

2.5.21

Notes from Governor Cuomo's Briefing:

COVID:

- Day 342
- Statewide Positivity rate 4.31%
- 203,627 Test results reported
- 153 deaths
- 7,937 Hospitalizations, down 30
- 1,516 ICU patients, up 10
- 1,000 Intubations, up 14
- Lowest daily positivity rate since Nov. 28th
- Lowest daily hospitalization rate since Jan 1st

Hospitalizations by Region:

- Finger Lakes: 483 (0.04%)
- Western NY: 377 (0.03%)
- Southern Tier: 232 (0.04%)
- Mid-Hudson: 919 (0.04%)
- Central New York: 182 (0.02%)
- Mohawk Valley: 199 (0.04%)
- Capital Region: 374 (0.03%)
- NYC: 3,598 (0.04%)
- Long Island: 1,382 (0.05%)
- North Country: 91(0.02%)

Positivity by Region:

- Finger Lakes: 3.30%
- Western NY: 4.69%
- Southern Tier: 1.68%
- Mid-Hudson: 5.54%
- Central New York: 2.82%
- Mohawk Valley: 3.63%
- Capital Region: 3.92%
- NYC: 5.08%
- Long Island: 5.56%
- North Country: 5.36%

- Manhattan: 3.36%
- Bronx: 6.67%
- Queens: 5.15%
- Staten Island: %
- Brooklyn 5.37%

- Gov. said NYS needs support from the federal government in order to rebuild and recover economically
- New police reform plan for localities due April 1st
- Gov. said to celebrate smart for Super Bowl weekend
- Gov. welcomed New Jersey Governor Phil Murphy to the briefing and both commended the partnership between NY and NJ
- Gov. Murphy echoed Gov. Cuomo's call for state and local aid from the federal government

COVID Vaccine:

- 2,237,678 total doses administered
- 99.02% of allocated first doses administered
- Vaccine supply is now week-to-week

- Gov. said Vaccine hesitancy is a major obstacle stemming from concern about side effects and distrust of the healthcare system
- 39% of New Yorkers are hesitant to take the vaccine
- Gov. described differentials by race in acceptance of vaccine within eligible groups
- Gov. said two challenges in reaching the Black community include access and acceptance
- NYS is making efforts to add mass vaccination sites in high positivity areas in Black and Latino communities and committing to more outreach
- Yankee Stadium vaccine site opening today for Bronx residents
- Gov. thanked representatives of the Yankees for their support in developing the site
- Gov. said hospital workers are being prioritized
- 75% of hospital workers vaccinated but there are still uneven levels of vaccinations among hospitals
- Gov. said hospitals have one more week to vaccinate their last workers
- Gov. said the state is reallocating the majority of the 1a subgroup allocation to local health departments to vaccinate people with comorbidities beginning February 15th.
- NYS is working with the CDC to establish a comorbidities list for eligibility
- Gov. said FDA and CDC recommends not to use second dose allocations as first doses
- Johnson and Johnson filed for emergency use authorization

COVID- Variants:

- 15 new variants of interest in NYS
- 59 total UK strain cases in NYS
- UK strain is up to 70% more transmittable

UK Strain Cases by County:

- Niagara County: 1 Case
- Allegany County: 1 Case
- Tompkins County: 4 Cases
- NYC: 18 Cases
- Nassau County: 8 Cases
- Suffolk: 6 Cases
- Westchester: 4 Cases
- Ulster County: 1 Case
- Onondoga County: 1 Case
- Jefferson County: 1 Case
- Essex County: 1 Case
- Warren County: 6 Cases
- Saratoga County: 7 Cases

Federal:

- President Biden hoping to provide \$350 billion for state and local relief
- Gov. said \$350 billion needs to be distributed fairly
- Gov. said NYS needs fairness in federal tax policy and the repeal of SALT
- Gov. said that SALT costs taxpayers \$34 million a day
- Gov. Murphy echoed call for the repeal of SALT, citing high and unfair costs for taxpayers
- Gov. sent a letter to the Congressional delegation about the distribution of \$350 million

Q&A

On whether the governor would consider opening inside dining the weekend before Valentine's day? And whether the 10PM curfew on restaurants/bars can be extended on superbowl sunday?

- Gov. said the state is following the data so wants to see what the numbers look like on Monday before making a decision
- Gov. said curfew is in place to prevent extensive gatherings, and they are not considering extending the curfew

On what the list of pre existing conditions will include and why prisons are not considered congregate settings?

- Gov. said NYS is going to follow the CDC list of preexisting conditions for the next group of eligibility for vaccines
- NYS is vaccinating people in prisons in the same method that the rest of NYS is being vaccinated

On New Jersey's lawsuit about congestion pricing

- Gov. said staff has been working with Gov. Murphy's staff on this issue.
- Gov. said there is no path forward out of the pandemic without supporting the economy

On how the state will ensure police reform plans are implemented

- Gov. said the state has no hand in telling localities how to form their plans
- Whatever the locality decides, it will be up to them to follow through with the plan

On stopping a NYS resident who teaches in NJ from receiving a vaccine

- Gov. said he had not heard of this specific situation but she should be able to receive a vaccine in NYS and they will look into this situation