

1-19-2021

COVID-19 Newsletter (vol. 55)

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, January 19, 2021

During this COVID-19 pandemic and other future events, the CDM has been and will continue to be a source of reliable information, education and models for mitigation, preparedness, response, and recovery. We hope this informational document has helped provide you filtered and actionable information. As the pace of new information and changes occur, we will evaluate the current once per week to determine if this information should be provided on a more frequent basis.

David Markenson, M.D., M.B.A.
Director
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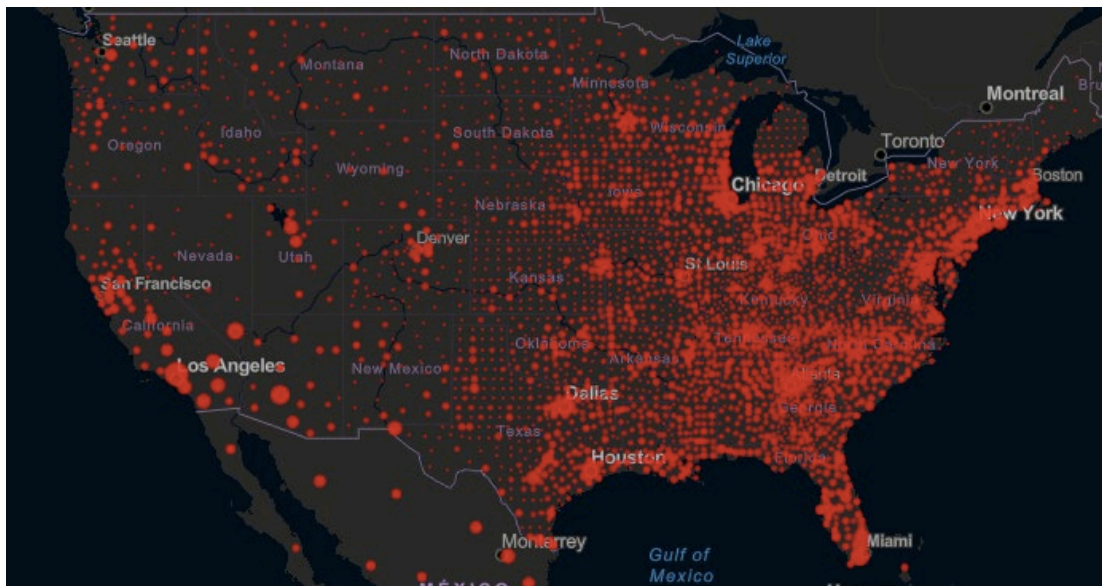
COVID-19 Statistics

	Total Cases	Total Deaths	Total Recovered	Total Tested

Worldwide	95,544,853	2,039,947	52,617,324	Not Available
United States	24,074,200	398,980	Not Available	281,142,160
New Jersey	631,074	20,458	62,937	8,691,786
New York	1,255,971	41,173	116,502	29,165,703
Connecticut	230,125	6,670	9,800	5,305,328

Information as of 1/19/21 at 0000 EST. 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.
- Coordinating and overseeing COVID-19 screenings at NYMC campus
- Offered Geriatric Emergency Medical Services and All Hazard Disaster Response courses to public safety provider
- Hosted The COVID-19 MCI: What Training Didn't Prepare Us For
- COVID-19 Vaccines: Virtual Q & A Session
- Offered Incident Response to Terrorist Bombing

Federal Updates

- The U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) began administering COVID-19 vaccinations to Department of Homeland Security (DHS) employees on January 6, through an interagency agreement to support DHS's COVID-19 vaccination program. The agreement was initiated in response to President Donald Trump's declaration of COVID-19 as a national emergency and falls under the Economy Act, which authorizes federal agencies to provide services or supplies to other federal agencies on a reimbursable basis. As part of the agreement, trained VA medical professionals at certain VA medical centers are vaccinating DHS employees using DHS's Centers for Disease Control and Prevention vaccine allocations. <https://www.va.gov/opa/pressrel/pressrelease.cfm?id=5603>
- The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) is expanding the requirement for a negative COVID-19 test to all air passengers entering the United States. Testing before and after travel is a critical layer to slow the introduction and spread of COVID-19. This strategy is consistent with the current phase of the pandemic and more efficiently protects the health of Americans. Variants of the SARS-CoV-2 virus continue to emerge in countries around the world, and there is evidence of increased transmissibility of some of these variants. With the U.S. already in surge status, the testing requirement for air passengers will help slow the spread of the virus as we work to vaccinate the American public. Before departure to the United States, a required test, combined with the CDC recommendations to get tested again three to five days after arrival and stay home for seven days post-travel, will help slow the spread of COVID-19 within U.S. communities from travel-related infections. Pre-departure testing with results known and acted upon before travel begins will help identify infected travelers before they board airplanes. <https://www.cdc.gov/media/releases/2021/s0112-negative-covid-19-air-passengers.html>

