

## **1.15.21**

### COVID:

- Day 321
- 6.14% overall statewide positivity rate
- 324,671 tests conducted
- 183 fatalities
- 8,808 hospitalizations
- 1,570 ICU patients
- 962 intubations
- Gov. discussed spike in positivity since Christmas, New Years, which began to flatten, and is now decreasing
- Gov. noted the pilot testing program for the Bills playoff game seemed to work well

### Hospitalizations by Region:

- Finger Lakes: 793 (0.07%)
- Western NY: 527 (0.04%)
- Southern Tier: 250 (0.04%)
- Mid Hudson: 997 (0.04%)
- Central NY: 319 (0.04%)
- Mohawk Valley: 292 (0.06%)
- NYC: 3,341 (0.04%)
- Long Island: 1,647 (0.06%)
- Capital Region: 525 (0.05%)
- North Country: 117 (0.03%)

### Positivity by Region:

- Finger Lakes: 7.63%
- Western NY: 6.93%
- Southern Tier: 4.01%
- Mid Hudson: 7.67%
- Central NY: 6.21%
- Mohawk Valley: 8.66%
- NYC: 5.70%
- Long Island: 8.27%
- Capital Region: 7.94%
- North Country: 7.44%
- Manhattan: 3.80%
- Staten Island: 6.55%
- Brooklyn: 6.24%
- Queens: 6.90%
- Bronx: 7.68%

### Vaccinations:

- The state has followed federal guidance; more than half the population is now eligible for the vaccine
- Gov. addressed backlogs, stating appointments are being booked 14 weeks in advance
- The federal government incorrectly stated it would be increasing supply to states, as stockpiled doses have already been distributed
- State's distribution network is prepared to begin administering
- Pharmacies, doctor networks will be prioritizing the general public over 65 years of age
- County DOHs will be prioritizing essential workers
- 74% of first vaccine allocation has been utilized statewide so far
- Gov. again discussed inequities in administration across regions, providers
- Gov. noted the vaccinations numbers are reported by providers to the state and are done so under penalty of perjury
- Facilities are being required to schedule the second dose after administering the first
- Nursing home program will be completed by Sunday

- The state is awaiting federal guidance for those with pre-existing conditions
- Mass vaccination sites opened across the state this week
- State is developing "pop-up" testing sites, will be reviewing partner sites

#### Hospital Capacity:

- Gov. again noted this metric is now what dictates restrictions, shut downs
- Staff shortages remain a primary concern
- New case of UK variant now found in Nassau
- Gov. stressed importance of vaccinating healthcare workers to ensure hospitals remain prepared

#### State of the State Recap:

- Gov. stressed the focus is on combatting COVID and post-COVID rebuilding
- Gov. added the federal government will be expected to provide \$15 billion to NY from Biden's "rescue plan"

#### Q&A:

On de Blasio's comments that NYC will exhaust its vaccine supply by the end of next week, and the concern that second doses will not be available:

- Gov. said residents should not be concerned that second doses will not be available, facilities are required to schedule the second dose
- Many NYC facilities have unused allocations, but Gov. believes de Blasio is referring to H+H, NYC DOH, not private hospitals, other providers
- Gov. said he believes de Blasio is referring to exhausting the backlogged supply, additional allocations will be received by the state next week, but fewer dosages
- DeRosa added 250,000 dosages received next will be first dosages, second dosages are allocated separately, state will ensure they are available when needed

On unpublished scheduling link for vaccine appointments being leaked:

- DeRosa said they became aware yesterday, these links were set to go online today
- This has been referred to IG office, but the belief is the links were hacked or leaked
- DeRosa added those appointments were reset so residents had equal access to scheduling appointments this morning

On whether the state can secure it's own supply directly from vaccine manufacturers:

- Gov. said the federal government controls all purchasing and distribution, but said he did try to do so

On difficulties with the state's site to schedule vaccinations:

- The state website only connects residents with vaccine distributors, but providers are fully booked currently
- DeRosa added the website was to help residents easily locate providers, but opening up eligibility caused server to be overwhelmed and go down
- DeRosa recommended residents go directly to providers' websites when possible to avoid burdens on the state site
- State vaccination sites will still be scheduling through state site, there will be 20 state sites total eventually

On discrepancies in CDC and state numbers on unused vaccine allocations:

- Rhodes stated the state numbers do not include the federally-run programs for long-term care facilities
- Rhodes added 730,000 first doses administered so far
- For second doses, 170,000 doses have been delivered
- 844,000 doses delivered to date, 74% has been utilized

On why federal government cannot increase supply:

- Gov. said he believes federal government's response has been continuously politically motivated despite being implausible
- Gov. criticized the federal government's inability to secure additional doses from

On AG's investigation into NYPD after protests, and whether Gov. believes a federal monitor is necessary:

- Gov. called findings of AG investigation "disturbing", applauds AG James for her action and courage
- Gov. said legally, he believes a federal monitor is the only thing the AG can do
- However, the redesigned public safety plan due on April 1 will likely occur before a federal monitor will be put in place