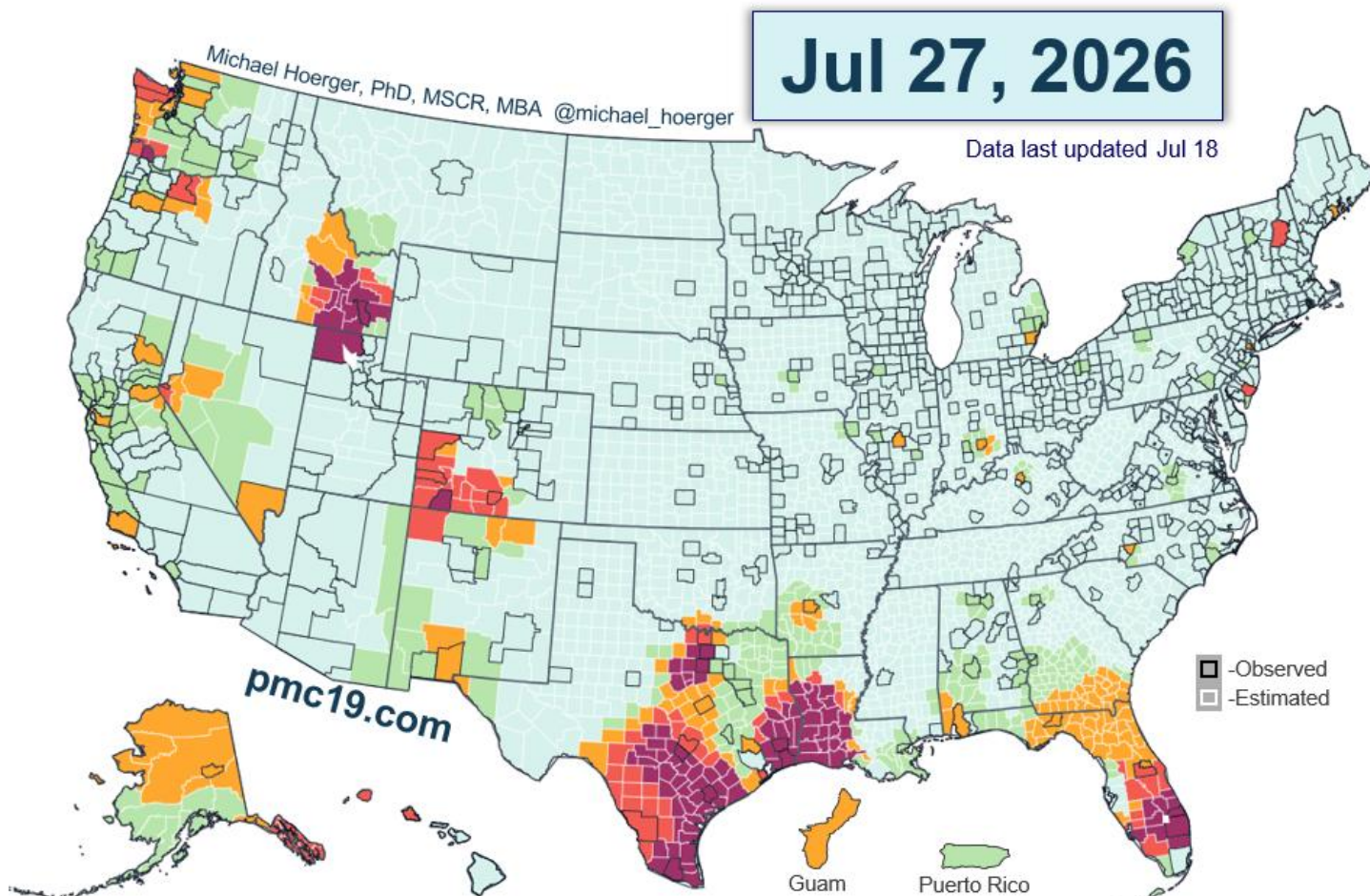


PMC U.S. COVID-19 Report for July 27, 2026.

pmc19.com

Michael Hoerger, PhD, MSCR, MBA, Pandemic Mitigation Collaborative (PMC)



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Announcements

Local Updates

- The website leads with New Orleans-specific data from July 20-31, in support of the local COVID Competent day camp.

