COVID-19 UPDATES

November 9th, 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: 50,550,062. Total deaths: 1,258,321. Total recoveries: 33,099,495.
- United States: Total confirmed cases: 9,982,054. Total deaths: 237,608. Total recoveries: 3,881,491.
- California: Total confirmed cases: 964,639. Total deaths: 17,963.
 - 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 economicreopening 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

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County	Confirmed Cases	Deaths	Case-fatality rate per 1,000	Total Population
Los Angeles	322281	7172	23.8	10,039,107
San Bernardino	68721	1096	14.5	2,180,085
Orange	64311	1509	18.7	3,175,692
Ventura	15353	169	10.4	846,006
Riverside	70975	1333	18.9	2,470,546

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

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

LA County

- Total of 322281 cases across LA County, including 7172 deaths.
- For the previous 24 hours, 2 new deaths and 2,233 new cases.

Cities In Claremont's Neighborhood

Total number of cases: 14092

Total Confirmed Cases	Total Population
491	36,478
601	32,206
6573	152,361
1456	39,437
3275	177,751
1696	77,000
	491 601 6573 1456 3275

Table 2. Confirmed cases in Claremont and neighboring cities

Policy

- Congressional Democrats face a loss of leverage in negotiations over a new COVID-19 relief bill, as Senate Republicans appear set to hold the majority and push for a smaller aid package of \$500 billion or less, without direct stimulus checks or large-scale aid to state and local governments. Senate Majority Leader Mitch McConnell announced Wednesday plans to reinvigorate stimulus talks in a bipartisan manner. (Bloomberg)
- Newsom overstepped his authority in June when he required vote-by-mail ballots be sent to the state's 21 million registered voters. A Sutter County Superior Court judge also issued an injunction barring the governor from taking executive action that "changes existing statutory law or makes new statutory law or legislative policy," rebuking a governor who has relied heavily on executive orders to respond to the COVID-19 pandemic. (Los Angeles Times)
- The International Civil Aviation Organization (ICAO) is expected to adopt a Manual on Testing and Cross Border Risk Management Measures to mitigate onboard COVID-19 transmission. The manual will offer technical guidance for the use of reliable tests when screening passengers ahead of flights, and its implementation by countries will be voluntary, without the obligation to remove quarantines. (Asia Times Financial)
- Washington, Oregon and Nevada have joined California's COVID-19 Scientific Safety Review Workgroup, established by California Gov. Newsom to independently review the safety and efficacy of a future COVID-19 vaccine. The panel will prioritize vaccine distribution to ensure COVID-19 vaccine is available to everyone, especially communities that have been disproportionately impacted by this disease.
- Congress has recessed for what will be consequential November elections without passing new economic relief for a nation beset with the coronavirus pandemic. Democrats have sought more robust funding for state and local governments, while Republicans have opposed bailouts for states they view as chronically mismanaged. GOP senators have balked at any deal that could cost roughly \$2 trillion, as contemplated by Democrats and the Trump administration. (Roll Call)

Latest Research News

- Scientists raise concerns that wide-ranging symptoms of COVID-19 disease are related to damaged lining of blood vessels, or endothelium. The virus attacks the endothelial cells directly, or endothelial cells sustain collateral damage along the way as the immune system reacts, and sometimes overreacts, to the invading virus. (NPR)
- The artificial-intelligence (AI) algorithm developed by MIT has correctly with 98.5 percent success rate identified people with COVID-19 only by the sound of their

coughs. The researchers would need regulatory approval to develop it into an app. (BBC News)

- A study involving more than 5,000 COVID-19 patients in Houston finds that the virus that causes the disease is accumulating genetic mutations, one of which may have made it more contagious. At least one mutation allows the virus's spike to evade a neutralizing antibody that humans naturally produce to fight SARS-CoV-2 infections. The good news is that this mutation is rare and does not appear to make the disease more severe for infected patients. (The University of Texas at Austin News)
- Should you worry about studies showing waning coronavirus antibodies? The answer is no. Medical experts say it is normal for levels of antibodies to drop after the body clears an infection, but immune cells carry a memory of the virus and can churn out fresh antibodies when needed. Although it is too early to know how long immunity to coronavirus lasts, worries about whether vaccines will help reach herd immunity are also unwarranted. (New York Times)
- A study of 216 adult COVID-19 patients found that vitamin D levels are significantly lower in hospitalized COVID-19 patients compared to population-based controls of similar age and sex. Noteworthy, serum 25OHD values were lower in men than in women. The study did not find any relationship between vitamin D levels and the parameters of COVID-19 severity, such as ICU admission, the need for mechanical ventilation or mortality. (José L. Hernández et al. The Journal of Clinical Endocrinology & Metabolism)

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