

# Stanford's Antibodies Study Wraps Up, Shows Covid-19 Is 50x More Prevalent and 50x Less Deadly than Believed

Will this be the stake through Covid Rouge's dark, rotten heart? It should be

By [Dr. John P.A. Ioannidis](#)

Global Research, April 20, 2020

[Anti-Empire](#) 19 April 2020

Region: [USA](#)

Theme: [Intelligence](#), [Science and Medicine](#)

*The heavily anticipated ([at least by Anti-Empire](#)) Stanford University [antibodies test of a representative population](#) has now concluded.*

## Background

Addressing COVID-19 is a pressing health and social concern. **To date, many epidemic projections and policies addressing COVID-19 have been designed without seroprevalence data to inform epidemic parameters.**

**We measured the seroprevalence of antibodies to SARS-CoV-2 in Santa Clara County.** Methods On 4/3-4/4, 2020, we tested county residents for antibodies to SARS-CoV-2 using a lateral flow immunoassay. Participants were recruited using Facebook ads **targeting a representative sample of the county by demographic and geographic characteristics.** We report the prevalence of antibodies to SARS-CoV-2 in **a sample of 3,330 people**, adjusting for zip code, sex, and race/ethnicity. We also adjust for test performance characteristics using 3 different estimates: (i) the test manufacturer's data, (ii) a sample of 37 positive and 30 negative controls tested at Stanford, and (iii) a combination of both.

## Results

The unadjusted prevalence of antibodies to SARS-CoV-2 in Santa Clara County was 1.5% (exact binomial 95CI 1.11-1.97%), and **the population-weighted prevalence was 2.81% (95CI 2.24-3.37%).**

Under the three scenarios for test performance characteristics, the population prevalence of COVID-19 in Santa Clara ranged **from 2.49% (95CI 1.80-3.17%) to 4.16% (2.58-5.70%).**

These prevalence estimates represent a range between 48,000 and 81,000 people infected in Santa Clara County by early April, **50-85-fold more than the number of confirmed cases.**

## Conclusions

**The population prevalence of SARS-CoV-2 antibodies in Santa Clara County implies that the infection is much more widespread than indicated by the number of confirmed cases.**

**Population prevalence estimates can now be used to calibrate epidemic and mortality projections.**

*[Professor Doctor John Ioannidis](#) reports:*

**Dr. Jay Bhattacharya** has more:

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