

5-19-2020

COVID-19 Newsletter (vol. 16)

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



Tuesday May 19, 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.

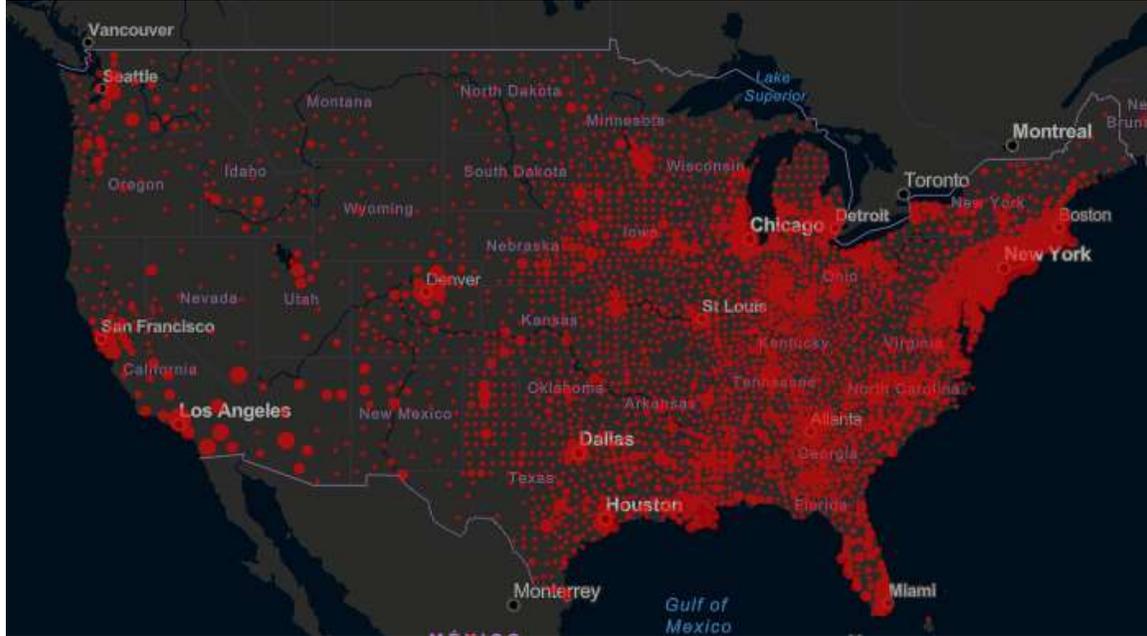
David Markenson, M.D., M.B.A.
Director
Center for Disaster Medicine

COVID-19 Statistics

	Total Cases	Total Deaths	Total Recovered	Total Tested
Worldwide	4,798,594	318,303	1,784,714	No Data
United States	1,508,168	90,338	283,178	11,834,508
New Jersey	148,240	10,439	23,496	505,569
New York	351,371	28,339	61,681	1,439,557
Connecticut	38,116	3,450	6,264	177,679

Information as of 5/19/20 at 0000 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's tri-state area, using first-person experiences to highlight current trends.

Federal Updates

- The U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) is alerting the public to early data that suggest potential inaccurate results from using the Abbott ID NOW point-of-care test to diagnose COVID-19. Specifically, the test may return false negative results.

<https://www.fda.gov/news-events/press-announcements/coronavirus-covid-19-update-fda-informs-public-about-possible-accuracy-concerns-abbott-id-now-point>

- The U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) published a series of flowcharts to provide guidance to state and local governments, schools and child care services, restaurants and other businesses, and others regarding when and how to safely relax social distancing measures for various aspects of society. <https://www.cnn.com/2020/05/14/health/coronavirus-decision-trees-cdc-wellness/index.html>
- The CDC is providing 1) background information on several cases of a recently reported multisystem inflammatory syndrome in children (MIS-C) associated with coronavirus disease 2019 (COVID-19); and 2) a case definition for this syndrome. CDC recommends healthcare providers report any patient who meets the case definition to local, state, and territorial health departments to enhance knowledge of risk factors, pathogenesis, clinical course, and treatment of this syndrome. https://emergency.cdc.gov/han/2020/han00432.asp?deliveryName=USCDC_2067-DM28660

