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COVID-19 Newsletter (Vol. 144)

Center for Disaster Medicine, New York Medical College

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To: NYMC_COVID19NEWSLETTER@LISTSERV.TOURO.EDU
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Center for Disaster Medicine



Information Brief

Tuesday, November 8, 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 (CDM) 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

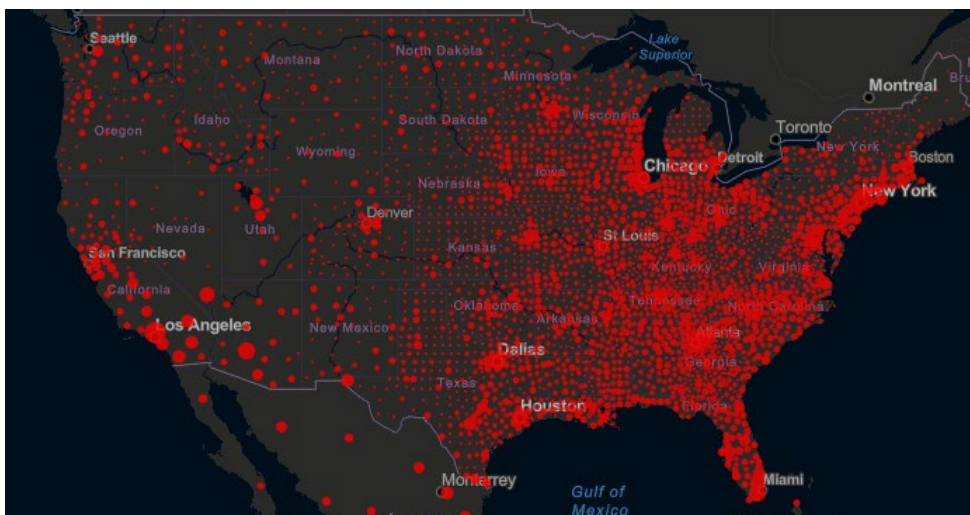
David Markenson, M.D., M.B.A.
Director, Center for Disaster Medicine

COVID-19 Statistics

	Total Cases	Total Deaths	Total Vaccine Doses Admin.
Worldwide	632,940,341	6,601,690	12,849,609,228
United States	97,780,182	1,072,724	611,686,655
New Jersey	2,810,073	34,940	18,283,404
New York	6,283,496	73,322	41,469,439
Connecticut	915,785	11,478	8,575,412

Information as of 11/8/22 at 0000 EST. Source: <https://coronavirus.jhu.edu/map.html>

[United States COVID-19 Case Map / GIS](#)



Monkey Pox Statistics

State	Number of Cases
Connecticut	143
New Jersey	751
New York	4127
Total US Case Count	28709

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.
- Continuing 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)

- Adults with hypertension saw a small, but consequential, rise in their blood pressure levels during the first eight months of the COVID-19 pandemic, while the number of times they had their blood pressure measured dropped significantly, according to a study supported by the National Institutes of Health. The findings, which appear today in the journal *Hypertension*, represent one of the most extensive looks at blood pressure trends during the early months of the pandemic. Using data from three large U.S. healthcare systems, the findings add to growing evidence that blood pressure control worsened in people with hypertension during this period. Still, the problem was not nearly as dire as they expected, possibly due to the rapid adoption of telemedicine and home blood pressure monitoring. The successful use of these alternatives to in-person office visits offers a reason to be optimistic about improving blood pressure control in future disasters and public health emergencies, according to the researchers. Hypertension, or high blood pressure, affects more than 1 billion people worldwide. Researchers have known for some time that poor blood pressure control is a risk factor for cardiovascular disease, including heart attack and stroke, as well as a risk factor for more severe COVID-19 disease. Yet, blood pressure control remains an ongoing challenge: Only about 1 in 4 U.S. adults with hypertension have their condition under control, according to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. The COVID-19 pandemic saw widespread stay-at-home orders and lockdowns, prompting some researchers to explore its impact on these patients. In the current study – funded by the National Heart, Lung, and Blood Institute (NHLBI), part of NIH – researchers looked at the electronic data records of 137,593 adults with hypertension and compared blood pressure outcomes before the pandemic (August 2018 through January 2020) with those during the peak of the pandemic (April 2020 through January 2021). The data came from three large health systems: Cedars-Sinai in Los Angeles; Columbia University Irving Medical Center in New York City; and Ochsner Health in New Orleans. The average age of the patients was 66 years, and 57% were female and 30% were black. Read more about this study at <https://www.nih.gov/news-events/news-releases/nih-funded-study-shows-blood-pressure-levels-rose-during-pandemic>

