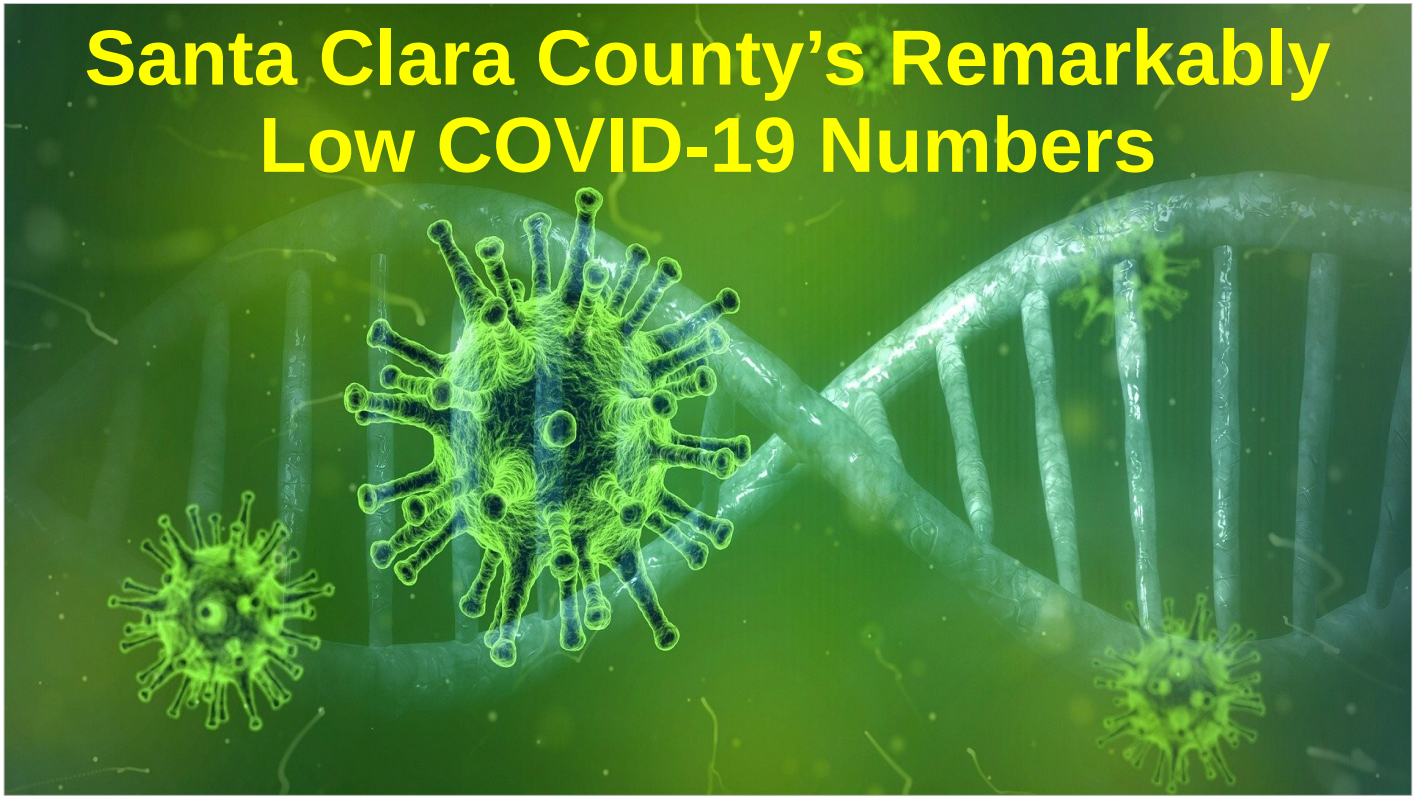


Santa Clara County's Remarkably Low COVID-19 Numbers



Santa Clara County's Remarkably Low COVID-19
Death Numbers

By John F. McGowan, Ph.D.

Date: April 23, 2020

Santa Clara County's Remarkably Low COVID-19 Numbers

Despite numerous seeming missteps in the response to the coronavirus COVID-19 and *close ties to China*, Santa Clara County, California reports extremely low numbers of cases and deaths...so far.

Date: April 23, 2020

increase as the results are received.