The White House

- The President's 30 Days to Slow the Spread ended on April 30. President Trump has unveiled Guidelines for Opening Up America Again, a three-phased approach based on the advice of public health experts. These steps will help state and local officials when reopening their economies, getting people back to work, and continuing to protect American lives. To review the Guidelines and obtain additional information regarding Opening Up America Again, please visit: <https://www.whitehouse.gov/openingamerica/>

National Institutes of Health (NIH)

NIH Director reports that defeating COVID-19 requires unprecedented action and collaboration

<https://www.nih.gov/news-events/news-releases/nih-director-defeating-covid-19-requires-unprecedented-action-collaboration>

NIH Director discusses how COVID-19 brings health disparities research to the forefront
<https://directorsblog.nih.gov/2020/05/14/covid-19-brings-health-disparities-research-to-the-forefront/>

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 Daily Update for May 18, 2020: <https://www.fda.gov/news-events/press-announcements/coronavirus-covid-19-update-daily-roundup-may-18-2020>
- FDA announces upcoming Virtual Town Hall Series - Immediately in Effect Guidance on Coronavirus (COVID-19) Diagnostic Tests on May 20, 2020: <https://www.fda.gov/medical-devices/workshops-conferences-medical-devices/virtual-town-hall-series-immediately-effect-guidance-coronavirus-covid-19-diagnostic-tests-05202020>
- FDA Authorizes First Standalone At-Home Sample Collection Kit That Can Be Used With Certain Authorized Tests: <https://www.fda.gov/news-events/press-announcements/coronavirus-covid-19-update-fda-authorizes-first-standalone-home-sample-collection-kit-can-be-used>
- FDA issues COVID-19 testing basics information sheet: <https://www.fda.gov/consumers/consumer-updates/coronavirus-testing-basics>

Health and Human Services (HHS)

For the latest Biomedical Advanced Research and Development Authority's (BARDA) rapidly expanding COVID-19 medical countermeasure portfolio:

<https://www.medicalcountermeasures.gov/app/barda/coronavirus/COVID19.aspx>

Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC)

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

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 information on 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 Contact Tracing: <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/php/open-america/contact-tracing.html>

Updated CDC's Healthcare Infection Prevention and Control FAQs for COVID-19:

<https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/hcp/infection-control-faq.html>

CDC's Frequently Asked Questions: <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/faq.html>

CDC COVID-19 forecasts: <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/covid-data/forecasting-us.html>

To view the latest CDC information for pediatric healthcare providers: <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/hcp/pediatric-hcp.html>

To view the latest CDC Clinical Care Guidance for Healthcare Professionals about Coronavirus (COVID-19): <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/hcp/clinical-care.html>

To view the latest CDC key strategies to prepare for COVID-19 in long term care facilities: <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/hcp/long-term-care-strategies.html>

Clinical Trials

The latest information on clinical trials regarding COVID-19: <https://clinicaltrials.gov/ct2/results?cond=COVID-19>

Center for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS)

To view the latest CMS update: <https://www.cms.gov/newsroom/press-releases/cms-news-alert-may-13-2020>

To view the latest CMS recommendations for nursing homes reopening: <https://www.cms.gov/files/document/covid-nursing-home-reopening-recommendation-faqs.pdf>

American Red Cross

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

State Updates

New York

- State beaches will be open Memorial Day weekend. In coordination with the states of New Jersey, Connecticut and Delaware, New York State beaches will reopen with restrictions in place, effective Friday, May 22. <https://www.governor.ny.gov/news/governor-cuomo-governor-murphy-governor-lamont-governor-carney-announce-multi-state-agreement>
- Westchester and Suffolk Counties are now eligible to resume elective surgeries and ambulatory care. Elective outpatient treatments can resume in counties and hospitals without a significant risk of COVID-19 surge in the near term, and a total of 49 counties have now been cleared to offer elective surgeries.
- Governor Andrew M. Cuomo encourages major sports teams to plan to reopen without fans. New York State is ready and willing to partner with teams from any professional leagues that are interested in playing games safely, so fans can enjoy

watching from home. <https://www.governor.ny.gov/news/video-audio-photos-rush-transcript-amid-ongoing-covid-19-pandemic-governor-cuomo-announces-28>

