

THE CLAREMONT COLLEGES

CORONAVIRUS MEDIA RECAP - DAILY UPDATE

Friday, July 31, 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	4,694,829	156,267	58,399,896
California	498,738 1.44% increase over 7/30	9,076	7,811,041
Los Angeles County	188,481 1.4% increase over 7/30	4,621	1,760,000
LA County Hospitalizations	2,002 .98% decrease over 7/30		
Claremont	248		
Current Case Leaders by State			
California	498,738	9,076	7,811,041
Florida	470,386	6,843	3,633,393
New York	443,547	32,762	5,889,237
Texas	439,501	6,703	3,990,030

International Coverage/Federal Government/National Coverage

- The U.S. announced today it will pay French pharmaceutical company Sanofi and Great Britain's GlaxoSmithKline up to \$2.1 billion to test and produce 100 million doses of an experimental coronavirus vaccine.
- More than half of the money will support further development and early-stage clinical trials to ensure it is safe and effective. The rest will pay for the first 100 million doses, with an option on 500 million more.
- The majority of the \$2.1 billion will go to Sanofi, which made the vaccine candidate. GlaxoSmithKline made a booster that improves how the body responds to it.
- Today, Dr. Anthony Fauci testified before a special House panel telling the committee that he's "cautiously optimistic" that by late fall or early winter a vaccine now being tested would be deemed safe and effective.
- He added that states "diversity of response" hampered the country's ability to contain the spread of the coronavirus.
- When asked why Europe appears to have been more effective at controlling the spread of the virus, he said that it might have helped that about 95% of Europe had shut down much earlier. "When you

actually look at what we did — even though we shut down, even though it created a great deal of difficulty — we really functionally shut down only about 50% in the sense of the totality of the country.”

- It could be safe for students to return to campus this fall if colleges conduct rapid coronavirus screening every two days, according to a [study published today](#) in the Journal of the American Medical Association by researchers at Yale, Harvard and Massachusetts General Hospital.
- The researchers created a computer model to simulate a medium-sized college with about 5,000 students – all younger than 30 years, nonimmune and living in a congregate setting – and initially assumed that there were 10 undetected, asymptomatic cases of COVID-19 on campus.
- The model found that by screening every two days with a rapid and inexpensive test – even if not always accurate – coupled with "strict behavioral interventions," a college could maintain a "controllable number" of infections at a cost of \$470 per student per semester.
- About 260 people at an overnight Georgia summer camp – including 51 kids 10 years and younger – tested positive for the coronavirus after the camp did not implement several precautionary measures, providing further evidence that children of all ages are susceptible to infection and "might play an important role in transmission," according to a Centers for Disease Control and Prevention report Friday.
- Among 597 people at the camp, test results were available for 344 attendees, and 76% of those tests were positive. Among campers aged 6-10 who provided test results, 51% were positive, along with 44% of those aged 11-17 years, and 33% of those aged 18-21 years.
- The camp implemented "most" of the CDC's recommendations for reducing the risk of transmission – such as requiring all participants to provide documentation of a negative test before arriving – but did not mandate face masks for campers or open windows and doors for increased ventilation in buildings.
- "These findings demonstrate that SARS-CoV-2 spread efficiently in a youth-centric overnight setting, resulting in high attack rates among persons in all age groups, despite efforts by camp officials to implement most recommended strategies to prevent transmission. Asymptomatic infection was common and potentially contributed to undetected transmission," the authors wrote.
- Based on a seven-day rolling average, [daily cases of the coronavirus in the U.S. have fallen](#) to 65,266, down about 3% from a week ago, according to Johns Hopkins University data. Researchers prefer to see two weeks of trending data, but University of Florida biostatistician Ira Longini said he thinks "the direction is real."
- More good news: The percentage of positive tests nationwide dropped from an average of 8.5% to 7.8% over the past week. Still, Dr. Ali Khan, dean of the University of Nebraska College of Public Health, warns that yet another boom in cases is possible. "This disease will continue to hopscotch around until it finds tinder – susceptible individuals – like any good fire," Khan said.

State of California/Governor Gavin Newsom/State Coverage

- A teenager in the Central Valley died of causes related to COVID-19, becoming the first juvenile death in California, public health officials announced Friday.
- The 7-day State average of new cases per day: 8,322
- The 7-day State average from the week prior per day: 9,881

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

- 69 new deaths and 2,651 new cases reported today.
- Public Health has identified 188,481 positive cases of COVID-19 across all areas of LA County, and a total of 4,621 deaths.
- There are 2,002 confirmed cases currently hospitalized and 29% of these people are confirmed cases in the ICU. There are a total of 2,568 confirmed and suspect cases that are currently hospitalized and 18% of these people are on ventilators.
- Testing results are available for over 1,760,000 individuals with 10% of all people testing positive.