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COVID-19 Newsletter (Vol. 126)

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, July 5, 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.

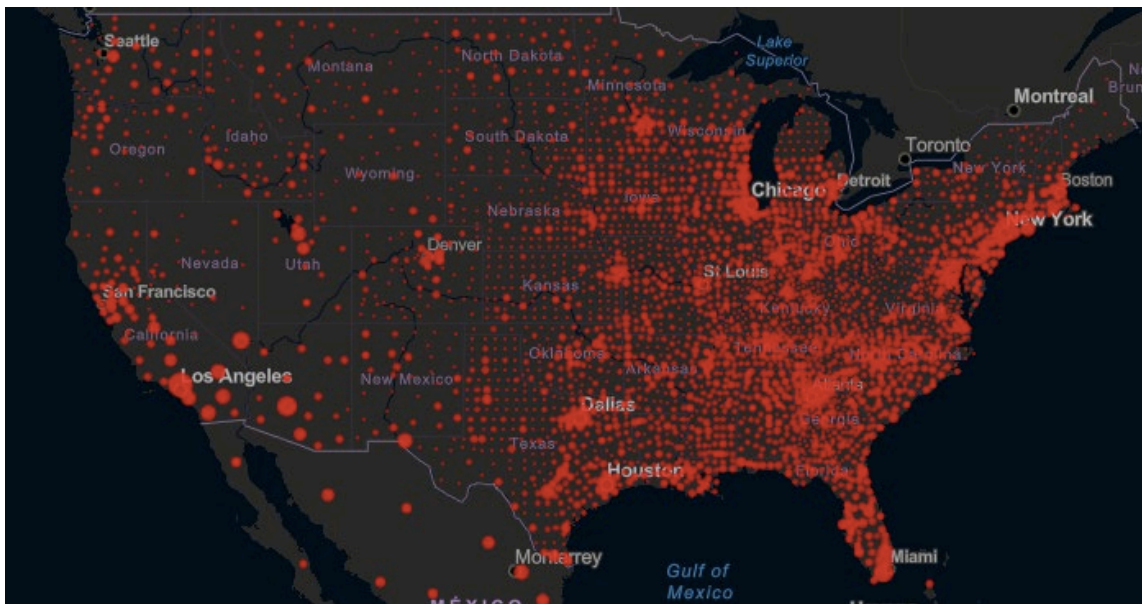
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Director
Center for Disaster Medicine

COVID-19 Statistics

	Total Cases	Total Deaths	Total Vaccine Doses Admin.
Worldwide	549,772,831	6,339,843	11,767,549,228
United States	87,880,693	1,017,904	592,765,023
New Jersey	2,500,418	34,065	17,737,437
New York	5,625,004	69,698	40,331,482
Connecticut	833,260	11,045	7,871,672

Information as of 7/4/22 at 2000 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.
- On June 29, 2022, the Center for Disaster Medicine provided PreHospital Trauma Life Support (PHTLS) to various agencies from the Hudson Valley region including Scarsdale Volunteer Ambulance Corps, Empress EMS and Valhalla Volunteer Ambulance Corps. Ongoing emergency training is critical because medical emergencies continue to occur even during a pandemic.

The White House

On June 30, 2022, President Biden provided statement on Pandemic Preparedness, Prevention and Response Fund at the World Bank- the World Bank Board voted to approve the establishment of a new Financial Intermediary Fund that will make the world safer and more secure from pandemics.

<https://www.whitehouse.gov/briefing-room/statements-releases/2022/06/30/statement-by-president-biden-on-pandemic-preparedness-prevention-and-response-fund-at-the-world-bank/>

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)

For the latest COVID-19 information from HHS

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

National Institutes of Health (NIH)

On June 29, 2022, NIH announced NIH-funded project offers efficient approach when tracking SARS-CoV-2 variants- An interdisciplinary research team has developed a fast, cost-effective method to detect the circulation of SARS-CoV-2 variants. SARS-CoV-2 is the virus that causes COVID-19. The team, funded by the National Institutes of Health's Rapid Acceleration of Diagnostics (RADx®) Tech program, adopted a customizable genotyping approach to identify known variants and subvariants. The approach can augment current surveillance methods that use comprehensive next-generation sequencing of virus samples, helping focus sequencing efforts on samples representing unknown and emerging variants.

