

Dear William, (From Gov Cuomo)

I met with President Trump today in the White House to discuss testing. We agreed that the state will be responsible for managing the actual tests in our laboratories. The federal government, meanwhile, will take on the responsibility of supply chain issues that are beyond states' control. The President and I also discussed much-needed funding for the states — and the White House team understood our need.



Photo of the Day: The ice rink at Rockefeller Center in Manhattan showcasing the #NewYorkTough logo (Photo by Tishman Speyer)

Here's what else you need to know tonight:

1. The number of hospitalizations continue to fall. Yesterday, total hospitalizations fell to 16,076, the eighth straight day of declines. Notwithstanding this encouraging trend, infections remain high and the virus is still spreading. See the latest data at covid19tracker.health.ny.gov.

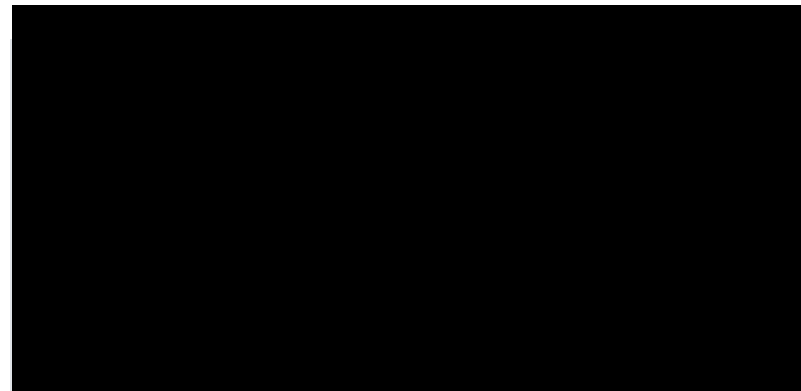
2. Elective outpatient treatments can resume in hospitals and counties where there is no significant risk of COVID-19 surge in the near term. Beginning April 28, 2020, hospitals will be able to resume performing elective outpatient treatments if they meet [certain conditions](#). Restrictions on elective surgeries remain in place in Albany, Bronx, Clinton, Dutchess, Erie, Kings, Nassau, New York, Orange, Queens, Rensselaer, Richmond, Rockland, Schuyler, Suffolk, Sullivan, Ulster, Westchester and Yates counties as the state continues to monitor the rate of new COVID-19 infections in these areas.

3. We will make reopening decisions on a regional basis, depending on the facts on the ground. We recognize that not all regions are impacted with COVID-19 in the same way. It's the logical thing to do.

4. The State Department of Labor has launched a new, streamlined unemployment benefits application. The agency is laser focused on getting New Yorkers the aid they deserve. This new application will make sure that eligible New Yorkers get their benefits faster. Since the COVID-19 crisis began, DOL has paid \$2.2 billion in unemployment benefits to 1.1 million New Yorkers.

5. New York Chief Judge Janet DiFiore announced that more than 2,600 cases were settled or disposed of during the first week of expanded virtual court operations. In a video speech, Chief Judge DiFiore [applauded](#) the "Herculean effort" of court personnel. "We continue to do everything in our power not only to keep our courts up and running but to gradually and safely expand access to justice for lawyers and litigants across the state."

6. NYS is looking into alternative options for giving birth outside of a hospital. Secretary to the Governor Melissa DeRosa [will chair](#) a COVID-19 Maternity Task Force that will develop a plan to authorize additional birth centers to provide mothers a safe alternative to stressed hospitals. The Task Force will also research the effect of COVID-19 on pregnancy. It will deliver recommendations by the end of the week.



Secretary to the Governor Melissa DeRosa and New York State Council on W...

Secretary to the Governor Melissa DeRosa and the New York State Council on Women and Girls announced the creatio...

