



Assemblymember
RODNEYSE BICHOTTE
Brooklyn Democratic County Leader



COVID-19 Updates



Photo Credit: REUTERS/Leah Millis

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Western New York Will Begin Reopening Tomorrow

Amid Coronavirus Pandemic

NYC Could Begin Reopening in the First-Half of June; Coronavirus Vaccine Trial Shows Promising Results; Cuomo Tests Negative for Coronavirus; and More!

NYS Confirmed: 351,371
NYS Deaths: 22,729
NYC Confirmed: 193,230
Brooklyn Confirmed: 52,485

NYS: GOVERNOR CUOMO



Photo Credit: WKBW

- The Western New York region has met reopening criteria and received approval from the state to begin **Phase One** of reopening **tomorrow, May 19th**.
 - The counties included in the reopening plan are Allegany, Cattaraugus, Chautauqua, Erie and Niagara.
 - Under Phase One, businesses in **construction, manufacturing, retail (curbside pickup),**

wholesale trade, agriculture, forestry, fishing and hunting can reopen upon demonstrating a plan to protect employees and customers.

- There are **525** contact tracers in the region.
- Nursing homes remain a priority for the state. To help with testing of staff, Cuomo says, the state is connecting the facilities with labs that have reserved at least **35,000** tests per day for this purpose.
- Governor Cuomo tested **negative** for coronavirus.
- So far, the state has distributed **\$9.2 billion** in unemployment benefits to about **2 million** New Yorkers.

NYC: MAYOR DE BLASIO



Photo Credit: NBC News

- Today, Mayor de Blasio announced NYC might begin **Phase One** of reopening in the first half of **June**.

- The city has currently **met three of the seven** indicators outlined by the state that it must meet before reopening.
- A report about conditions at a city-run adult-care center on Roosevelt Island has prompted an investigation by the city and state health departments.
 - NYC Health + Hospitals will conduct the investigation into **Coler Rehabilitation and Nursing Center**.
- The mayor announced there will be **strict enforcement** against crowds outside bars.
- The city will begin installing **fencing at public beaches** if necessary.
- NYC Health + Hospitals testing sites will be using "Made in NYC" testing kits, and will have **60,000** test kits created per week by **June 1**.
- Pediatric Multisystem Inflammatory Syndrome (PMIS), will now be referred to as **Multisystem Inflammatory Syndrome in Children**, or MIS-C.
- The CDC has confirmed the **link** between MIS-C, and COVID-19.
- Today the mayor announced that there are **145** cases of MIS-C in the city. Of those cases, **67** have tested positive for COVID-19.

NYC DAILY COVID-19 INDICATORS

Mayor de Blasio's report on NYC COVID-19 indicators are:

- **New hospitalizations:** down to **48** from 77
- **ICU admissions:** up to **475** from 469
- **COVID-19 positive tests:** remain the same at **11%**

FEDERAL GOVERNMENT



Photo Credit: Susan Walsh/AP

- The president met with CEOs of the restaurant industry today at the White House to discuss the future of the industry.
- Trump says he has been **taking hydroxychloroquine daily** for a week and a half now.
 - The FDA questions the efficacy of the antimalarial drug and warns of **potentially harmful side effects**.
- There have been more than **1.4 million** COVID-19 cases in the U.S. according to the [Johns Hopkins University tally](#).
 - The U.S. death toll has surpassed **89,000** people.

BROOKLYN COVID-19 FATALITIES



Photo Credit: *Victor J. Blue | Getty Images*

The New York Times [reported](#) that a Brooklyn zip code has the **highest death rate** in the city.

- The ZIP code, 11239, includes the vast **Starrett City subsidized-housing complex** and is home to the highest percentage of **people over 65** in the city. About **one in every 165 residents** has the virus.

MTA WORKERS



Photo Credit: Patrick Cashin/Metropolitan Transportation Authority

City Comptroller, Scott M. Stringer, published a [letter](#) today questioning whether private contractors hired to clean subways are being paid in line with prevailing wage rules.

- Private cleaners are reportedly receiving \$15 to \$18 an hour with no benefits, when they should be receiving a little **more than \$20 an hour** plus benefits to start.

