

9-29-2020

COVID-19 Newsletter (vol. 39)

Center for Disaster Medicine, New York Medical College



NEW YORK MEDICAL COLLEGE

A MEMBER OF THE Touro College and University System

Center for Disaster Medicine



Tuesday, September 29, 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. As the pace of new information and changes has slowed and out of respect for the volume of everyone's communications, we have changed the frequency of our newsletter to once per week.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "David Markenson".

David Markenson, M.D., M.B.A.

Director

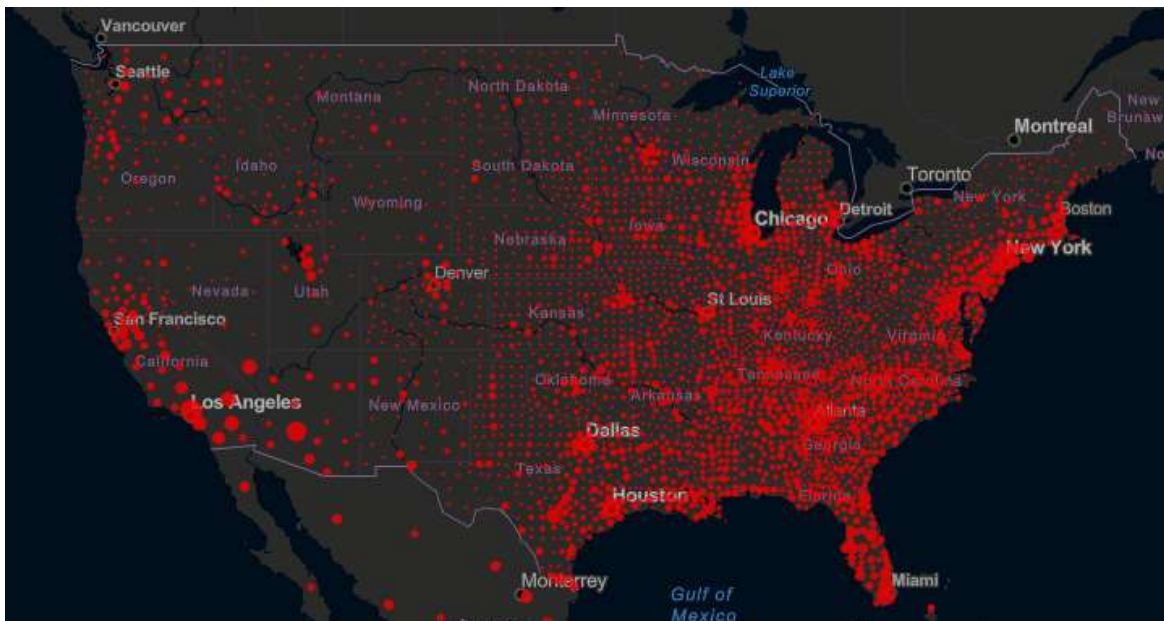
Center for Disaster Medicine

COVID-19 Statistics

	Total Cases	Total Deaths	Total Recovered	Total Tested
Worldwide	33,273,720	1,000,555	23,056,480	Not Available
United States	7,147,241	205,031	2,794,608	102,342,416
New Jersey	204,107	16,107	34,805	3,566,304
New York	456,460	33,140	76,649	10,561,122
Connecticut	57,147	4,503	9,310	1,571,206

Information as of 9/29/20 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 Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) announced upcoming action by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) to provide \$200 million to jurisdictions for COVID-19 vaccine preparedness. Funding from the Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security Act (CARES) will provide critical infrastructure support to existing grantees through CDC's immunization cooperative agreement. CDC is awarding \$200 million to 64 jurisdictions through the existing Immunizations and Vaccines for Children cooperative agreement. These funds, along with the previous support CDC has provided, will help states prepare for the COVID-19 vaccine. <https://www.cdc.gov/media/releases/2020/p0924-200-million-jurisdictions-covid-19-preparedness.html>

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: <https://www.whitehouse.gov/openingamerica/>

Health and Human Services (HHS)

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

Administration Announces \$200 million from CDC to Jurisdictions for COVID-19 Vaccine Preparedness