- Governor Cuomo announced that Western New York has met all seven metrics required to begin phase one of the state's regional phased reopening plan starting May 19, 2020, joining the Central New York, North Country, Finger Lakes, Southern Tier and Mohawk Valley Regions. <https://www.governor.ny.gov/news/amid-ongoing-covid-19-pandemic-governor-cuomo-announces-sixth-region-hits-benchmark-begin>

New York State Department of Health

For the latest COVID-19 information:

<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:

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

For the NYS DOH Weekly healthcare provider update:

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

To view Governor Cuomo's Plan to Reopen New York:

<https://www.governor.ny.gov/programs/new-york-forward>

To view information regarding how to become a contact tracer within New York State:

<https://coronavirus.health.ny.gov/get-involved-how-you-can-help>

To view New York State's Regional Monitoring Dashboard regarding the seven metrics needed to reopen: <https://forward.ny.gov/regional-monitoring-dashboard>

To view the latest section regarding childhood inflammatory disease related to COVID-19:

<https://coronavirus.health.ny.gov/childhood-inflammatory-disease-related-covid-19>

To view the latest information on SARS-CoV-2 diagnostic testing:

https://coronavirus.health.ny.gov/system/files/documents/2020/05/sars-cov-2_diagnostic_testing_051520-2.pdf

New Jersey

- Governor Phil Murphy signed Executive Order No. 147, allowing certain outdoor activities at recreational businesses, including archery ranges, batting cages, golf driving ranges, horseback riding, shooting ranges, and tennis clubs as well as community gardens to open with required social distancing measures in place. The Order takes effect on Friday, May 22 at 6:00 a.m. <https://nj.gov/infobank/eo/056murphy/pdf/EO-147.pdf>

