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

Date: 6/1/21

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 6/1/21 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.

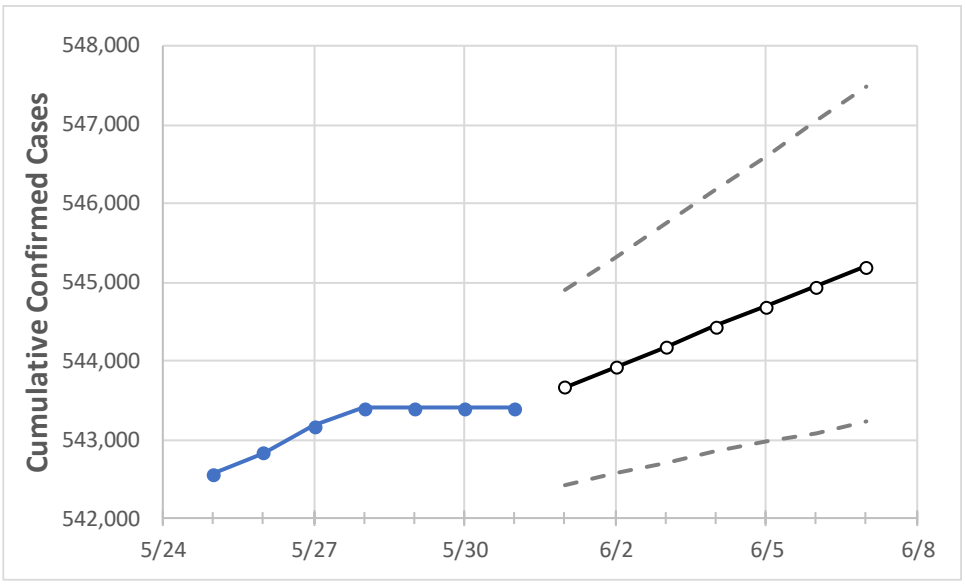
IEM's Modeling Lead

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:						
	5/28	5/29	5/30	5/31	6/1	6/2	6/3	6/4	6/5	6/6	6/7
Alabama	543,405	543,405	543,405	543,405	543,666	543,924	544,178	544,436	544,687	544,944	545,201

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:						
	5/28	5/29	5/30	5/31	6/1	6/2	6/3	6/4	6/5	6/6	6/7
Jefferson	80,195	80,195	80,195	80,195	80,218	80,240	80,263	80,284	80,305	80,326	80,346
Lee	16,115	16,115	16,115	16,115	16,128	16,141	16,154	16,169	16,184	16,199	16,215
Madison	35,344	35,344	35,344	35,344	35,355	35,367	35,378	35,389	35,399	35,408	35,418
Marshall	12,338	12,338	12,338	12,338	12,341	12,345	12,348	12,350	12,353	12,356	12,358
Mobile	41,551	41,551	41,551	41,551	41,573	41,594	41,616	41,638	41,659	41,681	41,704
Montgomery	24,871	24,871	24,871	24,871	24,882	24,893	24,904	24,914	24,925	24,935	24,946
Shelby	25,401	25,401	25,401	25,401	25,411	25,420	25,430	25,440	25,450	25,460	25,470
Tuscaloosa	26,031	26,031	26,031	26,031	26,038	26,045	26,051	26,058	26,064	26,071	26,077

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:		
	5/28	5/29	5/30	5/31	6/2	6/4	6/6
Jefferson	80,195	80,195	80,195	80,195	80,240 (16,048) [3,852] {1,926}	80,284 (16,057) [3,854] {1,927}	80,326 (16,065) [3,856] {1,928}
Lee	16,115	16,115	16,115	16,115	16,141 (3,228) [775] {387}	16,169 (3,234) [776] {388}	16,199 (3,240) [778] {389}
Madison	35,344	35,344	35,344	35,344	35,367 (7,073) [1,698] {849}	35,389 (7,078) [1,699] {849}	35,408 (7,082) [1,700] {850}
Marshall	12,338	12,338	12,338	12,338	12,345 (2,469) [593] {296}	12,350 (2,470) [593] {296}	12,356 (2,471) [593] {297}
Mobile	41,551	41,551	41,551	41,551	41,594 (8,319) [1,997] {998}	41,638 (8,328) [1,999] {999}	41,681 (8,336) [2,001] {1,000}
Montgomery	24,871	24,871	24,871	24,871	24,893 (4,979) [1,195] {597}	24,914 (4,983) [1,196] {598}	24,935 (4,987) [1,197] {598}
Shelby	25,401	25,401	25,401	25,401	25,420 (5,084) [1,220] {610}	25,440 (5,088) [1,221] {611}	25,460 (5,092) [1,222] {611}
Tuscaloosa	26,031	26,031	26,031	26,031	26,045 (5,209) [1,250] {625}	26,058 (5,212) [1,251] {625}	26,071 (5,214) [1,251] {626}

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.