

# COVID-19 Mortality Rate Trends in Countries and US States

Joel Elvery

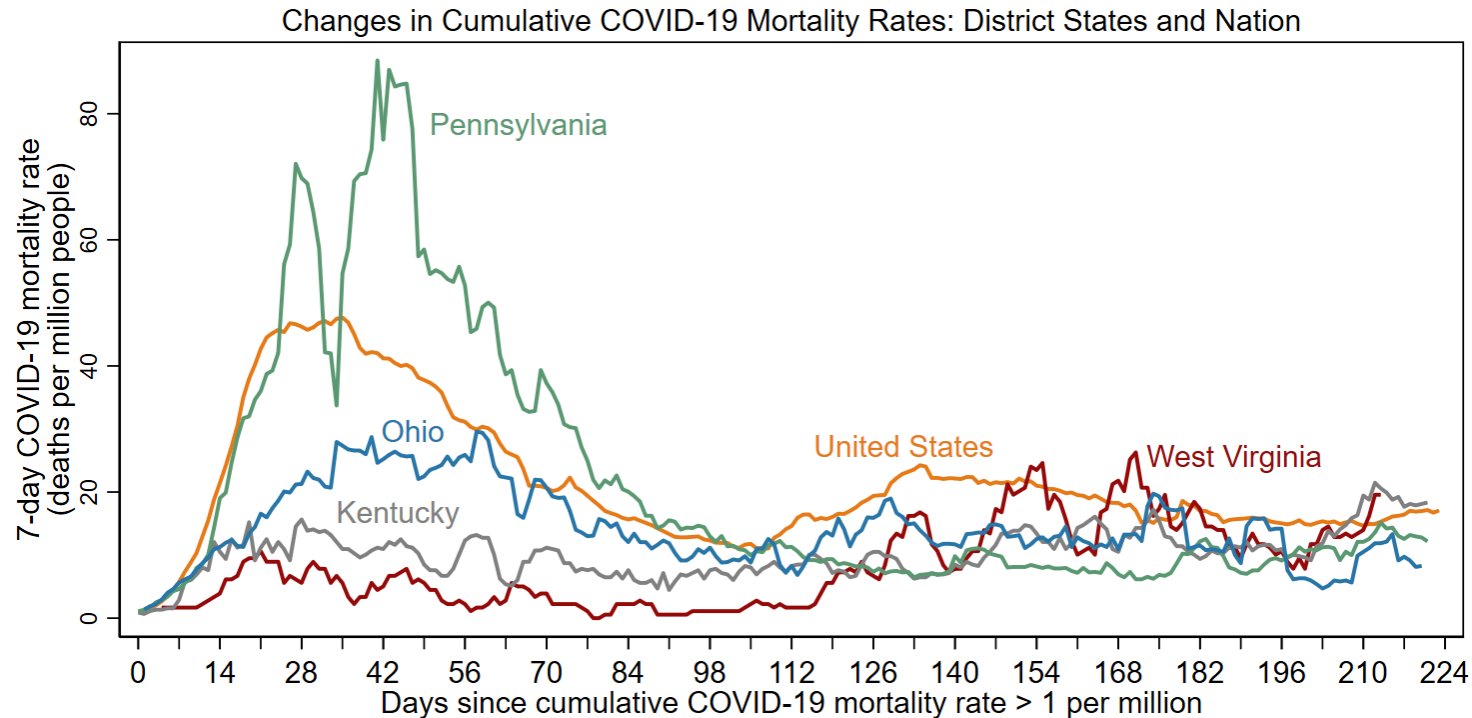
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Updated November 2, 2020

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- The charts in this presentation use the same data sources as the charts in two April 2020 District Data Briefs. Please see these reports for additional details.
  - [Getting to Accuracy: Measuring COVID-19 by Mortality Rates and Percentage Changes](#)
  - [A Speeding Rate Starts to Slow: COVID-19 Mortality Rates by State](#)
- Since those reports were completed, additional evidence shows that COVID-19 deaths have been underreported, both in other countries and in the United States. The following charts present the latest data from the Center for Systems Science and Engineering at Johns Hopkins University (CSSE) through November 1, with no attempt to further correct for underreporting.
  - Some large revisions in COVID-19 data have been smoothed. See slide 9 for details.
- The charts have been modified from those in the reports to better convey the current status of the COVID-19 epidemic in the United States.
- All dates in this presentation refer to the year 2020.

