



Assemblymember  
**RODNEYSE BICHOTTE**  
Brooklyn Democratic County Leader



## COVID-19 Updates



Photo Credit: David Handschuh/Chalkbeat

**MAY 21, 2020**

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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**New York City on Track to Open in Early June**

## *Amid Coronavirus Pandemic*

No in-Person Summer School this Year; The Pandemic has Caused Food Insecurity to Double in New York City; Columbia University Study Says Deaths Could Have Been Avoided; and More!

**NYS Confirmed: 356,458**  
**NYS Deaths: 23,083**  
**NYC Confirmed: 195,675**  
**Brooklyn Confirmed: 53,385**

**NYS: GOVERNOR CUOMO**



Photo Credit: Governor.ny.gov

- **Governor Cuomo** said there will be **no in-person summer school** in New York State and it is still **too early to know** if classes will resume in the Fall.
  - The governor noted that he would not feel safe sending his **own children** to summer camp in New York State.
- NYS is now investigating **157 cases of Multisystem Inflammatory Syndrome in Children (MIS-C)**.
- The governor said that if you receive a call from “**NYS Contact Tracing**,” you need to answer it.
- Of New York's **10** regions; **7** have started to reopen for business.
- The governor agrees with **Mayor de Blasio** that the city is on track to opening in **mid-June**.
- The state is extending sales tax interest and penalty relief through **June 22**.
  - Up to **89,000 vendors** will get relief.
- As businesses begin to reopen, Governor Cuomo encouraged New Yorkers to call the **Coronavirus Hotline** at **1-888-364-3065** if they believe their employer is not following PPE, hygiene or social distancing guidelines.

**NYC: MAYOR DE BLASIO**



Photo Credit: abc7NY

- **Mayor de Blasio** announced that New York is on track to open by **early June**.
  - The city is expected to **meet its goals** in terms of hospitalizations, ICU admissions, and the number of persons testing positive for the virus.
  - The mayor said the city could start opening anytime between **June 1 and June 15**.
- The number of people in New York facing food insecurity has **doubled** because of the pandemic.
  - Before the pandemic, de Blasio says an estimated **1 million** people were **food insecure**. Today, that number is probably closer to **2 million**.
- The mayor and **First Lady, Chirlane McCray**, donated blood in Staten Island, reminding New Yorkers that the **city needs blood donors**.

**NYC DAILY COVID-19 INDICATORS**

**New hospitalizations: 60** (down from 63)  
**ICU admissions: 477** (down from 483)  
**COVID-19 positive tests: 9%** (up from 8%)

