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COVID-19 Newsletter (Vol. 122)

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, June 7, 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.

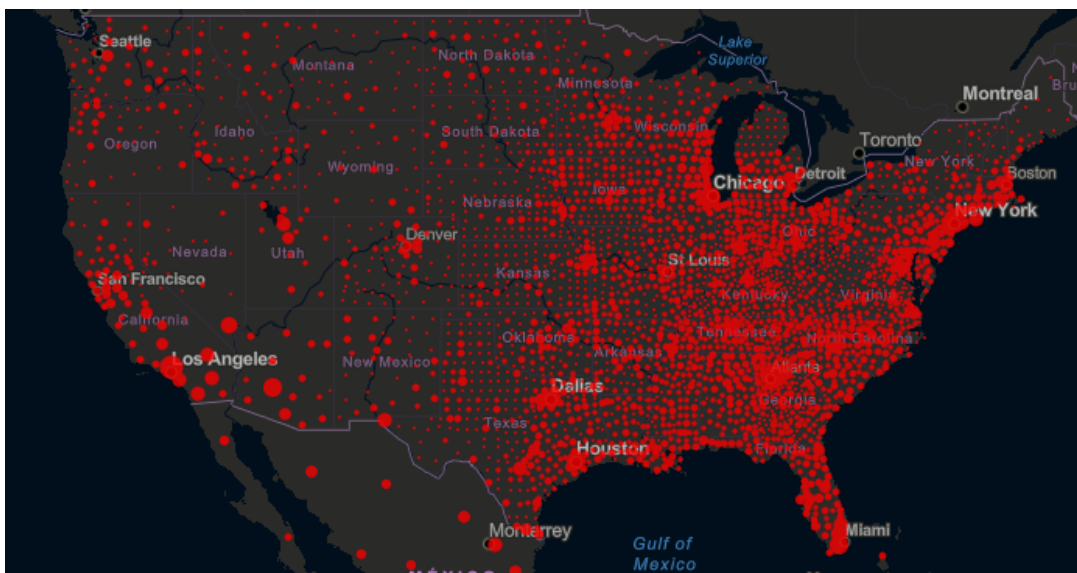
David Markenson, M.D., M.B.A.
Director
Center for Disaster Medicine

COVID-19 Statistics

	Total Cases	Total Deaths	Total Vaccine Doses Admin.
Worldwide	532,504,668	6,300,491	11,668,173,068
United States	84,888,392	1,008,904	586,872,958
New Jersey	2,417,401	33,773	17,594,073
New York	5,480,991	69,152	39,976,940
Connecticut	813,676	10,971	7,804,394

Information as of 6/7/22 at 1100 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

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>

COVID-19 Website

On March 30, 2022, Biden Administration Launched COVID.gov, a New One-Stop Shop Website for Vaccines, Tests, Treatments, Masks, and the Latest COVID-19 Information- a new website was launched in an effort to consolidate information for consumers.

<https://www.whitehouse.gov/briefing-room/statements-releases/2022/03/30/fact-sheet-biden-administration-launches-covid-gov-a-new-one-stop-shop-website-for-vaccines-tests-treatments-masks-and-the-latest-covid-19-information/>

Health and Human Services (HHS)

The U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS), through the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS), is notifying states that they now have an additional year — through March 31, 2025 — to use funding made available by the American Rescue Plan (ARP) to enhance, expand, and strengthen home- and community-based services (HCBS) for people with Medicaid who need long-term services and supports. This policy update marks the latest action by the Biden-Harris Administration to strengthen the health care workforce, help people receive care in the setting of their choice, and reduce unnecessary reliance on institutional care.

“Everyone deserves the dignity to live in their own homes and communities, and the Biden-Harris Administration is committed to protecting that right,” said HHS Secretary Xavier Becerra. “Thanks to extended funding from President Biden’s American Rescue Plan, we are expanding home- and community-based services for millions of aging Americans and people with disabilities across the country. We are working hand-in-hand with states to ensure they have the time and support they need to strengthen their home care systems and workforce.”

<https://www.hhs.gov/about/news/2022/06/03/hhs-extends-american-rescue-plan-spending-deadline-states-expand-enhance-home-community-based-services-people-medicaid.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 June 1, the FDA authorized changes to the Fact Sheet for Healthcare Providers Administering Vaccine (Vaccination Providers) for the PBS/Sucrose formulation of Pfizer-BioNTech COVID-19 Vaccine for individuals 12 years of age and older (supplied in multiple dose vials with purple caps), to include additional updated expiration dates in the Fact Sheet. A copy of the granting letter and updated Fact Sheet are posted on the FDA's website.
- In May, the FDA, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) and several stakeholders signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) to collaborate on enhancing laboratory testing surge capacity outside of CDC and public health laboratories before and during public health emergencies. Partnerships and engagement between the public and private sector are crucial to supporting a significant increase in demand for diagnostic testing during a public health emergency and to respond to emerging public health threats before reaching the level of a pandemic.
- COVID-19 testing updates:
 - As of today, 437 tests and sample collection devices are authorized by the FDA under emergency use authorizations (EUAs). These include 302 molecular tests and sample collection devices, 85 antibody and other immune response tests, 49 antigen tests, and 1 diagnostic breath test. There are 80 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, 17 EUAs for antigen over-the-counter (OTC) at-home tests, and 3 for molecular OTC at-home tests.
 - The FDA has authorized 27 antigen tests and 7 molecular tests for serial screening programs. The FDA has also authorized 994 revisions to EUA authorizations.

