

# THE CLAREMONT COLLEGES

CORONAVIRUS MEDIA RECAP - DAILY UPDATE

Monday, June 22, 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	Total Tests
United States	2,381,489	122,554	28,881,953
California	183,184 8.96% increase over 6/19	5,546	3,411,686
Los Angeles County	85,942 7.96% increase over 6/19	3,027	960,000
LA County Hospitalizations	1,453 .48% increase over 6/19		
Claremont	85	1	
<b>Hotspots (Top 2) – Note – California is #2</b>			
New York	411,787	31,264	3,452,099
California	183,184	5,546	3,411,686
New Jersey	172,293	13,029	1,268,399

[Simulating COVID Spread in College Setting](#) – A new working paper from Swarthmore College and the University of Pennsylvania models the spread of COVID-19 in a large university setting to examine what mitigation efforts are most effective against the spread of the disease. The paper reports that a standard intervention, consisting of quarantine, contact tracing, universal mask wearing, daily testing of 3 percent of the university population and large classes (30 or more students) moved online, suggests that infections could be kept below 66 people in 95 percent of simulations.

The model finds that moving classes of more than 30 students online is a very effective measure to avoid infections. That intervention also allows small classes to use large class spaces, like auditoriums, which has a small but measurable impact. Requiring masks is moderately important, researchers found, with random testing and contract tracing having the lowest individual importance for decreasing infection.

## International Coverage/Federal Government/National Coverage

- The recent surge in new cases isn't about the nationwide growth in testing. The percentage of positive tests has also been rising in recent days, to 5.3 percent on Sunday, from 4.4 percent a week earlier.
- In some places with recent increases, like Arizona, California, North Carolina and Texas, the number of confirmed cases has been rising almost continually since March. Michael Osterholm, a prominent

epidemiologist, said Americans should not be thinking about new waves but rather about one continuous “forest fire.”

- President Trump will sign an executive order suspending foreign work visas amid the downturn, officials say. This is part of a broad effort by the administration to dramatically limit entry into the country during the economic downturn caused by the coronavirus pandemic.
- The order, which has been expected for several weeks, is opposed by a broad swath of businesses — including high tech companies in Silicon Valley, manufacturers, and others — whose leaders say it will block their ability to recruit critically needed workers from overseas countries for jobs that Americans cannot or will not perform.
- As the virus spreads at record speeds around the world, the United States accounted for 20 percent of all the new infections worldwide on Sunday, according to New York Times data, even as the country’s population makes up about 4.3 percent of the world’s.
- New cases continued to surge over the weekend in 22 states, especially in the West and the South. Oklahoma and Missouri reported their largest single-day case increases yet on Sunday, and Florida passed 100,000 total cases, according to the state’s health department.
- In Washington’s Yakima County, where the number of cases has more than doubled in the past month, the situation is dire. Gov. Jay Inslee said the county was at a “breaking point.” With a shortage of hospital beds, patients were being taken to Seattle, more than two hours away, for medical care. Yakima hospitals are also reporting significant staffing shortages because of employees who are sick with the virus or are under a 14-day quarantine after being exposed.
- In the wake of another record-setting day for new cases, Dr. Michael Ryan, the executive director of the W.H.O.’s health emergencies program, said on Monday that increased testing was not driving the surge in cases.
- “We do not believe that this is a testing phenomenon,” he said. “Clearly, hospital admissions are also rising in a number of countries, deaths are also rising, and they are not due to increase testing, per se. So there definitely is a shift in the sense that that the virus is now very well established at the global level.”
- Clusters around the U.S. have been increasingly linked with social and religious gathering places.
- An unprecedented expansion of federal aid has prevented the rise in poverty that experts predicted this year when the pandemic sent unemployment to the highest level since the Great Depression, two new studies suggest.
- Gilead Sciences, an American biopharmaceutical company, will soon start trials of an inhalable version of remdesivir, an antiviral drug that has shown some preliminary promise as a virus treatment.

