

THE CLAREMONT COLLEGES

CORONAVIRUS MEDIA RECAP - DAILY UPDATE

Wednesday, August 5, 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	4,973,155	161,578	62,315,336
California	532,658 1.5% increase over 8/4	9,857	8,409,400
Los Angeles County	197,912 1.17% increase over 8/4	4,758	1,818,000
LA County Hospitalizations	1,768 .63% increase over 8/4		
Claremont	261		
Current Case Leaders by State			
California	532,658	9,857	8,409,400
Florida	502,739	7,627	3,820,683
Texas	481,972	7,879	4,221,329
New York	447,362	32,808	6,226,435

International Coverage/Federal Government/National Coverage

- Per Dr. Fauci (at the Harvard T.H. Chan School of Public Health forum), "what happened when the rubber hit the road on this, and we did get hit, we had the kind of response that was not as well suited to what the dynamics of this outbreak is. What happened is, we had a bit of a disparate response."
- The country's response has allowed the daily COVID-19 case count to plateau at an "unacceptable level," Fauci said, warning that the U.S. will continue to "smolder" without a unified effort to stop the virus.
- Virginia became the first state to roll out a smartphone app to automatically notify people if they might have been exposed to the coronavirus. The app relies on Bluetooth wireless technology to detect when someone who downloaded the app has spent time near another app user who later tests positive for the virus. State officials said the app doesn't track user location or collect personal information.
- Johnson & Johnson said it has a \$1 billion agreement to supply 100 million doses of its vaccine candidate to the U.S. government.
- And biotech firm, Moderna said it expects to fully enroll 30,000 people for a trial of its vaccine candidate next month.

- The announcement came one day after Novavax released promising results from a small, early trial. AstraZeneca, Pfizer and a group of Chinese researchers also have released promising early trial results, and China has begun providing its candidate vaccine to members of its military.
- The NCAA on Wednesday released a set of requirements for all schools wishing to complete fall sports competition. Although the NCAA left the decision on whether to hold fall sports up to individual divisions, it said divisions must determine the status of fall championships by Aug. 21.

State of California/Governor Gavin Newsom/State Coverage

- The State announced the reopening of youth sports and released their guidance for the safe operation of youth sports leagues. Youth sports and physical education are permitted only outdoors, and tournaments, events and competitions are not allowed. Physical distancing of at least 6 feet must be maintained at all times and for sports that require closer contact, only conditioning and skill building is permitted. Masks are not required when outside engaging in activities that require physical exertion. Adult, amateur team sports are not permitted at this time.

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

- Residents between the ages of 18 and 49 years old make up nearly 60% of new COVID-19 cases, with residents between the ages of 30 to 49 years old driving most of these reported cases.
- Residents between the ages of 30 and 49 years old have the highest case rate among all age groups in LA County. Since the beginning of June, case rates for this group nearly tripled to a high of 1,122 cases per 100,000 population on July 24. Younger residents are also being hospitalized more than before. People between the ages of 30 and 49 years old account for 25% of hospitalized patients in the County. Patients between the ages of 18 and 29 years old now account for more than twice the proportion of all hospitalizations than they did in April. These patients now match the hospitalization rate of people aged 80 years old or older. By comparison, hospitalizations of those 80 years old or older have fallen by half since a peak in April.
- 68 new deaths and 2,347 new cases reported today.
- Public Health has identified 197,912 positive cases of COVID-19 across all areas of LA County, and a total of 4,825 deaths. The majority of all cases have occurred among people between the ages of 18 and 49 years old with over 109,000 confirmed COVID-19 cases.
- There are 1,768 confirmed cases currently hospitalized and 31% of these people are confirmed cases in the ICU. This continues to be lower than the daily hospitalizations of over 2,000 patients reported last week.
- Testing results are available for over 1,839,000 individuals with 10% of all people testing positive.
- Public Health anticipates receiving a backlog of cases once the State electronic laboratory system issues are fixed. This issue has undercounted the County's positive cases and affects the number of COVID-19 cases reported each day and our contact tracing efforts. Data sources that track other key indicators, including hospitalizations and deaths, are not affected by this reporting issue.
- The State is expected to soon release information on when colleges and universities can re-open for in-classroom instruction. In the interim, Public Health released a comprehensive set of draft protocols to guide colleges and universities with planning activities toward the eventual return to in-person instruction. The protocols touch on all aspects of campus life, from on-campus housing, to classrooms, to

the dining commons. This includes infection control practices, like regular sanitizing of common spaces, consistent use of face coverings in all areas of the campus, and the reconfiguration of campus spaces, including dorms to enable physical distancing. Like other workplaces, they will have to screen their employees and students for COVID-19 and quickly notify the department when clusters of cases occur to help stop the chain of transmission. Because college and university campuses exist in the middle of larger communities, significant attention needs to be paid to steps that institutions take to protect community residents from exposures that originate on a campus; this includes good communications, support for community mitigation strategies, and minimizing risky actions.

- Yesterday, Public Health announced that it will adhere to new guidance from the California Department of Public Health, which recommends that Counties with case rates at or above 200 cases per 100,000 residents do not extend waivers for the re-opening of classroom instruction for students in grades TK- 6. Because Los Angeles County's case rate currently is 330 per 100,000, waiver applications will not be considered at this point in time.
- The County (Dr. Ferrer) responded questions about compliance and enforcement given the recent LA area mansion party. She stated that "We will not be able to arrest our way out of the pandemic. There is no single enforcement strategy that's going to get us to the place where we're going to be able to shut down activities that people continue to do in defiance of what I think at this point — forget about the [health officer] order — what I think is logical and sensible. You're putting yourself and other people at grave risk. When you're going to that party, we have a lot of community transmission."