Santa Clara County COVID-19 Cases Dashboard Santa Clara County PUBLIC HEALTH

Data last updated April 22, 2020

This dashboard provides detailed data on cases of COVID-19 in Santa Clara County. Due to limited testing capacity, the information reported represents only a small sample of the likely total COVID-19 cases in Santa Clara County. Increased testing availability is expected to increase the number of confirmed COVID-19 cases reported.

Total Cases	New Cases	Total Deaths	New Deaths	Currently Hospitalized	Page Navigation
1962	19	94	6	191	➔ Death Data

Cumulative Cases by Gender

Female	49%
Male	51%
Other	0%
Unknown	0%

Cumulative Cases by Specimen Collection Date

Values for the most recent 5 days will likely increase as additional results are received.

Cumulative Cases by Race/Ethnicity

Race/Ethnicity	Percent of Cases	Percent of Population
African American	2%	2%
Asian	23%	33%
Latino/Hispanic	36%	27%
Other	4%	3%
Unknown	17%	0%
White	19%	34%
Total	100%	100%

Cumulative Cases by Age Group

20 or u...	4%
21-30	12%
31-40	17%
41-50	17%
51-60	18%
61-70	13%
71-80	10%
81-90	5%
90+	3%
Unkno...	1%

New Cases by Specimen Collection Date

Values for the most recent 5 days will likely increase as additional results are received.

Cumulative Cases by City

Source: California Reportable Disease Information Exchange, California Department of Finance.

Note: The graphs do not include 22 patients that did not have a valid date for when their specimen was collected. These patients are included in the total numbers presented above. Case counts for cities with less than 10 cases are not provided. Currently hospitalized includes suspected cases. New cases represent newly identified cases since last reporting. Specimen collection date may vary. *Other category on race/ethnicity graph includes American Indian and deaths without a known race/ethnicity.

Microsoft Power BI 1 of 2

<https://www.sccgov.org/sites/covid19/Pages/dashboard.aspx>

Santa Clara County COVID-19 Cases Dashboard

Only ninety-four (94) deaths from COVID-19 as of April 22, 2020

Seeming Chinese Coverup of Some Sort in December 2019



China seemingly engaged in a coverup of the coronavirus outbreak in December, denying any problem, and punishing those who reported a problem. Presumably they allowed the outbreak to proceed unimpeded for several weeks.

<https://www.npr.org/sections/goatsandsoda/2020/02/08/803766743/critics-say-china-has-suppressed-and-censored-information-in-coronavirus-outbrea>


https://www.reuters.com/article/us-china-health-who-idUSKBN1ZX1H3 50%

WHO chief says widespread travel bans not needed to beat China virus

Stephanie Nebehay 3 MIN READ

GENEVA (Reuters) - World Health Organization chief Tedros Adhanom Ghebreyesus said on Monday there was no need for measures that “unnecessarily interfere with international travel and trade” in trying to halt the spread of a coronavirus that has killed 361 people in China.

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FILE PHOTO: Director-General of the World Health Organization (WHO) Tedros Adhanom Ghebreyesus speaks during a news conference after a meeting of the Emergency Committee on the novel coronavirus (2019-nCoV) in Geneva, Switzerland January 30, 2020. REUTERS/Denis Balibouse

“We call on all countries to implement decisions that are evidence-based and consistent,” Tedros told the WHO executive board, reiterating his message from last week when he declared an international emergency.

