# Touro Scholar

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# COVID-19 Newsletter (Vol. 139)

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

**Information Brief**

**Tuesday, October 4, 2022**

*As the COVID-19 pandemic continues to evolve, we are seeing other emerging public health threats/emergencies and we continue to address ongoing/emerging disaster issues, the Center for Disaster Medicine has been and will continue to be a source of reliable information, education and models for mitigation, preparedness, response, and recovery. As such we have expanded this informational document to address the broader areas addressed by the center while retaining critical COVID19 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*
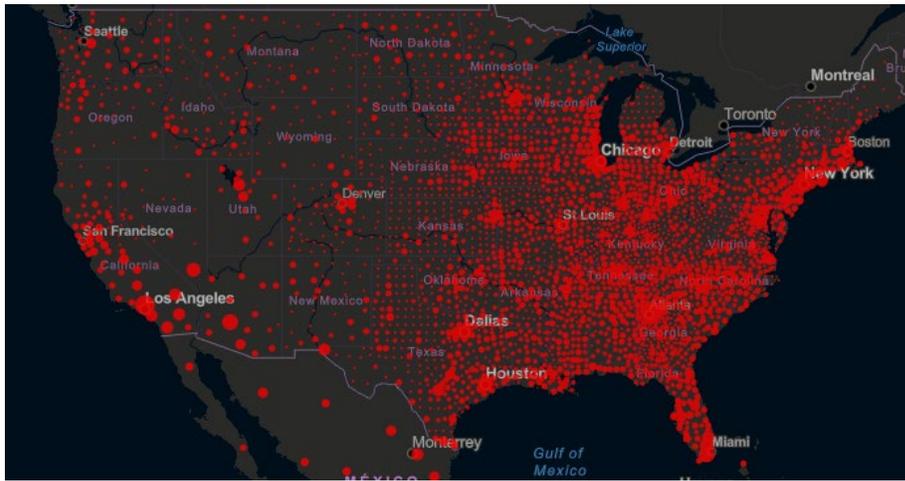
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Director
Center for Disaster Medicine

## COVID-19 Statistics

|  | Total Cases | Total Deaths | Total Vaccine Doses Admin. |
|---|---|---|---|
| Worldwide | 618,562,596 | 6,548,615 | 9,056,617,870 |
| United States | 96,438,726 | 1,059,866 | 613,524,824 |
| New Jersey | 2,746,256 | 34,754 | 18,283,404 |
| New York | 6,133,718 | 71,855 | 41,469,439 |
| Connecticut | 898,338 | 11,365 | 8,196,899 |

Information as of 10/4/22 at 0300 EDT. Source: https://coronavirus.jhu.edu/map.html

## United States COVID-19 Case Map / GIS

**Money Pox Statistics**

| State | Number of Cases |
|---|---|
| Connecticut | 126 |
| New Jersey | 720 |
| New York | 3948 |
| Total US Case Count | 26049 |

CDC https://www.cdc.gov/poxvirus/monkeypox/response/2022/us-map.html

## 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 and monkeypox and 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)

A large international study has confirmed the findings of a previous U.S. study that linked COVID-19 vaccination with an average increase in menstrual cycle length of less than one day. The increase was not associated with any change in the number of days of menses (days of bleeding). Funded by the National Institutes of Health, the new study included data from nearly 20,000 people from Canada, the United Kingdom, the United States, Europe and other parts of the world who received any of nine different vaccines. For most study participants, the increase resolved in the cycle following vaccination. The study's principal investigator was Alison Edelman, M.D., M.P.H., of Oregon Health & Science University in Portland. It appears in the BMJ Medicine. "These findings provide additional information for counseling women on what to expect after vaccination," said Diana Bianchi, M.D., director of NIH's Eunice Kennedy Shriver National Institute of Child Health and Human Development (NICHD). "Changes following vaccination appear to be small, within the normal range of variation, and temporary." NICHD and NIH's Office of Research on Women's Health funded the study, which was part of $1.67 million awarded to five institutions to explore potential links between COVID-19 vaccination and menstrual changes. A change in cycle length of less than eight days is considered within the normal range of variation. Although small menstrual changes may not be meaningful to health care professionals and researchers, the study authors wrote, perceived changes in a bodily function linked to fertility may be alarming to those experiencing it and could contribute to vaccine hesitancy. https://www.nih.gov/news-events/news-releases/study-confirms-link-between-covid-19-vaccination-temporary-increase-menstrual-cycle-length

View the latest COVID-19 information from NIH.
https://www.nih.gov/coronavirus

## 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

## United States Food and Drug Administration (FDA)

COVID-19 testing updates:
- The FDA announced updates to its COVID-19 test policy to address public health testing needs during this phase of the COVID-19 public health emergency. Over the last two years more than 400 COVID-19 tests have been granted emergency use authorization and there are generally enough at-home tests, tests that can be used at the point-of-care such as health clinics, and laboratory-based tests to meet testing needs. The FDA is revising its COVID-19 test policy to encourage most COVID-19 test developers to pursue a traditional premarket review pathway for their tests, rather than emergency use authorization. The FDA intends to prioritize its review of emergency use authorization requests on COVID-19 diagnostic tests that are likely to have a significant public health benefit or are likely to fulfill an unmet need. This could include novel technologies like the use of breath samples, or unique features like the ability of a test to detect a new SARS-CoV-2 virus variant. The FDA actions include:
  - Reissuing the Policy for Coronavirus Disease-2019 Tests During the

Public Health Emergency (Revised).
- Updating the FAQs on Testing for SARS-CoV-2.

