

Deaths: 422 (total 16,162)

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

- Today is Friday, hope you have big plans for the weekend? Can you have a weekend if you didn't have a week day?
- Hospitalizations are down
- Evidence suggests we are on the downside of curve
- Intubations down
- Number of new infections is slightly down but remaining pretty flat (1200-1300/day)
- Deaths 422 (398 in hospitals, 24 in nursing homes)
- How fast is the decline and how long does it go? (many different projections)
- Variable is what we do, we changed projection on way up and can do the same on the way down; social distancing, testing
- What happens if we re-open? All the progress we made is gone and virtually all experts say they virus spread increases and likely at higher point
- Second wave? Possibly in fall
- Need to learn the lessons now, what happened and what should we learn from?
- Our first global pandemic, had been talked about but it was almost always an academic exercise, we now know this is not just an exercise, it can happen and is devastating.
- January 26th, first confirmed case, Fed 2nd, travel ban from China, March 1, first confirmed case, March 16, NYS is shut down.
- Research now says virus was spreading wildly in Italy in February
- Likely 28,000 cases in the united stated in February including more than 10k in NYS
- NY strains came from Europe, probably Italy
- Between January and March, 2.2 Million people came in NY and NJ from Europe
- Outbreak was in China in November/December, we acted 2 months later
- Knowing the number of flights coming from Italy and Europe was like a train wreck
- We closed the front door but left the back door open (china travel ban)
- Lesson-an outbreak anywhere is an outbreak everywhere
- We need to be ready for the next time?
- Whose job is to warn us of a global pandemic? President says WHO (not my field) but right to answer question
- This will happen again
- In the meantime, how long does the virus live? Must learn when we think about disinfecting)
 - o Up to 72 hours on plastic and stainless steel
 - o 24 hours on cardboard
 - o 4 hours on material like copper
 - o And hang out as droplets in the air for up to 3 hours
 - o Many who spread it have no symptoms
- State finance report this week, 13.3B (14%) shortfall from forecast
- \$61B over the financial plan period of FY 2021 to FY 2024
- State finances were strong, then economic tsunami hits
- Some have said the states should declare bankruptcy, there are a few problems with that (forgetting morality and ethics of it), legally states can't declare bankruptcy, would need federal

law, pass that law and let the president sign it, I dare you. You want to send a signal to the markets? Send an international message? They will see how many states take you up on it.

- Looking ahead: Voting
 - o No one should have to choose between voting and their health
 - o Today EO to send every NYer a ballot with postage paid (for primary)
- More testing, making great progress
- Watch the spread of the virus
- Maintain social distancing
- Also plan on reopening, must be better and smarter; better healthcare, better transportation, tech in education, telemedicine
- Received a letter, from a retired farmer in Kansas, who sent a mask for a healthcare worker, this generosity makes up for ugliness

Q&A:

What do you think of the president's comments on UV light and disinfectants?

- Doesn't know much about UV rays
- Zucker-these are chemicals we do not ingest, stay away

Have you heard anything from President about helping supply chain for testing?

- Yes, been talking for the last few days, President is working on supply chain

Asking about mail in voting, some say BOE is not up to carrying out this task, will polls be open?

- Yes, polls will be open
- Either people go to polls or vote absentee, what is the other option?

Do you worry about mistakes?

- Do they want everyone to go to the polls?
- Life has options

Are you sending ballot or application?

- Sending applications
- Doesn't think it is in constitutional right to send ballots, can send out application
- All we are doing is making this more convenient

We are a week away from May 1st, have you given thought to rent freeze or how to deal with mortgage payment?

- Looking at all options
- In NYC rent board must make that decision

Three weeks away from PAUSE when will make decision on schools?

- Will make it in one week

Task force on pregnancy, any recommendations?

- Will be giving recommendation to governor this week
- Met every day this week

Asked about federal government funding to the state-

- When you don't fund state and local you don't fund police, fire, schools, healthcare workers
- You pass a bill to help big corporations but not police and fire?
- Told Senate they would not help state and local governments if they didn't do it in last bill, McConnell turns around and tells states to declare bankruptcy
- McConnell is a taker, not a giver, NY is a giver not a taker
- NY is #1 to donating to federal pot, Kentucky is #3 to take out of pot
- Just give me my money back, Senator
- It is ridiculous

Nursing homes are saying they been having to take staff out who a sick, can they use the portal of volunteers?

- It has been made available to them

Pence said 16 states have submitted re-opening plans, are we on the list and do we have a plan?

- We are not on the list
- We will have a statewide plan focused on lesson learned and doing regional analysis
- Some could open before others

In terms of re-opening plan do you know when it will be complete or do we still have too much of an issue?

- CDC guidance says you need 2 weeks of flat or declining, even by a region we would need 2 weeks of flat or declining

IN terms of anti-body testing, do you know how many tests you need to do for anti-body testing before you feel comfortable?

- You will always want more testing, you can never do enough in nursing homes, and prisons
- Going to be in field in the weeks ahead, will keep reporting those numbers

Would it be useful to mandate testing of staff and patients in nursing homes?

- Yes, but need to have capacity, we have testing and are doing testing in nursing homes
- Not it position to test every staff member every day
- Working on and looking at possibility of testing staff and individuals

Are people participating in testing being told of their results? Why do you have confidence in test?

- Has confidence in Wadsworth
- Yes, they do get the results if they want them

Local health departments have health emergency response data system?

- will provide any information they need

Asked about probable deaths and what that number is-

- will use those when we have them, come from local governments, coroners' reports

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