IEM's AI Modeling: Short-term COVID-19 Projections

Date: 2/11/21

Leveraging over 15 years of support to HHS for medical consequence modeling and our proprietary artificial intelligence (AI) models, IEM believes that our Coronavirus model outputs can be used to assist localities and their medical facilities to better prepare for an increase in hospitalizations, to better plan for and locate drive-through testing facilities, and to determine where increased levels of transmission may be occurring.

We have been refining our AI model over the past month and are confident in its ability to provide accurate 7-day projections that can be used for operational and logistical planning.

AI-based Model Background

IEM is currently using an AI model to fit data from various sources and project new cases of COVID-19. We do not assume the average number of secondary infections (R-value) stays the same over time. IEM's AI model finds the best R-value over time to evaluate how it changes over the course of the outbreak. The IEM modeling team is running ~11 million simulations to fit each state's data and using the best fit for the R-value to project new cases over the next 7 days. The AI models are executed on a daily basis to evaluate the changing dynamics of the COVID-19 pandemic. Our projections have typically been within 10%, and are often within 5%, of actual confirmed cases.

The projections shown in this document are based on data pulled in as of 2/11/21 9 a.m.

Please provide any feedback or send any questions that you might have to us. We are continually updating and improving the model, so your feedback is critical.

Also, if you have more current or refined data for your State, Commonwealth or Territory that you would like IEM to factor in, please let us know.

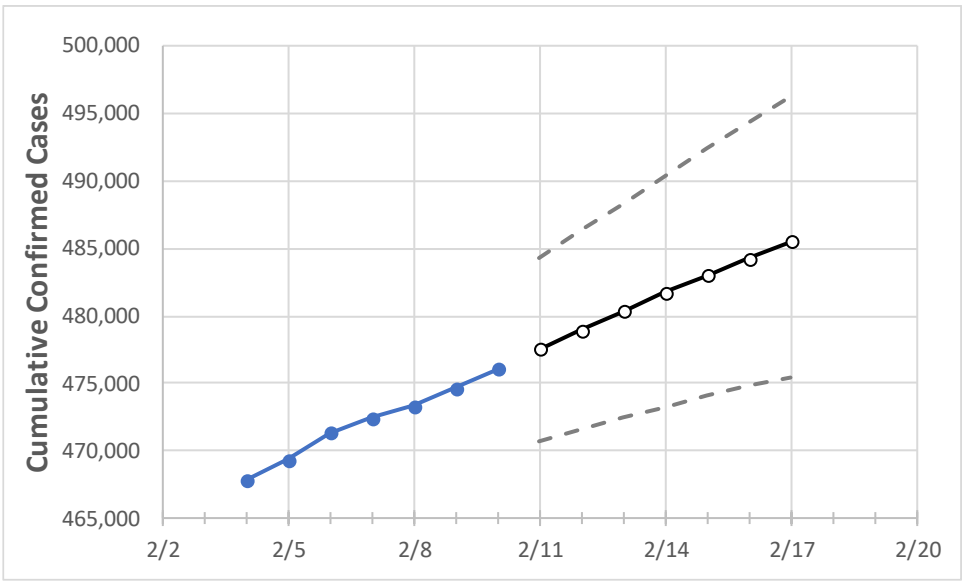
IEM's Modeling Lead

Dr. Prasith "Sid" Baccam is a **Computational Epidemiologist expert** at IEM with more than **20 years of experience in medical consequence modeling and simulation of disease outbreaks** and medical consequences following hypothetical attacks with biological agents or emerging infectious diseases. He develops key simulation models and decision support tools at IEM, specializing in public health, disaster response, and medical countermeasures (MCM) to enhance data-driven decision making and improve modeling assumptions.

Upon receiving his **Ph.D. in Applied Mathematics and Immunobiology** at Iowa State University, Dr. Baccam worked as a Postdoctoral Research Associate at Los Alamos National Laboratory where he focused on researching viral and immunological modeling. After his stint at Los Alamos, Dr. Baccam has served as Task Lead in multiple public health projects have allowed him to develop expertise as a mathematical biologist and a leader on high-performance modeling and simulation teams.

He has worked with state and local public health officials as well as Federal agencies, including **HHS**, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (**CDC**), and the Department of Homeland Security (**DHS**). Dr. Baccam has published numerous papers on public health response models and implications on policy and has been invited to participate in workshops and symposiums held by the Institute of Medicine (now the National Academy of Health). His modeling results have been briefed to the **Executive Office of the President** and informed two presidential policy actions.

