

**COVID-19 UPDATE – MONDAY, FEBRUARY 8, 2021**

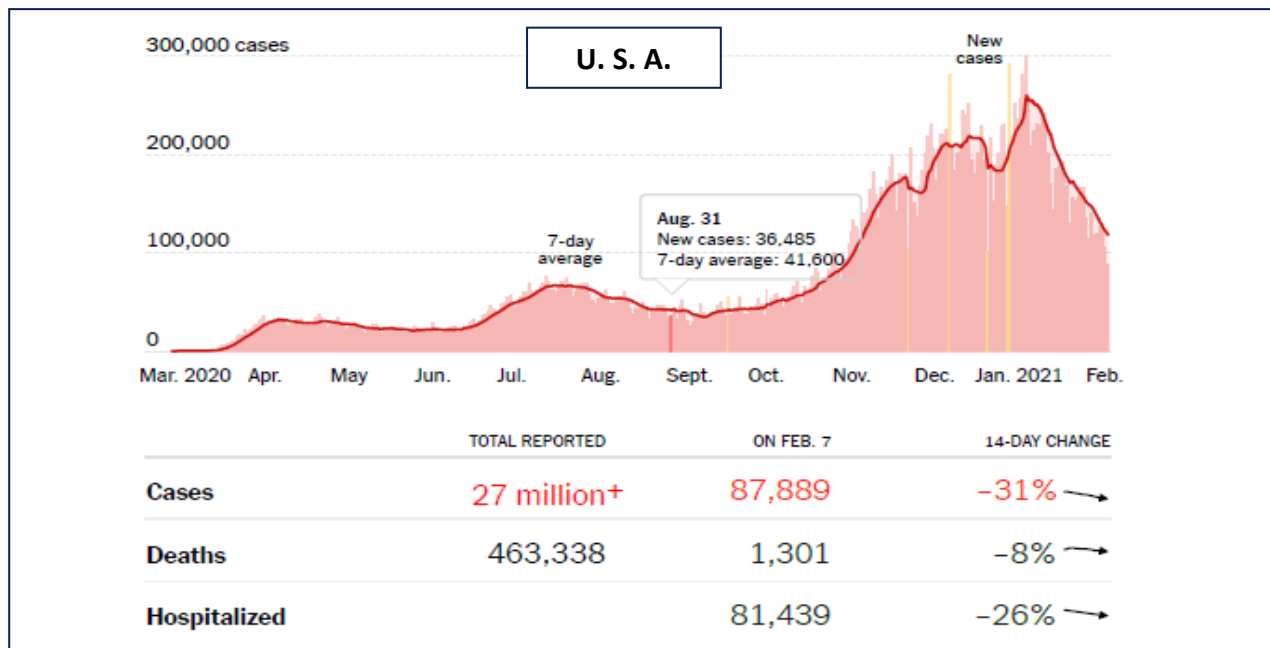
Dear Members of the DoM Community,

Good morning to you on this day after a snowy Sunday and congratulations to the Tampa Bay Buccaneers.

