

Deaths: 109 (total: 23,192)

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

Regional Dashboard: <https://forward.ny.gov/regional-monitoring-dashboard>

New York Forward Business Reopening Lookup

Tool: <https://www.businessexpress.ny.gov/app/nyforward>

- Happy Memorial Day Weekend
- 155th Memorial Day, where was the official Memorial Day celebration? Waterloo NY in 1866
- Today is day 83 of the COVID 19 crisis
- Hospitalizations are down
- Intubations are down
- New hospitalizations down
- Deaths 109 (82 hospitals and 27 in nursing homes)
- Reopening, how do you reopen smart? Open as fast and safe as you can
- Phase in with metrics, testing, tracing, isolation, hospital capacity
- LI and Mid-Hudson; if deaths continue to decline and they get tracing online, they could open next week
- In anticipation will allow construction staging permitted in LI and Mid-Hudson starting now
- Today we are launching a new pilot program with 52 independent pharmacies to conduct 7k tests a week
- 750 testing sites, message is simple, get a test, if you have any symptoms, if you were exposed, get a test
- Tracing, all the regions that have come online have tracers, mid-Hudson and LI need to get their tracing up
- Mike Bloomberg volunteered to put together a tracing program to train and recruit, working with John Hopkins
- We are sharing online with other states, working with the NGA to do that; at no cost
- Small business is a priority, 90% of NY's businesses
- Economic projections for small businesses are frightening, they don't have the staying power to pay all the fixed costs
- Minority business face greater problems
- NY Forward; launching \$100+ Million NY Forward Loan Fund to provide flexible and affordable loans to small businesses, focusing on MWBE's
- State will take a targeted approach for distributing these loans, focusing on businesses with 20 or fewer employees and less than \$3M in gross revenue
- We are still learning about this virus; facts continue to change; now CDC says infected surfaces may not be major source of transmission; primary source is airborne
- Wear a mask, we know they work
- Mask is mandatory in public settings, transportation, any time you are within 6 feet of another person
- It is up to you and to us how we reopen smart
- 92,000 people have voted in the wear a mask competition (showed videos of runner up's)

Q&A:

Annoying question, city changed standard for what it needs to open to thresholds, indicating what they had used was not effective?

- That is not annoying, that is repetitive, those criteria that have been set don't change
- We are aligned with city, they stay it a little differently, we are basically aligned

Mayor said looking at decline wasn't effective...

- Looking at day to day trends and overall trends
- You can go to state dashboard and look at the numbers
- No local official can open or close
- We said it will be one standard, data driven, safe is safe
- Statewide criteria on the dashboard, there is no changing the criteria

Memorial Day unifocal kick off to summer are you concerned that city beaches staying closed will cause chaos?

- If I have the ability to coordinate local policies and override policies, NYC policy is beaches are closed, beached in Nassau are open, more of an operational issue
- This will make more demand on the state beaches (Nassau county and Suffolk County are for residents only)
- There is a 50% capacity
- Understand the local policies
- They can make sense for localities but create regional problem

What happens in Mayor says we should reopen?

- Localities can't decide to reopen
- Communicate all day long with NYC, numbers fall in line
- Mayor is looking at many metrics
- You juxtapose two different things; H&H is 11 of 200 hospitals, H&H hospital policies are set by city, they are city run hospitals and do not affect the 200 other hospitals

CDC is saying there is 29k deaths, dashboard says 23k when is state going to include probable deaths?

- On the website is confirmed deaths, we are reporting what hospitals are reporting to us, that is the most reliable
- Premise in question is controversial, how many deaths from COVID? That would suggest confirmed deaths, second is probable deaths, two different questions, probable is different than confirmed
- It is about how precise you want to be

State has a 13B deficit what is hold up on legalizing sports betting and marijuana?

- It is federal governments obligation to provide financial assistance to state and local governments
- Are you saying the feds should bail out hotels and big corporations but nurses, police and firefighters?
- I support legalization of marijuana, worked very hard to pass it, it is a complicated issue
- Same thing for sports betting

What can't state labor department hire workers to instead of hiring out of state workers?

- We went from 50k calls to 8m calls a day now averaging 3m calls
- Ramped up from 500 to 3,100 staff
- We hired 5 outside contractors, one hired some out of state workers
- Our priority is to get and many people to work on those claims and they the money out the door
- 100% of full-time employees are NYS workers