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)

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

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 p.m. 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>

- COVID-19 vaccination shots for the youngest Americans could begin as soon as June 21, the White House said on Thursday. The vaccination program for children younger than five would come more than 18 months after vaccines were first authorized for adults. Dr. Ashish Jha, White House coronavirus response coordinator, laid out a timeline for authorization of vaccines for children younger than 5 at an afternoon news briefing. The US Food and Drug Administration's vaccine advisers will review data submitted by Pfizer and Moderna during a meeting on June 14-15, and the agency will then decide whether to authorize the vaccines for emergency use. "We expect an FDA decision shortly after the advisory committee meeting, and we look forward to this process playing out," Jha said. "The FDA authorization is not the final step in the process before vaccinations can begin. CDC must also issue its recommendations. If the FDA authorizes the vaccines, the CDC will have its advisory committee meetings and ultimately the CDC director will make her recommendations."

<https://www.cnn.com/2022/06/02/politics/covid-19-vaccination-shots-youngest-kids/index.html>

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>

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.

<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
 - As President Biden moves closer to canceling at least some student debt in the near future, many higher education advocates and members of Congress are concerned that cancellation without broader reforms to the federal loan system at large will merely provide a temporary solution to a much larger issue. "The problems with our system are there are a lot of players involved. We've had states disinvesting for decades now, colleges raise tuition, Pell Grants are flat and all of that comes out in the student loan program, where we see more and more people borrowing and borrowing larger amounts," said James Kvaal, under secretary of education. "You have a student loan program that really is not working for many. So we need to really rethink how we finance higher education in this country." The issue at hand, advocates say, is the system that created the debt crisis in the first place. Biden's plan to cancel at least \$10,000 of student debt for borrowers with incomes under \$150,000,

according to White House officials, will provide relief to some borrowers struggling to repay their debt. However, many argue that the relief that will be felt from debt forgiveness will soon fade.

<https://www.insidehighered.com/news/2022/06/07/whats-next-student-debt-after-forgiveness>

- K-12
 - The U.S. Department of Agriculture has announced the launch of a \$100 million Healthy Food Incentive Fund to support school meal programs that “innovate and accelerate” initiatives to improve the nutritional quality of school meals. The fund will be used to support peer-to-peer learning and recognize successful programs and leaders. The program is part of an overall USDA framework to help overcome food supply chain problems. As part of the USDA’s efforts, the agency plans to invest an additional \$60 million to increase commodity purchases through farm-to-school programs. The Food Research and Action Center, a nonprofit aiming to end poverty-related hunger, praised the moves while also calling on “Congress to give USDA the tools it needs to respond to the ongoing crisis created by the pandemic and extend USDA nationwide waiver authority through the 2022–2023 school year in the next legislative vehicle.” <https://www.k12dive.com/news/usda-invests-100m-in-school-meal-program-innovation/624883/>

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

- New York City public school families will receive \$375 per child in food benefits under a federal coronavirus (COVID-19) relief program to help pay for meals over the summer. New York State is continuing to distribute food benefits — called the Coronavirus Pandemic Electronic Benefit Transfer, or P-EBT — to all households with eligible children who receive free school lunch under the National School Lunch Act, according to the state Office of Temporary and Disability Assistance. Since all New York City public school children are eligible for free lunch regardless of family income, all families in the school system will receive the food benefits. Families in charter and private schools who receive free meals through the federal school lunch program will also be eligible for food benefits. Each child will receive \$375 in food benefits.

<https://www.silive.com/education/2022/06/nyc-public-school-families-to-receive-375-in-food-benefits-under-coronavirus-relief-program.html>