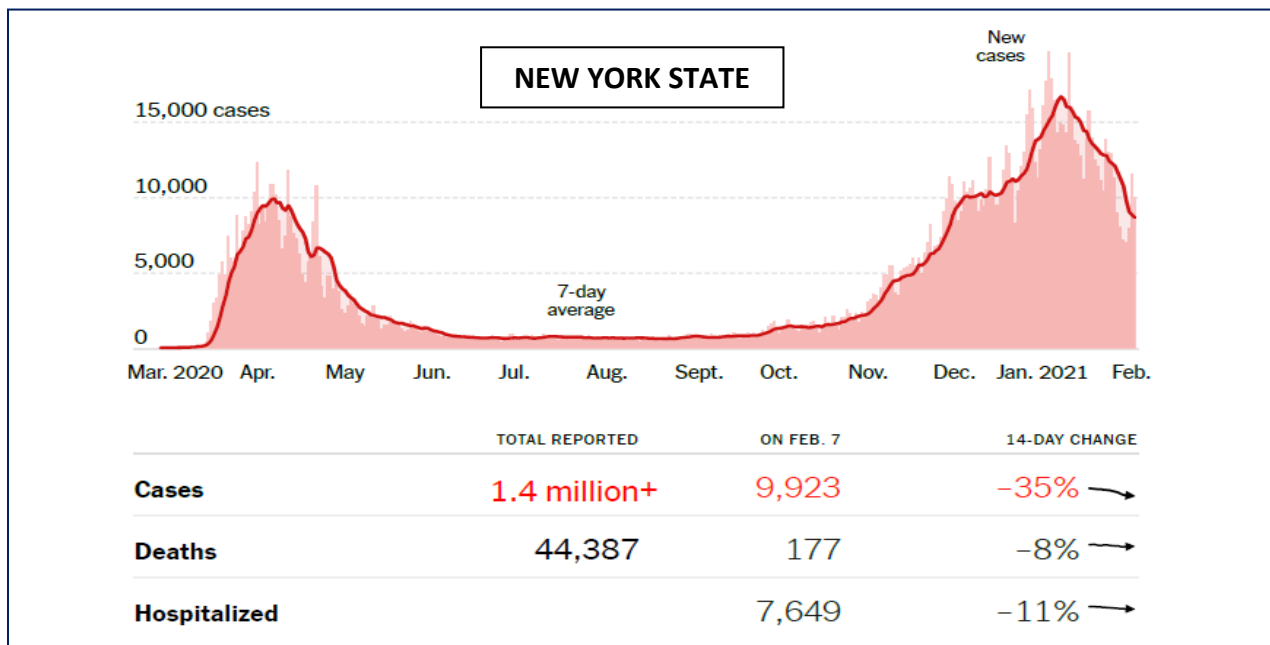
Here is a weekly update on the status of COVID-19 as it relates to the country and our community.

