RUPRI Center for Rural Health Policy Analysis Rural Data Brief

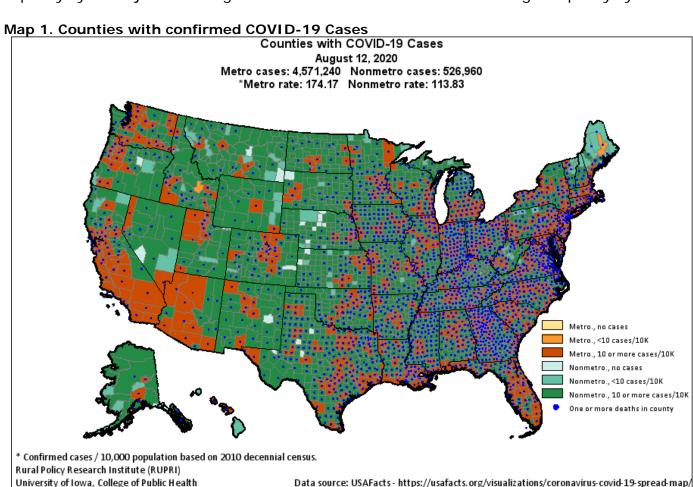
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Confirmed COVID-19 Cases, Metropolitan and Nonmetropolitan Counties

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Report

While much of the COVID-19 focus has been on major metropolitan areas, rural areas of the United States are not free of exposure. As of August 12, 2020, there were a total of 5,098,200 cases and 163,275 deaths identified in counties (data provided by <u>USAFacts.org</u>), with 526,960 cases and 11,927 deaths (about 10.3 percent of cases and 7.3 percent of deaths) reported in non-metropolitan counties. 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.





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http://ruprihealth.org/publications/policybriefs/2020/COVID History/

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 2010 decennial census). Finally, it shows the number of metropolitan and metropolitan counties with a rate of cases exceeding 10 per 10,000 population and a rate of death exceeding 1 per 10,000 population. Map 2 shows those counties with elevated rates of cases and/or deaths.

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

	Metropolitan	Nonmetropol.
Counties (total)	1,166	1,979
Population (2010 census)	262,450,000	46,279,820
Counties w/ confirmed cases	1,165 (99.9%)	1,952 (98.8%)
Counties w/ deaths	1,072 (91.9%)	1,277 (64.6%)
Confirmed cases	4,571,240 (1.7%)	526,960 (1.1%)
Deaths	151,348 (0.1%)	11,927 (0.0%)
Cases/10K population	174.2	113.8
Deaths/10K population	5.77	2.58
Counties w/ 10+ cases/10K	1,163 (99.7%)	1,881 (95.2%)
Counties w/ 1+ deaths/10K	834 (71.5%)	904 (45.7%)