Data Quality

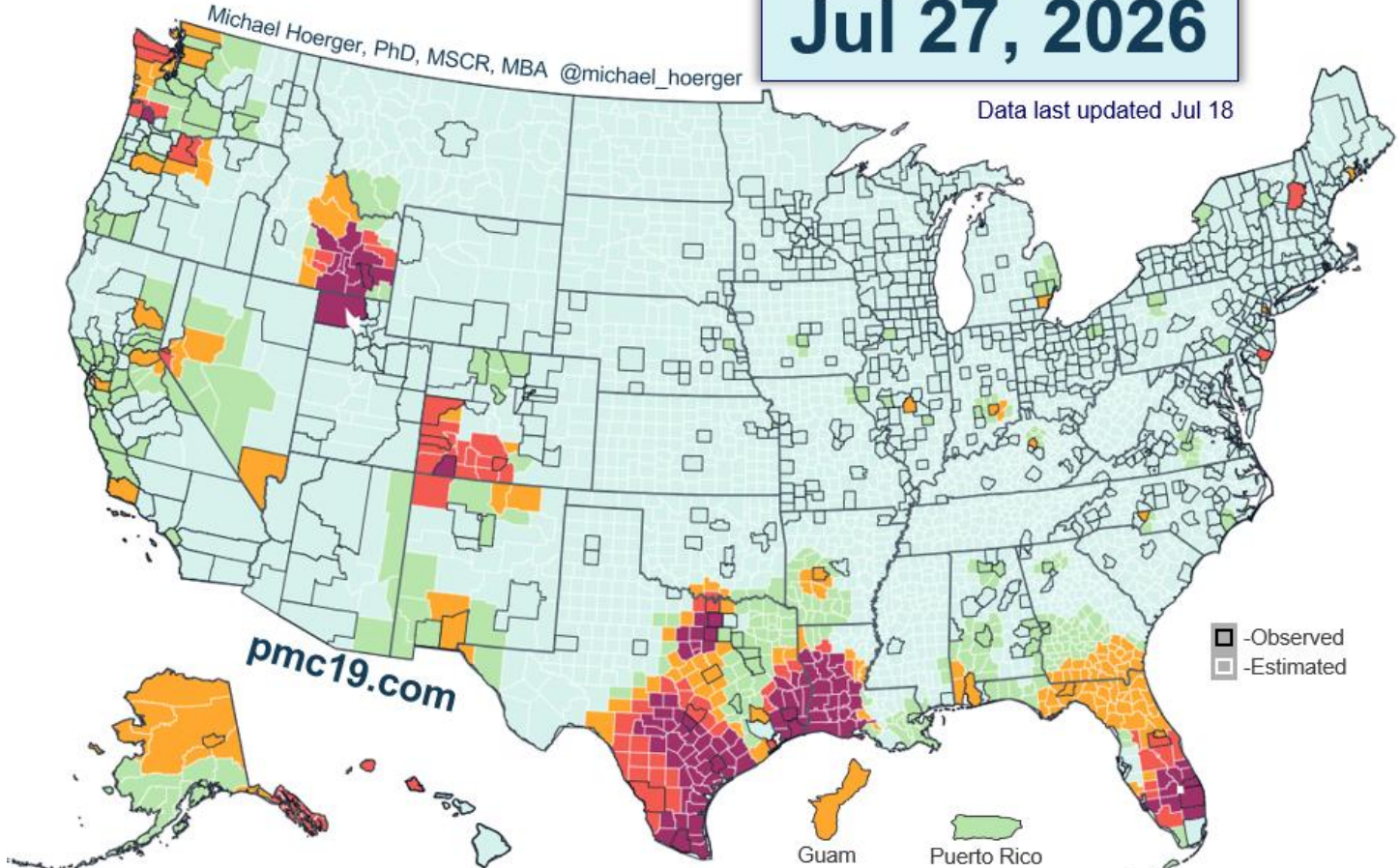
- The CDC (80% model weight) reported this week. Biobot (20% model weight) also reported. The CDC data are flat, whereas the Biobot data show increased transmission.

COVID-19 Heat Map, Based on CDC Wastewater Data and Levels (U.S.)

