****Extraordinary Assumptions: There are many different data sources in this report and not all of them match. The goal is to provide an overall picture of the current situation.**

Daily Situation Summary
Thursday, August 19, 2021
As of 1:00 PM

COVID-19 by the Numbers

8/19/2021	Riverside	Imperial	Kern	Los Angeles*	Orange	San Bernardino	San Diego	San Luis Obispo	Santa Barbara	Ventura	California	United States	Global
Total Cases	323,578	29,396	118,794	1,359,897	277,845	318,838	318,152	23,737	37,700	87,457	4,148,355	37,259,886	209,201,939
New Cases (Day or Week)**	1,327	0	434	3,648	1,213	0	1,094	0	134	255	12,508	157,694	666,959
Total Cases Per Capita	13,110	15,338	12,811	13,258	8,606	14,379	9,440	8,512	8,261	10,256	10,338	11,211	2,695
% of Total Cases/Population	13.11%	15.34%	12.81%	13.26%	8.61%	14.38%	9.44%	8.51%	8.26%	10.26%	10.34%	11.21%	2.69%
New Cases Per Capita	53.77	0.00	46.81	35.56	37.57	0.00	32.46	0.00	29.36	29.90	31.17	47.45	8.59
Recovered**	312,495	26,493	113,703	Not Reported	256,205	309,852	Not Reported	22,210	37,303	85,024	2,208,574	30,343,431	188,599,250
% of total recovered/population	12.66%	13.82%	12.26%	Not Reported	7.94%	13.97%	Not Reported	7.96%	8.17%	9.97%	5.50%	9.13%	2.43%
Total Deaths	4,689	748	1,441	24,967	5,165	4,875	3,834	273	472	1,051	64,294	623,244	4,390,467
New Deaths	3	0	5	32	4	0	10	0	2	1	100	1,054	10,584
Deaths Per Capita	189.98	390.30	155.41	243.40	159.98	219.85	113.75	97.90	103.42	123.25	160.22	187.53	56.55
% of Total Deaths/Population	0.19%	0.39%	0.16%	0.24%	0.16%	0.22%	0.11%	0.10%	0.10%	0.12%	0.16%	0.19%	0.06%
% of State's Cases	7.80%	0.71%	2.86%	32.78%	6.70%	7.69%	7.67%	0.57%	0.91%	2.11%	11.13%	17.81%	
Currently in Hospitals	535	16	209	1,786	571	578	590	36	63	143	7,779		
Total Hospital Beds	3,466	236	1,184	19,466	6,022	3,599	6,503	460	614	1,203	66,921		
Currently in ICU	102	4	42	449	133	139	147	9	10	36	1,772		
ICU Beds Available	89	0	37	509	154	99	172	12	19	38	1,701		
Case Fatality Rate	1.45%	2.54%	1.21%	1.84%	1.86%	1.53%	1.21%	1.15%	1.25%	1.20%	1.55%	1.67%	2.10%
Population*	2,468,145	191,649	927,251	10,257,557	3,228,519	2,217,398	3,370,418	278,862	456,373	852,747	40,129,160	332,345,359	7,763,643,000
% of Population	6.15%	0.48%	2.31%	25.56%	8.05%	5.53%	8.40%	0.69%	1.14%	2.13%	12.07%	4.28%	

Sources: CDPH, WHO, CDC, Local County Data, LA Times

The date for which case statistics and hospital data were reported. Hospital COVID data are self-reported through a portal managed by the California Hospital Association and pulled at 2pm. COVID case statistics are reported by local health departments to CalREDIE and are pulled at 2pm. Hospital data and case statistics are integrated by the California Department of Technology and made available through the Open Data Portal the following morning. CA Open Data Portal is at least 24 Hours behind although a backlog of new case reports at the State level has ostensibly been cleared, some County dashboards still contain notes that indicate data are missing. *California Demographics from State Database Blueprint Data Chart 12-15-20 & census.gov . Presumptive active cases - A calculation (Total Cases - Recovered - Dead) (**a Lot of County sites do not report recovery rates or are only updating once a week)

News

More detail on page **2**

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Daily Situation Reports Archive
https://www.norcocollege.edu/sep/Pages/reports.aspx

News – The collection of news articles are related to COVID-19. The inclusion or order of articles is not intended to reflect their importance, nor is it intended to endorse the political viewpoints or affiliations included in news coverage.