VACCINE TRIAL



Photo Credit: Maddie Meyer/Getty Images

- A vaccine trial by Moderna had **positive early results**.
 - The company's vaccine could be available to the public as early as **January**.
 - The study focused on a small number of people, and the goal was to determine whether a vaccine is safe and elicits an immune response.
 - Results of Phase 1 clinical trial are not peer reviewed or published.
 - Results show those who were vaccinated achieved antibody levels similar to or even higher than people who naturally became infected with coronavirus.
- **Moderna** is one of eight developers worldwide doing human clinical trials.

CHINA SECOND WAVE



Photo Credit: Chen Jimin/China News Service via Getty Images

China's top respiratory authority has warned that the country is vulnerable to a second wave. New cases have emerged across China over the past few weeks in Wuhan and northeastern province s of Heilongjiang and Jilin .

ALTERNATE-SIDE PARKING



Mayor de Blasio had announced that **Alternate-Side Parking** was **suspended** through **Sunday, May 17th**. It resumes today, **Monday, May 18th**, and will continue through **Sunday, May 24th** to allow for a week-long cleaning sweep of the city. Alternate-Side Parking will be **suspended again from Monday, May 25th**, through **Sunday, June 7th**.

COVID-19 TESTING IN FLATBUSH



Assemblymember
Rodneyse Bichotte
42nd Assembly District



FLATBUSH AVENUE WALK-IN COVID-19 TESTING SITE

*This testing site is **by appointment only**.*

You **must** contact the
NYS Department of Health
at **1-888-364-3065** to
schedule an appointment.

Brookdale Family Care Center

1095 Flatbush Avenue
Brooklyn, NY 11226

For more information about this or any community concern,
contact Assemblymember Bichotte's district office

718-940-0428 | bichotter@nyassembly.gov | www.nyassembly.gov/mem/Rodneyse-Bichotte

We have a **drive through** and **walk-in** COVID-19 testing site in the **42nd Assembly District** . **You must make an appointment before visiting the center or you will be turned away.** To make an appointment you **must** contact the NYS Department of Health at **888-364-3065**.



Assemblymember Rodneyse Bichotte
42nd Assembly District



Sears Parking Lot

2307 Beverley Road
Brooklyn, NY 11226

Testing site is BY APPOINTMENT ONLY

For appointment call 888-364-3065

*If you experience symptoms or have been exposed
to someone with the virus, call your doctor*



For information on this, or any other matter, please call Assemblymember Bichotte's district office at
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MULTISYSTEM INFLAMMATORY SYNDROME IN CHILDREN (MIS-C)



Photo Credit: Norton Children's

Governor Cuomo announced that a new investigation is underway regarding potential COVID-19 related **cases in children**. Symptoms can be compared to Kawasaki disease and toxic shock-like syndrome. The Department of Health issued an advisory of what's called the Multisystem Inflammatory Syndrome in Children, or MIS-C, and now **requires** health care providers to **immediately report** all related cases. The Department of Health and Mental Hygiene released a [health advisory](#) detailing current findings.

- New Yorkers should **seek immediate** care if a child has:
 - Prolonged fever (more than five days)
 - Difficulty feeding (infants) or is too sick to drink fluids
 - Severe abdominal pain, diarrhea or vomiting
 - Change in skin color - becoming pale, patchy and/or blue
 - Trouble breathing or is breathing very quickly
 - Racing heart or chest pain
 - Decreased amount of frequency in urine

- Lethargy, irritability or confusion

THANK YOU ESSENTIAL WORKERS



During these unprecedented and difficult times, **we thank our essential workers** who are serving on the front lines. Today, we thank our **farmers** for feeding our communities.

