RUPRI Center for Rural Health Policy Analysis
Rural Data Update

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County-Level 14-Day COVID-19 Case Trajectories

Fred Ullrich, BA; and Keith Mueller, PhD

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 June 14, 2020, and June 27, 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: 6/14/2020 – 6/27/2020

	Metropolitan (n = 1,166)		Nonmetropolitan (n = 641)		Noncore (n = 1,335)	
No cases reported	23	(2.0%)	33	(5.1%)	321	(24.0%)
Decreasing, notable[b]	136	(11.7%)	87	(13.6%)	154	(11.5%)
Decreasing, not notable	83	(7.1%)	20	(3.1%)	17	(1.3%)
Same number, both weeks[c]	229	(19.6%)	191	(29.8%)	528	(39.6%)
Increasing, not notable	114	(9.8%)	33	(5.1%)	12	(0.9%)
Increasing, notable	581	(49.8%)	277	(43.2%)	303	(22.7%)

Table 2. 14-day trends[a] in newly confirmed COVID-19 cases, in counties with any cases, by county geography: 6/14/2020 – 6/27/2020

	Metropolitan (n = 1,143 of 1,166)		Nonmetropolitan (n = 608 of 641)		Noncore (n = 1,014 of 1,335)	
Any decrease	219	(19.2%)	107	(17.6%)	171	(16.9%)
Notable decrease[b]	136	(11.9%)	87	(14.3%)	154	(15.2%)
Same number, both weeks[c]	229	(20.0%)	191	(31.4%)	528	(52.1%)
Any increase	695	(60.8%)	310	(51.0%)	315	(31.1%)
Notable increase[b]	581	(50.8%)	277	(45.6%)	303	(29.9%)
Increase of 100% or more	282	(24.7%)	188	(30.9%)	241	(23.8%)

[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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RUPRI Center for Rural Health Policy Analysis, University of Iowa College of Public Health, Department of Health Management and Policy, 145 Riverside Dr., Iowa City, IA 52242-2007, (319) 384-3830
http://www.public-health.uiowa.edu/rupri
E-mail: cph-rupri-inquiries@uiowa.edu

Figure 1.

