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# The COVID-19 Pandemic

## Epidemiological Modeling and Operational Applications

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# Topics Covered Today

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- *Standard Modeling Concepts*
- *Model Projections & Proper Use*
- *Complements and Alternatives to Standard Modeling Approaches and Intermediate Projection Horizons*

# The COVID-19 Pandemic

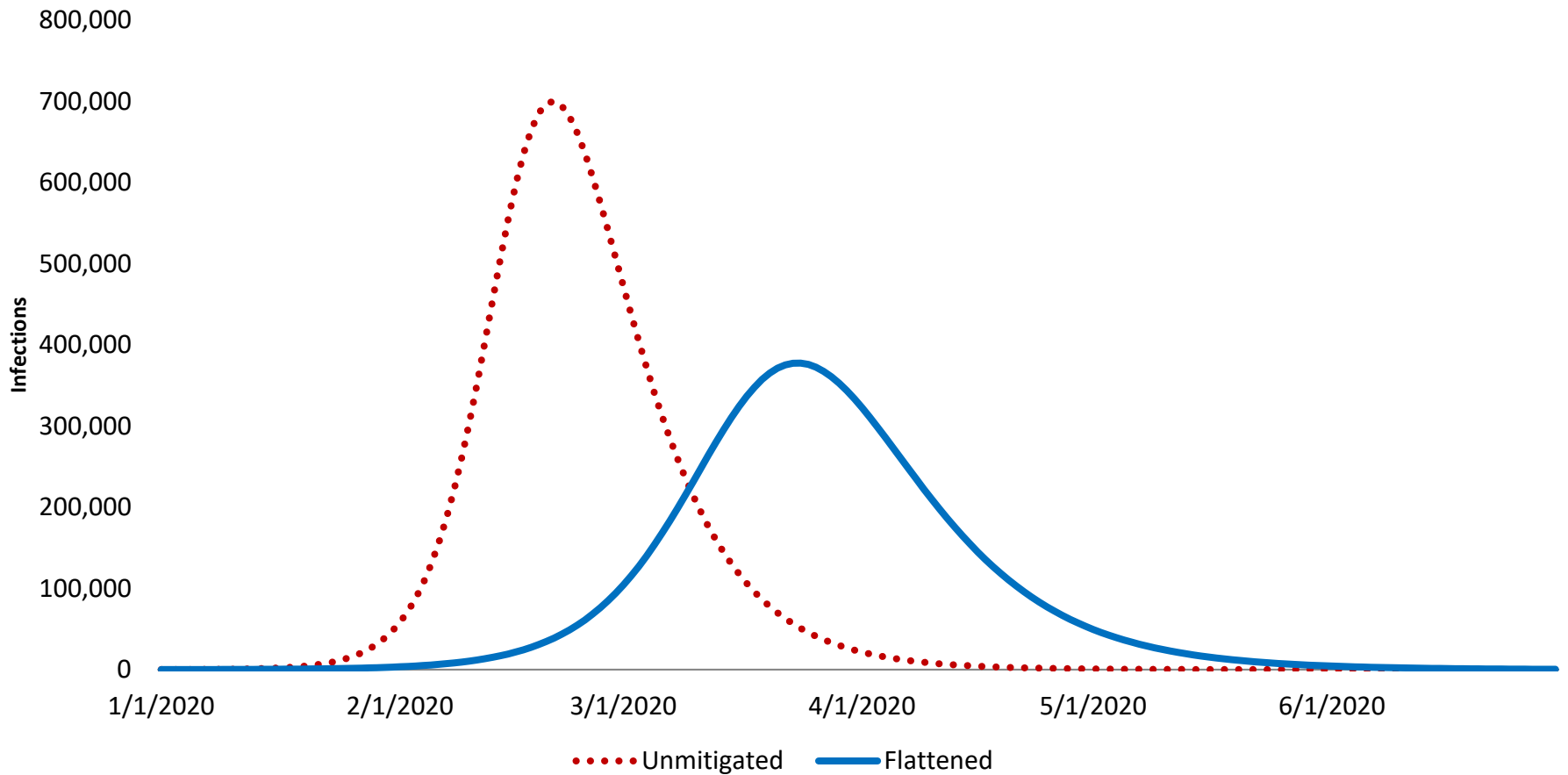
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***Timeline:*** <https://www.nbcnews.com/health/health-news/coronavirus-timeline-tracking-critical-moments-covid-19-n1154341>

