GENERAL SITUATION

The US Food and Drug Administration today issued a “safety communication” to remind Americans that SARS-CoV-2 antibody tests should not be used to evaluate whether someone is protected – or immune – from infection. SARS-CoV-2 is the name of the virus that causes Covid-19.

The European Union will begin to ease travel restrictions to the bloc, with the European Council agreeing on measures to allow fully vaccinated foreign visitors in. The bloc's 27 ambassadors green-lit a plan to implement waivers for vaccinated people and relax criteria to lift restrictions for third countries. The proposal also includes an emergency brake mechanism that would allow the EU to react quickly to variants of interest or concern. If member states accept proof of vaccination to waive travel restrictions, such as testing or quarantine, they should in principle lift restrictions on non-essential travel for third-country visitors. The European Council is expected to formally adopt the recommendations tomorrow, which are not legally binding for member states.

New York Gov. Andrew Cuomo announced updated Covid-19 guidance and protocols for childcare, day camps and overnight camps including mask and distancing requirements for unvaccinated staff. Programs and facilities must collect vaccination status of all staff and children and implement mandatory health screening practices of staff and visitors, including temperature checks.

The Brooklyn Nets are partnering with the New York City Mayor's Office and DocGo to open a COVID-19 vaccination site for qualified individuals ages 12 years and older. Beginning with the Nets' first home game of the 2021 NBA Playoffs on Saturday, May 22, vaccines will be available to eligible New Yorkers and ticketed fans. Officials say the vaccination site will be located at 140 Flatbush Avenue, across the street from Barclays Center, with appointments available the day before and the day of every Nets home game throughout the NBA Playoffs.

New Jersey Gov. Phil Murphy made the announcement today that as part of "Operation Jersey Summer," a number of COVID-19 vaccine incentives will be offered to residents in the state of New Jersey. The statewide public awareness campaign is aimed at vaccinating all eligible individuals who live, work, or study in New Jersey against COVID-19. The new incentives include a State Parks Vax Pass, providing free access to New Jersey's 51 state parks and facilities including Island Beach State Park; a free glass of wine at participating New Jersey wineries; and dinner with Governor Murphy and First Lady Tammy Murphy.
Connecticut Governor Ned Lamont announced today that to help Connecticut businesses and the general public better understand the state’s modified mask and face covering policies that are now in effect the following document has been released.

The Connecticut Department of Public Health has officially released new COVID-19 guidance that breaks down new recommendations for those who are vaccinated and unvaccinated. Please click here to read more on face masks or vaccinated versus unvaccinated. DPH said the changed guidelines are in response to new guidance from the Centers from Disease Control and Prevention.
NEW YORK STATE

Radio City to be at full capacity for fully vaccinated in June:

The Tribeca Film Festival is set to open June 9th at the Pier 76 Park with a showing of Lin Manuel Miranda's "In The Heights". Closing night will feature a red-carpet performance on June 19th at Radio City Music Hall at full capacity, with a 100% vaccinated, mask-free audience.

How to renew your driver’s license in New York State: Click here.

Virtual Community Calendar - Virtual events, community info and more.

The Mayor of New York has set up the COVID-19 Emergency Relief Fund, with donations going to support healthcare workers and essential staff, local small businesses, displaced hourly workers, families, youth and vulnerable New Yorkers.

For a full list of NYC City Agency service updates see: https://www1.nyc.gov/nyc-resources/city-agency-service-updates.page

HEALTHCARE

How Do I Find a vaccination site in or near my NYC neighbourhood? You can find a COVID-19 vaccine site using the Vaccine Finder tool. The finder is designed to make the process easier for New Yorkers to find provider locations closest to their home and to schedule an appointment.


How to get vaccinated in New York State:
In New York State you can use the "Am I Eligible" app or https://am-i-eligible.covid19vaccine.health.ny.gov/ to check your eligibility and schedule an appointment. NY State also has a hotline to schedule a vaccine: 1-833-NYS-4VAX (1-833-697-4829).

How to get vaccinated in New York City:
In New York City you can visit www.nyc.gov/vaccinefinder to make an appointment for a vaccine online. The phone number to schedule a vaccine is 877-VAX-4NYC (1-833-697-4829).

Find a test site near you: click here

COVID-19 Diagnostic Testing, NYU Langone Health (results available within 1-2 days)
Notify NYC alerts in العربية، বাঙালি, 中文, Français, Kreyòl Ayisyen, Italiano, 한국어, Polski, Русский, Español, and ייִדיש: https://on.nyc.gov/change-language. To refer your friends and family to this service please visit https://a858-nycnotify.nyc.gov/notifynyc/Home/ReferAFriend.

The state is partnering with the Kate Spade New York Foundation and Crisis Text Line to provide a 24/7 emotional support service for frontline health care workers: workers can text NYFRONTLINE to 741-741 to access these emotional support services.

**MASS TRANSIT**

The Subway has resumed regular 24-hour service on May 17.

