

## COVID-19 Data Update - August 14, 2021

Like all viruses, the SARS-CoV-2 virus reliably mutates with replication and some relatively reproducible variants of the original template are quite common and to be expected over time. Relative to the earlier detected variants of SARS-CoV-2, the delta variant is more transmissible, but it has less morbidity and significantly lower mortality.

- According to the CDC, there is an ongoing trend of increase in COVID-19 cases across the USA. [CDC data](#) indicates that the 7-day moving average of daily new cases through August 13, 2021 ... 83% of which are delta variants of SARS-CoV-2 ... **increased 18.4% across the USA**. Comparable 7-day data based upon lab-confirmed cases from the State of Wyoming Department of Health ([WYDOH](#)) from July 30 through August 12, reveals **0% change in WY**. Although not necessarily significant, the most recent [5-day trend](#) reveals a step-wise decrement pattern in cases in the state.
- Current case rates per 100,000 population reveals 11 per 100,000 population for Natrona County with higher values in Laramie (40/100,000), Campbell (27/100,000), and Teton (25/100,000) counties.
- According to Kaiser Family Foundation ([KFF](#)) ongoing COVID statistics, the number of lab-confirmed and suspected COVID-19 cases for the state of Wyoming plateaued over the past week while the number of reported deaths decreased from 10 to 7.
- Examples of State Rates of Deaths per 100,000 population since the onset of the pandemic include: USA(187), NY(285), FL(185), CA(165), TX(138), CO(122), UT(138), MT(112), WY(137). These numbers are not entirely comparable since not all states use the same criteria to define COVID-19 deaths.

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*NB: Reported numbers above should NOT be accepted with absolute credibility. Reported numbers for a given State have credible value relative to numbers from other dates for comparative purposes only since the RT-PCR test used for detecting SARS-CoV-2 has high very numbers of false positives and will be abandoned by the CDC at the end of this year. The threshold cycle threshold [C(t)] value of the RT-PCR test that is used to diagnose a COVID-19 case varies significantly across states.*

If you have questions, please contact me at [rcpmd1@gmail.com](mailto:rcpmd1@gmail.com) or (425) 275-1045

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