<https://www.nih.gov/news-events/news-releases/nih-funded-project-offers-efficient-approach-when-tracking-sars-cov-2-variants>

View the latest COVID-19 information from NIH.

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

United States Food and Drug Administration (FDA)

On July 1, 2022, 438 tests and sample collection devices are authorized by the FDA under emergency use authorizations (EUAs). These include 303 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 8 molecular tests for serial screening programs. The FDA has also authorized 1021 revisions to EUA authorizations. <https://www.fda.gov/news-events/press-announcements/fda-roundup-july-1-2022>

On June 30, 2022, FDA Recommends Inclusion of Omicron BA.4/5 Component for COVID-19 Vaccine Booster Doses- the U.S. Food and Drug Administration's independent experts on the Vaccines and Related Biological Products Advisory Committee met to publicly discuss whether a change to the current vaccine strain composition of COVID-19 vaccines for booster doses is necessary for the 2022 fall and winter seasons. <https://www.fda.gov/news-events/press-announcements/coronavirus-covid-19-update-fda-recommends-inclusion-omicron-ba45-component-covid-19-vaccine-booster>

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 July 1, 2022, the CDC provided Interim Recommendations of the Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices for Use of Moderna and Pfizer-BioNTech COVID-19 Vaccines in Children Aged 6 Months–5 Years — United States, June 2022. https://www.cdc.gov/mmwr/volumes/71/wr/mm7126e2.htm?s_cid=mm7126e2_x

On July 1, 2022, the CDC provided updated guidance regarding COVID-19 during pregnancy including that:

- [People who are pregnant or recently pregnant](#) are more likely to get very sick from COVID-19 compared to people who are not pregnant.
 - Severe illness includes illness that may require admission to an intensive care unit (ICU), ventilation, extracorporeal membrane oxygenation (ECMO, an advanced life support technique used for patients with life-threatening heart and/or lung problems) and may even result in death.
- People who have COVID-19 during pregnancy are also at increased risk for complications that can affect their pregnancy and developing baby. For example, COVID-19 during pregnancy increases the risk of delivering a [preterm](#) (earlier than 37 weeks) and/or a stillborn infant.

- The emergence of the Delta variant in June of 2021 was associated with an even greater risk for severe outcomes for pregnant people, including an increase in ICU admissions, an increase in required medical interventions such as invasive ventilation and ECMO, and an increased number of deaths than was previously reported in the pre-Delta period (January 1, 2020 – June 26, 2021).

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

On June 30, 2022, the CDC provided guidance on Global Community Mitigation.

<https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/global-covid-19/global-community-mitigation.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 July 5, 2022, the FDA has granted Emergency Use Authorization (EUA) to Janssen/Johnson & Johnson for adults over 18 years and EUA for Moderna and Pfizer for children 6 months to five years. On August 23, 2021, the FDA granted full approval to Pfizer for adults. On January 31, 2022, the FDA granted full approval to Moderna for adults. Now with two vaccines with full FDA approval and one vaccine with EUA for adults and children, 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.

On June 24, 2022, the CDC Recommended Moderna COVID-19 Vaccine for Children and Adolescents. CDC Director Rochelle P. Walensky, M.D., M.P.H., endorsed the CDC Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices' (ACIP) recommendation that Moderna's COVID-19 vaccine be used as an option for children ages 6 through 17 years, in addition to its already recommended use in children 6 months through 5 years and adults 18 years and older. This recommendation reinforces the use of Moderna's COVID-19 vaccine as an important tool in the pandemic and provides another vaccine option for children and adolescents. The ACIP recommendation comes after a thorough review of the scientific evidence demonstrating safety and efficacy, and supports the use of the vaccine among those 6 through 17 years of age.

