RUPRI Center for Rural Health Policy Analysis
*Rural Data Update*

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# County-Level 14-Day COVID-19 Case Trajectories

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## Background

This document updates maps and tables for the Rural Data Brief "County-Level 14-Day COVID-19 Case Trajectories" (https://ruprihealth.org/publications/policybriefs/2020/County COVID Trajectories.pdf). This data brief looks at the new case counts in every US county between May 31, 2020, and June 13, 2020, to quantitatively evaluate 14-day trends in metropolitan, nonmetropolitan, and noncore counties. Previous versions of this document can be found at: https://ruprihealth.org/publications/policybriefs/2020/COVID_Projects.html

Data on confirmed COVID-19 cases were obtained from USAFacts.org[1]. The number of cases in each county was aggregated for each week in the two-week period, and the totals for each week were compared. To minimize the impact of counties with very minor real variation in weekly counts, those with a change in case count of two or fewer (either increase or decrease) were coded as "Same number, both weeks." Counties that saw more than a 25 percent increase or decrease in number of cases between the weeks were labelled "notable" (including counties that went from 3 or more to none [notable decrease] and counties that went from none to 3 or more [notable increase]). Counties in the 50 states and the District of Columbia were classified as metropolitan, nonmetropolitan, or noncore based on Urban Influence Codes[2].

**Table 1. 14-day trends[a] in newly confirmed COVID-19 cases, by county geography**

| | Metropolitan (n = 1,166) | | Nonmetropolitan (n = 641) | | Noncore (n = 1,335) | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| No cases reported | 51 | (4.4%) | 48 | (7.5%) | 432 | (32.4%) |
| Decreasing, notable[b] | 310 | (26.6%) | 145 | (22.6%) | 192 | (14.4%) |
| Decreasing, not notable | 115 | (9.9%) | 35 | (5.5%) | 11 | (0.8%) |
| Same number, both weeks[c] | 260 | (22.3%) | 222 | (34.6%) | 476 | (35.7%) |
| Increasing, not notable | 69 | (5.9%) | 12 | (1.9%) | 10 | (0.7%) |
| Increasing, notable | 361 | (31.0%) | 179 | (27.9%) | 214 | (16.0%) |

**Table 2. 14-day trends[a] in newly confirmed COVID-19 cases, in counties with any cases, by county geography**

| | Metropolitan (n = 1,115 of 1,166) | | Nonmetropolitan (n = 593 of 641) | | Noncore (n = 903 of 1,335) | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| *Any* decrease | 425 | (38.1%) | 180 | (30.4%) | 203 | (22.5%) |
| Notable decrease[b] | 310 | (27.8%) | 145 | (24.5%) | 192 | (21.3%) |
| Same number, both weeks[c] | 260 | (23.3%) | 222 | (37.4%) | 476 | (52.7%) |
| *Any* increase | 430 | (38.6%) | 191 | (32.2%) | 224 | (24.8%) |
| Notable increase[b] | 361 | (32.4%) | 179 | (30.2%) | 214 | (23.7%) |
| Increase of 100% or more | 191 | (17.1%) | 108 | (18.2%) | 158 | (17.5%) |

[a]Comparison of number of new cases in first week of 14-day period with new cases in second week.
[b]"Notable" trends indicate weekly changes in new cases exceeding (either increasing or decreasing) 25 percent.
[c]Includes counties with an absolute change in count of two or fewer.

