

10.20.20 Notes from the Governor's Briefing:

COVID:

- Gov. noted NY's infection rates in micro-clusters are lower than other states' statewide infection rate
- Infection rate is 2.9% in hotspot red zones
- Statewide infection rate without hotspots: 1.2%
- Statewide rate with hotspots included: 1.3%
- 12 fatalities yesterday
- 942 hospitalizations
- 194 ICU patients
- 99 intubations

Infection Rate by Region:

- NYC: 1.3%
- Capital Region: 0.8%
- Central NY: 2.1%
 - Cortland: 7% (Gov. noted there is a micro-cluster related to SUNY)
- Finger Lakes: 1.4%
- Long Island: 0.9%
- Mid Hudson: 1.7%
- Mohawk Valley: 0.4%
- North Country: 1.3%
- Southern Tier: 1.8%
- Western NY: 1.2%

Hotspots:

- Orange: 1.8%
 - Rockland: 2.0%
 - Queens: 1.4%
 - Brooklyn: 1.8%
-
- Gov. said COVID is now the third leading cause of death in the country
 - State enforcement continuing, local cooperation has been better
 - Gov. is extending commercial eviction moratorium through Jan. 1, aligning with residential eviction moratorium
 - Changes to red zones for micro-clusters will be announced tomorrow

Travel Advisory List:

- 43 states on list currently
- CT and NJ are seeing spikes in infection rate
- Gov. will speak with governors of those states today to see how to control spikes in those areas
- "no practical way" to quarantine those traveling between these states, but non-essential travel should be avoided

Vaccine:

- Gov. discussed federal government's continued "denial"
- Gov. discussed complicated process of reviewing, administering vaccine, said it will be "a long way before this is over"

Q&A:

- On whether COVID vaccine would be mandatory:
 - Gov. said health experts will make a determination on a mandate
 - Gov. stressed that many Americans may not trust a vaccine under the current administration, would be difficult to mandate
- On Mayor de Blasio's comments on easing restrictions in Queens:
 - Gov. said every local official has opinions and are being consulted, but final decision is the state's

- On President Trump's comments regarding Governor Cuomo's book and performance handling COVID:
- Gov.: "the President doesn't read"
- Gov. said he challenges President Trump to address any claims in the book that are inaccurate
- Gov. added he believes President Trump is responsible for every COVID death in New York state

- On additional details of COVID numbers, deaths:
- Rhodes added slight uptick in average age of hospitalizations, and therefore in deaths being seen
- DeRosa added state is seeing same percentage in death rate in nursing homes now as seen previously
- Dr. Zucker stated improvements in outcomes are being seen due to steroids, anti-coagulants, antibody drugs, and more information on COVID available

- On details of CT, NJ numbers:
- Garvey: CT infection rate is below 2%, NJ below 3%, but both have reached 10 cases per 100,000 on 7 day rolling average, qualifying them to be on travel advisory
- Gov. reiterated difficulty in regulating travel between border states