The White House

President Trump has unveiled Guidelines for Opening Up America Again, a three-phased approach based on the advice of public health experts. To review the Guidelines and obtain additional information regarding Opening Up America Again.

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

Office of The President-Elect

On December 29, 2020, President-elect Joe Biden and Vice President-elect Kamala Harris announced additional members of the White House COVID-19 Response team. These diverse, accomplished, and crisis-tested individuals will work to quickly implement a comprehensive, whole-of-government COVID-19 response strategy to contain the pandemic, restore public trust, and protect all Americans. President-Elect Biden and his team have established a website to keep the people updated in his plans as he begins to transition for a transfer of power on January 20, 2021. <https://buildbackbetter.gov>

Health and Human Services (HHS)

A web-based COVID-19 outpatient treatment locator maintained by the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) is now available to assist healthcare providers and patients in finding potential locations for treatment with monoclonal antibody therapeutics. These medicines are authorized for emergency use in treating patients with mild or moderate COVID-19 who are at high risk of developing severe symptoms and requiring hospitalization.

<https://www.hhs.gov/about/news/2021/01/11/hhs-launches-web-based-locator-for-covid-19-outpatient-treatment-sites-for-monoclonal-antibodies.html>

For the latest COVID-19 information from HHS

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

National Institutes of Health (NIH)

View the latest COVID-19 information from NIH

<https://www.nih.gov/coronavirus>

United States Food and Drug Administration (FDA)

As of January 8, 2021, 311 tests and sample collection devices are authorized by the FDA under emergency use authorizations (EUAs). These include 235 molecular tests and sample collection devices, 64 antibody tests, and 12 antigen tests. There are 32 molecular authorizations that can be used with home-collected samples. There is one molecular prescription at-home test, one antigen prescription at-home test, and one over-the-counter (OTC) at-home antigen test.

<https://www.fda.gov/news-events/press-announcements/coronavirus-covid-19-update-january-8-2021>

The FDA is alerting clinical laboratory staff and health care providers that they are monitoring the potential impact of viral mutations, including an emerging variant from the United Kingdom known as the B.1.1.7 variant, on authorized SARS-CoV-2 molecular tests, and that false negative results can occur with any molecular test for the detection of SARS-CoV-2 if a mutation occurs in the part of the virus's genome assessed by that test. The FDA is taking additional actions to ensure authorized tests remain accurate by working with test developers and conducting ongoing data analysis to evaluate all currently authorized molecular tests. The FDA believes the risk that these mutations will impact overall testing accuracy is low.

<https://www.fda.gov/news-events/press-announcements/fda-issues-alert-regarding-sars-cov-2-viral-mutation-health-care-providers-and-clinical-laboratory>

The FDA published a new toolkit to help stakeholders communicate in English and Spanish about hand sanitizer safety and use during the COVID-19 pandemic. New materials include social media messages and graphics, consumer information, and health professional messaging.

<https://www.fda.gov/emergency-preparedness-and-response/coronavirus-disease-2019-covid-19/hand-sanitizer-safety-and-use-communication-toolkit>

For the latest overall FDA information about COVID-19

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

Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC)

Before departure to the United States, a required test, combined with the CDC recommendations to get tested again three to five days after arrival and stay home for seven days post-travel, will help slow the spread of COVID-19 within US communities from travel-related infections. Pre-departure testing with results known and acted upon before travel begins will help identify infected travelers before they board airplanes. This new order will become effective January 26, 2021.