WHO Chief says widespread travel bans not needed to beat China virus

<https://www.reuters.com/article/us-china-health-who-idUSKBN1ZX1H3>

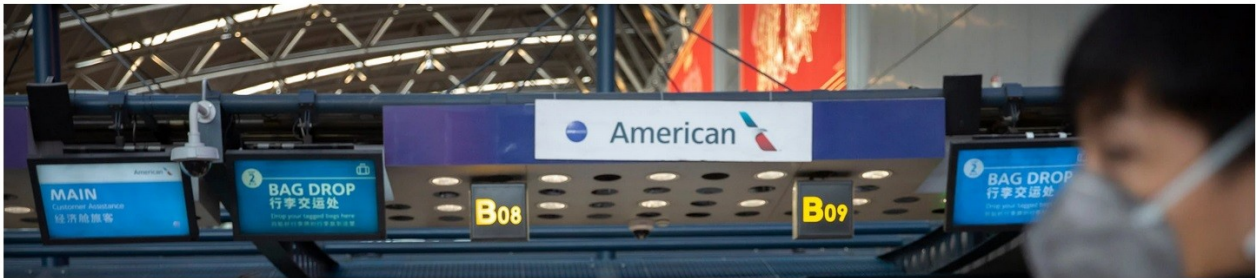


Health experts warn China travel ban will hinder coronavirus response

<https://www.statnews.com/2020/01/31/as-far-right-calls-for-china-travel-ban-health-experts-warn-coronavirus-response-would-suffer/>

430,000 People Have Traveled From China to U.S. Since Coronavirus Surfaced

There were 1,300 direct flights to 17 cities before President Trump's travel restrictions. Since then, nearly 40,000 Americans and other authorized travelers have made the trip, some this past week and many with spotty screening.



430,000 people have traveled from China to the United States since the coronavirus surfaced. In Santa Clara County, California we have extensive ties to China with many residents/workers from China. Many many products are manufactured at factories in China, including Wuhan.

Remarkably, so far, supposedly only 94 coronavirus deaths in the county with almost two million residents (April 22, 2020). ***Too good to be true?***

<https://www.nytimes.com/2020/04/04/us/coronavirus-china-travel-restrictions.html>



The United States CDC badly bungled the coronavirus testing, turning down a working coronavirus test from Germany recommended by the WHO. This is test used in South Korea and Germany for example.

CDC opted to make its own test taking several weeks. The test failed.

Thus US has had limited testing compared to other countries like South Korea and Germany that seem to have contained the pandemic, and notably have tested many more asymptomatic people. They seem to see a much lower mortality rate – no surprise.

<https://www.sciencemag.org/news/2020/02/united-states-badly-bungled-coronavirus-testing-things-may-soon-improve>

Coronavirus outbreak

This article is more than 1 month old

Coronavirus: asymptomatic Wuhan woman shows why outbreak 'will be hard to stop'

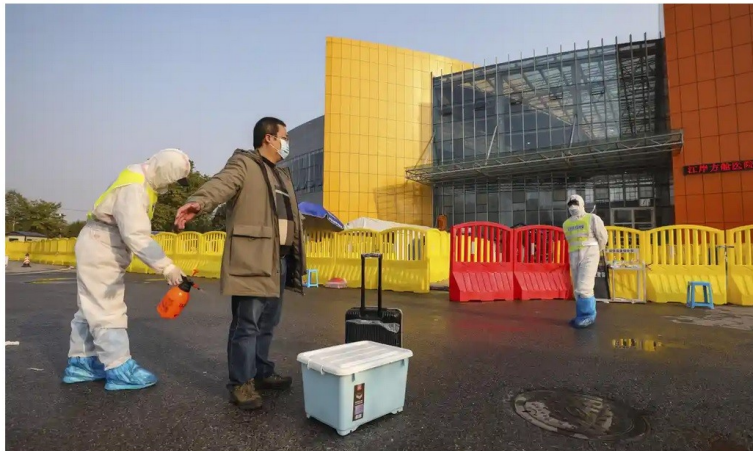
Case study of 20-year-old who infected relatives despite not showing signs of illness - and testing negative - stokes global pandemic fears

Martin Farrer and agencies

Sat 22 Feb 2020
05:20 EST



1365



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Study estimates 86 percent of cases in China undetected.

<https://science.sciencemag.org/content/early/2020/03/24/science.abb3221>

Research Article

Substantial undocumented infection facilitates the rapid dissemination of novel coronavirus (SARS-CoV2)

Ruiyun Li^{1,*}, Sen Pei^{2,*},†, Bin Chen^{3,*}, Yimeng Song⁴, Tao Zhang⁵, Wan Yang⁶, Jeffrey Shaman^{2,†}

See all authors and affiliations

Science 16 Mar 2020:

eabb3221


DOI: 10.1126/science.abb3221

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Review of Aerosol Tran X U.S. Census Bureau Q X Coronavirus (COVID-1 X cupertino at DuckDuc X COVID-19 Antibody St X First COVID-19 related X Health experts warn C X

https://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pmc/articles/PMC3372341/

Journal List > Emerg Infect Dis > v.12(11); 2006 Nov > PMC3372341



Emerg Infect Dis. 2006 Nov; 12(11): 1657–1662. PMID: PMC3372341
doi: 10.3201/eid1211.060426 PMID: 17283614

Review of Aerosol Transmission of Influenza A Virus

Raymond Tellier¹

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See letter "Questioning Aerosol Transmission of Influenza " in volume 13 on page 173.
This article has been cited by other articles in PMC.