<https://www.cdc.gov/media/releases/2022/s0623-moderna-children.html>

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_vacc-total-admin-rate-total

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. As of January 31, 2022, the fully FDA approved Moderna vaccine will now be known as SPIKEVAX for ages 6 months 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 6 months 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
 - Many experts have been predicting for years that digital course materials would take off, replacing print textbooks and curricular supplements as the preferred choice of instructors, students and institutions alike. But despite growing concerns about the high price of print textbooks, major investments by states and foundations in open educational resources (OER), and a big push by commercial publishers for “inclusive access” programs that make digital course materials available to all students more affordably, faculty embrace of digital materials has risen slowly. Until now, it seems. The COVID-19 pandemic created a breakthrough for digital materials generally and open educational resources in particular, the latest iteration of an annual report on faculty use of curricular materials suggests. “Turning Point for Digital Curricula: Educational Resources in U.S. Higher Education, 2022,” from Bay View Analytics, finds among other things that the proportion of instructors who required the use of OER in their courses rose to 22 percent in spring 2022, up from 15 percent in fall 2020, when the last survey was conducted. The proportion of professors requiring students to use an inclusive access program in their courses more than doubled, to 19 percent from 8 percent in 2020. Read more at <https://www.insidehighered.com/news/2022/06/30/embrace-digital-course-materials-grew-during-pandemic>
- K-12
 - A majority of adults — nearly 70 percent — back a permanent universal school meal policy, according to a new report by the Urban Institute with support from the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation. For the past two years, pandemic-era meal waivers granted by Congress have allowed all students to eat for free in schools, regardless of their family’s income. However, that policy will come to a close this fall as the universal school meal waiver is set to expire today. Now, families who qualify for free and reduced-price meals will have to apply to be eligible. Read more at <https://www.k12dive.com/news/nearly-70-of-adults-support-permanent-extension-of-universal-school-meals/626343/>

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 Kathy Hochul today announced that more than 10.9 million Excelsior Passes have been issued to date. As the first-in-the-nation platform continues to evolve to meet New Yorkers' needs, and as the original Excelsior Pass types expire, the State reminds New Yorkers to retrieve the latest and most robust Pass option available, Excelsior Pass Plus. "As New Yorkers continue to navigate through these challenging times, our state continues to lead the nation with bold, transformative solutions," Governor Hochul said. "New York will continue to utilize digital technology to better meet the needs of the people we serve. I encourage all New Yorkers who are interested to get their Excelsior Pass Plus today." Excelsior Pass Plus—the newest and most comprehensive Pass option—is a secure, digital copy of an individual's COVID-19 vaccination record, which, as a record, does not expire. Validated by the State of New York and built on open, interoperable standards now used by more than 23 U.S. states, Puerto Rico, and Canada, New Yorkers can use their Excelsior Pass Plus in these places and others, where SMART Health Cards are accepted. The Pass Plus also includes an individual's booster or additional dose(s), so long as it is retrieved three to four days following administration. Just like Excelsior Pass, a negative test Pass Plus is also available. <https://www.governor.ny.gov/news/governor-hochul-announces-nearly-11-million-excelsior-passes-issued-date-reminds-new-yorkers>

New York State Department of Health (DOH)

On July 1, 2022, Governor Hochul updated New Yorkers on the state's progress combating COVID-19. "As New Yorkers travel to spend Fourth of July weekend with family and friends, I encourage everyone to continue to exercise caution and lean on the tools we know that protect us from COVID-19," Governor Hochul said. "Getting vaccinated, staying up-to-date on your boosters, and testing if you're experiencing symptoms, are our best defenses. If you do end up testing positive, talk to your doctor about available treatments." <https://www.governor.ny.gov/news/governor-hochul-updates-new-yorkers-states-progress-combating-covid-19-291>