Busses are running at regular service. Fare payment is now required on all busses and boarding will be through the front door.

While ridership remains lower than normal levels, the MTA is encouraging riders to avoid the rush-hour commute if they can. See COVID-19 updates [here](https://www.mta.info/coronavirus).

Access-A-Ride: [https://new.mta.info/accessibility/paratransit](https://new.mta.info/accessibility/paratransit)

NYC Ferry: [https://www.ferry.nyc/](https://www.ferry.nyc/)

NY Department of Motor Vehicles (transactions and services impacted by COVID-19): [https://dmv.ny.gov/offices](https://dmv.ny.gov/offices)

NY Department of Motor Vehicles (online transactions): [https://dmv.ny.gov/more-info/all-online-transactions](https://dmv.ny.gov/more-info/all-online-transactions)
NEW JERSEY

For updated information on the New Jersey Motor Vehicle Commission’s Licensing Centers and Vehicle Centers please click here. Most renewals, replacements, changes of address, and other transactions can be processed online.

See N.J. reopening guides here.

HEALTHCARE


**How to get vaccinated in New Jersey:**
You can reserve your spot to get a vaccine now by pre-registering at https://covidvaccine.nj.gov/. The site asks questions to determine when you are eligible to receive a vaccination.

This is the New Jersey COVID-19 information hub.

For more information on COVID-19 in NJ: https://www.nj.gov/health/cd/topics/ncov.shtml

The following link lists most of the healthcare providers in the United States and their actions in relation to COVID-19: https://www.ahip.org/health-insurance-providers-respond-to-coronavirus-covid-19/

MASS TRANSIT

New Jersey Transit has resumed normal service, with increased vehicle frequency where possible to reduce occupancy. Please view more details here.

Please visit the NJ Transit website for specific schedule information.
CONNECTICUT


For more information on COVID-19 in CT: https://portal.ct.gov/Coronavirus

For information on the Connecticut Department of Motor Vehicles click here. Most Driver’s Licences, ID cards and vehicle registrations have been extended through December 2020.

HEALTHCARE UPDATES

CVS Pharmacy is beginning vaccinations this week at two Connecticut locations, according to the company. CVS locations in Putnam and Waterford are now accepting appointments for eligible Phase 1b residents, including people ages 75 and over and long-term care residents and staff, its website states.


All COVID-19 testing sites in Connecticut: https://www.211ct.org/search/67201508

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If you are displaying symptoms consistent with those of COVID-19, and are unable to get into contact with your primary care physician, please reach out to one of the following hotlines:
Hartford Healthcare Hotline: (860) 972-8100
Yale New Haven Health: (833) 484-1200
Bristol Hospital Coronavirus Info Line: (860) 261-6855
Stamford Health: (203) 276-4111

MASS TRANSIT

Amtrak and commuter trains through eastern Connecticut: https://www.visitconnecticut.com/state/train-information/

Bus services Hartford, CT/NYC/Hartford, CT:
Metro-North: http://www.mta.info/mnr
**Pennsylvania**

For updated information on COVID-19 from the State government, [click here](#).

PA residents are encouraged to download the [COVID Alert PA app](#).

**Healthcare Updates**


Testing sites in Pennsylvania can be found [here](#).

For more information on COVID-19 in PA:  
[https://www.health.pa.gov/topics/disease/coronavirus/Pages/Coronavirus.aspx](https://www.health.pa.gov/topics/disease/coronavirus/Pages/Coronavirus.aspx)

The following link lists most of the healthcare providers in the United States and their actions in relation to COVID-19:  

**Mass Transit**

Amtrak to Philadelphia:  

Bus service from/to Philadelphia to NYC and from NYC to Philadelphia:  
DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA (Washington, D.C.)

The District of Columbia is currently in Phase 2 of the ReOpen DC plan.

Indoor dining is now allowed in Washington, D.C. up to 25% capacity.

Department of Motor Vehicles: make an appointment at dmv.dc.gov.

HEALTHCARE UPDATES

COVID-19 Vaccine: District Health Department website vaccinate.dc.gov.

How to Book a COVID-19 Vaccine appointment in DC, Maryland and Virginia.

All testing sites in Washington, D.C.: https://coronavirus.dc.gov/testing
TRAVEL

Amtrak (updates during COVID-19):
https://www.amtrak.com/coronavirus?intcmp=wsp_hp-hero_link_service-updates_frame1

Travel Advisories: The U.S. Department of State Travel Advisories:
https://travel.state.gov/content/travel/en/traveladvisories/traveladvisories.html/

Country Specific Information from the U.S. Dep. of State:

Flight / hotel / cruise reservations change and cancellation policies: (scroll down)
https://help.amextravel.com/service/?inav=travel_help2#articles/872/61/25689

Most airlines in the US have stopped blocking the middle seat to provide distancing between passengers, and some have reverted to booking planes to capacity. See more details here.