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**Figure 1.**

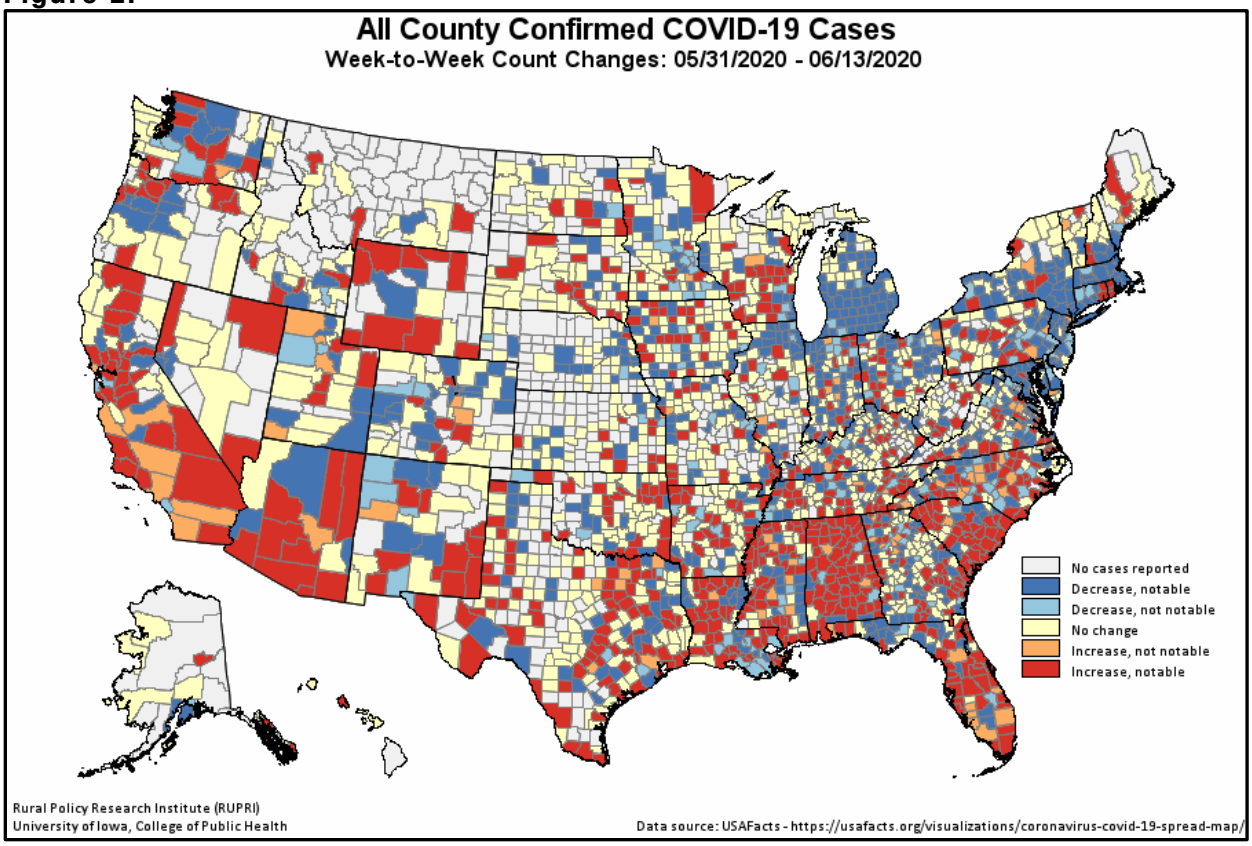



**Figure 2.**

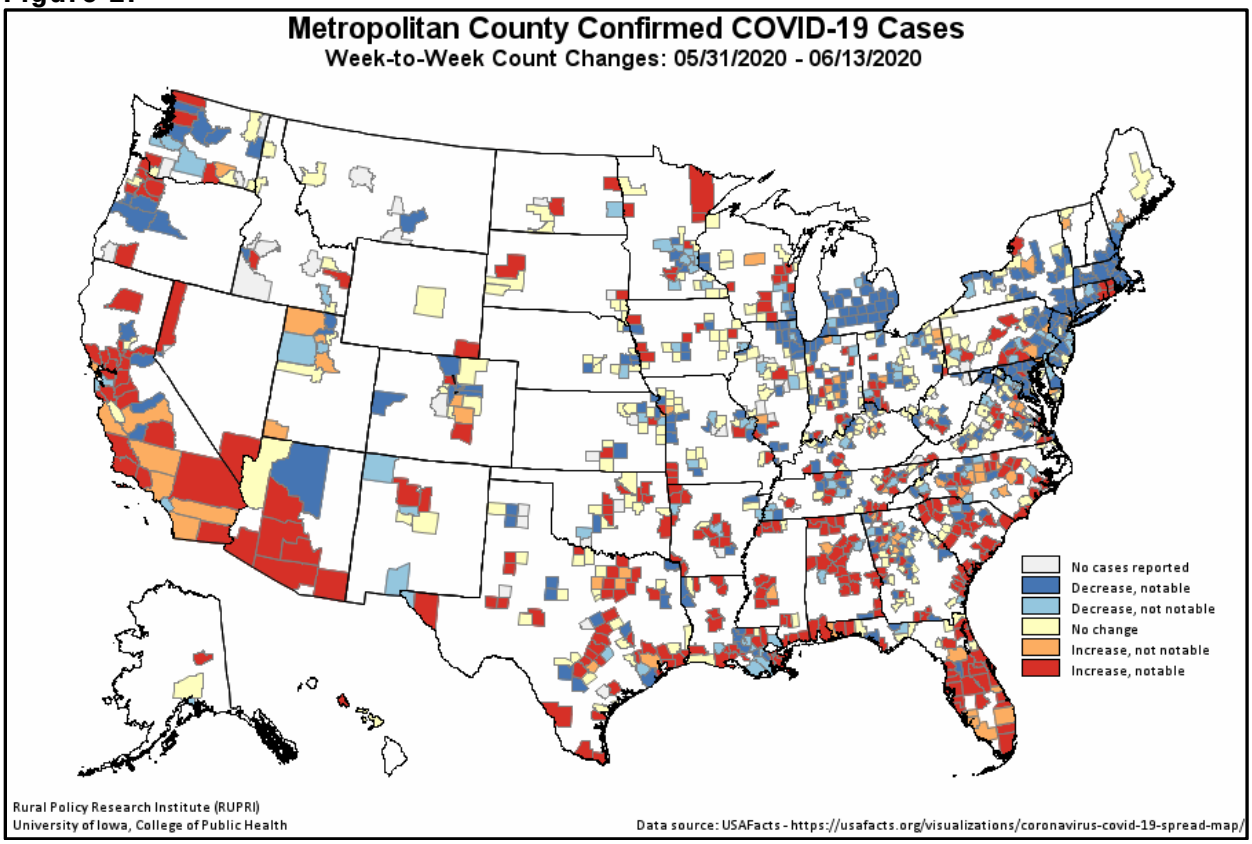


**Figure 3.**

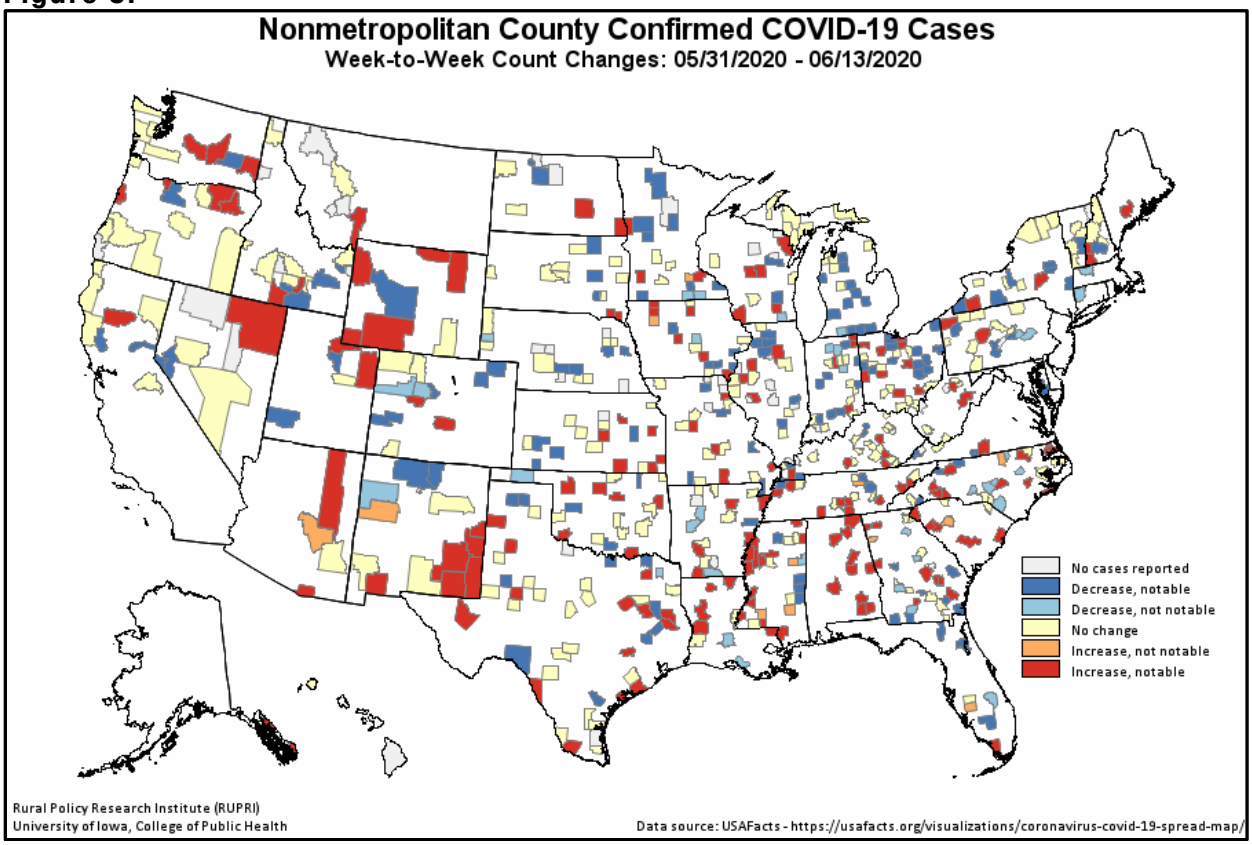