<https://www.hhs.gov/about/news/2020/09/23/administration-announces-200-million-from-cdc-jurisdictions-covid-19-vaccine-preparedness.html>

National Institutes of Health (NIH)

Fourth large-scale COVID-19 vaccine trial begins in the United States

<https://www.nih.gov/news-events/news-releases/fourth-large-scale-covid-19-vaccine-trial-begins-united-states>

Scientists discover genetic and immunologic underpinnings of some cases of severe COVID-19

<https://www.nih.gov/news-events/news-releases/scientists-discover-genetic-immunologic-underpinnings-some-cases-severe-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 Daily Update for September 25, including FDA-authorized 255 tests under EUAs, which include 204 molecular tests, 47 antibody tests, and 4 antigen tests.

Webinar Series - Respirators and Other Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) for Health Care Personnel Use During the COVID-19 Pandemic

<https://www.fda.gov/medical-devices/workshops-conferences-medical-devices/webinar-series-respirators-and-other-personal-protective-equipment-ppe-health-care-personnel-use>

FDA Authorizes First Point-of-Care Antibody Test for COVID-19

<https://www.fda.gov/news-events/press-announcements/coronavirus-covid-19-update-fda-authorizes-first-point-care-antibody-test-covid-19>

Virtual Town Hall Series - 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-09302020>

Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC)

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

For daily updates of cases in United States

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

To view the CDC's updated weekly COVID-19 surveillance report

<https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/covid-data/covidview.html>

To view CDC's updated information on Testing in the United States

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

To view the updated CDC's Frequently Asked Questions

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

COVID-19 Trends Among School-Aged Children — United States, March 1–September 19, 2020

https://www.cdc.gov/mmwr/volumes/69/wr/mm6939e2.htm?s_cid=mm6939e2_x

COVID-19 Science Update released: September 25, 2020

https://www.cdc.gov/library/covid19/092520_covidupdate.html

Data on COVID-19 during Pregnancy

<https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/cases-updates/special-populations/pregnancy-data-on-covid-19.html>

Clinical Trials

To view the latest information on clinical trials regarding COVID-19:

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

Center for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS)

CMS Releases New Tools to Streamline Certification for Labs Testing for COVID-19

<https://www.cms.gov/index.php/newsroom/press-releases/cms-releases-new-tools-streamline-certification-labs-testing-covid-19>

Service Use among Medicaid & CHIP Beneficiaries age 18 and Under during COVID-19

<https://www.cms.gov/index.php/newsroom/fact-sheets/fact-sheet-service-use-among-medicaid-chip-beneficiaries-age-18-and-under-during-covid-19>

CMS Issues Urgent Call to Action Following Drastic Decline in Care for Children in Medicaid and Children's Health Insurance Program Due to COVID-19 Pandemic

<https://www.cms.gov/newsroom/press-releases/cms-issues-urgent-call-action-following-drastic-decline-care-children-medicaid-and-childrens-health>

American Red Cross

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

State Updates

New York

- Governor Andrew M. Cuomo and State University of New York Chancellor Jim Malatras announced that the individual saliva swab diagnostic test for COVID-19 developed by SUNY Upstate Medical University and Quadrant Biosciences has been granted emergency use authorization by the U.S. Food and Drug Administration. While this test has been used to date to support SUNY's widespread testing of students across campuses, the emergency use authorization will help additional labs begin to use this test, helping pinpoint and contain the virus and protect New Yorkers.
<https://www.governor.ny.gov/news/governor-cuomo-and-chancellor-malatras-announce-fda-approval-covid-19-saliva-swab-test>
- Governor Cuomo announced that New York State will form an independent Clinical Advisory Task Force comprised of leading scientists, doctors, and health experts who will review every COVID-19 vaccine authorized by the federal government, and will advise New York State on the vaccine's safety and effectiveness in fighting the virus. In addition, the Governor established a Vaccine Distribution and Implementation Task Force that is charged with designing the best COVID-19 vaccination administration program in the nation. The Vaccine Distribution and Implementation Task Force is comprised of experts in public health, immunizations, government operations, data and other fields relevant to vaccine distribution and administration. <https://www.governor.ny.gov/news/governor-cuomo-announces-clinical-advisory-task-force-and-vaccine-distribution-and>
- Governor Cuomo announced the State's Tenant Safe Harbor Act will be expanded until January 1, 2021 to protect additional residential tenants from eviction if they are suffering financial hardship during the COVID-19 public health emergency. The Executive Order extends the protections of the Tenant Safe Harbor Act to eviction warrants that existed prior to the start of the pandemic.
<https://www.governor.ny.gov/news/governor-cuomo-announces-moratorium-covid-related-residential-evictions-will-be-extended-until>

