Deaths: 335 (total 17,638)

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

- In Syracuse, Upstate Medical University
- Said hello to nurses and doctors, waived from a social distance.
- Facts we are dealing with hospitalizations down a bit
- Number of intubations is down
- New COVID hospitalizations is under 1k which is good news, still significant number, but coming down
- 335 deaths, number is basically reducing but not at a tremendous rate
- People talking about re-opening, but we have to be apolitical, should not be philosophical discussion
- Must be factual
- Percent of positives by region: Central NY 7%, Finger Lakes 10%, Western NY 17%, Southern Tier 7%, North Country 8%, Mohawk Valley 9%, Capital District 12%, Mid-Hudson 28%, NYC 31%, LI 31%
- We want to do it without infecting more people or overwhelming the hospital system
- Must design that system, that is what government is supposed to do (competent government)
- We can measure, we have data and facts:
- If hospitals hit 70% capacity or rate of transmission reaches outbreak (rt: 1.1)…DANGER signs
- If you hit 70%, there is a two week lag you can expect number in increase over that time, that is a safe metric to use
- This state has lower infection rates upstate and is comparable to many states in the mid-west and west.
- May 15th-Un-Pause Regional Analysis, have to be smart about this, emotions can't drive re-opening
    - CDC guidelines-14-day decline
    - Industries, Phase 1 is construction/manufacturing
    - Phase 2-Identify businesses, which ones? No regional "attractive nuisances"
    - What precautions will those businesses put in place, PPE, social distancing
    - Healthcare capacity up to 70%-flu season-stockpile equipment, PPE
    - Testing regimen? How many tests (Dr. Brix: 30/1k people/month) sites, turnaround
    - Tracing system? Mayor Bloomberg, at least 30 tracers per 100k people
    - Isolation facilities? Must have them in place so they do not infect their family
    - Regional coordination? Schools, transportation testing, tracking
    - Reimagine telemedicine, and tele education
    - Regional "Control Room" to monitor
    - Protect and respect essential workers
- Businesses must have social distancing, testing and ongoing monitoring, businesses must adapt to this before re-opening
- Announcing an advisory board NY Forward Reopening Advisory Board-100 businesses, community and civic leaders to guide our reopening strategy
- Manufacturing & Construction-46,000 jobs in CNY-can adopt processes necessary
- Healthcare capacity, must have 30% capacity available also 30% of ICU
- Testing must be available: for symptomatic persons, individuals who came in contact with symptomatic person, frequent tests for essential/frontline workers

- Testing won't work if it is too hard to get
- Advertising testing, need to know symptoms and know where to go
- Need data to track and trace
- Implement contact tracing, 30 tracers per 100k people
- Availability of isolation facilities
    - Must present plans to have rooms available for people to test and isolate
- Regional control room to monitor: hospital capacity, rate of infection, PPE burn rate, businesses
- Have to remain vigilant, this is not over
- We changed the reality, projection said 120k NYers infected & hospitalized
- We can't negate what we have accomplished
- This exposed a lot of fundamental issues; remote learning, telemedicine, basic public health system
- Why didn't someone suspect that the virus would come to the US, knew it was in China in November and December? Where was the international health community? Where was the National health community? Where was the intelligence community?
- Who was supposed to blow the bugle and didn't?
- Nightmares: what if people didn't follow directives? What if essential workers didn't show up?
- That could have happened, but workers showed up…people here are showing up every day not because of the check but they are doing it out of honor and dignity
- Want to thank the healthcare workers and all the people who have been out there making sure everyone else can stay home.
- So as we talk about reopening we must protect and respect essential workers
- Daily news picture of subway cars, must have clean and disinfected trains, this is not respectful for anyone, we have to do better than that and we will.

Q&A:

This week you introduced people to "attractive nuisances" CNY has many attractions in the summer, how can these things go one?
- Breaks my heart but they can't, unless they can be done in correlation with states and regions
- People will drive several hours to go to those places
- Have to reduce density
- Can only happen if other states also re-open attractions
UI 100k people have still not received anything what can we do?
- Something we work at every day, not a NY problem it is a nationwide problem
- Everyone is trying to design new planforms
- We are doing better than other states
- 3k people just to man phones and website
- We have the number down dramatically
- Function of quantity
- Problem is as we get backlogs down, it continues to build
- 400k outstanding claims, most are Pandemic UI
- Can't be evicted
Asked about mailing where people got other people's personal information-
- There was one mailing that was off and caused this issue
- Those involved in that mailing will get credit monitoring
Asked about re-opening concepts-
- Gave numbers, we will look at regions, May 15th is about 2 weeks away, if we see cases continuing to go down, we will have met guidelines in certain regions, they could then plan a re-opening
- Question will be what is a re-opening plan?

- We studied every re-opening plan and came up with 12 steps with metrics and data
- Regions that in 2 weeks have reduced rates will have to put those plans in place, counties would have to coordinate, state will have to coordinate, federal coordination
- Most specific re-opening plan that I have seen, fact based and data driven

Presidents had call with Governors who said they should consider opening schools, thoughts?
- These calls have states that have much smaller problem and then you have NY
- Doesn't know how you open businesses without schools
- For those states that may make sense
- Will have decision on school's end of this week

Asked about Syracuse university, will classes come back in the fall?
- Can't tell you, have to see where we are
- We have to figure out September but have a long way

Hospitals said they haven't received guidance on resuming elective surgery-
- Some regions where numbers have come down are now allowed to have elective surgery
- Some parts of the state we still worry about capacity issue
- Depends on region you are in
- Today will be guidance going out for those regions, prioritizing key surgeries
- Central NY will have guidance, also regions will know who can resume.

Any concern that NY could fall behind other states economically?
- We are talking about different regions; NYC is one of the hardest hit places on the globe
- There will be a disturbance to economy
- We will come back
- Upstate can start to come back soon we hope, will not trade off economics for life and death

How will tracers work?
- County health departments, state health department and hire officials
- Bloomberg is going to help design a system and do the training

Asked about nursing homes inspections and nursing homes informing family of status-
- Have not heard anything yet on inspections
- This virus is an effective predator, nursing homes are ground zero for this
- Just takes one person to walk in with the virus and then it is fire through dry grass

If second wave doesn't come what is the plan?
- Have built in circuit breaker if you go above 70% capacity on hospitals
- If infection rate goes above 1:1, circuit breaker
- It is a tight margin of error
- There is fear of the flu season, takes up testing and hospital capacity
- If you get to the flu season, you will think you have the flu or COVID, people will rush to the hospital
- Also fear of virus mutations
- A virus anywhere is a virus everywhere