AVOID SCAMS

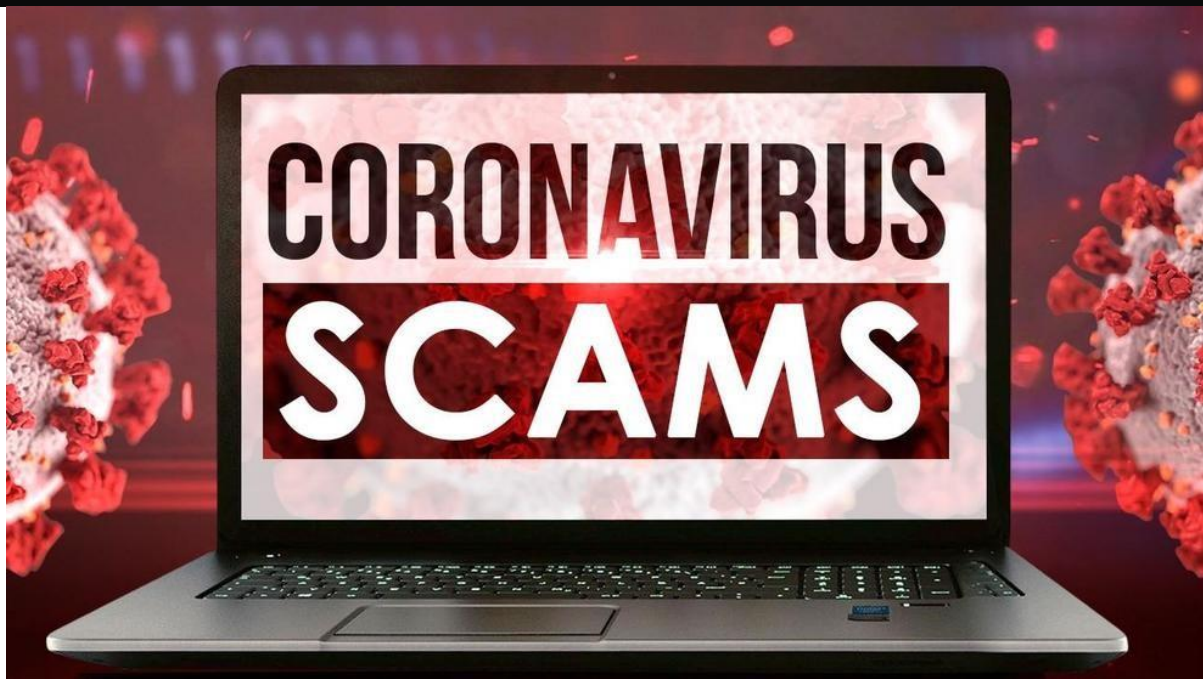


Photo Credit: Pixabay/CDC

- Notify NYC: Beware of COVID-19 scams!
- Report **price gouging** to 311 or [NYC.gov/dewp](https://www.nyc.gov/dewp). You can also file a complaint to the Attorney General's office by filling out a [complaint form](#).
- **NYS Price Gouging Hotline**: 800-697-1220.
- CDC staff will **NOT** go door-to-door. If you experience this, call 911.

SERVICES AND RESOURCES



Photo Credit: Ansi.org

Due to the impact of COVID-19 on New York City's workforce, the City of New York has developed a list of resources for those who may be unemployed due to COVID-19 or are seeking additional assistance. The list below will be updated frequently.

It has information on the following categories:

- **Employment Resources**
- **Food Assistance**
- **Health & Medical Assistance**
- **Financial Assistance**
- **Rent Arrears and Public Assistance**
- **Emotional Support & Spiritual Care**
- **Other Assistance**

Visit this [website](#) for resources.

NYS Department of Health Hotline for people who want to be assessed and get appointment for test ([888-364-3065](tel:888-364-3065)). NYC residents should call ([844-692-4692](tel:844-692-4692)).

Volunteer to Support

Others: https://www1.nyc.gov/site/helpnownyc/resources/covid-19-relief.page#healthcare_workers.

Free Internet Services:

Charter is offering free spectrum broadband and WiFi access for 60 days to household with K-12 and/or college students who do not already have Spectrum broadband subscription. To enroll, **call [844-488-8395](tel:844-488-8395)**.

Until further notice, all Xfinity WiFi Public Hotspots are now open to everyone on the "xfinitywifi" SSID. For more information visit [here](#).

IMMIGRATION

- If you or a loved one is in need of free immigration assistance, please call **CUNY Citizenship Now** at 646-664-9400 or text at 929-334-3784, Monday to Friday from 9:00 AM to 5:00 PM. Visit their [website](#) for more information.
- **Open Society Foundation** has established the **Immigrant Emergency Relief Program** which is a \$20 million fund that will provide 20,000 undocumented immigrants with a one-time monetary emergency relief.
 - \$400/individual
 - \$800/couple or single parent with children
 - \$1,000/family with multiple adults and children
 - for more information, click [here](#).