Abstract

In theory, influenza viruses can be transmitted through aerosols, large droplets, or direct contact with secretions (or fomites). These 3 modes are not mutually exclusive. Published findings that support the occurrence of aerosol transmission were reviewed to assess the importance of this mode of transmission. Published evidence indicates that aerosol transmission of influenza can be an important mode of transmission, which has obvious implications for pandemic influenza planning and in particular for recommendations about the use of N95 respirators as part of personal protective equipment.

Keywords: Influenza, avian influenza, aerosol transmission, personal protective equipment, pandemic planning, perspective

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<https://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pmc/articles/PMC3372341/>

Review of Aerosol Transmission of Influenza A Virus By Raymond Tellier

Influenza Virus Aerosols

Go to: 

By definition, aerosols are suspensions in air (or in a gas) of solid or liquid particles, small enough that they remain airborne for prolonged periods because of their low settling velocity. For spherical particles of unit density, settling times (for a 3-m fall) for specific diameters are 10 s for 100 μm , 4 min for 20 μm , 17 min for 10 μm , and 62 min for 5 μm ; particles with a diameter <3 μm essentially do not settle. Settling times can be further affected by air turbulence ([10](#), [11](#)).



<https://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pmc/articles/PMC3372341/>

Review of Aerosol Transmission of Influenza A Viruses
By Raymond Tellier

Aerosol transmission of viruses is virtually unstoppable. Remarkably, the extent of aerosol transmission of well known/studied viruses such as the influenza viruses appears to remain unclear and the subject of controversy.