Jul 27, 2026

Michael Hoerger, PhD, MSCR, MBA @michael_hoerger

Data last updated Jul 18



CDC Relative Levels: Very Low Low Moderate High Very High

PMC Prevalence Estimate: <0.9% 1.2% 2.0% 2.9% >3.5%
(Proportion Actively Infectious) [0.9-1.5%] [1.5-2.4%] [2.4-3.5%]

The US has 10 hot spots. There are major outbreaks across much of Texas (high/very high). Houston, denoted by the light blue county in the southeast (Harris) has 1-3-week reporting lags at most sites so may be worse than noted. Hardin county, two counties over to the east/northeast, continues to experience BA.1 Omicron-level transmission. The Texas surge is bleeding into estimates for western Louisiana.

There are 9 other outbreaks: southeast Alaska (Juneau, high), Hawai'i (Honolulu and Kauai, high), north central Oregon through the Washington coast (high), western Nevada (Carson City, high), the Utah-Idaho border region (very high), southwestern Colorado (high/very high), southern Florida (high/very high), Atlantic City, New Jersey (high), and Grafton County, New Hampshire (high). The outbreaks in the Bay Area and Guam declined since last week. Note that the CDC state-level map shows no state median in the high/very high range, which is atypical. Higher levels tend to be more widespread this time of year.

COVID-19 State Prevalence Estimates

pmc19.com

Jul 27, 2026

Chances anyone is infectious

in a room of 10 to 100 people

State	CDC Level	PMC Estimate, % Actively Infectious	10	25	50	100
Alabama	Very Low	1 in 151 (0.7%)	6%	15%	28%	49%
Alaska	Moderate	1 in 55 (1.8%)	17%	37%	60%	84%
Arizona	Very Low	1 in 196 (0.5%)	5%	12%	23%	40%
Arkansas	Very Low*	1 in 161 (0.6%)	6%	14%	27%	46%
California	Low	1 in 98 (1.0%)	10%	23%	40%	64%
Colorado	Very Low	1 in 222 (0.5%)	4%	11%	20%	36%
Connecticut	Very Low	1 in 493 (0.2%)	2%	5%	10%	18%
Delaware	Very Low	1 in 308 (0.3%)	3%	8%	15%	28%
District of Columbia	Very Low	1 in 113 (0.9%)	9%	20%	36%	59%
Florida	Low	1 in 79 (1.3%)	12%	27%	47%	72%
Georgia	Very Low	1 in 125 (0.8%)	8%	18%	33%	55%
Guam	Moderate	1 in 54 (1.9%)	17%	37%	61%	85%
Hawaii	Very Low	1 in 136 (0.7%)	7%	17%	31%	52%
Idaho	Very Low	1 in 145 (0.7%)	7%	16%	29%	50%
Illinois	Very Low	1 in 222 (0.5%)	4%	11%	20%	36%
Indiana	Very Low	1 in 222 (0.5%)	4%	11%	20%	36%
Iowa	Very Low	1 in 222 (0.5%)	4%	11%	20%	36%
Kansas	Very Low	1 in 312 (0.3%)	3%	8%	15%	27%
Kentucky	Very Low	1 in 222 (0.5%)	4%	11%	20%	36%
Louisiana	Low	1 in 105 (1.0%)	9%	21%	38%	62%
Maine	Very Low	1 in 222 (0.5%)	4%	11%	20%	36%
Maryland	Very Low	1 in 326 (0.3%)	3%	7%	14%	26%
Massachusetts	Very Low	1 in 427 (0.2%)	2%	6%	11%	21%
Michigan	Very Low	1 in 233 (0.4%)	4%	10%	19%	35%
Minnesota	Very Low	1 in 222 (0.5%)	4%	11%	20%	36%
Mississippi	Very Low	1 in 222 (0.5%)	4%	11%	20%	36%

