

News, Opportunities and Deadlines for Sep. 2021

LBRN Work In Progress Meeting



Louisiana Biomedical Research Network will have Work In Progress (WIP) meetings Tuesday and Thursdays from **Noon – 1:00 PM**, starting October 5 2021.

These WIP meetings not only provide PUI project investigators with an opportunity to present the research progress of their respective projects to the LBRN community in general and the specifically to the Administrative Core and Core Directors.

The meeting schedule is as follows, and all meetings will be conducted via video conference.

Schedule	Last Name	First Name	University
Tuesday, October 5, 2021	Wright	April	Southeastern Louisiana University
Tuesday, October 5, 2021	Garlapati	Srinivas	University of Louisiana at Monroe
Thursday, October 7, 2021	Chamcheu	Jean Christopher	University of Louisiana at Monroe
Thursday, October 7, 2021	Chaney	Joseph	Xavier University
Tuesday, October 12, 2021	Matthaiolampakis	Georgios	University of Louisiana at Monroe
Tuesday, October 12, 2021	Shultz	Jeffry	Louisiana Tech University
Thursday, October 14, 2021	Murru	Siva	University of Louisiana at Monroe
Thursday, October 14, 2021	Murray	Christopher	Southeastern Louisiana University
Tuesday, October 19, 2021	Kambiranda	Devaiah	Southern University (Baton Rouge)
Tuesday, October 19, 2021	Dutta	Samrat	Xavier University
Thursday, October 21, 2021	Piller	Kyle	Southeastern Louisiana University
Thursday, October 21, 2021	Vladimir	Kolesnichenko	Xavier University
Tuesday, October 26, 2021	*Caldorera-Moore	Mary	Louisiana Tech University
Tuesday, October 26, 2021	Ihachi	Moses	Southeastern Louisiana University
Thursday, October 28, 2021	Salim	Vonny	Louisiana State University Shreveport
Thursday, October 28, 2021	Barabutis	Nektarios	University of Louisiana at Monroe
Tuesday, November 3, 2021	Cvek	Urska	Louisiana State University Shreveport

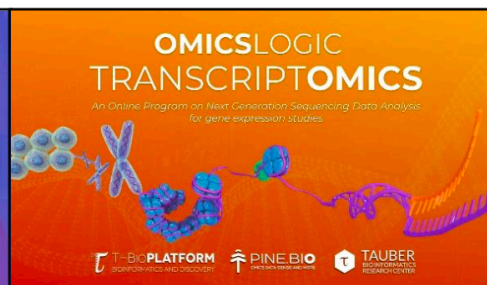
**Pending Approval.*

Details: 20 Minute presentation, 10 Minute Q&A. Schedule to begin with existing projects, after that setup Full/Pilot for each day. We have one Translational, one INBRE-COBRE Supplement.

Data Science & Bioinformatics training for LBRN and LSU students

Free Data Science & Bioinformatics training for LBRN and LSU students.





<u>Getting Started with Bioinformatics</u>	<u>Data Science for Biomedical Data</u>	<u>Bulk and Single Cell Transcriptomics</u>
Beginner	Intermediate	Advanced
An overview of key topics and applications in bioinformatics: from the basics of biology to applications of Big Data.	Learn methods of data wrangling, analysis, visualization, and machine learning as used in analysis of -omics data.	An overview of analysis methods for Bulk and Single Cell RNA-seq analysis and visualization.

- **Complete Assignments at Your Pace with Fully Asynchronous Lessons.**
- Recorded Lectures.
- Online Chat Assistance.
- Program Certificate Upon Completion.

Information Session: September 24th, 2021, 12 PM CST

Program delivery and registration via GeneLab on Omics Logic:

<http://edu.omicslogic.com/lisu-biommed>

- Getting Started with Bioinformatics



- **Data Science for Biomedical Data**

DATA SCIENCE FOR BIOMEDICAL DATA

Learn and practise practical and conceptual aspects of machine learning in application to high-throughput biomedical data using various tools and Python.

- [Bulk and Single Cell Transcriptomics](#)

TRANSCRIPTOMICS

*An Online Program on Next Generation Sequencing Data Analysis
for Gene Expression Studies*

Start Date: All training modules begin October 4th, 2021.

End Date: All access to training modules ends December 31st, 2021.

Registration: To register, see the attached 'How to Register' document and then go to <https://edu.omicslogic.com/lsu-biommed>.

Any Questions? Contact lyutzy1@lsu.edu for more information.

LBRN Achievement



LBRN PI Dr. Kyle Piller received funding from the Louisiana Department of Wildlife and Fisheries (\$177,242) to conduct an environmental DNA survey of an imperiled species in north Louisiana. Title: "Assessing the Conservation Status of the Western Sand Darter, *Ammocrypta clara* (Percidae) using both field and eDNA approaches". Funding period: January 1, 2022 through December 31, 2023.

Dr. Piller is a PI for a full projects supported by LBRN (May 1, 2021 - April 30, 2024).

Title: Life in the fast lane: Testing for congruence among transcriptomic signatures.

Abstract: The specific research objective of this study is to utilize transcriptomics (RNA-Seq) to investigate congruence in the genetic architecture of a group of potential model organisms (annual fishes). The Turquoise Killifish, an annual species, has already been identified as a model organism that has proven useful for the study of the aging process and age-related diseases in humans, but the congruency of its genetic attributes with other potential fish models (non-annuals, facultative annuals, and other annuals), as well as humans, has not been adequately addressed. This study will focus on DNA repair genes for these organisms with different life-histories. The specific hypotheses are as follows: Hypothesis 1: Fishes with an annual life-cycle will possess the same, but differentially expressed, DNA repair genes as other non-annuals and humans. This portion of the study will test for conservation of DNA repair genes (from liver tissues) among Nothobranchid and Rivulid fishes and humans using a transcriptomic approach. It will also

examine differential expression levels to definitively search for congruence in the expression and functionality of these longevity genes and DNA repair genes. Hypothesis 2: Genes involved in the DNA repair process show signs of positive selection in annual and facultative annuals, but not for non-annual species. This comparative genomics approach will be used to identify genes under positive selection, particularly focusing on DNA repair genes. Genes identified as showing positive selection relative to other non-annual species suggests that they are likely to be relevant to the aging process and can be used in future experimental studies to better understand the genetic architecture of the aging process.



