

THE CLAREMONT COLLEGES

CORONAVIRUS MEDIA RECAP - DAILY UPDATE

Wednesday, June 24, 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	2,460,814	124,235	29,957,030
California	194,786 2.36% increase over 6/23	5,718	3,592,899
Los Angeles County	89,490 1.39% increase over 6/23	3,205	990,000
LA County Hospitalizations	1,556 2.7% increase over 6/23		
Claremont	88	1	
Current Records – Note – California is #2			
New York	413,355	31,346	3,552,126
California	194,786	5,718	3,592,899
New Jersey	173,132	13,129	1,299,645

International Coverage/Federal Government/National Coverage

- The U.S. recorded a one-day total of 34,700 new cases, just short of the nation's late April peak of 36,400, according to the count kept by Johns Hopkins University.
- Florida's single-day count of new confirmed cases surged Wednesday to 5,500, a 25% jump from the record set last week and triple the level from just two weeks ago.
- In Texas, which began lifting its shutdowns earlier than most states, on May 1, hospitalizations have doubled and new cases have tripled in two weeks.
- In Arizona, cases will probably exceed statewide hospital bed capacity within the next several weeks if the trend continues, said Dr. Joseph Gerald, a University of Arizona public health policy professor.
- In a sign of the shift in the outbreak, New York, Connecticut and New Jersey announced they will require visitors from states with high coronavirus infection rates to quarantine themselves for 14 days.
- The Trump's administration is ending its support for 13 coronavirus testing sites across the country at the end of the month, including seven in Texas, as COVID-19 cases continue to spike in a number of areas nationwide.
- Several Texas officials are calling on the administration to extend the support for the sites, with the Houston Health Department's public health authority writing that the lack of support could cause

“catastrophic cascading consequences.” Officials are requesting the funding for these testing locations be extended until Aug. 30.

State of California/Governor Gavin Newsom/State Coverage

- The governor said there will be consequences for counties that flaunt the rules they've agreed to with the state in order to reopen their businesses. There is \$2.5 billion in the state's new budget that won't go to those counties, Newsom said.
- Case numbers are rising, from 4,230 positive tests Sunday, to 5,019 Monday, to 7,149 Tuesday. Newsom said more tests lead to more positives, which means that number can be misleading.
- The number Newsom recommended watching is the percentage of people whose tests come back positive. That rolling two-week average is currently up to 5.1% for the state — and up to 5.6% over the past week. The peak in the early days of COVID-19 testing was 40.8%, but it was down to 4.6% two weeks ago and has dipped even lower, Newsom noted.
- COVID-19 hospitalizations are also increasing — there's been a 29% increase in hospitalizations over the past two weeks, from 3,177 hospitalizations to 4,095 yesterday. Currently 8% of the state's hospital beds are in use for coronavirus patients.
- The number of COVID-19 patients ending up in the ICU is also rising. It's up 18% in the past two weeks, from 1,073 to 1,268 in that timespan. About 30% of the state's capacity is being used, Newsom said. There are currently 4,034 ICU beds available, and 11,529 ventilators.
- Newsom called for Californians to improve our physical and social distancing habits due to a rise in California's coronavirus numbers. He stressed the importance of practicing physical distancing, whether it be during kids' playdates or events with family and friends.
- Santa Ana and Anaheim have the [highest coronavirus infection rates](#) in Orange County, which has seen a 50% increase in infections since last week.
- Four counties have seen significant upticks in hospitalized COVID-19 patients in recent weeks. Increases in Ventura, Orange, San Bernardino and Riverside counties have contributed to an overall rise in hospitalizations recorded statewide that began after Memorial Day, just as officials were rapidly reopening the economy
- The causes for the spikes are not fully known, but some health officials are blaming social gatherings.
- While [L.A. County](#) saw an average of 62 fewer hospitalized patients daily for confirmed or suspected cases of COVID-19 between the week of Memorial Day and last week, [Riverside County](#) saw an average daily increase of 85 patients; [San Bernardino](#), 70; [Ventura](#), 33; and [Orange](#), 32, according to The Times' analysis.
- L.A. County on June 13 logged its lowest daily coronavirus hospitalization numbers since April — 1,768 for patients with confirmed or suspected infections — following weeks of consecutive declines. But by Monday, there were 2,090 hospitalized, an 18% increase.
- Some of that rise might be caused by more widespread testing. But officials say the jump in the number of cases is also caused by greater transmission of the disease in recent weeks, in part caused by the wider reopening of the economy and increased gatherings, whether they be social or a result of political protests.
- The latest projections from the University of Washington's Institute for Health Metrics and Evaluation say that California may see [more than 15,100 deaths](#) by Oct. 1, a 170% increase from the current death toll,

which was over 5,600 as of Tuesday night. Nationwide, the institute projects more than 201,000 deaths by that same date, a 65% increase from the current death toll of over 121,000.

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

- 34 new deaths and 1,260 new cases reported today.
- There are 1,556 people who are currently hospitalized, 26% of these people are in the ICU and 18% are on ventilators.
- More than 990,000 people have been tested for COVID-19 and had the results reported to county health officials with 8% of the people testing positive.
- Of the over 35,000 skilled nursing facilities test results currently available from among both residents and staff, 5% tested positive for COVID-19 and 82% of the people testing positive were asymptomatic or pre-symptomatic.
- In a new forecast published today, UCLA economists predict the U.S. is entering a “depression-like crisis” as a result of the coronavirus pandemic, and unemployment levels in California will remain high for years to come.
- The retail and leisure and hospitality sectors have taken the brunt of layoffs so far. With tourism to California down and consumers fearful of going back to old habits, workers in those fields could take the longest to recover.
- L.A. County officials confirmed that there were no appointments available at the more than 40 sites run by the city, county and state. Some sites were temporarily closed and the number of open slots at available sites had been reduced, though in the late afternoon they added some to accommodate demand, they said.
- In the second week of June, the most recent week for which data is available, 90,863 people were tested for COVID-19 at government-run sites, while 38,417 slots were either unfilled or no-shows.
- Regarding testing, Dr. Barbara Ferrer said: “the numbers do tell us that we’re seeing an increase in community transmission.” Nearly two weeks ago, only 5.8% of coronavirus tests were coming back positive over the previous week in L.A. County. But on Monday, that number had risen to 8.4%.
- Younger adults are becoming a pathway for the virus to spread. In L.A. County, 40% of coronavirus cases are occurring among those 18 to 40.
- That matches the experience in [Japan, where a study published by the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention](#) found that the people probably spreading the coronavirus in more than 60 clusters were mostly young adults, age 20 to 39. Most were asymptomatic or presymptomatic when they transmitted the virus, and almost none had a cough.

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