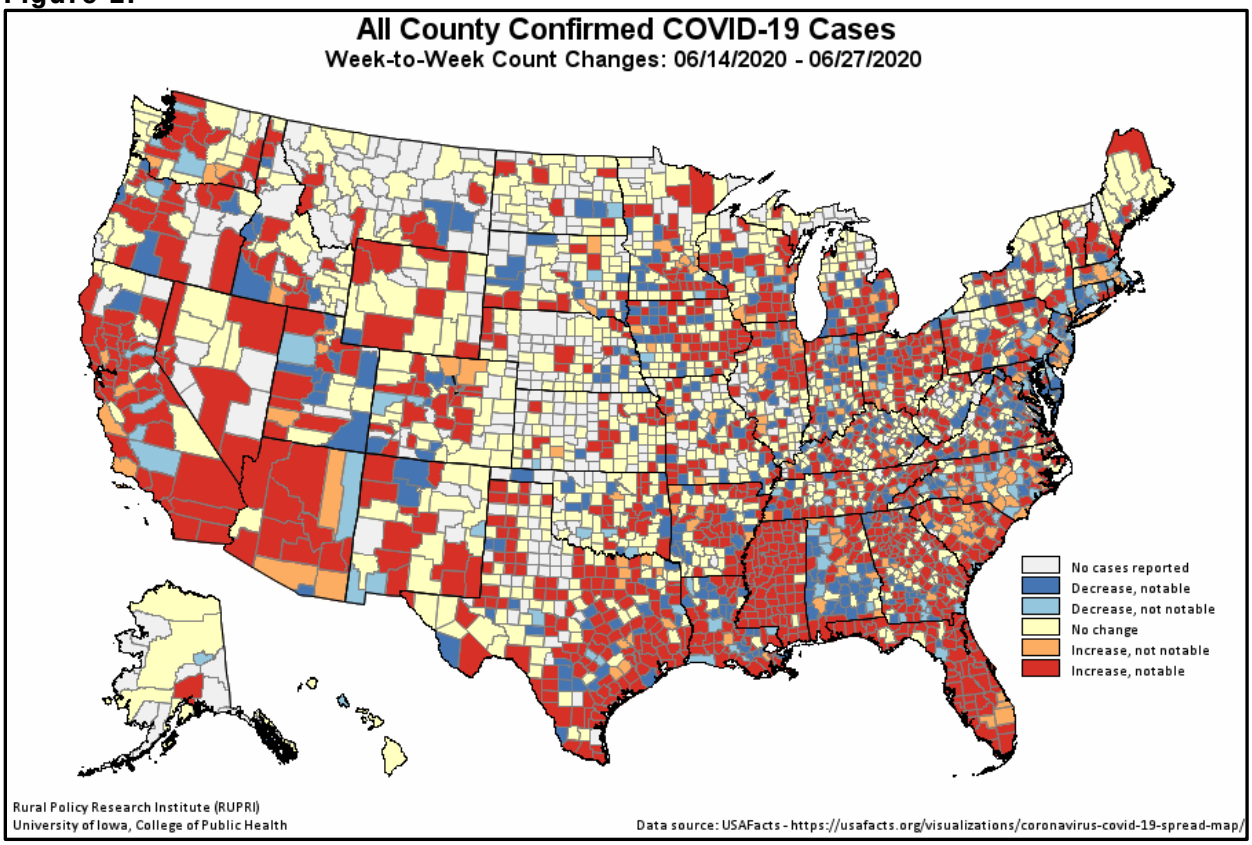


Figure 2.

