

Deaths: 289 (total 18,247)

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

SCHOOL WILL BE CLOSED THE REST OF THE ACADEMIC YEAR

- Day 62
- Need to remember what we accomplished
- 30 days ago, we saw the curve going straight up, that would have continued
- NYers changed the reality and the spread
- Reduced the number of hospitalizes by ~100k
- Our actions today determine the number for people sick tomorrow
- Hospitalizations is down, credit to the community
- Question now, how fast is the decline and how far?
- Total new hospitalizations ~1000, looks to be plateauing
- That is still too high a number to have every day
- Need to drill down, where are they coming from? Who? Need more specific information.
- Need more specific information from the hospitals, will speak with them this afternoon
- In the past few days, 17.5% from Manhattan, 17.4 Kings, 12.8%,
- Need addresses, essential workers? where do they work? How do they commute? Are they from nursing home? Sex, age, health status, demographics
- Deaths 289 (267 hospitals, 22 nursing homes)
- Closed schools statewide and to mitigate, waived 180-day rule
- Colleges and universities also moved to distance learning
- Schools have high density and transportation issues
- 700 public schools' districts, 2.59 million students
- 1,800 private schools
- 89 SUNY and CUNY campuses
- Over 100 private colleges
- Total of 4.2M students
- We will close schools for the rest of the academic year and will continue distance learning for the academic year
- Decision on summer school programing will be announced at the end of May
- Don't know what the situation will be in 3-4 weeks
- Will continue meal programs and childcare
- Want schools to stare to develop a plan to re-open, going to ask business to come up with plans, need schools to do this also (colleges as well, state will approve those plans)
  - How do schools monitor the spread?
  - How do we instill parent confidence and reinforce student safety?
  - When and how will extra-curricular activities re-open?
  - Do protocols for special student population change?
  - On college campuses how will housing, meals, and gatherings work?
  - What steps need to be taken on ensure students mental health?
  - How can colleges work best together to share services and offer opportunities across public and private systems?
  - Would alternative academic calendars work?
- COVID-19 crisis has caused many unintended consequences, one is a mental health crisis

- This is a chronic problem, you are not alone, half of all Americans have said their mental health has been negatively impacted
- Sleep has been affected
- NYS Emotional Support hotline 1-844-863-9314 and headspace.com/ny
- Also have seen a dramatic increase in domestic violence, hotline 1-844-997-2121 if you need help reach out
- 15% increase in March and 30% in April
- Especially concerned about these issues for frontline workers, terribly stressful and difficult time
- We are partnering with Kate Spade NY foundation to have crisis hotline on a 24/7 emotional support
- Also directing all insurers to waive all cost sharing/copays and deductibles for mental health services for essential workers through the crisis
- We will learn and grow from this, try to make the best of a bad situation

#### Q&A

When can schools submit re-opening plans? Also hear NYC is looking at remote learning for the fall?

- No schools opening for the academic year, will make a decision on summer schools
- Schools should start preparing plans now
- No decision on school in the fall, that is a long way away
- How do you run a school with social distancing? More busses? More class rooms?

Do you think this can realistically be done? Kids will want to socialize...

- That is a good question you can come up with a plan which is hard
- How do you tell a 10-year-old to socially distance?
- Would need to see a drop or stabilization of infection rate for a period of time

How will schools manage? Don't have money.

- Wouldn't be able to build anyway
- Fiscal consequences based

Asked about on PAUSE decision?

- Decision will be before May 15<sup>th</sup>

How do you feel you did?

- Did the best I can
- NYers did a great job

Should NYers expect restaurants to open outdoor areas? PA and NJ doing these things-

- Knowing what others do is helpful
- Will make decision at appropriate times
- Want to get people out, want relief valve, want level of activity but don't want to overwhelm neighboring state, don't want high density

Isabella Geriatric Center, will there be an investigation?

- There is a joint effort between DOH and AG
- That will certainly be part of that investigation
- We have 613 nursing homes, investigate all reports
- We report nursing homes and hospital deaths separately
- Will now ask hospitals if those patients have been transferred to hospitals

We are hearing from grocery store workers that people are not wearing masks and not social distancing, can those people be denied entry? Can workers they be denied unemployment if they feel unsafe going to work?

- Don't know on UI
- If I am a private grocery store owner, I would deny admittance of someone not wearing a mask
- Believe they would be within their rights

Can you explain discrepancy in deaths in nursing homes on tracker?

- Some have given confirmed and unconfirmed COVID cases

- Pulling this together
- If there are concerns about nursing homes, we will investigate them
- They have to attest to the numbers in the reports, under penalty of perjury
- They can have license revoked, be fined

Have been saying nursing homes are fire through dry grass, what have states been doing to help this?

- They could argue that they did not know
- If they misrepresented it is a criminal fraud case

Said re-opening would be on a regional basis, who not schools?

- Different to ask businesses to socially distance, very difficult to do with schools in such a short time frame
- And have to make sure you don't make a mistake, talking about children

You have said in the past that you can't get to phase 2 without schools being open, so can we get to a full phase 2?

- You are at the end of the school year soon anyway; question will be September? Then you can argue there will be issues with full business opening

Asked about protest, one is re-open NYS the other is citizen action asking to cancel rent, asked how to fund it, suggested you task billionaires?

- You have protesters here on a continuous basis
- That is democracy
- There are protesters that want things open, there are protesters that want things closed
- I hear them, understand and get the arguments
- Not a political decision, needs to be on the facts
- Get that some can't pay rent, landlords also say if rent is not paid, they will have to walk away from buildings
- No one can be evicted, that is the law until June, between now and then we will figure it out

New reporting from hospitals, why not do that sooner?

- We have some of the information
- Hospitals will say this is an extraordinary reporting requirement
- Hospitals were overwhelmed
- This is going to be a significant burden on them
- These are not questions the healthcare system every asks
- Since it is down to 1k people a day, volume is a little lower, important to get it now so we can come up with targeted plan

Summer camp decisions will follow regional decisions.