* Limited data reporting

Data last updated Jul 18

COVID-19 State Prevalence Estimates

pmc19.com

Jul 27, 2026

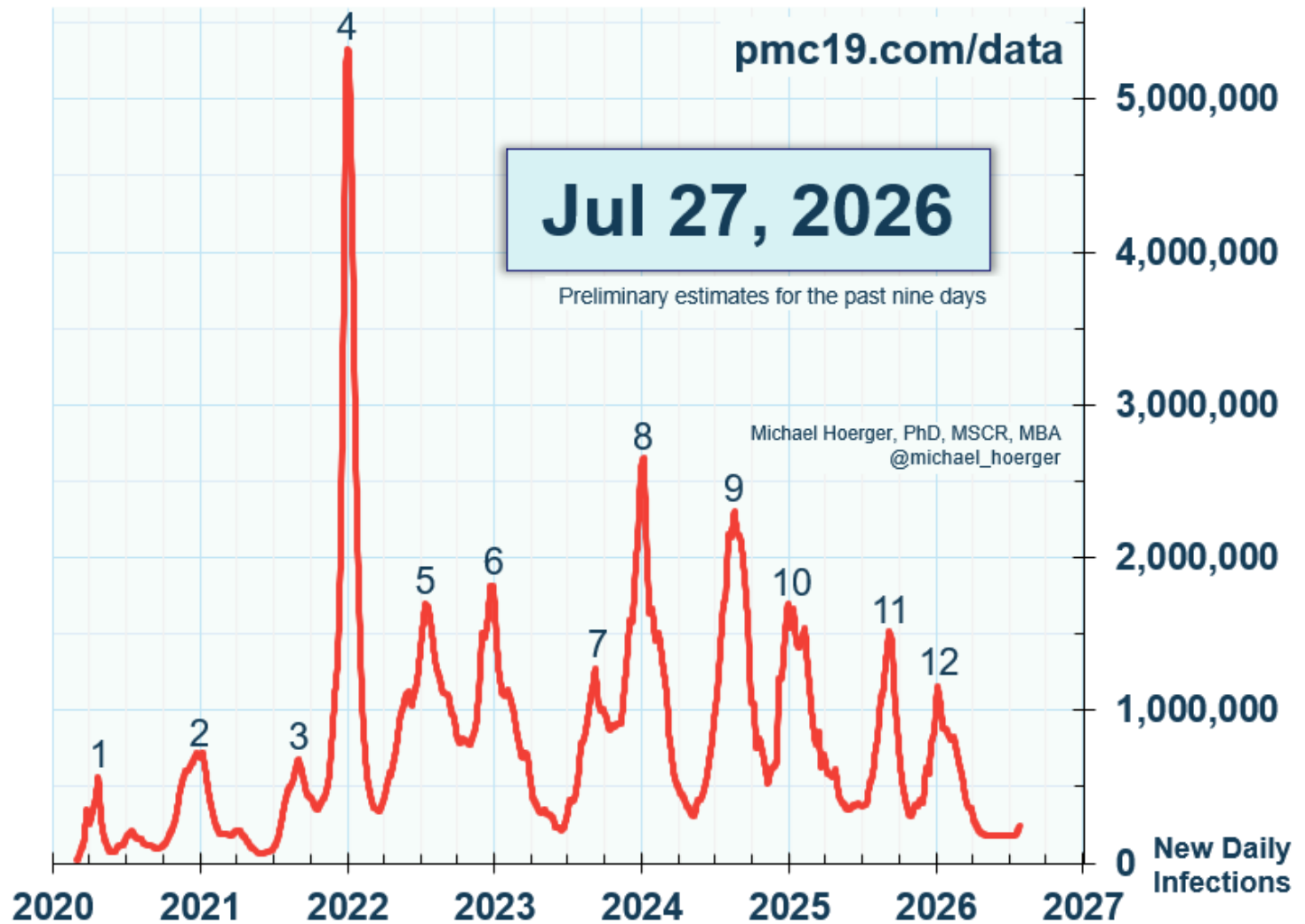
Chances anyone is infectious

State	CDC Level	PMC Estimate, % Actively Infectious	in a room of 10 to 100 people			
			10	25	50	100
Missouri	Very Low*	1 in 222 (0.5%)	4%	11%	20%	36%
Montana	Very Low*	1 in 222 (0.5%)	4%	11%	20%	36%
Nebraska	Very Low	1 in 554 (0.2%)	2%	4%	9%	17%
Nevada	Low	1 in 104 (1.0%)	9%	22%	38%	62%
New Hampshire	Very Low	1 in 493 (0.2%)	2%	5%	10%	18%
New Jersey	Very Low	1 in 554 (0.2%)	2%	4%	9%	17%
New Mexico	Low	1 in 94 (1.1%)	10%	23%	41%	66%
New York	Very Low	1 in 222 (0.5%)	4%	11%	20%	36%
North Carolina	Very Low	1 in 222 (0.5%)	4%	11%	20%	36%
North Dakota	Very Low*	1 in 282 (0.4%)	3%	8%	16%	30%
Ohio	Very Low	1 in 222 (0.5%)	4%	11%	20%	36%
Oklahoma	Very Low*	1 in 887 (0.1%)	1%	3%	5%	11%
Oregon	Very Low	1 in 143 (0.7%)	7%	16%	30%	50%
Pennsylvania	Very Low	1 in 222 (0.5%)	4%	11%	20%	36%
Puerto Rico	Low*	1 in 95 (1.1%)	10%	23%	41%	65%
Rhode Island	Very Low	1 in 238 (0.4%)	4%	10%	19%	34%
South Carolina	Very Low*	1 in 124 (0.8%)	8%	18%	33%	56%
South Dakota	Very Low	1 in 616 (0.2%)	2%	4%	8%	15%
Tennessee	Very Low	1 in 238 (0.4%)	4%	10%	19%	34%
