

3-8-2022

## COVID-19 Newsletter (Vol. 109)

Center for Disaster Medicine, New York Medical College

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# NEW YORK MEDICAL COLLEGE

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## Center for Disaster Medicine



**Tuesday, March 8, 2022**

*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  
Center for Disaster Medicine

**COVID-19 Statistics**

	Total Cases	Total Deaths	Total Vaccine Doses Admin.
Worldwide	448,115,752	6,009,179	10,619,810,511
United States	79,341,149	960,354	553,425,305
New Jersey	2,175,439	33,027	16,637,111
New York	4,938,085	67,571	38,005,878
Connecticut	727,542	10,542	7,320,095

Information as of 3/8/22 at 0900 EST. Source: <https://coronavirus.jhu.edu/map.html>

### **United States COVID-19 Case Map / GIS**



### **Center for Disaster Medicine Updates**

- Coordinating and overseeing COVID-19 screenings at NYMC campus.
- Continue to partner with local organizations such as Westchester Department of Emergency Services and Westchester Medical Center to ensure ongoing collaboration with all public safety agencies.
- 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.
- 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.
- On March 7, 2022, CDM staff George W. Contreras led a team of instructors and provided "Stop the Bleed" training to 70 nursing students at the NYU Rory Meyers School of Nursing.

## **The White House**

On March 2, 2022, the administration announced President Biden's National COVID-19 Preparedness Plan. The plan has four major areas: protect against and treat COVID, prepare for any new variants, prevent economic and school shutdowns, vaccinate the world and save lives. <https://www.whitehouse.gov/briefing-room/press-briefings/2022/03/02/press-briefing-by-white-house-and-hhs-public-health-officials-march-2-2022/>

The official website of the White House will deliver updated information as the country grapples with converging crises. This will include actions to control the COVID-19 pandemic, provide economic relief, tackle climate change, and advance racial equity and civil rights, as well as immediate actions to reform our immigration system and restore America's standing in the world. This website will provide all information in one central location. <https://www.whitehouse.gov>

## **Health and Human Services (HHS)**

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>

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## **United States Food and Drug Administration (FDA)**

As of March 4, 2022, 419 tests and sample collection devices are authorized by the FDA under emergency use authorizations (EUAs). These include 290 molecular tests and sample collection devices, 85 antibody and other immune response tests and 44 antigen tests. There are 70 molecular authorizations and 1 antibody authorization that can be used with home-collected samples. There is 1 EUA for a molecular prescription at-home test, 2 EUAs for antigen prescription at-home tests, 14 EUAs for antigen over-the-counter (OTC) at-home tests, and 3 for molecular OTC at-home tests. The FDA has authorized 25

antigen tests and 9 molecular tests for serial screening programs. The FDA has also authorized 859 revisions to EUA authorizations.

<https://www.fda.gov/news-events/press-announcements/fda-roundup-march-4-2022>

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)**

On March 4, 2022, CDC updated its measurement of COVID-19 community levels. With current high levels of vaccination and high levels of population immunity from both vaccination and infections, the risk of medically significant disease, hospitalization, and death from COVID-19 is greatly reduced for most people. At the same time, we know that some people and communities, such as our oldest citizens, people who are immunocompromised, and people with disabilities, are at higher risk for serious illness and face challenging decisions navigating a world with COVID-19.

<https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/science/community-levels.html>

On March 3, 2022, CDC updated COVID-19 Community Levels. As of March 3, more than 90 percent of the U.S. population is in a location with low or medium COVID-19 Community Level. Going forward this data will be updated on Thursdays. This data will help counties make informed decisions and take appropriate public health actions.

<https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/your-health/covid-by-county.html>

CDC provides updated information about the variants in the United States- The emerging variants CDC is closely monitoring have mutations in the virus genome that alter the characteristics and cause the virus to act differently in ways that are significant to public health (e.g., causes more severe disease, spreads more easily between humans, requires different treatments, changes the effectiveness of current vaccines). It's important to understand that genetic mutations are expected, and some variants can spread and become predominant while others subside.

<https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/transmission/variant-cases.html>

CDC provides daily data tracker which has maps and charts tracking cases, deaths, and trends of COVID-19 in the United States- updated daily by 8 p.m. ET.

