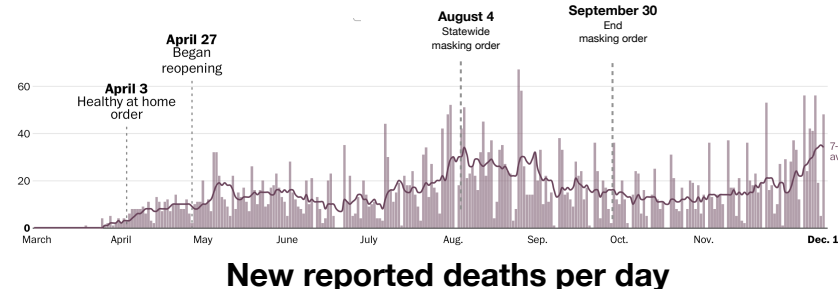
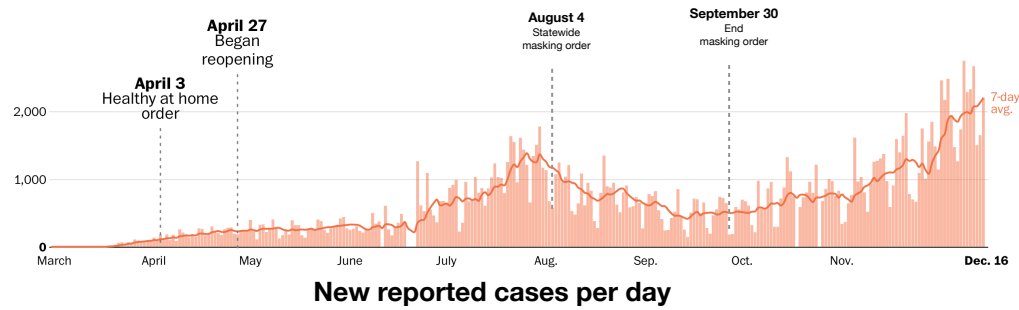


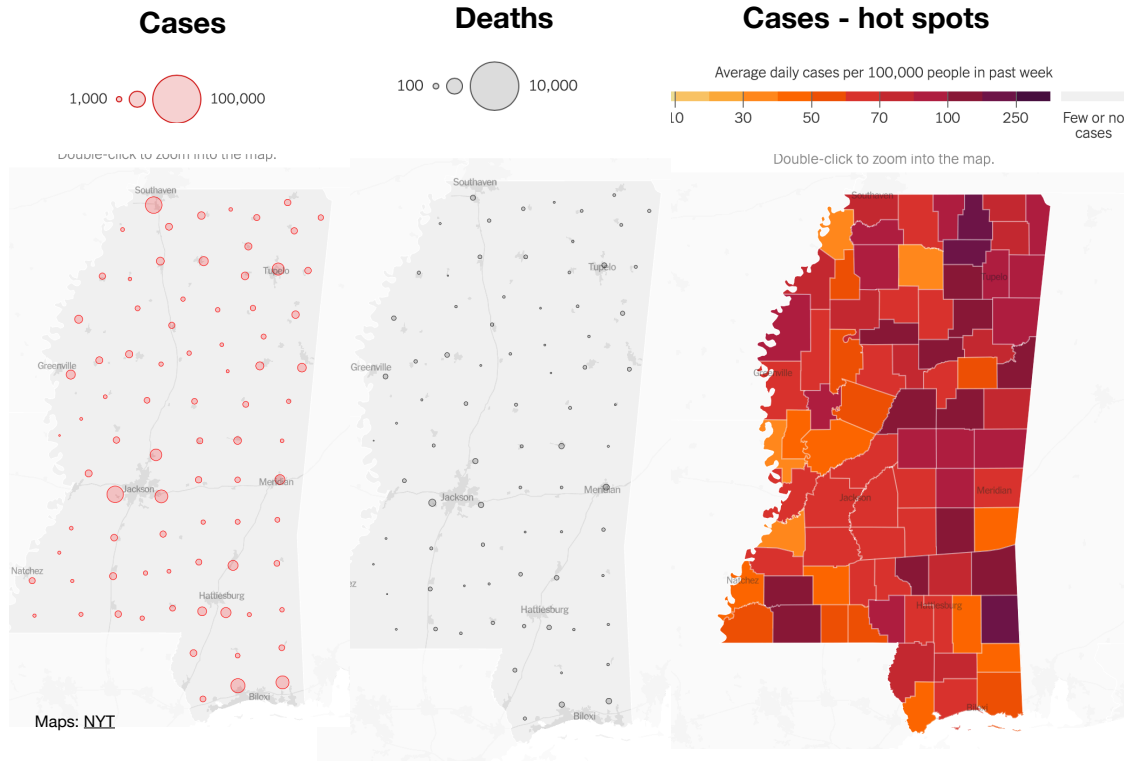
# MISSISSIPPI CORONAVIRUS DASHBOARD DECEMBER 16, 2020

