



JULY 13, 2020 Albany, NY

## **Governor Cuomo Announces New Data-Driven Guidance for Reopening Schools**

Schools in Regions in Phase IV Can Reopen if Daily Infection Rate Remains Below 5 Percent Using a 14-Day Average

Schools Will Close if Regional Infection Rate Rises Over 9 Percent After August 1

Finalized DOH and Reimagine Education Advisory Council Guidance and Guiding Principles Available [Here](#)

1.08 Percent of Yesterday's COVID-19 Tests were Positive

10 COVID-19 Deaths in New York State Yesterday

Confirms 557 Additional Coronavirus Cases in New York State - Bringing Statewide Total to 402,263; New Cases in 38 Counties

Governor Andrew M. Cuomo today announced new, data-driven guidance for reopening schools in New York State. Schools in a region can reopen if that region is in Phase IV of reopening and if its daily infection rate remains below 5 percent or lower using a 14-day average since unPAUSE was lifted. Schools will close if the regional infection rate rises above 9 percent, using a 7-day average, after August 1. New York State will make the formula determination during the week of August 1 to 7. New York State, the Reimagine Education Advisory Council and the Department of Health released finalized guidance and guiding principles for reopening schools today, which are available [here](#). The DOH and Governor's

Reimagine Council are working closely with the Department of Education as it releases education guidance. Plans to reopen schools are due on July 31.

Topics addressed by state guidance include:

- Masks/PPE
- Social Distancing
- Cohort Structures
- Restructuring Space to Maximize In-Class Instruction
- Transportation
- Food Service
- Aftercare and Extracurriculars
- Screening
- Tracing
- Cleaning and Disinfecting

Governor Cuomo also updated New Yorkers on the state's progress during the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic. The number of new cases, percentage of tests that were positive and many other helpful data points are always available at [forward.ny.gov](https://forward.ny.gov).

"Everybody wants to reopen schools, but you only reopen if it's safe to reopen, and that's determined by the data. You don't hold your finger up and feel the wind, you don't have an inspiration, you don't have a dream, you don't have an emotion--look at the data," **Governor Cuomo said.** "We test more and we have more data than any state. If you have the virus under control, reopen. If you don't have the virus under control, then you can't reopen. We're not going to use our children as the litmus test and we're not going to put our children in a place where their health is endangered. It's that simple. Common sense and intelligence can still determine what we do, even in this crazy environment. We're not going to use our children as guinea pigs. What I say to the experts is very simple. I'm making the determination as to whether or not I would send my daughter to school. If it's safe, I'll send her. If it's not safe, I'm not going to send her. And you can determine that by science."

Today's data is summarized briefly below:

- **Patient Hospitalization** - 792 (-9)
- **Patients Newly Admitted** - 60 (-15)

- **Hospital Counties** - 31
- **Number ICU** - 175 (+1)
- **Number ICU with Intubation** - 103 (+1)
- **Total Discharges** - 71,643 (+78)
- **Deaths** - 10
- **Total Deaths** - 24,989

Of the 51,687 tests conducted in New York State yesterday, 557, or 1.08 percent, were positive. Each region's percentage of positive tests over the last three days is as follows:

REGION	FRIDAY	SATURDAY	SUNDAY
Capital Region	1.2%	2.0%	0.9%
Central New York	1.7%	1.1%	1.0%
Finger Lakes	1.0%	0.8%	1.0%
Long Island	1.0%	0.9%	1.5%
Mid-Hudson	0.8%	0.9%	0.8%
Mohawk Valley	0.9%	0.8%	0.8%
New York City	1.0%	1.3%	1.1%

North Country	0.3%	0.4%	0.2%
Southern Tier	1.5%	0.6%	0.9%
Western New York	1.9%	1.0%	1.1%

The Governor also confirmed 557 additional cases of novel coronavirus, bringing the statewide total to 402,263 confirmed cases in New York State. Of the 402,263 total individuals who tested positive for the virus, the geographic breakdown is as follows:

County	Total Positive	New Positive
Albany	2,225	6
Allegany	66	0
Broome	827	7
Cattaraugus	138	0
Cayuga	126	0
Chautauqua	171	1

Chemung	148	0
Chenango	169	3
Clinton	109	0
Columbia	487	1
Cortland	59	1
Delaware	92	0
Dutchess	4,280	4
Erie	7,766	24
Essex	51	0
Franklin	36	0
Fulton	265	0

Genesee	250	0
Greene	266	0
Hamilton	6	0
Herkimer	193	1
Jefferson	99	2
Lewis	31	0
Livingston	147	0
Madison	375	1
Monroe	4,200	23
Montgomery	133	1
Nassau	42,354	47

Niagara	1,342	2
NYC	219,301	250
Oneida	1,830	7
Onondaga	3,142	18
Ontario	302	2
Orange	10,841	6
Orleans	287	0
Oswego	222	2
Otsego	89	0
Putnam	1,365	4
Rensselaer	617	1

Rockland	13,719	3
Saratoga	610	8
Schenectady	868	4
Schoharie	62	0
Schuyler	15	0
Seneca	74	0
St. Lawrence	231	1
Steuben	276	2
Suffolk	42,112	84
Sullivan	1,465	0
Tioga	161	0



Tompkins	186	0
Ulster	1,862	3
Warren	280	3
Washington	249	0
Wayne	209	4
Westchester	35,327	30
Wyoming	102	1
Yates	48	0

## Contact the Governor's Press Office



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