

Deaths: 438 (total 15,740)

COVID-19 Tracker Site: <https://covid19tracker.health.ny.gov>

- Don't give grim facts, don't give happy facts, facts are facts
- Best I can do is give the truth, separate from my spin
- I do that because everything we are doing is basically voluntarily
- If 19M people wanted to go out today, they would go out
- Facts are disturbing and ugly but those are the facts, if I have an editorial comment, I give that
- Hospitalizations down again, curve continues goes down
- Intubations is down
- New COVID hospitalizations is relatively flat, not great news but not increasing
- Deaths 438
- Do numbers continue to trend down, will the pop back up? Will they continue to decline? How fast?
- We want to see numbers of new infections reduced
- Incoming cases has been remarkably flat the last couple of days (flattened at about 1300)
- Second wave? The fall? (federal officials talking about issues in the fall)
- Theory virus slows in summer and comes back in fall, that would be in flu season which could overwhelm the testing system
- Nursing homes: our top priority
- By law and regulations nursing homes must:
 - Require PPE as well as temperatures checked for staff
 - No visitors
 - Isolate COVID residents in quarantine
 - Separate staff, transfer COVID residents within a facility to another long term care facility, or to another non-certified location
 - Notify all residents and their family members within 24 hours if any residents test positive for COVID or any resident suffers from COVID related death
 - Readmit COVID positive residents ONLY if they have the ability to provide adequate level of care under DOH and CDC guidance.
- We are going to undertake nursing home investigation (DOH and AG) to investigate violations
- Today we are directing nursing homes to immediately report to DOH actions that they have taken to comply with all DOH and CDC directives
- DOH will inspect the facilities that have not complied with they DOH and CDC directives, including separate polices, staffing policies and inadequate PPE
- If DOH determined that the facility failed to comply with directives and guidance, DH will immediately require the facility to submit an action plan, and facilities could be fined \$10k per violation or potentially lose their operating license.
- Testing:
 - Test trace isolate
 - Test antibodies who can donate for convalescent plasma
 - Inform our reopening strategy, we want to have infection rate
- Undertaken study to find infection rate
- Sample size is 3k people so far
- We have the preliminary results, phase 1 results:

- Collected over two days in 19 counties and 40 locations across the state
- Collected at grocery stores and box stores (people were out and about shopping)
- Weighted results, 13.9 tested positive for having anti-bodies
- Female 12%, Male 15.9
- Regionally: LI 16.7%, NYC 21.2%, Westchester/Rockland: 11.7%, Rest of state 3.6%
- Race: Asian: 11.7%, Black: 22.1%, Latino/Hispanic: 22.5%, Multi/None/Other: 22.8%, White 9.1%
- Sample was people were outside the home, what does that do to the numbers?
- If infection rate is 13.9% then it changed death rare, means 2.7M people infected statewide
- That means with approx. 15,500 total fatalities, they death rate is approx. .5% of people infected (this is preliminary and the death numbers will increase, does not include at home deaths)
- Gets more complicated, CA is seeing deaths before we thought COVID was in the states, that can also bring number of deaths
- Death count is not accurate but with those caveats that is what we see
- This information supports regional analysis and decision making in a coordinated way
- Regions analysis on re-opening
- But have to also think about people flooding to those regions
- Must get more testing in African-American and Latino communities, greater percentage of essential worker in these communities, also more people in NYC area, transit etc.
- More testing today at NYCHA, also want to get more testing all through NY area, will work with Congressmembers Jefferies, Clark and Velazquez, churches have volunteered to be testing sites
- Finding was not in bill that is being passed today
- Senator McConnell said maybe states should declare bankruptcy
- One of the dumb ideas of all time
- I would have insisted State and Local Government funding should have been in this bill
- State and Local Governments fund schools, police, fire and healthcare workers
- When you don't fund the state the state can't find those services
- Also entire nation is up to state governments to re-open but you aren't going to fund states?
- You believe states declaring bankruptcy would be good for economy? You will see collapse of national economy
- McConnell also said this is a blue state bailout, this is vicious and ugly
- Think of that he is saying, 15k people died in NY but they were predominantly democrats so why should we help them, if there was ever a time to put aside pettiness, that is not who we are as a people
- This is a time for humanity and decency
- How irresponsible and reckless
- I am the Governor for all NYers, we are there to support each other
- No time for divisive politics
- We are in this together, operate with love

Q&A

We are seeing over 1100 inmates and corrections staff who have tested positive?

- 263 prisoners positive
- 1397 who are quarantined
- Monitored very closely
- Stopped visitation
- As situation evolves, we will make changes

Cuomo goes back to McConnell

- NY puts in 116B more than we take out

- Kentucky 158B more than they put in
- Senator McConnell, who is getting bailed out? Your state is living on the money we generate

Is there thought of using National Guard to clean Nursing homes or Prisons?

- No

How do we know how many people are positive in prisons if there aren't testing?

- There isn't enough testing anywhere
- If prisoners have symptoms they are tested, it is same as everyone

20% of NYC residents testing positive does this change contact tracing?

- That is not be all and end all, it is one of the tools

Why hasn't DOH already been investigating nursing homes?

- They have been, this is a crisis situation
- Intense situation for nursing homes, we get it
- They still have to do their jobs

What went wrong?

- Nothing, mother nature brought a virus, it attacks old people
- Nothing went wrong, no one to blame

Rochester City Schools, finances are teetering, is there a concern you have there?

- Gave flexibility in budget and advanced payments
- Have been having conversations
- They will have issues, they were given more flexibility

What should have Nursing Homes done if they didn't have PPE's or staff?

- They needed to transfer patient, if they couldn't, DOH would find a place
- They have to comply with regulation, if you can't provide adequate care, you can't have the patient in your facility
- When the person gets transferred, they lose a patient and the revenue, I understand but contract is you must provide adequate care

If facilities can't get PPE, is the state assisting?

- State has given thousands of PPE's
- Getting PPE from China, we were distributing
- 417 masks 110k gowns, 85k face shields, 5k gallons of sanitizer have gone to nursing homes

Is there concern about rotating staff?

- Haven't heard that

How many nursing homes have called about transferring patients?

- Do not believe there have been those calls

State workforce, in areas where there are state office buildings where infection rates are lower, can you have non-essential workers come in?

- That is part of regional analysis and decision making
- We have the matrix, how essential? vs how much risk
- Government workers are essential and can socially distance
- Once infections rate and hospitalization are down

Where do numbers have to be?

- Need to see flat/declining rate, don't have the numbers yet
- Need analysis
- CDC guidelines have 2-week period

Is there anyone coordinating efforts in capital region?

- I am, I am in the capital region

Unemployment insurance?

- Was on the call with Governors, NYS has paid out 2.2 B, NY has gone above and beyond any other state
- Backlog is with those who became eligible through Pandemic unemployment insurance.

- Asking people to remain patient, doing everything we can, other states haven't even started rolling out the PUI (Pandemic unemployment insurance)
- Understand it is your check that matters, you will get it and it will be same dollar amount
- This is an impossible problem they handed to the state

Will state investigate why we are seeing more deaths in certain nursing homes?

- Yes that will be part of the criteria