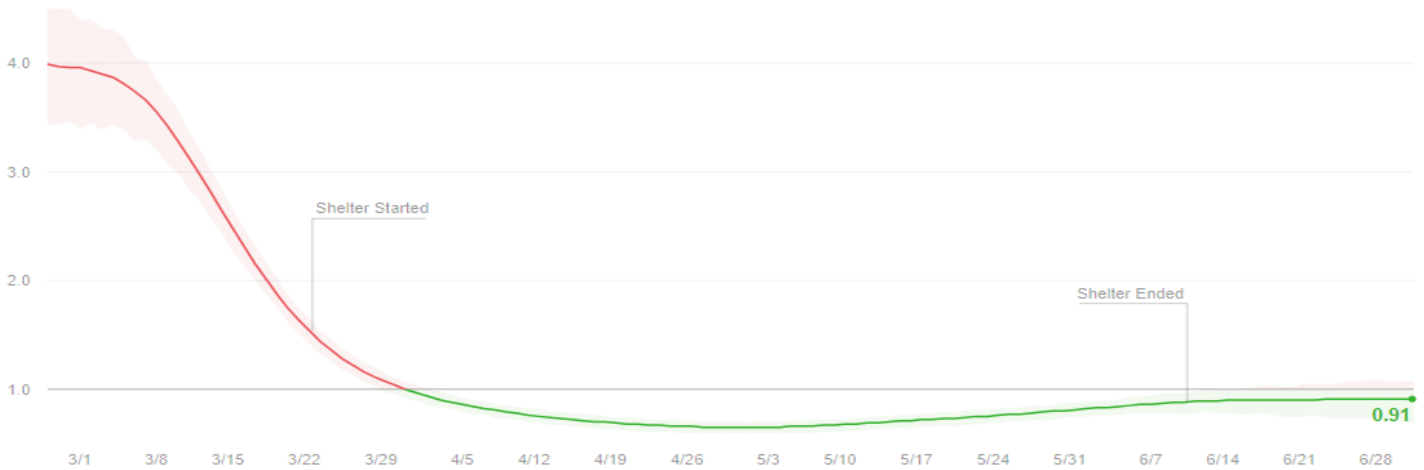


## A look around the country and the effect it may have on NJ

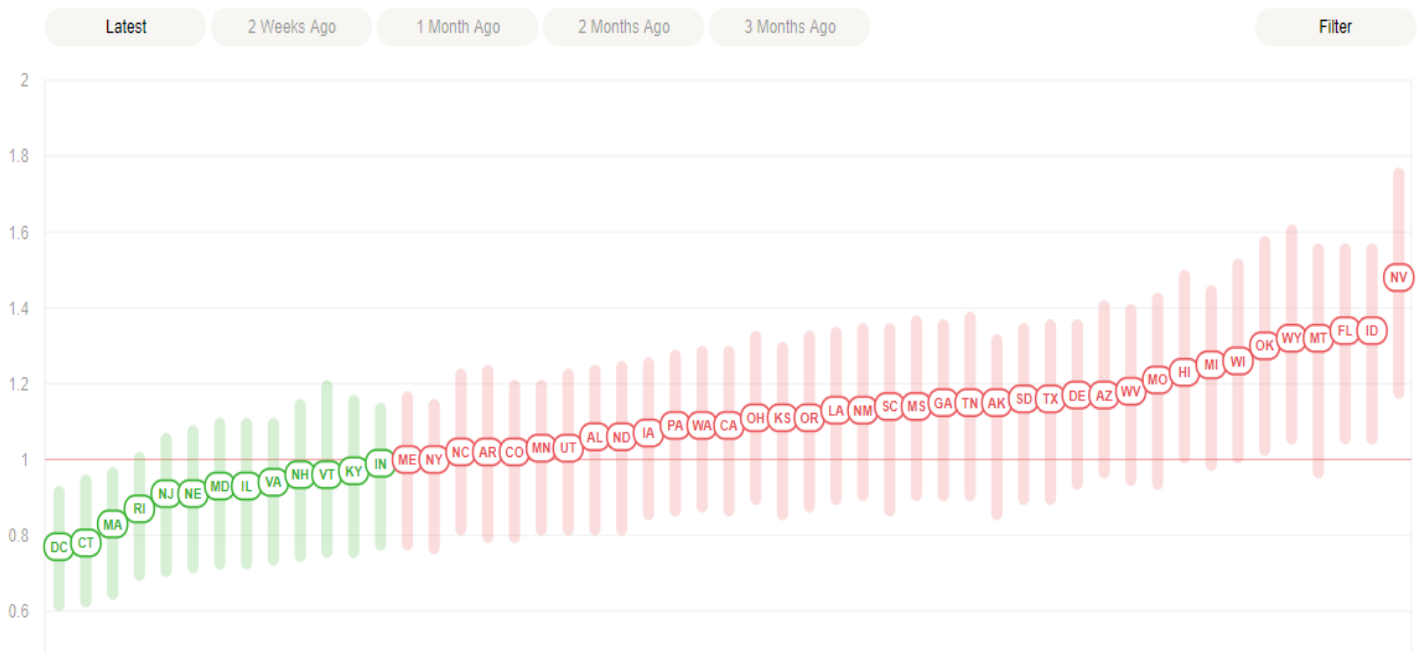
Are you concerned about the virus spread in the rest of the country and the effect it could have on NJ? Here is some perspective.