<https://www.cdc.gov/media/releases/2021/s0112-negative-covid-19-air-passengers.html>

CDC, in collaboration with other public health agencies, is monitoring the situation closely. CDC is working to detect and characterize emerging viral variants. Furthermore, CDC has staff available to provide on-the-ground technical support to investigate the epidemiologic

and clinical characteristics of SARS-CoV-2 variant infections. CDC will communicate new information as it becomes available.

<https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/more/science-and-research/scientific-brief-emerging-variants.html>

For daily updates of cases in United States

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

For the latest CDC information

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

Center for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS)

CMS) launched an innovative web-based platform to help standardize “Section 1135” waiver requests and other Public Health Emergency (PHE)-related inquiries the agency receives. The web tool’s user-friendly submission process will reduce burden on providers by streamlining how they document and submit 1135 waiver requests and PHE-related inquiries.

<https://www.cms.gov/newsroom/news-alert/cms-launches-automated-web-tool-1135-waiver-requests-and-public-health-emergency-related-inquiries>

View the latest information from CMS

<https://www.cms.gov/About-CMS/Agency-Information/Emergency/EPRO/Current-Emergencies/Current-Emergencies-page>

Vaccines

In this section, vaccine-related information from various sources will be collected, reviewed, and tabulated here. As of January 19, 2021, the FDA has granted Emergency Use Authorization (EUA) only to Pfizer BioNTech and Moderna. As additional vaccines are granted EUA, information for those vaccines will also be included.

On December 11, 2020, the FDA issued the first emergency use authorization (EUA) for a vaccine for the prevention of coronavirus disease 2019 (COVID-19) caused by severe acute respiratory syndrome coronavirus 2 (SARS-CoV-2) in individuals 16 years of age and older. The emergency use authorization allows the Pfizer-BioNTech COVID-19 Vaccine to be distributed in the U.S.

<https://www.fda.gov/emergency-preparedness-and-response/coronavirus-disease-2019-covid-19/pfizer-biontech-covid-19-vaccine>

On December 18, 2020, the FDA issued an emergency use authorization (EUA) for the second vaccine for the prevention of coronavirus disease 2019 (COVID-19) caused by severe acute respiratory syndrome coronavirus 2 (SARS-CoV-2). The emergency use authorization allows the Moderna COVID-19 Vaccine to be distributed in the U.S for use in individuals 18 years of age and older.

<https://www.fda.gov/emergency-preparedness-and-response/coronavirus-disease-2019-covid-19/moderna-covid-19-vaccine>

Two different mRNA vaccines have now shown remarkable effectiveness of about 95% in preventing COVID-19 disease in adults. As the first round of vaccine recipients become eligible to receive their second dose, we want to remind the public about the importance of receiving COVID-19 vaccines according to how they've been authorized by the FDA in order to safely receive the level of protection observed in the large randomized trials supporting their effectiveness.

<https://www.fda.gov/news-events/press-announcements/fda-statement-following-authorized-dosing-schedules-covid-19-vaccines>

CDC created a section regarding the Moderna vaccine to provide updated relevant information including side effects and safety data, clinical trials demographic statistics, and information on how the vaccine works.

<https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/vaccines/different-vaccines/Moderna.html>

CDC created a section regarding the Pfizer BioNTech vaccine to provide updated relevant information including side effects and safety data, clinical trials demographic statistics, and information on how the vaccine works.

<https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/vaccines/different-vaccines/Pfizer-BioNTech.html>

As of January 11, 2021, New Yorkers in Phase 1a and segments of Phase 1b are eligible for the vaccines. ALL VACCINATIONS ARE BY APPOINTMENT ONLY. More and more New Yorkers will become eligible as the vaccine supply increases. The Federal Government determines how much vaccine New York State receives. The Federal Government has only given New York approximately 250,000 vaccines/week for over 7 million people who are eligible – as a result supply is very limited. While the vaccination process is underway, every New Yorker should wear a mask, social distance and avoid small and large gatherings. Vaccines are available at pharmacies, hospitals and through local health departments statewide – please contact your provider of choice to schedule your vaccine appointment. Additionally, there is a network of State-run sites distributing vaccines statewide — to determine eligibility and schedule appointments at New York State-run vaccination sites only, use the Am I Eligible app. Second dose appointments will be booked at the site where you receive your first shot. Remember: Both vaccines require two doses for effectiveness.

<https://covid19vaccine.health.ny.gov/>

NYS DOH created an online survey to determine if you are eligible to schedule a vaccine appointment. You can complete the survey here to see if you are eligible.

