

10.1.20 Notes from the Governor's Briefing:

COVID:

- Day 215
- 109,000 tests conducted yesterday
- 11 fatalities
- 612 hospitalizations
- 141 ICU patients
- 63 intubations
- Continuing to oversample hotspot zip codes
- Top 20 zips have overall 6.5% positive rate, up from 5.5%

- Increases in Brooklyn zip codes:
 - 11223 - 8%, up from 4%
 - 11210 - 7.4%, up from 3.8%
 - 11235 - 4%, up from 1.9%

- In Rockland:
 - 10901 - 12%, up from 4%
 - 10950 - 16%, up from 3%

- Gov. noted Rockland numbers are small sample sizes, are to be taken with a grain of salt
- 0.98% in rest of state, lowest in the country
- 1.2% statewide including oversample of hotspot zip codes

Infection Rate by Region:

Capital Region: 0.5%
Central NY 1%
Finger Lakes 0.7%
Long Island 1%
Mid Hudson 2.8%
Mohawk Valley 0.8%
North Country 0.1%
Southern tier 1%
Western NY 1.7%
NYC 1.3%

Enforcement:

- SLA enforcement task force continuing, "have turned around" lack of compliance in bars and restaurants
- 99% compliance yesterday
- Those not complying will be ticketed, could lose license
- 7 violations issued by SLA yesterday

Education Dashboard:

- Dashboard is up, will provide facts to parents and teachers across the state
- Shows 1,206 positives statewide, reported on-site and off-site from teachers, staff, students
- Dr. Zucker added DOH is working on a breakdown of the 1,206 cases

Orthodox Jewish Communities:

- Community leaders will be distributing fliers, mailings, conduct more public education
- Gov. reiterated local governments in these regions need to step up enforcement

Announcement:

- Gov. Announced tech-based contact tracing app, called COVID Alert
- Supplementing 15,000 statewide contact tracers
- Development contributors include Bloomberg Philanthropies, Google, Apple, and others
- App can be downloaded for free in Apple Store, Google Play Store
- App tells if user is in 6ft of a positive case for 10 minutes
- Works off cellular data, location of users
- If one tests positive, DOH will reach out and provide password for app
- Gov. said app is voluntary, does not disclose users' private info
- Offered to NY residents, as well as NJ, PA, DE, CT residents
- Larry Schwartz added app also available on Android devices
- Schwartz called app an "enhancement" to current contact tracing efforts
- Schwartz reiterated users will not be tracked, users must be 18 years or older, multiple languages are available, confidential, ADA compliant
- Users will receive notification if in contact with positive case, will be advised to contact physician and quarantine

Q&A:

- On potentially allowing fans at Buffalo Bills games, and whether fans will be allowed at Syracuse games at Carrier Dome
 - Gov. stated NFL reached out and has been implementing "innovative" safety protocols
 - Gov. said he will be meeting with Bills and NFL leadership to discuss further
- On whether data privacy protections are in place for COVID Alert App:
 - Gov. said no access to data aside from location of cell phone
 - Schwartz reiterated there is no tracking of users, no personal info collected
 - Gov. added experts have reviewed app to prevent data breaches
- On whether state has plans to alter travel advisory:
 - Gov. said infection rate determines travel advisory list, no adjustments made yet
 - Gov. stated that reducing number of tests does not reduce infection rate, so infection rate continues to be the benchmark
- On cost of COVID Alert app, if cost is being paid by Bloomberg
 - Schwartz: cost is \$700,000, paid by combination of federal dollars, as well as support from Bloomberg Philanthropies
 - DeRosa added app does not utilize GPS, uses Bluetooth to identify nearby users, but does not track geographic location
- On homeless shelters, if homeless are to be removed from hotels
 - Gov. said homeless is state's responsibility, but state can delegate to localities
 - NYC has used hotels for homeless, with the idea that FEMA will reimburse
 - Gov. stated he does not trust FEMA to reimburse
 - FEMA has a match and would pay bulk of costs, President has said he would waive the match
 - FEMA disavowed President's announcement, said FEMA will abide by match
- On President's comments on ballots:
 - Gov.: "no doubt" shift to mail-in ballots caused complications
 - Gov. asserted President is anticipating losing election, and is preemptively "diminishing election results"