New York State Department of Health (DOH)

<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 learn the latest on the NYS DOH COVID-19 Travel Advisory

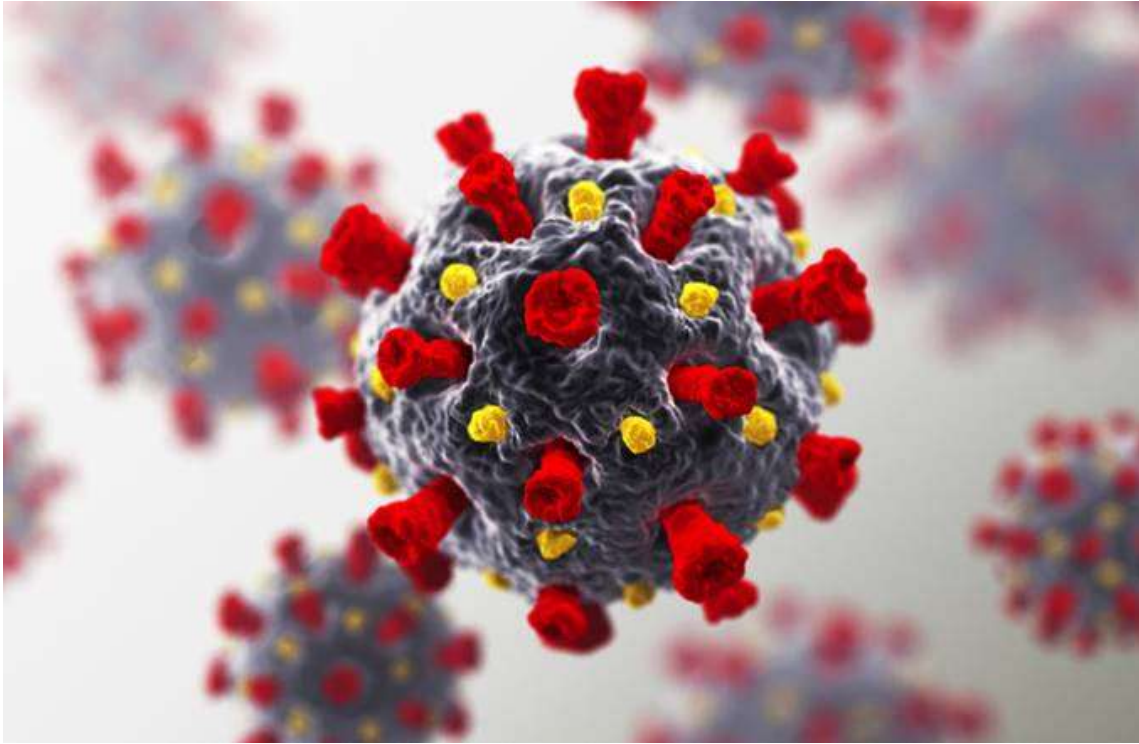
<https://coronavirus.health.ny.gov/covid-19-travel-advisory>

New Jersey

- Governor Phil Murphy today signed Executive Order No. 186. The Order extends the Public Health Emergency that was declared on March 9, 2020 through Executive Order No. 103, which was previously extended on April 7, May 6, June 4, July 2, August 1, and August 27. Under the Emergency Health Powers Act, a declared public health emergency expires after 30 days unless renewed.
<https://nj.gov/infobank/eo/056murphy/pdf/EO-186.pdf>