## FEDERAL GOVERNMENT

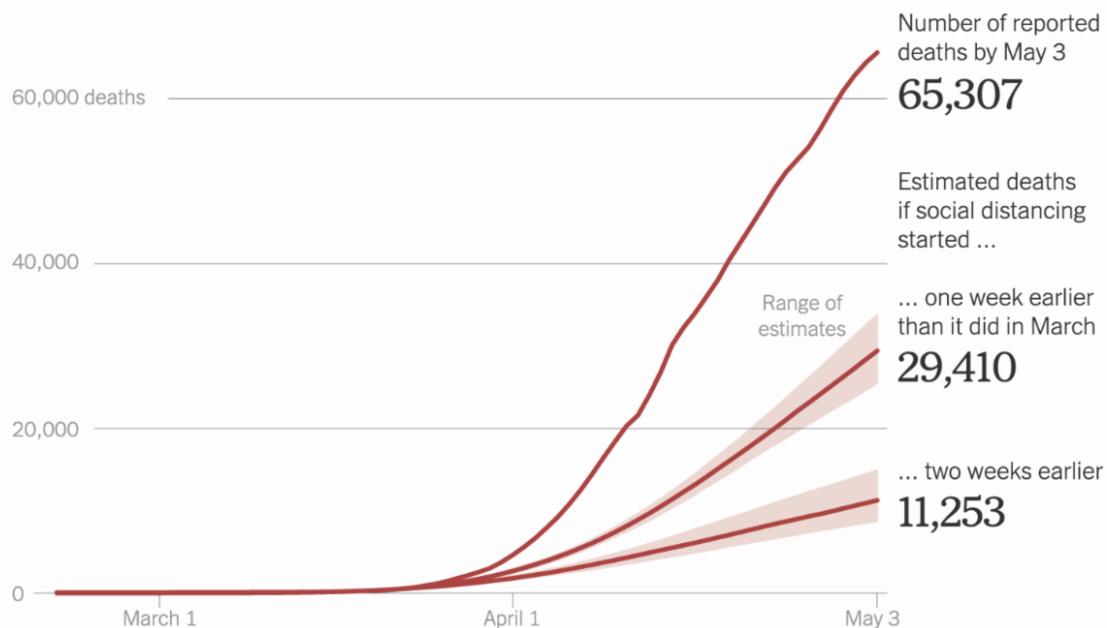


Photo Credit: CNN

- **President Trump** ordered flags on all federal buildings and national monuments to half-staff over the next **3 days** in memory of those who died of COVID-19.
- The **U.S. Department of Health and Human Services** said it would provide up to **\$1.2 billion** to the drug company **AstraZeneca** to develop a vaccine.

## COLUMBIA UNIVERSITY STUDY

### How Earlier Control Measures Could Have Saved Lives



By Weiyi Cai • Source: "Differential Effects of Intervention Timing on COVID-19 Spread in the United States," by Sen Pei, Sasikiran Kandula and Jeffrey Shaman, Columbia University

- An [analysis](#) by **Columbia University** concluded that imposing social distancing measures even **one week earlier** would have prevented many deaths in the **United States**.
  - Modeling suggests that had the United States imposed those measures **one week** earlier than it did in March, about **36,000** fewer people would have died.
  - If a lockdown had begun **March 1, two weeks earlier**, about **54,000** deaths would have been avoided.

**CORONAVIRUS PANDEMIC ELECTRONIC BENEFIT TRANSFER**



Photo Credit: Chalkbeat.org

- NYC public school families will receive **\$420 per child** for food benefits through the **Coronavirus Pandemic Electronic Benefit Transfer**, or P-EBT program.
  - Families will automatically get the equivalent of about **\$5.70 per day**.
  - Because NYC is a universal free lunch district, **every student will qualify** regardless of need.
  - For more details, visit the New York State Supplemental Emergency Allotment (EA) of Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) Benefits [website](#).

**MASK DISTRIBUTION  
IN LITTLE HAITI FLATBUSH BROOKLYN**

**Council  
Member  
FARAH N.  
LOUIS**



**NYS Senator  
KEVIN S. PARKER**

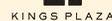


**Assembly  
Member  
RODNEYSE  
BICHOTTE**



**Speaker COREY JOHNSON  
Bklyn District Attorney ERIC GONZALEZ  
Bklyn Borough President ERIC L. ADAMS**

**District Leader JOSUE PIERRE  
District Leader EDU HERMELYN**



**HAA COVID TASK FORCE / SAINT JEROME'S ROMAN CATHOLIC CHURCH / HAITIAN EVANGELICAL CLERGY ASSN.**



**SAT, MAY 23, 2020 / 12PM-2PM**

**RSVP by May 22nd for your mask:**

**Text MASKFLATBUSH to (833) 716-0256 or ad42@nyassembly.gov**

**ALTERNATE-SIDE PARKING**



Mayor de Blasio had announced that **Alternate-Side Parking** was **suspended** through **Sunday, May 17th**. It resumed **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](mailto:bichotter@nyassembly.gov) | [www.nyassembly.gov/mem/Rodneyse-Bichotte](http://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**.

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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  
718-940-0428 | [bichotter@nyassembly.gov](mailto:bichotter@nyassembly.gov) | [www.nyassembly.gov/mem/Rodneyse-Bichotte](http://www.nyassembly.gov/mem/Rodneyse-Bichotte)

## 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

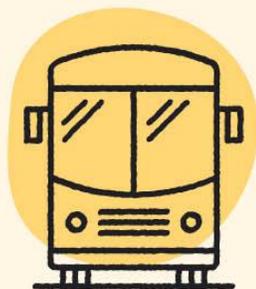
## THANK YOU ESSENTIAL WORKERS



*You help us travel  
safely and efficiently  
during this crisis.*



**THANK YOU PUBLIC  
TRANSIT DRIVERS.**



During these unprecedented and difficult times, **we thank our essential workers** who are serving on the front lines. Today, we thank our **public transit drivers** for getting us where we need to go during this crisis.

## AVOID SCAMS



Photo Credit: Pixabay/CDC

- Notify NYC: Beware of COVID-19 scams!
- Report **price gouging** to 311 or [NYC.gov/dcwp](https://www.nyc.gov/dcwp). 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](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** . 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](http://www.cdc.gov/COVID19)

**STAY INFORMED**

**STAY INFORMED**

about  
**coronavirus**



**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](#)

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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](http://www.rodneysebichotte.net)

STAY CONNECTED

