

Deaths: 758 (9,385 total)

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

- Happy Easter, Happy Passover, Happy Holy week
- Good news, hospitalizations down again, we have been watching, trying not to overwhelm the system, net beds is down to 53, lowest since we started
- 3-day average is also down
- 18,700 total hospitalizations, flattening of the curve, plateauing
- Change in ICU admissions ticked up, almost all beds are ICU beds, how hospitals classify them is dubious
- Tick up in intubations, yesterday may have been a blip, this is very relevant, longer on ventilator less likely you are to get off
- 3-day intubations is down relatively
- Number of discharges is up
- Three-day average of discharges is flat
- Terrible news: lost 758 yesterday, someone asked if you can ever get numb to these numbers, unfortunately, no
- Every one is a face and a name and a family suffering this weekend, truly tragic, they are in our thoughts and prayers
- Want them to know NYers did everything possible
- Continuity to number of lives lost, also plateauing
- 9,385 total deaths up from 8,627
- Reopen?
 - We want to open ASAP, but must be smart in the way we reopen
 - Coordinated, regional and safe approach
 - Must address public health and economic activation
- Keys:
 - Coordinates business, schools, transpiration, workforce, NY PAUSE shut down everything at the same time
 - Need testing
 - Need federal help
- Federal Aid to States
 - The federal CARES Act contained zero funding to offset drastic State revenue shortfalls
 - As Vice Chair of the National Governors Association, joined Chair Maryland Governor Larry Hogan in a bipartisan effort calling for \$500 B in aid to the states
 - We need a fair Federal Stimulus Bill, Kaiser health said that Nebraska, Montana are getting \$300k per case, NYS gets \$12k, this is because the bill became political pork
 - NY's economy is needs to be up and running for the nation
 - Simple way to help NY is to repeal the federal SALT tax, that was a political move in the first place
- Working with Governors Murphy and Lamont to work on re-opening plan
- EO today directing employers to provide essential workers with cloth or surgical masks for these employees to wear when directly interacting with the public
- Also expanding who can conduct antibody tests to help ensure as many NYers as possible have access as we work to bring these tests to scale.

- Spring is all about rebirth, we will have a rebirth, there have been moments through this that will stay with me thought all time, some very dark periods, phone calls with families are dark, fear of worst case scenario, fear of seeing healthcare system be overcome
- Also so many inspirational moments, showed such a positive spirit, you see true essence, got a call from a nursing home upstate offered 35 ventilators to downstate, they were one of the most vulnerable populations and they want to lend 35 ventilators, when I heard that news, something inside me said we will be ok because there is an inherent goodness in people and they will rise to the occasion, good will win, love will conquer all.
- Brought the ventilators back this morning, to say thank you on behalf of all the people of the State, and thank you from me, brought hope when it was needed

Q&A:

Are there updated on NYC Schools?

- We are where we are, where we were, have to have coordinated approach
- Schools, business, workforce transportation
- Must be coordinated regionally
- Partnership is very important
- That is how we will go forward, coordinated, regional, hopefully included NJ and CT
- Will be working with Governors Murphy and Lamont, also Suffolk, Nassau, NYC and Westchester

Are you saying schools could re-open this year?

- All schools will remain closed until it is safe from a public health point of view, won't do it one minute earlier or one minute later
- Do not know what we will be doing in June, nobody knows
- If you are saying schools are closed, you are also saying businesses are closed, they perform a child care function
- We go day to day to watch the numbers, June is far away

Does it make sense to open schools for a couple of weeks?

- I wouldn't assume anything, if you are saying schools are not going to open, you are also saying businesses won't open until June
- Don't think anyone can make an informed decision
- Social compliance changed projection models

Seems like there is a lot of confusion with statements from you and the Mayor-

- We have remained remarkably consistent
- Worked closely with Federal Government, worked with local governments, sometimes it is less coordinated than we like, have to work with NJ, CT and optimally do it together. 1/3 of workforce comes from outside NYC

How will you respond to localities who want to be continued to shut down after the state opens?

- Worked cooperatively with local governments, that is ideal, at the end of the day there is one page and one plan

Are you talking about your plan?

- No, NJ, CT hard to get on one page, coordination requires compromise, better to do this together
- That is where I start, plan NJ, CT and NY can execute simultaneously
- Very aware of interplay

What are thoughts about Drive in theater becoming essential businesses?

- Has not been raised, Mujica-if you open the employees would then have to interact
- Then they are then putting themselves at risk, that is how we look at each one of these
- Cuomo, I see your point (about drive in being open)

What is your working relationship with DeBlasio?

- Understand position, he works for the People of NYC, doesn't have to worry about coordination with other counties/states

Albany county exec said you can't force homeless into shelters, fine for them will not be effective-

- Shelters do have to operate under guidelines
- Agree that you can't force homeless into shelters

NYC Health Department said they are running out of swabs for the testing?

- We haven't heard that will check

Will state be issuing masks?

- Putting it on employers, so for state workers, it will be on the state

Asked about Hydrochloroquine-

- We were supplied the drug, left it to hospitals and doctors, doesn't think there are results yet
- Assume we will be getting data soon
- We all hope it works
- April 20th we should have results
- Have heard antidotal reports

NYSNA has been told that hospitals will be given directive they will be coming off the CDC crisis guidelines is that the case?

- There have been disconnect between nurses and hospitals
- Asked nurses to come to them directly, want to make sure nurses have what they need to stay safe

More rural counties are seeing cases, what are you doing to get out to those counties

- Watching the movement very closely, watched on LI and increases in nursing homes
- We have not seen a significant uptick, have seen clusters and hop on them, surge and flex works both ways, have a little breathing room right now with capacity and equipment
- Think you will see more growth in less populated areas, NYC is the most dense, practically impossible to social distance when everything is open
- One gathering can infect a lot of people, when we see if we will be there

When you talk about tri-state area, why do you leave out Rockland and Orange and also PA and other states?

- Not that ambitious, too much to coordinate, there are less interaction with those other states
- Rockland and Orange are certainly involved, will be entire state
- Every county exec has opinions, every school district has an opinion
- Not everyone will be happy

What happens if you get Coronavirus?

- I plan to do this from home.