

4-24-2020

COVID-19 Newsletter (vol. 9)

Center for Disaster Medicine, New York Medical College

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NEW YORK MEDICAL COLLEGE

A MEMBER OF THE Touro College and University System

Center for Disaster Medicine



Friday April 24, 2020

During this COVID-19 pandemic and other future events, the CDM will continue to be a source of reliable information, education and models for mitigation, preparedness, response and recovery.

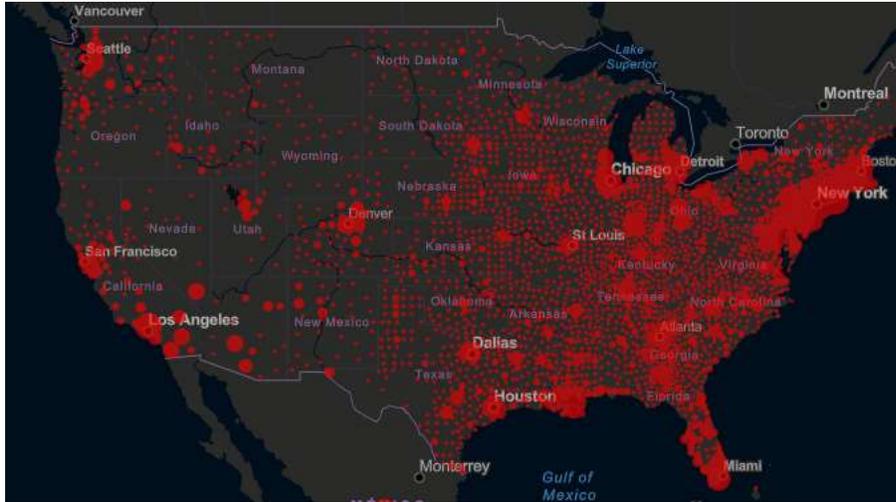
David Markenson, M.D., M.B.A.
Director
Center for Disaster Medicine

COVID-19 Statistics

	Total Cases	Total Deaths	Total Recovered	Total Tested
Worldwide	2,710,238	190,890	743,151	No Data
United States	869,172	49,963	80,934	4,684,300
New Jersey	100,025	5,426	No Data	200,148
New York	263,460	20,982	No Data	695,920
Connecticut	23,100	1,639	No Data	71,497

Information as of 4/24/20 at 0430 EDT. Source: <https://coronavirus.jhu.edu/map.html>

United States COVID-19 Case Map / GIS



Center for Disaster Medicine Updates

- Coordinating volunteers to support local public health response to COVID-19.
- Conducting research and analysis of current events and COVID-19 response to identify strengths and areas for improvement in other regions.
- Updating and developing new programs to provide enhanced education on public health emergencies including pandemics.
- Redesigning summer fellowship in disaster and emergency medicine to better address preparedness skills, lessons learned and highlight the importance of high-fidelity simulation in medical education while finding new focus on pandemic-related research projects.
- Exploring course development opportunities in infection prevention and control for frontline responders in the hospital and in the field.
- Serving as a source of information for COVID-19 related concerns or questions regarding public health, emergency medical service (EMS), public safety and healthcare response.
- Local networking and pandemic response analysis for New York metropolitan tri-state area, using first-person experiences to highlight current trends.

Federal Updates

- The Senate passed an amendment to increase amounts authorized and appropriated for commitments for the Paycheck Protection Program authorized under section 7(a) of the Small Business Act, economic injury disaster loans and emergency grants under the CARES Act, to fund hospital and provider recovery and testing, and for other purposes. <https://www.congress.gov/amendment/116th-congress/senate-amendment/1580>
- The U.S. Navy has reportedly tested the entire crew of the USS Roosevelt, which has yielded 840 positive results. In addition, sources report that 26 U.S. Naval ships have sailors with confirmed positive results. <https://thehill.com/policy/defense/494318-navy-says-entire-roosevelt-crew-has-been-tested-for-coronavirus> and <https://www.military.com/daily-news/2020/04/23/more-25-navy-ships-now-have-sailors-infected-coronavirus.html>

