

While President Trump on Tuesday touted improvements in the coronavirus pandemic in the hard-hit Sun Belt states, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention warned that nine of the nation's top 10 growing hot spots are in Florida and Texas, according to an internal government document obtained by Yahoo News.

The CDC document, a daily update on the coronavirus, identifies counties that are “areas of concern,” because cases are “high and still growing.” Five of the top 10 counties on the list are in Florida, four in Texas and one in Louisiana.

Most striking among those top 10 counties is Miami-Dade in Florida, which has had more than 40,000 new cases over the past two weeks, according to the document. The CDC did not immediately respond to a request for comment from Yahoo News about its rankings of hot spots.

The document, which is not for public release, was circulated among government agencies on Tuesday, the same day that Trump in a press briefing declared the South was getting better.

“We’re seeing improvements across the major metro areas and most hot spots,” Trump said during Tuesday’s press briefing. “You can look at large portions of our country; it’s — it’s corona-free. But we are watching very carefully California, Arizona, Texas and most of Florida. It’s starting to head down in the right direction, and I think you’ll see it rapidly head down very soon.”

Large portions of the country are not, in fact, “corona-free,” as Trump suggested, but Arizona, Texas and Florida — three of the hardest-hit states — [have seen some improvements](#) over the last week, with the new average case numbers falling. Other states such as New York, which was the epicenter of the coronavirus outbreak earlier this year, have dramatically pushed down cases.

But the CDC list of hot spots can also serve as a harbinger of worsening trends. For example, in mid-May, as reopening was just getting started, Yahoo News reported that the [CDC identified Palm Beach County](#) in Florida and San Bernardino County in California as emerging hot spots.