### **State of California/Governor Gavin Newsom/State Coverage**

- The number of counties receiving technical assistance from the state due to increased coronavirus concern is down to 11 from 13 last week, Governor Newsom said.
- Los Angeles County remains on the watchlist thanks to the county's case rate per 100,000 residents, California Health And Human Services Secretary Mark Ghaly said. L.A. County has 171.9 positives per 100,000 residents — the benchmark for getting off the list is below 25 per 100,000. Riverside and San Bernardino counties have been added to the list after previously not being on the list.
- Ghaly described L.A. County's case rate as “very high.” He said that the state plans to share this list with the public every Monday.

- Without wearing face coverings and limiting exposure, a COVID-positive person can infect 2.5 people in five days, which leads to more than 400 ultimately being infected in 30 days, Ghaly noted.
- With 50% less exposure, 1.25 people get infected in 5 days, ultimately leading to 15 infections in 30 days. With 75% less exposure, only 0.625 people get infected in five days, with the disease spreading to just 2.5 people in 30 days.
- The Governor reminded everyone of the importance of face masks noting that breathing can send droplets 4.5 feet, coughs 6 feet, and sneezes up to 26 feet.
- Over the last 14 days, California has reported 35.6% of all coronavirus cases thus far, Newsom noted: 46,735 cases. There were 4,230 new positives Sunday, and 4,515 on Saturday — a record for the state.
- The governor noted that while more testing means more positives, the positivity rate has also risen — from a 14-day average of 4.5% on June 14 to 4.8% on June 21. However, many of those being tested now are either asymptomatic or presymptomatic, while earlier testing focused on those with symptoms.
- The state has hit a record number of tests conducted Sunday: more than 92,000. There were 85,000 tests done Saturday, 79,000 tests on Friday.
- There has also been a 16% increase in hospitalizations over the last 14 days. There were 3,702 hospitalizations as of Sunday, up from 3,103 a week earlier and 3,184 two weeks earlier.
- ICU patients have also increased by 11% over the past 14 days. That's 1,199 currently, 1,053 a week earlier, and 1,079 the week before that.
- California's health care system has the capacity to address the increase, Newsom noted. The state currently has 73,867 hospital beds, with 52,745 surge beds. The state is using 7% of its capacity, Newsom said, up from 6% last week. The ICU capacity went from 28% to 29% being used, with 4,120 ICU beds available, along with 11,627 ventilators.
- There have been 31 counties on-boarded in the state's contact tracing program, with 20 counties in-process, Ghaly said. The state still aims to hit 10,000 contact tracers by July 1 and plans to go farther as cases increase.

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

- 18 new deaths and 2,571 new cases reported today.
- There are 1,453 people who are currently hospitalized, 28% of these people are in the ICU and 19% are on ventilators.
- Today marks the third day in the past week with over 2,000 new cases during a single day.
- More than 960,000 people have been tested for COVID-19 and had the results reported to county health officials. Of those tests, 8% have been positive.
- A total of 7,095 healthcare workers and first responders have confirmed cases of COVID-19 in Los Angeles County. Nurse account for the majority at 43%.
- "The current daily rate of positivity, which we calculate by using a seven-day average of the daily positivity rate, is 8.4%... For comparison, our seven-day average of the daily positivity rate was 5.8% on June 12, and that was just 10 days ago. Throughout our recovery journey we have said it's likely that the number of cases will increase as more people are out of their homes and around other people. Now it's going to be very important to watch how this increase in cases translates into our daily hospitalizations." Dr. Barbara Ferrer

**Higher Education Updates**

**Bowdoin College**

Enrollment – 1,800

- Will have some students back in the fall, but not all students. The group on campus will be: new first-year and transfer students; students who have home situations that make online learning nearly impossible; a very small number of senior honors students who cannot pursue their pre-approved projects online and require access to physical spaces on campus, and can do so under health and safety protocols; and student residential life staff. All other sophomores, juniors, and seniors will remain off campus for the fall semester and will take their courses online.
- Nearly all classes, including those on campus, will be taught online.
- Will not be participating in fall and winter varsity sports during the fall semester.
- Will have a normal fifteen-week semester, with classes beginning on September 2, and exams ending on December 21. All students will leave campus ahead of Thanksgiving and finish the term online.