What immunity did having COVID-19 give me? Do I still need a vaccine?

- **Does a coronavirus infection provide protective immunity?**
  - Though protection is decent for those who have previously had COVID-19, health experts say it is not as strong as when people get vaccinated.
  - A prior infection offers protection in the range of 80%, compared to about 95% for the Moderna and Pfizer vaccines, said Dr. John Wherry, director of the Institute for Immunology at the Perelman School of Medicine at the University of Pennsylvania. That means about 15 to 20 out of every 100 people who have previously had COVID-19 could get reinfected, while 5 out of every 100 people who got an mRNA vaccine might get infected.
  - People with more severe infections appear to have stronger antibody responses than those who had milder or asymptomatic infections, Maragakis said. In addition, she said, the status of a person's immune system can also dictate the quantity of antibodies and the quality of their antibody response.
  - Lab studies suggest that protection following a case of COVID-19 begins to wane slightly after about three months, but can last for up to 10 months, although there's a range to that, Wherry said.
  - Scientists still don't know as much about the durability of immunity as they would like, he said. What they expect based on coronaviruses that existed prior to SARS-CoV-2 is that antibodies decline over time.
- **If I had COVID-19, should I take an antibody test?**
  - "Right now there's not a lot of reason for someone to go and get an antibody test unless you're just curious," she said. "I mean, that's one reason, to see if you've been exposed in the past. But the recommendation is to get vaccinated, even if you've had a prior infection with COVID-19, because of that more robust, higher level of antibody response that most people get with vaccination as opposed to natural infection."
- **How does getting one variant protect me from another?**
  - Studies show that the currently available COVID vaccines are effective against the current COVID variants. A study published in July in the New England Journal of Medicine found that two doses of the Pfizer vaccine was 88% effective at preventing symptomatic disease from the delta variant, compared to about 95% for the original virus strain. Data from Israel estimated lower effectiveness against symptomatic disease, but said that the protection against severe illness remains high.
- **How long should I wait to get the vaccine after having COVID-19?**
  - About six weeks, or even up to 90 days.

https://whyy.org/articles/what-immunity-did-having-covid-19-give-me-do-i-still-need-a-vaccine/

RELATED

Covid immunity: Can you catch it twice?

- Nobody had immunity at the start of the pandemic - and knowing more about immunity is crucial for understanding what happens next.
- Understanding of the role of T-cells is still developing, but a recent study found testing negative for antibodies may still have some immunity.

https://www.bbc.com/news/health-52446965

As U.S. promotes booster shots against Covid, moral questions arise over vaccine equity

- "We're planning to hand out extra life jackets to people who already have life jackets, while we're leaving other people to drown without a single life jacket," a WHO official said.
- The announcement Wednesday by top U.S. health officials that booster shots against Covid-19 will be offered to all Americans beginning next month has spurred renewed criticism about existing vaccine inequities and fears that the world's poorer nations will remain unprepared for new and potentially deadlier variants of the coronavirus.
- As the Biden administration formally released its plan, officials and scientists with the World Health Organization and other international public health experts forcefully pushed back at it as "immoral" and "unconscionable."
  https://www.nbcnews.com/health/health-news/u-s-promotes-booster-shots-against-covid-moral-questions-arise-n1277092

California seeing signs delta-fueled COVID surge is slowing

- California enters a crucial phase in its battle against the Delta variant this week — the reopening of schools — with some hopeful signs: The number of people being infected and falling seriously ill with COVID-19 is no longer accelerating at dramatic rates and even beginning to flatten in some areas.
- Many experts are optimistic over the progress, but some officials stressed it's too early to know definitively whether the surge caused by the highly contagious strain is peaking
  https://ktla.com/news/local-news/california-seeing-signs-covid-surge-is-slowing/