LBRN 2021 Summer Research PI, Dr. Teague O'Mara, was awarded the Major Kenneth Dyson Professorship in Biological Sciences. He was also recently published two articles. The first is in Current Biology showing how bats fly exceptionally high & fast using landscape features (press release: <https://www.eurekalert.org/news-releases/708800>, widely covered, many languages & formats).

He was also an author on a large collaborative data paper in Ecology documenting nation-wide mammal biodiversity (press release: <https://www.eurekalert.org/news-releases/642862>, widely covered)".

Save the Date
20th LBRN Annual Meeting

Save the Date: January 28-29, 2022 for the 20th LBRN Annual Meeting

*Save
The Date*

20th LBRN Annual Meeting - 2022

January 28th- 29th, 2022

Further details will be forthcoming through LBRN website and monthly newsletter

 Louisiana Biomedical Research Network

Mark your calendars!

January 2022

Wk	Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
52							1
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
2	9	10	11	12	13	14	15
3	16	17	18	19	20	21	22
4	23	24	25	26	27	28	29
5	30	31					

LSU HPC Training: Introduction to Linux



HPC training will be held on **Wednesday, September 22nd & 29th at 9:00 AM**. Due to concern about the COVID-19 pandemic, all training sessions are Zoom online events from 9:00 AM to 11:00 AM. The sessions will be recorded for later review.

Note that all HPC trainings will start at 9:00 AM.

- **HPC User Environment 1**

Topic : HPC User Environment 1

Date : September 22, 2021

Time : 9:00 AM - 11:00 AM

Place : Zoom Online

Description : This training provides an overview of the HPC/LONI general account and allocation policies, general cluster architecture and HPC hardware and software environment.

Prerequisites :

1. LONI or LSU HPC account
2. Familiarity with Linux/Unix
3. Editors such as vi or emacs
4. SSH client such as Putty for Windows

Registration : <https://forms.office.com/Pages/ResponsePage.aspx?id=P61NLa5Q2UeDoJrisfRm-Gquet-W2uBlu1blHkiYGj1UN1UwOUtHSDRIRVFfaTEMxNUo3UVJFWUwwUi4u>

- **HPC User Environment 2**

Topic : HPC User Environment 2

Date : September 29, 2021

Time : 9:00 AM - 11:00 AM

Place : Zoom Online

Description : This training provides an overview of the HPC hardware and software environment, queuing system, compiling programs, writing submit scripts, running and monitoring jobs on HPC systems.

Prerequisites :

1. LONI or LSU HPC account
2. Familiarity with Linux/Unix
3. Editors such as vi or emacs
4. SSH client such as MobaXterm for Windows

Registration : <https://forms.office.com/Pages/ResponsePage.aspx?id=P61NLa5Q2UeDoJrisfRm-Gquet-W2uBlu1bIHkiYGj1UN1UwOUtHSDRIRVFatEMxNUo3UVJFWUwwUi4u>

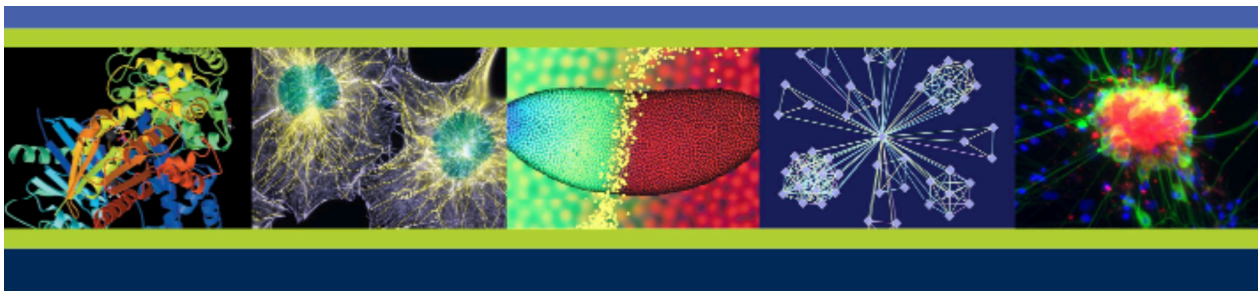
Please visit <http://www.hpc.lsu.edu/training/tutorials.php> for more details and register using the link provided. Users will be provided with a zoom link in their registration confirmation email. Please see the system requirements at <https://support.zoom.us/hc/en-us/articles/201362023-System-Requirements-for-PC-Mac-and-Linux>.

The schedule for the Fall 2021 HPC Training is available at <https://www.hpc.lsu.edu/training/tutorials.php>.

MOSAIC Program Announcements Reissued



NIH Maximizing Opportunities for Scientific and Academic Independent Careers (MOSAIC) Program



The [Maximizing Opportunities for Scientific and Academic Independent Careers \(MOSAIC\)](#) funding opportunity announcements (FOAs) have been reissued. MOSAIC, a trans-NIH initiative that NIGMS oversees, has two components: a postdoctoral career transition award (K99/R00), and a cohort-based mentoring and career development program that supports the scholars (UE5 research education cooperative agreement).

MOSAIC Postdoctoral Career Transition Awards to Promote Diversity (K99/R00)

The MOSAIC K99/R00 program facilitates the timely transition of individuals from [diverse backgrounds](#) from their mentored, postdoctoral research positions to independent, tenure-track or equivalent faculty positions at research-intensive institutions. The program supports those who have demonstrated compelling commitments and contributions to enhancing diversity in the biomedical sciences, and includes three FOAs to accommodate the breadth of research conducted in the mission of participating institutes and centers (ICs):

- [PAR-21-271](#) – Independent Clinical Trial Not Allowed
- [PAR-21-272](#) – Independent Clinical Trial Required
- [PAR-21-273](#) - Independent Basic Experimental Studies with Humans Required

It's important that applicants reach out to the appropriate scientific/research contact prior to applying, since not all NIH ICs participate in these announcements (e.g., NIGMS participates only in PAR-21-271). Applications are accepted three times a year, and the next due date for new applications is **October 27, 2021**.