County's Active COVID-19 Cases Continue to Remain Low

MAYVILLE, N.Y.: -- Chautauqua County has released its COVID-19 statistics for April 22, 2020. This includes:

- 28 confirmed cases, including one new case of a female in her 20's;
- 2 active cases - continue to recover under orders of the Local Health Official per NYS Public Health Law;
- 23 recovered cases;
- 3 deaths;

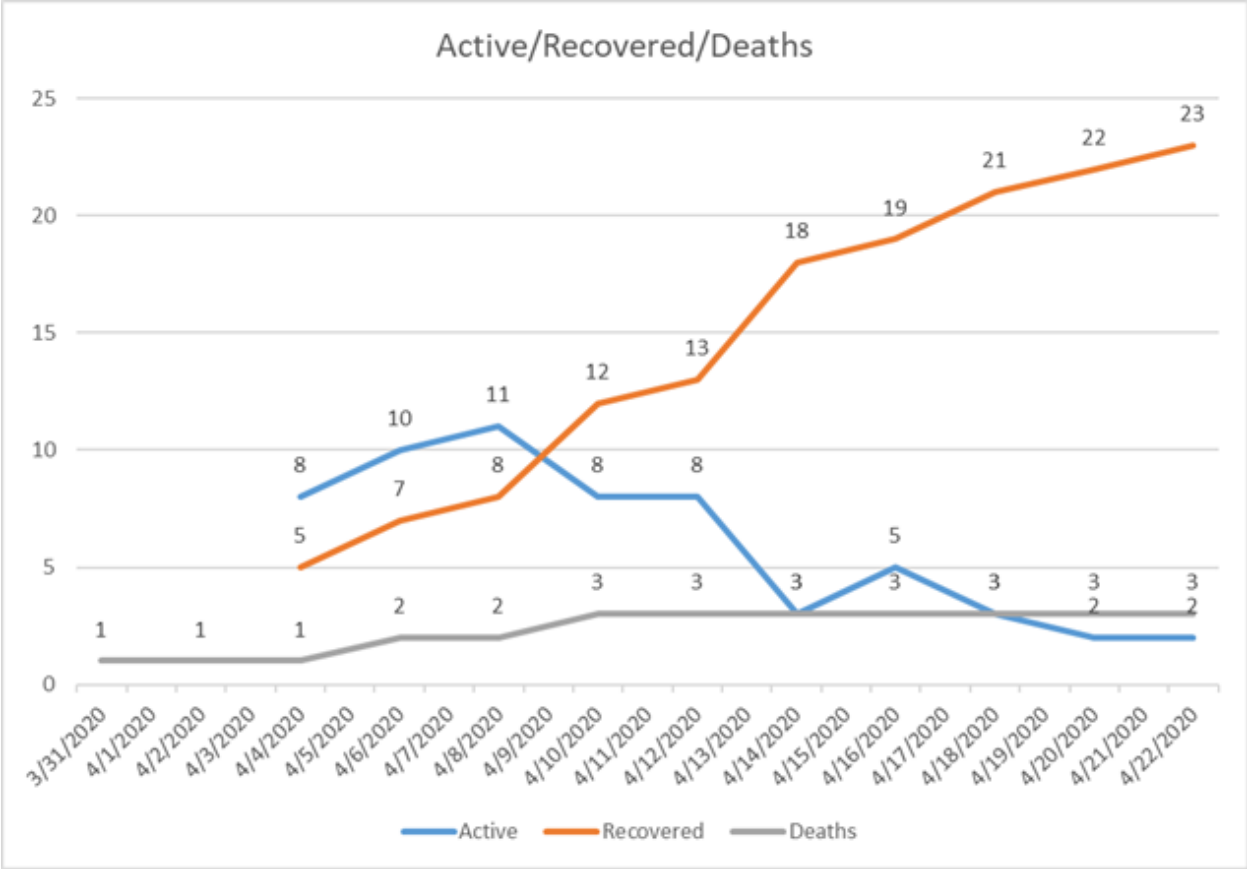
- 43 cases under quarantine/isolation orders by the Public Health Director and being monitored. Not all of those being monitored are confirmed to have COVID-19 but have either shown symptoms, are awaiting results, or have risk factors; and
- 620 negative test results to date.

