

Deaths: 671 (total: 10,056)

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

- Curve continues to flatten, plateauing, basic flattening
- Hospitalizations, net down, 3 day in down
- Net change in ICU admissions is down, I discount this number, since all beds are basically ICU beds
- Intubations are down
- Worried about spread to suburbs, been very aggressive with clusters that pop up, like a fire in dry grass, stamp out the embers
- Number of new COVID hospitalizations, new COVID diagnosis, still about 2k a day are walking in or being diagnosed, increasing hospital population but people are being discharged, so net is what we talk about.
- The terrible news, deaths 671, not as bad as the past but basically flat at a horrific level, they passed away on Easter Sunday, really especially tragic, in our thoughts and prayers
- Raises death toll to 10,056
- Why NY, why are we seeing this level on infection?
 - It is about density, virus is good at what it does, very contagious, dense environments are its feeding grounds
 - Learned this in New Rochelle, because one person or two people were in dense gatherings with hundreds of people and it spread like wildfire
 - You can be in a rural county but if you have a person infected in a room of 200, 300 people, now you have a problem.
- Re-Opening?
 - It is a delicate balance, it has never been done before, none of this has been done before, no one knows, we have learned this over and over again
 - There was warning signs from countries that have re-opened, want to learn from those countries (Wuhan, South Korea, Italy)
 - We will listen to experts and follow data
 - We will ease isolation, increase economic activity, re-calibrate “essential worker” economy, apply more testing and more precautions, while you open, must watch the infection rates
 - We never turned off the economy, we have slowed it dramatically, we will turn the valve very slowly, advised by experts
 - If that infection rate starts ticking up, you know you have opened the valve too fast, that is the delicate balance,
 - Re-opening plan-designed by experts, no politicians, public health and economic experts
 - Regional Design-larger geographic region the better, virus follows its own boundaries and geographic area
 - Coordinated Design-Economic, transportation, schools, etc. (gears intermesh with other gears
 - Need federal support-smart legislation that attends to the need
 - Testing will be KEY
 - Precautions-Masks, gloves, temperature taking are also KEY
 - Must STAY THE COURSE

- Will be joined by other Governors this afternoon to discuss this further, can we work together, announcement this afternoon (smarter for everyone, time for smart confident effective government), don't believe we can get perfectly uniform, don't even think that would be best
- When is it over?
 - Have this conversation 100 times a day, difficult conversation
 - Want fear and anxiety to stop
 - It won't be over like that, won't be the flip of a switch, would love that to be the case, it can't happen that way, can it happen in some communities across the country, yes, if that going to happen here, no.
 - There is not short-term pong to declare "its over"
 - There are points of resolution OVER TIME:
 - We are controlling the spread, we can control the spread, feel good about that
 - The worst is over, yes if we continue to be smart, but yes I think you can say the worst is over, people dying is the worst. The end of the beginning. Healthcare workers, for the rest of my life, I will say nothing but thank you to them
 - We are starting on the path to normalcy...
 - Then some business ae opening...
 - We have a medical treatment if you become sick, get another deep breath when we come to that point
 - We have a vaccine to prevent infection, that is when it is over
 - 12-18 months, that is when experts say we will have vaccine
- Stay the course in the meantime, we have accomplished a lot through heroic efforts, people doing extraordinary things every day, we have flattened the curve because of people's actions, do not reverse the progress we have made.

Q&A:

Asked about medical equipment for hospitals

- We on a daily basis every hospital does an inventory of what they have and what they need, anyone who is in urgent need, we provide on a daily basis
- We have not had any hospital that has said they were in urgent need that we have no been able to give to them
- Hospitals have less of a supply
- Reached out to hospital systems, people get nervous about running out if they need it we send it

Do you know why they are asked to ration?

- Working very closely with hospitals to make sure healthcare workers have what they need

What would have to happen first to open schools?

- Needs to work together, all the gears intermesh
- Transportation, businesses, schools
- For many, the schools are who watch their kids during the day
- All have to be coordinated on a statewide basis
- When we closed down the schools, there were many who disagreed, we have to have one plan, there are 700 school districts, can't have 700 plans
- Virus doesn't understand boundaries
- Downstate is one area, Upstate, you have different situation, all have to be talk

Asked about Mass and VT-

- Talking to many states but focusing on tri-state area
- Have to balance complexity and unwieldiness
- Trying to work with everyone, different states in different situations
- NJ and CT is first and foremost

Are you read to announce a plan later today?

- If I tell you now, why would you come here at 2pm?

Should Erie county be considered a hotspot?

- Depends on how you define hotspot?
- You have clusters that pop up, as soon as you see smoke and fire
- We have had clusters in Buffalo, also Nassau, Suffolk, Rockland
- Been following Buffalo very closely, watching locally, if it pops we will have more people on it

When you say you believe the worst is over aren't you encouraging behavior you are trying to prevent?

- No, have said opposite stay the course, that is why I say that at an annoying repetitive level
- But facts are facts and numbers are numbers
- Credibility is important, you get all the facts, what I am proposing we do it drawn from the facts
- Need you to follow the proposal, need you to agree with the proposal, could never mandate everyone to stay in the house, 19M people
- Not going to shape information people get

Amount of people hospitalized is at a high what makes you confident worse is over?

- Not saying the worst is over, numbers say there is a plateauing
- Those numbers are direct result of what we do
- Those numbers will go right back up tomorrow, the worst is over unless we do something reckless
- Two or three days of reckless behavior that number will go right back up
- We brought the number down, a lot of pain a suffering did that

How is it a breach of patient confidentiality to release number of cases at each nursing home facility?

- I don't know details of healthcare policy, I can get you an answer today
- Zucker is a doctor, not a lawyer
- Issue here is that this is these peoples home, not just an issue of HIPPA
- There is nowhere for them to go
- We will get you the law on the matter, spirit of the law and ethics, we don't want to invade someone's privacy
- There is not secret to the number of deaths

Upstate doesn't have the density and haven't had the cases, would you consider opening upstate?

- Can I see distinction between places with different caseloads? Yes
- How do you calibrate that? that is what we have to do

Asked about DOL platform

- New website is working much better
- Had 1000k people working on the calls
- Changes the system and website
- A lot of positive feedback
- From 150 questions to 20
- 200k calls from Friday to now (attempts)
- Will get answer on checks
- Will get completed numbers

Do you believe President Trump will fire Dr. Fauci?

- He is great, public trusts him, he has been great to me,
- Can't imagine, as crazy as things get, can't imagine that would ever happen