<https://am-i-eligible.covid19vaccine.health.ny.gov/>

New York State will distribute the COVID-19 vaccine in phases based on need and risk. New Yorkers who are more likely to be exposed to the virus, and who are more likely to become seriously ill if they get COVID-19, will be offered the vaccine first. Both the federal government and New York State have developed plans to ensure that everyone will be able to get a COVID-19 vaccine as soon as large quantities are available, at no cost no matter where they live.

<https://covid19vaccine.health.ny.gov/phased-distribution-vaccine#phase-1a---phase-1b>

Vaccines will help prevent the spread of COVID-19 and bring this pandemic to an end. As Americans get vaccinated over the next few months, it is important to continue to follow

public health safety measures. Wear a mask, wash your hands, and watch your distance to protect yourself, your loved ones, and your community. Refer to this Health and Human Services (HHS) website to get the latest information about COVID-19 vaccine.

<https://www.hhs.gov/coronavirus/covid-19-vaccines/index.html>

Educational Institution Information

- Higher Education
 - The U.S. Department of Education last week released details on exactly how much money thousands of colleges and universities are receiving out of \$21.2 billion in COVID-19 emergency funding signed into law at the end of December. In total, about \$20.5 billion is going to public and nonprofit colleges and universities. Another \$681 million is flowing to for-profit, or proprietary, institutions. The money for public and nonprofit institutions is split between funding reserved for student grants and funding that can go toward other institutional costs like lost revenue or paying for technology used in distance education. For-profit institutions are required to use the money for financial aid grants for students.
<https://www.insidehighered.com/news/2021/01/18/search-find-how-much-funding-your-college-or-university-will-receive-new-round-covid>
 - Since colleges and universities announced last summer that they would be opening their doors to students, critics have argued that doing so was irresponsible and would lead to infections and deaths in nearby communities. New peer-reviewed analysis released today in *Computer Methods in Biomechanics and Biomedical Engineering* suggests that, for some colleges, the link was indeed present.
<https://www.insidehighered.com/news/2021/01/13/college-openings-led-increase-community-cases-research-says>
- K-12
 - Coronavirus vaccines are now rolling out across the country, and health-care workers and older people have been among the first to get their shots. Teachers and other school staff members are also on many priority lists, and efforts are well underway in some places to get them vaccinated quickly, too. But that's not true everywhere. Exactly where educators as a group fall within phased vaccination plans—and the speed with which those phases are happening—varies greatly from state to state. While the Centers for Disease Control has put out guidance on how to prioritize different groups of people for the vaccine, states can ultimately make their own decisions on rollout. To keep readers updated on where things stand, Education Week is tracking plans for vaccinating K-12 educators across all 50 states, the District of Columbia, and Puerto Rico. <https://www.edweek.org/policy-politics/where-teachers-are-eligible-for-the-covid-19-vaccine/2021/01>
 - Color-Coded Tracking Sheets and Swift Isolation: One Principal's COVID-19 Approach <https://www.edweek.org/leadership/color-coded->

[tracking-sheets-and-swift-isolation-one-principals-covid-19-approach/2021/01](#)

Clinical Trials

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

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

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 announced the first five community vaccination kits have been deployed to NYCHA housing developments across New York City. These sites bolster New York State's efforts to equitably distribute the COVID-19 vaccine in communities that are underserved by traditional healthcare institutions. The sites are strictly limited to eligible NYCHA residents. Residents can make appointments by contacting Somos, the state's partner organization, by calling 1-833-SOMOSNY. <https://www.governor.ny.gov/news/governor-cuomo-announces-first-five-community-vaccination-kits-deployed-nycha-housing>
- Governor Cuomo updated New Yorkers on the distribution of the COVID-19 vaccine after the first four weeks of availability for non-long term care facilities. The State's vaccine supply is determined by the federal government, and although more than 7 million New Yorkers are now eligible for the COVID vaccine, the state only receives 300,000 doses per week from the federal government. To date, New York's health care distribution sites have administered 75 percent of doses received from the federal government. <https://www.governor.ny.gov/news/governor-cuomo-updates-new-yorkers-vaccine-distribution-efforts>
- Governor Cuomo announced a proposal to open the Dormitory Authority of the State of New York's low-cost financing, design and construction services to all non-profits and school districts as part of the Governor's 2021 State of the State agenda. Through this innovative program, nonprofit organizations and school districts can access the Dormitory Authority of the State of New York's services for needed capital improvements at lower costs during the COVID-19 state of emergency so they can spend their limited resources on vital services. Importantly, DASNY also would be authorized to assist with providing finance for working capital needs, a service which can be costly for these types of entities. <https://www.governor.ny.gov/news/governor-cuomo-announces-proposal-open-dormitory-authoritys-low-cost-finance-design-and>
- Governor Cuomo announced eight community vaccination kits have been deployed to churches and cultural institutions in New York City, Long Island and Westchester. These sites bolster New York State's efforts to equitably distribute the COVID-19 vaccine to communities of color and low-income communities that are underserved by