Chautauqua County Executive PJ Wendel is calling on businesses in Chautauqua County to look to the future and develop plans on how they will reopen after COVID-19.

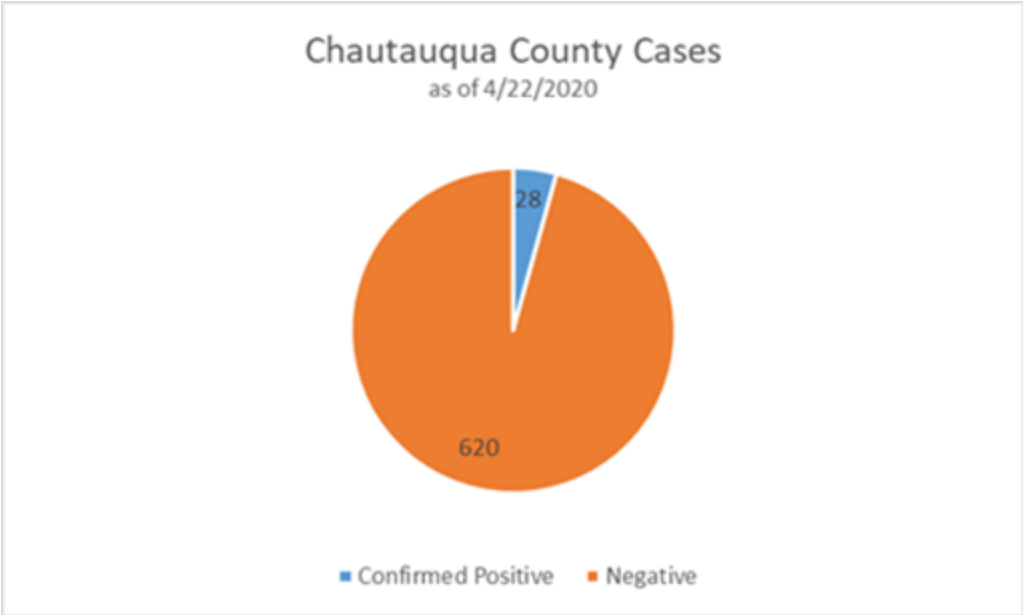
“Thanks to the great efforts of the Chautauqua County Health Department and the tremendous cooperation of our residents, the infection rate of COVID-19 in Chautauqua County continues to remain low,” said Wendel. “We should remain optimistic when we really look at our current situation.”

As of today, Chautauqua County has:

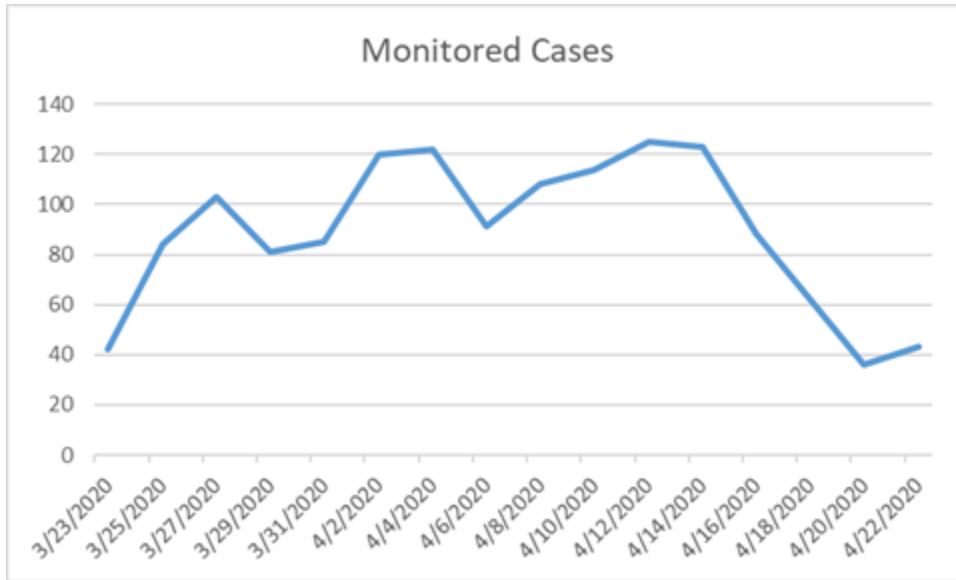
- Only two active cases of COVID-19, both of which are in mandatory isolation;
- No COVID-19 hospitalizations;
- Only one new lab confirmed case in Chautauqua County in the last six days;
- Seen a dramatic drop in the number of people who are in quarantine and isolation;
- Over 600 people who have been tested, with 96 percent testing negative; and
- Chautauqua County has one of the lowest positive test percentages (4 percent) in the entire State of New York.