I've discussed  $R_t$  several times. It is a calculation which estimates how many people one infected person appears to be infecting at current conditions. So, an  $R_t$  of 2 means every person who is infected would spread COVID to 2 people on average.  $R_t$  greater than 1 means the virus is expanding its reach and an  $R_t$  less than 1 means it's contracting.  $R_t$  is difficult to calculate so I calculate  $R_7$  which compares the last 7 days to the prior 7 days. It's close but <https://rt.live/> does it the right way. Here is NJ from that site.

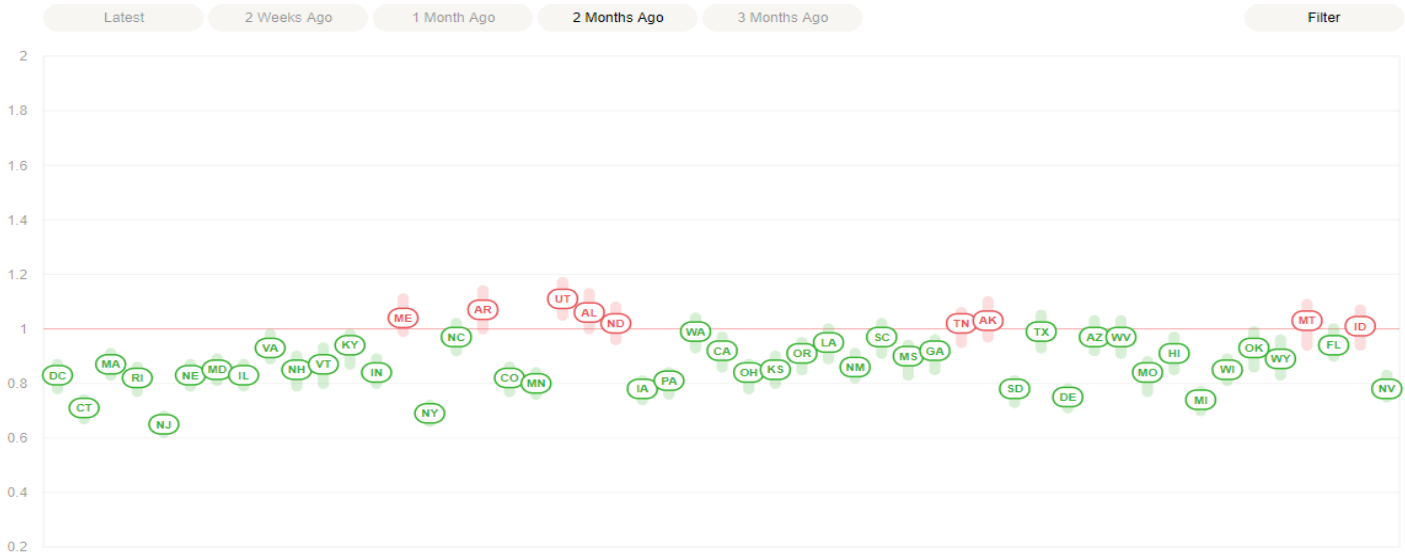


It's below 1 but climbing. Perhaps that's why Gov Murphy stop indoor dining from starting.

From the same site we can look at all 50 states. 13 states with  $R_t$  under one.

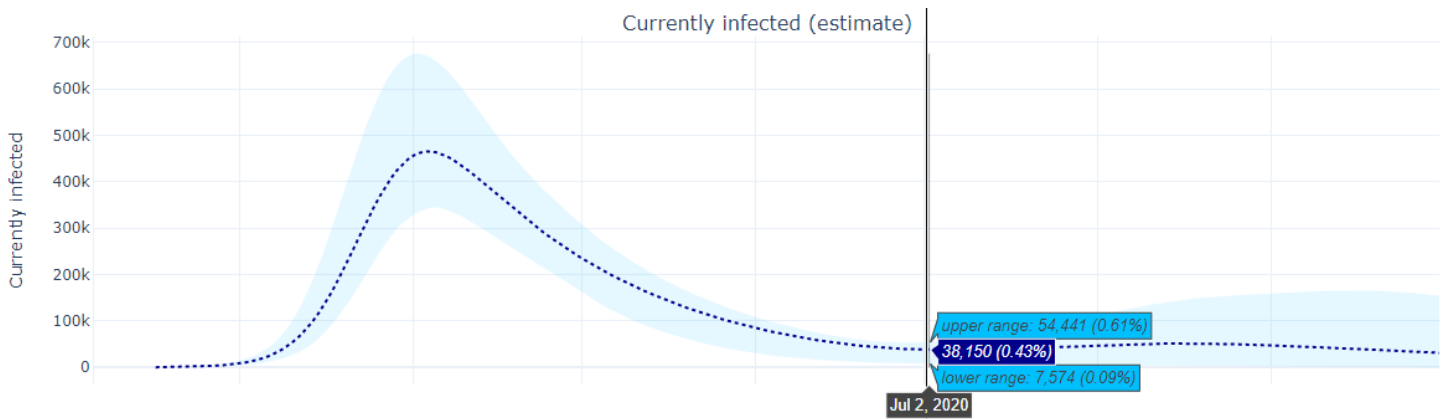


Two weeks ago it was 14 states. A month ago it was 20. Look at two months ago.



41 states. The country is moving in the wrong direction. Looking for quick fixes. I again say wearing masks would go a long way towards moving us to where we belong.

Ok that's the bad news. The good news comes from <https://covid19-projections.com/us-nj>.



It shows an estimate of currently infected people to be 0.43% of the NJ population and only shows a slight rise peaking in mid-August. Let's hope that's correct.