

Can symptoms from the #CoronaTracker predict the daily increase in COVID 19 cases in India?

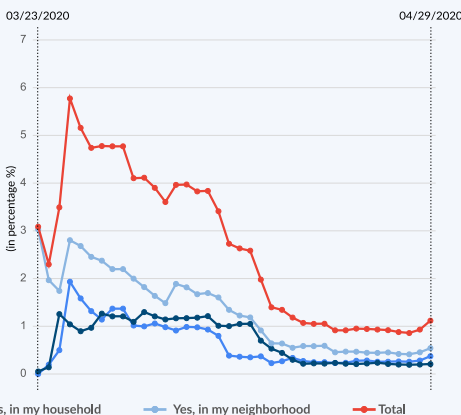
Team C-Voter's #CoronaTracker asks respondents to report ILI (Influenza Like Illness) symptoms in their household and neighbourhood. This includes symptoms typically associated with COVID-19. If current trends continue, the tracker could be used to predict the daily increase in Coronavirus cases in India ahead of time.



Trajectory of ILI Symptoms



Have you seen flu-like symptoms like high fever, cold, dry cough or similar symptoms in any family member (within your own household) or in your neighbourhood (people who you normally meet in your day-to-day life)?



What trends do self-reported ILI symptoms show?



In the initial weeks of the survey, reports of self-infection were much higher than reports of infection in households.



This pattern is reversed after mid-April, with more reports of infection in households and neighbourhood. Both ILI and COVID-19 symptoms spread mainly from person to person. This is likely to be the reason why individuals who reported having any ILI symptoms in the initial weeks of the survey no longer exhibit them and have instead passed it on to someone in their household or neighbourhood.

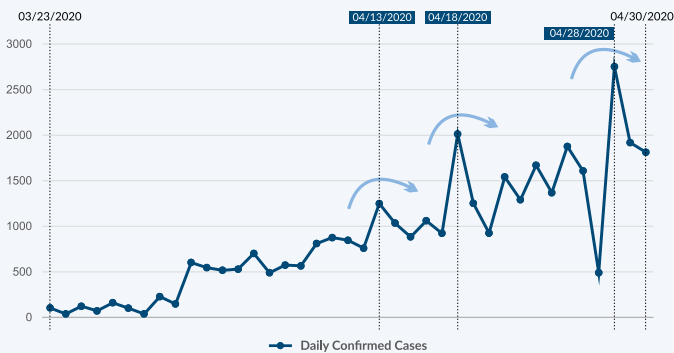


Out of all reports of ILI symptoms (self, household and neighbourhood) the highest proportion is that of reports of symptoms in the neighbourhood. However, this proportion reduces drastically, stabilizing at around 0.4% in towards the end of April.

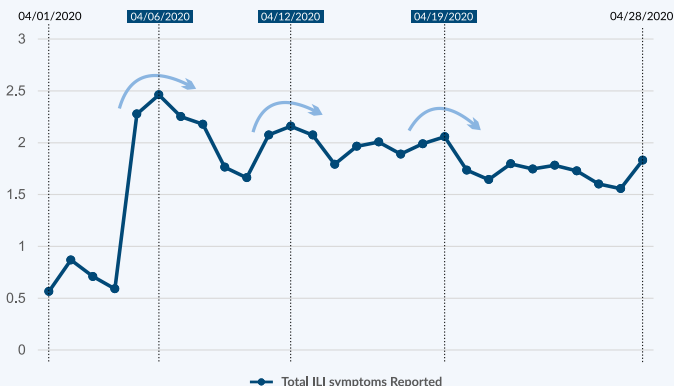


These symptoms can be representative of "self-reported cases" in a random population. Since the severity of symptoms takes a few days to manifest, the information from the daily tracker could show the number of positive cases ahead of time (as reported by Govt and Hospitals)

Daily Reported Coronavirus Cases



Total ILI symptoms Reported



Can self-reported symptoms predict the daily increase in COVID 19 cases in India?



Respondents for the past month, have also been asked about which symptoms (typically associated with COVID 19) have they seen in their household (including themselves) and in their neighbourhood.



There seems to be around a one week gap in specific COVID 19 symptoms reported in the tracker and the actual number of confirmed cases in the country.



It is visible that both graphs are following similar bumps in their trajectory, and if they continue to go in parallel, the tracker data can be useful in predicting the number of cases in India.

Current survey findings and projections are based on the Team CVoter daily tracking poll conducted from March 23rd 2020 to April 29th 2020 among 18+ adults statewide, including every major demographic. The data is weighted to the known demographic profile of every state, including age group, social group, income, region, gender and education levels.



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