

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

Date: 4/14/21

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 4/14/21 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.

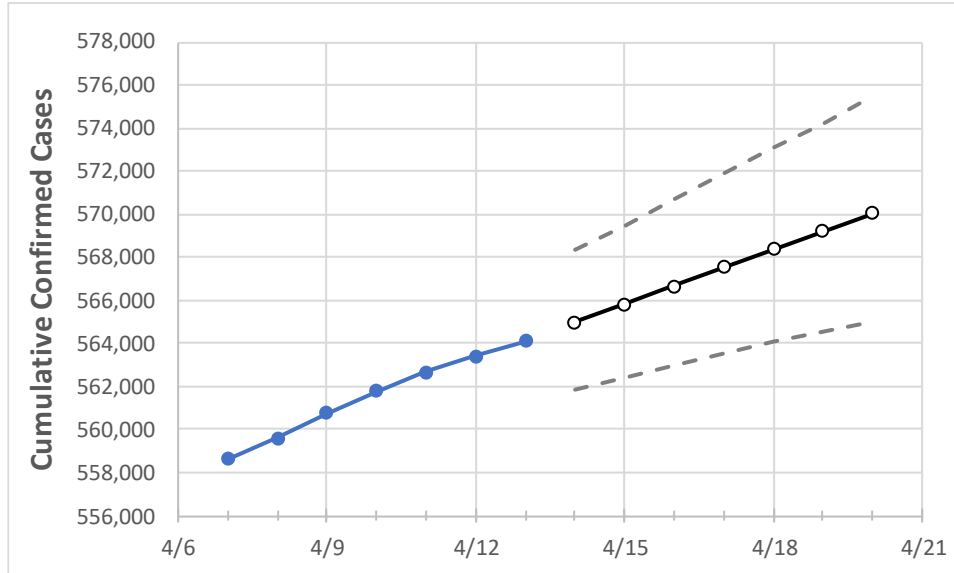
IEM's Modeling Lead

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.

South Carolina State Projections



	Actual Confirmed Cases On:				Projected Cases For:						
	4/10	4/11	4/12	4/13	4/14	4/15	4/16	4/17	4/18	4/19	4/20
South Carolina	561,773	562,691	563,427	564,128	564,994	565,842	566,679	567,537	568,382	569,236	570,060

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.

South Carolina Counties

	Actual Confirmed Cases On:				Projected Cases For:						
	4/10	4/11	4/12	4/13	4/14	4/15	4/16	4/17	4/18	4/19	4/20
Beaufort	16,423	16,446	16,462	16,467	16,480	16,493	16,506	16,519	16,531	16,543	16,556
Charleston	41,390	41,471	41,540	41,587	41,658	41,726	41,797	41,867	41,937	42,005	42,070
Greenville	71,341	71,456	71,562	71,657	71,801	71,954	72,101	72,243	72,386	72,525	72,662
Kershaw	7,152	7,161	7,174	7,177	7,185	7,193	7,202	7,210	7,218	7,225	7,233
Lexington	32,083	32,135	32,192	32,237	32,281	32,326	32,371	32,416	32,461	32,503	32,546
Richland	44,599	44,664	44,715	44,764	44,829	44,893	44,958	45,020	45,081	45,146	45,208
Spartanburg	39,770	39,826	39,870	39,950	40,026	40,101	40,174	40,248	40,322	40,395	40,465
York	29,258	29,318	29,361	29,422	29,481	29,540	29,599	29,658	29,717	29,777	29,836

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.

South Carolina Medical Demands by County

	Actual Confirmed Cases On:				Projected Cases (Hospitalized) [ICU] {Ventilator} For:											
	4/10	4/11	4/12	4/13	4/15			4/17			4/19					
Beaufort	16,423	16,446	16,462	16,467	16,493	(3,299)	[792]	{396}	16,519	(3,304)	[793]	{396}	16,543	(3,309)	[794]	{397}
Charleston	41,390	41,471	41,540	41,587	41,726	(8,345)	[2,003]	{1,001}	41,867	(8,373)	[2,010]	{1,005}	42,005	(8,401)	[2,016]	{1,008}
Greenville	71,341	71,456	71,562	71,657	71,954	(14,391)	[3,454]	{1,727}	72,243	(14,449)	[3,468]	{1,734}	72,525	(14,505)	[3,481]	{1,741}
Kershaw	7,152	7,161	7,174	7,177	7,193	(1,439)	[345]	{173}	7,210	(1,442)	[346]	{173}	7,225	(1,445)	[347]	{173}
Lexington	32,083	32,135	32,192	32,237	32,326	(6,465)	[1,552]	{776}	32,416	(6,483)	[1,556]	{778}	32,503	(6,501)	[1,560]	{780}
Richland	44,599	44,664	44,715	44,764	44,893	(8,979)	[2,155]	{1,077}	45,020	(9,004)	[2,161]	{1,080}	45,146	(9,029)	[2,167]	{1,084}
Spartanburg	39,770	39,826	39,870	39,950	40,101	(8,020)	[1,925]	{962}	40,248	(8,050)	[1,932]	{966}	40,395	(8,079)	[1,939]	{969}
York	29,258	29,318	29,361	29,422	29,540	(5,908)	[1,418]	{709}	29,658	(5,932)	[1,424]	{712}	29,777	(5,955)	[1,429]	{715}

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.