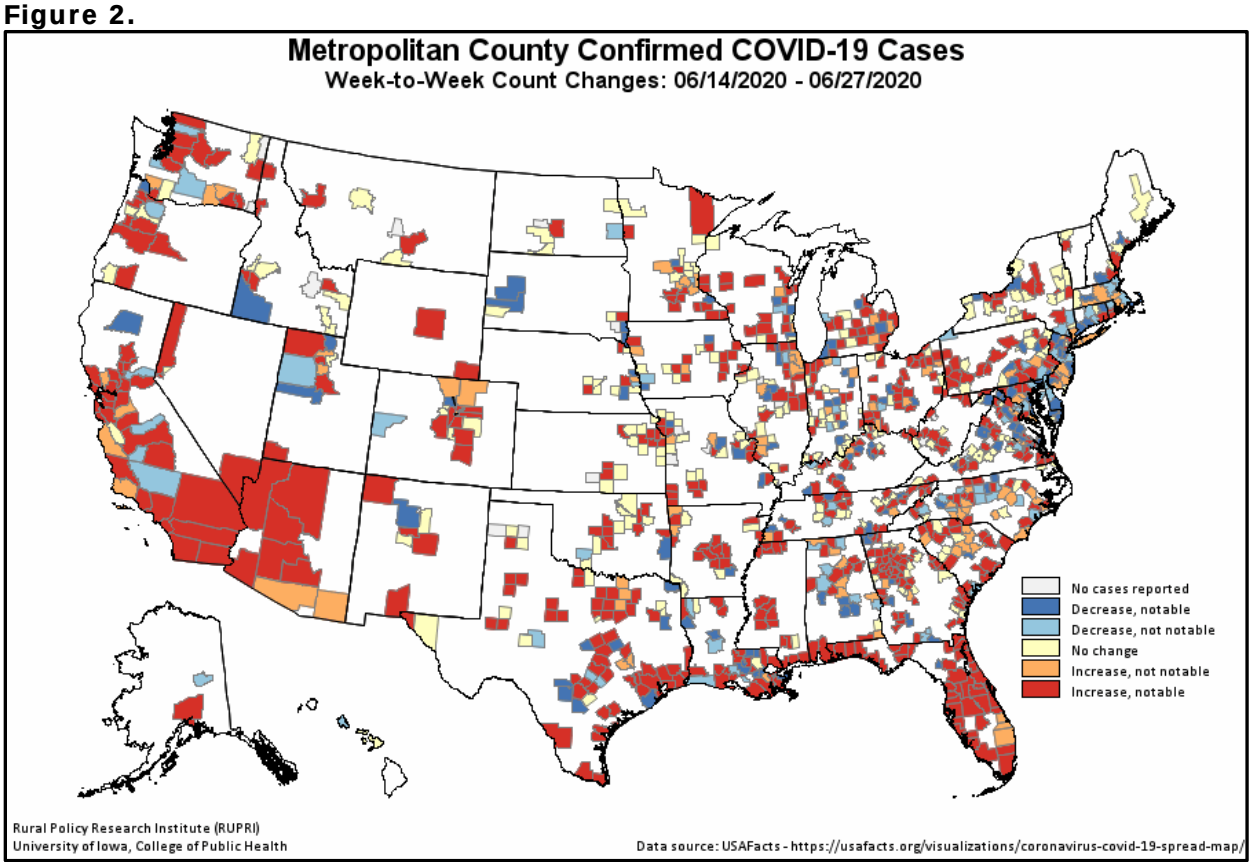


Figure 3.

