# CORONAVIRUS TRAVEL SENTIMENT INDEX REPORT

KEY FINDINGS FOR EXPLORE ASHEVILLE

March 25, 2021

Destination Analysts





# METHODOLOGY

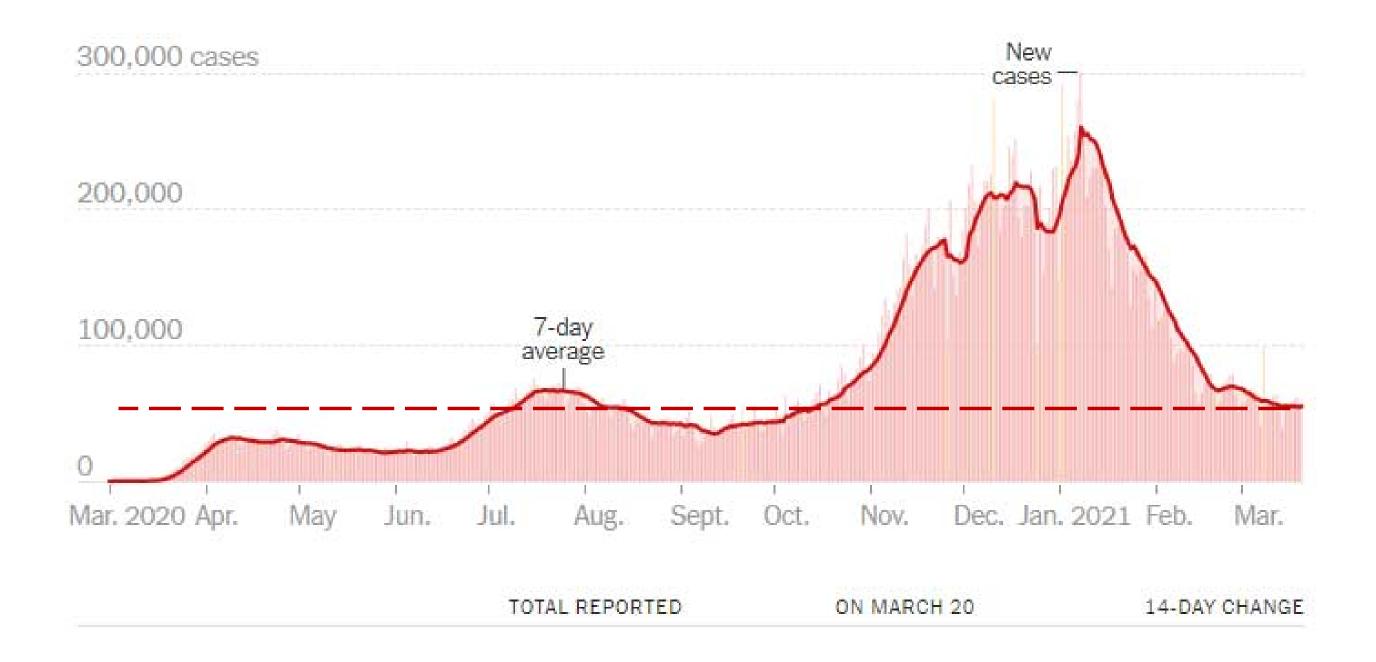


- Weekly tracking survey of a representative sample of adult American travelers in each of four U.S. regions
- Designed to track traveler sentiment and generate insights into when tourism businesses can expect demand to return and from whom
- Week 54 data (fielded March 19-21) will be presented today
- 1,200+ fully completed surveys collected each wave
- Confidence interval of +/- 2.8%
- Data is weighted to reflect the actual population of each region



