

Coronavirus Update: Telebriefing for Institutes of Higher Education

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- We continue to see a large number of cases
 - Overall, all indications of transmission increasing are there
 - LA County is now up to 41 new daily cases/100,000
 - Hospitalizations, while low, have again started to increase
 - Many of those hospitalized are older and have underlying health conditions
 - CDC last week moved LA County into medium community level
 - Based on the modeling, if we continue on the current trajectory, we will get to the high community level in next two to three weeks
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- Another level of worry: variants of concern
 - BA.2 is fueling increases
 - Starting to see sub variants (BA2.3 and BA.2.12.1)
 - Each of these variants are increasingly more infectious
 - While this is not a call for alarm, it is a call that we need to go back and revisit the protections that are available to us and reduce the numbers, and slow the spread.
 - Adding masks back in indoor spaces may be an option and makes sense
 - Want business and institutions to introduce masking requirements where spread is highly possible
 - We know that masking works
 - If we move to high level, we will be back to requiring masks
 - **Get prepared that we may move into required indoor masking. Be ready on your campuses.**

QUESTION AND ANSWERS

Q. (From LACCD) Our commencements are outdoors. Graduates will be dressing indoors. What do you recommend we tell our colleges?

A. Wear masks for indoors. No need for masks outdoors, but if they are close together and screaming, spread is possible. Those who are at risk should wear a mask.

Questions: (877) 777-5799