<https://covid.cdc.gov/covid-data-tracker/#datatracker-home>

For the latest CDC information

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

### **Center for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) +**

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 March 8, 2022, the FDA has granted Emergency Use Authorization (EUA) to Janssen/Johnson & Johnson. On August 23, 2021, the FDA granted full approval to Pfizer. On January 31, 2022, the FDA granted full approval to Moderna. Now with two vaccines with full FDA approval and one vaccine with EUA, the goal is to vaccinate a larger number of persons in the coming months throughout the United States. As additional vaccines are granted EUA, information for those vaccines will also be included.

CDC created this section regarding COVID-19 vaccinations in the United States- CDC provides overall U.S. COVID-19 Vaccine, deliveries and administration, maps, charts, and data updated daily by 8 PM. This section represents all vaccine partners including jurisdictional partner clinics, retail pharmacies, long-term care facilities, Federal Emergency Management Agency and Health Resources and Services Administration partner sites, and federal entity facilities.

<https://covid.cdc.gov/covid-data-tracker/#vaccinations>

The NYS DOH COVID-19 Vaccine Tracker Dashboard will update New Yorkers on the distribution of the vaccine including the number of doses received by the state, a breakdown of first or second doses, and the number of persons vaccinated with the first and second doses in each region.

<https://covid19vaccine.health.ny.gov/covid-19-vaccine-tracker>

On March 7, 2022, Governor Hochul updated New Yorkers on the state's progress combating COVID-19. "We continue to see downward trends across the State thanks to the hard work and dedication of New Yorkers," Governor Hochul said. "I am grateful for the resiliency and tenacity shown by New Yorkers throughout our battle with COVID-19. I have faith that we will continue to work together to battle whatever comes our way, and the best way to do that is for everyone who hasn't gotten vaccinated to get their shot today."

<https://www.governor.ny.gov/news/governor-hochul-updates-new-yorkers-states-progress-combating-covid-19-200>

CDC created this section regarding the Johnson & Johnson's Janssen 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/janssen.html>

CDC created this 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. As of January 31, 2022, the fully FDA approved Moderna vaccine will now be known as SPIKEVAX for ages 18 and older.

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

CDC created this 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. As of October 16, 2021, the fully FDA approved Pfizer vaccine will now be known as COMIRNATY for ages 16 and older.

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

HHS created this section to provide the latest information about COVID-19 vaccines.

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

For NYC DOHMH updated guidance regarding COVID-19 vaccine

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

The Vaccine Finder is a one-stop site for New Yorkers to find their nearest COVID-19 vaccination location. The Vaccine Finder can also provide New Yorkers with information to schedule vaccination appointments.

<https://vaccinefinder.nyc.gov/>

### **Educational Institution Information**

- Higher Education
  - Northern Essex Community College introduced new initiatives to enroll and retain Hispanic students after the pandemic led to a sharp enrollment decline. The college recovered the losses, and administrators learned lasting lessons about how to better serve these students. Read more at <https://www.insidehighered.com/news/2022/03/08/northern-essex-community-college-regains-hispanic-students>
  
- K-12
  - The COVID-19 pandemic has fast-tracked proposals by the National Assessment Governing Board to rethink the way it administers assessments, said Lesley Muldoon, executive director of NAGB, on Thursday during the first of two segments of a quarterly board meeting. Proposals include linking National Assessment of Education Progress assessments with local and state tests, as well as with formative assessments. Linking NAEP with other assessments is a request National Center for Education Statistics Commissioner Peggy Carr said she has heard from multiple school districts. “We have some messaging challenges that I’m picking up, and we also have some challenges around how to make our activities more relevant and have more utility for those stakeholders with boots on the ground,” Carr said. Other innovations floated by the commissioner and others during the meeting include increasing diagnostic reporting around equity issues, offering remote proctoring especially for virtual or homeschooled students, and including aspects that aren’t traditionally assessed like career and technical education. <https://www.k12dive.com/news/nagb-weighs-linking-naep-with-other-assessments-as-covid-19-fast-tracks-inn/619837/>



**Clinical Trials**

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

<https://www.clinicaltrials.gov/ct2/results?recrs=&cond=Covid19&term=&cntry=&state=&city=&dist=>

**American Red Cross**

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

**State Updates**

## **New York**

- Statement from Governor Kathy Hochul on the MTA Receiving \$769 Million in Additional COVID Relief Funding from the Federal Transit Administration: “The MTA is the lifeblood of the New York City region, and investing in quality, reliable transit service is key to our economic recovery. This additional \$769 million in funding brings the total federal pandemic aid for the MTA to over \$15 billion and is a victory for New Yorkers who rely on the system. I thank Senators Schumer and Gillibrand and our Congressional delegation for their ongoing support of our transportation systems as we keep working to bring our economy back.” <https://www.governor.ny.gov/news/statement-governor-kathy-hochul-mta-receiving-769-million-additional-covid-relief-funding>