# Coronavirus in the U.S.: Latest Map and Case Count

Updated March 21, 2021, 12:24 A.M. E.T. Leer en español

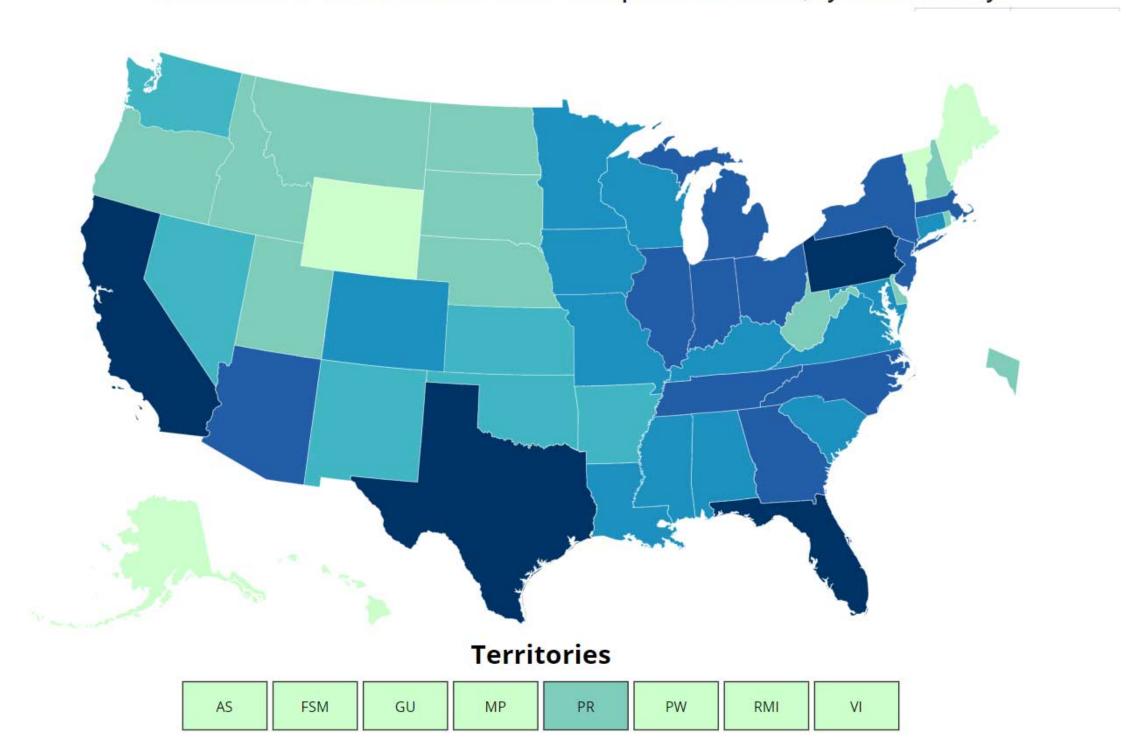


### United States COVID-19 Cases and Deaths by State

Maps, charts, and data provided by CDC, updated daily by 8 pm  $\mathrm{ET}^\dagger$ 



Total Number of COVID-19 Deaths in the US Reported to the CDC, by State/Territory





### New Lockdowns In Europe As COVID-19 Cases Soar; Pakistan's PM Tests Positive

Updated March 20, 2021 - 2:33 PM ET 🕕

H.J. MAT



Travelers waited to flee Paris at the Montparnasse Train Station on Friday ahead of a new lockdown announced by the government in response to a surge in cases of the coronavirus.

Julien Mattia/Anadolu Agency via Getty Images

Several European countries have instituted new lockdown restrictions, while others are considering tightening their rules in order to curb the spread of the coronavirus as case numbers across the continent are surging once again.

In France, a new partial lockdown took effect at midnight on Friday. Some 21 million people across 16 regions, including Paris, are affected by the new measures. The French government decided to take the step amid fears of a third wave.

### POLITICS

# Covid cases are rising in 21 states as health officials warn against reopening too quickly

PUBLISHED SAT, MAR 20 2021-3:32 PM EDT



### KEY POINTS

- Even as the pace of vaccinations accelerates in the U.S., Covid-19 cases are increasing in 21 states and highly infectious variants are spreading even as governors begin to relax restrictions on businesses.
- Public health officials warn that while roughly 2.5 million people nationwide are receiving shots every day, infection levels have plateaued this month and some states have failed to reduce the number of daily cases.
- The 7-day moving average of new infections was 54,666 as of Friday, according to a CNBC analysis of data from Johns Hopkins University.

Even as the pace of vaccinations accelerates in the U.S., <u>Covid-19</u> cases are increasing in 21 states and highly infectious variants are spreading as governors relax restrictions on businesses like restaurants, bars and gyms.

Public health officials warn that while roughly 2.5 million people nationwide are receiving shots every day, infection levels have plateaued this month and some states have failed to reduce the number of daily cases.

The 7-day moving average of new infections plateaued at 54,666 as of Friday after declining for weeks, according to a CNBC analysis of data from Johns Hopkins University.

More than 541,000 people in the U.S. have died of the disease.

### California

# 'People are champing at the bit': California is reopening - but how fast is too fast?

Most can finally go to the gym or the movies again. But health experts say caution is essential to prevent future lockdowns



▲ People walk on the Malibu Pier on Sunday as businesses reopen. Photograph: Mark J Terrill/AP

### Gabrielle Canon in San Francisco and Fresno and Sam Levin in Los Angeles

Sat 20 Mar 2021 06.00 EDT

For the first time in more than a year, the vast majority of Californians can dine indoors, go to the gym, catch a movie at their local theater or attend a religious service.

The mood in the state has been buoyant in recent weeks, as case numbers continue a dramatic decline and major cities lift rules that have been among the strictest and longest-lasting in the country.

