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COVID-19 Newsletter (Vol. 112)

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 29, 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.

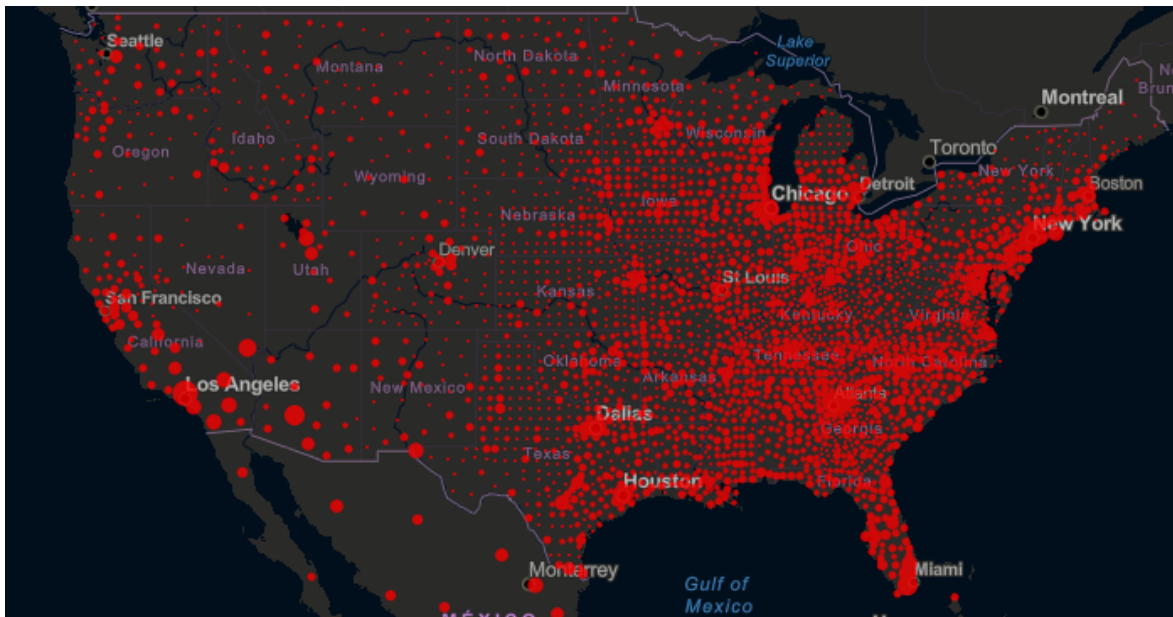
David Markenson, M.D., M.B.A.
Director
Center for Disaster Medicine

COVID-19 Statistic

	Total Cases	Total Deaths	Total Vaccine Doses Admin.
Worldwide	482,336,521	6,127,469	10,899,389,368
United States	79,995,544	977,688	558,051,039
New Jersey	2,195,963	33,217	16,772,152
New York	4,985,450	67,939	38,278,324
Connecticut	735,210	10,759	7,383,729

Information as of 3/29/22 at 0600 EDT. 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.

The White House

On March 28, 2022, The Biden Administration makes historic investment in Pandemic Preparedness and Biodefense in the FY 2023 President's Budget- The FY23 President's Budget includes a historic \$88.2 billion request for mandatory funding, available over five years, across the Department of Health and Human Services (HHS), the Office of the Assistant Secretary for Preparedness and Response (ASPR), the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), the National Institutes of Health (NIH), the Food and Drug Administration (FDA), the Department of State, and the U.S. Agency for International Development (USAID) to prepare for future biological threats in support of objectives within U.S. national and global biodefense and pandemic preparedness strategies and plans.

<https://www.whitehouse.gov/briefing-room/statements-releases/2022/03/28/fact-sheet-the-biden-administrations-historic-investment-in-pandemic-preparedness-and-biodefense-in-the-fy-2023-presidents-budget/>

Press Briefing by White House COVID-19 Response Team and Public Health Officials- On March 23, 2022, Drs. Fauci and Walensky provided an update regarding the COVID-19 response.

<https://www.whitehouse.gov/briefing-room/press-briefings/2022/03/23/press-briefing-by-white-house-covid-19-response-team-and-public-health-officials-84/>

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)

On March 28, 2022, The Biden-Harris Administration submitted to Congress the President's Budget for fiscal year 2023. The President's Budget details his vision to expand on the historic progress our country has made over the last year and deliver the agenda he laid out in his State of the Union address—to build a healthier America, reduce the deficit, reduce costs for families, and grow the economy from the bottom up and middle out.