## **New York State Department of Health (DOH)**

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>

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>

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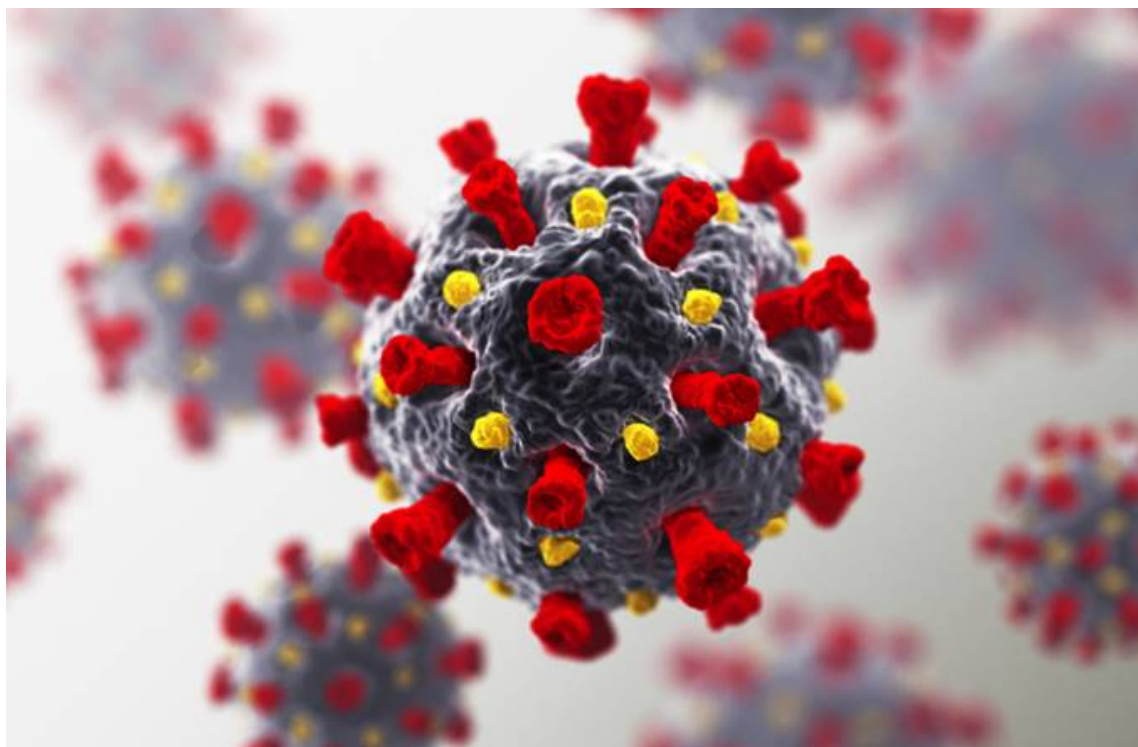
## **New Jersey**

- Governor Phil Murphy signed Executive Order No. 290, which updates and clarifies timeframes for requiring covered workers at health care facilities and high-risk congregate settings to be up to date with their COVID-19 vaccinations, including having received a booster shot. EO No. 290 aligns state timelines with updated Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) recommendations on optimal intervals between first and second doses of an mRNA COVID-19 vaccination series, in addition to other updates. “Over the course of our COVID-19 response, we have always followed the science in decision-making, and this is no different,” said Governor Murphy. “This executive order ensures that our COVID-19 vaccination requirements for covered workers in medical and high-risk congregate settings are able to properly keep themselves and those whom they care for safe.” EO No. 290 clarifies that health care facilities subject to the federal Centers for Medicaid & Medicare Services (CMS) rule

must have a policy in place that requires their covered workers to complete their primary series of the COVID-19 vaccination within the timeframes set forth in the guidance for the federal CMS Rule. Additionally, EO No. 290 modifies the timeframe within which health care facilities' covered workers must obtain their booster dose to be April 11, 2022 or within three weeks of becoming eligible, whichever is later. EO No. 290 also modifies the deadline by which high risk congregate care settings must require their covered workers to submit proof that they are up to date with their vaccination by May 11, 2022, including any booster for which they are eligible. Workers who become newly eligible for a booster shot after the May 11, 2022 deadline, will be required to submit proof of their booster shot within three weeks of becoming eligible. The executive order also requires a covered setting to take the first step toward bringing a noncompliant covered worker into compliance as part of the disciplinary policy required by Executive Order No. 283 (2022) within two weeks of the respective April 11, 2022 and May 11, 2022 deadlines. Under the EO, failure to take such action may result in penalties and other corrective actions allowed pursuant to federal or state regulation or statute. <https://nj.gov/infobank/eo/056murphy/pdf/EO-290.pdf>