In San Francisco, groups of picnickers can be spotted gathering in parks as the weather warms, residents have been able to reunite with vaccinated friends and family members and Bay Area baseball teams are preparing to play for fans in time for opening day on 1 April.

### Miami Beach imposes curfew over spring breakers, declares state of emergency

Colleges across the country canceled Spring Break, but young people have still descended on Florida

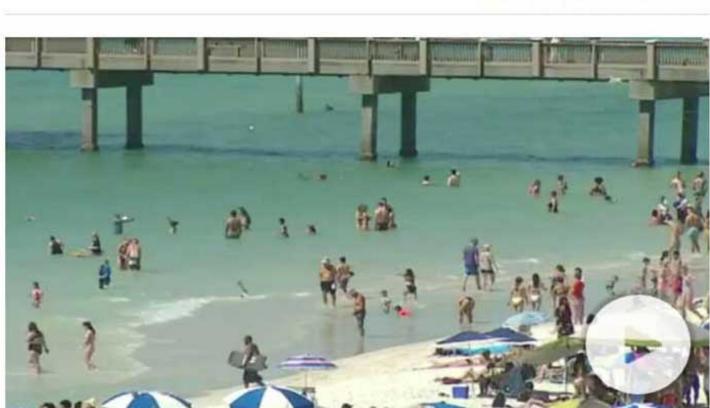
By Paul Best | Fox News











Florida shuts down some beaches to crack down on spring break partying amid

COVID-19 pandemic hasn't stopped some breakers; reaction on 'The Five.'

Cue Nelly, because apparently it's too 'hot in herre' so Miami Beach is canceling Spring

The city is instituting an 8 p.m. curfew and declaring a state of emergency to try to get the horde of Spring Breakers who have flooded the area under control.

"Too many people are coming here right now," Miami Beach Mayor Dan Gelber said at a press conference Saturday. "Our city in this area has become a tinder, and we can't have a policy of simply hoping it's not lit."

The main strip, Ocean Avenue, which has been jam-packed with revelers for the past two months, stayed crowded past 8 p.m. on Saturday night well past the 8 p.m. deadline.

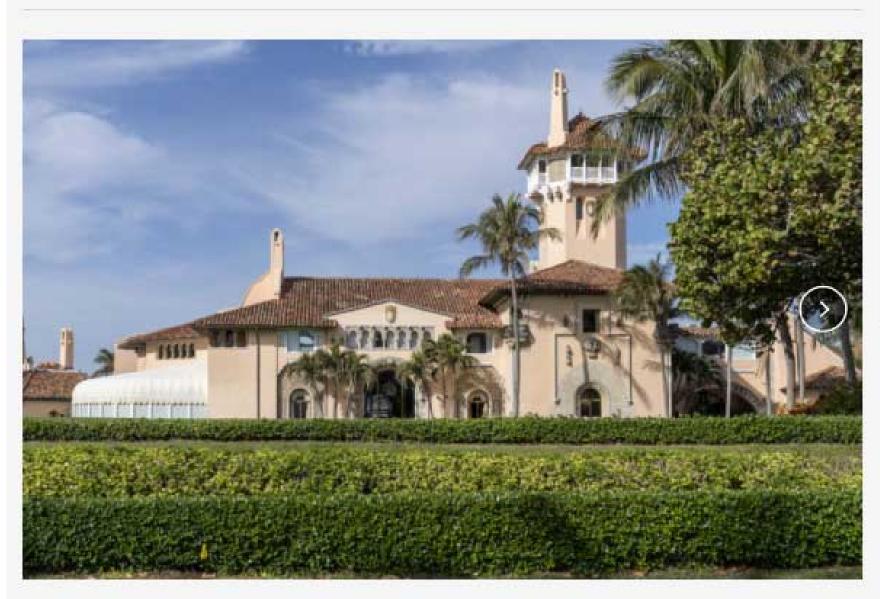






### Trump's Mar-a-Lago partially closed due to COVID outbreak

By JILL COLVIN and TERRY SPENCER March 19, 2021



WASHINGTON (AP) - Former President Donald Trump's Mar-a-Lago club in Palm Beach, Florida, has been partially closed after staff members tested positive for the coronavirus.

That's according to several people, including one familiar with club operations, who said Mara-Lago had "partially closed" a section of the club and quarantined some of its workers "out of an abundance of caution." The person spoke on condition of anonymity because they were not authorized to discuss the situation by name.

An email sent to members said that service had been temporarily suspended in the club's dining room and at its beach club because some staff members had recently tested positive. It said the club had undertaken "all appropriate response measures," including sanitizing affected areas," and that banquet and event services remain open.