Alabama State Projections



	Actual Confirmed Cases On:				Projected Cases For:						
	2/7	2/8	2/9	2/10	2/11	2/12	2/13	2/14	2/15	2/16	2/17
Alabama	472,423	473,348	474,666	476,067	477,541	478,948	480,366	481,702	482,978	484,277	485,491

Note: The State's projection shows a "best estimate" curve (the solid line with circles) and the dotted lines are the upper and lower estimates around that best estimate. Our projections have typically been within 10%, and are often within 5%, of actual confirmed cases.

Alabama Counties

	Actual Confirmed Cases On:				Projected Cases For:						
	2/7	2/8	2/9	2/10	2/11	2/12	2/13	2/14	2/15	2/16	2/17
Jefferson	68,456	68,577	68,747	68,930	69,097	69,260	69,419	69,567	69,709	69,846	69,976
Lee	14,337	14,361	14,391	14,443	14,494	14,545	14,594	14,641	14,687	14,731	14,772
Madison	30,744	30,840	30,919	31,076	31,204	31,326	31,446	31,560	31,671	31,780	31,885
Marshall	10,986	10,989	11,014	11,032	11,056	11,080	11,104	11,127	11,149	11,172	11,192
Mobile	34,090	34,219	34,329	34,431	34,550	34,668	34,787	34,897	35,005	35,106	35,211
Montgomery	21,482	21,514	21,634	21,703	21,774	21,844	21,914	21,979	22,044	22,106	22,167
Shelby	20,845	20,907	20,992	21,049	21,125	21,198	21,270	21,338	21,407	21,474	21,535
Tuscaloosa	23,049	23,123	23,127	23,230	23,308	23,385	23,461	23,537	23,611	23,684	23,750

Some recipients of our daily COVID-19 short-term (7 day) projections have requested projections of demand for: hospital bed, intensive care unit (ICU) beds, and mechanical ventilation. We realize that different states and localities will have different characteristics for hospital demand of COVID-19 cases, and we are presenting the best assumptions we could find for those medical demands based on scientific literature and health data reporting. Specifically:

- *Beds: For hospitalization, we use a range of 10% and 20% of cases require hospitalization based on CDC's report (MMWR, March 18, 2020) and state reports of COVID-19 cases.*
- *ICU: The CDC report found that 24% of hospitalized cases require ICU care.*
- *Ventilators: Based on clinical data from China and state reports, we assume that 50% of ICU cases require a ventilator.*

If you have other estimates for these assumptions, please share them with us as we work to refine our modeling, assumptions, and data on a daily basis.

*The medical demands shown in the table assume 20% of **cumulative** confirmed cases require hospitalization. To get the medical demand for the assumption that 10% of confirmed cases require hospitalization, simply divide the demand by 2.*

Alabama Medical Demands by County

	Actual Confirmed Cases On:				Projected Cases (Hospitalized) [ICU] {Ventilator} For:		
	2/7	2/8	2/9	2/10	2/12	2/14	2/16
Jefferson	68,456	68,577	68,747	68,930	69,260 (13,852) [3,324] {1,662}	69,567 (13,913) [3,339] {1,670}	69,846 (13,969) [3,353] {1,676}
Lee	14,337	14,361	14,391	14,443	14,545 (2,909) [698] {349}	14,641 (2,928) [703] {351}	14,731 (2,946) [707] {354}
Madison	30,744	30,840	30,919	31,076	31,326 (6,265) [1,504] {752}	31,560 (6,312) [1,515] {757}	31,780 (6,356) [1,525] {763}
Marshall	10,986	10,989	11,014	11,032	11,080 (2,216) [532] {266}	11,127 (2,225) [534] {267}	11,172 (2,234) [536] {268}
Mobile	34,090	34,219	34,329	34,431	34,668 (6,934) [1,664] {832}	34,897 (6,979) [1,675] {838}	35,106 (7,021) [1,685] {843}
Montgomery	21,482	21,514	21,634	21,703	21,844 (4,369) [1,049] {524}	21,979 (4,396) [1,055] {527}	22,106 (4,421) [1,061] {531}
Shelby	20,845	20,907	20,992	21,049	21,198 (4,240) [1,018] {509}	21,338 (4,268) [1,024] {512}	21,474 (4,295) [1,031] {515}
Tuscaloosa	23,049	23,123	23,127	23,230	23,385 (4,677) [1,122] {561}	23,537 (4,707) [1,130] {565}	23,684 (4,737) [1,137] {568}

For additional information from IEM, please contact Bryan Koon, Vice President of Emergency Management and Homeland Security at bryan.koon@iem.com or 850-519-7966 or Stephanie Tennyson at stephanie.tennyson@iem.com or 202-309-4257.