MOSAIC Institutionally-Focused Research Education Cooperative Agreement to Promote Diversity (UE5)

UE5 awards are made to independent organizations (e.g., scientific societies) to support educational activities that equip [MOSAIC K99/R00 scholars](#) with professional skills and provide them with the appropriate mentoring and professional networks to allow them to transition into, advance, and succeed in independent academic research careers at research-intensive institutions. NIH will specify areas of programmatic need for each receipt date, reflecting the

disciplinary backgrounds of the MOSAIC K99/R00 scholars, through a [notice of special interest](#) to the MOSAIC UE5 announcement. Only applications aligned with these areas of need will be accepted for review. The areas of programmatic need for the upcoming receipt date are:

- Neuroscience
- Microbiology and immunology
- Clinical and translational physiology and pathophysiology of multiple human organ systems

We encourage organizations interested in the UE5 funding opportunity ([PAR-21-277](#)) to reach out to the NIH scientific/research contacts listed in the FOA to learn more about the suitability of your proposed application for the MOSAIC program and the funding priorities of participating NIH ICs. The next application due date is **November 18, 2021**.

Fall 2021 NIH Virtual Seminar on Program Funding and Grants Administration



If you're new to working with the NIH grants process as an investigator or administrator, then mark your calendar for Monday, November 1 – Thursday, November 4 for a unique opportunity to learn, share and meet virtually with NIH and HHS experts. The NIH is offering a virtual seminar that you

won't want to miss! Here are our top five reasons:

#1: Four days of sessions with live and simu-live sessions, as well as an on-demand video library

#2: Three tracks designed around grants policies, processes, case-studies and Q&As

#3: Live chats one-on-one with NIH & HHS experts on the grants process and policies

#4: Downloadable resources to reuse and/or share with others at your institution

#5: Registration is free! Yes, you read it right.

Are you excited yet? Visit our [Save the Date](#) page and sign-up to be notified when registration opens. We hope to “see” you there!

To learn more about this and similar events check out the [NIH Regional Seminar Home Page](#) and sign up for our listserv while you're there.

2021 LBRN Projects

First Name	Last Name	University	Project Type	Project Title
Nektarios	Barabutis	University of Louisiana at Monroe	INBRE COBRE Collaboration	<i>Protective Role of Activating Transcription Factor 6 (ATF6) against endothelial barrier dysfunction</i>
Jean Christopher	Chamcheu	University of Louisiana at Monroe	Full	<i>Development of fisetin as a novel inhibitor co-targeting PI3K/AKT/mTOR/Rac1 and IL-17A for Treating Psoriasis</i>
Joseph	Chaney	Xavier University	Pilot	<i>Applying the Brakes: Understanding the Role of the Conformational Changes in the Kinesin-5</i>
Urska	Cvek	Louisiana State University Shreveport	Translational	<i>Disparities in Breast Cancer Treatment Outcomes: Improving Access with Health Informatics</i>
Samrat	Dutta	Xavier University	Pilot	<i>Diagnostic Cancer Imaging in the Mid-Infrared Using Novel Contrast Agents</i>
Srinivas	Garlapati	University of Louisiana at Monroe	Full	<i>Mechanism of translation initiation in protozoan parasite Giardia lamblia</i>
Moses	Ihachi	Southeastern Louisiana University	Pilot	<i>Aryl-fused (Imidazole, Pyrazine and Pyrrole) Boronated Dye Derivatives</i>
Devaiah	Kambiranda	Southern University Baton Rouge	Full	<i>Proteasomes/immunoproteasomes: Role of lipid rafts in compartmentalization/activation in e-cigarettes vapor exposed lung epithelial cells</i>
Georgios	Matthaiolampakis	University of Louisiana at Monroe	Full	<i>miR-mediated Inhibition of Lung Cancer Progression</i>
Christopher	Murray	Southeastern Louisiana University	Pilot	<i>Alligators as Models for Human Pathology: Neuroendocrine Effects of Methyltestosterone Exposure</i>
Siva	Murru	University of Louisiana at Monroe	Full	<i>Development of Pyrazoles and Related Heterocyclic Compounds as Anti-Cancer Agents: Design, Synthesis and Anti-cancer Activity Studies</i>
Erika	Perez	Xavier University	Startup	<i>The interaction between kainate (KRs) and nicotinic acetylcholine receptors (nAChRs) in modulating nicotine-associated behaviors.</i>
Kyle	Piller	Southeastern Louisiana University	Full	<i>Life in the fast lane: Testing for congruence among transcriptomic signatures</i>
Yogesh	Saini	Louisiana State University	INBRE COBRE Collaboration	<i>Protective Role of Activating Transcription Factor 6 (ATF6) against endothelial barrier dysfunction</i>
Vonny	Salim	Louisiana State University Shreveport	Full	<i>Elucidation of Plant-Derived Drug Biosynthetic Pathways and Molecular Mechanisms as Anticancer Agents</i>
Jeffry	Shultz	Louisiana Tech University	Pilot	<i>Identifying Lethal Alleles in Human</i>
Kolesnichenko	Vladimir	Xavier University	Pilot	<i>Cancer-Specific Magnetic Imaging Agent</i>
April	Wright	Southeastern Louisiana University	Full	<i>Modeling Heterogeneous Data Sources for Time-Scaling Phylogenetic Trees</i>

2021 Southeast Regional IDeA Conference



2021 Southeast Regional IDeA Conference

November 12-14, 2021
San Juan, Puerto Rico

The Puerto Rico IDeA Network of Biomedical Research Excellence is honored to host the 2021 Southeast Regional IDeA Conference in San Juan, Puerto Rico on November 12-14, 2021. The Regional Conference has served as an important platform for faculty, postdoctoral, and student scientists of the Southeastern IDeA States and Puerto Rico to discuss matters of science, administrative policy, and best practices in a cordial and interactive scholarly environment.