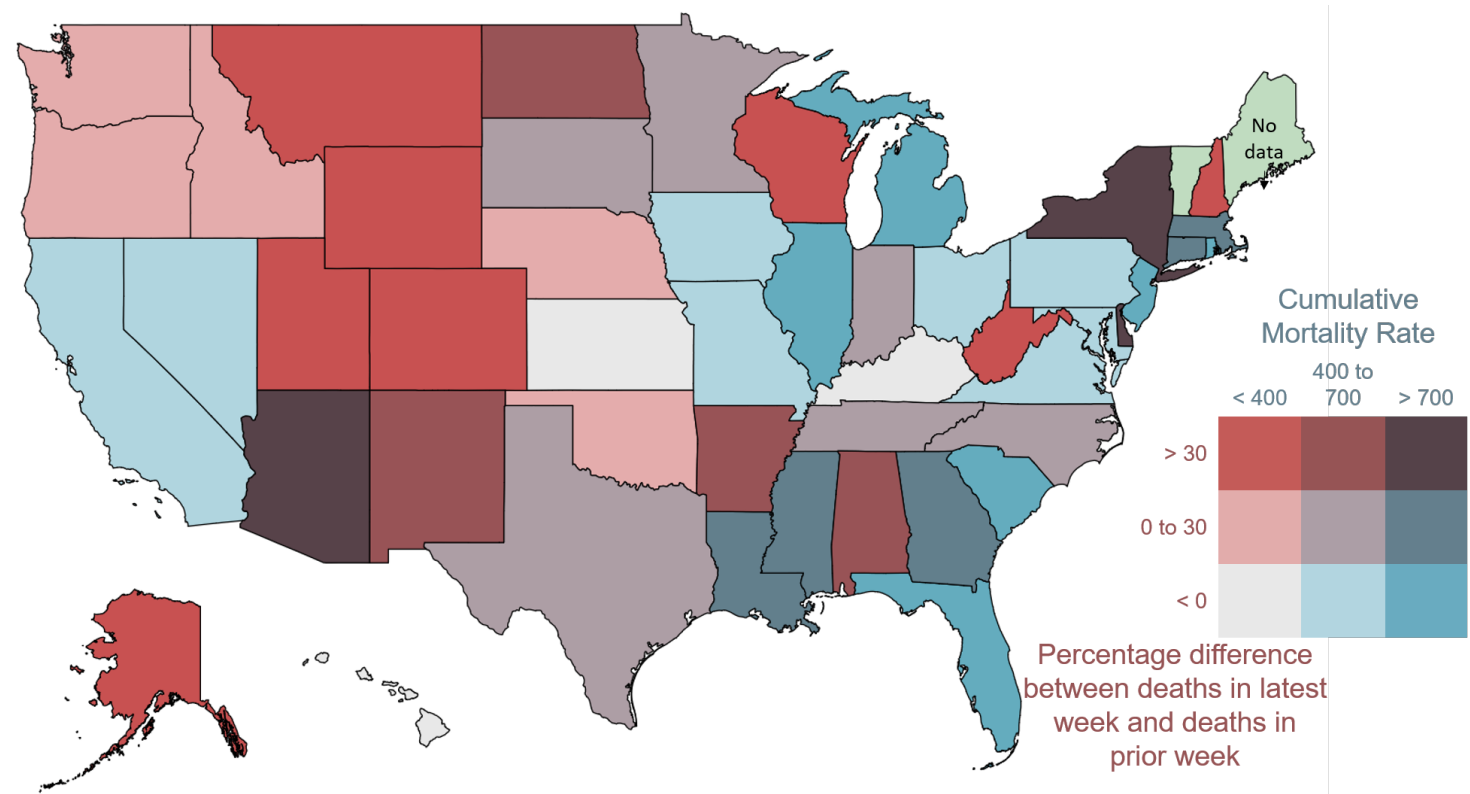
In the week leading up to November 1, the weekly COVID-19 mortality rate rose in West Virginia and the United States as a whole but fell in all other Fourth District states.



Note: Data through November 1, 2020.