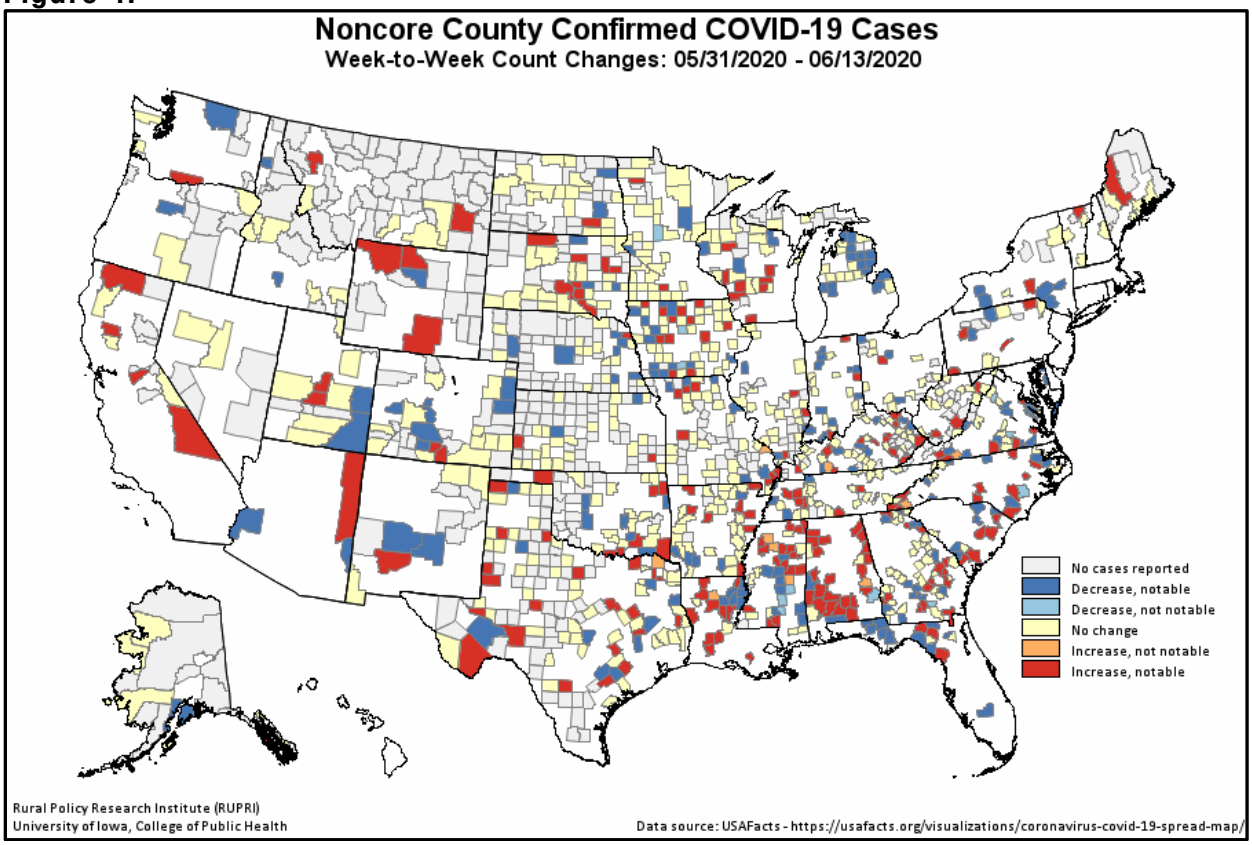



**Figure 4.**




[1] USAFacts.org (2020). "Coronavirus Locations: COVID-19 Map by County and State." Data retrieved from https://usafacts.org/visualizations/coronavirus-covid-19-spread-map/.
[2] U.S. Department of Agriculture, Economic Research Service (2019). "Urban Influence Codes." Retrieved May 20, 2020 from https://www.ers.usda.gov/data-products/urban-influence-codes/.