* COVID-19 TEST REQUIREMENTS FOR ENTRY

LBRN encourage you and your students to submit abstracts for Oral and Poster Presentations. LBRN will be able to support travel for up to two Faculty members and two students Students subject to abstract selection and Admin core review. There is a possibility that the conference may also include virtual participation.

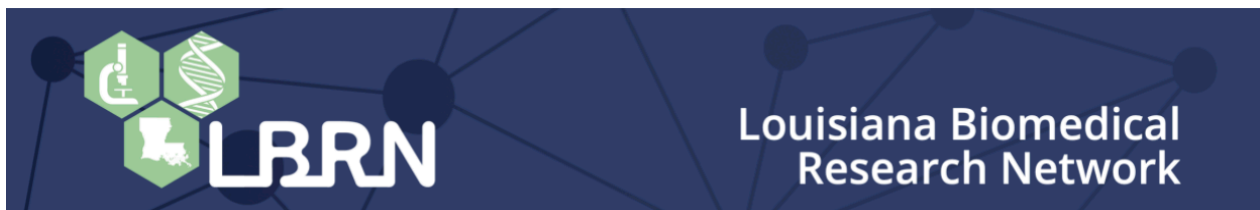
The abstract submission deadline is September 13.

Hurricane IDA



All of us LBRN admin send our heartfelt thoughts and well wishes to those of you who have been affected by Hurricane Ida and the subsequent Tropical Storms. We sincerely hope that you, your loved ones, and colleagues are safe and secure.

LBRN "Core Bucks"



The BBC Core and MCBR Core offer researchers the opportunity to earn “Core Bucks” to support faculty and students upto \$1500. Requests for Core Bucks from Member Institutions must be initiated through the respective Core Contact on campus.



- The Bioinformatics, Biostatistics, and Computational Biology Core (BBC Core)

The BBC Core serves to train and support project investigators and their teams across Louisiana. It works to enable Louisiana Biomedical Research Network project PIs and their teams to employ Louisiana cyberinfrastructure (especially high performance computing), and to provide bioinformatics services, training, and educational support.

The core provides bioinformatics training, conducts workshops, and provides bioinformatics analysis services. The core also provides access to the IBM Delta Cluster and has a dedicated BBC allocation for the high performance computing resources at LSU. The BBC Core maintains software licenses and access to Ingenuity Pathway Analysis (IPA), Partek Flow, DNASTAR, and Ion Torrent analysis software. In addition, several open source tools for bioinformatics such as bowtie, tophat, cufflinks, samtools, GATK, QIIME, DADA2, Phyloseq, etc. are installed and maintained.

Some examples of standard bioinformatics workflows that can be supported through core bucks requests:

- Gene Pathway Analysis
- RNA-Sequencing Processing and Analysis
- 16S rRNA Microbial Community Analysis
- ITS2 Fungal Community Analysis

Other workflows can be developed or adapted from existing software on an as needed basis.

For more information, see: <http://lbrn.lsu.edu/resources/cores>



- The Molecular and Cell Biology Resources Core (MCBR Core)

MCBR Core Services include both one-on-one training for faculty and students as well as workshops on topics like bioinformatics and protein purification.

Sample services:

1. Molecular Biology Reagent Equipment and Services

- GeneLab provides conventional and next generation nucleic acid sequencing (NGS), and recombinant DNA Service. NGS equipment includes Torrent PGM, Ion Proton etc
- NGS Services provides a reliable connection between NGS experiments and the analysis of NGS data

2. Protein Production, Purification and Characterization Laboratory

- Protein Purification and Characterization includes semi automated Bio-rad profinia affinity chromatography system, AKTA Explorer FPLC system, and HPLC and ultracentrifugation equipment
- Peptide Synthesis and purification
- Protein-protein interactions are investigated using primarily Surface Plasmon Resonance (SPR) implemented on Biacore and ForteBio SPR equipment. Additional physicochemical characterization of protein-protein interactions is available through collaborations with the LSU Department of Chemistry.
- Gene-to-Protein-to-Antibody Services – you provide the gene, we return an antibody

3. Molecular Immunopathology Laboratory Services

- Pathology Services including necropsy procedures, gross and histopathological examinations and interpretation of immunohistochemistry and special stains performed by veterinarians and histology specialists
- Flow Cytometry and immunophenotyping Services
- Multiplex/Luminex complements immunophenotyping services for rapid and standardized analysis of soluble factors e.g., lymphokines, using bead based array technology.
- Microscopy – contains transmission and scanning electron microscopes, a laser dissection microscope, a Leica TCS SP2 for 3D fluorescence microscope, and a highthroughput digital slide-scanner.

Postdoc Symposium

Sponsored by the National Postdoc Association, NPA, JoLS, Journal of Life Sciences, a postdoc community initiative, is hosting the first international virtual symposium to showcase and highlight postdoc contributions to ongoing research across disciplines. The symposium is scheduled for **28th and 29th of October.**

The goals of the symposium are two-fold:

1. To highlight and showcase postdocs' contributions to ongoing research and development across disciplines, and
2. To recognize postdoc mentors' efforts in training the the nextgen leaders in research and academia. Early bird registration just opened-up at

https://www.journaloflifesciences.org/postdoc_symposium.aspx, and participants can avail of multiple travel grants for any upcoming conference of their choice.

Symposium participation is open to former and future postdocs as well.

