## NYC COVID-19 Alert Levels and Recommended Actions

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Risk Level</th>
<th>Community Level</th>
<th>Recommended Actions for Individuals</th>
<th>Recommended Actions for the Government</th>
</tr>
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</table>
| **Very High** | CDC high COVID-19 community level* plus more than 90% acute care beds occupied | • 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. | • 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** | CDC high COVID-19 community level | • 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. | • 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. |
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| **Medium** | CDC medium COVID-19 community level | • 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. | • Continue Low Level actions.  
Consider:  
• Requiring face masks in additional high-risk settings where it is crowded and distance cannot be maintained, including:  
  • 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. |
| **Low**    | CDC low COVID-19 community level | • 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. | • Maintain employer and school vaccine mandates.  
• Require face masks in settings with vulnerable individuals and unverified vaccine statuses, such as:  
  • Health care facilities  
  • Congregate settings  
  • Public transportation  
  • Ensure testing, vaccine and treatment access.  
Consider:  
• 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.  