The White House

- President Donald Trump on Tuesday announced a ventilator loan program – the Dynamic Ventilator Reserve Plan – that could make up to 60,000 devices available to people infected by COVID-19. <https://www.modernhealthcare.com/supply-chain/trump-announces-ventilator-loan-program-providers>
- The President's 30 Days to Slow the Spread: On March 31, President Trump extended the Coronavirus Guidelines for America through April 30. https://www.whitehouse.gov/wp-content/uploads/2020/03/03.16.20_coronavirus-guidance_8.5x11_315PM.pdf

National Institutes of Health (NIH)

- Expert U.S. panel develop NIH treatment guidelines for COVID-19 <https://www.nih.gov/news-events/news-releases/expert-us-panel-develops-nih-treatment-guidelines-covid-19>

United States Food and Drug Administration (FDA)

<https://www.fda.gov/emergency-preparedness-and-response/counterterrorism-and-emerging-threats/coronavirus-disease-2019-covid-19>

- FDA issues COVID-19 daily update on April 23: <https://www.fda.gov/news-events/press-announcements/coronavirus-covid-19-update-daily-roundup-april-23-2020>
- FDA issues Important Information on the Use of Serological (Antibody) Tests for COVID-19 - Letter to Health Care Providers

<https://www.fda.gov/medical-devices/letters-health-care-providers/important-information-use-serological-antibody-tests-covid-19-letter-health-care-providers>

- FDA announces Virtual Town Hall on April 29, 2020 - Immediately in Effect Guidance on Coronavirus (COVID-19) Diagnostic Tests
<https://www.fda.gov/medical-devices/workshops-conferences-medical-devices/virtual-town-hall-series-immediately-effect-guidance-coronavirus-covid-19-diagnostic-tests-04292020>
- FDA issues COVID-19-Related Guidance Documents for Industry, FDA Staff, and Other Stakeholders (as of April 22)
<https://www.fda.gov/emergency-preparedness-and-response/coronavirus-disease-2019-covid-19/covid-19-related-guidance-documents-industry-fda-staff-and-other-stakeholders>
- FDA authorizes First Test for Patient At-Home Sample Collection
<https://www.fda.gov/news-events/press-announcements/coronavirus-covid-19-update-fda-authorizes-first-test-patient-home-sample-collection>

Health and Human Services (HHS)

<https://www.hhs.gov/about/news/coronavirus/index.html>

- HHS Announces Nearly \$1 Billion in CARES Act Grants to Support Older Adults and People with Disabilities in the Community During the COVID-19 Emergency
<https://www.hhs.gov/about/news/2020/04/21/hhs-announces-nearly-1-billion-cares-act-grants-support-older-adults-people-with-disabilities-community-during-covid-19-emergency.html>
- HHS Awards Nearly \$165 Million to Combat the COVID-19 Pandemic in Rural Communities
<https://www.hhs.gov/about/news/2020/04/22/hhs-awards-nearly-165-million-to-combat-covid19-pandemic-in-rural-communities.html>

Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC)

<https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/cases-updates/index.html>

- The CDC announced the first confirmed cases of COVID-19 in two pet cats in New York State. https://www.cdc.gov/media/releases/2020/s0422-covid-19-cats-NYC.html?deliveryName=USCDC_2067-DM26555

Daily updates of cases in United States: <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/cases-updates/cases-in-us.html>

CDC's new weekly COVID-19 surveillance report:
<https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/covid-data/covidview.html>

CDC's updated list of Testing in the United States:
<https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/cases-updates/testing-in-us.html>

CDC's travel recommendations by country:
<https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/travelers/map-and-travel-notice.html>

CDC's guidance on decontamination and reuse of respirators:

<https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/hcp/ppe-strategy/decontamination-reuse-respirators.html>

CDC's guidance on how to protect yourself:

<https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/downloads/2019-ncov-factsheet.pdf>

CDC's strategies for optimizing the supply of N95 respirators:

<https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/hcp/respirators-strategy/index.html>

<https://clinicaltrials.gov/ct2/results?cond=COVID-19>

Center for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS)

Latest CMS update:

<https://www.cms.gov/newsroom/press-releases/cms-news-alert-april-21-2020>

- The Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services released a toolkit for states to accelerate adoption of broader telehealth coverage policies in the Medicaid and Children's Health Insurance Programs during the COVID-19 pandemic.
<https://www.medicare.gov/medicaid/benefits/downloads/medicaid-chip-telehealth-toolkit.pdf>

CMS announcement regarding Trump Administration's New Toolkit to Help States Navigate COVID-19 Health Workforce Challenges:

