

COVID-19 UPDATES

October 24th, 2020

For live updates on COVID-19 at the state level, county level and the Claremont neighborhood, you can check our [COVID-19 Claremont Graduate University Dashboard](#).

- **Global:** Total confirmed cases: 41,866,558. Total deaths: 1,139,296. Total recoveries: 28,410,322.
- **United States:** Total confirmed cases: 8,424,583. Total deaths: 223,226. Total recoveries: 3,353,056.
- **California:** Total confirmed cases: 880,724. Total deaths: 17,189.
 - Virus transmission in Los Angeles County is rated as widespread by **the governor's reopening regime**, which places LA county in Tier 1 and keeps higher education and K-12 schools closed. Schools are permitted to open to stable groups of no more than 12 students with disabilities, students requiring instruction for English as a second language and students needing other specialized in-school services. Many businesses and services are allowed to reopen if performed outdoors with modifications. ([Los Angeles Times](#))
 - Los Angeles County is still in the strictest level of the state's four-tier economic-reopening roadmap. The county's recent testing positivity rate is low enough to qualify the county to move up to a less-restrictive tier, but the average daily number of new cases needs to drop to about 700 per day before any movement will occur. ([NBC](#))

County-Level Statistics

Table 1. County-level confirmed cases, deaths, and case-fatality rates.

County	Confirmed Cases	Deaths	Case-fatality rate per 1,000	Total Population
Los Angeles	294065	6956	23.8	10,039,107
San Bernardino	61550	1070	14.5	2,180,085
Orange	59448	1434	18.7	3,175,692
Ventura	13980	160	10.4	846,006
Riverside	65386	1279	18.9	2,470,546

Case-fatality rates may be biased due to undercounts in both cases and deaths

LA County

- Total of 290486 cases across LA County, including 6956 deaths.
- For the previous 24 hours, 12 new deaths and 3579 new cases.

Cities In Claremont's Neighborhood

Total number of cases: 13327

Table 2. Confirmed cases in Claremont and neighboring cities

City	Total Confirmed Cases	Total Population
Claremont	438	36,478
La Verne	535	32,206
Pomona	6024	152,361
Montclair	1456	39,437
Rancho Cucamonga	3275	177,751
Upland	1599	77,000

Policy

- The U.S. Food and Drug Administration has approved the antiviral drug **Veklury (remdesivir)** for use in adult and pediatric patients 12 years of age and older and weighing at least 40 kilograms (about 88 pounds) for treatment of COVID-19 requiring hospitalization. Veklury should only be administered in a hospital or in a healthcare setting capable of providing acute care comparable to inpatient hospital care. Veklury is the first treatment for COVID-19 to receive FDA approval.
- A successful reopening of schools will require better COVID-19 testing access and response planning. Screening for COVID-19 symptoms without testing might not avert outbreaks in schools. Schools could build a rapid-feedback loop among testing laboratories, the public health department, and potential contacts, in accordance with public health exceptions to privacy laws, to expedite disclosure of testing data. (**Yasmin Rafiei and Michelle M. Mello The New England Journal of Medicine**)
- The COVID-19 emergency paid sick leave provided by the Families First Coronavirus Response Act (FFCRA) has helped mitigate the pandemic and reduced the number of COVID-19 cases, according to a study published in **Health Affairs**. Set to expire at the end of December, FFCRA should be extended into 2021 until the public health emergency has abated. The FFCRA's coverage should be expanded to include the millions of workers left out because of the size of their employer or the type of work they do. (**Institute for Women's Policy Research**)
- The new survey data show a sharp disparity by race in willingness to be vaccinated as soon as the COVID-19 vaccine is available. The poll found that 59 percent of white Americans indicated they would get vaccinated as soon as a vaccine is ready, a decline from 70 percent in mid-August. Only 43 percent of Black individuals said they would pursue a vaccine as soon as it is available, a down from 65 percent in mid-August. (**STAT**)
- With the first coronavirus vaccines in the final stages of testing, the bi-partisan **National Governors Association** is questioning financing and distribution of vaccines among states. It remains unclear whether vaccines will be allocated based on state total population, or according to the number of people at the highest risk of infection, or by some other rubric. (**New York Times**)