Sources: FRBC calculations, the Center for Systems Science and Engineering at Johns Hopkins University, and Bureau of Economic Analysis.

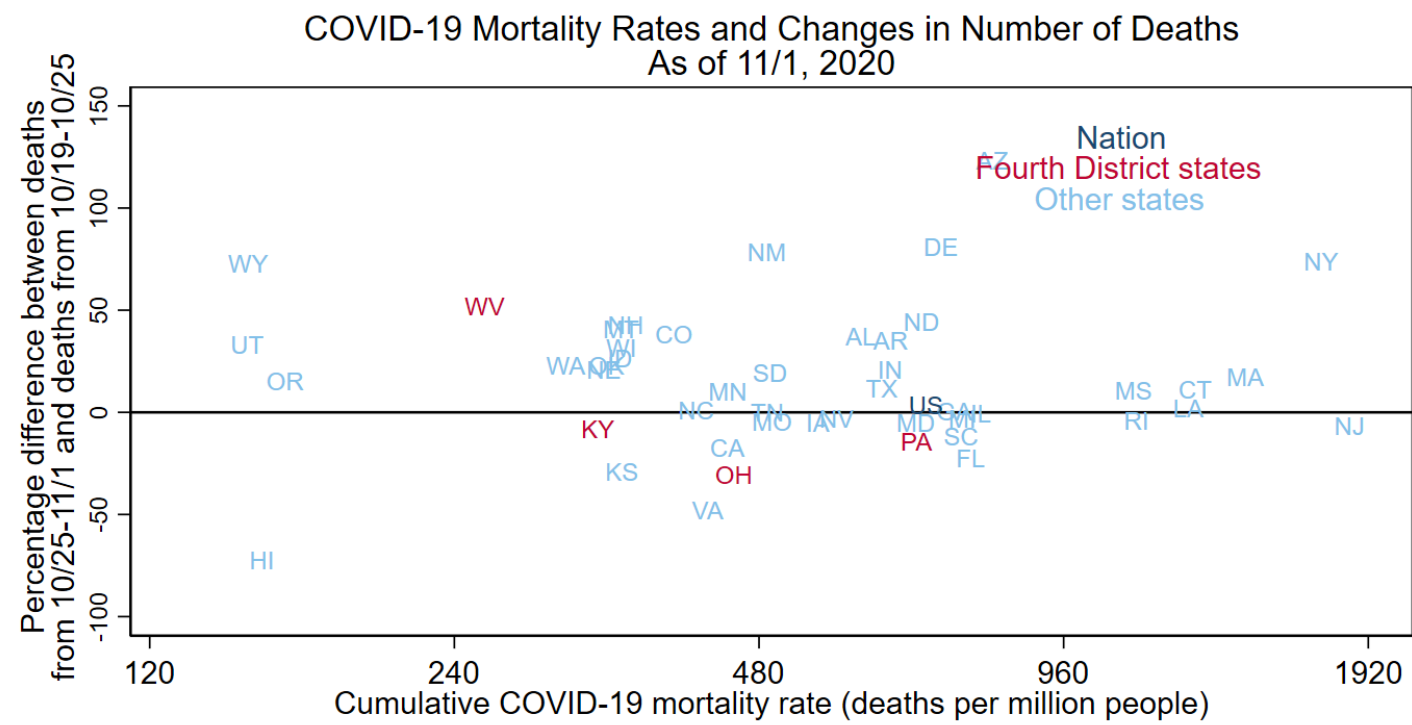
Between October 26 and November 1, the weekly COVID-19 mortality rate rose in 32 states, including Alabama, Arizona, New York, and Wisconsin.



Data for November 1, 2020, accessed on November 2, 2020.  
“Latest week” is 10/26 to 11/1, “prior week” is 10/19 to 10/25.  
Sources: FRBC calculations, CSSE, and BEA.