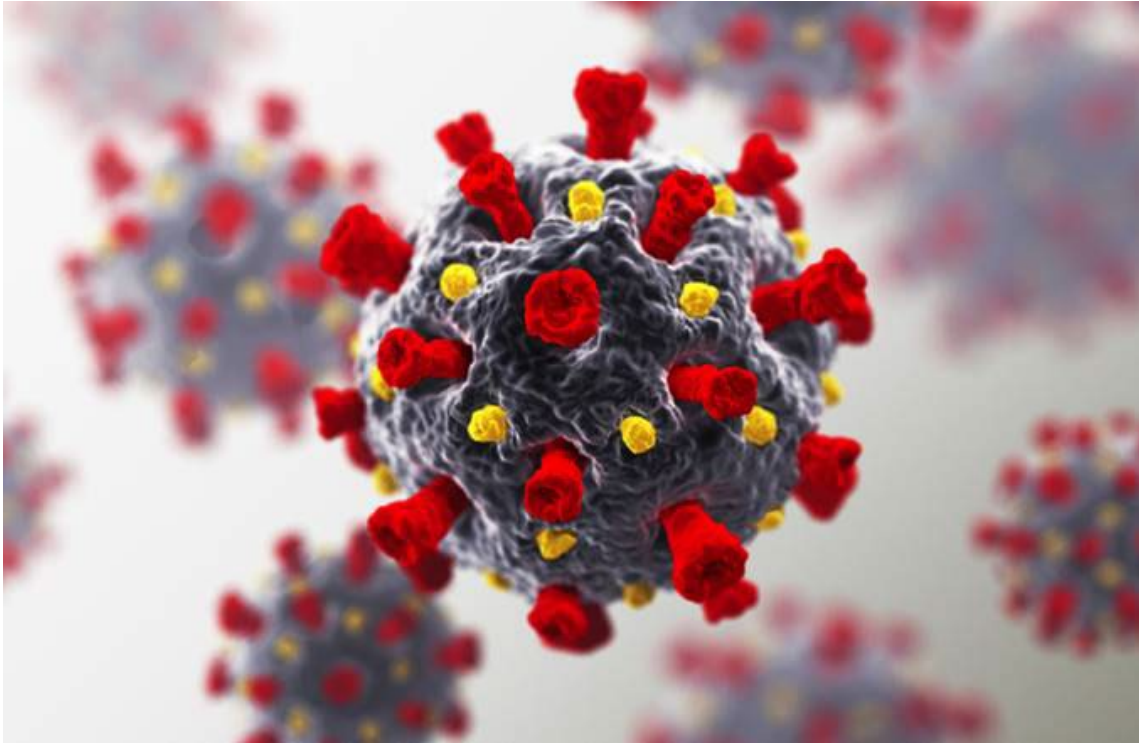
For a list of positive cases by county in New York State- <https://covid19tracker.health.ny.gov/views/NYS-COVID19-Tracker/NYSDOHCOVID-19Tracker-Map?%3Aembed=yes&%3Atoolbar=no&%3Atabs=n>

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>

Connecticut

- Governor Ned Lamont today announced that he has signed a declaration that will enable crucial federal support Connecticut has been receiving throughout the COVID-19 pandemic – including supplemental food benefits for households in need and non-congregate housing for individuals experiencing homelessness – to continue through December 28, 2022, or until the federal public health emergency ends, whichever is earlier. The governor specifically stated in the declaration that he does not intend to issue any executive orders under this declaration but rather wants to ensure that his administration has the authorities necessary to apply for and receive federal assistance in response to the pandemic. “We cannot ignore the reality that the COVID-19 pandemic has disproportionately impacted low-income families and communities, many of whom continue to depend on public assistance programs administered by the state,” Governor Lamont said. “The continuation of this declaration ensures that Connecticut residents who need additional support during this time will still have access to those resources.” Having this declaration in place throughout the pandemic has enabled Connecticut households that are enrolled in the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) to access supplemental, emergency benefits to purchase food. On average, these supplemental benefits have been providing households an additional \$154.74 in food benefits per month, with all enrolled households receiving at least an additional \$95.00 per month. Connecticut has received and distributed \$748 million in emergency SNAP benefits since these additional allotments were first provided by the USDA Food and Nutrition Service at the onset of the pandemic. <https://portal.ct.gov/Office-of-the-Governor/News/Press-Releases/2022/06-2022/Governor-Lamont-Issues-Declaration-Enabling-Crucial-Federal-Support-for-COVID-Response-To-Continue>



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)

Effective July 1, 2022, the NYC DOHMH will provide free COVID-19 testing and anti-viral pills are available, beginning July 1, at Test-to-Treat sites around the city. The mobile testing units, managed by NYC Test & Trace Corps, provide no-cost instant access to antiviral medication (Paxlovid) for eligible New Yorkers who test positive at the sites. Treatment can prevent severe illness and in many cases hospitalization.

<https://www1.nyc.gov/site/coronavirus/get-tested/covid-19-testing.page#test-kit-pickup>

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 30, 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 July 1, 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 July 1, 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 July 1, 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 July 1, 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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This newsletter is for informational purposes only; it does not constitute medical advice. Always seek the advice of your physician or other qualified health provider with any questions you may have regarding a medical condition.



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