

Deaths 112 (total: 22,946)

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

Regional Dashboard: <https://forward.ny.gov/regional-monitoring-dashboard>

- Hospitalizations are down
- Intubations down
- New hospitalizations down, long road down
- 112 deaths (82 in hospitals, 30 in nursing homes) up a bit
- In this battle, smart wins, not about politics or emotion
- It is about science numbers and data
- National and in NY lower income communities and neighborhoods are seeing increase in cases
- You can look at where the cases are coming from
- Partnered with Northwell and faith-based organizations
- Preliminary tests results (8k tests)
 - 27% of individuals testing positive (compared to 19% in city wide average)
 - Bronx had the highest percent positive 34%, Brooklyn 29%, Manhattan 20%, Queens 25%, Staten Island 19%
 - Data shows not only high positive but continued high community spread
 - You can see that when you look by zip code (Morrisania 43%) (Brownsville 41%) (Hollis 35%)
- We are seeing these patterns; this is where the cases are coming from and still spreading
- Want to thank Velasquez, Jeffries and Clarke for their help in getting this partnership and organizing quickly
- Faith bases community has been great here and helping organize
- Have to take the next step-target strategies to these highly impacted communities
- Partnering with Northwell to open more locations, 44 in total
- Somos Community Care will open 28 sites at churches and community-based providers in predominately minority neighborhoods
- Ready Responders now testing in 40 public housing developments
- Will have 72 faith-based sites and ready responders in public housing
- Now we must work to stop the spread
 - PPE availability
 - Hand sanitizing
 - Social distancing
 - Public health and education
- I asking all local governments to test in low-income communities to develop outreach programs
- Reopening-Capital district to start phase one today
- Beginning Thursday, religious gatherings of no more than 10 people will be allowed statewide where strict social distancing measures and participants wear masks
- Additionally, drive in /parking lot services will be allowed beginning Thursday
- We are also convening an interfaith advisory council to discuss safely bringing back religious services
- What happened next? That is up to you
- If everyone is responsible, infection rate will stay low, if people become undisciplined, infection rate will rise
- Government cannot mandate behavior of 19M people
- Do your part, wear a mask

- Antibody tests of frontline workers show how important the masks are, look at the facts, shocks me how do frontline worker have a lower infection rate than the general population? They are wearing the mask, masks work it is in the data.
- On May 5 we launched a contest asking New Yorkers to create and share a video explaining why New Yorkers should wear a mask in public, the winning video will be used as a public service announcement

Mariah Kennedy Cuomo:

- Showing 5 finalists
- Wearamark.ny.gov to vote for favorite ad
- Over 600 submissions

Q&A:

Will NY be testing every nursing home resident?

- Every state wants to test everyone in nursing home and other facilities
- We are testing in nursing homes now
- We have about ~180k people in nursing homes
- We mandated twice a week for staff
- Had kits sent to every nursing home and paired them with labs
- We hope to meet the goal, sent kits to test every resident

Oneida Indian Nations has announced its casinos to resume June 10th, what are your thoughts on that?

- Don't have a date to open casinos
- Discussed with other Governors and agree that they are large gathering spot
- poses real challenges, they would be in phase 4
- tribal nations are just that, not bound by state laws

Antibody testing, have we tested grocery store worker and delivery workers?

- we have just started, eager to get those results

Pipeline denied do you see need for new natural gas? What about alternatives?

- LI gas providers said they didn't need that gas supply, demand had dropped
- They have said they don't need additional gas
- Haven't looked at alternatives
- Can't have a moratorium
- Now we don't have to have a new pipeline and don't even think in future

What has been effect of reopening in regions?

- So far haven't seen any increases, the day to day numbers have to be taken with a grain of salt

When do you think LI can reopen, also NYRA can Saratoga, could they have fans?

- Watch the numbers you will know

Finger Lakes are at high hospitalizations rate?

- By definition hospitalization rate couldn't have anything to do with the opening
- About a 2-week lag on hospitalizations
- Those are the date we will be looking at
- Have seen upticks, looking at those regions but nothing of note and if something changes, we will deal with it
- We look at is daily, gross hospitalizations are down in those regions
- Look at earlier indicators before hospitalizations

Your dashboard is mostly dealing with hospitalizations...

- There are two different things, looking at those metrics, testing, hospitalization
- It is not a spotty system, 250k tests per week, most on the globe
- Watch those tests, and that number
- Look at data, looking for shift in that data, if you see that you do a deeper dive
- You can increase tests overnight

- Also look for clusters of activity, may have a hotspot

Last week asked about OPWDD group home policies staffers are seeing cross contamination, short staffed, see 2k cases, have you looked at policy?

- Moving around of staff is a last resort
- That has had to happen
- Having discussion about using volunteer portal
- Doing temperature checks

Also talk of federal probe into nursing homes, why was that EO done at that time? Are you changing the numbers, that is another accusation?

- Not getting into the political back and forth
- State followed CDC guidance, they should ask president Trump
- No numbers were changed

Why did you follow that CDC guidance?

- You have to follow the facts, CDC guidance said nursing homes could not discriminate against COVID patients, were worried about hospital capacity
- Is the best use of a bed having someone sitting in a bed waiting to test negative and you need that hospital bed for someone who may die?
- Also nursing homes cannot accept a patient they cannot care for.
- We always had alternative beds, throughout this

Do you think that March 25th decision was a bad decision?

- No, you would be saying the nursing homes were wrong in accepting those patients
- Why would a nursing home accept a patient that they couldn't care for?

In the past you have used outside entities to probe, why not here? Why resistant?

- Not resistant, it is irrelevant to me, I have to role in a federal probe

Why do you think the death toll is so much higher in NY than CA?

- We are 34th in nursing home deaths per capita

Students teachers and parents have said that since that distance learning is counterproductive for education, are there are other parts of reimagining?

- Let's look at what happened, no substitute for classroom teaching
- That's why we have looked at class sizes
- Here we couldn't do the classroom and had to go to remote learning, do not believe every school was ready for this abrupt shift
- What equipment was needed? Internet availability?
- How can we do better everyone wants schools to open
- No way remote learning can ever be a replacement for classroom experience
- Believe only intelligent conclusion is to assume something like this could happen again, have to prepare for that
- It may not be another coronavirus, may be a terror threat, a different public health threat, world is full of surprises, eye opener for all of us

Regarding interfaith advisory council, when does it report back to you? When does the gathering of 10 begin? Any consideration of bumping number for Orthodox community?

- No official report of interfaith council
- These are the issues we want to talk through
- The 10 goes into effect now

Legislature is proposing legislation that would require you to give the legislature a weekly report? Also update on fairs?

- No update on fairs, all depends on numbers
- Are we at a point to forecast phase 4? No
- Legislature can propose anything they want to purpose and I will look though it
- Believe I have been very open and transparent, feel very good about how exhaustive I have been in communicating

- I will tell New Yorker the facts every day
- Don't think I can be any more public in communication
- Whatever they come up with they can propose