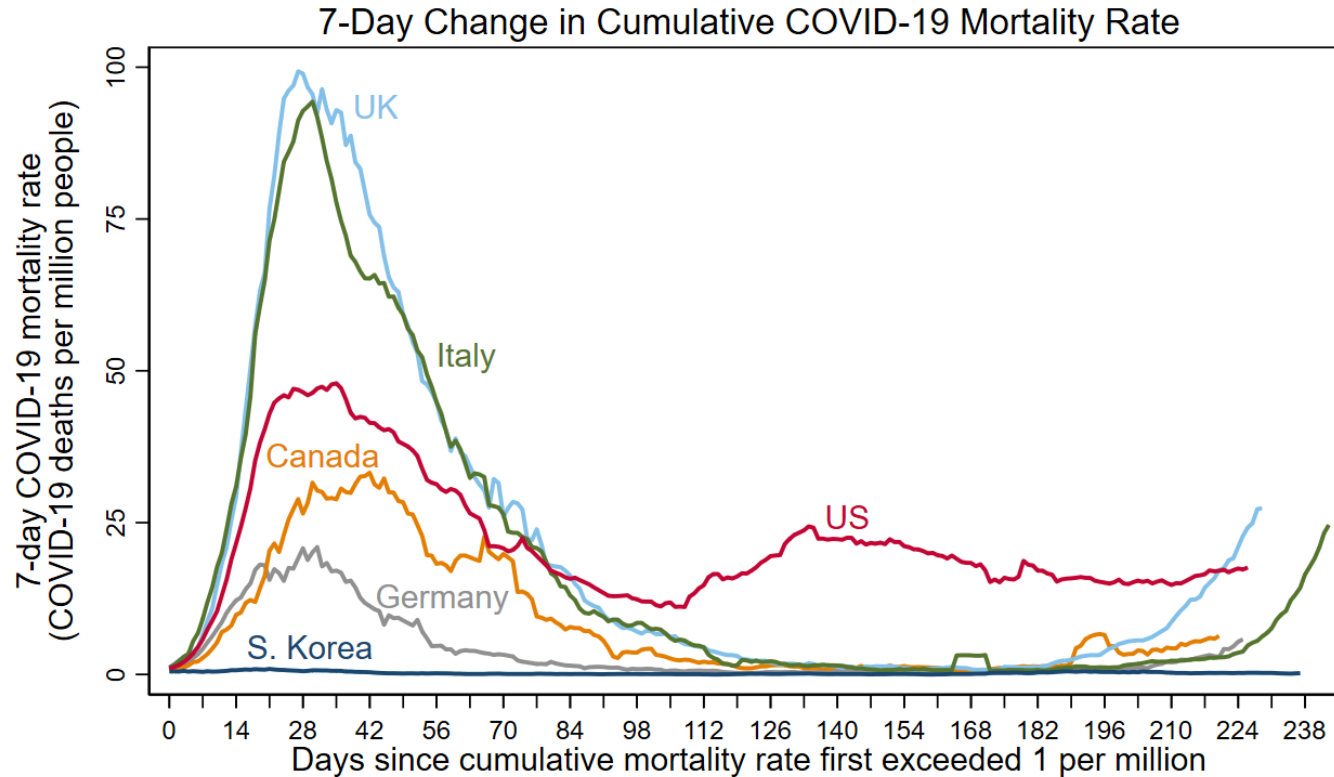
Notes: VT and ME have no data because they had no deaths from 10/19 to 10/25. The District of Columbia is in the bin with mortality rate > 700 and percentage difference > 30 percent. The color bins on this map are changed with each update to better represent the latest data.

This chart gives similar information to the map, but it is more precise and includes the nation as a whole.



Notes: Horizontal axis has log scale. VT and ME are excluded because neither had any COVID-19 deaths from 10/19 to 10/25. AK and DC are also excluded as the states' weekly deaths increased by more than 200 percent. Sources: FRBC calculations, the Center for Systems Science and Engineering at Johns Hopkins University, and Bureau of Economic Analysis.