Attached is a Call for Volunteers for interested postdocs to get involved in organizing various activities.

presents

The JoLS Postdoc Symposium October 28 – 29, 2021

Sponsored by the National Postdoctoral Association

- Virtual conference to showcase postdoc research
- Networking among postdocs in various disciplines
- Recognition of outstanding postdocs

Who:

- Postdocs
- Future and former postdocs
- All disciplines
- All countries

Where:

- Virtual platform

What:

- Oral and poster presentations
 - Monetary awards
 - Abstracts published in JoLS
- Keynote speakers
- Career panels
- Virtual networking sessions

When:

- Abstract deadline: September 30
- Registration costs:
 - \$100: Early bird, September 10
 - \$150: Regular, September 30
 - \$200: Late, October 15

Why:

- Win money and earn awards!
- Hear talks from various disciplines!
- Compete in virtual contests!
- Build your networking skills!
- Learn about careers after postdoc!

How:

- Register and submit abstract:



https://www.journaloflifesciences.org/postdoc_symposium.aspx

Questions?

- Symposium@postdocjournal.com
- Info@JournalofLifeSciences.org

Louisiana Coronavirus (COVID-19) Information

Key Things to Know About COVID-19 Vaccines

What You Need to Know

- **COVID-19 vaccines are effective at helping protect against severe disease and death from variants** of the virus that causes COVID-19 currently circulating, including the Delta variant.
- **[If you are fully vaccinated](#) you can resume many activities that you did before the pandemic, but you should wear a mask indoors in public if you are in an area [of substantial or high transmission](#)** to maximize protection from the Delta variant and possibly spreading it to others.
- You may have [side effects](#) after vaccination. These are normal and should go away in a few days.
- [Learn how to find a COVID-19 vaccine](#) so you can get it as soon as you can.

What We Are Still Learning

- How well the vaccines protect people with weakened immune systems, including people who take medicines that suppress the immune system
- How long COVID-19 vaccines protect people
- How many people have to be vaccinated against COVID-19 before the population can be considered protected (population immunity)
- How effective the vaccines are against new variants of the virus that causes COVID-19

Safety

Millions of people in the United States have received COVID-19 vaccines, and these vaccines have undergone the most intensive safety monitoring in U.S. history. This monitoring includes using both established and new safety monitoring systems to make sure that COVID-19 vaccines are safe. COVID-19 vaccines cannot give you COVID-19. Learn more to [bust myths and learn the facts about COVID-19 vaccines](#).

CDC has developed a new tool, **v-safe**, to help us quickly find any safety issues with COVID-19 vaccines. [V-safe](#) is a smartphone-based, after-vaccination health checker for people who receive COVID-19 vaccines. Learn how the federal government is [working to ensure the safety of COVID-](#)

Variants and Vaccines

- FDA-authorized COVID-19 vaccines help protect against [Delta and other known variants](#).
- These vaccines are effective at keeping people from getting COVID-19, getting very sick, and dying.
- To maximize protection from the [Delta variant](#) and prevent possibly spreading it to others, you should wear a mask indoors in public if you are in an [area of substantial or high transmission](#) even if you are fully vaccinated.
- We don't know how effective the vaccines will be against new variants that may arise.

Louisiana COVID-19 Information

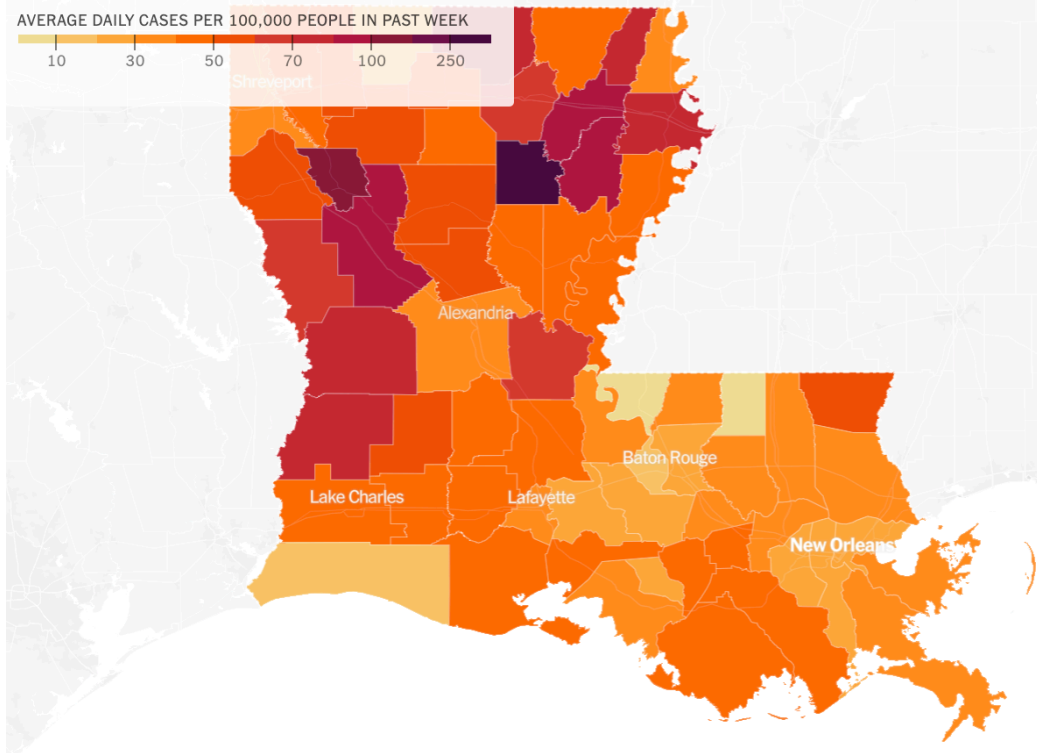
COVID-19 is again on the rise in Louisiana as state officials urge residents to get vaccinated to stave off the rapidly spreading delta variant.

[The Louisiana Department of Health](#) this week reported the most new coronavirus cases in the state since mid-February — a time when vaccines weren't available to a broad section of the population and the nation emerged from a crushing winter surge. Officials warned that the virus's more-transmissible delta variant, first detected in India, is running rampant among unvaccinated residents and hospitals are reporting growing patient numbers.

The following information was provided by [The New York Times Interactive Coronavirus website](#).