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>

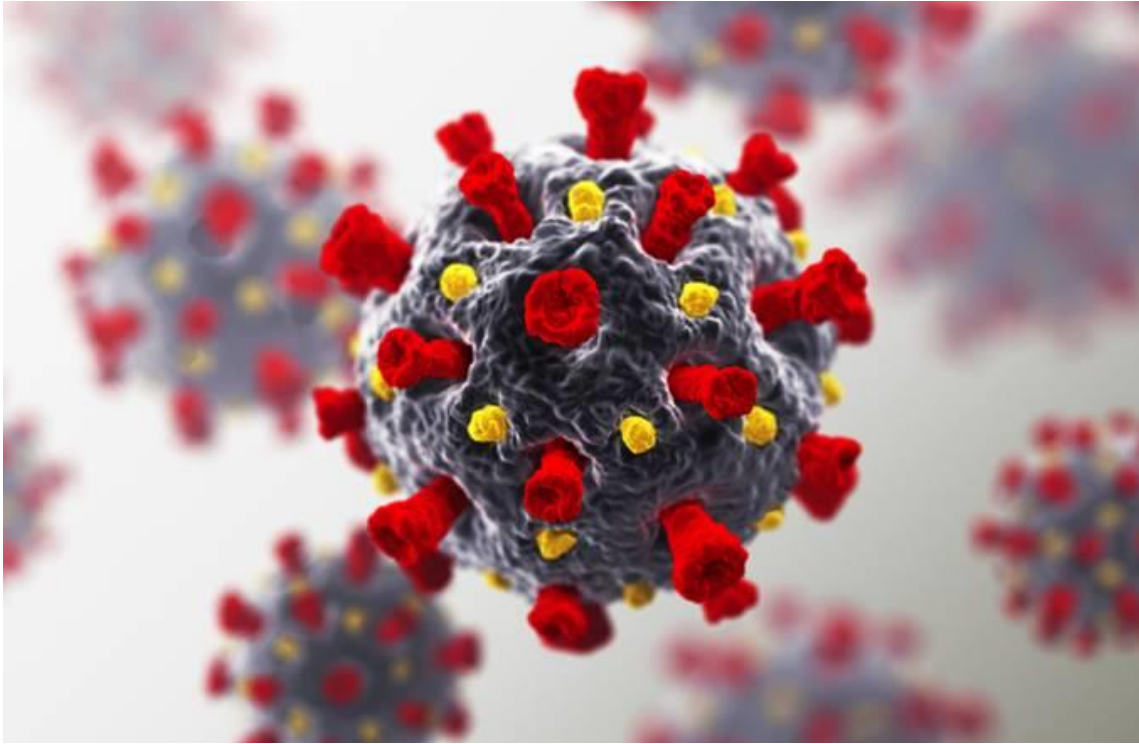
New Jersey

- New Jersey on Monday reported two new deaths and 2,040 additional COVID-19 confirmed positive tests as the recent surge in cases continues to appear to be leveling off, officials said. The state's seven-day average for confirmed cases was 2,815 on Monday, down 24 percent from a week ago, but still up 13 percent from a month ago. Gov. Phil Murphy on Wednesday said new cases appear to be "leveling off" from the recent surge, but the state's positivity rate was still "too high." The positivity rate for tests conducted on Tuesday, the most recent day with available data, was 10.60%. The federal Centers for Disease Control and Prevention considers positivity rates above 10% to be "high." The statewide rate of transmission for Sunday was 0.88. A transmission rate below 1 is an indication that the number of cases statewide is shrinking. There were 876 patients with confirmed or suspected coronavirus cases reported across 70 of the

state's 71 hospitals as of Sunday night. One hospital did not report data. Hospitalizations still remain significantly lower than when they peaked at 6,089 on Jan. 10 during the omicron wave. Of those hospitalized, 107 were in intensive care and 41 were on ventilators. There were at least 145 people discharged in the 24-hour period ending Sunday, according to state data. The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention now lists 13 New Jersey counties with "high" transmission rates — Atlantic, Burlington, Camden, Cape May, Gloucester, Hunterdon, Mercer, Monmouth, Morris, Ocean, Salem, Sussex and Warren. <https://www.nj.com/coronavirus/2022/06/nj-reports-2-covid-deaths-2040-new-cases-as-positivity-rate-remains-high.html>

Connecticut

- Officially, Connecticut has recorded 10,972 COVID-19 deaths over the past two-plus years, a devastating total that once would have seemed unimaginable. Staggering as that figure is, however, the pandemic's true death toll in Connecticut might be even higher. According to statistics measuring "excess mortality," or the number of deaths relative to what is typical in a non-crisis time, Connecticut has likely experienced hundreds of deaths — whether from the disease itself or from its indirect impacts — that remain uncounted in official totals. These deaths, research suggests, have been spread highly unevenly, with large cities suffering downstream effects of the pandemic that suburban and rural areas did not. "The excess death stats show that we've been through a really horrific time," said Dr. Harlan Krumholz, director of the Center for Outcomes Research and Evaluation at Yale New Haven Hospital, who has researched excess death extensively. "These are people who died who wouldn't have died otherwise in normal times." While it's difficult to quantify exactly how many people have died as a result of COVID-19 and the many ways it has disrupted society, experts say comparing all-cause death data during the pandemic with comparable numbers from before the pandemic offers a useful approximation. <https://www.ctinsider.com/news/article/Data-suggests-Connecticut-s-COVID-death-toll-17218538.php>



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 June 5, 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 June 3, 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 June 5, 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 June 6, 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 June 3, 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/>



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