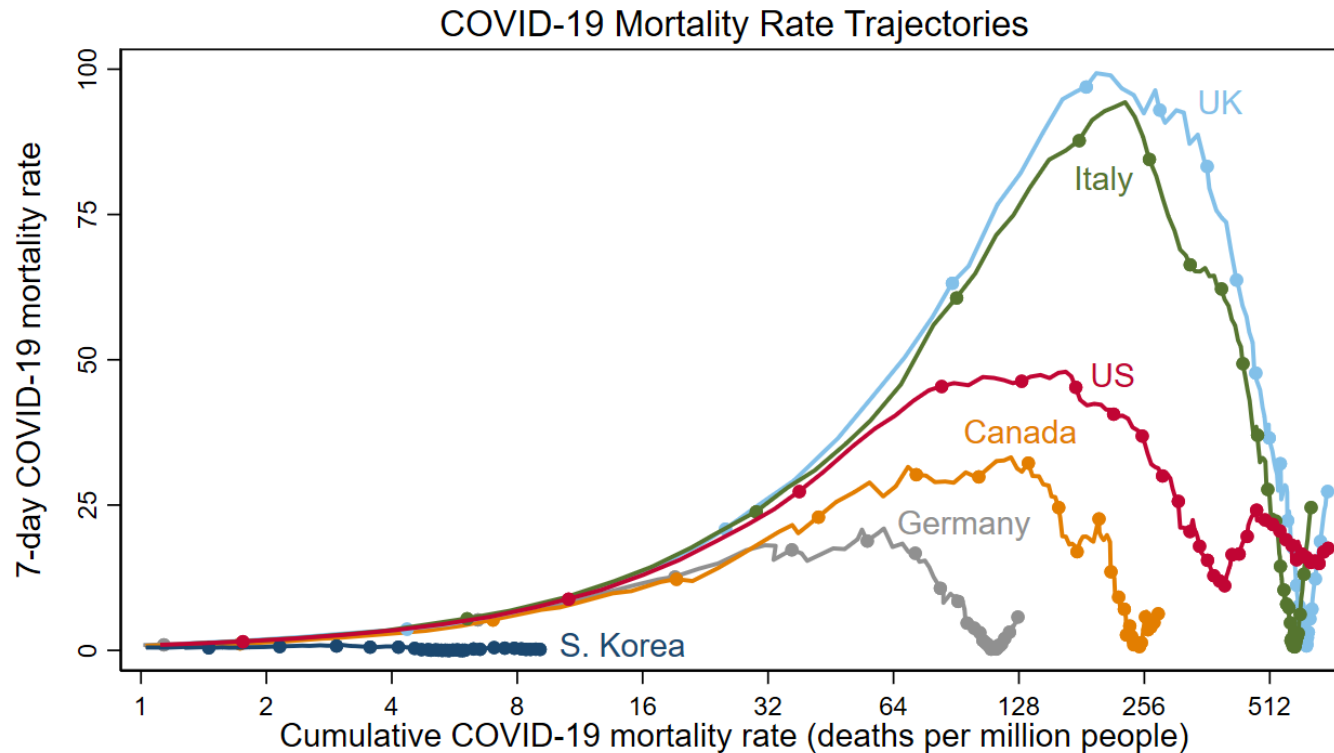
The 7-day COVID-19 mortality rate in the US rose modestly in the past week and remains above the rates in most developed countries. Both the UK and Italy now have higher 7-day mortality rates than the US.



Notes: 3/22/2020 was first day US rate > 1. Data through 11/1/2020.