## ***Statistics as of 5/10***

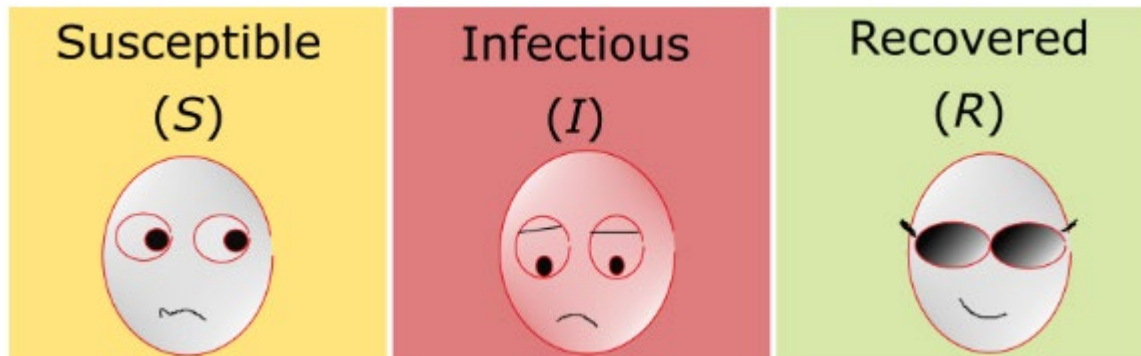
- ***4 Million Infections and 280,000 Deaths Globally***
- ***1.3 Million Infections and 80,000 Deaths U.S.***
- ***6,251 infections and 67 Deaths Utah***

