

Deaths 226 (total 21,270)

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

- Happy Saturday
- People often ask what do you think about our situation, I say I think about what I know
- We have been following facts data and science to make our decisions
- Hospitalizations are again down
- Intubations has dropped
- New cases had dropped down to 572
- 226 deaths (173 in hospitals and 53 in nursing homes) infuriatingly constant, these people die despite the best care, best equipment, we look for peace that we have done everything we can
- Priority today is uses on COVID virus in infants/children
- We had impression that young people were not affected by this
- Hospitals have reported 73 cases of what they now think may be a COVID related illness in children-mostly toddler to elementary age with symptoms like Kawasaki disease and toxic shock-like syndrome
- Has taken the lives of three young New Yorkers
- At the request of the CDC, NY is helping develop national criteria for identifying and responding to this syndrome
- Also working with NY Genome Center and Rockefeller University to conduct a genome and RNA sequencing study to better understand the disease and they possibility genetic basis of this syndrome
- We will be keeping everyone updated, possible this has been going on for several weeks
- Priority has been protecting frontline workers; healthcare workers, police, fire, EMT and transit workers
- Need to keep transportation system running through this
- Conducted largest antibody test 15k people to develop baseline infection rate
- Now we have preliminary results of transit workers (1,300 tested)
- 14.2% tested positive, below NYC norm which is 19.9% (Station workers: 17% Bus Operators: 14% Conductors: 11%) Frame of reference: Healthcare: 12.2% / NYPD: 10.5% / FDNY & EMT: 17.1%
- This shows that PPE works
- Poor and minority communities are suffering most
- Of the 21 zip codes most of the new COVID-19 hospitalizations, 20 have greater than average minority populations
- No doubt that it is a problem
- A deeper look into two of the most impacted communities in the survey are heavy minority and low income
- Why is it what during a disaster, the poorest and most vulnerable always pay the highest price? It is just not right, has to be addressed.
- In NY we are taking action
- Ramping up testing in low income communities
- Already Partnered with Ready Responders and doing testing at public housing
- New initiative to expand testing in minority communities

- Northwell is going to set up 22 temporary testing sites at churches in predominantly minority communities
- Churches will help with outreach
- Some will open week of May 12th, some May 19th
- There new sites will work with current network of sites
- When you add these to the other sites and sites at public housing, coverage will be there
- Need new Yorkers to go get the tests
- Want to thank Congressional Members Velasquez, Clarke and Jefferies
- Also thank church groups; and especially Rev. Ray Rivera David Brawley
- Hakeem Jeffries is joining us, thank him for his tireless work, he saw the need and brought the church groups together to do this

Hakeem Jeffries:

- Thank you for the tremendous leadership you have provided
- Appreciate that your leadership is evidence based and data driven and compassionate
- This has required an extraordinary government response
- Working to drive the federal resources to NY
- We know the houses of worship have always been there to help community to get through the storm
- Thanks to their continued engagement and your willingness to partner, we can reach those in the community who need to be tested
- This will help turn the corner
- Thank you to the houses of worship

Cuomo:

- What you are doing in Washington is so important to all of us, getting the county and state the aid they need, get funding for the working NYers and make sure the government is funded
- Thank you for being with us

You are your fellow NE Governors have talked about working together, does that change if other states open? How does that make you feel?

- Makes me feel fine, we all have slightly different situations, you have a strategy that works based on the facts in the area, that doesn't mean we have to do the same thing, but we should know that the other is doing
- Understand Governor Lamont and Governor Murphy, know what they are doing, it makes sense to me and we will coordinate with that are aware of it
- This state is coordinated like never before and so are the other states, talk through everything
- They understand mobility in the region and a demand you have never seen before
- Can't align every action, if there is a problem, we will adjust
- Taking actions on the best information we have
- Every move you make won't be perfect

Suffolk county have reported overdoses have increased, how to address that, and funding for programs?

- Everything is dependent on federal funding, we have a 13B hole, it is wholly dependent on what Washington does
- In terms of substance abuse, we have seen increase in mental health issues though this, domestic violence we have don't outreach for mental health
- There is no doubt that one of the manifestations of stress has been these issues
- If Washington does the right thing, how can they ignore state governments and working people
- Can't believe they would turn their back on working Americans (can believe but doesn't think they will, congressional delegation won't)

Homeless people getting off the subway and going on to the busses what is city planning to do?

- We shut down subways for 4 hours a night because we have to disinfect the trains and busses
- Have to protect frontline workers, we asked them to work when we told others to stay home
- COVID-19 can live on stainless steel surfaces for 2 days
- Transit workers are doing a fantastic job
- To disinfect have to get everyone off the trains, including homeless
- That is an opportunity to engage homeless and get them the help they need
- 2000 homeless were taken off the trains, reach out to them and connect them to services

Should workers who leave because of COVID be able to get unemployment?

- It's all federal requirements, they passed the federal bill, will check that specifically

NJ shore business have put in plan to open, what about businesses who rely on summer revenues?

- If LI doesn't open you will see people go to NJ, those are the kind of things we coordinate
- Tourism is one of the big job drivers, period all across the board, and then have to coordinate surrounding states
- People will go wherever is open

Health and hospitals doing tracing not health department thoughts on that?

- That is the mayor program, we are all coordinating with Bloomberg
- No one has done this before, need to be regional coordination
- Not how metro region works, who traces when people commute

Billions in federal funding, is it going to MTA, can that be used for homeless?

- Homeless outreach is done by city
- MTA is not a homeless provider
- Funding for MTA, want to see full package before I comment on it
- Everything relies on federal funding
- Cannot answer a question now on funding, it's purely function of what federal government does
- If you want to say thank you, provide the funding