Connecticut

- Governor Ned Lamont announced details for his plans to move Connecticut into Phase 3 of the state's reopening amid the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic. The plan, which is targeted to take effect on Thursday, October 8, 2020, will ease some of the restrictions that were put into place on businesses and gatherings, while ensuring that the state continues taking a safe approach to limit spread of the virus. Business changes in Phase 3 will include:
 - Increase from 50 percent to 75 percent capacity indoors – subject to COVID-19 safety requirements – for restaurants, personal services, hair salons, barber shops, and libraries;
 - Outdoor event venues (e.g. amphitheaters, race tracks, etc.) will increase from 25 percent to 50 percent capacity with masks and social distancing requirements;
 - Indoor performing arts venues will be able to open at 50 percent capacity with masks and social distancing requirements; and
 - Bars and nightclubs will continue to remain closed.
 - <https://portal.ct.gov/Office-of-the-Governor/News/Press-Releases/2020/09-2020/Governor-Lamont-Announces-Connecticut-Moves-Toward-Phase-3-Reopening-on-October-8>
- The Department of Public Health has issued new COVID-19 guidelines for visitation in long term care facilities, and today's action means these locations in Connecticut are permitted to resume indoor visitation effective immediately, provided that certain conditions are met. <https://portal.ct.gov/Office-of-the-Governor/News/Press-Releases/2020/09-2020/Governor-Lamont-Coronavirus-Update-September-28>



Local Updates

New York Blood Center (NYBC)

For the latest updated NYBC information about COVID-19:

<https://www.nybc.org/covid-19/>

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

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

For NYC DOHMH's COVID-19 information for providers

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

For the NYC DOHMH's updated summary regarding quarantine, isolation and transmission

<https://www1.nyc.gov/assets/doh/downloads/pdf/imm/covid-19-provider-quarantine-precautions.pdf>

For the NYC DOHMH's updated FAQs for health care providers

<https://www1.nyc.gov/assets/doh/downloads/pdf/imm/covid-19-provider-faqs.pdf>

NYC DOHMH updates on Rapid COVID-19 testing

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

NYC DOHMH Dear Colleague letter on September 24

<https://www1.nyc.gov/assets/doh/downloads/pdf/covid/providers/covid-19-providers-dear-colleague-updates-09242020.pdf>

Westchester County Department of Health

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

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 updated GNYHA Public Health Agency Supply Management Guidance

<https://www.gnyha.org/tool/cdc-doh-and-dohmh-surveillance-and-testing-treatment-guidance-2/>

For the updated GNYHA Public Health Surge Planning Guidance

<https://www.gnyha.org/tool/agency-surge-planning-guidance/>

For the latest information on agency prevention and treatment guidance

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

CMS Nursing Facility Program and NY–RAH Project Conclude

<https://www.gnyha.org/news/cms-nursing-facility-program-and-ny-rah-project-conclude/>

Center for Disaster Medicine Media

Faculty News:

Westchester Health Commissioner Amler praised for Covid-19 Heroes honor

Westchester Business Journal

9/23/2020

<https://westfaironline.com/128589/westchester-health-commissioner-amler-praised-for-covid-19-heroes-honor/>

Sherlita Amler, M.D., M.S., clinical associate professor of pediatrics, adjunct professor of public health and senior fellow for Center for Disaster Medicine
George W. Contreras, M.E.P., M.P.H., M.S., CEM, FAcEM, assistant director of the CDM, assistant professor in the Institute of Public Health of the SHSP and assistant director of the Advanced Certificate in Emergency Management Program
Nigel Knox, M.D., clinical assistant professor of anesthesiology

New York Medical College Leadership News:

NYMC VP & Dean Robert W. Amler, M.D., M.B.A., talks CDC guideline changes on Fox 5, September 21, 2020

Fox 5

9/21/2020

<https://youtu.be/nzEgA7pOFZs>

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

Is It Safe to Go Trick-or-Treating During a Pandemic? Experts Have Recommendations

Glamour

9/24/2020

<https://www.glamour.com/story/is-it-safe-to-go-trick-or-treating-during-a-pandemic-experts-have-recommendations>

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

Affiliate News:

NYC Health + Hospitals/Metropolitan Launches Live Streaming Service For Parents And Loved Ones

The Harlem World

9/24/2020

<https://www.harlemworldmagazine.com/nyc-health-hospitals-metropolitan-launches-live-streaming-service-for-parents-and-loved-ones/>

NYC Health + Hospitals/Metropolitan

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