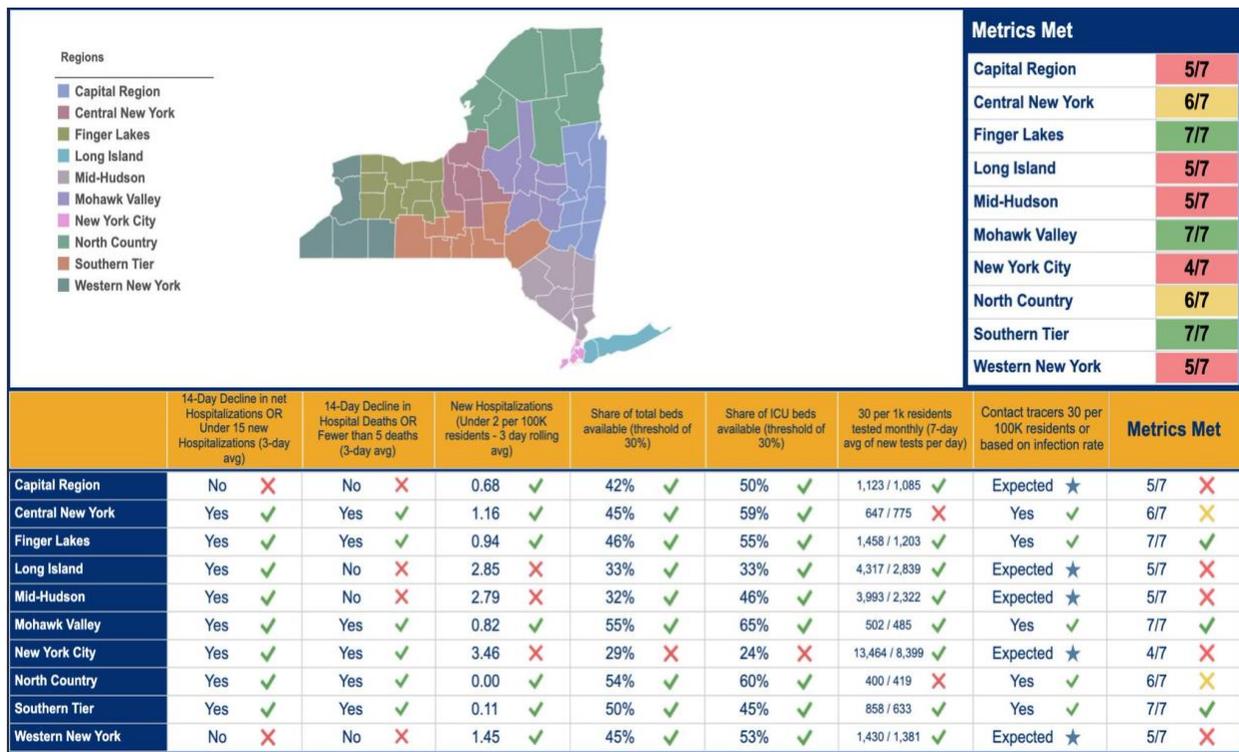




Dear neighbor,

As of Wednesday, only 3 of New York’s 10 regions have met the criteria necessary for a safe reopening. They are: Finger Lakes, Southern Tier, and Mohawk Valley. These areas will begin a phased reopening on Friday. That does not mean business as usual. What it means is construction and manufacturing will resume in these regions with social distancing measures in place, and a limited number of retail stores will now begin offering curbside pick-up.

Statewide, certain restrictions are being lifted as well. Drive-in movie theaters and low risk activities like tennis will be permitted starting this weekend.



If you are having trouble viewing this image, click [here](#).

As you can see, a couple more regions are close to meeting all 7 metrics including Central New York and North Country. New York City has only met 4 out of 7 benchmarks.