Texas	Low	1 in 94 (1.1%)	10%	23%	41%	66%
Utah	Very Low	1 in 715 (0.1%)	1%	3%	7%	13%
Vermont	Very Low	1 in 258 (0.4%)	4%	9%	18%	32%
Virginia	Very Low	1 in 222 (0.5%)	4%	11%	20%	36%
Washington	Low	1 in 88 (1.1%)	11%	25%	43%	68%
West Virginia	Very Low	1 in 1,848 (0.1%)	1%	1%	3%	5%
Wisconsin	Very Low	1 in 222 (0.5%)	4%	11%	20%	36%
Wyoming	Very Low*	1 in 382 (0.3%)	3%	6%	12%	23%

* Limited reporting; ND averages MN, MT, SD; PR from PR dashboard

Data last updated Jul 18

SARS-CoV-2 New Daily Infections, Wastewater-Derived Estimates (U.S.)



PMC identifies **12** SARS-CoV-2 waves and estimates averages of **5.3** infections per person and **14.3** months between infections.

National COVID-19 Estimates (U.S.)

<u>Infections</u>	Jul 27, 2026	pmc19.com
Proportion Actively Infectious	1 in 198 (0.5%)	
New Daily Infections	247,000	
Infections the Past Week	1,570,000	
Infections in 2026	89,000,000	
Cumulative Infections per Person	5.35	

Long COVID

Long COVID Cases Resulting from New Daily Infections	12,000 to 49,000
Long COVID Cases Resulting from New Weekly Infections	79,000 to 310,000

Excess Deaths

Excess Deaths Resulting from New Daily Infections	60 to 110
Excess Deaths Resulting from New Weekly Infections	400 to 700

National COVID-19 Risk Table (U.S.)