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:
- As of today, 435 tests and sample collection devices are authorized by the FDA under emergency use authorizations (EUAs). These include 298 molecular tests and sample collection devices, 85 antibody and other immune response tests, 51 antigen tests, and 1 diagnostic breath test. There are 77 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 4 for molecular OTC at-home tests.
- The FDA has authorized 35 antigen tests and 8 molecular tests for serial screening programs. The FDA has also authorized 1150 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 US 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
 - A new report from the American Council on Education highlights the dampening effects of the COVID-19 pandemic on internationalization efforts in higher education—while underscoring institutions' optimistic outlook for future growth. The ACE report is based on a survey conducted every five years, in which college and university leaders answer questions about how their institution is engaging on a global scale. That engagement, known as internationalization, is measured through a number of factors, including international student enrollment, participation in study abroad and exchange programs, and the development of globally relevant curricula. The latest iteration of the report includes data collected from 2021 and finds that the pandemic sharply reversed internationalization progress in higher ed. <https://www.insidehighered.com/news/2022/11/03/report-pandemic-stymied-higher-ed-internationalization>
- K-12
- A Centers for Disease Control and Prevention advisory panel has recommended that COVID-19 vaccinations be added to childrens' regular schedule of immunizations, but it's states and localities that will decide whether to require the shots for school attendance. And it doesn't appear as though those decisions will be made anytime soon. In an October 20 statement on the recommendation, CDC said since COVID-19 vaccines first became available two years ago, 630 million doses have been administered. The advisory panel's recommendation to add COVID-19 vaccines to the suggested childhood vaccine schedule "represents another step in the nation's recovery," the statement said. Ahead of the panel's decision, the CDC had to debunk false narratives that the federal government was mandating COVID-19 vaccination for school attendance. School leaders may find themselves in similar situations of explaining what vaccines are required by their states and localities for school attendance versus what the CDC recommends for boosting immunity against diseases. Read more at <https://www.k12dive.com/news/covid-19-vaccine-for-school-attendance/635704/>

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 launched a new public awareness campaign about respiratory virus infections spreading this fall and the steps New Yorkers can take to protect themselves, their families and their communities. Produced by the New York State Department of Health, the three video clips will run online on multiple social media platforms and feature New York State Health Commissioner Dr. Mary T. Bassett speaking directly to New Yorkers about three viruses — Respiratory Syncytial Virus (RSV), flu and COVID-19 — now circulating in the state with similar symptoms and with the potential to cause serious illness. "Our fight against respiratory illnesses begins with protecting New Yorkers from infection, and we are taking action to raise awareness of these viruses and keep vulnerable New Yorkers safe and healthy," Governor Hochul said. "This awareness campaign is part of our multi-pronged, aggressive efforts to stop the spread of infectious disease and do everything we can to protect the health of New Yorkers." <https://www.governor.ny.gov/news/governor-hochul-launches-public-awareness-campaign-protect-new-yorkers-against-respiratory>