Latest Research News

- A study to be published next week in the Journal of Hospital Medicine analyzed 5,263 COVID-19 patient records treated at NYU Langone hospitals in New York City and Long Island between March 1 and August 8. Using a range of risk factors for the disease, as well as indicators of the severity of the illness upon hospitalization, the study shows the

likelihood of death from COVID-19 was on average 22 percentage points lower in August than in March for most critically ill patients. ([NYU Langone Health and NYU School of Medicine](#))

- Young, healthy people will be intentionally exposed to the coronavirus in a first-of-its kind human challenge trial, the UK government and the Open Orphan company running the study announced this week. The challenge will be in the high-level isolation unit of the Royal Free Hospital in north London. Proponents of COVID-19 challenge trials have argued that they can be run safely and ethically, and that their potential to quickly identify effective vaccines outweighs the low risks to participants. ([Nature](#))
- Two new peer-reviewed studies are showing a sharp drop in mortality among hospitalized COVID-19 patients. The drop is seen in all groups, including older patients and those with underlying conditions, suggesting that physicians are getting better at helping patients survive the illness. ([NPR](#))
- A small-N study found waning antibody response to SARS-CoV-2 virus within five months after infection, raising the concern that naturally acquired humoral immunity against SARS-CoV-2 might not be long-lasting. In this study, neutralizing antibody titer decreased more in symptomatic than asymptomatic patients. ([Pyoeng Gyun Choe et al. Emerging Infectious Diseases](#))
- Nationally, the percentage of tests positive for SARS-CoV-2 and the percentage of visits to emergency departments or outpatient providers for COVID-like illness and influenza-like illness have increased slightly in the past two weeks. Percent positivity decreased slightly among those 18-49 years but increased among the other age groups. The fatality rate, while declining, remains above the epidemic threshold. ([CDC Weekly Surveillance Summary](#))

Useful Links

[Urban Institute Mapping Neighborhoods Where Low-income Renters Face Greater Risks of Housing Instability and Homelessness to Inform an Equitable COVID-19 Response](#)

[The COVID Tracking Project](#)

[Protect Public Data Hub by the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services](#)

[Contact Tracing Workforce Estimator by Fitzhugh Mullan Institute for Health Workforce Equity, the George Washington University](#)

[California COVID-19 statistics by county](#)

[Los Alamos National Laboratory COVID-19 Forecasts](#)

[Paul Bogaardt et al. IPRC Working Paper](#)

[CDC Provisional Death Counts for COVID-19: Data Updates by Select Demographic and Geographic Characteristics](#)

[NBER Working papers on COVID-19 and Economics](#)

[Census COVID-19 Impact Report](#)

[CDC COVID-19 Forecasts](#)

[Johns Hopkins University CSSE international map](#)

[RAND State Policy Evaluation Tool: The Health and Economic Impacts of COVID-19 Interventions](#)

[Map of California Counties advancing to Stage 2 of reopening](#)

[Google COVID-19 Community Mobility Reports](#)

[COVID-19 Projections by the Institute for Health Metrics and Evaluation](#)

[COVID-19 Projections by the University of Texas COVID-19 Modeling Consortium](#)

[Our World in Data COVID-19 Statistics and Research](#)

[Estimation of COVID-19 epidemic evaluation by the SIR model by Milan Batista \(2020\), fitVirusCOVID19](#)

[Imperial College London COVID-19 Behavior Tracker](#)

[Penn Wharton Budget Model](#)

[Kaiser Family Foundation Data Tool](#)

[RAND Tool for Estimating Critical Care Capacity](#)

[NBER Working papers on COVID-19 and Economics](#)

[Becker Friedman Institute for Economics Working Papers on COVID-19](#)

[COVID-19 Research and Information from Human Capital and Economic Opportunity Global Working Group, University of Chicago](#)

[The Trump Administration's Guidelines for Opening Up America Again](#)