<https://www.cms.gov/newsroom/press-releases/trump-administration-launches-new-toolkit-help-states-navigate-covid-19-health-workforce-challenges>

American Red Cross

<https://www.redcrossblood.org/donate-blood/dlp/plasma-donations-from-recovered-covid-19-patients.html>

State Updates

New York

- Amid the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic, Governor Andrew M. Cuomo and Mike Bloomberg today announced a new nation-leading COVID-19 contact tracing program to control the infection rate of the disease. <https://www.governor.ny.gov/news/amid-ongoing-covid-19-pandemic-governor-cuomo-and-mayor-mike-bloomberg-launch-nation-leading>
- Beginning April 28, hospitals will be able to resume performing elective outpatient treatments if they meet certain conditions. Restrictions on elective surgeries remain in place in Albany, Bronx, Clinton, Dutchess, Erie, Kings, Nassau, New York, Orange, Queens, Rensselaer, Richmond, Rockland, Schuyler, Suffolk, Sullivan, Ulster,

Westchester and Yates counties as the State continues to monitor the rate of new COVID-19 infections in these areas. <https://www.governor.ny.gov/news/amid-ongoing-covid-19-pandemic-governor-cuomo-announces-elective-outpatient-treatment-can>

- Secretary to the Governor, Melissa DeRosa will chair a COVID-19 Maternity Task Force that will develop a plan to authorize additional birth centers to provide mothers a safe alternative to stressed hospitals. The Task Force will also research the effect of COVID-19 on pregnancy. <https://www.governor.ny.gov/news/secretary-governor-melissa-derosa-and-new-york-state-council-women-girls-launch-covid-19>
- New York Guard Civil Support Team is running a COVID-19 station to quickly test military and civilian personnel at the Javits Center site for the coronavirus if they show symptoms or think they were exposed to the virus. <https://www.nationalguard.mil/News/Article/2154855/ny-guard-civil-support-team-tests-medical-workers-for-covid-19/>
- Amid the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic, Governor Cuomo announced the State Department of Health is partnering with Attorney General Letitia James to investigate nursing homes who violate Executive Orders requiring these facilities to communicate COVID-19 test results and deaths to residents' families. <https://www.governor.ny.gov/news/amid-ongoing-covid-19-pandemic-governor-cuomo-announces-state-health-department-will-partner>
- Total hospitalizations continue to fall in New York. There were 15,021 total hospitalizations on April 23 — the tenth consecutive day of declines.
- Additional animals at the Bronx Zoo have now tested positive for COVID-19. <https://www.nbcnewyork.com/news/local/7-more-big-cats-test-positive-for-coronavirus-at-the-bronx-zoo/2360889/>

New York State Department of Health

<https://coronavirus.health.ny.gov/home>

For the latest information about COVID-19 testing:

<https://coronavirus.health.ny.gov/covid-19-testing#overview>

For a list of positive cases by county in New York State, please visit the COVID-19 tracker:

<https://covid19tracker.health.ny.gov/views/NYS-COVID19-Tracker/NYSDOHCOVID-19Tracker-Map?%3Aembed=yes&%3Atoolbar=no&%3Atabs=n>

NYS DOH Weekly healthcare provider update:

<https://coronavirus.health.ny.gov/weekly-healthcare-provider-update>

New Jersey

- New Jersey Motor Vehicle Commission Chief Administrator Sue Fulton today announced that all agency, road testing, and inspections facilities will remain closed until at least Monday, May 11. The closures are part of the Murphy Administration's ongoing