Pictured above, a chart showing the active, recovered, and death-related COVID-19 cases in Chautauqua County.



Pictured above, a chart showing the confirmed positive cases and negative test results for COVID-19 in Chautauqua County.



Pictured above, a chart showing the number of monitored cases (under quarantine or isolation orders by the Public Health Director) for COVID-19 in Chautauqua County.

“These statistics provide some good news for Chautauqua County,” said Wendel. “They show we are on the right track to preventing the spread of COVID-19 in our County and can provide residents with some reassurance that the social distancing efforts they are taking are working. However, it is important that we do not let our preventive efforts fall to the wayside now. We all still need to remain diligent and focused on continuing to minimize the spread of COVID-19.”

Residents are reminded to continue to wear face coverings and practice social distancing. It is also important for individuals to practice appropriate respiratory hygiene by not touching their faces, washing their hands frequently, using hand sanitizer, cleaning and disinfecting frequently touched surfaces, and staying home when they are sick.

Healthcare providers should also continue to refer individuals with COVID-19 symptoms for testing. This includes hospitalized patients, nursing home and adult care facility residents, healthcare workers, individuals with chronic health conditions, individuals who are immunocompromised, and other essential workers.

“As we continue to reduce the infection rate in our County and abide by social distancing measures, I believe we need a plan for the future and to urge New York State Governor Andrew

Cuomo to allow us to gradually reopen our County’s communities and economy,” said Wendel. “In a concerted effort with Senator Borrello and Assemblyman Goodell’s regional plan for reopening this is an effort to be proactive. I will be sending a letter to our businesses throughout our County asking them to look at their operations and preemptively develop plans on how they would operate once the Governor decides we can reopen. These plans would include the implementation of necessary protocols to still protect businesses’ employees and customers from the spread of COVID-19.”

Wendel said that the County will be committed to:

- Assessing its community readiness based on local data and indicators;
- Developing industry specific plans for the step-by-step easing of community mitigation measures;
- Requiring compliance with Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA) and Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC)’s COVID-19 guidance for all businesses;
- Continuing to focus on safety for employees and customers including social distancing, the use of face coverings or other protective equipment as appropriate for the industry; cleaning and disinfecting commonly touched surfaces; and not working when ill;
- Continuing robust COVID-19 public health surveillance and response work through robust isolation and quarantine measures, contact tracing of cases, health education, and increasing mitigation measures as necessary;
- Focusing on low risk business sectors first, such as manufacturing, professionals, office staff; and
- Phasing in other business sections as the situation continues to improve.

“As we plan for the eventual reopening of our communities, I can assure you that we will continue our COVID-19 surveillance and response work,” said Christine Schuyler, County Director of Health and Human Services. “In the event that monitoring shows increased transmission of COVID-19 or a strain on our public health or healthcare systems at any step of loosening community mitigation measures, I will advise of the need to tighten mitigation measures as appropriate.”

Businesses are asked to submit their reopening plans electronically to New York State Senator George Borrello at borrello@nysenate.gov, Assemblyman Andrew Goodell at goodella@nyassembly.gov ; and CCHEALTH@co.chautauqua.ny.us, fax to (716) 753-4640 or mail to Chautauqua County Department of Health and Human Services, Public Health; HRC Building, 7 N. Erie Street; Mayville, NY 14757.