

# Novel Coronavirus (COVID-19)

Latest Updates  
April 8, 2020

## Federal Resources

For important updates and statistics on what is happening nationally, you may visit the following:

- CDC:  
<https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/>
- USA.GOV:  
<https://www.usa.gov/coronavirus>
- White House:  
[www.whitehouse.gov](http://www.whitehouse.gov)
- Food and Drug Administration:  
<https://www.fda.gov/emergency-preparedness-and-response/mcm-issues/coronavirus-disease-2019-covid-19>

## State Resources

For updates on what is happening in New York, you may visit the following:

- State Department of Health:  
<https://coronavirus.health.ny.gov/home>
- State Department of Education:  
<http://www.p12.nysed.gov/sss/schoolhealth/schoolhealthservices/coronavirus.html>
- Governor:  
<https://www.governor.ny.gov/>

## Overview

According to the Center for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), a new Coronavirus (2019 Novel Coronavirus or COVID-19) was first detected in China and is now spreading across the world, including New York State. This document is intended to provide the latest information that is available from **government sources only** in order to allow you to answer questions related to the latest developments regarding COVID-19.

For more information call the New York State Coronavirus Hotline at 1-888-364-3065.

## Local Impact

Everyone is encouraged to stay in regular contact with State and local officials for the most up-to-date protocols and announcements on Coronavirus.

## Telehealth Services

Telehealth services may be beneficial to individuals experiencing Coronavirus symptoms and are unsure what to do. Individuals are advised to check with their health insurance providers to see if telehealth services are available. Utilizing telehealth services can reduce ER visits and allow individuals to access the advice of health care professionals from the safety of their own home.

## CDC Important Information (Click on Title)

[How it Spreads](#)

[Symptoms](#)

[Steps to Prevent Illness](#)

[What to Do if You are Sick](#)

[Frequently Asked Questions](#)

[Number of Nationwide Cases](#)

**LATEST POSITIVE CASES IN NEW YORK STATE**

(DATA AS OF APRIL 7, 2020)

<b>Locality</b>	<b>Positive Cases</b>	<b>Locality</b>	<b>Positive Cases</b>
Albany County	342	Niagara County	134
Allegany County	21	Oneida County	125
Bronx County	16,626	Onondaga County	347
Broome County	88	Ontario County	39
Cattaraugus County	15	Orange County	3,865
Cayuga County	14	Orleans County	16
Chautauqua County	17	Oswego County	33
Chemung County	55	Otsego County	38
Chenango County	53	Putnam County	403
Clinton County	39	Queens County	26,248
Columbia County	63	Rensselaer County	75
Cortland County	16	Richmond County	5,343
Delaware County	37	Rockland County	6,413
Dutchess County	1,395	Saratoga County	162
Erie County	1,205	Schenectady County	149
Essex County	7	Schoharie County	12
Franklin County	10	Schuyler County	4
Fulton County	14	Seneca County	12
Genesee County	47	St. Lawrence County	69
Greene County	25	Steuben County	82
Hamilton County	2	Suffolk County	15,844
Herkimer County	29	Sullivan County	279
Jefferson County	40	Tioga County	12
Kings County	22,082	Tompkins County	99
Lewis County	6	Ulster County	422
Livingston County	25	Warren County	33
Madison County	90	Washington County	20
Manhattan (New York County)	11,504	Wayne County	39
Monroe County	651	Westchester County	15,887
Montgomery County	18	Wyoming County	27
Nassau County	18,548	Yates County	1

**TOTAL NUMBER OF CASES STATEWIDE: 149,316**

SOURCE: [NYS DOH](#)

## State News Updates

April 8, 2020

- **Governor Cuomo held a press conference at 12:30 AM and provided the following information:**
  - NY Pause and social distancing are working:
    - It has flattened the curve to this point, but need to continue.
    - Number of patients hospitalized is down, including the three-day average.
  - Building additional capacity worked:
    - Surge and flex helped:
      - 50% additional capacity.
      - Sharing equipment.
    - If the new hospitalizations keep decreasing, the system will stabilize.
  - The curve is flattening because of the actions, but there is no doubt the curve is beginning to bend.
  - Number of deaths may continue to increase as those hospitalized for the longest periods begin to pass away.
    - Total deaths 6,268, up from 5,489, the largest single day increase.
  - The Governor believes there many things to learn:
    - Global pandemics are more likely as the world is smaller.
    - Public health system's capacity and preparedness must be examined.
    - Using technology for the health care system, economy, court system, etc.
    - Testing capacity is still to be developed.
      - It will be a testing-informed process for restarting the economy.
  - SUNY Albany, (Dr. Havidan Rodriguez) and the New York State Department of Health/Northwell Health will be studying why there are more infections and higher morbidity among minority communities.
  - The Governor has directed the State Department of Labor to immediately make \$600 in additional weekly unemployment benefits available to all who filed for unemployment insurance, and to extend the period covered by unemployment insurance by an additional 13 weeks (for a total of 39 weeks).
    - These benefits were included in the Federal CARES Act, but the Governor announced the State began delivering the extra unemployment insurance before federal funds are released to the states.
  - Civic duty to vote should not be opposed to public health.
    - All New Yorkers can vote by absentee on the June 23<sup>rd</sup> primaries (will be done by Executive Order).
  - Mercury Medical donated 2,400 brand new BiPAP machines.
  - Will start a social media campaign, "Who are you staying home for?"
- **Governor Cuomo publicly released the letter he sent to the New York State Congressional Delegation calling for further federal assistance to help the State respond to the COVID-19 Pandemic**

## State News Updates (continued)

April 8, 2020

- **Important Unemployment Insurance Information**

- New York State Department of Labor [Unemployment Assistance Claims Hotline](#) has been extended to seven days a week. Individuals can call the hotline at 1-888-209-8124 during the following hours of operation:
  - Monday - Friday: 8:00am - 7:30pm.
  - Saturday - Sunday: 7:30am - 8:00pm.
- [Pandemic Unemployment Assistance](#) was included in the federal CARES Act and expanded eligibility and compensation for unemployed workers.
  - Benefits have been extended for individuals not traditionally covered by unemployment benefits, including self-employed and independent contractors.
  - Individuals in receipt of unemployment benefits will have an additional \$600 added on-top of their regular weekly benefit.
  - Unemployment insurance coverage has been extended for an additional 13 weeks, allowing individuals to now receive benefits for a total of 39 weeks.
- New York State Department of Labor has partnered with Google to redesign the online unemployment insurance claim user interface. The new website is expected to be rolled out this week.
- Secretary to the Governor Melissa DeRosa announced that the Department of Labor has increased the number of online servers from four to 50 in an effort to handle the large increase in traffic that has caused the website to crash.
- Governor Cuomo announced that the Department of Labor has hired an additional 300 staff - on top of the 700 staff members that were hired last month - to assist in processing unemployment insurance claims.
  - For questions related to this information, please contact Justin O'Brien in Ways and Means at [obrienj@nyassembly.gov](mailto:obrienj@nyassembly.gov).