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 300 molecular tests and sample collection devices, 85 antibody and other immune response tests, 51 antigen tests, and 1 diagnostic breath test. There are 79 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, 19 EUAs for antigen over-the-counter (OTC) at-home tests, and 3 for molecular OTC at-home tests.
- The FDA has authorized 31 antigen tests and 8 molecular tests for serial screening programs. The FDA has also authorized 1124 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

## 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 US 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

- The CDC has established a new website dedicated to the monkeypox virus and 2022 U.S. outbreak. For more information, please visit
https://www.cdc.gov/poxvirus/monkeypox/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

- Technology has helped many students continue their educations during the COVID-19 pandemic, but it has also added to their burdens. Now, a new survey of 820 U.S. undergraduates highlights the new normal—from students' perspective—of the higher ed tech landscape. The survey, "2022 Students and Technology Report: Rebalancing the Student Experience," was published this week by Educause, a nonprofit focused on information technology in higher education. Despite broad tech savviness among college students, the survey found many struggle with tech challenges beyond their control, such as unstable internet access. At the same time, assistive technologies designed for students with disabilities appear to help all students. Also, while students are mostly self-reliant when troubleshooting technology challenges, colleges still have a role to play in providing backup as they work to resolve technology problems, the authors of the survey report concluded. Technology often enhances students' abilities to learn, but it can also present hurdles. In the past year, more than three-quarters of the students who responded to the survey (77 percent) encountered at least one technology challenge, and more than half (51 percent) reported that those challenges induced stress. https://www.insidehighered.com/news/2022/10/04/undergraduates-technology-problems-and-needs

- K-12
- State education agencies can request spending extensions for Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security Act on their own behalf, as well as on the behalf of districts in their states, according to eagerly awaited guidance issued Thursday by the U.S. Department of Education. State and district administrators had sought clarity on the Education Department's "late liquidation" policy issued in May, saying a streamlined approach was needed for the efficient and effective use of the one-time federal COVID-19 recovery money. While the new 2-page guidance addresses request and approval procedures for the $13.2 billion CARES allocation for K-12, state and district administrators are calling on the Education Department to also clarify spending deadlines under the $121.9 billion American Rescue Plan — the largest of the three federal pandemic recovery allocations. https://www.k12dive.com/news/ed-dept-details-cares-late-liquidation-process/633046/

### 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
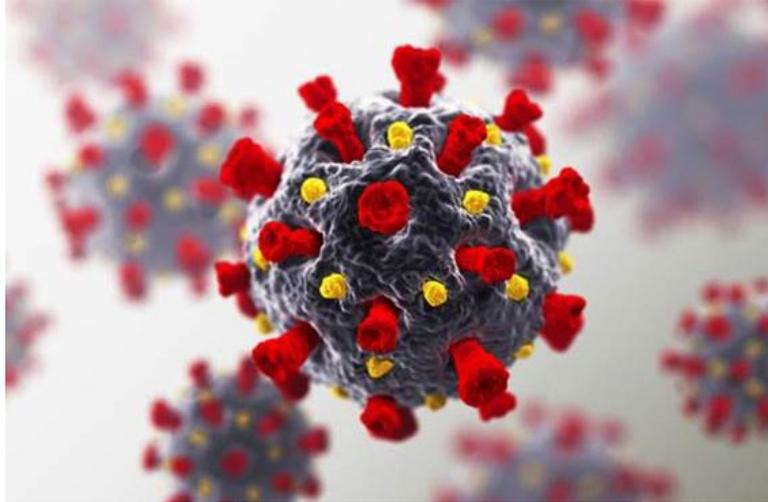
## State Updates

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

For a list of COVID-19 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

As of September 27, 2022, there are 3,874 cases of monkeypox in New York State. For the latest monkeypox information including vaccines and provider information from NYS DOH, please visit:
https://www.health.ny.gov/diseases/communicable/zoonoses/monkeypox/