efforts to mitigate the spread of COVID-

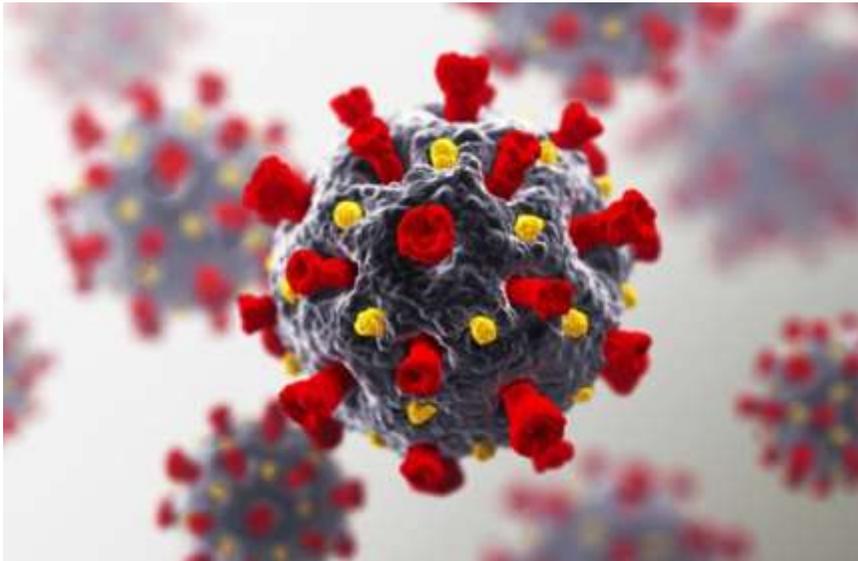
19. <https://nj.gov/governor/news/news/562020/approved/20200423b.shtml>

- The New Jersey Office of Homeland Security and Preparedness (NJOHSP) is leading New Jersey's efforts to combat COVID-19 disinformation, rumors, and scams that may impact residents and businesses throughout the State. <https://nj.gov/governor/news/news/562020/approved/20200423a.shtml>
- Governor Phil Murphy signed legislation (S2357) which will require hospitals to report demographic data to the Department of Health. In conjunction with this signing, the COVID-19 Information Hub has been updated with preliminary racial data that has already been collected. <https://nj.gov/governor/news/news/562020/approved/20200422b.shtml>
- Governor Murphy pushes for increased testing in an effort to plan for phased reopening of State in the coming weeks and months. He praises the involvement of Rutgers and the development of their saliva-based testing method. <https://www.nbcphiladelphia.com/news/coronavirus/watch-nj-gov-murphy-talks-coronavirus-as-cases-near-100000/2373338/>

Connecticut

- Governor Ned Lamont announced that a new initiative between Hartford HealthCare and Quest Diagnostics, with support from the State of Connecticut, will significantly increase the capacity of COVID-19 testing in the state from 500 tests per day to 2,500. <https://portal.ct.gov/Office-of-the-Governor/News/Press-Releases>
- Executive Order No. 7CC enacts the following provisions:
 - Applicability of Executive Order No. 7S, Section 7 to additional critical and time-sensitive municipal fiscal actions.
 - Clarification of time periods regarding suspension and modification of non-judicial tax sales pursuant to Executive Order No. 7S, Section 11.
 - Exclusion of federal stimulus payments in evaluating eligibility for state or local programs financed in whole or in part using state funds.
 - Alternative to physical presence in court for finding of irretrievable breakdown of marriage.
 - Alternative to in-person waiver of right to file motion or petition for educational support.
 - Alternative to physical appearance of petitioner regarding decree of dissolution after entry of decree of legal separation.
 - Alternative to in-court canvas prior to entrance of final agreement.
 - Alternative to physical presence when findings on the record required.
 - Revised financial protections for people covered by insurance who receive out-of-network health care services during the public health emergency.
 - Read the full order: <https://portal.ct.gov/-/media/Office-of-the-Governor/Executive-Orders/Lamont-Executive-Orders/Executive-Order-No-7CC.pdf?la=en>
- Executive Order No. 7DD enacts the following provisions:
 - Additions to the definition of telehealth provider.
 - Flexibility for Medicaid-enrolled providers and in-network providers for commercial fully insured health insurance to perform telehealth through additional methods.
 - ~~Additions to permissible~~ out-of-state healthcare providers.
 - Participation in intern, resident physician, or United States Medical Officer candidate training programs prior to permit issuance.

- Participation in resident physician assistant program prior to permit issuance.
- Temporary suspension of physician assistant supervision restrictions.
- Temporary suspension of in-person supervision requirement for advanced practice registered nurses.
- Provision of services by respiratory care therapist and respiratory care technician students.
- Suspension of continuing education requirement for health care providers.
- Modification of 36-month age limit for Birth-to-Three services.
- Read the full order: <https://portal.ct.gov/-/media/Office-of-the-Governor/Executive-Orders/Lamont-Executive-Orders/Executive-Order-No-7DD.pdf?la=en>
- Executive Order No. 7EE enacts the following provisions:
 - Mandatory reporting by managed residential communities.
 - Mandatory reporting by nursing homes.
 - Civil Penalties for failure to comply with mandatory reporting.
 - Waiving certain Medicaid prior authorization requirements.
 - Waiving Medicaid bed reservation requirements for residents who are on leave from intermediate care facilities for individuals with intellectual disabilities.
 - Waiving requirements for signed delivery receipt for medical equipment, devices, and supplies. Read the full order: <https://portal.ct.gov/-/media/Office-of-the-Governor/Executive-Orders/Lamont-Executive-Orders/Executive-Order-No-7EE.pdf?la=en>



