Coronavirus Disease 2019 (COVID-19)

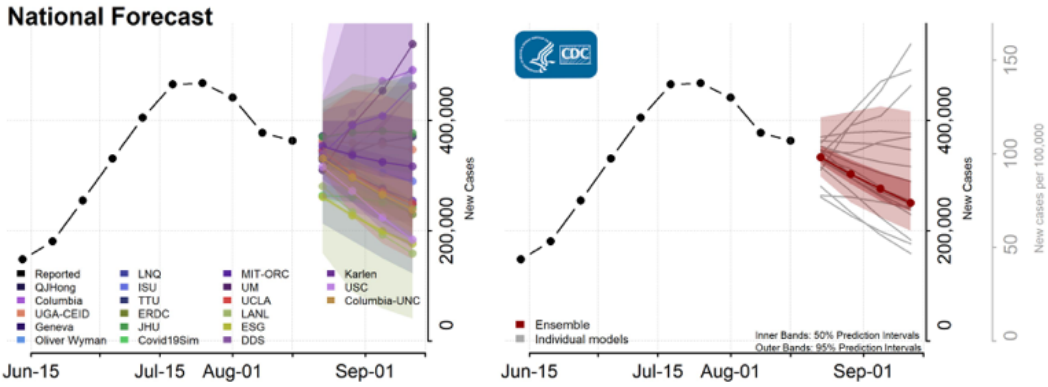
COVID-19 Forecasts: Cases

Updated Aug. 21, 2020 Print

Interpretation of Forecasts of New Cases

- This week CDC received forecasts that predict the number of new reported COVID-19 cases over the next four weeks, for the nation, states and territories, and counties. A total of 25 modeling groups submitted forecasts for one or more jurisdictions.
- This week's national ensemble forecast predicts that weekly reports of new COVID-19 cases will likely decrease over the next month, with 200,000 to 400,000 new cases reported during the week ending September 12, 2020.
- The state- and territory-level ensemble forecasts indicate that the number of new reported cases per week may decrease in 24 jurisdictions. Those with the greatest likelihood of a decrease over the next four weeks include Florida, Georgia, Guam, and the Virgin Islands.
- Information about participating modeling groups, with model names, intervention assumptions, and methods, is available at https://github.com/cdcepi/COVID-19-Forecasts/blob/master/COVID-19_Forecast_Model_Descriptions.md

National Forecasts



- The figure shows the number of new COVID-19 cases reported nationally in the United States each week from June 13 to August 15, 2020, and forecasted new cases

over the next four weeks, through September 12, 2020

- Models make various assumptions about the levels of social distancing and other interventions, which may not reflect recent changes in behavior.

State & County Forecasts

State-level and county-level forecast figures show observed and forecasted new COVID-19 cases in each location. Each forecast uses a different scale, due to differences in the numbers of COVID-19 cases occurring in each jurisdiction. To aid in comparisons between jurisdictions, the ensemble plot for each location has a second axis (in grey) that shows the expected number of cases per 100,000 people.

Download forecasts for states and territories and for counties [PDF – 533 pages][1]

Download forecast data [1 sheet]

Additional forecast data and information on forecast submission are available at the COVID-19 Forecasting Hub.

Forecast Assumptions

The forecasts make different assumptions about social distancing measures. Information about individual models is available here: https://github.com/cdcepi/COVID-19-Forecasts/blob/master/COVID-19_Forecast_Model_Descriptions.md.

Forecasts fall into one of two categories:

- These modeling groups make assumptions about how levels of social distancing will change in the future:
  - Columbia University (Model: Columbia)
  - COVID-19 Simulator Consortium (Model: CovidSim)
  - Johns Hopkins University, Infectious Disease Dynamics Lab (Model: JHU)
  - University of California, Los Angeles (Model: UCLA)
- These groups assume that existing social distancing measures will continue through the projected four-week time period:
  - Berkeley Yu Group (Model: Yu_Group)
  - Carnegie Mellon University (Model: CMU)
  - Center for Disease Dynamics, Economics & Policy (Model: CDDEP)
  - Columbia University and University of North Carolina (Model: Columbia-UNC)
  - Discrete Dynamical Systems (Model: DDS)
  - Iowa State University (Model: ISU)
  - Karlen Working Group (Model: Karlen)
  - LockNQuay (Model: LNQ)
  - Los Alamos National Laboratory (Model: LANL)

- Massachusetts Institute of Technology, COVID-19 Policy Alliance (Model: MIT-CovAlliance)
- Massachusetts Institute of Technology, Operations Research Center (Model: MIT-ORC)
- Oliver Wyman (Model: Oliver Wyman)
- Qi-Jun Hong (Model: QJHong)
- Robert Walraven (Model: ESG)
- Texas Tech University (Model: TTU)
- US Army Engineer Research and Development Center (Model: ERDC)
- University of Geneva/Swiss Data Science Center (one-week ahead forecasts only) (Model: Geneva)
- University of Georgia Center for the Ecology of Infectious Diseases Forecasting Working Group (Model: UGA-CEID)
- University of Massachusetts, Amherst (Model: UMass)
- University of Michigan (Model: UM)
- University of Southern California (Model: USC)

[1] The full range of the prediction intervals is not visible for all state plots. Please see the forecast data for the full range of state specific prediction intervals.

Additional Resources

Previous COVID-19 Forecasts: Cases

FAQ: COVID-19 Data and Surveillance

CDC COVID Data Tracker

COVID-19 Mathematical Modeling

Last Updated Aug. 21, 2020

Content source: National Center for Immunization and Respiratory Diseases (NCIRD), Division of Viral Diseases