

10.9.20 Notes from the Governor's Briefing:

COVID:

- Day 223
- 6 fatalities
- 779 hospitalizations
- 168 ICU patients
- 78 intubations
- 139,000 tests yesterday
- 5.4% infection rate in hotspots
- Statewide rate without hotspots included is 0.9%
- Statewide rate including hotspots is 1.1%
- Gov. stressed hotspots are being oversampled, and this skews the rate when included in statewide rate, as those regions are a small percentage of state's population
- "misleading" to include hotspots in statewide rate
- Red zones of hotspots are 2.8% of state's population, but 20% of state's COVID cases
- 6.6% infection rate in red zones
- Gov. called this data evidence of state's advanced testing capabilities

Infection Rate by Region:

- NYC - 1.2%
- Capital Region - 0.7%
- Central NY - 0.9%
- Finger Lakes - 0.8%
- Long Island - 1%
- Mid Hudson - 2.1%
- Mohawk Valley - 0.5%
- North Country - 0.3%
- Southern Tier - 1%
- Western NY - 1.3%

Hotspot Regions:

- Orange: 3.6%
- Rockland: 5.6%
- Broome: 3.2%
- Brooklyn: 1.9%, up from 1.7%

Schools:

- Rapid testing teams throughout the state for school testing
- 4,500 new school reported tests
- Total of 66,000 tests reported since beginning of dashboard
- 648 school districts have submitted data, which is 94% of districts
- 42 schools receiving orders for non-compliance in submitting data
- 97 new COVID cases reported in schools: 58 students, 39 faculty and staff

Brooklyn Protests:

- Enforcement is continuing
- Gov. said clusters have always been targeted, regardless of the population involved

On Gov. Whitmer and President Trump:

- Gov. said President Trump continues to be "divisive", "anti-american"
- Gov. asserted President's behavior is also driving protests in ultra-Orthodox communities in Brooklyn
- Gov. played an ultra-Orthodox robocall which claimed being in contact with Trump campaign, and being directed by the campaign to protest and hold signs saying, "Cuomo killed thousands"

- Gov. cited tweets from ultra-Orthodox leader Heshy Tischer, requesting flags be created saying, "Cuomo hates Jews" and "Cuomo killed thousands"
- Gov. called this "hurtful, disgusting, painful", and this rhetoric is putting lives at risk

Q&A:

- On whether DOH has seen any improvement in clusters
- Gov. said no change in data yet, but they wouldn't expect to see improvements this soon, cited long incubation period of the virus
- Gov. added data will only change if behavior changes

- On whether Gov. has considered allowing fans at Syracuse University sports:
- Gov. said Buffalo Bills were allowed fans because NFL had plans in place and reached out, no other leagues have done so
- Gov. said state is "eager to cooperate" if other leagues do reach out

- On protests in Borough Park, Heshy Tischler inciting crowd, and lack of disciplinary action
- Gov. said criminal behavior should be prosecuted, NYPD, DAs need to act on this type of behavior
- Gov. said peaceful protest is allowed, violence is not

- On DOH travel exemption for Duke/Syracuse University game, and what that exemption entails
- Dr. Zucker said social distancing, testing prior to arrival, ensuring they have not been exposed to others, following other public health protocols
- Garvey added testing, separation of players from rest of population, no in-person classes for two weeks

- On which school districts are not complying with submitting data
- Gov. said dashboard explicitly lists which districts are not complying
- Letter being issued today notifying those districts they are in violation of the law
- Gov. said if they do not submit data, they may be subject to closures

- Gov. ended call by condemning racism across the country and in NYS, and urged New Yorkers to vote