traditional healthcare institutions. The Manhattan site at Abyssinian Baptist Church opened and the remaining sites opened January 18. Reverend Dr. Calvin O. Butts, III of the Abyssinian Baptist Church was the first to be vaccinated at the site. The sites opened to all eligible New Yorkers. The state is planning similar pop-up vaccination sites in upstate communities. <https://www.governor.ny.gov/news/governor-cuomo-announces-eight-community-vaccination-kits-deployed-churches-cultural-centers>

- Governor Cuomo announced the state-run, vaccination sites at SUNY Stony Brook, Aqueduct Racetrack, SUNY Potsdam and Plattsburgh International Airport are now open and vaccinating eligible New Yorkers against the COVID-19 virus. Vaccinations are by appointment only. To determine eligibility and schedule an appointment to receive their first dose, New Yorkers can utilize the state's 'Am I Eligible' app or call the New York State Vaccination Hotline at 1-833-NYS-4VAX (1-833-697-4829). Appointments to receive the second dose at these sites are scheduled in-person after receiving the first dose. New Yorkers should not attempt to book their second appointment online. <https://www.governor.ny.gov/news/governor-cuomo-announces-state-vaccination-sites-opening-suny-stony-brook-aqueduct-racetrack>

New York State Department of Health (DOH)

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>

Get the NYS DOH COVID-19 App to stay informed. Download the COVID-19 Alert NY app, New York State's official exposure notification app, to get private exposure alerts.

<https://coronavirus.health.ny.gov/covid-alert-ny>

NYS DOH has created a dynamic COVID-19 Tracker which provides COVID-19 information regarding testing, cases, percentages, and fatalities across New York State. It also breaks down cases by county.