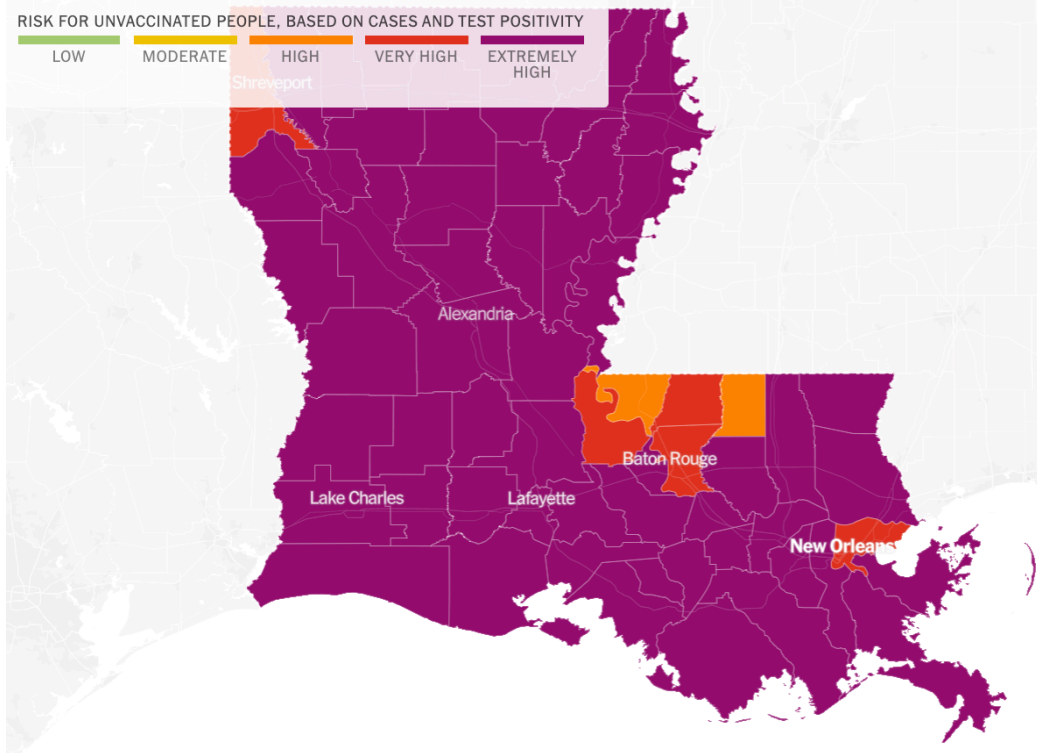
Hot spots

AVERAGE DAILY CASES PER 100,000 PEOPLE IN PAST WEEK

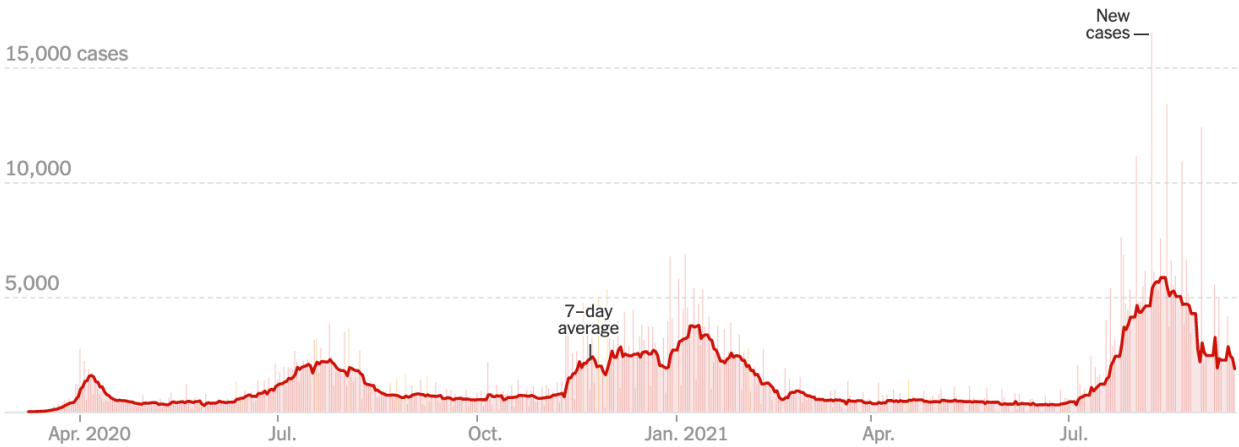


Risk levels

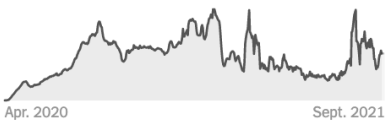
RISK FOR UNVACCINATED PEOPLE, BASED ON CASES AND TEST POSITIVITY



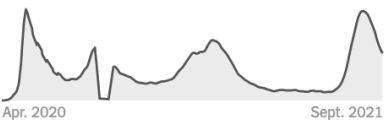
New reported cases



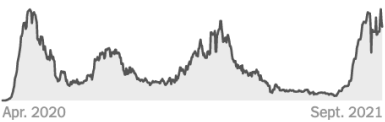
Tests



Hospitalized



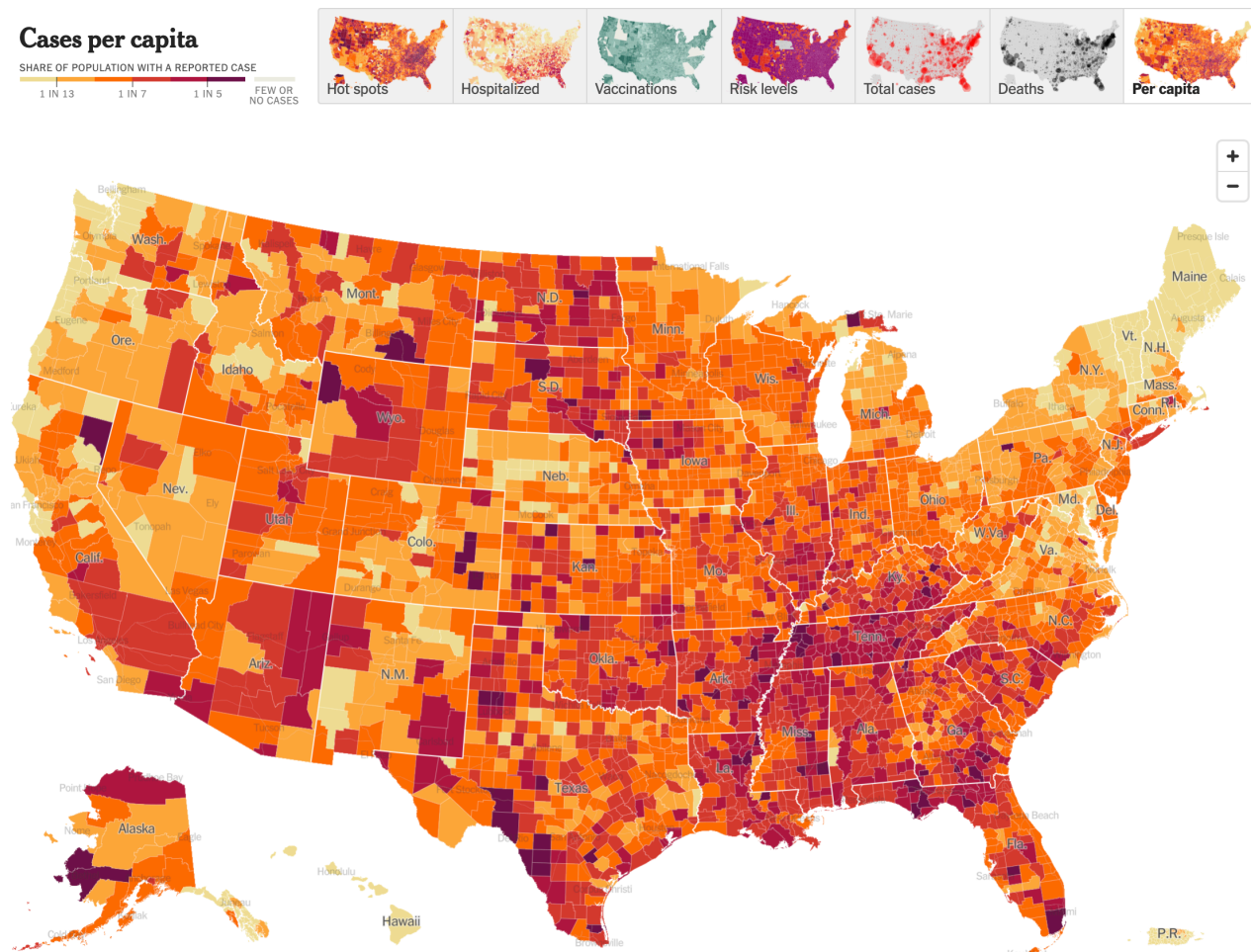
Deaths



	DAILY AVG. ON SEPT. 16	14-DAY CHANGE	TOTAL REPORTED
Cases	1,865	-27%	723,458
Tests	15,517	-14%	—
Hospitalized	1,457	-35%	—
Deaths	53	+4%	13,366

Cases per capita

SHARE OF POPULATION WITH A REPORTED CASE
1 IN 13 1 IN 7 1 IN 5 FEW OR NO CASES



We remind everyone of the information provided here on our website: [LBRN COVID-19](#).

NIH Extramural Nexus



- **Register for the Fall 2021 NIH Virtual Seminar on Program Funding and Grants Administration!**

Are you ready to learn more about the NIH grants process while connecting with NIH/HHS

staff and collecting resources to share with your team? This fall, the NIH is bringing back the NIH Virtual Seminar on Program Funding and Grants Administration directly to your computer... FREE of charge! Mark your calendar for Monday, November 1 – Thursday, November 4!

This event is designed to demystify the NIH grant application, review, award and post-award processes and policies! [Register today](#) and be sure to check out all the networking opportunities taking place during the seminar, including new ways to chat one on one with NIH and HHS experts, interact with attendees, and make the most of the seminar.

If you're new to working with the NIH grants process as an investigator or administrator, join us as we connect and collaborate! Here's what to expect:

- [Free registration!](#) Yes, you read it right.