## COVID-19 Vaccinations in the United States

### **Total Vaccine Doses**

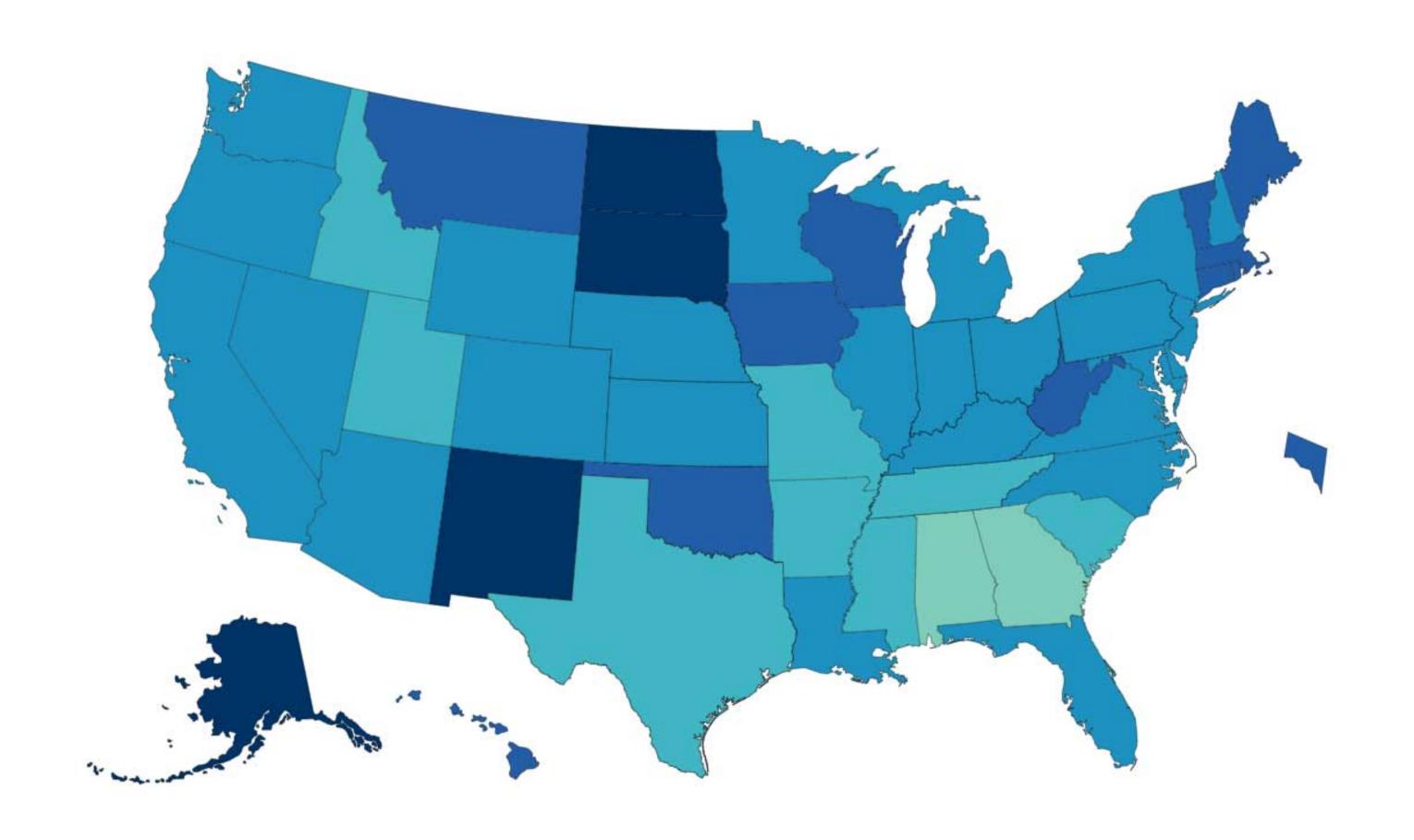
Delivered 156,734,555

Administered 121,441,497

Learn more about the distribution of vaccines.

People Vaccinated	At Least One Dose	Fully Vaccinated
Total	79,367,225	43,036,818
% of Total Population	23.9%	13%
Population ≥ 18 Years of Age	79,175,241	42,979,656
% of Population ≥ 18 Years of Age	30.7%	16.7%
Population ≥ 65 Years of Age	37,193,728	22,307,044
% of Population ≥ 65 Years of Age	68%	40.8%
Read more about how these data are reported.		

CDC | Data as of: Mar 20 2021 6:00am ET | Posted: Mar 20 2021 12:26PM ET



Total Doses Administered per 100,000



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- Traveler optimism, while still at near record levels for the pandemic retreated slightly this week
- There has been a consistent increase in travel dreaming and planning
- 40 percent of travelers report having received a vaccine and continue to plan and book trips in anticipation of further vaccine distribution
- Most travelers say that the pandemic has altered their outlook on life, with a large share feeling their choice of destinations will be changed in the longer term
- Travel should well-benefit from the individual stimulus payments