

THE CLAREMONT COLLEGES

CORONAVIRUS MEDIA RECAP - DAILY UPDATE

Tuesday, June 9, 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	2,043,551	114,110
California	136,323	4,766
Los Angeles County	65,822 1.82% increase over 6/8	2,707
Claremont	60	1
Hotspots (Top 2) – Note – California is #3		
New York	400,504	30,597
New Jersey	167,163	12,369

Federal Government/White House/National Coverage

- Dr. Anthony Fauci (director of the National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases) in a conference held by Biotechnology Innovation Organization that he was surprised at "how rapidly it (Coronavirus) took over the planet." An efficiently transmitted disease can spread worldwide in six months or a year, but "this took about a month."
- He attributed the spread to the contagiousness of the virus and the extensive worldwide travel by infected people.
- Dr. Fauci added that he was "almost certain" that a vaccine would be successful.
- The W.H.O. "walked back" an earlier assertion that asymptomatic transmission is 'very rare.' Dr. Maria Van Kerkhove who made the original comment, said it was based on just two or three studies and that it was a "misunderstanding" to say asymptomatic transmission was rarely globally.

State of California/Governor Gavin Newsom/State Coverage

- California health officials say movie theaters can start selling tickets as soon as this Friday if they follow strict safety guidelines.
- It's unclear if theatres will reopen if they can only sell 25% of their seats.
- The number of coronavirus infections throughout California continues to rise steadily as counties further lift stay-at-home restrictions amid increasing efforts to restore the economy.
- On Monday, health officials reported nearly 3,100 cases, bringing the total to more than 134,000 infections in the state.

- California surpassed 100,000 cases a little less than two weeks ago and has reported at least 2,000 infections every day since.

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

- 56 new deaths and 1,225 new cases reported today.
- More than 720,000 people have been tested for COVID-19 and had the results reported to county health officials. Of those tests, 8% have been positive.
- As of today, 6,998 people who tested positive for COVID-19 (11% of positive cases) have been hospitalized at some point during their illness. There are 1,453 people who are currently hospitalized, 29% of these people are in the ICU and 22% are on ventilators.
- Earlier in the pandemic, the infection rate among L.A. County's Latino population was lower than for other racial and ethnic groups. But in late April, that rate surpassed that of other groups and continues to climb, according to county data.
- As of last Friday, Latinos were known to make up 51% of the county's known coronavirus cases; they make up 49% of the county's population.
- Health experts say part of the late jump in Latino infections may be attributed to better testing but data experts are also saying it is because Latinos are overrepresented in the service, production, construction and maintenance industries. They are the group least likely to be able to work at home.
- David Hayes-Bautista, director of the Center for the Study of Latino Health and Culture at UCLA's School of Medicine said that the data is now just showing up for those that did not seek medical care or have insurance.
- The County's transmission rate continues to climb. At its worst, the county's "effective transmission rate" of the coronavirus was quite high — 3 to 3½ — meaning one infected person on average transmitted the virus to an average of 3 or 3½ other people. That high point came in early March before Gov. Gavin Newsom implemented California's stay-at-home order March 19.
- Eventually, the stay-at-home order worked, and the effective transmission rate fell to 1, and then even a bit below 1. That means that, on average, each infected person was transmitting the virus to less than one other person.
- But on Friday, Dr. Christina Ghaly, director of health services for L.A. County, said the effective transmission rate had now risen above 1 and was gaining ground.
- "If transmission has indeed increased," she added, "then the model predicts that we will have a continued increase in hospital patient volume over the next two to four weeks, and we would anticipate beginning to see that change happen over the coming one to two weeks."
- Weekly coronavirus deaths in L.A. County rose for the first time since mid-April. There were 284 deaths reported for the seven-day period that ended Sunday, up 12% from the previous week's tally, 254.
- Los Angeles County announced it was shifting testing methods at drive-through sites to nasal swabs over oral swabs. Dr. Christina Ghaly, director of health services for L.A. County, said officials thought the specimen collection by nasal swabs was of better quality than specimens collected via mouth and would likely lead to fewer false negatives.

Higher Education

- San Diego State University announced that students will have access to more than 200 unique in-person courses and the university is preparing to house up to 3,500 students on campus during the Fall 2020 (about 54% of the capacity offered in Fall 2019).
- The university also launched a [SDSU Flex website](#) to provide information and updates. The site, now live, includes information about campus repopulation plans, course offerings, and the university's plans to offer a meaningful student experience.