

May 13, 2020

As we continue to navigate the COVID-19 crisis together, please continue reaching out to us as issues arise for you and for your businesses. We are and will continue to remain in regular contact with key stakeholders at the State Agencies and with the Administration to advocate on your behalf. Below please find updates and new information since our last update.

WHAT'S NEW TODAY

Governor Cuomo Press Briefing

- Today's press briefing took place at Jefferson Community College in Watertown.
- The total number of hospitalizations and intubations continue to fall. The number of new cases also continues to decrease to levels seen when the NY on PAUSE order was enacted. There were 414 new hospitalizations on May 12th.



- There were a total of 166 COVID-19-related deaths on May 12th. Of these, 122 were hospital deaths and 44 were in nursing homes. A total of 21,845 New Yorkers have passed away from coronavirus (NYSDOH).



- The State has continued its initiative to test essential workers for COVID-19 antibodies. New York City frontline workers have shown a lower percent positive when compared to the City’s general population. The New York State Police and Corrections Officers have shown similar results when compared with the State’s general population. The Governor believes that frontline workers have a lower percent positive rate because they are using personal protective equipment (PPE) effectively.

Essential Workers – Antibody Test Results

Occupation	Percent Positive	
Downstate Transit Workers	14.2%	19.9% NYC General Population
Downstate Healthcare Workers	12.2%	
NYPD	10.5%	
FDNY/EMT	17.1%	
DOCCS	7.5%	12.3% NYS General Population
State Police	3.1%	

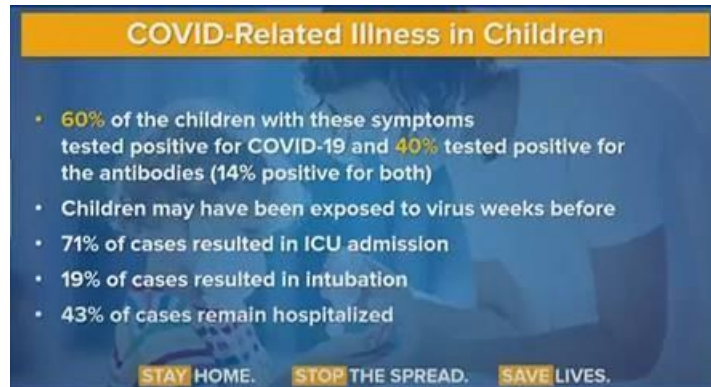
- Hospitals in 12 more counties are now eligible to restart elective surgeries.



- REOPENING:** The Governor announced that the North Country has now met the seven necessary metrics to reopen phase 1 industries this Friday, May 15th. As announced earlier this week the Southern Tier, Mohawk Valley, and Finger Lakes regions have also met these metrics. The Capital Region and Central New York regions have met six of the seven metrics.



- The NYS Department of Health continues to track COVID-related illnesses in children with symptoms similar to atypical Kawasaki disease. There are now 102 cases in the State, 60% of which tested positive for COVID-19 and 40% of which tested positive for the antibodies. New York is leading the nation in tracking and investigating this new possible effect of the virus. Hospitals in New York are now prioritizing children for testing.



- FEDERAL FUNDING:** The Governor reiterated the State's need for \$61 billion in Federal funding to pay for frontline workers, testing & tracing, and public infrastructure as an economic stimulus. Governor Cuomo and Maryland Governor Hogan (R) released a [joint statement](#) today calling for \$500 billion in fiscal support for state budgetary shortfalls resulting from the pandemic, enhanced FMAP funding to provide healthcare to our most vulnerable, and 100 percent federal cost share for FEMA response and recovery efforts.



- The Governor praised the U.S. House of Representatives for including a SALT repeal in their phase four recovery bill which was introduced yesterday. If enacted, this would reinstate the State and Local Tax deduction that was removed in the 2017 tax reform bill.

- Governor Cuomo authored an op-ed in the Washington Post entitled [“What Washington must do to protect workers”](#) advocating for an Americans First Act, which would require any companies who receive Federal funding to hire all workers back or return the money.
- New York State Department of Labor is set to announce today that \$7.4 billion in unemployment insurance benefits have been paid out to 1.7 million New Yorkers.

New York State Comptroller

New York State Comptroller DiNapoli has released two reports with projections for New York State and New York City budgets.

- [Report on the SFY 2020-21 Enacted Budget Financial Plan](#)
 - As much as \$8.2 billion would be cut from Aid to Localities spending, while large reductions in funding for State Operations are also planned.
- [Review of the Financial Plan of the City of New York](#)
 - Tax collections are now projected to fall by 3.1 percent in FY 2021, the first decline since the Great Recession. In addition, city officials estimate that the enacted state budget will increase the city’s costs by \$797 million over a two-year period.

UP-TO-DATE GUIDANCE

- [New York State Regional Monitoring Dashboard](#)
- [Reopening New York: Phase 1](#)
- Empire State Development: [Guidance for Determining Whether a Business Enterprise is Subject to a Workforce Reduction Under Recent Executive Orders](#)
 - There have been no changes since our last update.
- New York City: [Agency Suspensions and Reductions](#)
 - [Updated: Administration for Children's Services \(ACS\)](#)
 - [Updated: Department of Consumer and Worker Protection \(DCWP\)](#)
 - [Updated: Department of Design and Construction \(DDC\)](#)

Attached please find a comprehensive document with guidance from across government agencies. We will be updating this document as information becomes available and including it in our daily updates.

In addition to our regular email updates, Ostroff Associates has established two dedicated webpages that will be updated in real time with any new information from government sources relating to COVID-19. Please use these websites as a resource and share with others who would benefit.

Update Page: <https://www.ostroffassociates.com/covid-19-updates/>

News Page: <https://www.ostroffassociates.com/category/covid-19/>

Please let us know if you have any questions or concerns.

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