Local Updates

New York Blood Center

- TIME Magazine Features Blood Plasma Treatment for Coronavirus:
<https://www.nybc.org/news/articles/time-magazine-features-blood-plasma-treatment-coronavirus/>

New York City Department of Health and Mental Hygiene

<https://www1.nyc.gov/site/doh/covid/covid-19-main.page>

NYC DOHMH's potential decontamination strategies for N95 respirators:

<https://www1.nyc.gov/assets/doh/downloads/pdf/imm/n95-decontamination-strategies.pdf>

NYC DOHMH's COVID-19 information for providers:

<https://www1.nyc.gov/site/doh/covid/covid-19-providers.page>

Westchester County Department of Health

<https://health.westchestergov.com/2019-novel-coronavirus>

- Latest daily COVID-19 briefing (April 22) from Westchester County Executive George Latimer: <https://www.westchestergov.com/home/all-press-releases/8404-april-22-westchester-county-executive-george-latimer-gives-covid-19-update>

Putnam County Department of Health

<https://www.putnamcountyny.com/health/coronavirus/>

Dutchess County Department of Health

<https://www.dutchessny.gov/Departments/DBCH/2019-Novel-Coronavirus.htm>

Orange County Department of Health

<https://www.orangecountygov.com/1906/2019-Novel-Coronavirus-Information>

Rockland County Department of Health

<https://rocklandgov.com/departments/health/coronavirus-covid-19/>

Healthcare

COVID-19 information for healthcare facilities from the Greater New York Hospital Association that covers hospitals in the tri-state area:

<https://www.gnyha.org/>

Information on agency prevention and treatment guidance: <https://www.gnyha.org/tool/cdc-doh-and-dohmh-prevention-and-treatment-guidance/>

Center for Disaster Medicine Media

New York Medical College Leadership News:

Here's How to Wear a Face Mask Properly, According to Medical Experts

Good Housekeeping

4/21/2020

<https://www.goodhousekeeping.com/health/a32193198/how-to-wear-a-face-mask-properly/>

Robert W. Amler, M.D., M.B.A., vice president for government affairs and dean of the School of Health Sciences and Practice

Faculty News:

With COVID-19, Civil Discontent Must Not Lead to Civil Disobedience

The Globe Post

4/24/2020

<https://theglobepost.com/2020/04/24/covid-19-government/>

Ira J. Bedzow, Ph.D., associate professor of medicine and director of the Biomedical Ethics and Humanities Program

Adam E. Block, Ph.D., assistant professor of public health in the Division of Health Policy and Management

New York Needed Ventilators. So They Developed One in a Month

The New York Times

4/20/2020

<https://www.nytimes.com/2020/04/20/technology/new-york-ventilators-coronavirus.html>

Albert H. Kwon, M.D., assistant professor of anesthesiology

Ad hoc team of engineers and doctors races to fill COVID-19-related ventilator shortage

TechXplore

4/21/2020

<https://techxplore.com/news/2020-04-ad-hoc-team-doctors-covid-related.html>

Albert H. Kwon, M.D., assistant professor of anesthesiology

Coronavirus emergency kit: What you need to survive the pandemic

Fox Business

4/22/2020

<https://www.foxbusiness.com/lifestyle/coronavirus-emergency-kit-what-you-need>

David S. Markenson, M.D., M.B.A., medical director of the Center for Disaster Medicine

The Impact of the Coronavirus Outbreak On Medical School Admissions

Forbes

4/22/2020

<https://www.forbes.com/sites/kristenmoon/2020/04/22/the-impact-of-the-coronavirus-outbreak-on-medical-school-admissions/#78982bc71b98>

Karen M. Murray, M.D. '99, associate dean for admissions for the School of Medicine, and associate professor of obstetrics and gynecology

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