

Deaths: 367 (total 16,966)

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

- Happy Sunday, day 57
- Hospitalizations are down again, bac to where we were on March 31st
- Intubations is down
- Number of new COVID hospitalizations in down a bit
- 367 Deaths (349 in hospitals, 18 in nursing homes)
- We need to understand the facts
- Action and compliance is u to each one of us
- Reopening—reimaging
 - o CDC-State and regionals hospitalization rate must decline for 14 days
 - o We are closely monitoring both
 - o Re-open in phases, regional analysis and determination and monitor
 - Phase 1 is construction and manufacturing with low risk
 - Phase 2: matrix, more essential, lower-risk-asking businesses to give us ideas
 - We need businesses to do the analysis, how will they re-open, what safeguards and precautions
 - Leave two weeks between phases to monitor
 - Caveat, no attractions/opening that would draw a large number of visitors from outside the local area
 - Will be done with neighboring states
- Multi-state coordinate is vital downstate
- Transportation, parks, schools, beaches and businesses much be coordinated
- NYC, Nassau, Suffolk and Westchester are all coordinated
- Phased re-opening dependent on individual businesses plans-business by business-sports without an audience? Drive-ins? Need to be creative.
 - o What sports can work with new models? How would businesses work in this environment
- Need summer activities in downstate, there is a sanity equation
- Special attention to public housing and low-income communities
- Focus on basics, need more food banks & childcare
- Include philanthropic partnership
- State is consulting with local leaders in the region to formulate plan (healthcare and business leaders etc.)
- Need businesses to design new normal, PPE, Cleaning, Capacity, Travel etc.
- What processes can you put in place? Communication testing, training, risk
- Must monitor public health impacts, must keep infection rates down (right now at .8) that is good news, virus is in decline. Upstate it is .09, downstate is .75
- Monitoring number of hospitalizations which you see every day, number of antibody tests, number of positive diagnostic tests, the three dials you are watching (rt factor, rate of infection, can't not go above 1.2)
- This is the balance that we collectively need to strike
- In reimaging NY we will build back better, we will not go backward we are going forward
- Gave example to L train tunnel which opens today, 12 months and with only a partial shutdown

- You can and should question why we do what we do and why not try it a different way
- People don't like change but if you don't change you don't grow and don't have benefit of advancement

Q&A:

You presented an outline for re-opening, but when can we see dates?

- Pause is statewide until May 15, then you have the CDC guidelines of 14 days of decline, they you will look at regions and where they are, that is when you will get to phase one
- Upstate regions are more likely to be the ones start Phase 1
- Also, construction and manufacturing is business by business, need to incorporate safe procedures
- Downstate will be more complicated, must be coordinated, doesn't mean total consistency, need to know what other states are doing

Conceivable you could see manufacturing and construction upstate May 15?

- You could

Asked about schools:

- Can't do a full phase two without schools, some schools are talking about summer school to make up for class time, have to feel out as we go
- Not comfortable getting too far ahead
- Two-week windows

Districts are trying to put together budgets, what guidance? What number?

- Call Washington
- Up to 20% reduction, May 1 is first checkpoint will release plan by middle of May
- Schools will have numbers by time for budgets

what about state workers, have you talked to union leaders?

- State would not open any office that doesn't have social distancing and plan
- We are planning that
- Some are more essential than others
- Big factor here will be what people do, how smart and disciplined are people

Will you give examples?

- We will show that in what we do

What will state do to make sure businesses are complying?

- Businesses must give plan to state
- Steve Cohen and Bill Mulrow have been working on this for weeks
- Talking to businesses, coming up with plans

How would state keep track of new infections during phase 1?

- Hospitalization rate, antibody testing which we are bringing up to scale, diagnostic testing
- Watch all three dials
- These give rate of transmission
- There will be more testing in those regions that re-open, this has to be done with more testing

The Westchester county center was crafted into hospital what do you do now with those facilities

- Today we are in good shape, do you know if that will be a true statement in 60days?

Could you move people out of nursing homes into these facilities

- If nursing homes can not provide adequate care, they must transfer that patient
- We have vacancies in facilities
- We will find bed for those people

Isn't that a mixed message from the memo that says you cannot deny patients re-admittance?

- No, if they can't take care of a patient, they can transfer
- If you are being paid for a patient you have to give a patient appropriate care

Alec Baldwin released video on granting clemency

- Haven't seen video, we have been doing that

How can you help farmers upstate?

- Read stories about dumping milk, if there are ways, we can buy it, have food banks in communities
- Way for state to purchase for food banks we will do that
- NYC schools bought a lot of the products from upstate NY
- Apparently purchasing of schools is down

Domestic violence, any updates on data?

- We see domestic violence is going up, see alcoholism and drug use going up
- This has created stress and abnormal circumstances, toxic mix
- People need to know that there is an opening and a future and hope

Asked about the St. Claire's issue-

- Good point, don't know if we can get to that problem with this, don't know how we can help through here, we are looking at it

Asked about cancelling presidential primary-

- Up to BOE

Why not use decline in deaths for re-opening?

- they track more or less, use both hospitalizations and deaths
- train comes off the tracks when you overwhelm the healthcare system
- hospitalization rate, that number gets too high you will go back to where we were
- CDC came up with hospitalization rate

What would you say to business owners that are being clobbered what words of hope?

- There is not "x" date, you listen to experts, they say there may be a second wave, short term, numbers are on a decline, policies are working, looking at relatively short period of time (2 weeks at a time)
- Retail and hospitality is a more problematic area to open up, complex sector
- No doubt that we have gone through the worst and as long as we continue to do what we are doing

Sports?

- Asked, if you could make economics work without the seat sales but had television revenue
- We are in a different place, be creative
- Would love to watch sports, have talked to a number of owners, would be up to them
- Players would probably have to negotiate contract reductions