

NYC COVID-19 Alert Levels and Recommended Actions

Risk Level	Community Level	Recommended Actions for Individuals	Recommended Actions for the Government
Very High There is very high COVID-19 community spread. Health care services are overwhelmed by COVID-19 cases.	CDC high COVID-19 community level* plus more than 90% acute care beds occupied	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Stay up to date: get vaccinated and boosted. • Wear a face mask in all indoor public settings and crowded outdoor spaces. • Avoid nonessential activities and crowded spaces, such as eating indoors at restaurants. • Maximize social distancing in all public settings, including workplaces. • Get tested if you have symptoms; exposed; traveled; interacted with non-household members. • Stay home, especially if sick or exposed. • Keep hands clean. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Continue High Level actions. • Make congregate settings less crowded. • Consider implementing restrictions on nonessential activities (such as indoor dining), offering telework and sheltering in place to keep essential functions (such as health care and schools) operating.
High There is high COVID-19 community spread. Pressure on the health care system in NYC is substantial.	CDC high COVID-19 community level	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Stay up to date: get vaccinated and boosted. • Wear a face mask in all indoor public settings and crowded outdoor spaces. • Consider avoiding higher-risk activities (such as crowded, indoor gatherings). • Limit gatherings to small numbers. • Get tested if you have symptoms or were exposed, recently traveled, or attended a large gathering. • Stay home if sick or recently exposed. • Keep hands clean. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Continue Medium Level actions. • Increase testing and vaccination capacity in communities. • Ensure adequate vaccination, testing and isolation capacity in congregate settings. • Require face masks in all public indoor settings.

Risk Level	Community Level	Recommended Actions for Individuals	Recommended Actions for the Government
<p>Medium</p> <p>There is medium COVID-19 community spread.</p>	<p>CDC medium COVID-19 community level</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Stay up to date: get vaccinated and boosted. • Wear a face mask in public indoor settings where vaccine status is not known. • Get tested if you have symptoms; were exposed; recently traveled; attended a large gathering. • Take additional precautions if unvaccinated or at high risk due to age, underlying health condition, or if interacting with high-risk people. • Stay home if sick. • Keep hands clean. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Continue Low Level actions. <p>Consider:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Requiring face masks in additional high-risk settings where it is crowded and distance cannot be maintained, including: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Schools • Child care settings • Key to NYC requirements if there is a sustained (two-week) increase in cases or a new concerning variant; include booster doses and younger age groups.
<p>Low</p> <p>There is lower COVID-19 community spread.</p>	<p>CDC low COVID-19 community level</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Stay up to date: get vaccinated and boosted. • Consider wearing a face mask in public indoor settings where vaccine status is not known. • Follow all isolation and quarantine guidance, including wearing a face mask. • Get tested if you have symptoms; were exposed; recently traveled or attended a large gathering — especially if at high-risk (such as because of age or underlying condition). • Stay home if sick. • Keep hands clean. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Maintain employer and school vaccine mandates. • Require face masks in settings with vulnerable individuals and unverified vaccine statuses, such as: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Health care facilities • Congregate settings • Public transportation • Ensure testing, vaccine and treatment access. <p>Consider:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mandating up-to-date vaccination status in certain settings if there is a sustained (two-week) increase in cases or a new concerning variant. • Requiring vaccination for K-12 when there is a fully licensed vaccine product.

The NYC Health Department will revisit this framework every three months and may change recommendations as the situation evolves. 3.22.22

* For Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) COVID-19 community levels and Indicators, visit [cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/science/community-levels.html](https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/science/community-levels.html).