

THE CLAREMONT COLLEGES

CORONAVIRUS MEDIA RECAP - DAILY UPDATE

Thursday, May 28, 2020

This is a summary of today's events based on various media briefings by federal, state, county and city officials.

Cases – Reported as of Summary Time

Location	Confirmed/Reported Cases	Deaths
United States	1,765,187	103,222
California	103,397	4,034
Los Angeles County	48,700 2.2% increase over 5/27	2,195
Claremont	38	0
Hotspots (Top 3)		
New York	376,251	29,643
New Jersey	159,264	11,412
Illinois	115,833	5,186

Good sources for tracking data and updated a couple of times of day:

<https://www.latimes.com/projects/california-coronavirus-cases-tracking-outbreak/>

<https://www.worldometers.info/coronavirus/>

<https://covid19.ca.gov/>

Federal Government/White House/National Coverage

- The CDC released guidelines for [COVID-19 Employer Information for Office Buildings](#).
- A new group of studies shows that we are very far off from developing herd immunity. New studies that test the population broadly show that the percentage of people who have been infected so far is still in the single digits.
- The numbers are a fraction of the threshold known as herd immunity, at which the virus can no longer spread widely. The precise herd immunity threshold for the novel coronavirus is not yet clear; but several experts said they believed it would be higher than 60 percent.

Pomona College 1887 • Claremont Graduate University 1925 • Scripps College 1926 •
Claremont McKenna College 1946 • Harvey Mudd College 1955 • Pitzer College 1963 • Keck Graduate Institute 1997

- In New York City, where 20 percent of people were infected with the virus by May 2, according to antibody testing, and where more than 18,000 had died by then, the infection fatality rate appears to be around 1 percent.
- For comparison, the infection fatality rate for influenza is estimated at 0.1 percent to 0.2 percent.
- The House on Thursday overwhelmingly approved legislation that would relax the terms of a federal loan program to help small businesses weather the pandemic, allowing companies more time and flexibility to use the money.
- The measure would alter the Paycheck Protection Program to allow small businesses 24 weeks instead of eight weeks to spend the loan funds and extend the period of eligibility to apply for a loan under the program from June 30 to Dec. 31. Without congressional action, that eight-week period is set to begin expiring within a few days. But the bill's fate is uncertain in the Senate, where a bipartisan group last week unveiled their own revisions that have some differences, including a shorter, 16-week time period for spending the loan money.
- Great Britain announced that starting Thursday, anyone in Britain who has potential symptoms will be tested and, if positive, asked to list all those with whom they have recently been in close contact for at least 15 minutes. Those people, in turn, will be contacted and asked to isolate themselves for 14 days.
- The American Council on Education [sent a letter](#) on Thursday to Senate and House leaders seeking "temporary and targeted" liability-exposure protections for institutions that open their campuses this fall.
- Trump administration wants to limit work authorization for foreign graduates. The Optional Practical Training program, or OPT, allows international students to remain in the United States on their student visas after they graduate from college, so that they can work in their field of study for at least a year. According to news reports, the administration is considering restrictions in the program, in an effort to reduce competition for recent American college graduates who are entering the work force as the economy contracts because of the coronavirus.

State of California/Governor Gavin Newsom/State Coverage

1:00 p.m.

- Some counties in North California are experiencing spikes in cases after reopening quickly (Sonoma and Lassen)

L.A. Department of Public Health/County of Los Angeles

1:00 p.m.

- 48 new deaths and 1,094 new cases reported today.

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- More than 531,000 people have been tested for COVID-19 and had the results reported to county health officials. Of those tests, 8% have been positive.
- Limited reopenings continue for the county including retail (50% capacity).