- At his final COVID-19 press briefing, Governor Murphy announced the signing of Executive Order No. 292, which lifts the COVID-19 Public Health Emergency in addition to the statewide school and daycare mask mandate, effective on Monday, March 7. This major step has been made possible by the Murphy Administration's comprehensive and successful pandemic response efforts. "With COVID-19 moving into an endemic, the time has come to move toward normalcy," said Governor Murphy. "In the past two years, New Jerseyans have shown great strength, resiliency, and kindness during one of the most difficult and trying times in the history of our state. The steps I am taking today have been made possible by our highly successful vaccination efforts and the collective efforts of the people of our state."

<https://www.nj.gov/governor/news/news/562022/approved/20220304b.shtml>



## Local Updates

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### **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)**

On March 4, 2022, New York City Mayor Eric Adams announced several changes to COVID-19 pandemic restrictions that will continue to protect the health and safety of all New Yorkers, while simultaneously boosting the city's economic recovery. In the face of quickly declining COVID-19 cases and hospitalizations and more than 17 million doses of vaccines administered, Mayor Adams announced the suspension of the Key to NYC program and the removal of indoor mask mandates in city public schools for K-12 students.

<https://www1.nyc.gov/office-of-the-mayor/news/108-22/as-covid-cases-plummet-vaccination-rates-reach-new-heights-mayor-adams-next-phase-of#/0>

On March 4, 2022, Mayor Adams released a new color-coded system that tracks COVID-19 alerts and keeps New York City residents apprised of the risks they face in New York City. This new system will better help New Yorkers understand the current level of COVID-19 risk and how they can best protect themselves and others based on the current risk. The system consists of four alert levels

that outline precautions and recommended actions for individuals and government based on the Center for Disease Control and Prevention's (CDC) Community Burden Indicator.

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

NYC DOHMH launched a new variants data page. The data on this page show how variants of the virus that causes COVID-19 are spreading in NYC. Variants are versions of the virus with certain sets of mutations. Some variants may result in a COVID-19 infection that is easier to spread, more severe or able to avoid antibodies from vaccines or previous infections.

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

For NYC DOHMH updated COVID-19 data page

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

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**

For the latest breakdown of positive cases in Westchester County as of March 6, 2022

<https://wcgis.maps.arcgis.com/apps/dashboards/280339d96db14efd9cc304dba0f3a71d>

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**

Breakdown of positive cases by towns in Putnam County as of March 2, 2022.

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

For the latest COVID-19 information

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

### **Dutchess County Department of Health**

Breakdown of positive cases in Dutchess County as of March 7, 2022.

<https://www.dutchessny.gov/Departments/DBCH/covid-19-dashboard.htm>

For the latest COVID-19 information:

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

### **Orange County Department of Health**

Updated COVID-19 dashboard for Orange County, NY as of March 7, 2022.

<https://ocnygis.maps.arcgis.com/apps/dashboards/21de1fb5ce0c480f95dc0cf2b8b83b71>

For the latest COVID-19 information

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

### **Rockland County Department of Health**

Review Rockland County's dashboard with the latest COVID-19 information regarding cases as of March 4, 2022.

<https://www.arcgis.com/apps/dashboards/d074e0336e81449393a76d1768ceb096>

Review Rockland County's dashboard with the latest COVID-19 information regarding cases as of February 4, 2022.

<https://www.arcgis.com/apps/dashboards/d074e0336e81449393a76d1768ceb096>

### **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/>



**Center for Disaster Medicine Media**

#### **Faculty News:**

**COVID-19 long-haulers find hope in Westchester recovery program**

NY1

2/16/2022

<https://spectrumlocalnews.com/nys/central-ny/news/2022/02/16/covid-19-long-haulers-find-hope-with-westchester-recovery-program->

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