These are the 7 metrics guiding the reopening process:

- Decline in total hospitalization
- Decline in deaths
- New hospitalizations

- Hospital bed capacity
- ICU bed capacity
- Diagnostic testing capacity
- Contact tracing capacity

Looking at current trends at the state level, we are about where we started on March 19. It's finally safe to say that we are past the peak. Social distancing changed the trajectory of this virus but we know this is far from over. Please continue social distancing and remember to wear a mask outdoors.

If you have yet to make or buy a face covering, I will be handing out masks at Carl Schurz Park (East 86 Street at East End Ave) this Friday from 9 – 10am.

Census 2020

If you have yet to fill out your census form, please fill it out at your earliest convenience. The census is more than a headcount. It's how the federal government allocates funding for vital programs and services, and determines how many congressional seats NY is entitled to.

The Upper East Side has some of the lowest response rates in the city. This is terrible news. Billions of dollars in funding for programs like Medicaid and CHIP are on the line. If New Yorkers are undercounted, we stand to lose critical funding for our schools, roads, and hospitals over the next 10 years. Our health care workers are working round the clock to ensure our safety during this pandemic. We cannot let them down.

Even if you've relocated temporarily and are not receiving mail, you can still fill out your census online. Make sure to do so using your New York City address where you reside most often.

You can fill out your census at 2020Census.gov or call 844-330-2020 if you have any questions.

Unemployment Insurance

Constituents continue to report problems filing for unemployment insurance. I assure you we are working with the Department of Labor and the Governor's office to fix the structural problems with the claims process. The DOL reports it's seeing some progress in its backlog, having now paid out \$7.4 billion to 1.7 million New Yorkers.

If you are experiencing any problems with your unemployment claim, please reach out to my office and my staff will work with you.

Resources and Volunteer Opportunities

Market and Restaurant Takeout and Delivery: The East Sixties Neighborhood Association has compiled a list of local restaurants and markets offering takeout and delivery during the COVID-19 shutdown. Ordering directly from these restaurants will be especially helpful during this difficult time.

Please scroll to the bottom and click "Takeout and Delivery During Virus" to see the full list: <https://esna-nyc.net/>

Support local business: Community Board 8 has compiled a list of local businesses that have remained open. You can add a business to the list or see what's open here: <https://www.cb8m.com/2020/03/local-businesses-coronavirus/>

Request Volunteer Support: NYC Service is connecting nonprofits with New York Cares to begin the community partner in-take process and place volunteers at projects. Current volunteer projects include in-person food distribution support, virtual volunteer phone-banking to provide social engagement for seniors and those serving immigrant and other

vulnerable New Yorkers, virtual remote learning support, and other activities. There are over 12,000 volunteers trained and ready to serve across all five boroughs.

You can request volunteer support here: <https://www1.nyc.gov/site/helpnownyc/get-help/organizations.page>

Face masks: Every New Yorker is required to wear a face mask or covering in public when social distancing is not possible. According to the Center for Disease Control, wearing even a simple cloth face covering can slow the transmission of the virus and prevent its spread from an unknowing person to the next.

Read the CDC's guidance on face masks and learn how to make your own here: <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/prevent-getting-sick/diy-cloth-face-coverings.html>

Health insurance: New York State is extending the open enrollment period for uninsured New Yorkers until May 15. To sign up for health insurance, visit: nystateofhealth.ny.gov

Mental health hotline: COVID-19 has left many of us feeling stressed, depressed, anxious, and isolated. A free and confidential mental health hotline is available for all New Yorkers, from 8am – 10pm, 7 days a week. If you are in need of emotional support, a consultation, or a referral to a provider please call 1-844-863-9314.

Donate blood: Due to COVID-19, New York is experiencing a blood shortage. If you are able to donate blood, please call 800-933-2566 or go to www.nybc.org.

Donate supplies: If you or your business have supplies you'd like to donate such as PPE, including face masks or gloves, medical equipment, or cleaning supplies, please contact my office at quartd@nyassembly.gov.

Stay safe and healthy,
Dan