

# Eviction, Housing Instability, and COVID-19 Cases & Deaths

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**Fielding**  
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# Acknowledgements and Disclaimer

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**Disclaimer:** This research has not yet been peer reviewed, so results should be viewed as preliminary.

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# Background

- The COVID-19 pandemic and associated economic crisis has rendered millions of U.S. households unable to pay rent, placing them at risk for eviction.<sup>1</sup>
- Evictions may accelerate COVID-19 transmission by increasing household crowding and decreasing individuals' ability to comply with social distancing directives.<sup>2,3</sup>

1. Benfer EA, et al. The COVID-19 Eviction Crisis: an Estimated 30-40 Million People in America Are at Risk. 7 August 2020. <https://www.aspeninstitute.org/blog-posts/the-covid-19-eviction-crisis-an-estimated-30-40-million-people-in-america-are-at-risk/>

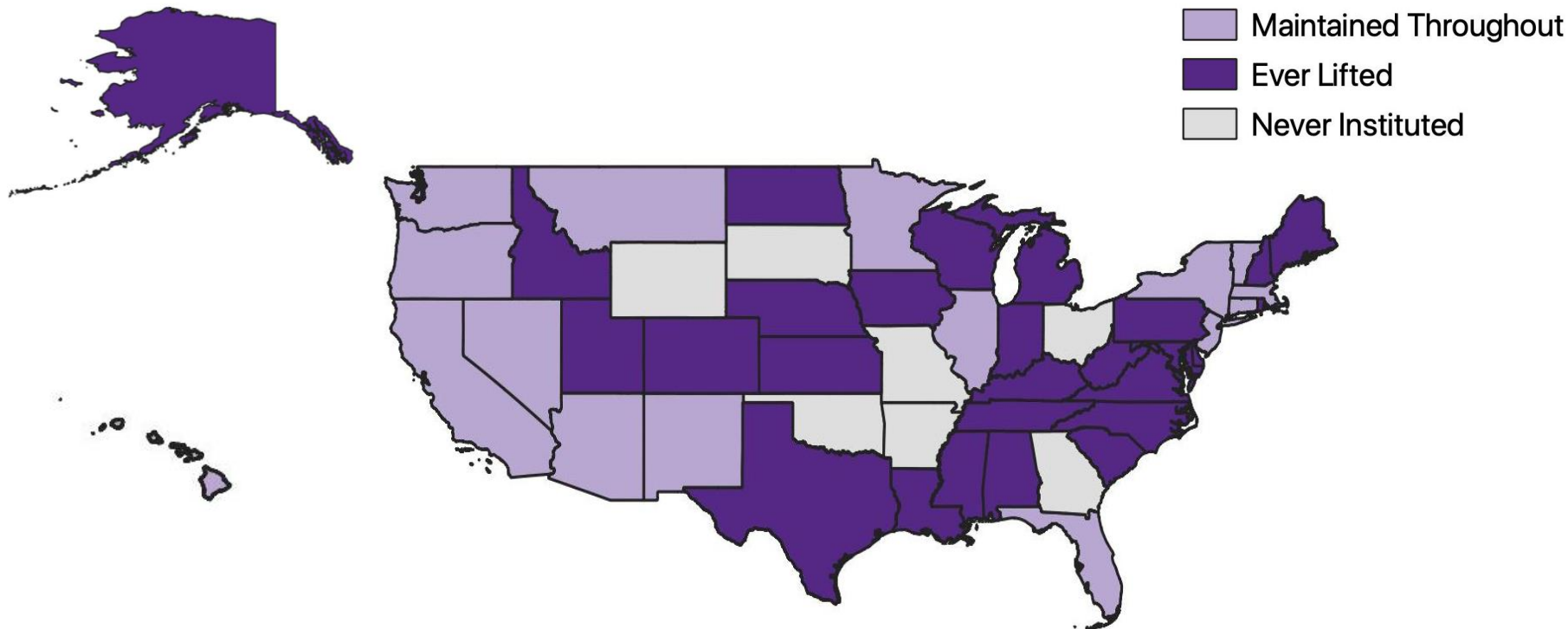
2. Benfer EA, et al., Pandemic Housing Policy: Examining the Relationship Among Eviction, Housing Instability, Health Inequity, and COVID-19 Transmission, J. of Urban Health (2020) [bit.ly/COVID19HousingisHealth](https://doi.org/10.1007/s11524-020-00971-1)