<https://www.hhs.gov/about/news/2022/03/28/statement-hhs-secretary-becerra-presidents-fiscal-year-2023-budget.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)

On March 28, 2022, the FDA announced that it seeks \$8.4 Billion to further investments in Critical Public Health Modernization, Core Food and Medical Product Safety Programs- the U.S. Food and Drug Administration announced it is requesting a total budget of \$8.4 billion as part of the President's fiscal year (FY) 2023 budget – a nearly 34% (\$2.1 billion) increase over the agency's FY 2022 appropriated funding level for investments in critical public health modernization, core food safety and medical product safety programs and other vital public health infrastructure. The request includes \$3.7 billion in budget authority – including an increase of \$356 million, and \$3 billion in user fees – an increase of \$153 million. The request also includes \$1.6 billion in mandatory funding to support the FDA's ability to prepare for future pandemics.

<https://www.fda.gov/news-events/press-announcements/fda-seeks-84-billion-further-investments-critical-public-health-modernization-core-food-and-medical> .

On March 25, 2022, 425 tests and sample collection devices are authorized by the FDA under emergency use authorizations (EUAs). These include 293 molecular tests and sample collection devices, 84 antibody and other immune response tests and 48 antigen tests. There are 74 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, 15 EUAs for antigen over-the-counter (OTC) at-home tests, and 3 for molecular OTC at-home tests. The FDA has authorized 28 antigen tests and 9 molecular tests for serial screening programs. The FDA has also authorized 897 revisions to EUA authorizations.

<https://www.fda.gov/news-events/press-announcements/fda-roundup-march-25-2022>

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 28, 2022, the CDC announced Stories from the Field: Examples of Successful Worker COVID-19 Vaccination Programs- Employers, labor organizations, healthcare, and public health organizations, and community-based organizations have developed many types of policies and programs to promote worker vaccination.

<https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/community/workplaces-businesses/field-stories.html>

On March 25, 2022, the CDC announced an early release of MMWR regarding Use of At-Home COVID-19 Tests — United States, August 23, 2021–March 12, 2022.

https://www.cdc.gov/mmwr/volumes/71/wr/mm7113e1.htm?s_cid=mm7113e1_x

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 pm 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 29, 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 US 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 28, 2022, Governor Hochul updated New Yorkers on the state's progress combating COVID-19. "The best way to protect ourselves and others from this virus is by using the tools we know work," Governor Hochul said. "If you feel sick, get tested and limit your exposure to others. If you test positive, talk to a doctor right away about treatments. The booster dose improves your protection against severe illness and hospitalization, so don't delay in getting one once you are eligible. Let's continue to safely move forward through this pandemic."

<https://www.governor.ny.gov/news/governor-hochul-updates-new-yorkers-states-progress-combating-covid-19-222>

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
 - A new survey finds that labs, group work and class discussions were among the worst learning experiences of the pandemic. How will that change things for students going forward? Almost all learning experiences, whether inside or outside the classroom, were negatively impacted by the COVID-19 pandemic, according to a new survey from ExamSoft in partnership with the National Institute for Learning Outcomes Assessment. The one constant during the pandemic was that "change

was the norm,” the survey found. Titled “Pandemic Insights to Shape a Better Future,” it analyzed responses from almost 800 individuals representing a variety of roles in higher education—students, administrators, faculty and staff—and a range of institutions. Its aim was not only to provide a high-level analysis of the pandemic learning environment, but also to inform the future of teaching and assessment, said Natasha Jankowski, co-author of the survey and a higher education and assessment consultant.

<https://www.insidehighered.com/news/2022/03/23/survey-views-pandemic-learning-overwhelmingly-negative>

- K-12
 - A letter to educators and parents from U.S. Secretary of Education Miguel Cardona emphasizes that students with disabilities should have access to inclusive in-person learning as the pandemic continues. The letter discusses strategies students' individualized education program teams can consider to ensure safety and access to services under the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act and Section 504. "Schools must continue to take action to preserve safe in-person learning opportunities for students with disabilities, including those at high risk of severe outcomes from COVID-19," Cardona writes. Cardona and Health and Human Services Secretary Xavier Becerra have also announced a joint effort to expand school-based health services. The announcement said the pandemic has challenged the health and well-being of youth, highlighting pre-existing inequities in access to health services. The Education Department and HHS will provide additional technical assistance, resources and support to schools, including guidance on federal funding available for school-based physical and behavioral health services and recommendations for using Medicaid in delivering these services. <https://www.k12dive.com/news/tracking-how-the-coronavirus-is-impacting-school-districts/578628/>

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

- Governor Hochul announced the winners of the New York State 5 – 11-year-old #VaxForKids sticker design contest. The contest was launched to promote COVID-19 vaccination among young New Yorkers. Parents and guardians submitted designs on social media on behalf of their children. “Congratulations to our incredible #VaxForKids contest winners, whose sticker designs will inspire even more New Yorkers to join you in getting vaccinated against COVID-19,” Governor Hochul said. “I thank you and your families for getting vaccinated, keeping our communities safe and healthy, and proudly celebrating the importance of vaccination through your unique designs. Over 1.68 million kids 5 – 17 have been vaccinated already, and I urge all parents and guardians to ensure their children get vaccinated and keep up with all recommended doses. The life-saving vaccine continues to be best protection against the virus and severe disease.” <https://www.governor.ny.gov/news/governor-hochul-announces-winners-5-11-year-old-vaxforkids-sticker-design-contest>