SMALL BUSINESS

- The Federal Government is offering programs to support small businesses:
 - **Paycheck Protection Program** provides a loan that will be forgiven if employees are retained on payroll for a period of time. For more information, click [here](#).
 - **Economic Injury Disaster Loan** is a low interest loan to cover expense beyond payroll costs. For more information, click [here](#).
- New York City Small Business Services has a host of other services for small businesses including grant and loan opportunities. For more information, click [here](#).

In-District Businesses open/closed provided by **Flatbush Avenue BID and Church Avenue BID**: Visit Flatbush Avenue Business Directory [here](#) and Church Avenue Business directory [here](#). Businesses open/closed list provided by **Flatbush Development Corporation**: Visit Flatbush Business Corridor Directory [here](#). Includes businesses located in:

- Cortelyou Road (Coney Island Ave. - Ocean Ave.)
- Coney Island Avenue (Cortelyou Road - Foster Ave.)
- Newkirk Plaza
- Newkirk Avenue (Coney Island Ave. - Ocean Ave.)
- Foster Avenue (Coney Island Ave. - Ocean Ave.)
- Ditmas Park

WHAT TO DO IF YOU ARE SICK WITH COVID-19



What to do if you are sick with coronavirus disease 2019 (COVID-19)

If you are sick with COVID-19 or suspect you are infected with the virus that causes COVID-19, follow the steps below to help prevent the disease from spreading to people in your home and community.

Stay home except to get medical care

You should restrict activities outside your home, except for getting medical care. Do not go to work, school, or public areas. Do not use public transportation, ride-sharing, or taxis.

Separate yourself from other people in your home

As much as possible, you should stay in a specific room and away from other people in your home. Also, you should use a separate bathroom, if available.

Call ahead before visiting your doctor

If you have a medical appointment, call the healthcare provider and tell them that you have or may have COVID-19. This will help the healthcare provider's office take steps to keep other people from getting infected or exposed.

Wear a facemask

You should wear a facemask when you are around other people (e.g., sharing a room or vehicle) and before you enter a healthcare provider's office. If you are not able to wear a facemask (for example, because it causes trouble breathing), then people who live with you should not stay in the same room with you, or they should wear a facemask if they enter your room.

Cover your coughs and sneezes

Cover your mouth and nose with a tissue when you cough or sneeze. Throw used tissues in a lined trash can and wash your hands with soap and water for at least 20 seconds. If soap and water are not available, immediately clean your hands with an alcohol-based hand sanitizer that contains at least 60% alcohol, covering all surfaces of your hands and rubbing them together until they feel dry. Soap and water should be used preferentially if hands are visibly dirty.

Clean your hands

Wash your hands often with soap and water for at least 20 seconds. If soap and water are not available, clean your hands with an alcohol-based hand sanitizer that contains at least 60% alcohol, covering all surfaces of your hands and rubbing them together until they feel dry. Soap and water should be used preferentially if hands are visibly dirty. Avoid touching your eyes, nose, and mouth with unwashed hands.

Avoid sharing personal household items

You should not share dishes, drinking glasses, cups, eating utensils, towels, or bedding with other people in your home. After using these items, you should wash them thoroughly with soap and water.

Monitor your symptoms

Seek prompt medical attention if your illness is worsening (e.g., shortness of breath or difficulty breathing). **Before** seeking care, call your healthcare provider and tell them that you have, or are being evaluated for, COVID-19. Put on a facemask before you enter the facility. These steps will help the healthcare provider's office keep other people from getting infected or exposed.

Ask your healthcare provider to call the local or state health department. Persons who are placed under active monitoring or facilitated self-monitoring should follow instructions provided by their local health department or occupational health professionals, as appropriate. <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/php/risk-assessment.html>.