Jul 27, 2026

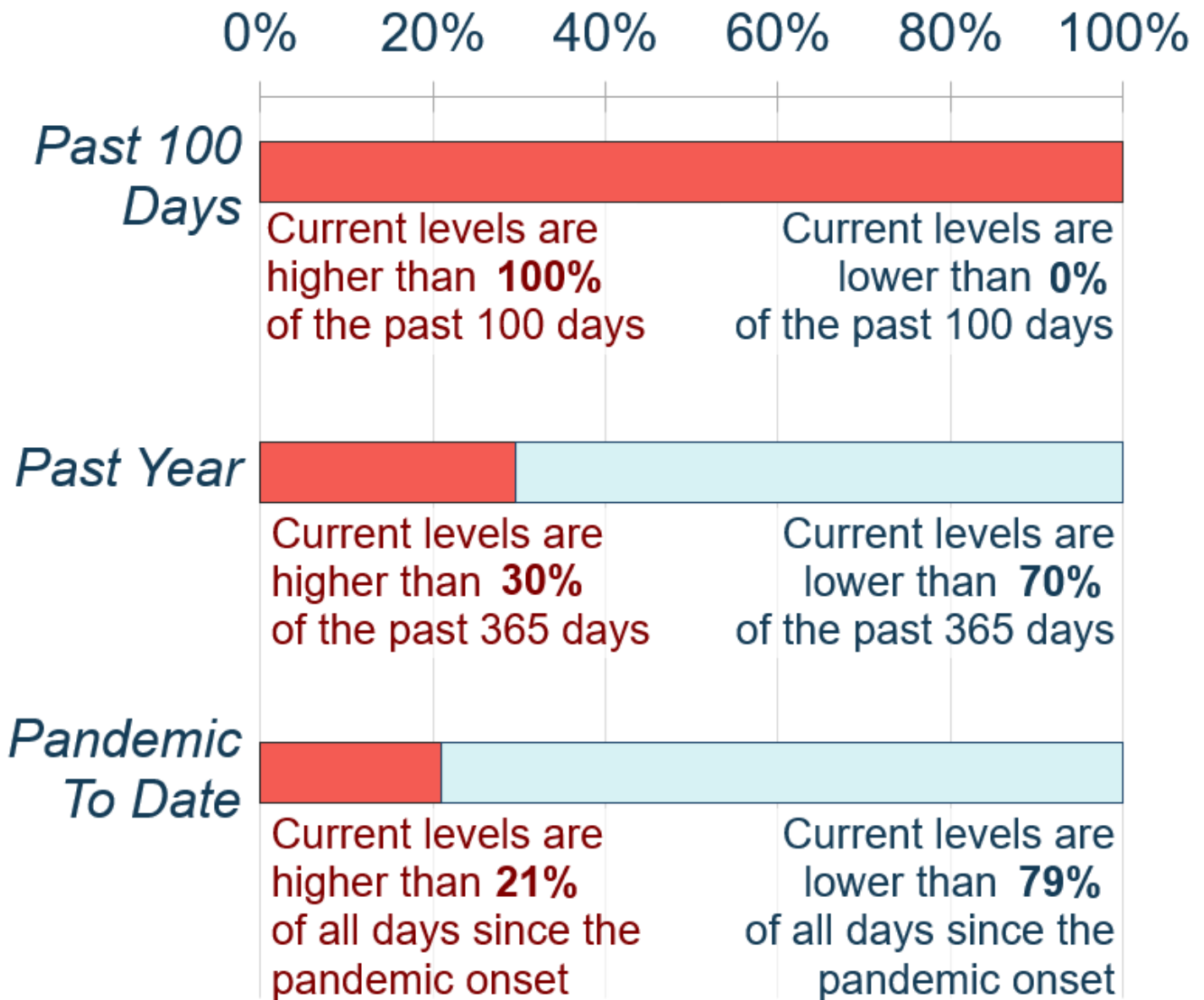
pmc19.com

<u>Number of People</u>	<u>Chances Anyone is Infectious</u>
1	0.5%
2	1.0%
3	1.5%
4	2.0%
5	2.5%
10	4.9%
15	7.3%
20	9.6%
25	11.9%
30	14.1%
50	22.3%
75	31.5%
100	39.7%
200	63.6%
300	78.0%

SARS-CoV-2 Relative Transmission "Barometer" (U.S.)