**1. Nationwide COVID-19 Data** (source = NYT database)

*Daily COVID tolls are slowly declining.*

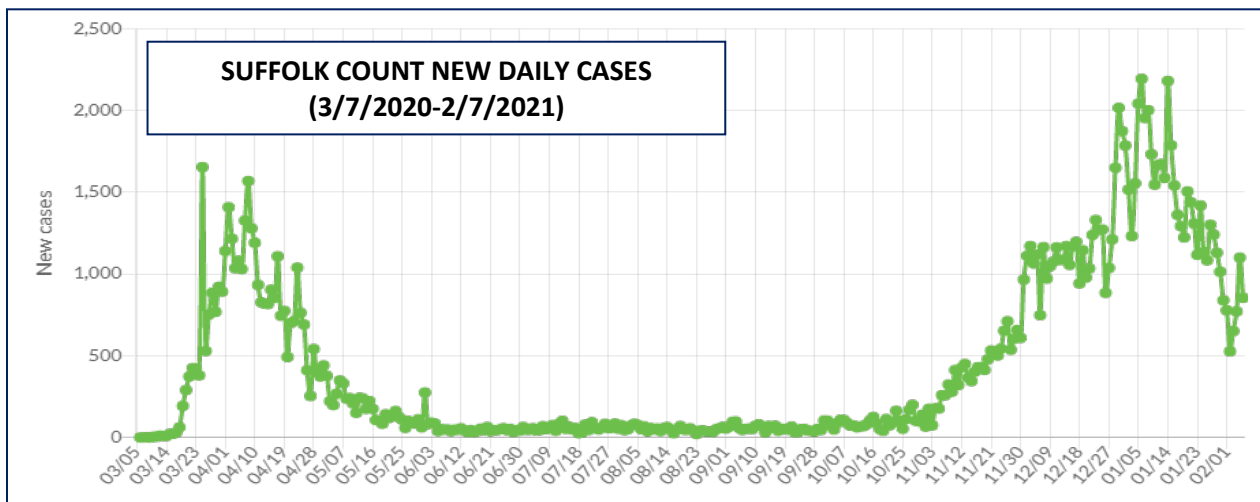


**2. New York State COVID-19 Data**



**3. Suffolk County Case Data** (source = Suffolk County Government website)

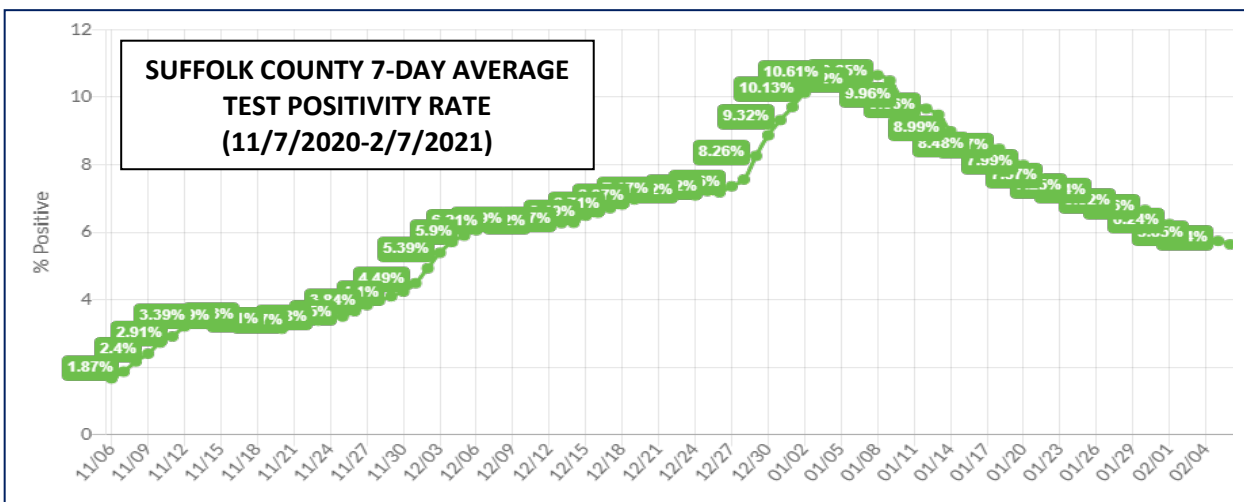
As of February 7, the following data are available on COVID-19 infection in Suffolk County.



**COVID-19 Testing:**

On February 7,

- 16,379 COVID-19 tests were administered.
- 2,605,608 total tests have been administered since March.
- 854 new cases were reported (see figure below for all-time trend beginning March 1, 2020).
- 149,018 total cases have been reported since March.
- 5.7% of those tested since March have been confirmed positive for COVID-19.
- 5.2% tested positive in Suffolk County yesterday; 5.6% positive on a 7-day average (see figure below for three-month trend).



**Antibody Testing:**

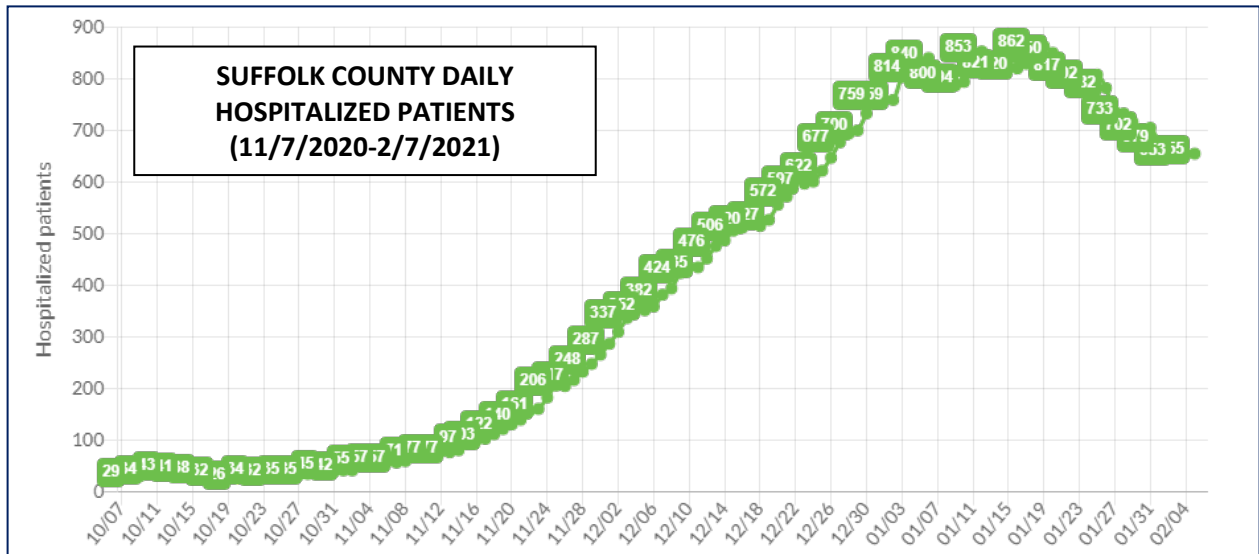
- 36,854 individuals not previously tested for COVID-19 have tested positive for antibodies.
- 330,605 were tested for antibodies.

