

COVID-19 BRIEF

Changes in COVID-19 Cases,
Hospitalizations, and
Death Projections

UAMS

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Aug. 30 to Sept. 30

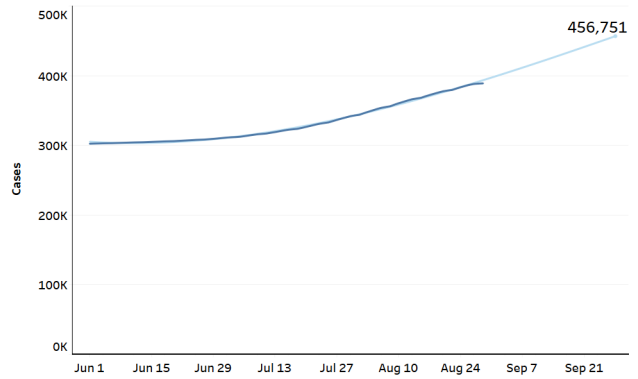
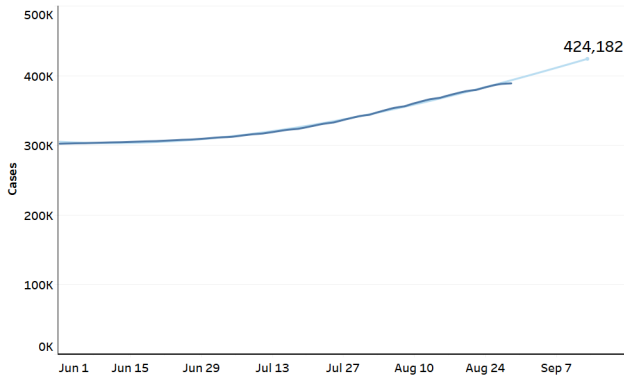
The College of Public Health (COPH) will publish periodic briefings designed to update the 15- and 30-day projections of cases, hospitalizations, and deaths between *UAMS COPH COVID-19 Reports*. Briefings will be published when cases, hospitalizations, or deaths are rapidly changing in times between the monthly reports.

Data used to prepare this briefing are from the Arkansas Department of Health on Aug. 30, 2021.

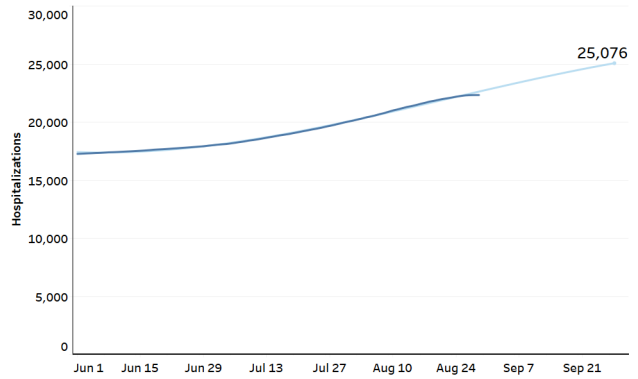
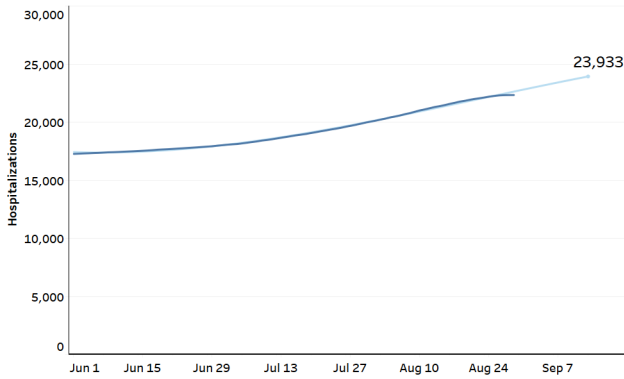
Key Findings. Growth in COVID-19 cases, hospitalizations, and deaths are growing at a slower rate than in late July and early August. The pandemic appears to be in a steady state, albeit at relatively high levels. Figures are shown on the next two pages.

- The models are forecasting 35,000 new COVID-19 cases by Sept. 13 and 68,000 new cases by Sept. 28. New daily cases are expected to remain high, averaging around 2,000 per day.
- The 7-day moving average of cases, as reported by USAFacts.org, is the same as now as it was on Dec. 31, 2020.
- We expect about 1,600 individuals to be newly hospitalized by Sept. 13 and 2,700 by Sept. 28. Daily hospitalizations show a slow decline, but will remain between 80 and 90 per day.
- The models are forecasting 500 new COVID-19 deaths by Sept. 13 and 1,000 new deaths in the next 30 days. New daily deaths will average around 30 per day.

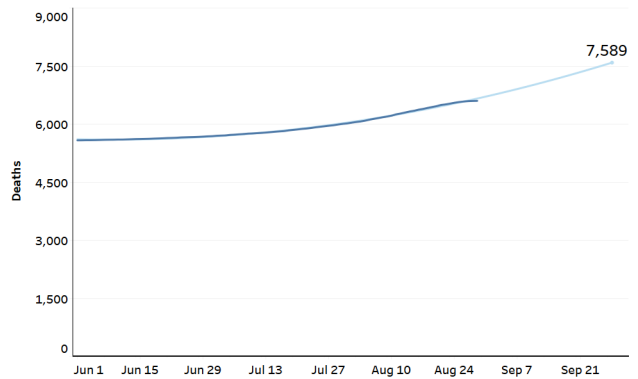
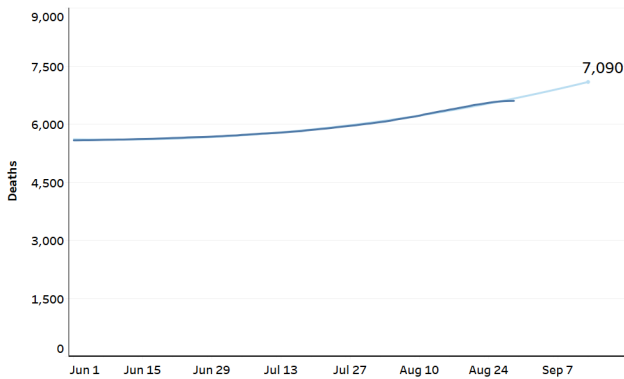
Figures 1a & 1b. 15- and 30-Day Forecasts for COVID-19 Cases