- [Four-day event](#) with live sessions, as well as an on-demand video library
- [Three concurrent sessions](#) designed around grants policies and programs, including case studies and Q&As
- [Live chat opportunities](#) with NIH and HHS experts on the grants process, policies, and programs
- [Downloadable resources from over 45 booths](#) to reuse and/or share with others at your institution.

• NIH Natural Disaster Policy Reminder – Hurricanes Henri and Ida

If your institution closes due to severe weather or other natural disasters, NIH has policies in place to help your research to continue. We recently published an NIH Guide Notice that reminds those impacted by [Hurricanes Henri and Ida](#) about the flexibilities for application and report submission provided by these policies.

For more resources, including guidance on animal welfare issues, check our [Extramural Response to Natural Disasters](#) page.

• Clarified Guidance for Applicants Preparing Applications During the COVID-19 Pandemic

We continue to receive questions about how to address issues in grant applications related to lost

productivity and other pandemic-related issues. NIH recently issued a clarification indicating that while grant applications should not include contingency or recovery plans for problems resulting from the COVID-19 pandemic, investigators may address effects due to the pandemic on productivity or other scoreable issues in the personal statement of the biosketch. Reviewers will be instructed to take these pandemic-related circumstances into account when assessing applicants' productivity and other score-driving factors. If needed, NIH staff will request and assess plans to resolve specific problems arising from the COVID-19 pandemic prior to funding. This clarification was announced in [NOT-OD-21-180](#).

