

Deaths: 216 (total 21,044)

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

At Marist College, Poughkeepsie NY

- Hospitalizations down
- Intubations is down
- New hospitalizations are about flat
- Hoped to see a steady sharp decline, that is not what is happening
- It is more flattening
- When you look at projections, they show it going down but slowly
- 216 Deaths, 171 in hospitals, 45 in nursing homes
- Would have also liked to see this number decline faster, flattening out
- The lack of facts can hurt you
- How did this pandemic happen, why weren't we ahead of it? otherwise it can happen again
- They now say the virus came to NY from Europe, not China
- Nov/Dec cases in China, Jan 21 first case in Washington, Feb 2nd, china travel ban, Mar 16 Europe travel ban, JFK stayed open
- Virus got on a plane, mutated in Europe, and came to the east coast, we weren't testing people from Europe
- December-March-3M Europeans came through NY
- Let's learn for the future and the possibility of a second wave
- Today we must consider an outbreak anywhere is an outbreak everywhere
- One fact we do know about COVID, we know there is a lot we don't know
- We thought the disease didn't affect children
- Seeing rare cases of severe illnesses in children (73 reported cases in NY), 5 year-old passed away in NYC from these COVID related complications, also investigating other child deaths.
- Remain vigilant: seek care is your child has prolonged fever, difficulty feeding, abdominal pain, change in skin color, trouble breathing, racing heart, decreased urine, lethargic, irritability, confusion
- Also, virus affects minorities higher, disparities by race
- We asked hospitals to look at new cases to see what we can learn from them
- Clear that majority of new cases are coming from minority communities, 21 zip codes with the most COVID-19 cases, 20 are communities with large minority populations
- We will address this immediately, more information in coming days
- Last year, we made history when we signed the Child Victims Act, ensuring survivors of sexual abuse to file a claim, we want to extend that window for 5 months, people need access to courts to make those claims
- The good news, we are finally ahead of this virus and we are in control of our destiny
- We have to stay ahead of it, we determine what happens tomorrow

Q&A:

We are all waiting for May 15th, we are anticipating you will talk about opening manufacturing/construction is there a possibility of other businesses?

- Nicest surprise would be that we are acting with the data we have
- Everyone would like to see everything open
- We are now in control; we have the virus on the run because we have been smart and disciplined
- There is a science to this, science is contrary to emotions and politics
- You have seen it around the globe, having to do a 180 after reopening
- When we get to May 15th we will lay out numbers

Unemployment Insurance numbers came out today what is message to out of work New Yorkers and how can they find their footing

- This is a horrendous period to live through
- Economics are devastating
- Not getting a paycheck but bills are still coming
- That is a tremendous pressure on people
- We have to get through it, if we make a mistake and react too quickly, situation will get worse and only go on longer
- Have taken extraordinary measures to help people though this, on evictions, food assistance
- If you have your health you can figure out everything else
- Respect all we have done; I know it's hard but let's proceed intelligently and get through it without more loss of life

What is plan to get benefits out to people, and why does state need a person to person verification system?

- This is not a NY problem; this is every state in the country
- Overwhelmed every state system
- You don't need to do person to person certified, can be done online
- Volume of calls has crushed phone system
- 2.1B in all of 2019, 6.8B in 6 weeks
- We are doing everything we can
- In 2008 we had 300k unemployed, this is millions
- Building the plane why we are trying to fly it, doing everything we can
- Given directive to DOL, whatever they need to get it done
- We have administered 3 times more than the state put out all of last year in 6 weeks
- Will get question when this is all over about someone who

Unemployment forfeit days?

- We are looking at it, if we can do something, we will

Discouraging results of antibody tests, not being accurate, what is NY doing about that?

- We designed our test here in NY
- Use as an indicator of infection rate, not taking action off that test, not sending people back to work if they have antibodies
- Our test is 6 standard deviations out, incredibly accurate, working very closely with hospitals