**Fatalities:**

- 2879 total fatalities, an increase of 85 from one week before.

**COVID-19 Hospitalizations:**

- 647 individuals were hospitalized, a decrease of 55 from one week before (see figure below for three-month trend).



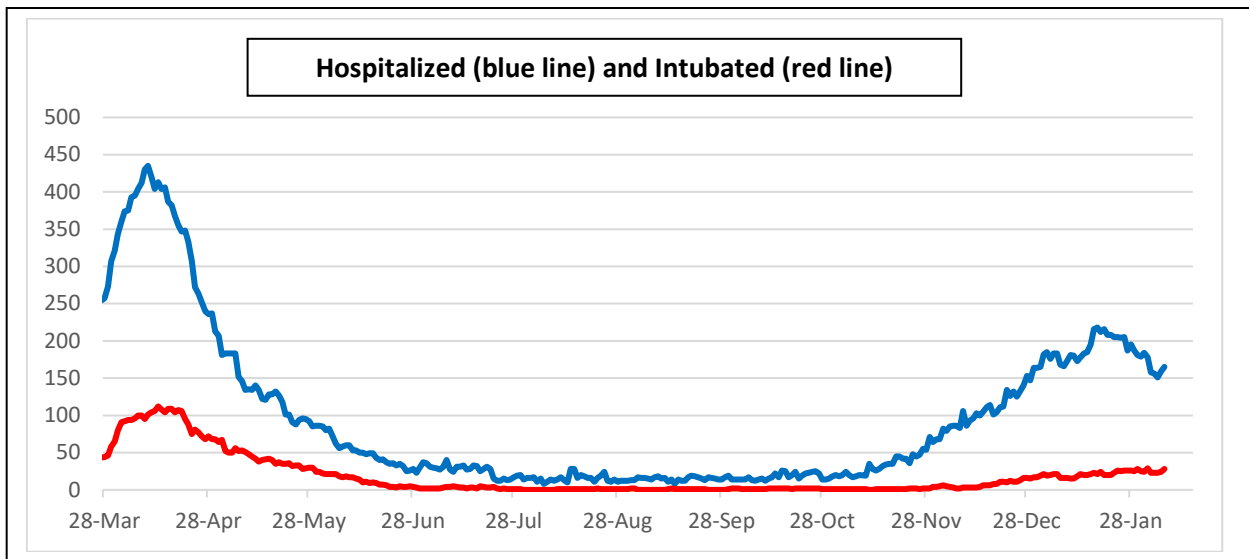
- 63 were new admissions.
- 140 patients were in the Intensive Care Unit (ICU), an increase of 13 from a week ago.
- 87 patients were in the ICU and intubated.

**Hospital Capacity:**

- 3,028 hospital beds, 724 available, 23%.
- 440 ICU beds, 88 available, 20%.

**4. SBUH COVID-19 Hospitalization Data** (source = Hospital Incident Command Structure or HICS)

At midnight Sunday, February 7, SBUH census is as follows (see figure below for all-time trend of hospitalization).



- 165 COVID + inpatients, a decrease of 11 from one week before.
  - 33 patients were in ICU level of care: 28 on ventilators.
  - 30 in ICR.
  - PUIs = 5.
  - COVID admissions on Sunday = 12.
  - COVID live discharges = 6.
  - COVID-related deaths = 3.