# Flatten the Curve Example



# The Standard Epidemiological Model

## Susceptible, Infected, Recovered (SIR)



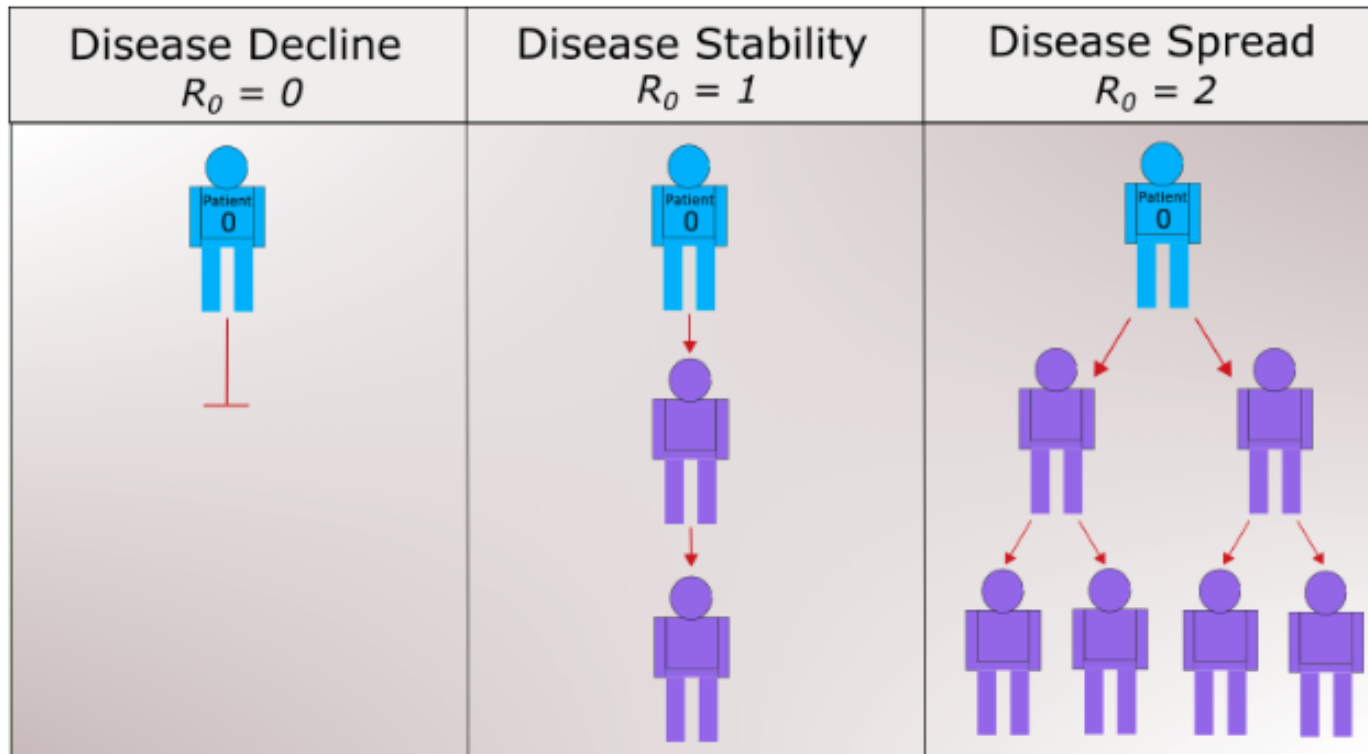
# SIR Model Initial Conditions

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- ***Susceptible: Uninfected & Unrecovered Population***
- ***Infected: Active Infected Population***
- ***Recovered: Post Infection and Not Contagious Population***

# SIR Initial Parameters

- *R-Naught (R-0): Reproduction Rate*



# SIR Initial Parameters

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## R-0 Components

- ***Transmission Rate: Force of Infection***
