October 9, 2020

Laundering Legacy Deaths from Covid-19?

Covid deaths reported today may be weeks old. In mid-July, Houston reported 16 deaths, but some were from May. This lag inflated the daily death statistics. In late June, as death reports lagged ever further behind actual deaths skewing the daily numbers, a senior scholar at Johns Hopkins said, “You can’t look at deaths as an indicator of where the outbreak is at this particular period of time.”

One data guru, who publishes sophisticated charts on Twitter, calls this “Legacy Death” data. Last week, the guru tweeted: “These next 3 days will give us an indication as to whether we will keep laundering old deaths at a ~55% rate or [if] we are running out of reserve death cert[ificates].” Think about that.


Houston reports highest double-digit COVID-19 deaths in a day,” KTRK-TV (ABC 13 Eyewitness News), July 16, 2020: https://abc13.co/30qXzfO