- Total SBUH census = 659; 520 are Medicine/Surgery (117% capacity).

**5. Vaccination Program Update** (sources = CDC, NYS DOH, and SBM)

As of February 7, the status of COVID vaccine rollout is as follows.

COVID-19 Vaccine Distributed and Administration (as of 2/7/2021)					
Region	Total Distributed	Total Administered	Percent Administered	Percent Population (one shot)	Percent Population (two shots)
US	59,307,800	41,210,937	69%	9.5%	2.8%
NY	3,378,300	2,336,867	69%	8.9%*	2.7%
LI	345,505**	274,566	79%	9.2%***	N/A

\*New York state ranks #32 among states in percent population receiving at least one shot.  
 \*\*LI distributed doses do not include those distributed by the Federal Long Term Care Facility program.  
 \*\*\*Long Islanders who received either one or two shots.

- The State of New York has further broadened the eligibility of vaccine recipients to include Phase 1b (which includes individuals age 65 and older). **Beginning February 15, individuals in the high-risk category (i.e., diabetes, obesity, immunocompromised, etc.) will also be eligible.** For a detailed description of eligibility of Phases 1a and 1b, please go to: <https://covid19vaccine.health.ny.gov/phased-distribution-vaccine>.
- As of now, **the State has the sole authority to allocate vaccines to designated PODs (point of dispenses) and schedule appointment.** Our call center and clinic staff have been instructed to refer all patients to the NYS website for information on eligibility and appointment scheduling (<https://am-i-eligible.covid19vaccine.health.ny.gov/>).

**6. Replacement Options for 3M 1870 Respirators** (source = *ThePulse*; February 4)

- We have exhausted our supply of 3M 1870 respirators this week, and the 1870 respirator will no longer be available for distribution at Stony Brook University Hospital. As described in previous messages, the 3M 1870 is no longer being manufactured. While 3M replaced the 3M 1870 with the 3M 1870+, the 1870+ model is unavailable to SBUH.
- If you have been fit tested for and currently use the 3M 1870 respirator, please visit *ThePulse* at [inside.stonybrookmedicine.edu/Coronavirus/3M\\_1870\\_options](https://inside.stonybrookmedicine.edu/Coronavirus/3M_1870_options) for detailed instructions on the various replacement options.

**7. UPDATED Return-to-Work Policy Following COVID-19 Exposure** (source = *ThePulse*; February 2)

- Following the recent NYS Department of Health advisory directing asymptomatic healthcare personnel (HCP) who have been exposed to a confirmed or suspected case of COVID-19 to quarantine for 10 days, the hospital has been granted a waiver allowing exposed healthcare workers who are asymptomatic to continue working during the 10-day quarantine period. This will continue to ensure adequate staffing for our patients and each other given the many safety protocols we have in place, including the use of proper PPE.
- In order for HCPs to return to work following an exposure, they must be asymptomatic, provide evidence of a negative COVID-19 test and agree to follow a strict testing protocol during the 10-day quarantine period. For the full details on the policy, visit *ThePulse*.

**8. Temperature Screenings and CampusClear Self Assessments** (source = *ThePulse*; February 2)

- As a reminder when entering the hospital, MART, Hospital Pavilion, Children’s Hospital or Health Sciences Tower, all employees must go through a thermal temperature screening to ensure that everyone is fever-free. Employees are also asked to complete a COVID-19 health self-screening attestation through CampusClear at the beginning of their shift. For instructions on using CampusClear or to download the mobile app on your smartphone, visit the home page of *ThePulse*.