  - *Contacts: Number of Contacts*
  - *Infectiousness: Probability of Infection*
- ***Recovery Rate: Duration of Infectiousness***



# Ordinary Differential Equations

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*Change in S:  $-\beta * S * I$*

*Change in I:  $\beta * I * S - \gamma * I$*

*Change in R:  $\gamma * I$*

Where

- *S = Susceptible*
- *I = Infected*
- *R = Recovered*
- *Beta = Transmission Rate*
- *Gamma = Recovery Rate*

# Putting it all Together

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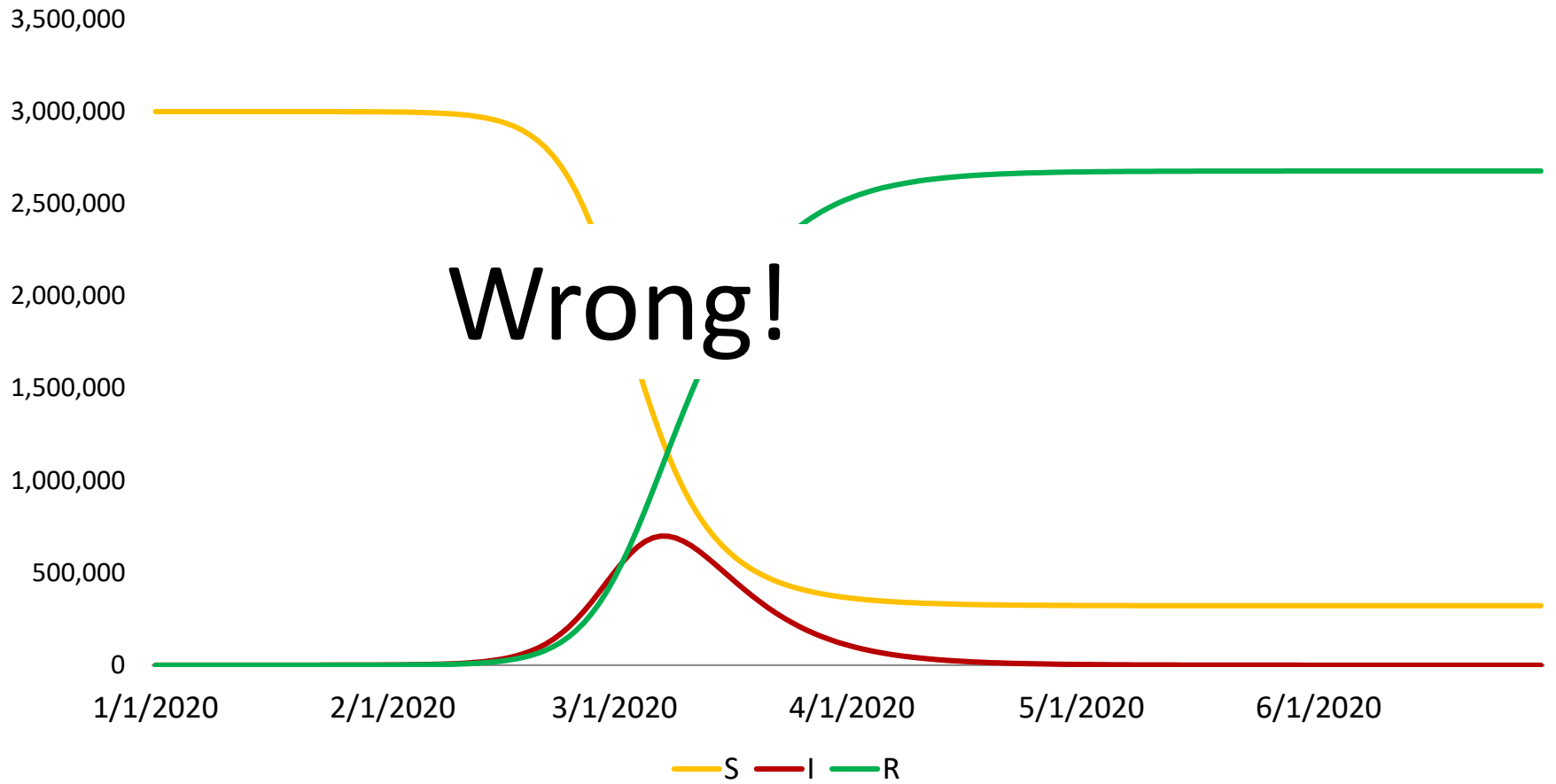
## Initial Conditions