3. Sheen J, et al. The effect of eviction moratoriums on the transmission of SARS-CoV-2 <https://www.medrxiv.org/content/10.1101/2020.10.27.20220897v1>

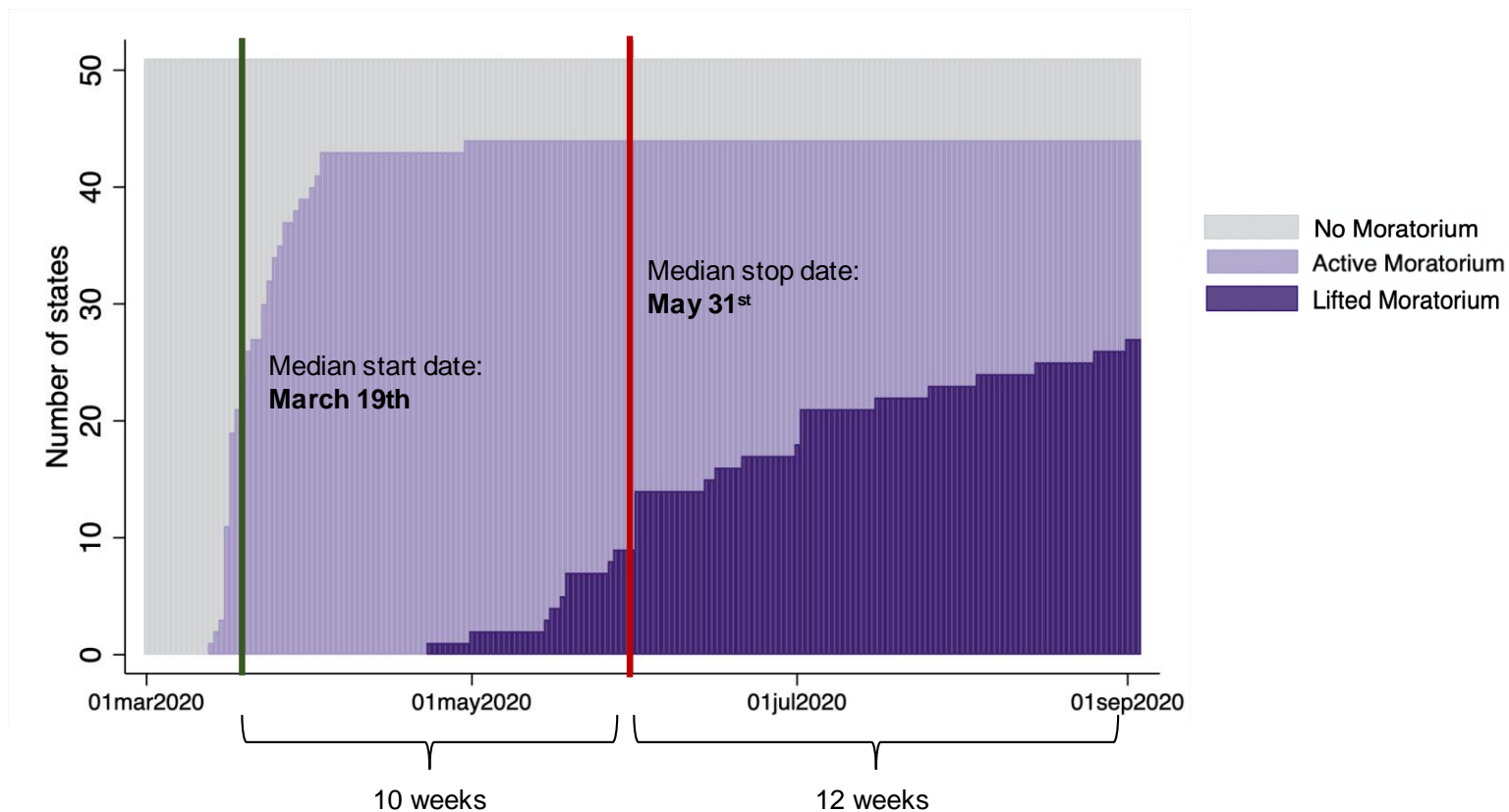
# Research Objective

To compare COVID-19 incidence (cases per population) and mortality (deaths per population) over time, between states that lifted their eviction moratoriums vs. states that maintained their moratoriums.

