

COVID-19 Weekly "What You Need to Know"

As of April 29, 2020, 2:45 PM

The information in this compilation is current only as of the above date and time.

Purpose: The purpose of this posting is to provide residents of New York State with a consolidated update of guidance released by the New York State Department of Health (NYSDOH) related to the COVID-19 pandemic response. This will show only current guidance for any given topic and will be updated to reflect new guidance.

- Schools and nonessential businesses will stay closed through May 15th.
- Governor Cuomo issued executive orders [202.17](#) and [202.18](#) requiring all people in New York to wear masks or face coverings in public, including when taking public or private transportation or riding in for-hire vehicles.
- Governor Cuomo [outlined a phased plan](#) to re-open New York starting with construction and manufacturing, implemented in phases based on regional analysis and determinations.
- [35 counties](#) that do not have significant risk of a COVID-19 surge in the near term can now resume elective outpatient treatments.
- Preliminary Phase II results of Antibody Testing Study show 14.9% of the population have COVID-19 antibodies. [Find more information and FAQs](#) on antibody testing.
- New York State is state is expanding diagnostic testing criteria to allow all FDNY and NYPD officers, first responders, health care workers, transit workers and essential employees to be tested for COVID-19 even if they aren't symptomatic.
- Preliminary results of the FDNY and NYPD antibody testing survey show 17.1% of FDNY officers and EMTs have COVID-19 antibodies; and 10.5% of NYPD officers have COVID-19 antibodies.
- 1,000 transit workers will be tested for antibodies to further determine the spread of infections among frontline workers.
- New York State is now conducting 30,000 diagnostic tests for COVID-19 per day.
- Based on the [COVID-19 Maternity Task Force recommendations](#), Governor Cuomo issues an executive order allowing for immediate establishment of additional birthing surge sites.
- The MTA has been directed to issue a full plan by April 30th, on how it will clean and disinfect trains in response to reported deteriorations of conditions in subways.
- New Yorkers without health insurance can apply through NY State of Health through May 15, 2020; must apply within 60 days of losing coverage.
- New Yorkers can call the COVID-19 Emotional Support Hotline at 1-844-863-9314 for mental health counseling.
- Testing is free for all eligible New Yorkers as ordered by a health care provider.
- Your [local health department](#) is your community contact for COVID-19 concerns.