July 29, 2021 | 12:45 pm

COVID-19 Updates

Unvaccinated individuals are at greater risk of serious illness from COVID-19. Learn more about the COVID-19 vaccines.

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APRIL 17, 2020 | Albany, NY

Amid Ongoing COVID-19 Pandemic, Governor Cuomo Issues Executive Order Directing All NYS Public and Private Labs to Coordinate with State DOH to Prioritize Diagnostic Testing

CORONAVIRUS (/KI HEALTH)RO(NK ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT (/KEYWORDS/ECONOMIC-DEVELOPMENT)

Part of State's Efforts to Ramp Up Testing, A Key Component of the Governor's Blueprint to Un-Pause New York

Reiterates Call for Federal Government to Provide Unrestricted Funding to States

Launches Awareness Campaign Encouraging Low-Income New Yorkers to Claim Their Economic Impact Payments Under the CARES Act

Confirms 7,358 Additional Coronavirus Cases in New York State - Bringing Statewide Total to 229,642; New Cases in 50 Counties

Amid the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic, Governor Andrew M. Cuomo today announced he will issue an Executive Order directing all public and private labs in New York to coordinate with the State Department of Health to prioritize coronavirus diagnostic testing. This action is part of the State's efforts to ramp up testing, a key component of the Governor's blueprint to un-Pause New York. The Executive Order will help ensure the 301 laboratories and hospitals in

the state that are licensed to perform virology operate in a coordinated fashion to overcome the testing challenges that every state in the nation is now facing.

The Governor also reiterated his call for the federal government to provide unrestricted funding to the states to help stabilize the economy and allow the states to perform reopening functions. The federal government has passed three bills to address this crisis, including the federal CARES Act, all of which contained zero funding to offset drastic state revenue shortfalls.

https://www.youtube.com/embed/323_X2YQs5I

AUDIO | PHOTOS

The Governor also launched an awareness campaign encouraging low-income New Yorkers to claim their Economic Impact Payments under the CARES Act. The Act provides $1,200 payments to individuals making below $75,000 and $2,400 payments to married couples making below $150,000. However, taxpayers will only receive their payments automatically if they filed 2018 or 2019 federal tax returns. Because the federal filing threshold is roughly $12,000 for individuals and $24,000 for married couples, hundreds of thousands of the lowest income New Yorkers who are not required to file returns will not receive their payments unless they provide their information to the IRS.

To support the Governor's awareness campaign, the Department of Taxation and Finance launched an Economic Impact Payment information: what you need to know (https://www.tax.ny.gov/press/alerts/stimulus-checks-information.htm) web page and will do direct outreach to taxpayers who may not automatically receive the payments they're owed. The Tax Department will also partner with the Office of Temporary and Disability Assistance, NYS Division of Veterans' Services, the Department of Labor and local community organizations to raise awareness and ensure action is taken by those who need this benefit most.

"As we work over the next several months to un-pause New York, the testing and tracing is going to be our guidepost," Governor Cuomo said. "No state is currently capable of doing the large-scale COVID testing that is needed. We have 300 laboratories and hospitals across the state that do virology testing and we must coordinate them to become one system -- like we did with the hospitals -- to get our testing capacity where it needs to be. I am going to issue an Executive Order that says the Department of Health will coordinate all of these labs so we can ramp up testing and get more people back to work."

> ***As we work over the next several months to un-pause New York, the testing and tracing is going to be our guidepost.***
>
> **Governor Andrew M. Cuomo**

Finally, the Governor confirmed 7,358 additional cases of novel coronavirus, bringing the statewide total to 229,642 confirmed cases in New York State. Of the 229,642 total individuals who tested positive for the virus, the geographic breakdown is as follows:

County	Total Positive	New Positive
Albany	619	38
Allegany	29	1
Broome	178	11
Cattaraugus	34	2
Cayuga	36	0
Chautauqua	25	1
Chemung	71	1
Chenango	76	3
Clinton	47	1
Columbia	101	2
Cortland	25	1
Delaware	48	1

Dutchess	2,142	57
Erie	1,929	79
Essex	15	3
Franklin	13	0
Fulton	27	2
Genesee	83	5
Greene	77	3
Hamilton	3	0
Herkimer	46	3
Jefferson	50	2
Lewis	8	0
Livingston	34	2
Madison	105	0
Monroe	975	43
Montgomery	33	1

Nassau	28,539	767
Niagara	227	11
NYC	127,352	4,206
Oneida	261	12
Onondaga	483	21
Ontario	67	2
Orange	6,084	196
Orleans	34	0
Oswego	45	1
Otsego	44	0
Putnam	578	5
Rensselaer	150	13
Rockland	8,987	235
Saratoga	236	5

Schenectady	250	5
Schoharie	20	0
Schuyler	6	0
Seneca	18	0
St. Lawrence	96	3
Steuben	154	0
Suffolk	25,035	853
Sullivan	505	68
Tioga	30	3
Tompkins	117	1
Ulster	788	27
Warren	91	10
Washington	48	2
Wayne	49	0
Westchester	22,476	648

Wyoming	35	1
Yates	8	1

Contact the Governor's Press Office

Contact us by email:

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Translations

Bengali Translation
বাংলা অনুবাদ
(https://www.governor.ny.gov/sites/default/files/atoms/files/04.17.20.rel_.PRIORITIZE

Chinese Translation
中文翻譯
(https://www.governor.ny.gov/sites/default/files/atoms/files/04.17.20.rel_.PRIORITIZE

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