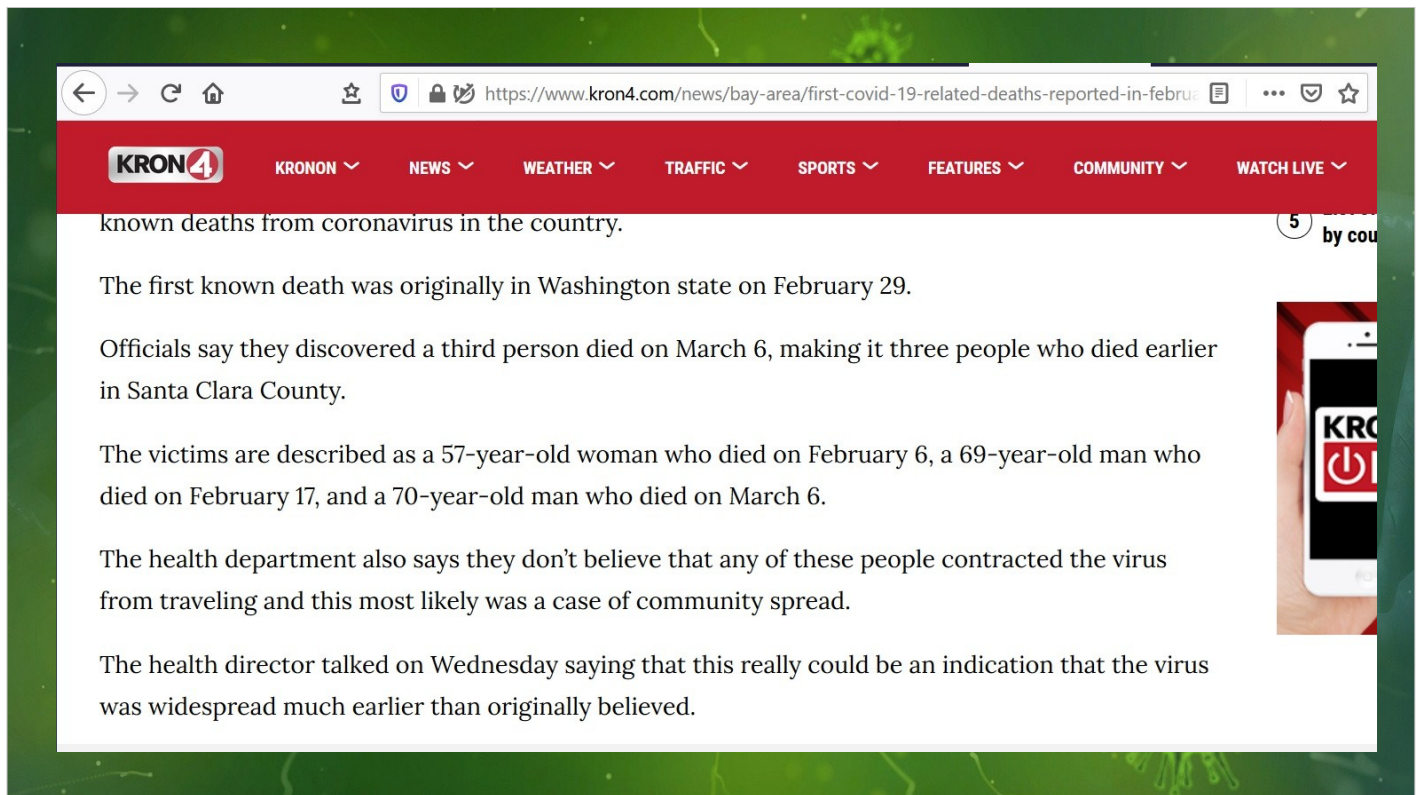
All Topics		Santa Clara County, California
Population estimates, July 1, 2019, (V2019)		1,927,852
White alone, percent		53.1%
Black or African American alone, percent (a)		2.8%
American Indian and Alaska Native alone, percent (a)		1.2%
Asian alone, percent (a)		38.3%
Native Hawaiian and Other Pacific Islander alone, percent (a)		0.5%
Two or More Races, percent		4.1%
Hispanic or Latino, percent (b)		25.3%
White alone, not Hispanic or Latino, percent		31.0%
Population Characteristics		
Veterans, 2014-2018		53,119
Foreign born persons, percent, 2014-2018		38.7%

<https://www.census.gov/quickfacts/santaclaracountycalifornia>

United States Census demographic numbers for Santa Clara County, California

Thirty eight percent of residents self-identify as “Asian” which may include South Asians (India, Pakistan, etc.) and even people of Middle Eastern extraction (e.g. Iran). In common experience, a high fraction, possibly even thirty-eight percent of residents are of Chinese extraction.

