

IEM's AI Modeling: Short-term COVID-19 Projections**Date: 11/8/21**

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 11/8/21 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.

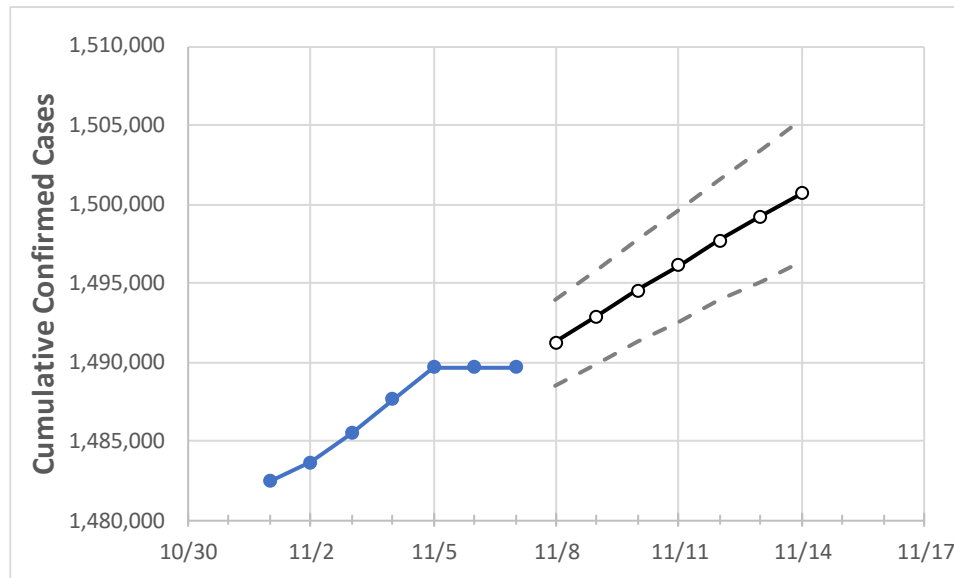
IEM's Modeling Lead

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.

North Carolina State Projections



	Actual Confirmed Cases On:				Projected Cases For:							
	11/4	11/5	11/6	11/7	11/8	11/9	11/10	11/11	11/12	11/13	11/14	
North Carolina	1,487,656	1,489,653	1,489,653	1,489,653	1,491,270	1,492,904	1,494,525	1,496,108	1,497,682	1,499,217	1,500,709	

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.

North Carolina Counties

	Actual Confirmed Cases On:				Projected Cases For:							
	11/4	11/5	11/6	11/7	11/8	11/9	11/10	11/11	11/12	11/13	11/14	
Cumberland	46,033	46,163	46,163	46,163	46,250	46,335	46,417	46,502	46,586	46,669	46,753	
Durham	34,864	34,927	34,927	34,927	34,968	35,010	35,051	35,093	35,135	35,176	35,217	
Guilford	68,439	68,533	68,533	68,533	68,610	68,689	68,765	68,843	68,918	68,995	69,067	
Mecklenburg	158,157	158,324	158,324	158,324	158,470	158,619	158,761	158,905	159,050	159,191	159,328	
Orange	11,908	11,917	11,917	11,917	11,928	11,938	11,948	11,958	11,968	11,978	11,987	
Union	36,615	36,665	36,665	36,665	36,706	36,745	36,785	36,824	36,863	36,901	36,939	
Wake	130,123	130,315	130,315	130,315	130,468	130,623	130,771	130,924	131,077	131,225	131,370	

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.

North Carolina Medical Demands by County

	Actual Confirmed Cases On:				Projected Cases (Hospitalized) [ICU] {Ventilator} For:											
	11/4	11/5	11/6	11/7	11/9				11/11				11/13			
Cumberland	46,033	46,163	46,163	46,163	46,335	(9,267)	[2,224]	{1,112}	46,502	(9,300)	[2,232]	{1,116}	46,669	(9,334)	[2,240]	{1,120}
Durham	34,864	34,927	34,927	34,927	35,010	(7,002)	[1,680]	{840}	35,093	(7,019)	[1,684]	{842}	35,176	(7,035)	[1,688]	{844}
Guilford	68,439	68,533	68,533	68,533	68,689	(13,738)	[3,297]	{1,649}	68,843	(13,769)	[3,304]	{1,652}	68,995	(13,799)	[3,312]	{1,656}
Mecklenburg	158,157	158,324	158,324	158,324	158,619	(31,724)	[7,614]	{3,807}	158,905	(31,781)	[7,627]	{3,814}	159,191	(31,838)	[7,641]	{3,821}
Orange	11,908	11,917	11,917	11,917	11,938	(2,388)	[573]	{287}	11,958	(2,392)	[574]	{287}	11,978	(2,396)	[575]	{287}
Union	36,615	36,665	36,665	36,665	36,745	(7,349)	[1,764]	{882}	36,824	(7,365)	[1,768]	{884}	36,901	(7,380)	[1,771]	{886}
Wake	130,123	130,315	130,315	130,315	130,623	(26,125)	[6,270]	{3,135}	130,924	(26,185)	[6,284]	{3,142}	131,225	(26,245)	[6,299]	{3,149}

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.