRI Center for Rural Health Policy Analysis

Rural Data Brief

Brief No. 2020-2

MAY 2022

<http://www.public-health.uiowa.edu/rupri/>

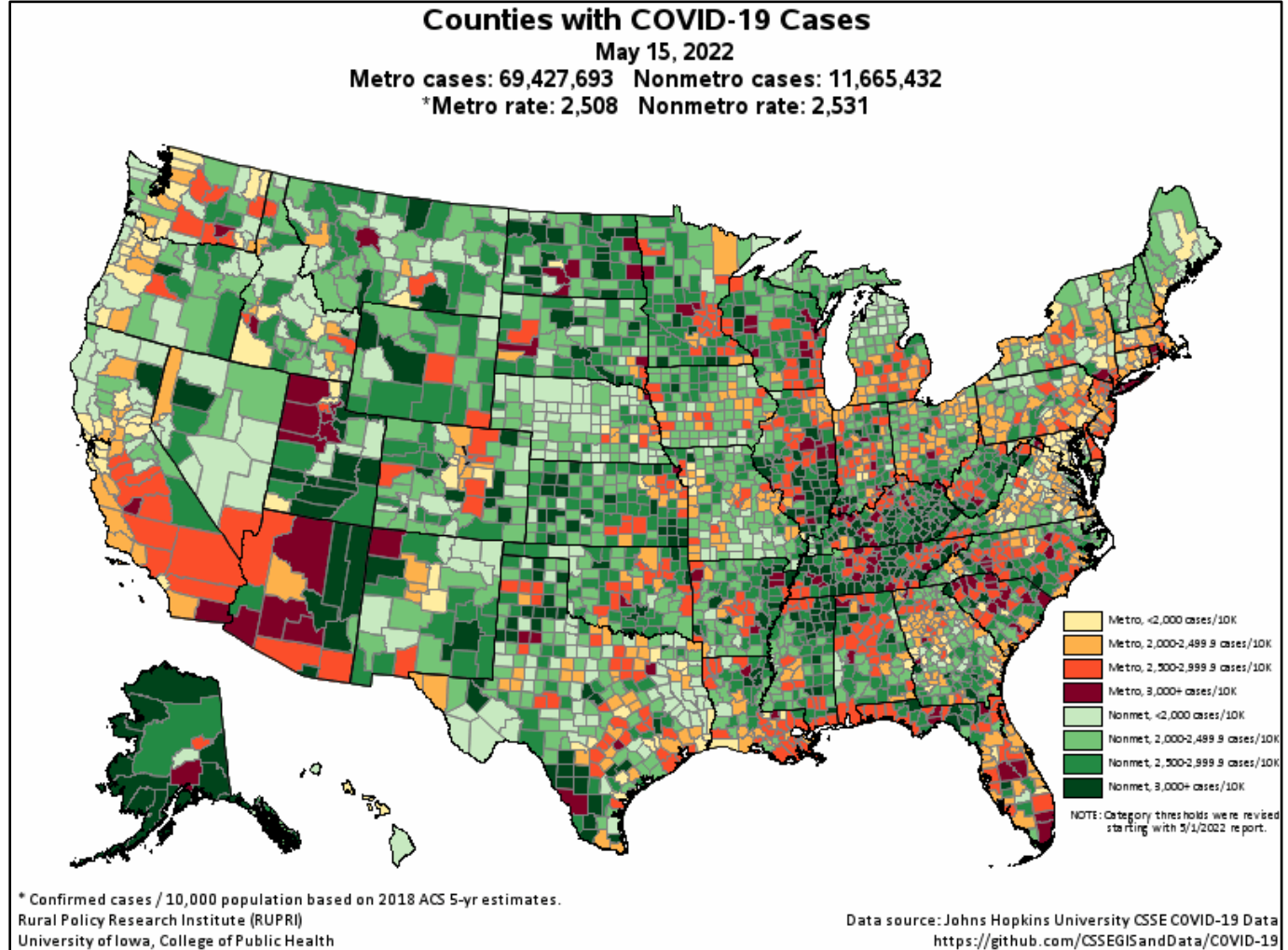
Confirmed COVID-19 Cases, Metropolitan and Nonmetropolitan Counties

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Report

Early COVID-19 focus was on major metropolitan areas, but rural areas of the United States have also been hit hard by the pandemic. As of May 15, 2022, there were a total of 81,093,125 cases and 985,216 deaths identified in counties, with 11,665,432 cases and 178,716 deaths (about 14.4 percent of cases and 18.1 percent of deaths) reported in non-metropolitan counties (data obtained from the Johns Hopkins University COVID-19 Data Repository*).