Mississippi's case and death totals since our statewide mask mandate ended have risen 86% and 43% respectively. For the same period, White cases and deaths have outpaced Black cases and deaths by 72% and 68% respectively. Total White cases and deaths lead Black cases and deaths for the same period for the second month. ❶



Charts and rankings: [Washington Post](#). (Masking order dates added by MCJ)

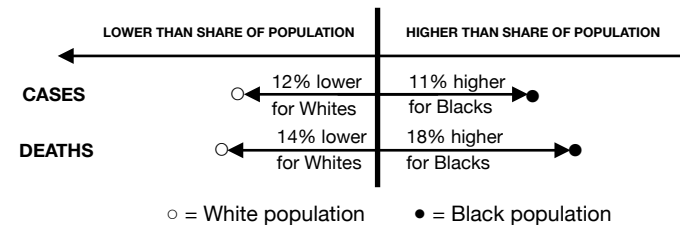
Rural mostly white counties continue to have the highest rates of new infections. Clusters include higher education, prisons, and other facilities, but there is no data on meat packing facilities. ❷



MS is 2nd in rate of cases and deaths in Deep South. ❸

	Population (millions)	Tests Per 100,000 residents	cases per 100,000 residents	deaths per 100,000 residents	Rank (cases/deaths)
LA	4.6	81,639	5,838	148	3/1
MS	2.9	42,215	6,133	142	2/2
AL	4.9	35,264	6,198	85	1/5
GA	10.6	45,207	5,379	99	4/4
SC	5.1	53,996	5,192	96	5/3

MS racial disparities narrowed further in cases and deaths. ❹



❶ Mississippi has added 85,110 cases, an 86% increase since its statewide mask mandate ended on September 30. White cases and deaths continue to outpace Black cases and deaths for this period due to reduced White use of masks and social distancing. [Daily Beast](#). Since the mask mandate ended, usage rates have risen for hospitalizations (156%), intensive care units (120%), and ventilators (177%). Data is derived from [Mississippi Department of Health data](#). For the past week, the state's percent positive test rate stands at 22%, eighth highest in the nation. [Washington Post](#).

❷ Rural White Mississippians are driving the second wave of infections. Six out of ten counties with highest rates of new infection are predominantly white and rural. Other clusters include higher education (4,235) and prisons (3,214). No data are reported on Mississippi meat processing facilities. [NYT](#). [Daily Beast](#).

❸ Mississippi is 2nd in cases and deaths per capita in the Deep South. It now is 4th in tests in the Deep South behind all but Alabama. ([Washington Post](#)).

❹ Whites now lead Blacks in total cases and deaths and the disparities continue to narrow. For Black Mississippians, cases and deaths are 11% and 18% higher respectively than the Black share of the state's population. For Whites, cases and deaths are 12% and 14% lower than the White share of the state's population. For both groups the disparities have reduced since the mask mandate was ended.

Mississippi is 47th in the nation in daily testing for coronavirus, with 2,866 tests per million, below the national average of 5,700. [Kaiser Family Foundation](#). The state's cumulative percent positivity rate is 14%, double the national average of 7.3%. [Mayo Clinic](#).

For MCJ's legal response to the COVID-19 pandemic, please visit our [COVID page](#).

