

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

**Date: 4/15/21**

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 4/15/21 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.**

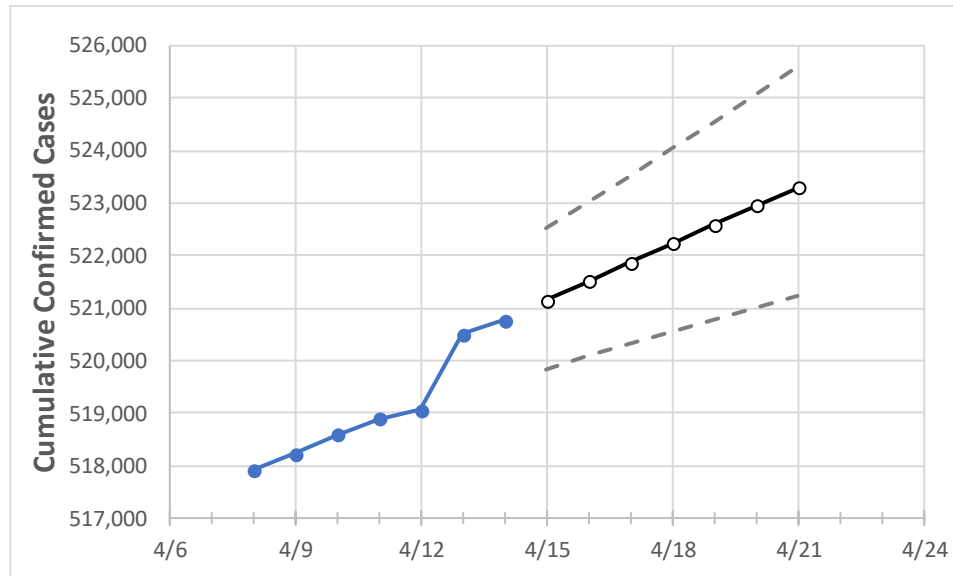
### **IEM's Modeling Lead**

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:						
	4/11	4/12	4/13	4/14	4/15	4/16	4/17	4/18	4/19	4/20	4/21
Alabama	518,899	519,071	520,503	520,780	521,145	521,509	521,869	522,227	522,591	522,957	523,296

*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:						
	4/11	4/12	4/13	4/14	4/15	4/16	4/17	4/18	4/19	4/20	4/21
Jefferson	75,364	75,413	75,409	75,372	75,413	75,456	75,495	75,535	75,574	75,610	75,645
Lee	15,524	15,533	15,541	15,552	15,560	15,569	15,577	15,585	15,593	15,601	15,609
Madison	33,859	33,868	33,898	33,940	33,965	33,990	34,015	34,041	34,066	34,091	34,116
Marshall	11,957	11,962	11,967	11,982	11,988	11,994	11,999	12,004	12,009	12,015	12,019
Mobile	37,763	37,774	38,938	38,951	38,967	38,985	39,001	39,016	39,031	39,047	39,062
Montgomery	23,962	23,969	23,992	23,980	23,994	24,007	24,021	24,034	24,047	24,059	24,070
Shelby	23,106	23,112	23,124	23,141	23,148	23,155	23,162	23,168	23,174	23,180	23,185
Tuscaloosa	25,266	25,283	25,297	25,318	25,333	25,347	25,362	25,376	25,389	25,402	25,415

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:											
	4/11	4/12	4/13	4/14	4/16			4/18			4/20					
Jefferson	75,364	75,413	75,409	75,372	75,456	(15,091)	[3,622]	{1,811}	75,535	(15,107)	[3,626]	{1,813}	75,610	(15,122)	[3,629]	{1,815}
Lee	15,524	15,533	15,541	15,552	15,569	(3,114)	[747]	{374}	15,585	(3,117)	[748]	{374}	15,601	(3,120)	[749]	{374}
Madison	33,859	33,868	33,898	33,940	33,990	(6,798)	[1,632]	{816}	34,041	(6,808)	[1,634]	{817}	34,091	(6,818)	[1,636]	{818}
Marshall	11,957	11,962	11,967	11,982	11,994	(2,399)	[576]	{288}	12,004	(2,401)	[576]	{288}	12,015	(2,403)	[577]	{288}
Mobile	37,763	37,774	38,938	38,951	38,985	(7,797)	[1,871]	{936}	39,016	(7,803)	[1,873]	{936}	39,047	(7,809)	[1,874]	{937}
Montgomery	23,962	23,969	23,992	23,980	24,007	(4,801)	[1,152]	{576}	24,034	(4,807)	[1,154]	{577}	24,059	(4,812)	[1,155]	{577}
Shelby	23,106	23,112	23,124	23,141	23,155	(4,631)	[1,111]	{556}	23,168	(4,634)	[1,112]	{556}	23,180	(4,636)	[1,113]	{556}
Tuscaloosa	25,266	25,283	25,297	25,318	25,347	(5,069)	[1,217]	{608}	25,376	(5,075)	[1,218]	{609}	25,402	(5,080)	[1,219]	{610}

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