- $S = 2,999,999$
- $I = 1$
- $R = 0$

## Initial Parameters

- *Transmission Rate* =  $0.1282 \cdot 10^{-6}$
- *Recovery Rate* =  $1/6.5$
- $R_0 = 2.5$

# Ta-Da!



# Projections not Forecasts

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## Why was the model so far off?

- ***Basic vs. Advanced Models***
  - Susceptible, Exposed, Recovered, Infected (SEIR)
  - Susceptible, Exposed, Infected, Quarantined (SEIQR)
- ***Much Remains to be Learned***
  - *What are the true disease characteristics?*
- ***Planning Scenarios vs. Predictions***
  - *Projecting a ‘what-if’ not a discrete prediction*

# Weight Loss Analogy



# Planning Scenario Hypotheticals

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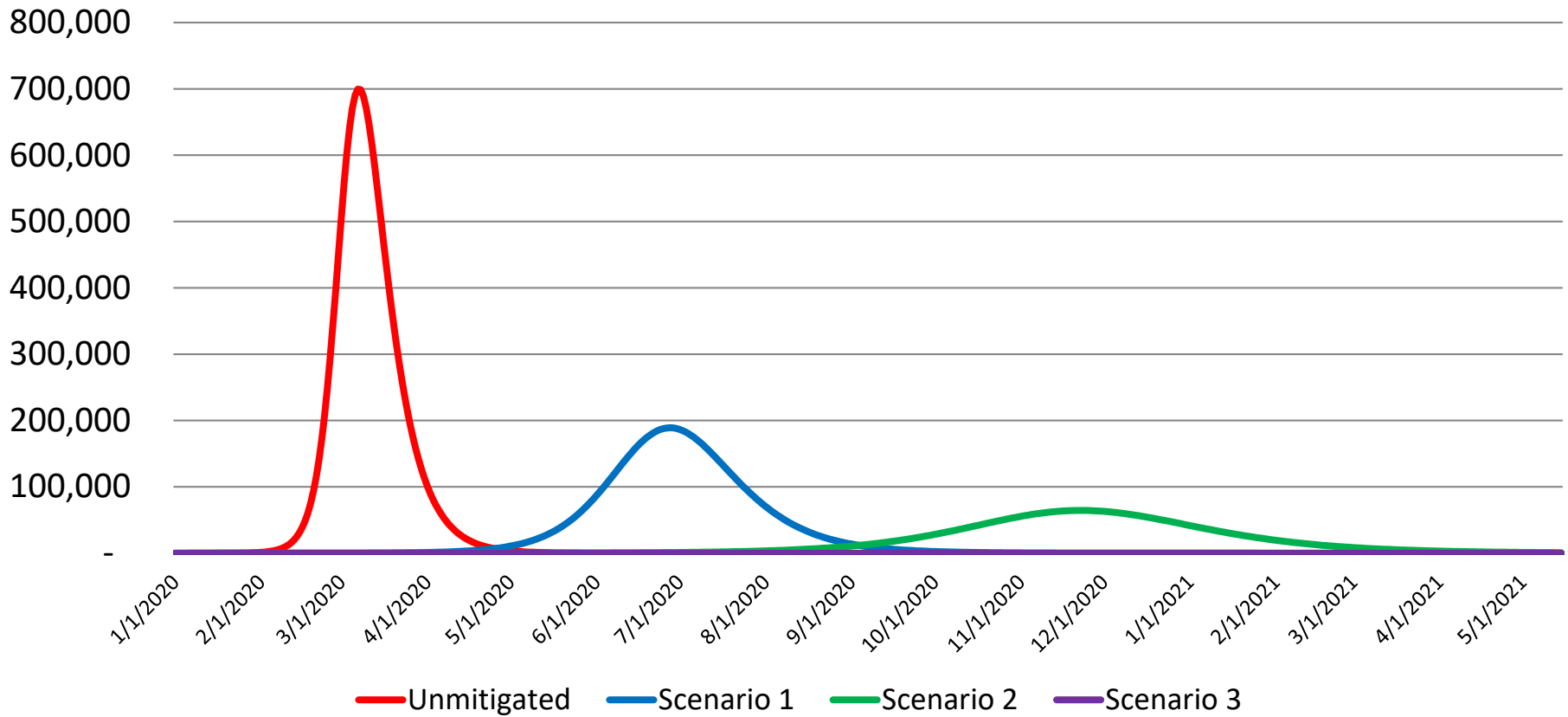
*Unmitigated Transmission: R-0 of 2.5*