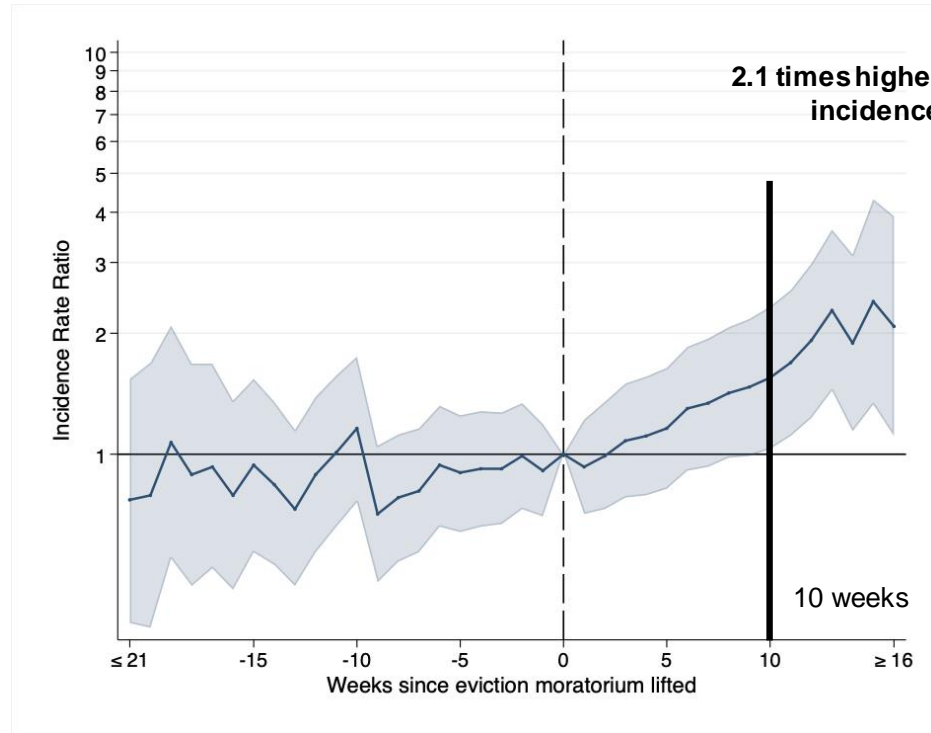
# Eviction Moratoriums, March 13<sup>th</sup> –September 3<sup>rd</sup>



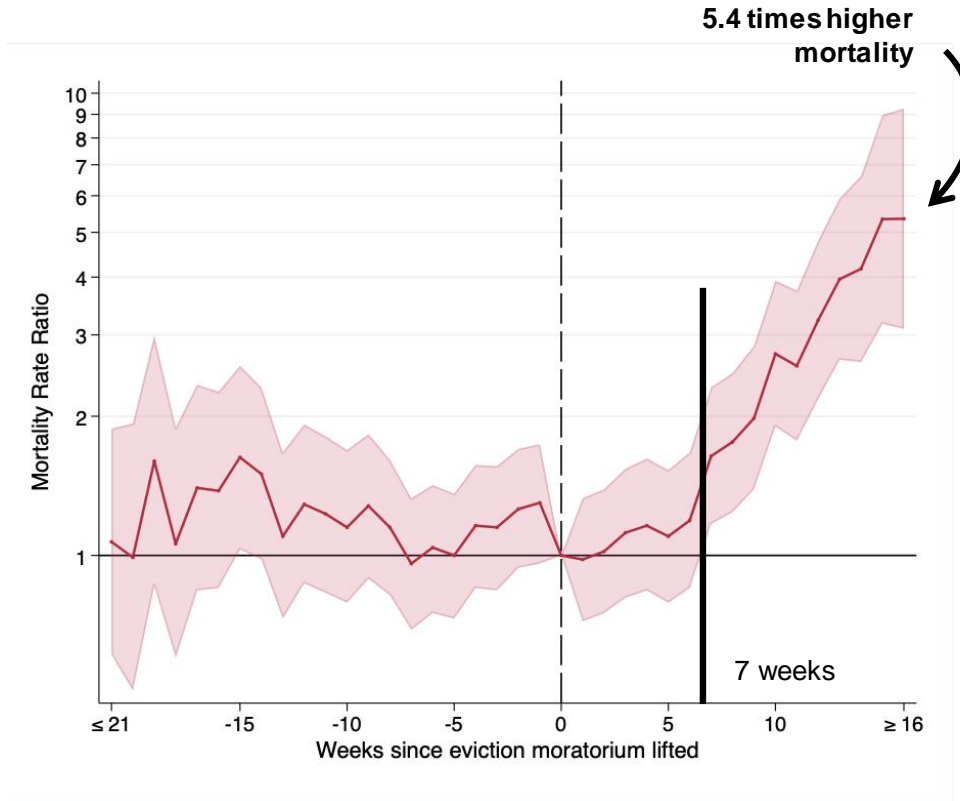
# State Level Eviction Moratorium Status Over Time