Map 1. Counties with confirmed COVID-19 Cases



Funded by the Federal Office of Rural Health Policy
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#1U1GRH07633 and #U1C RH20419. The information, conclusions and opinions expressed in this policy brief are those of the authors and no endorsement by FORHP, HRSA, HHS is intended or should be inferred.



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But as many experts have pointed out, the rate of growth in cases is very different depending on location. Further, the stress on the health care delivery system is proportionate – a small number of cases creates stress for low-capacity systems just as a large volume of cases creates stress for larger capacity systems.

Note that this document reports on confirmed COVID-19 cases and those numbers will be affected by the availability and utilization of testing resources. Recent and **updated maps**, and the “progression” of cases throughout the country, can be seen on the animated map on the RUPRI Health web site:

http://ruprihealth.org/publications/policybriefs/2020/COVID_History/

Map 1 (above) displays the rates of confirmed COVID-19 cases in metropolitan and nonmetropolitan counties. Table 1 shows metropolitan and nonmetropolitan county confirmed case and death counts. It also depicts the rate of cases and deaths per 10,000 population (based on the 2018 American Community Survey 5-year estimates). Finally, it shows the number and proportion of metropolitan and nonmetropolitan counties exceeding various case and death rate levels. Map 2 displays the rates of COVID-19 deaths in metropolitan and nonmetropolitan counties.

Table 1. Metropolitan and Nonmetropolitan Counties. Confirmed cases, deaths, and rates

| | Metropolitan | Nonmetropolitan |
|-----------------------------|---------------------|------------------------|
| Counties (total) | 1,166 | 1,976 |
| Population (2010 census) | 276,820,000 | 46,082,565 |
| Counties w/ confirmed cases | 1,165 (99.9%) | 1,972 (99.8%) |
| Counties w/ deaths | 1,165 (99.9%) | 1,960 (99.2%) |
| Confirmed cases | 69,427,693 (25.1%) | 11,665,432 (25.3%) |
| Deaths | 806,500 (0.3%) | 178,716 (0.4%) |
| Cases/10K population | 2,508 | 2,531 |
| Deaths/10K population | 29.13 | 38.78 |
| Counties w/ 1000+ cases/10K | 1,161 (99.6%) | 1,965 (99.4%) |
| Counties w/ 1500+ cases/10K | 1,146 (98.3%) | 1,911 (96.7%) |
| Counties w/ 2000+ cases/10K | 1,001 (85.8%) | 1,613 (81.6%) |
| Counties w/ 5+ deaths/10K | 1,165 (99.9%) | 1,947 (98.5%) |
| Counties w/ 10+ deaths/10K | 1,146 (98.3%) | 1,904 (96.4%) |
| Counties w/ 25+ deaths/10K | 814 (69.8%) | 1,616 (81.8%) |
| Counties w/ 50+ deaths/10K | 97 (8.3%) | 528 (26.7%) |

