

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

Date: 3/2/21

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 3/2/21 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.

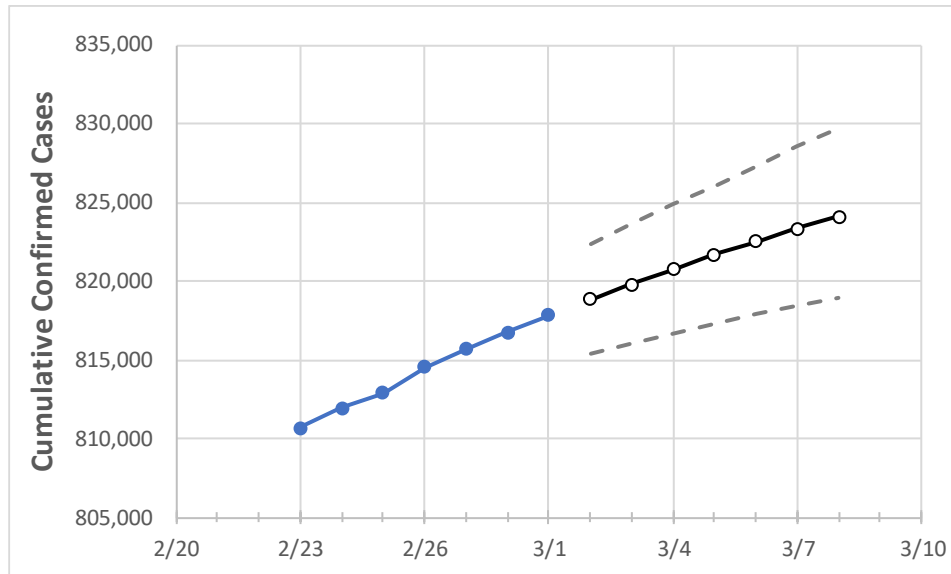
IEM's Modeling Lead

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.

Arizona State Projections



	Actual Confirmed Cases On:				Projected Cases For:							
	2/26	2/27	2/28	3/1	3/2	3/3	3/4	3/5	3/6	3/7	3/8	
Arizona	814,528	815,707	816,782	817,821	818,849	819,801	820,762	821,662	822,496	823,308	824,115	

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.

Arizona Counties

	Actual Confirmed Cases On:				Projected Cases For:							
	2/26	2/27	2/28	3/1	3/2	3/3	3/4	3/5	3/6	3/7	3/8	
Coconino	16,485	16,508	16,539	16,579	16,611	16,643	16,676	16,706	16,736	16,767	16,795	
Maricopa	508,997	509,683	510,360	511,055	511,638	512,220	512,742	513,264	513,760	514,246	514,702	
Navajo	15,555	15,604	15,630	15,647	15,668	15,687	15,706	15,725	15,742	15,758	15,775	
Pima	109,137	109,320	109,488	109,601	109,742	109,873	109,998	110,124	110,247	110,361	110,472	
Pinal	46,003	46,130	46,149	46,233	46,306	46,381	46,451	46,522	46,589	46,655	46,719	

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.

Arizona Medical Demands by County

	Actual Confirmed Cases On:				Projected Cases (Hospitalized) [ICU] {Ventilator} For:											
	2/26	2/27	2/28	3/1	3/3				3/5				3/7			
Coconino	16,485	16,508	16,539	16,579	16,643	(3,329)	[799]	{399}	16,706	(3,341)	[802]	{401}	16,767	(3,353)	[805]	{402}
Maricopa	508,997	509,683	510,360	511,055	512,220	(102,444)	[24,587]	{12,293}	513,264	(102,653)	[24,637]	{12,318}	514,246	(102,849)	[24,684]	{12,342}
Navajo	15,555	15,604	15,630	15,647	15,687	(3,137)	[753]	{376}	15,725	(3,145)	[755]	{377}	15,758	(3,152)	[756]	{378}
Pima	109,137	109,320	109,488	109,601	109,873	(21,975)	[5,274]	{2,637}	110,124	(22,025)	[5,286]	{2,643}	110,361	(22,072)	[5,297]	{2,649}
Pinal	46,003	46,130	46,149	46,233	46,381	(9,276)	[2,226]	{1,113}	46,522	(9,304)	[2,233]	{1,117}	46,655	(9,331)	[2,239]	{1,120}

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.