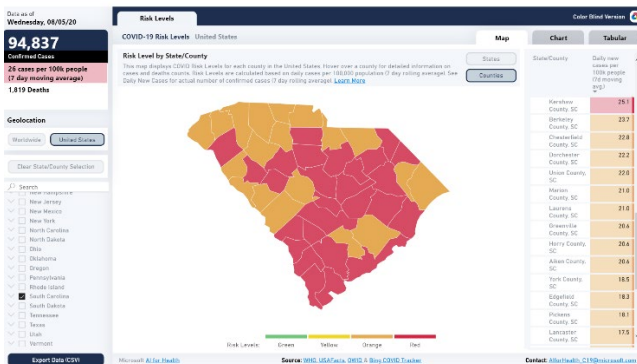


COVID Update August 7, 2020

Cases appear to be trending down slightly in S.C. The week ending July 18, we had 13,271 new cases, but the week ending August 1, that was down to 10,211 so hopefully that decrease will continue.

There has also been improvement in several counties in S.C., including Greenville, in the seven day moving average of new cases, as seen on this website, <https://globalepidemics.org/key-metrics-for-covid-suppression/>, which allows you to view national, state and county data trends on a map (the SC DHEC site shows cumulative, and two week cumulative incidence data on a map.) Here is the most recent S.C. county daily incidence map (Wednesday Aug 5):



The number of tests performed has been dropping nationwide, declining 3.6% over the past two weeks. In S.C. the percent of tests positive rate remains high (19.7% on Wednesday), which has been thought to in part reflect the difficulty in obtaining tests, meaning only symptomatic (not exposed) individuals are getting tested. In fact, quite a few symptomatic folks are now not bothering to get tested, either, if they are not extremely ill, as there is no specific therapy and in many circumstances the quarantine and informing of contacts is basically the same even without the positive test result.

Records deaths were reported for the week in Arkansas, California, Georgia, Arkansas, Idaho, Montana, Florida and Puerto Rico.

The U.S. is now at 4.8 million COVID cases and 156,000 deaths.