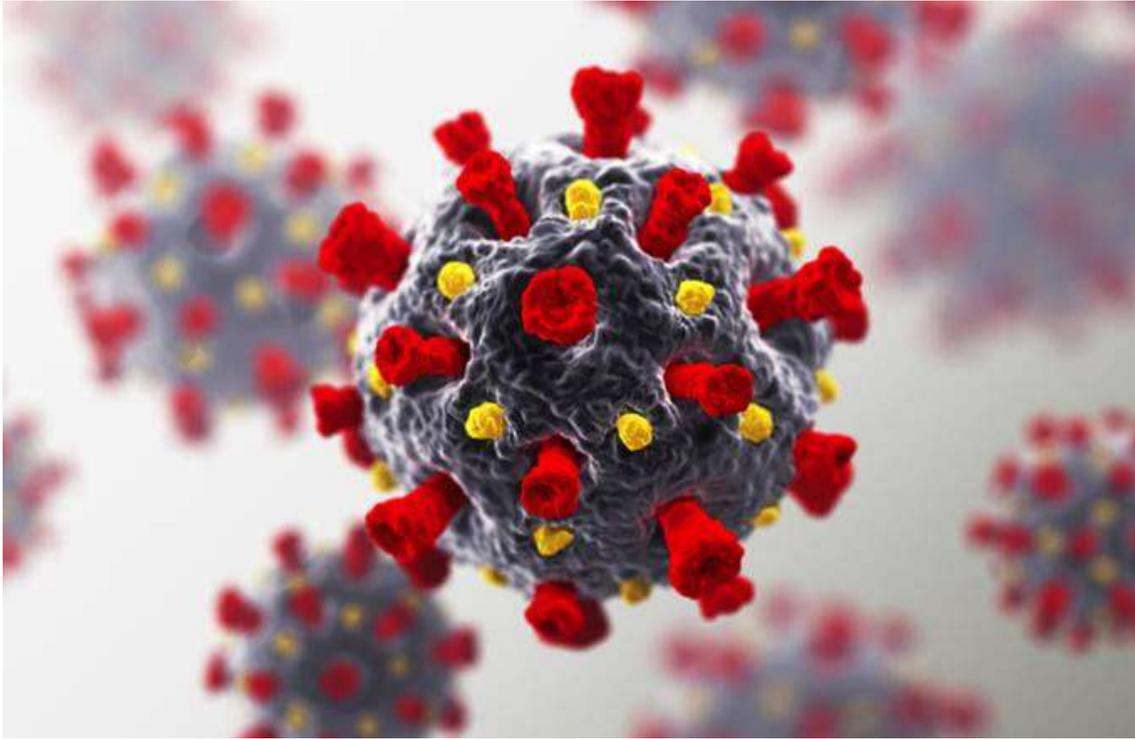
- Governor Murphy unveiled a multi-stage approach to execute a responsible and strategic economic restart to put New Jersey on the road back to recovery from COVID-19. The multi-stage blueprint, guided by the Governor's Restart and Recovery Commission and complementary Advisory Councils, plans for a methodical and strategic reopening of businesses and activities based on level of disease transmission risk and essential classification. http://d31hzhk6di2h5.cloudfront.net/20200518/ff/c9/8c/41/1917eaf623c02595b9225209/Strategic_Restart_Plan.jpg
- Governor Murphy signed Executive Order No. 146, which allows charter fishing services and for-hire vessel activities, as well as watercraft rental businesses, to open with required social distancing measures. These businesses can open on Sunday, May 17 at 6 am. <https://nj.gov/infobank/eo/056murphy/pdf/EO-146.pdf>
- Governor Murphy signed Executive Order No. 145, allowing elective surgeries and invasive procedures, both medical and dental, to resume on Tuesday, May 26 at 5:00 a.m. These procedures will resume according to policies that will be issued by the New Jersey Department of Health and the Division of Consumer Affairs. This order rescinds the suspension of all elective surgeries and invasive procedures performed on adults, which was instituted beginning on March 27 under Executive Order No. 109 to preserve essential equipment and health care system capacity to respond to COVID-19. <https://nj.gov/infobank/eo/056murphy/pdf/EO-145.pdf>
- In an effort to protect all New Jersey voters from the spread of COVID-19, Governor Murphy signed an executive order to create a modified vote-by-mail election for the July 7 Primary. The order requires that each county's elections officials send vote-by-mail ballots to all registered Democratic and Republican voters and send VBM ballot applications to unaffiliated and inactive voters. All VBM ballots and VBM ballot applications will come with pre-paid postage. <https://nj.gov/infobank/eo/056murphy/pdf/EO-144.pdf>

Connecticut

- Governor Ned Lamont announced that the State of Connecticut will be distributing 50,000 infrared thermometers it has secured for small businesses, nonprofits, and places of worship to support safe reopening activities amid the COVID-19 pandemic. <https://portal.ct.gov/Office-of-the-Governor/News/Press-Releases>
- Governor Lamont announced that Connecticut state parks that feature beaches along the state's shoreline will be open Friday, May 22, though with capacity limitations. Visitors are advised to follow social distancing guidelines.
- The State of Connecticut is partnering with UnitedHealth Group, United Way 211, and DoorDash to pilot a free meal delivery service for higher risk populations, which is beginning in the Greater Hartford area. Individuals, many of whom are homebound seniors located in Hartford, Bloomfield, Wethersfield, and surrounding areas, were identified by the Connecticut Department of Social Services, the Connecticut Association of Resident Service Coordinators, and municipal social services. <https://portal.ct.gov/Office-of-the-Governor/News/Press-Releases>
- Connecticut released a guidance document that was developed through a collaborative working group organized by his administration and provides best practices for dentist offices that are considering expanding their operations beyond emergency care in the coming days. During the pandemic, dentist offices have been considered an essential business by the Lamont administration and were never ordered to close, however following a recommendation from the CDC, dental offices were strongly advised to temporarily limit their practices to urgent and emergency dental care.