# Lifting Moratoriums Increased COVID-19 Incidence.

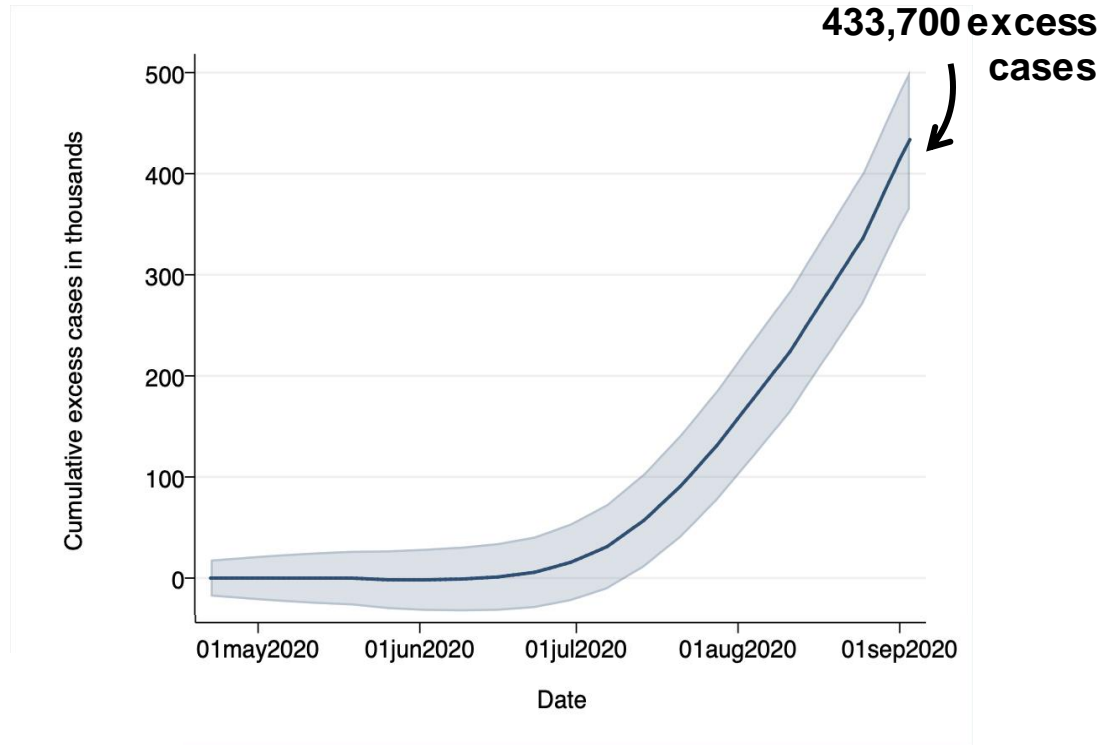


# Lifting Moratoriums Increased COVID-19 Mortality.

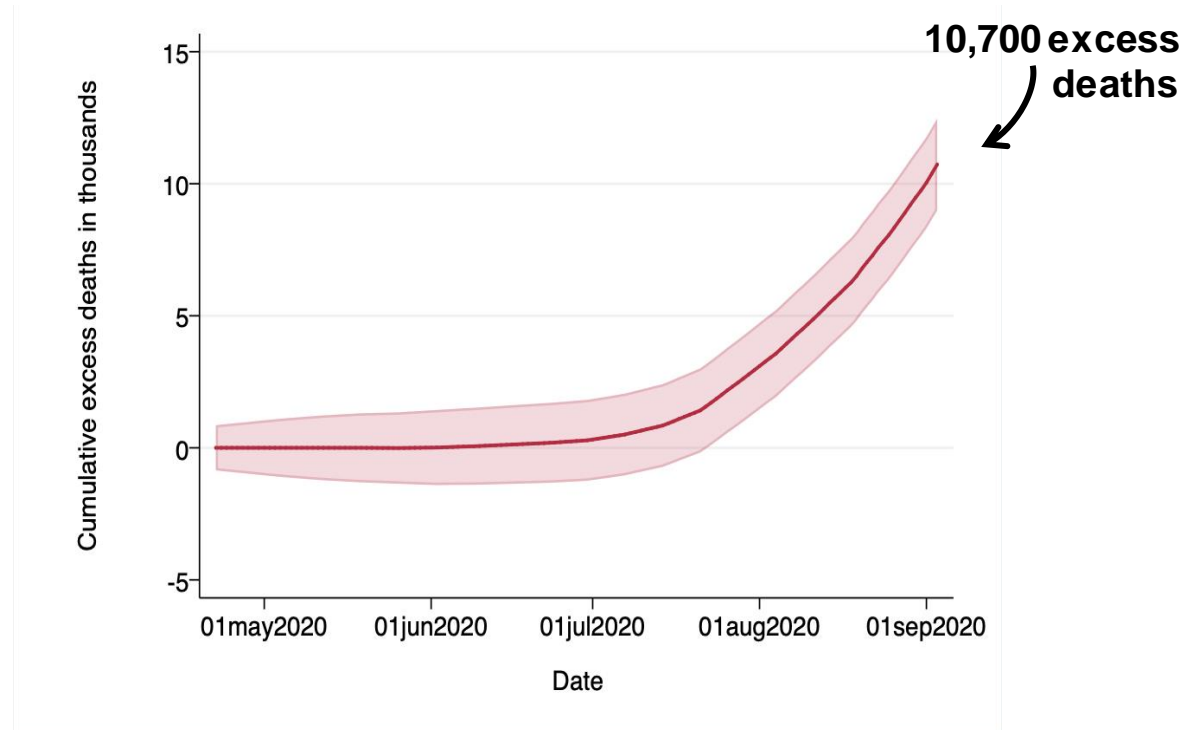




# Excess COVID-19 cases associated with lifting eviction moratoriums (national)



# Excess COVID-19 deaths associated with lifting eviction moratoriums (national)



# Excess COVID-19 cases & deaths in Texas

- Out of the 27 states that lifted their moratoriums, we estimate the most excess cases and deaths in Texas.
- Due to two main factors:
  - Large population
  - Lifted its moratorium early, on May 18<sup>th</sup>
- 148,530 excess cases (95% CI 120,650 – 176,420)
- 4,456 excess deaths (95% CI 4,015 – 4,897)

# Recommendation: Eviction Prevention

- Robust Federal, State and/or Local Eviction Moratoriums
- Supportive Measures
  - Rental Assistance
  - Other financial and legal supports
- Affordable Housing

# Thank you!



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Leifheit, Kathryn M. and Linton, Sabriya L. and Raifman, Julia and Schwartz, Gabriel and Benfer, Emily and Zimmerman, Frederick J and Pollack, Craig, Expiring Eviction Moratoriums and COVID-19 Incidence and Mortality (November 30, 2020). Available at [bit.ly/ExpiringCOVID19EvictionMoratoriums](https://bit.ly/ExpiringCOVID19EvictionMoratoriums)