COVID-19: What’s New for March 31, 2020

Main updates on US COVID-19 predictions since March 30, 2020

Key findings

- **Today’s estimates for the US point to the April 15 (same date as noted in yesterday’s release) as the peak day for hospital use.** At this peak date, the US is projected to need 220,643 total hospital beds (32,976 for ICU), and 26,381 ventilators to support COVID-19 patients. These remain consistent with projections from yesterday as well.

- **Nationwide COVID-19 deaths are predicted to also peak on April 15, escalating to 2,214 deaths (range of 1,106 to 3,321) per day.** Current predictions suggest the first day where the range of daily COVID-19 deaths is expected to fall under 100 could be June 28 (average of 27 daily deaths, range of 0 to 93). However, this projected date is likely to change as the epidemic unfolds across states.

- **Nationwide, a total of 83,967 COVID-19 deaths (range of 36,614 to 152,582) are currently projected to occur through the epidemic’s first wave.** These estimates align with yesterday’s projections, though the average is slightly higher due to state-level death updates since March 30. These estimates assume that currently enacted social distancing policies remain in place and also that social distancing measures are introduced within seven days from today in states that have not already adopted them.

Key changes since our last release on March 30, 2020

Data updates and information

- **51 location-days of COVID-19 deaths and cases have been added.** Estimates now include COVID-19 data reported through March 30 for 50 states and the District of Columbia.

- **Each day IHME’s data intake team processes new COVID-19 data reported or released from local health departments through the US.** To ensure all new data can be incorporated properly into our daily model updates, we use a 5:00 p.m. Pacific deadline for including additional sources.

Analytic and methods updates

There were no substantial updates to the methods since our release on March 30. More detail on the prediction models for COVID-19 deaths and hospital use can be found [here](https://covid19.healthdata.org/methods). Further documentation on CurveFit, the package used to fit COVID-19 deaths, is available on [GitHub](https://github.com/).
A note of thanks
None of these estimation efforts is possible without the tireless data collection and collation efforts of individuals throughout the US and world. Your work in hospitals, health care organizations, local health departments, state and national public health agencies, among others, is invaluable. We thank you for your dedication to fighting the coronavirus pandemic and we appreciate your willingness to share data and collaborate with the IHME COVID-19 team.