<https://portal.ct.gov/-/media/Office-of-the-Governor/News/20200518-COVID19-Best-Practices-for-Dental-Offices.pdf?la=en>

- Executive Order No. 7PP enacts the following provisions:
 - Reopening Phase 1: Repeals several previously enacted executive orders to allow for the safe reopening of certain sectors of the economy on May 20, including for the reopening of outdoor dining, offices, retail and malls, museums and zoos, and outdoor recreation businesses.
 - Enforcement of sector rules governing the reopening of businesses.
 - Extension of prohibition on large gatherings to June 20.
 - Extension of restrictions on off-track betting, indoor fitness, and movie theaters to June 20.
 - Further clarification of limits on restaurants, bars, and private clubs – mixed drinks permitted for takeout delivery.
 - Limitation on the operation of day camps.
 - Enhanced health procedures for all day camps.
 - Cancellation of resident camp operations.
 - Limitation on the operation of summer and educational programs operated by local or regional boards of education.
 - Suspension or modification of regulatory requirements to protect public health and safety.
 - <https://portal.ct.gov/-/media/Office-of-the-Governor/Executive-Orders/Lamont-Executive-Orders/Executive-Order-No-7PP.pdf?la=en>



Local Updates

New York Blood Center (NYBC)

New York Blood Center issues urgent call for health donors as blood supply drops to dangerously low levels

<https://www.nybc.org/news/articles/new-york-blood-center-issues-urgent-call-healthy-donors-blood-supply-drops-dangerously-low-levels/>

New York City (NYC) Department of Health and Mental Hygiene (DOHMH)

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

NYC DOHMH's COVID-19 information for providers

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

For the 2020 Health Advisory #16: Updated Reporting Requirements for Multisystem Inflammatory Syndrome in Children Associated with COVID-19 (Formerly Pediatric Multisystem Inflammatory Syndrome) regarding Updated NYC Health Department COVID-19 Recommendations:

<https://www1.nyc.gov/assets/doh/downloads/pdf/han/advisory/2020/covid-19-providers-mis-c.pdf>

For the 2020 Health Advisory #15: Updated NYC Health Department Recommendations for Identifying and Testing Patients with Suspected COVID-19:

<https://www1.nyc.gov/assets/doh/downloads/pdf/han/advisory/2020/covid-19-provider-id-testing.pdf>

Westchester County Department of Health

For the latest COVID-19 information including how to become a contact tracer:

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

- Latest daily COVID-19 briefing (May 18) from Westchester County Executive Latimer: <https://www.westchestergov.com/home/all-press-releases/8469-may-18-westchester-county-executive-george-latimer-gives-covid-19-update-from-yonkers-city-hall-with-mayor-mike-spano>

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

For the latest 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/>

For the latest information on agency prevention and treatment guidance:

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

For Financial Resources for Hospitals During the COVID-19 Emergency:

<https://www.gnyha.org/tool/financial-resources-for-hospitals-during-the-covid-19-emergency/>

Center for Disaster Medicine Media

New York Medical College Leadership News:

Is It Safe to Go Out to Eat?

The New York Times

5/15/2020

<https://www.nytimes.com/2020/05/15/dining/restaurant-opening-safety-coronavirus.html>

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:

Accessing Non-COVID Medical Care During the Time of Corona

The Inside Press

5/14/2020

<https://www.theinsidepress.com/accessing-non-covid-medical-care-during-the-time-of-corona/>

Andrew Ashikari, M.D., clinical associate professor of surgery

Generation COVID: From the eye of the storm, a new generation is born

Simply Family Magazine

5/15/2020

<https://simplyfamilymagazine.com/generation-covid>

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

Ali Jackson-Jolley, M.B.A., communications specialist

Explaining COVID-19 to Kids: *Kelly Stays Home: The Science of Coronavirus*

Simply Family Magazine

5/18/2020

<https://simplyfamilymagazine.com/explaining-covid-19-to-kids-kelly-stays-home>

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

Trump takes hydroxychloroquine, but does it help against COVID-19?

CBS News

5/18/2020

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=VgHyKLg68-o>

Robert G. Lahita, M.D., Ph.D., professor of medicine

Which Specialties Are at Highest Risk for Contracting COVID-19?

WebMD Health News

5/14/2020

<https://www.emedicinehealth.com/script/main/art.asp?articlekey=231795>

A. Elisabeth Abramowicz, M.D., clinical professor of anesthesiology

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