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

For the latest COVID-19 information from NYS DOH

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

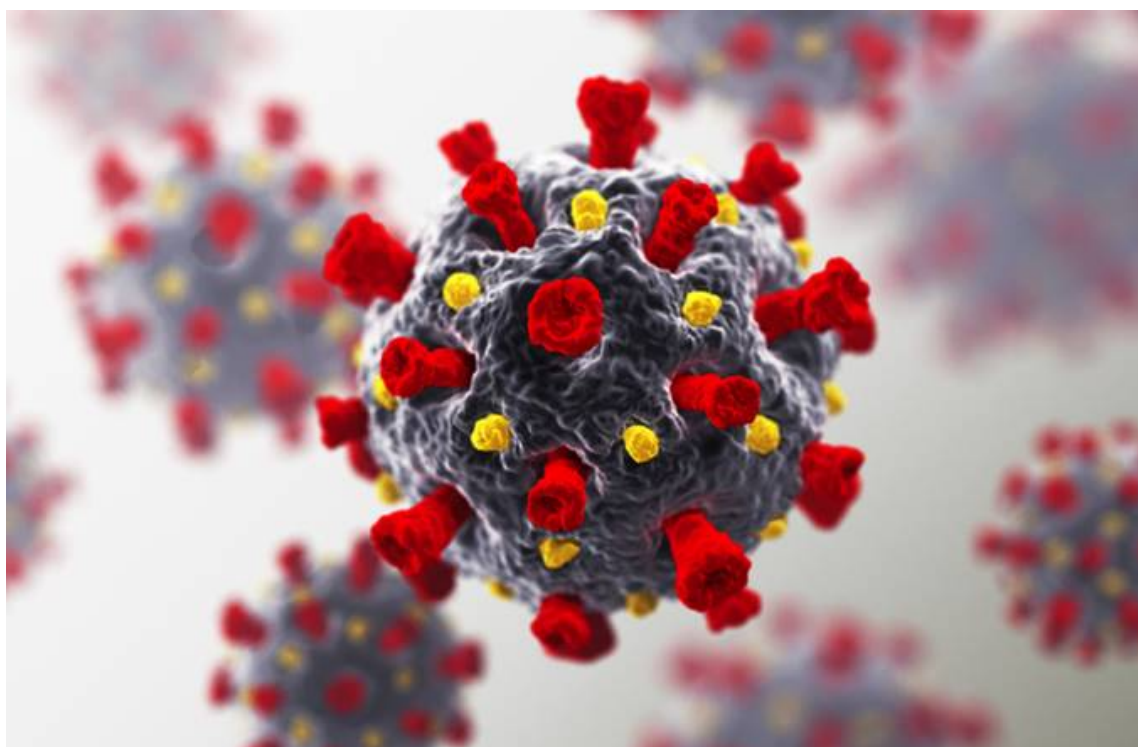
New Jersey

- Governor Phil Murphy announced two additional categories of New Jersey residents eligible to receive the COVID-19 vaccination. Beginning January 14, all New Jersey residents ages 65 and older, and individuals ages 16-64 with certain medical conditions, as defined by the CDC, that increase the risk of severe illness from the virus, are eligible for the

COVID-19 vaccination. Those conditions include cancer, chronic kidney disease, COPD, Down Syndrome, heart conditions, obesity and severe obesity, sickle cell disease, smoking, and type 2 diabetes mellitus. Individuals who are pregnant and those in an immunocompromised state (weakened immune system) from solid organ transplant are also eligible but should follow CDC guidance and first discuss vaccination with their medical provider before receiving the vaccine. In addition to paid and unpaid healthcare workers in Phase 1A, these two groups mark the expansion of eligible residents in Phase 1B, which recently opened to include sworn law enforcement and fire professionals. <https://www.state.nj.us/governor/news/news/562021/approved/20210113a.shtml>

Connecticut

- Governor Ned Lamont announced that an executive order he signed last month expanding eligibility in the federal Lost Wages Assistance (LWA) Program has resulted in 22,837 unemployed Connecticut residents receiving an additional \$35 million in federal payments over the last several weeks. The LWA program offered an additional \$300 in weekly benefits for six weeks late last summer to claimants who were unemployed due to the COVID-19 pandemic. However, to be eligible for the program, the Trump administration required that all claimants must be receiving more than \$100 per week in unemployment benefits, leaving thousands in the state unable to participate. <https://portal.ct.gov/Office-of-the-Governor/News/Press-Releases/2021/01-2021/Governor-Lamont-Expansion-of-Lost-Wages-Assistance-Program>
- Governor Lamont announced that phase 1b of Connecticut's COVID-19 vaccine rollout began on Monday, January 18, 2021, and residents in the state over the age of 75 can now schedule appointments to receive the vaccine. <https://portal.ct.gov/Office-of-the-Governor/News/Press-Releases/2021/01-2021/Governor-Lamont-Announces-Connecticut-Residents-Over-75-Can-Now-Register-for-Appointments>
- The Connecticut Department of Social Services today announced that it will provide a total of \$25.5 million in additional federal food benefits to Connecticut residents in two allocations this week through the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP). This emergency COVID aid will go to households that are not currently receiving the maximum benefits allowed for their household size. This means that all households enrolled in SNAP will receive the maximum food benefit allowable for their household size, even if they are not usually eligible for the maximum benefit. <https://portal.ct.gov/Office-of-the-Governor/News/Press-Releases/2021/01-2021/Governor-Lamont-Coronavirus-Update-January-18>



Local Updates

New York Blood Center (NYBC)

For the latest updated NYBC information about COVID-19:

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

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

For NYC DOHMH's COVID-19 information for providers

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

For NYC DOHMH updated COVID-19 data page

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

For NYC DOHMH updated guidance regarding COVID-19 vaccine

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

NYC DOHMH provides updated COVID-19 information regarding prevention and groups at higher risk and reminds people to do their part to help prevent the spread of COVID-19 in NYC by taking a few steps every day.