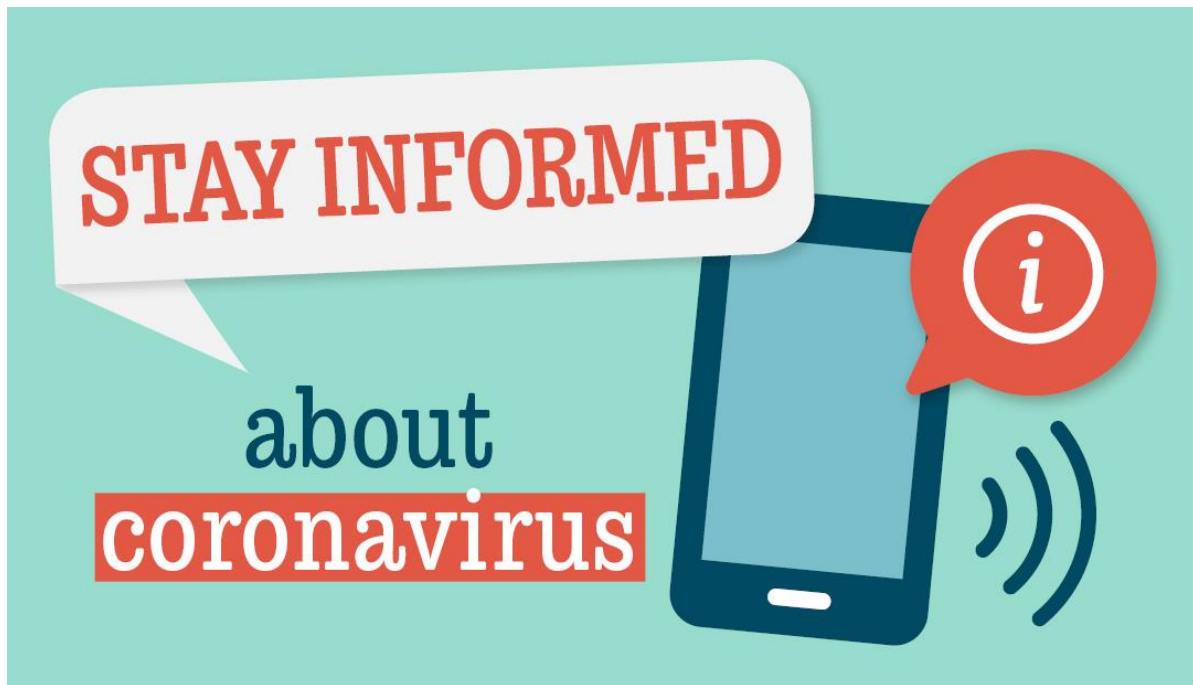
Discontinuing home isolation

Patients confirmed to have COVID-19 should remain under home isolation precautions until the risk of secondary transmission to others is thought to be low. The decision to discontinue home isolation precautions should be made on a case-by-case basis, in consultation with healthcare providers and state and local health departments. Current information on COVID-19 is limited; home precautions are conservative and based on general recommendations for other diseases, like Middle Eastern Respiratory Syndrome (MERS).



For more information: www.cdc.gov/COVID19

STAY INFORMED



Health officials are working tirelessly to protect public health and contain this virus. And, as your representative in Albany, I am working to ensure that our state is putting the health and safety of our families first.

Remember **COVID-19** can affect any community and we must stand by one another during this time, not alienate, threaten or discriminate against others.

For questions you can also reach out to the New York State's novel coronavirus hotline at **1-888-364-3065** . For continuous updates, you can visit the following websites:

- [Center for Disease Control and Prevention \(CDC\)](#)
- [World Health Organization \(WHO\)](#)

The CDC also now has the option for you to sign up for weekly updates on COVID-19.

New Yorkers Can Sign Up for Email Updates [Here](#) and Ask

Questions About COVID-19 [Here](#)

New Yorkers Can Find More Information About the New COVID-19 Paid Sick Leave Law [Here](#)

Assemblymember Rodneyse Bichotte represents the 42nd Assembly District in Brooklyn covering Ditmas Park, Flatbush, East Flatbush and Midwood. She is currently the **Chair of the Subcommittee on Oversight of Minority and Women-Owned Business Enterprises (MWBEs)** , and serves on the following committees: **Housing, Government Operations, Education , Banks, Health, and Higher Education** . She is also a member of the Task Force on Women's Issues and sits on **Governor Cuomo's Domestic Violence Advisory Council and Mayor De Blasio's MWBE Task Force.**

As a current Assemblymember, District Leader, and Chair of Brooklyn Democratic Party, Rodneyse Bichotte has been an outspoken advocate on issues concerning **immigration, education, economic development, unemployment, education reform, health care access, senior citizen centers, affordable housing, school safety, women's and LGBTQ rights** , as well as other issues affecting the quality of life in the community.

Learn more about
Rodneyse Bichotte by visiting her websites:
<http://nyassembly.gov/mem/Rodneyse-Bichotte>
and www.rodneysebichotte.net

STAY CONNECTED