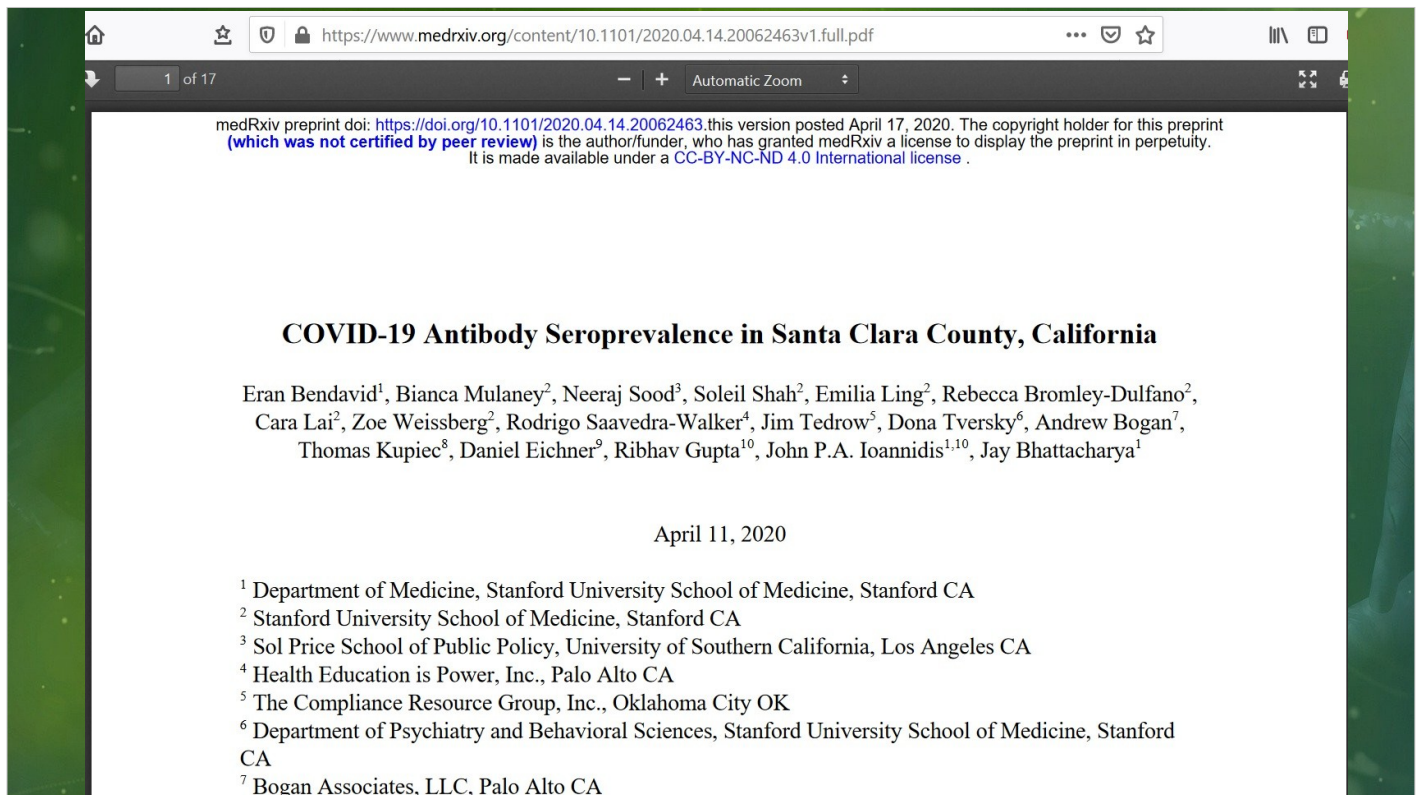
Apple is in Santa Clara County, CA and has close ties to China due to manufacturing.



<https://www.kron4.com/news/bay-area/first-covid-19-related-deaths-reported-in-february-in-santa-clara-county/>

KRON Channel 4 report on discovery of earlier coronavirus COVID-19 deaths in Santa Clara County, California. Earliest death on February 6, 2020, earlier than first known case in Washington State.

Not at all surprising given the close ties between Santa Clara County and China.



<https://www.medrxiv.org/content/10.1101/2020.04.14.20062463v1.full.pdf>

COVID-19 Antibody Seroprevalence in Santa Clara County, California by Eran Bendavid et al

Preliminary results. Not peer reviewed. Bitterly attacked. Suggests infection fatality rate in Santa Clara County is 0.1 to 0.2 percent (much lower than 1.0 percent number widely cited).

Given many problems in coronavirus response and the close ties between China and Santa Clara County, California, results should not be surprising.



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.

<https://www.medrxiv.org/content/10.1101/2020.04.14.20062463v1.full.pdf>

COVID-19 Antibody Seroprevalence in Santa Clara County, California by Eran Bendavid et al

Probably based on about 45 positive antibody test results from sample of 3,330 people recruited using Facebook. This is a *small* number subject to unclear *systematic biases, such as a cluster of facebook friends who were mildly symptomatic.*

Asians (e.g Chinese nationals and Chinese Americans) *underrepresented* in the sample according to preprint.

Why?

- Remarkable Success Despite Missteps
- Lower Infection Fatality Rate (e.g. 0.1 percent) in Santa Clara County
 - For example, warm and sunny helps a lot
- Many unreported cases and deaths?
- Some other reason
- A Combination of Some or All of the Above

Multi-factorial (aka multi-dimensional) data is difficult to analyze. Even if there are only two independent factors controlling mortality from Sars-COV-2 infection, this can produce confusing and even contradictory data and results. There are probably more than two factors involved in COVID-19 (age and pre-existing medical conditions) and there is in addition strong evidence for at least one seasonal factor such as temperature or sunlight levels in historical pneumonia death data.

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