**New York**

- Governor Kathy Hochul announced additional steps New York State is taking to address evidence of circulating poliovirus in New York State, including an official declaration to further support local health departments in driving immunizations. Earlier today, New York State Health Commissioner Dr. Mary T. Bassett declared poliovirus an imminent threat to public health in New York State, thereby expanding the availability of funding and resources to support local health departments in establishing immunization clinics, deploying vaccine to health care partners, and conducting outreach to unvaccinated and under-vaccinated New Yorkers to increase immunization rates particularly in the areas affected by the virus and among children. "From day one, we've taken an aggressive public health approach to combat the spread of polio and ensure New Yorkers are protected," Governor Hochul said. "This declaration will bolster our ongoing efforts to protect New Yorkers against paralytic disease, prevent spread, and support our public health partners." https://www.governor.ny.gov/news/governor-hochul-announces-further-action-address-polio-and-increase-support-county-health

## 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 COVID-19 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

### Westchester County Department of Health

For the latest breakdown of positive cases in Westchester County as of October 2, 2022
https://wcgis.maps.arcgis.com/apps/dashboards/280339d96db14efd9cc304dba0f3a71d

For the latest COVID-19 information in Westchester including vaccines for children.
https://health.westchestergov.com/2019-novel-coronavirus

As of October 3, 2022, Westchester County has 88 cases of monkeypox.

Monkeypox Vaccine Clinics on Mondays and Wednesdays at 134 Court Street, White Plains. Appointments are required. People at higher risk for monkeypox infection may consider vaccination with the two-dose JYNNEOS vaccine. In accordance with CDC guidance, this includes those who:
- Had contact with someone who had a rash that looks like monkeypox or with someone who was diagnosed with confirmed or probable monkeypox
- Had skin-to-skin contact with someone in a social network experiencing monkeypox activity; this includes men who have sex with men who meet partners through an online website, digital application ("app"), or social event such as at a bar or party
- Traveled outside the United States to a country with confirmed cases of monkeypox or where monkeypox activity has been ongoing

**Monkeypox Vaccine appointments are also available at:**
- Westchester Medical Center, 15 Oval Connector, Valhalla, NY 10595
  Monday through Friday from 9 am - 5 pm, appointment required.
  Call (914) 326-2060 to schedule an appointment.

For more information regarding monkeypox in Westchester County, please visit
https://health.westchestergov.com/

### Putnam County Department of Health

Breakdown of positive cases by towns in Putnam County as of October 1, 2022
https://www.putnamcountyny.com/covid19/

As of October 3, 2022, there are 5 cases of monkeypox in Putnam County.
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 September 30, 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

As of October 3, 2022, there are 10 cases of monkeypox in Dutchess County. For the latest information regarding monkeypox, please visit
https://www.dutchessny.gov/Departments/DBCH/dbch.htm

### Orange County Department of Health

-
Updated COVID-19 dashboard for Orange County, NY as of September 29, 2022
https://ocnygis.maps.arcgis.com/apps/dashboards/21de1fb5ce0c480f95dc0cf2b8b83b71

For the latest COVID-19 information
https://www.orangecountygov.com/1906/2019-Novel-Coronavirus-Information

As of October 3, 2022, there are 17 cases of monkeypox in Orange County. For more information regarding monkeypox, please visit
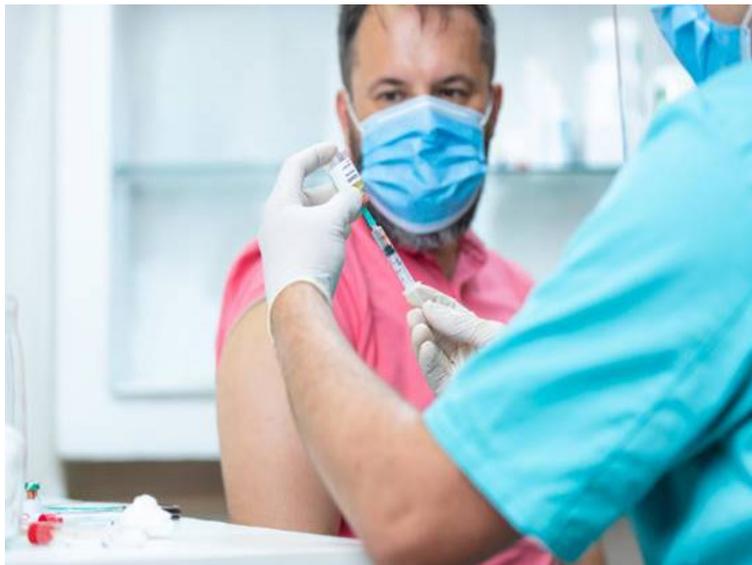https://www.orangecountygov.com/149/Health

### Rockland County Department of Health

Review Rockland County's dashboard with the latest COVID-19 information regarding cases as of October 2, 2022
https://www.arcgis.com/apps/dashboards/d074e0336e81449393a76d1768ceb096

For the latest COVID-19 information
https://rocklandgov.com/departments/health/coronavirus-covid-19/

As of October 3, 2022, there are 13 of monkeypox in Rockland County.
For more information regarding monkeypox, please visit Rockland County Health Department website
https://rocklandgov.com/departments/health/

### 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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