

## COVID-19 Update November 6, 2020

After finally knocking down a two-month summer spike in COVID-19 cases in SC, officials are worried the situation may worsen again if individuals don't continue careful COVID precautions during the holidays. While SC, and most of the Southeastern US, are not seeing the huge surge that parts of the Northeast and Midwest have experienced, a marked increase in cases has occurred. Also, Greenville is a new 'hot spot' as 1,694 COVID-19 cases have been diagnosed in the past two weeks, and 1,012 in the past week, which is nearly 10% of all cases since the pandemic began. Greenville county now has a 2-week cumulative incidence rate of 323 cases/100 thousand residents (more than 200 cases is considered high incidence.) However, the percent positive is now 5.9% compared to 6.5 % the previous week. SC DHEC has stated there is no discernible specific cause for the surge in the upstate.

Statewide in SC, cases leaped up in the week ending Saturday, rising 18.7% as 7,271 cases were reported.

Several U.S. states on Wednesday reported grim numbers that are fueling the national trends. Texas reported 9,048 new cases and 126 deaths, and the numbers of coronavirus patients in Missouri, Nebraska and Oklahoma hospitals set records

Daily new confirmed coronavirus cases in the U.S. have surged 45% over the past two weeks, to a record seven-day average of 86,352, according to data compiled by Johns Hopkins University. Deaths are also on the rise, up 15% to an average of 846 deaths every day.

On Friday the U.S. record for daily cases was broken, with 114,000 new cases reported. Overall in the US, cases are increasing at an unprecedented rate, and the total of infections is now almost 9.5 million.

The United Nations voted to hold a summit on the COVID-19 pandemic Dec. 3-4 to press for action on the global spread of the coronavirus and its "unprecedented" effects on societies, economies, jobs, global trade and travel

European countries are battling rapidly increasing COVID-19 infections and hospitalizations. Greece is again locking down and new measures took effect Tuesday in Austria and Sweden, following a partial shutdown imposed in Germany on Monday and tighter rules in Italy, France, Kosovo and Croatia. England faces a near-total lockdown which began Thursday, shuttering restaurants, hairdressers and clothing stores until at least Dec. 2. The decision was an about-face for the government, which had earlier advocated a regional response.

Infections spiked in Russia, where authorities reported 18,648 new cases Tuesday. It was the fifth straight day of more than 18,000 confirmed cases, compared to the country's daily record of more than 11,000 in the spring. Russia now has the world's fourth-highest reported coronavirus caseload with over 1.6 million confirmed infected, including over 28,000 deaths.