



## NEW YORK STATE COVID-19 UPDATE

March 24, 2020

New York State has nearly 60% of confirmed COVID-19 cases in the U.S., with New York City being named the epicenter of the virus. As of March 24, NY has tested more than 91,000 people, with 25,665 positive cases confirmed and upward of 300 related deaths. Cases are doubling every three days.

The Governor has noted these numbers are 10 times that of California and Washington State. Despite "stay-at-home" directives that closed all non-essential businesses, the rate of infection is spiking faster and higher than expected. The apex is forecasted to be reached within 14 to 21 days.

Due to the spike and earlier apex, the emergency need for hospital beds, ICU units and ventilators is more urgent than ever.

In today's briefing, the Governor blasted the Federal government for not providing the 20,000 ventilators they have in stockpile. He urged that New York will be the first state to hit the apex and others will follow. Allocation of FEMA resources and aid, including ventilators, should be prioritized according to volume, starting with New York, and reallocated as the apex shifts to other states.

Other updates from today's briefing:

### **Healthcare Capacity and Innovation:**

- With positive cases exponentially increasing, the new projected number of needed hospital beds has climbed from 100,000 to 140,000, and 40,000 ICU beds. Currently, there are only 53,000 beds available.
- Through a new Executive Order released yesterday, hospitals are mandated to develop a plan to increase bed capacity by at least 50% with a goal of a 100% increase.
- Governor Cuomo is exploring creative options to build capacity, including working with hotel owners, SUNY, and CUNY to identify space.
- Facilities are experimenting with ventilators to get the most out of what they have by putting two people on one ventilator simultaneously.