*Transmission with Nonpharmaceutical Interventions (NPI)*

- *Scenario 1: Social Distancing ~ R-0 of 1.5\**
- *Scenario 2: Social Distancing + School Closures ~ R-0 of 1.25\**
- *Scenario 3: Social Distancing + School Closures + Widespread Use of Masks: R-0 of 1\**

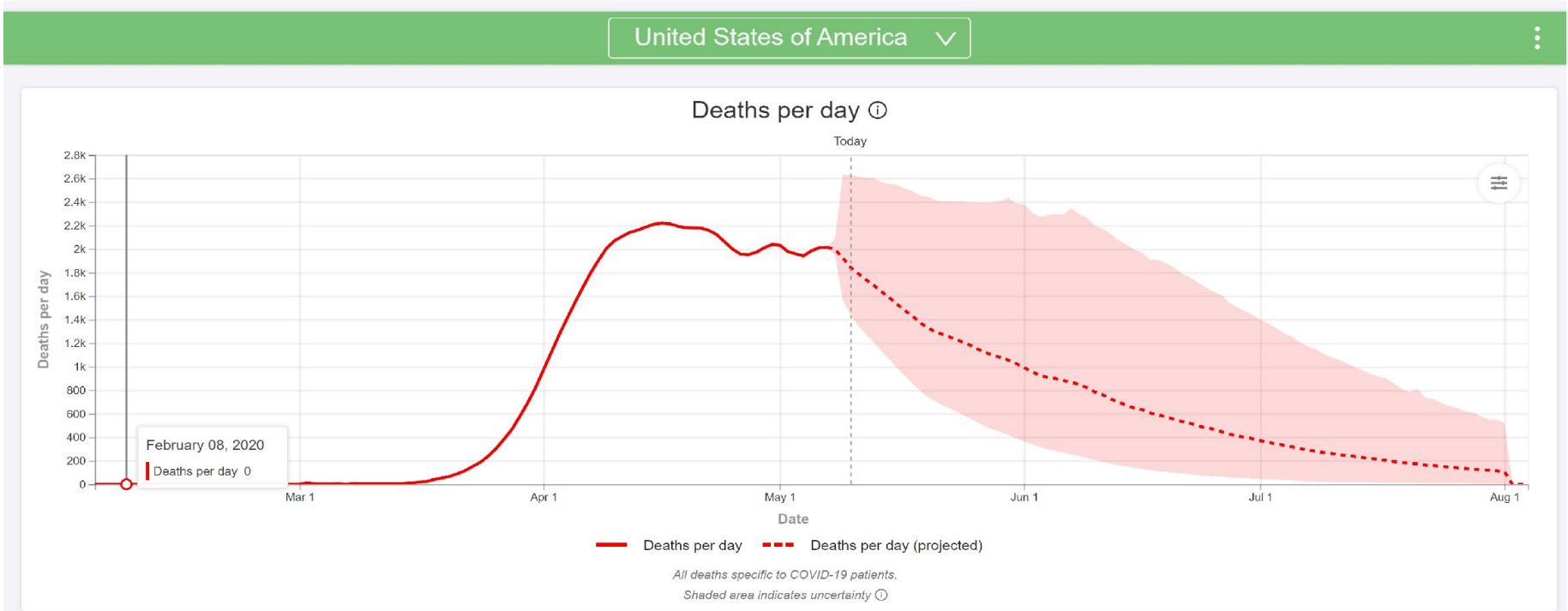
# Planning Scenario Hypotheticals

## Hypothetical Planning Scenario Projections



# National Models

- The Institute for Health Metrics and Evaluation (IHME)  
<https://covid19.healthdata.org/united-states-of-america>






# National Models

- **COVID ActNow:** <https://covidactnow.org/us/ut>

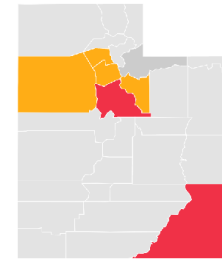


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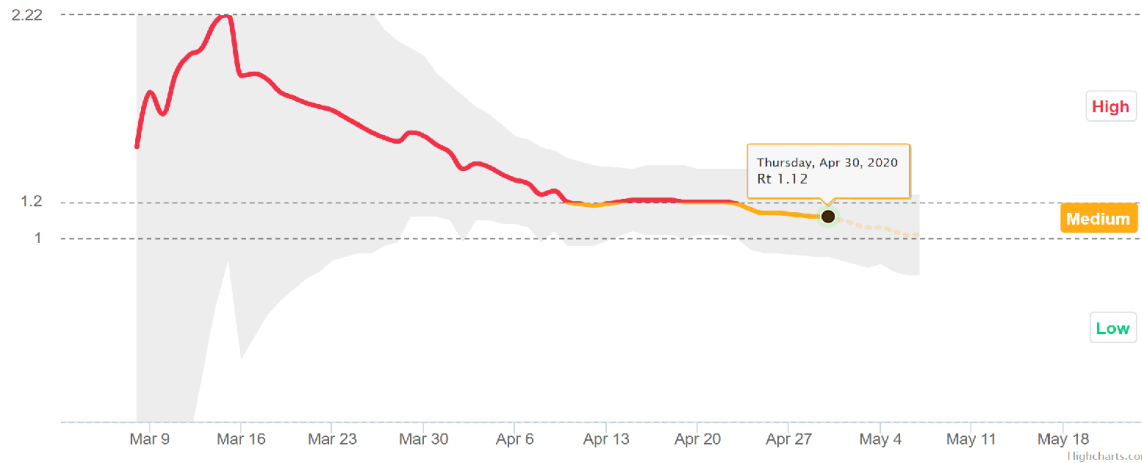
Utah



## Infection growth rate

UTAH

On average, each person in Utah with COVID is infecting 1.12 other people. Because this number is only slightly above 1.0, it means that COVID is growing, but slowly.



# Operational Data Monitoring

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## *Complements and Alternatives to Projections*

- *Operational Data Collection & Monitoring*
  - *Real-time Transmission Rate*
  - *Real-time Hospitalization Occupancy*
  - *Real-time Testing Statistics*
  - *Real-time Point of Origin Monitoring*

# Where does Utah stand today/last week?

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- *>6,000 experienced cases (Utah 30<sup>th</sup> in infections per million population)*
- *~70 Deaths (47<sup>th</sup> in Deaths per million population)*
- *~10% of Cases among >64 years old compared to ~+20% Nationally*

# Where does Utah stand today/last week?

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- *~3,200 estimated active cases*
- *~100 current hospitalizations*
- *Transmission Rate less than ~1.3*
- *60% of Cases Traced to Known Contact*
- *143,000 tests (5<sup>th</sup> highest per capita)*
- *Moved from 'Red' to 'Orange' Risk level*

# Questions?

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## *Contact*

- [natetalley@utah.gov](mailto:natetalley@utah.gov)
- **(801) 538-1556**

## *COVID-19 Resources*

- **CDC:** <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/cases-updates/cases-in-us.html>
- **State of Utah:** <https://coronavirus.utah.gov/>