**9. Weekly Employee Anterior Nasal Swab Testing** (source = *ThePulse*; January 26)

- ***Anterior nasal swab (ANS) COVID surveillance testing is required on a weekly basis for all Stony Brook University Hospital staff, FSA hospital colleagues and School of Medicine clinical faculty.***
- This increased frequency is in response to the rapid community spread of the disease and will help us feel more secure in knowing that we are doing everything possible to stay safe.
- Testing takes place in the Health Sciences Galleria (Level 3) on Mondays and Wednesdays, 5:45 am to 3:15 pm, and Tuesdays and Thursdays, 7:45 am to 5 pm. There is no testing on Fridays.
- Appointments and pre-registration are not needed. If you have tested positive for COVID-19 within the past six weeks, do not report for testing. If it is after six weeks since you tested positive, you are required to receive ANS testing as long as you do not have symptoms. If you have received the COVID vaccine, you are still required to participate in COVID surveillance testing.
- Employees who are working remotely on a full-time basis are not required to participate in this testing.
- Employees who work in off-site locations may participate in this testing if it is practical for them to do so.
- ***For non-clinical faculty and staff, please follow instructions from the University for pooled testing (<https://www.stonybrook.edu/commcms/comingback/covidtesting.php>).***

**10. Symptomatic Employee Testing** (source = *ThePulse*, January 26)

- The new program to provide COVID-19 testing in the hospital for employees who are symptomatic has been going well. ***As a reminder, any employee with signs or symptoms of COVID-19 must not report to work and should call Employee Health and Wellness at (631) 444-7767, open daily from 8 am to 4 pm, to have their symptoms evaluated.***
- Employees who are determined to be symptomatic will receive a link from Employee Health to schedule an appointment for the same or next day. When Employee Health is closed, employees should let their managers know about their symptoms, and their managers will send them a link to schedule an appointment. However, employees still need to notify Employee Health that they are going for testing. Employees who are experiencing side effects as a result of the COVID-19 vaccine should use the link from their follow-up instructions to directly schedule an appointment for testing.
- Employees are asked to arrive for testing at their scheduled times, and not before, to allow for the registration process to occur. COVID-19 testing is available in the hospital Monday through Saturday. Employees are given a PCR test and can expect to receive their test results within 24 hours by phone using the number they provided at booking.

**11. Support Resources for Employees** (source = *ThePulse*, SBM and SBU websites)

With the pandemic persisting for close to a year, each of us has been affected in different ways. Many are seeking ways to cope and adapt to the challenges posed by the pandemic and to recover from the difficulties in this journey. The following websites may provide some resources and tools that provide tips and insights with which individuals may consider visiting.

**Confidential COVID Help Line and Support Website**

The Department of Psychiatry and Behavioral Health has developed a confidential help line to get employees connected to appropriate support and other resources. Please call (631) 632-CHAT (2428). For specific tips and skills for taking care of your mental health, please visit <https://stonybrookmedicine.edu/covid19support>.

**Code Lavender**

This code provides a rapid response to the emotional needs of staff after unexpected or adverse events. Any employee can call a silent code (not called overhead) by dialing the operator (3-2-1) and requesting a Code Lavender. A callback number, the unit and the name of the individual requesting the code is given to the operator, and a responder will return your call. This service is available 24/7.

### **Become a Wellness Champion**

At Stony Brook Medicine, we aim to create an environment that promotes and fosters mental health and wellness. We are seeking unit Wellness Champions to join our Employee Support Team to support mental health and wellness initiatives throughout the hospital. Learn more and fill out an application form.

### **Employee Assistance Program**

Our Employee Assistance Program has an evolving employee resource guide for managing the COVID-19 pandemic and can be contacted for more specific requests (Hardship Fund, emotional support, etc.). You can reach out to EAP directly: [eap@stonybrook.edu](mailto:eap@stonybrook.edu) or (631) 632-6085

### **Resilience at The Brook**

All employees are welcomed to take a break in this safe, quiet environment – a place to rest, receive emotional support and re-energize with snacks and beverages. Resilience at The Brook is open 24/7 to all Stony Brook Medicine employees.

### **Healthier U**

Healthier U, Stony Brook University's employee wellness program, is designed to address your total well-being — mind, body, and spirit. Visit the website to explore upcoming wellness events and programs: [stonybrook.edu/healthieru](http://stonybrook.edu/healthieru). Watch video sessions on mindfulness meditation, nutrition, and stress reduction, among other topics on Healthier U's Facebook page.

I hope the information provided here is useful to you in keeping track of the progression of the pandemic. Thank you for your attention and please stay safe.

Sincerely,

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