

1.25.21

COVID:

- Day 331
- Statewide Positivity rate 5.47%
- 219,538 Test results reported
- 167 deaths
- 8,730 Hospitalizations, up 117
- 1,522 ICU patients, down 5
- 1,005 Intubations, up 8

Hospitalizations by Region:

- Finger Lakes: 741 (0.06%)
- Western NY: 409 (0.03%)
- Southern Tier: 248 (0.04%)
- Mid-Hudson: 1,030 (0.04%)
- Central New York: 259 (0.03%)
- Mohawk Valley: 251 (0.05%)
- Capital Region: 503 (0.05%)
- NYC: 3,638 (0.04%)
- Long Island: 1,554 (0.06%)
- North Country: 97 (0.02%)

Positivity by Region:

- Finger Lakes: 5.24%
- Western NY: 5.70%
- Southern Tier: 3.10%
- Mid-Hudson: 6.77%
- Central New York: 4.84%
- Mohawk Valley: 6.61%
- Capital Region: 6.43%
- NYC: 5.57%
- Long Island: 6.82%
- North Country: 6.54%

- Manhattan: 3.58%
- Bronx: 7.26%
- Queens: 6.23%
- Staten Island: 5.96%
- Brooklyn 5.60%

- Three priorities: control spread, vaccinate New York, rebuild economy
- Positivity rate decreasing
- Hospitalization and rate of increase is slowing
- Rate of transmission is under 1.0
- Positivity rate decreasing in Western New York
- Hospital capacity 48% in Erie County
- All elective surgeries can now resume in Erie County
- Post-Holiday spike happened, spike is now decreasing
- Can begin reopening some economic activity and reducing some restrictions
- Mutations remain a concern, continue social distancing and wearing masks

Preparing NY for the next public health crisis:

- Gov. said COVID opened the eyes of Americans- this pandemic has taught us about operational capacity needs and competence to administer a plan.
- Implementing surge + flex hospital management capacity

- Adding PPE Stockpiles
- Training NYS Public Health Corps, Citizen Public Health Corps and National Guard public health
- Border testing
- Increasing lab testing and contact tracing capacities

COVID Vaccine:

- 1.5 million vaccines administered
- 91% of allocated first doses administered
- Vaccine issue is supply, NY receives 250,000 vaccines per week
- 3,000 distribution sites are ready
- Gov. said that with the national guard operating mass vaccination sites and localities, we could do millions of doses
- Hospital capacity remains top concern
- 72% NYS healthcare workers vaccinated
- Still some disparity between localities on vaccination of healthcare workers, Gov. said local governments need to contact hospitals to address differences

Vaccine Fairness:

- Gov. reminded of the fair breakdown of vaccine distribution by subgroup
- Healthcare workers- 21% of allocated vaccines, Essential workers 27%, 65+ 52%
- City/County Departments of Health prioritize vaccinating Essential Workers
- Hospitals, FQHCs prioritize vaccinating Healthcare Workers
- Pharmacies prioritize vaccinating 65+
- NYS is launching a new hotline to report vaccination abuse or fraud

Rebuilding Economy:

- Gov. said the Federal Government needs to repeal SALT
- \$350 billion in State and Local funding is provided in President Biden's plan
- Public safety is a top priority- community police collaborative for an agreed-upon system by April 1

Federal:

- Gov. said Biden administration is taking public health seriously
- NYS will be working alongside the federal government to address COVID crisis

Q&A

On where loosening of restrictions will first occur in the economy:

- Gov. said that we are towards the end of the Holiday spike period which is why elective surgeries have been allowed to restart.
- Gov. said that the Department of Health is reviewing data and more information will be released Wednesday on what parts of the economy will be allowed to reopen.

On whether there has been any report of community spread from attendance at Buffalo Bills games:

- Gov. said no community spread reported as of now.

On where exactly the UK strain is in NYS:

- Gov. said he would refer this question to the Department of Health.

On how long the 250,000 doses per week situation will last:

- Gov. said NYS is working with the Federal Government to get a better sense of how many weekly doses NYS can expect moving forward.

On why Long Island is seeing higher COVID numbers:

- Gov. said a lot of it comes down to personal behavior, but there is not one good answer.

On the 75+ population with underlying medical conditions having to go to pharmacies rather than hospitals to receive the vaccination:

- Gov. said that if a person has an underlying condition and is 75+ and is concerned that they may have a negative reaction to the vaccine, they should contact their doctor to make private arrangements to be vaccinated. Mass vaccination sites also have medical staff on site.

On whether loosening indoor dining restrictions in NYC will be included in this upcoming week's announcements:

- Gov. said that they are focusing on microcluster areas like yellow and orange zones and that they are not considering loosening indoor dining restrictions in NYC at this time.