

10.21.20 Notes from the Governor's Briefing:

COVID-19 General:

- Day 235
- Statewide positivity rate: 1.2%
- Statewide positivity rate (with hotspots): 1.6%
- Red Zone positivity rate: 6.6%
- 7 fatalities
- 950 hospitalizations
- 201 ICU patients
- 103 intubations
- 124,789 tests yesterday

Federal:

- COVID cases are increasing across the country
- 43 states are part of the travel quarantine
 - Gov states New Jersey, Pennsylvania, and Connecticut are exempt because there is no easy way to enforce a quarantine against those states
- Positivity rate by state:
 - Wisconsin: 13.4%
 - Nevada: 58.8%
 - Texas: 7.7%
 - California: 2.5%
 - Florida: 12.4%

Micro-Clusters:

- Gov states that micro-cluster buffer zones will be adjusted based on a 10 day average positivity rate
 - Red zone becomes an orange zone if its 10 day average is less than 3%
 - Orange zone becomes yellow zone: less than 2%
 - Yellow zone returns to normal: less than 1.5%
- Positivity rates for the past 7 days:
 - Brooklyn: 5.5%
 - Queens (Forest Hills): 2.5%
 - Queens (Far Rockaway): 1.8%
 - Rockland: 4.8%
 - Orange: 4.2%

Q&A:

- 1.6% is the highest positivity rate since June
- How can we set a standard for other states but exempt NJ, CT, and PA from travel restrictions?
 - Gov: the only way we are currently enforcing the quarantine is by airports and some trains
 - If we quarantined NJ, CT, and PA, we would suffer economically and people would avoid quarantine by driving
 - State police are overburdened
 - Gov wants to come up with a plan that uses testing to reduce quarantines
 - Gov: the numbers overall are increasing because it is Fall
- What else could have been done prior to hotspots being set up?
- Does the Gov have an apology to Orthodox Jewish communities?
 - Gov: No, though he apologizes for ceremonies and religious practices being disrupted
 - Gov says he does not know what more could have been done to prevent the

emergence of hotspots

- Is it concerning that we have evidence of community spread in communities near PA?
- Gov: the data has not shown a single factor driving the spread, and there is no "nucleus"

- Poll shows 67% of NY support the Gov's response to the pandemic
- Gov credits the public for complying with social distancing guidelines