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>

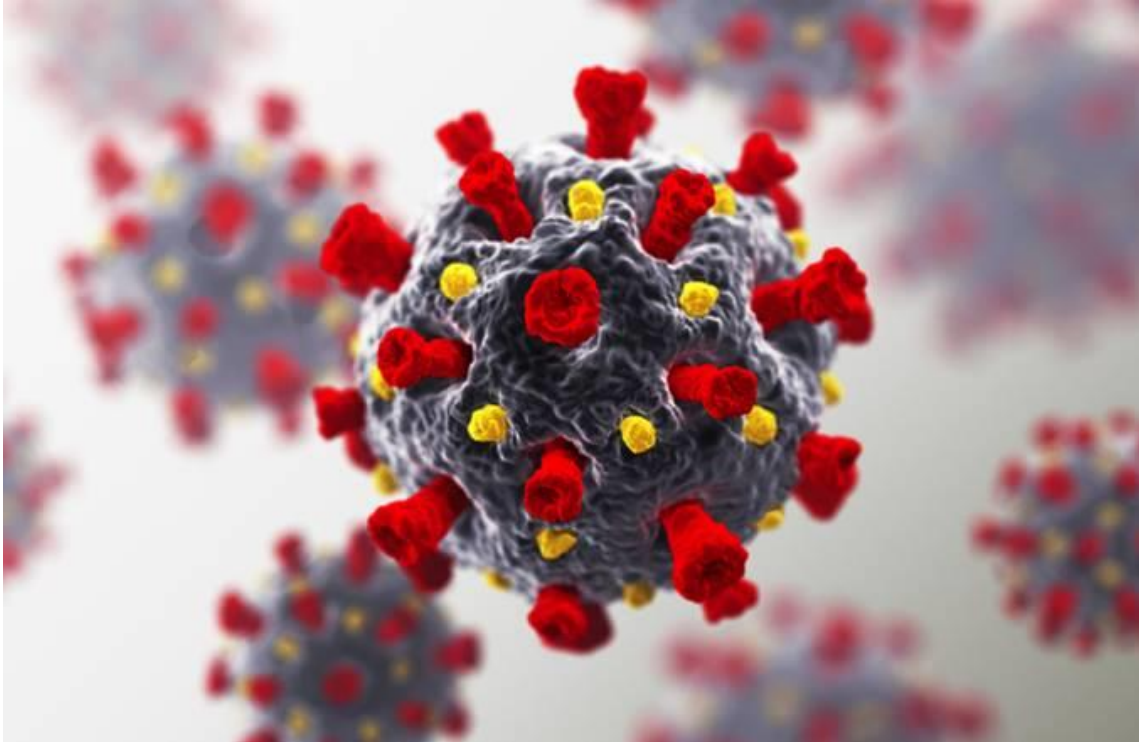
For the latest COVID-19 information from NYS DOH

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

New Jersey

- Governor Phil Murphy signed legislation (S-2356) to extend the prohibition on utility shutoffs for certain residential customers with overdue utility payments who are waiting for a decision on their application for state assistance in paying off their utility bill arrearages. “Over the past two years, we have implemented critical protections for residential utility customers in our state,” said Governor Phil Murphy. “As New Jersey continues on our road to recovery, we must provide ongoing support to residents who have been financially impacted by the COVID-19 pandemic. This legislation will keep the lights on and water running for families who are still making their way through the process of obtaining assistance from our state.”

<https://www.state.nj.us/governor/news/news/562022/approved/20220325f.shtml>



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)

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 27, 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 24, 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 28, 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 28, 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 25, 2022.

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

For the latest COVID-19 information

<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/>



NYMC Leadership News:

Here's How to Cope with Long COVID-Related Brain Fog

Health Thoroughfare

3/20/2022

<https://www.healththoroughfare.com/disease/heres-how-to-cope-with-long-covid-related-brain-fog/45202>

Mill Etienne, M.D. '02, M.P.H., vice chancellor for diversity and inclusion, associate dean of student affairs and associate professor of neurology and of medicine

Faculty News:

Brain fog may be 'persistent' result of COVID-19, researchers find

Mid-Hudson

3/26/2022

<https://midhudsonnews.com/2022/03/26/brain-fog-may-be-persistent-result-of-covid-19-researchers-find/>

Stephen Ferrando, M.D., Har Esh Professor and Chair of the Department of Psychiatry and Behavioral Sciences

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you may have regarding a medical condition.*



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