

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

Date: 3/19/21

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 3/19/21 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.

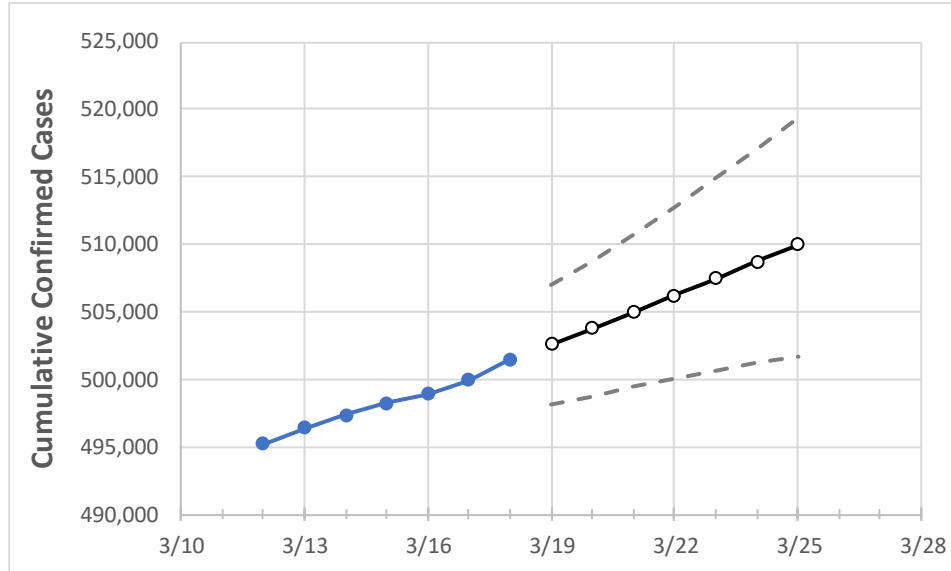
IEM's Modeling Lead

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.

Minnesota State Projections



	Actual Confirmed Cases On:				Projected Cases For:						
	3/15	3/16	3/17	3/18	3/19	3/20	3/21	3/22	3/23	3/24	3/25
Minnesota	498,218	498,926	499,962	501,458	502,610	503,783	504,982	506,208	507,448	508,696	510,017

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.

Minnesota Counties

	Actual Confirmed Cases On:				Projected Cases For:						
	3/15	3/16	3/17	3/18	3/19	3/20	3/21	3/22	3/23	3/24	3/25
Dakota	37,433	37,494	37,583	37,734	37,841	37,946	38,055	38,167	38,279	38,393	38,511
Hennepin	103,329	103,502	103,719	104,017	104,253	104,495	104,744	104,997	105,256	105,513	105,784
Olmsted	12,049	12,058	12,079	12,093	12,113	12,132	12,152	12,171	12,191	12,211	12,231
Ramsey	43,890	43,924	43,984	44,064	44,125	44,185	44,247	44,308	44,370	44,431	44,493

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.

Minnesota Medical Demands by County

	Actual Confirmed Cases On:				Projected Cases (Hospitalized) [ICU] {Ventilator} For:											
	3/15	3/16	3/17	3/18	3/20				3/22				3/24			
Dakota	37,433	37,494	37,583	37,734	37,946	(7,589)	[1,821]	{911}	38,167	(7,633)	[1,832]	{916}	38,393	(7,679)	[1,843]	{921}
Hennepin	103,329	103,502	103,719	104,017	104,495	(20,899)	[5,016]	{2,508}	104,997	(20,999)	[5,040]	{2,520}	105,513	(21,103)	[5,065]	{2,532}
Olmsted	12,049	12,058	12,079	12,093	12,132	(2,426)	[582]	{291}	12,171	(2,434)	[584]	{292}	12,211	(2,442)	[586]	{293}
Ramsey	43,890	43,924	43,984	44,064	44,185	(8,837)	[2,121]	{1,060}	44,308	(8,862)	[2,127]	{1,063}	44,431	(8,886)	[2,133]	{1,066}

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.