Blue Shield's COVID-19 vaccine oversight winds down in California

- Tapped in January to oversee the state's COVID-19 vaccine rollout, Blue Shield of California largely has stepped back from that role, according to the Los Angeles Times.
- The insurer's $15 million contract to oversee California's vaccine rollout was riddled with controversy, as it proved difficult to get county and provider buy-in. While California Gov. Gavin Newsom and Blue Shield of California leadership have said the insurer's oversight sped up distribution and helped saved lives, results from the rollout remain unclear, according to the Times.
- The company's reduced role announced last month closes a controversial chapter in the state's ongoing efforts to combat COVID-19, one that began with questions about the Newsom administration's handling of who should be first in line when supplies were limited and culminated in the governor's surprising decision to put the insurance giant, a longtime political donor, in charge.
- State officials say Blue Shield will remain in an "advisory role" for the duration of its contract with the state, which ends in December. That role allows the state to increase Blue Shield's involvement or seek advice from company officials if a COVID-19 variant requires the state to ramp up distribution of additional vaccine doses, according to a spokesperson from the department of public health.
  https://www.beckershospitalreview.com/payer-issues/blue-shield-s-covid-19-vaccine-oversight-winds-down-in-california.html

  RELATED
  https://www.latimes.com/california/story/2021-08-18/blue-shield-winds-up-california-covid-19-vaccines-contract

Parents pull kids from schools as district bucks CDC guidance and board member spreads misinformation

- It's the third week of school in Cobb County, Georgia, and many parents are livid with what they perceive to be the district's lax Covid-19 protocols and dangerous misinformation being disseminated by a school board member via his official email account.
- Some parents, including those with children suffering from asthma and one whose 13-year-old has a flagging immune system after fending off a rare leukemia as a younger child, are taking their kids out of school, they told CNN.
- I shouldn't have to choose between my children's life and school. That's a no-brainer. I choose my kids."
- Parents describe a bait-and-switch situation. They were asked to choose between virtual and in-person learning in the spring, they say, when the school system was taking precautions -- including requiring masks, social distancing, Plexiglas dividers and limits on cafeteria capacity -- only to find school leaders significantly relaxed the protocols after parents opted for a return to the classroom. The lack of transparency in the decision-making is another frustration, parents say.
- Parents in favor of masks plan a demonstration before the Cobb County Board of Education's monthly meeting Thursday. The meeting's agenda makes no mention of Covid-19 protocols.
  https://www.cnn.com/2021/08/19/health/cobb-county-schools-georgia-covid/index.html

Over 10,000 students in Florida school district isolated or quarantined a week into school year

- Just a week into the school year, over 10,000 students and staff in the Hillsborough County Public Schools district in Florida have been isolated or quarantined as districts across the state grapple with COVID-19.
- Hillsborough is the seventh-largest school district in the U.S., with more than 213,000 students. As of Wednesday, 10,384 students and 338 staffers are isolated or under quarantine, the district told ABC News.
- In total, there were 1,805 COVID-19 cases among students and staff, according to the Tampa-area district's COVID-19 dashboard.
- After a marathon meeting that ran nearly three hours longer than intended, Hillsborough County voted to institute a mask mandate for at least 30 days, but parents will be able to opt their kids out with a note from a medical provider.
  https://abc7chicago.com/florida-covid-masks-in-schools-mask-mandate-hillsborough-county-public/10961580/

CA Mandates Proof Of Vaccination, Testing For Big Indoor Events

- Californians will now have to show proof of vaccination or a negative coronavirus test for events with 1,000 or more guests.
- The new rule comes on the heels of similar mandates for health care workers, hospital visitors and all K-12 school staff.
- "The Delta variant has proven to be highly transmissible, making it easier to spread in large crowds where people are near each other for long periods of time," Dr. Tomás J. Aragón, the state's public health officer, said in a statement. "By requiring individuals to be vaccinated, or test negative for COVID-19 at large events, we are decreasing the risk of infection, hospitalization and death."
- Californians were previously allowed to simply "self-attest" to being vaccinated or having tested negative. But the new rule requires digital or physical proof. Previous guidelines applied only to events with 5,000 or more people; the new rules lowered that threshold to 1,000.
  .https://patch.com/california/lakeelsinore-wildomar/s/hqlnh/ca-mandates-proof-of-vaccination-testing-for-big-indoor-events?utm_source=alert-breakingnews&utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=alert