

Deaths (total 17,968)

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

- Hospitalizations down
- Net change in hospitalizations down
- COVID Hospitalizations about flat (up a tick, not good news)
- 330 deaths (314 Hospitals 16 in nursing homes)
- Making progress but not out of the woods
- Singapore is talking about second wave
- Germany is also situation we should watch and learn from; they relaxed and are seeing increase rate of infection in mid-April was .7 and after reopening (10 days) they went up to 1.0
- Our reopening is different, we don't have abstract plan, plan is based on facts not politics or spin or emotion
- 12 step factual plan with numerical circuit breaker
- If there is an increase, reopening stops
- Must have 30% of hospital beds available
- 30% of IUC beds available
- Hospitalization and diagnostic testing rate-no statically significant increase
- Rate of transmission 1.1 or less.
- Testing is key, last week we announced our goal to double NYS testing capacity
- Now up to 30k tests per day
- Doing more than anyone
- Had cancelled elective surgeries, now will allow in counties without high number of COVID cases, will have Executive Order today
- Need to thank our frontline workers, they risk their lives every day, they are showing up because of value, honor and dignity
- NYPD and FDNY antibody testing study: preliminary result
- FDNY 17.1%, NYPD 10.5%, downstate average is 18%
- Believe number is higher because of EMT's, they are front line but have to do more testing
- We will be conducting further survey by race and gender
- Also doing 1k tests for transit workers, beginning today
- Also commented yesterday about NY Daily News picture about subway cars, some crime is still up despite ridership being down 90%
- To let homeless people, stay on the train during a pandemic is not helping anyone
- Told MTA want a plan to disinfect trains every night
- Also, state and local funding, not turning into a political brawl
- McConnell is making this blatantly political "no blue state bailouts"
- Said he would be in favor of States going bankrupt, constitutional questions but also need federal law to do that, if he wants to do that then pass a law to allow it, dare him to do that and have president sign that.
- They are not rallying the partisan troops, Rick Scott, we and them, who is we and who is them? What an ugly sentiment. On the facts, they are wrong, there are facts.
- NYS bails you out every year, NYS pays \$29 Billion more annually to the federal government that it gets back.
- Kentucky takes out \$37B more than it pays to federal government, who is bailing out who?

- Florida takes out \$30B more than you pay in, how dare they?
- How long are you going to play the American people, these are numbers and facts what can't be distorted.
- This is really about the Washington double talk, they want to help the hotels restaurants big corps airlines
- States fund police, fire, nurses, teachers, food banks, and social services
- Saying thank you is nice, how about rewarding them, hazard pay, child care
- They want to fund Corporate America; I say fund working Americans
- They get their money from Corporate America
- If we can't put partisan politics aside now, then when?
- You have human suffering and people dying, that doesn't defeat Washington insider politics?
- American political leaders should be as principled as the American people.
- Remember 95k healthcare workers volunteered to help NY during our crisis, that's America, that's who we are.
- Hope political leadership understands how good we are as a people, sometimes the people lead and the politicians follow, follow the American people, politicians should try to be half as good as the American people
- Unveiled hundreds of masks sent by American people

Q&A:

Regarding the MTA cleaning, how will this be done, how will this impact service? How realistic is this and what is the cost?

- When people get in, they should have a clean train
- Asked MTA for a plan
- It has to be realistic, can't have essential workers getting in these trains
- We have been starting, tremendous undertaking
- Also need to get homeless into shelters
- MTA has been working on this with NYPD for weeks and weeks
- Doesn't care who is to blame, needs to get done
- Starts with the truth, the blunt truth, if it makes people unhappy that is the way it is going to be
- Homeless need to get the services they need
- Tell me what it takes to clean the trains
- I will do whatever I have to do to make that happen
- Can't send a plane tribute, and applaud healthcare workers, and at the same time need to help them, they are getting on the subway to go to work, they should be clean

What about the Homeless?

- Been working on homeless issues since my 20's
- Have made tremendous progress, we have done this before
- No one wants to live their lives on a subway train
- We have a higher obligation than to say you can sleep in a subway car
- You need shelter and services

More infections and deaths in nursing homes, set up COVID only nursing home facilities?

- Let's talk about facts again
- Nursing home takes COVID person IF they can adequately care for that person, if not they say they can't adequately take care of that person
- We have COVID only overflow facilities
- It starts with their determination, no one even asks why

There is a DOH guidance that allows asymptomatic nursing home staff to work with COVID patient?

- We make sure they take the necessary precautions
- Testing both workers and patients
- Numbers of how many that is?

You said one of your fears was that workers wouldn't go to work; do you think people may not want to go back to work?

- Last week it was oppressing people by not sending people back to work
- Not people are saying they don't want to go back to work
- Welcome to America
- That's right you have some people we want to go back to work
- You have others that say, I don't want to go back I want to live
- I hear both, I get the tension, working with facts not emotion
- We will make decisions on the numbers

Concern from small business is that employees won't come back?

- Forced labor, no

Do we know who these new cases are? Family members? Essential workers?

- It is startling news, only thing that makes it less startling
- Don't know that we have data on who they are, predominantly downstate and western NY
- Begun study with UAlbany, no data yet

Asked about shutdown-

- Went from first case to total shutdown in 19days
- Since then states that came later moved faster

Asked about Saratoga Hospitals can open to elective surgery but Glens Falls can't-

- Some individual hospitals and counties haven't met tests (capacity, and emerging issues)
- There is an exemption policy, has to be reviewed

Saratoga Racetrack Opening?

- Attractive nuisance, you can't open an attraction that could bring people from across the state to that attraction, State Fair, Saratoga race track
- We have time but today I don't think you can open those unless you do it statewide
- You open Saratoga guarantee attendance will be the highest ever
- Density is not our friend
- How do you do social distancing?
- Would have to be statewide and coordinated with NJ and CT