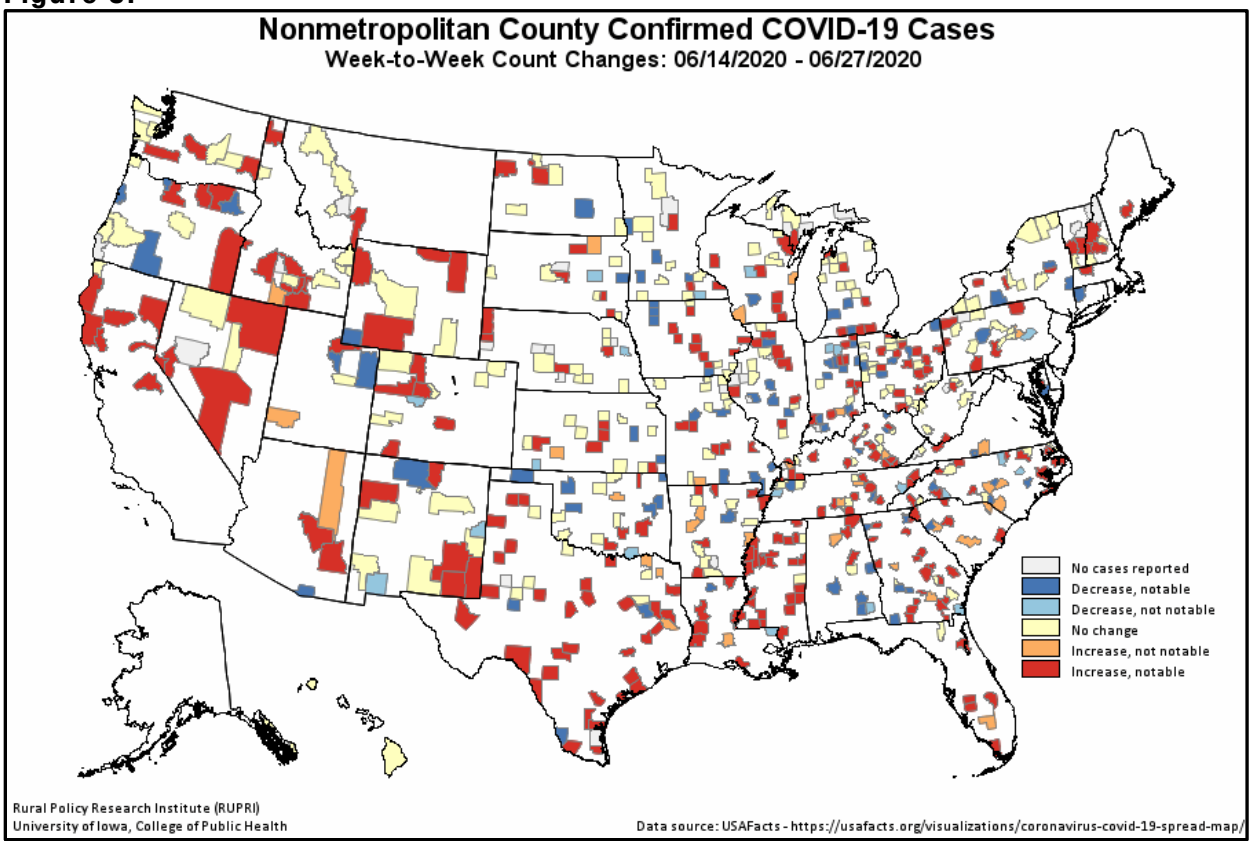
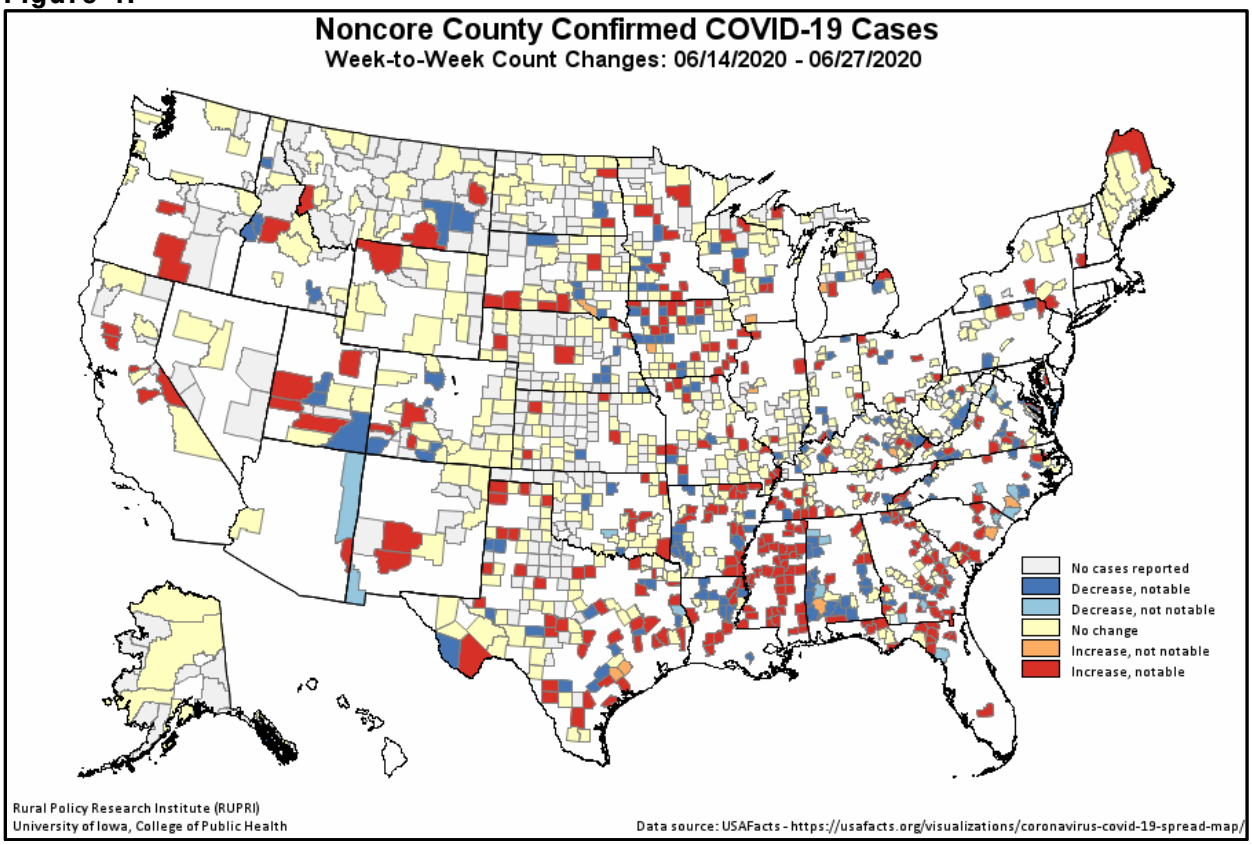


Figure 4.



[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/.