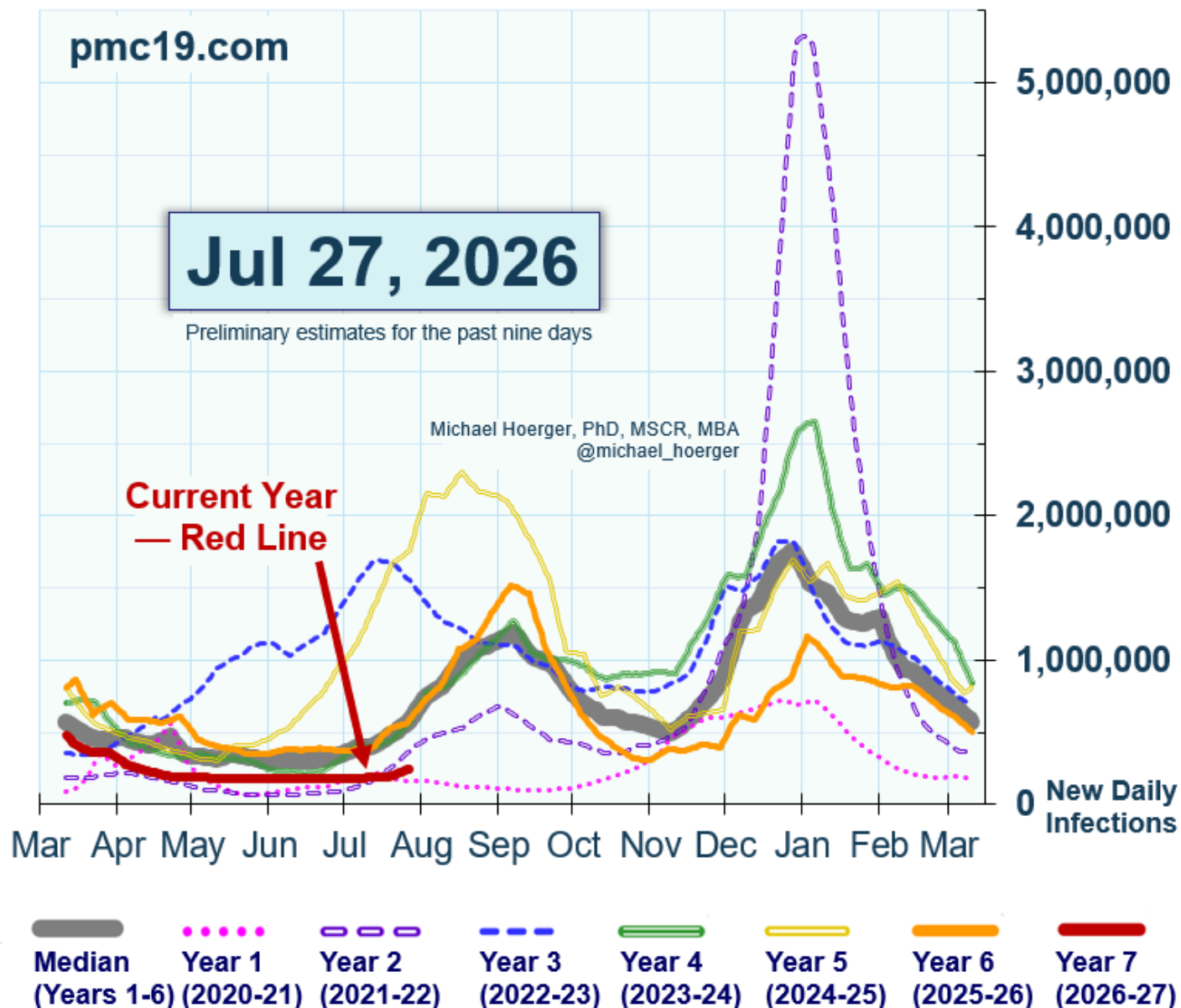
Jul 27, 2026

pmc19.com

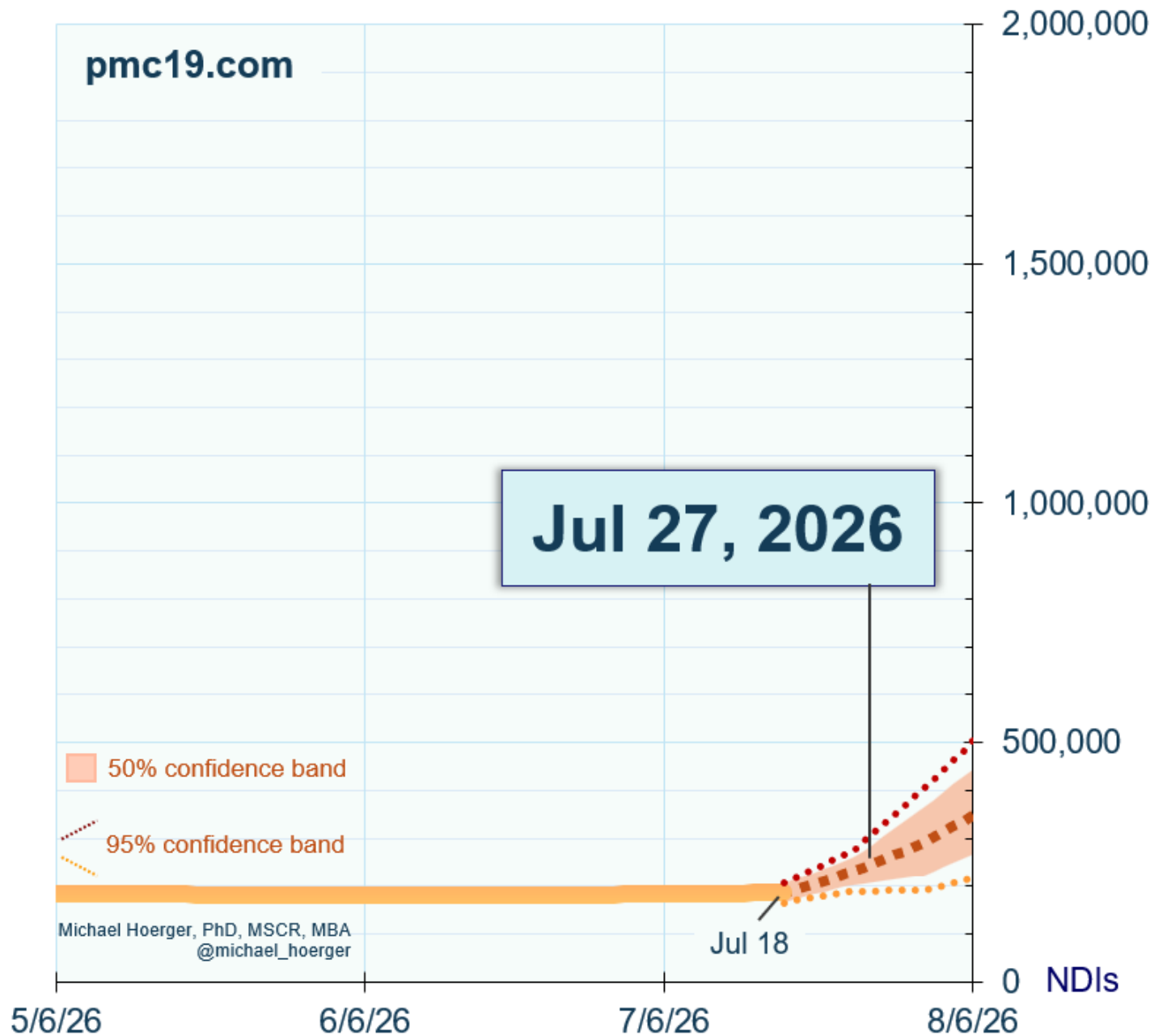


These estimates are volatile and may be corrected significantly. The 100%-higher figure simply shows that the data forecasted through today are suggested to be higher than the rest of the lull.

SARS-CoV-2 Year-Over-Year Estimates of Transmission (U.S.)



SARS-CoV-2 Transmission Forecast, Wastewater-Derived Estimates (U.S.)



Levels are forecasted to increase, based predominantly on prior years' trends. If levels increase at the "typical" historical rates, models suggest a summer wave peak of about 500,000 new daily infections in early September. A slight upward correction and some "catch up" (surpassing typical relative increases) could easily push

the peak to 700,000+. It is reasonable that levels may not increase as much as they usually do this time of year, which would put the peak closer to 450,000. We typically use 500,000 new daily infections to define a “wave” and 1,000,000 a “surge.” Thus, there is a possibility of no summer wave in the technical sense, much like Pluto is technically not classified as a planet. Levels continue to have profound public health impacts on morbidity and mortality during “lulls” or mini-waves, so this is a relative technical consideration, not an absolute assertion of safety. We noted several times over the past 3 months that the July 17-24 data would have implications for understanding the pandemic. If the data hold, the mere possibility of no national summer wave would potentially violate the pandemic rule of twice-annual waves every year thus far. The upside of that possibility is that it could suggest a more optimistic longer-term trajectory of the pandemic. The downside, or alternative, of lower infection levels is reduced population-level (probabilistic, waning) immunity; when low levels are due to “good luck” on the viral evolution front rather than layered mitigation to “flatten the curve,” such luck could run out and result in a larger than typical winter wave and healthcare system burden. There are many possibilities in between. These are 6-7-week scenario-based projections when accounting for data lags, and highly volatile estimates, especially with retroactive data corrections. Welcome to Schrödinger’s COVID.

A separate document called a Technical Appendix appears on the dashboard page and has more methodologic info. Search for key answers there first, and then send a public comment tagging Dr. H. on Twitter if further help is needed.