Figures 2a & 2b. 15- and 30-Day Forecasts for COVID-19 Hospitalizations

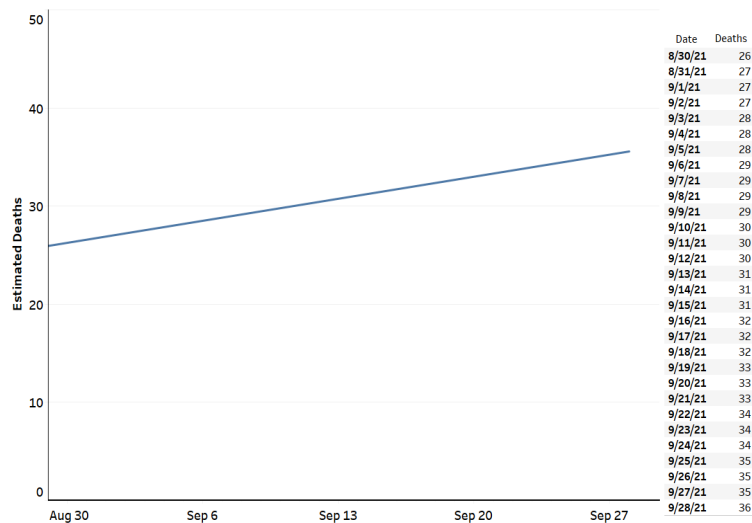
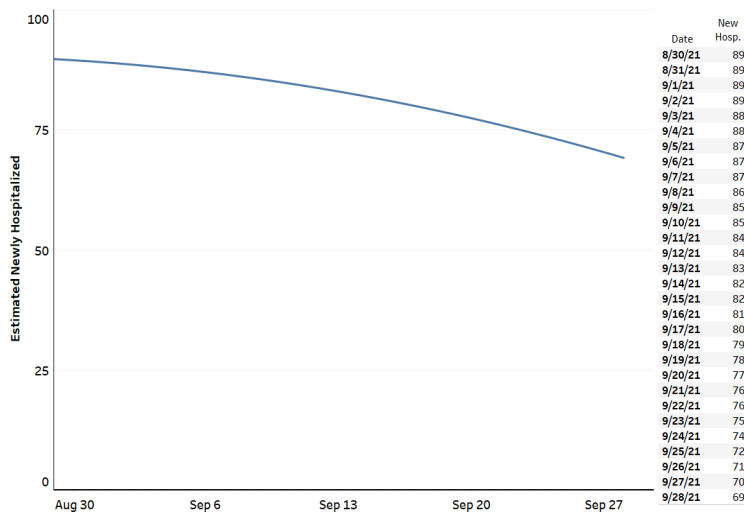
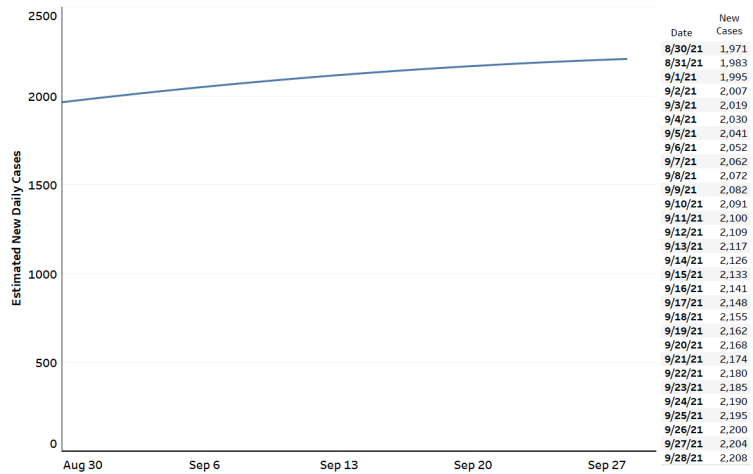


Figures 3a & 3b. 15- and 30-Day Forecasts for COVID-19 Deaths



Figures 4a, b, & c. Estimated Daily Change in Cases, Hospitalizations, and Deaths

The average daily number of cases is around 2,100 cases per day; however, we estimate a slight increase in the number of daily cases from 1,971 on Aug. 30 to 2,208 on Sept. 28. Of note is the number of new daily cases is beginning to stabilize, and we are no longer seeing substantial increases in the expected number of daily new cases. On the other hand, we are not seeing a decline in the slope over the next month.



The average expected number of newly hospitalized individuals per day is 81. We estimate there will be a slight decline in newly hospitalized individuals throughout the next 30 days. This is consistent with the trend that is beginning to emerge in the past week.

We estimate 31 COVID-19 deaths per day across the next 30 days, increasing nearly 40 percent from 26 deaths per day to 36 deaths per day. The anticipated increase may be a result of deaths lagging behind the substantial increase in cases seen in early August.

As some will recall, we forecast Arkansas would cross the 7,000 COVID-19 deaths on Aug. 31. The actual number of deaths was 6,934.