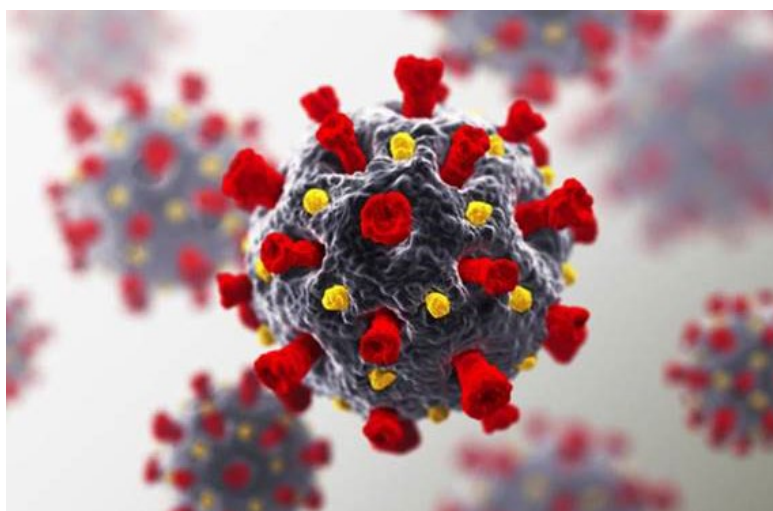
New York State Department of Health (DOH)

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 October 24, 2022, there are 4,063 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/>



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 November 7, 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>

As of November 8, 2022, Westchester County has 92 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 November 7, 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 November 4, 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 November 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>

As of October 24, 2022, there are 23 cases of monkeypox in Orange County. For more information regarding monkeypox, please visit <https://www.orangecountygov.com/149/Health>

Rockland County Department of Health

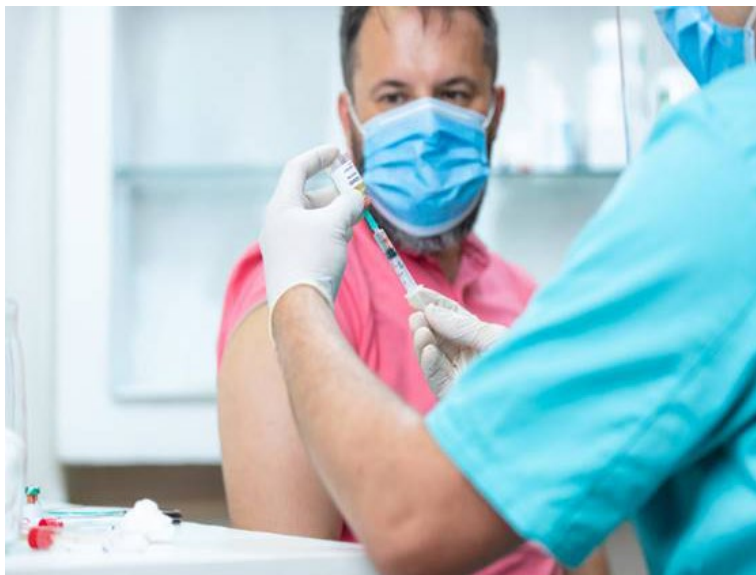
Review Rockland County's dashboard with the latest COVID-19 information regarding cases as of November 7, 2022
<https://www.arcgis.com/apps/dashboards/d074e0336e81449393a76d1768ceb096>

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

As of October 24, 2022, there are 17 cases 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/>



Center for Disaster Medicine Media

Faculty News:

New Omicron Booster Side Effects Expected to Be Similar to Previous COVID-19 Shots

Healthline

9/21/2022

<https://www.healthline.com/health-news/new-omicron-booster-side-effects-expected-to-be-similar-to-previous-covid-19-shots>

Marisa A. Montecalvo, M.D., director of Health Services and professor of medicine

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New York Medical College
Center for Disaster Medicine
7 Dana Road Suite 511
Valhalla, New York 10595
914-594-1750

<https://www.nymc.edu/center-for-disaster-medicine/>

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