<https://www1.nyc.gov/site/doh/covid/covid-19-prevention-and-care.page>

NYC DOHMH provides an update on vaccination distribution which is subject to change.

<https://www1.nyc.gov/assets/doh/downloads/pdf/covid/planned-covid-19-vaccine-distribution-nyc>

For the latest COVID-19 information from NYC DOHMH

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

Westchester County Department of Health

New York State (NYS) has greatly expanded the groups now eligible to receive the COVID-19 vaccine. At this time, the Westchester County Department of Health has no appointments available. We are waiting for further vaccine allocation from NYS. In the meantime you can go to the NYS Vaccine Website and select the "Am I Eligible" option to find providers who may have appointments available. Starting at 4:00 p.m. on January 11, 2021 the NYS COVID-19 Vaccination Hotline began scheduling vaccination appointments for eligible New Yorkers: 1-833-NYS-4-VAX (1-833-697-4829).

Vaccine Scam Alert- If you get a call, text, email, or even someone knocking at your door, claiming that they can get you early access to the COVID-19 vaccine, IT'S A SCAM! It is important to know that:

The vaccine will be free. There are no sign-up lists for the vaccine. You cannot pay to get the vaccine earlier. Medicare or Social Security will not call you about the vaccine. You do not need to give your social security number, credit card or bank information to get the vaccine. Contact the

Westchester County Department of Consumer Protection if you are contacted by a vaccine scammer at (914) 995-2155 or by e-mail at ConPro@westchestergov.com.

For the latest COVID-19 information in Westchester including how to avoid the latest vaccine scams offering earlier access to vaccines.

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

Putnam County Department of Health

As of January 11, 2021, PCDOH does not have appointment availability. We anticipate a closed POD to be scheduled this week for specific portions of those eligible under phase 1b. As soon as the Putnam County Department of Health receives additional guidance from New York State regarding vaccinations for those eligible in Phase 1B, this information will be shared with our community and additional PODs will be scheduled.

Breakdown of positive cases by towns in Putnam County as of January 15, 2021-

<https://www.putnamcountyny.com/covid19/>

For the latest COVID-19 information

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

Dutchess County Department of Health

For the latest COVID-19 information:

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

Orange County Department of Health

For the latest COVID-19 information

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

Updated COVID-19 dashboard for Orange County, NY

<https://ocnygis.maps.arcgis.com/apps/opsdashboard/index.html#/21de1fb5ce0c480f95dc0cf2b8b83b71>

Rockland County Department of Health

Review Rockland County's dashboard with the latest COVID-19 information regarding cases, hospitalizations and deaths

<https://rockland-covid-19-portal-rockland.hub.arcgis.com/>

County's COVID-19 Call Center 845-238-1956 is available Monday-Friday from 8:00 am-5:00 p.m. or email COVIDCallCenter@co.rockland.ny.us

For the latest COVID-19 information

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

Healthcare

GNYHA provides updates from New York State on its COVID-19 vaccine program.

<https://www.gnyha.org/news/updated-vaccine-guidance-1b-priority-groups-minimizing-vaccine-wastage-and-tonights-vaccine-event/>

GNYHA provides the latest vaccination guidance updates as the rollout continues throughout New York City area. Please refer to this website to get the latest information.

<https://www.gnyha.org/tool/public-health-agency-vaccination-guidance/>

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/>



Center for Disaster Medicine Media

New York Medical College Leadership News:

Coronavirus Update New York City: Rep. Adriano Espaillat (D-NY) tests positive for COVID-19

ABC News 7

[https://abc7ny.com/health/rep-adriano-espaillat-\(d-ny\)-tests-positive-for-covid-19/9652674/](https://abc7ny.com/health/rep-adriano-espaillat-(d-ny)-tests-positive-for-covid-19/9652674/)

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

CDC Now Says Everyone Over 65 Should Get Access to COVID-19 Vaccine

Simpler guidelines may speed rollout

Healthline

1/13/2021

<https://www.healthline.com/health-news/cdc-now-says-everyone-over-65-should-get-access-to-covid-19-vaccine>

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Faculty News:

U.S. breaks world record for daily coronavirus deaths

NBC News

1/8/2021

<https://www.cbsnews.com/video/us-breaks-world-record-for-daily-coronavirus-deaths/?intcid=CNM-00-10abd1h>

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

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