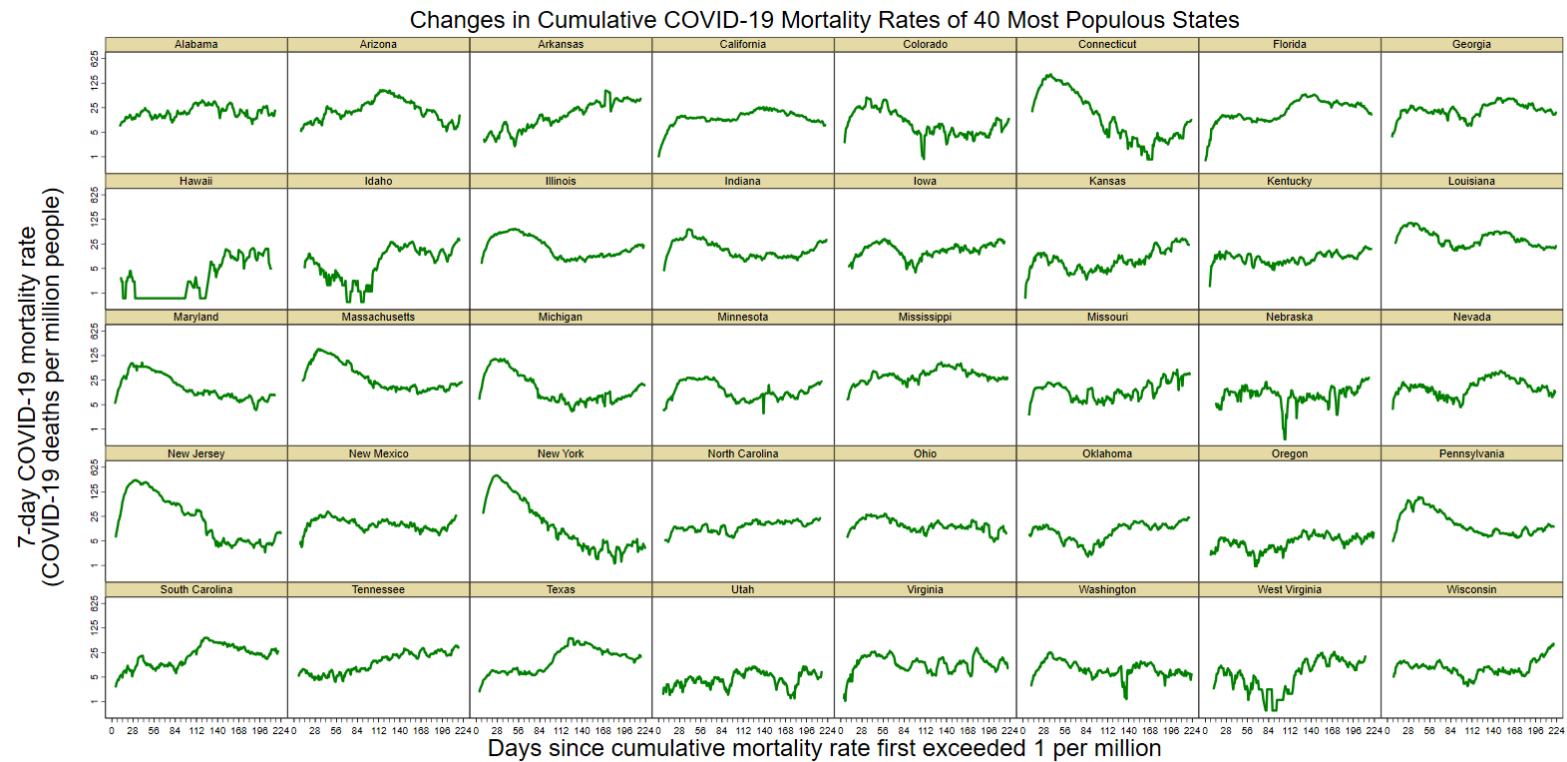
Sources: FRBC calculations, the Center for Systems Science and Engineering at Johns Hopkins University, and the World Bank.

As of November 1, the cumulative COVID-19 mortality rate of the United States is 706 deaths per million people. This is above the cumulative rates of Italy and the UK (643 and 704 deaths per million, respectively).



Notes: Horizontal axis has log scale. Excluding days when mortality rate < 1. Dots on Sundays to show time. Data through November 1, 2020.  
Sources: FRBC calculations, the Center for Systems Science and Engineering at Johns Hopkins University, and the World Bank.

This chart shows the changes in COVID-19 mortality rates for the 40 most populous US states.





## Appendix: Adjustments for data revisions

- Some significant revisions to the reported number of COVID-19 deaths cause large single-day jumps.
- We smooth some of these jumps by multiplying daily changes for a period of time by a scaling factor so that the adjusted series meets the post-revision series.
- We have used this approach for the following revisions and periods:
  - Spain revised deaths downward on May 25; data are adjusted from 3/3 to 5/24.
  - New Jersey revised deaths downward on June 25; data are adjusted from 3/10 to 6/24.
  - Illinois revised deaths upward on July 7; Illinois and United States are adjusted from 3/23 to 7/6.
  - New Jersey revised deaths downward on August 26; data are adjusted from 3/18 to 8/25.
- Other data cleaning
  - Ohio's reported cumulative deaths jumped up on August 29 and reversed on August 30. We set Ohio's cumulative deaths on August 29 to the midpoint of deaths on August 28 and 30 and incorporated this change into the US total for August 29.