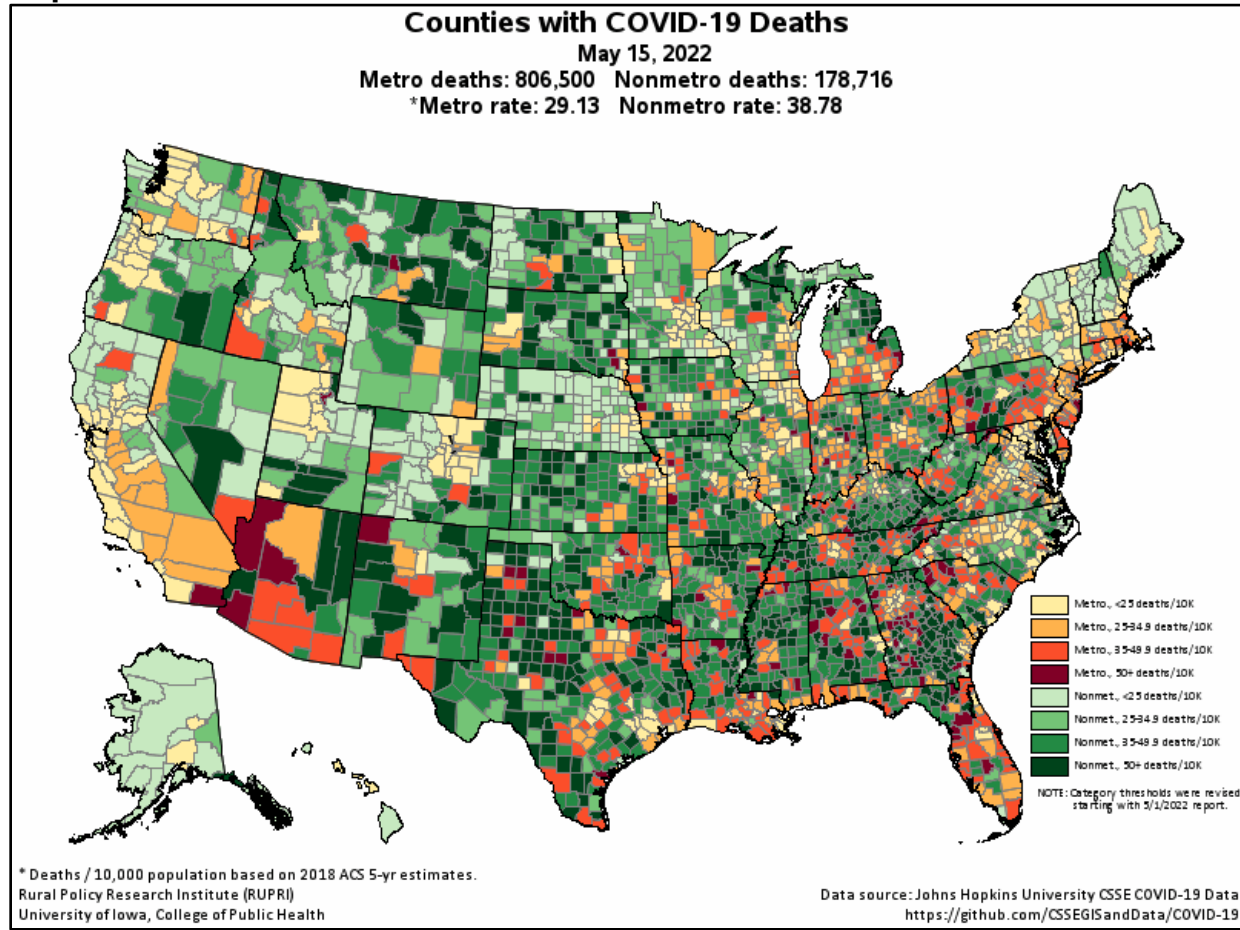
Data sources: COVID-19 case and death data from the [COVID-19 Data Repository by the Center for Systems Science and Engineering \(CSSE\) at Johns Hopkins University](#). Population data from the 2018 American Community Survey 5-yr estimates.

*COVID-19 case and death data for this ongoing report were previously obtained from [USAFACTS.org](#). Reports after 8/15/2020 use data from the [COVID-19 Data Repository by the Center for Systems Science and Engineering \(CSSE\) at Johns Hopkins University](#). Similarly, previous reports had used population data from the U.S. 2010 decennial Census. Current reports utilize data from the Census Bureau’s 2018 American Community Survey 5-year population estimates.

Additional changes were made to the report starting 4/26/2021 to better account for the Utah practice of providing aggregated incidence and mortality data for less populous counties.

All data in this brief are based on county-level counts to facilitate metropolitan/nonmetropolitan reporting. Cases and deaths that could not be attributed to a county are excluded, meaning that national figures are undercounts.

Map 2. Counties with COVID-19 Deaths



Map 3. State Metropolitan/Nonmetropolitan COVID-19 One-week Case Rates

