

# RUPRI Center for Rural Health Policy Analysis

## *Rural Data Brief*

Brief No. 2020-1

MARCH 2020

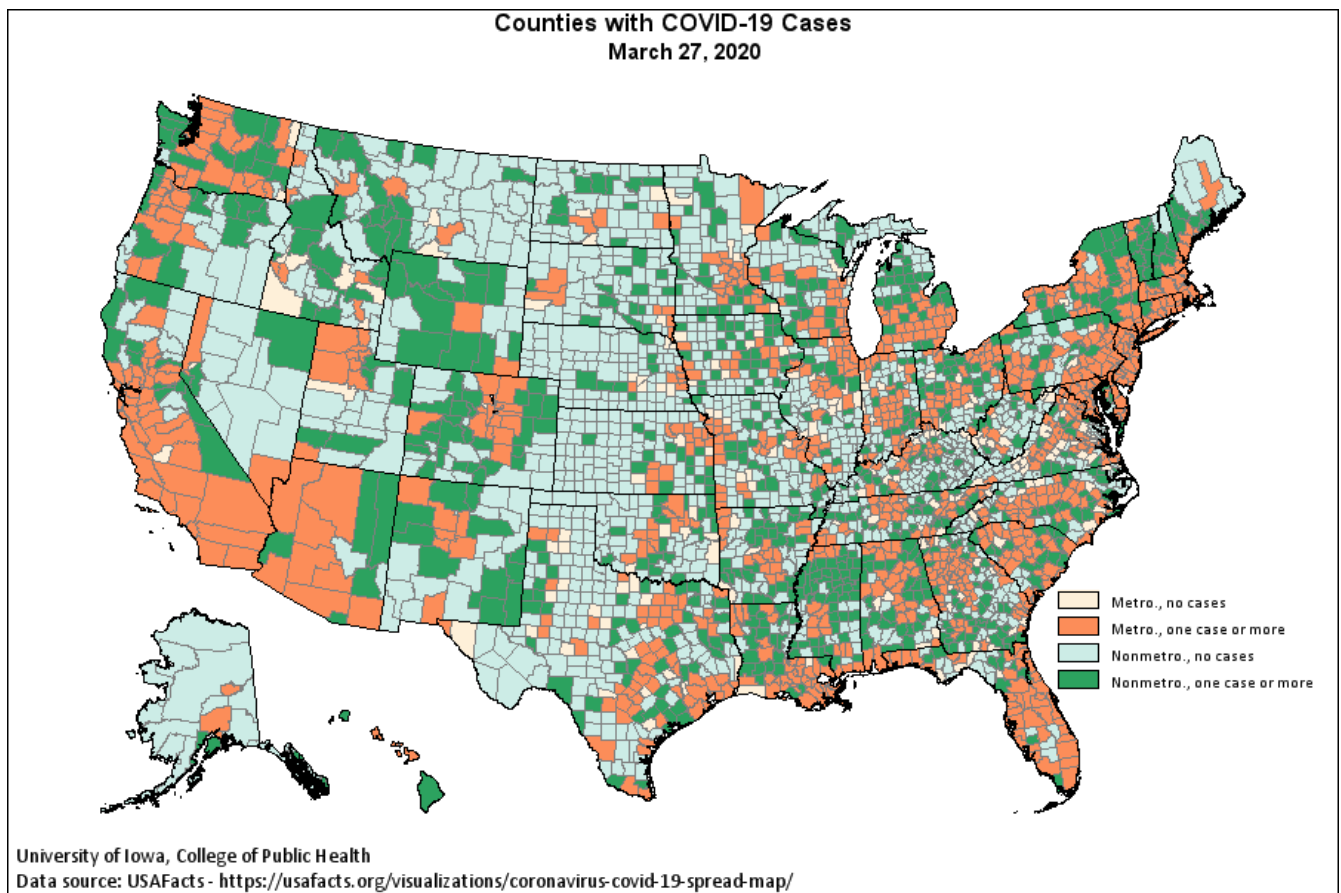
<http://www.public-health.uiowa.edu/rupri/>

## Confirmed COVID-19 Cases, Metropolitan and Nonmetropolitan Counties

*Fred Ullrich, BA; and Keith Mueller, PhD*

### Report

While much of the COVID-19 focus has been on major metropolitan areas, rural areas of the United States are not free of exposure. As of March 27, 2020, there were a total of 99,138 cases (data provided by [USAFacts.org](https://usafacts.org)), with 3,343 of those cases (about 3.4 percent of the total number) reported in non-metropolitan counties. But as many experts have pointed out, the rate of growth in cases is very different depending on location. Further the stress on the health care delivery system is proportionate, a small number of cases creates stress for low capacity systems just as a large volume of cases creates stress for larger capacity systems.



Recent maps and the “progression” of cases throughout the country can be seen on the animated map on the RUPRI Health web site:

[http://ruprihealth.org/publications/policybriefs/2020/COVID History/](http://ruprihealth.org/publications/policybriefs/2020/COVID%20History/)



RUPRI Center for Rural Health Policy Analysis,  
University of Iowa College of Public Health,  
Department of Health Management and Policy,  
145 Riverside Dr., Iowa City, IA 52242-2007,  
(319) 384-3830  
<http://www.public-health.uiowa.edu/rupri>  
E-mail: [cph-rupri-inquiries@uiowa.edu](mailto:cph-rupri-inquiries@uiowa.edu)