Applicants should know that NIH will allow the submission of a one-page update with preliminary data as post-submission materials for applications submitted for the May 2022 council (applications submitted beginning with September 25, 2021 due dates for spring 2022 review meetings), provided that the funding opportunity announcement allows preliminary data. As with [other type of post submission materials](#), information must be submitted no later than 30 days before the study section meeting unless specified otherwise in the FOA. One page of preliminary data will be accepted for single component applications or for each component of a multi-component application.

Because applications for emergency competitive revisions and urgent competitive revisions undergo expedited review, post-submission materials will not be accepted for those applications. See details in [NOT-OD-21-179](#).

• **Extension of COVID Flexibilities for Method of Instruction in the Responsible Conduct of Research**

NIH (together with AHRQ and HRSA) will extend the existing COVID flexibilities permitting online training in the responsible conduct of research through December 31, 2021, even if the declared public health emergency is rescinded before then. Grant recipients do not need to seek prior approval to do so.

These flexibilities apply to all awards requiring instruction in the responsible conduct of research, including research training grants (e.g., T32, T34, T35), fellowships (e.g., F30, F31, F32), individual and institutional career development awards (e.g., K01, K08, K12/KL2, K23), and research education awards (e.g., R25).

For more details, see the full [Guide Notice](#).

• Case Study in Review Integrity – The Seminar Trip

A series to raise awareness, encourage dialog and inspire creative problem solving for challenges in maintaining integrity in peer review.

Imagine you have been invited to present a seminar at a prestigious research university. Because the invitation came from graduate students and postdocs, who always engage in fresh and stimulating discussions about research, you accept the invitation.

The scenario below was reported to us by an NIH reviewer and clearly occurred before travel and other restrictions due to the COVID pandemic were in place. Nonetheless, it presents a cautionary tale about a breach of review integrity in the guise of a normal professional interaction (we've changed details and removed names).

As often occurs on seminar trips, you are scheduled to meet with students and postdocs first, then with individual faculty before the seminar, and finally to join a small group of the faculty, including the Department Chair, for dinner off-site. As also often happens, you are an appointed member of an NIH study section and had reviewed a number of applications from this department.

As expected, you enjoy interacting with the students and postdocs in a lively conversation about their research projects. However, you feel uncomfortable when a postdoc produces a summary statement from the review of an application by the study section where you are a member and wants to discuss a rebuttal. You politely decline to discuss the application or summary statement, explaining that doing so would violate review integrity.

Next, in meetings with individual faculty members, you hear thinly veiled references to funding woes, complaints that applications submitted to your study section had not been funded, and general criticism about NIH peer review.

The pressure continues through dinner, where the conversation turns to discussions of specific applications that had been reviewed by your study section. In the end, you regret having made the trip.

The NIH recognizes that professional interactions, including seminar trips, must continue while individuals serve in NIH peer review. However, pressuring an NIH reviewer or discussing applications in the review process with a reviewer is a serious violation of NIH peer review integrity (see [Integrity and Confidentiality in NIH Peer Review](#))

Below, we offer some practical tips for avoiding pitfalls of review integrity and making seminar trips enjoyable for all involved.

Tips for officials of applicant organizations/host institutions:

- Notify faculty, postdocs, and students in host departments that discussions of specific NIH

applications with reviewers and Council members are prohibited.

- Meet with the speaker in open groups, rather than in private or behind closed doors.
- Avoid lavish dinners, honoraria, or other gifts that may be viewed as incentives.

Tips for reviewers and Council members, before accepting the invitation:

- Clarify that you cannot discuss specific applications and will decline to do so. However, you would be pleased to explain the general NIH peer review process.
- Specify that you are instructed to report to the NIH any such attempt as a violation of review integrity.

Remember that every stakeholder and participant in the NIH peer review process—whether it be researcher, reviewer, institutional official or NIH staff—shares responsibility in maintaining and upholding the integrity of review.

CFA for Short Term Core Projects



Molecular Cell Biology Research Resources Core (**MCBRC**) and Bioinformatics, Biostatistics, and Computational Biology Core (**BBCC**) are calling for proposals to carry out short term projects in collaboration with the Cores. All LBRN researchers can submit a proposal for a defined project that can be carried out in collaboration with the Core facilities listed in the attached Call for Proposals (CFP) on a competitive basis. Each selected project will be allocated \$1,500 to fully or partially offset Core expenses. [Please contact your LBRN Steering Committee Member.](#)

LONI HPC Allocation for LBRN



To support the LBRN / BBC Core community on LONI HPC systems, we have renewed our high-performance computing allocation for 2020/2021.

This can be utilized in lieu of individual investigators having to apply for and acquire their own allocations to access the HPC resources. If any of your campus members need access to high performance computing, please have them interface with [Dr. Nayong Kim](#).

NIH LBRN Acknowledgement

So that we can most effectively communicate the scope and results of our funding support, we would like to know when you are planning news announcements about IDeA awards or program activities and achievements...

When you produce such material, please be sure to identify the IDeA program, not just the INBRE, COBRE or sub-program, and to provide context about the program's goals along the lines of:

The University of _____ has received \$XXX from the National Institutes of Health (NIH) to support an Institutional Development Award (IDeA) Center of Biomedical Research Excellence. The IDeA program builds research capacities in states that historically have had low levels of NIH funding by supporting basic, clinical and translational research; faculty development; and infrastructure improvements.

In journal articles, news releases, or other materials about your program's activities or achievements, please use funding acknowledgement language such as:

Research reported in this {publication, release} was supported by an Institutional Development Award (IDeA) from the National Institute of General Medical Sciences of the National Institutes of Health under grant number 5 P20 GM103424-18 and 3 P20 GM103424-15S1.

- In journal articles, oral or poster presentations, news releases, news and feature articles, interviews with reporters and other communications, acknowledge the IDeA program's full or partial support of the research. The citation in scientific publications should use the following format:

Research reported in this publication was supported by an Institutional Development Award (IDeA) from the National Institute of General Medical Sciences of the National Institutes of Health under grant number P20GM12345.

- If you wish to acknowledge NIH/NIGMS funding on your Web site or other communication product, you may use wording such as:

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