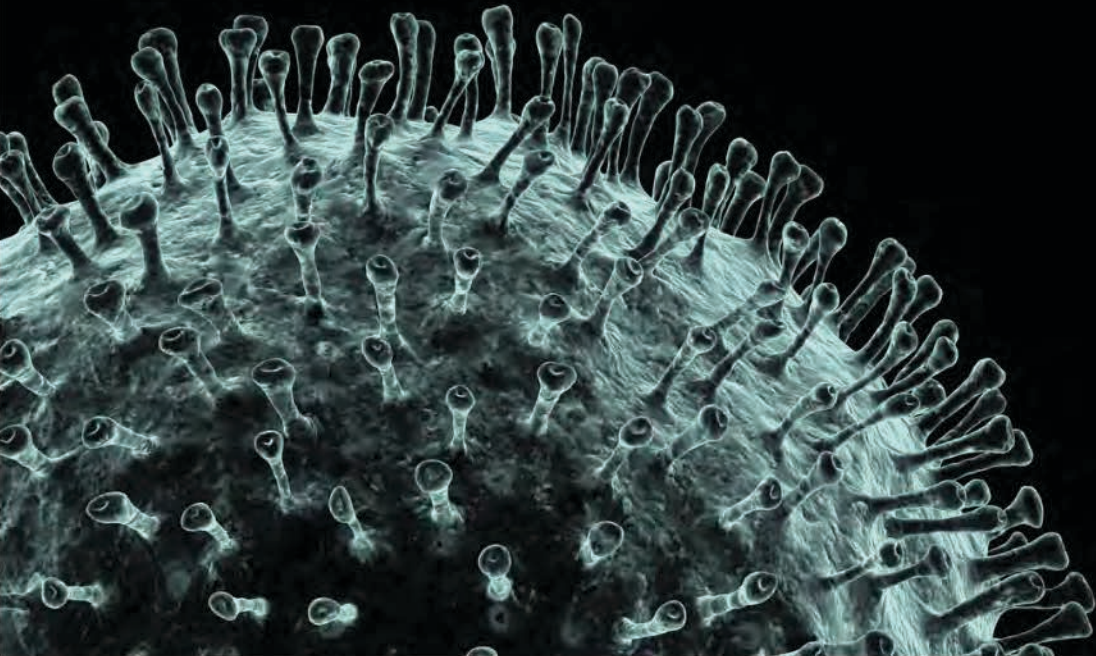


COVID-19 Conversations



Howard Zucker

Commissioner of Health for New York State



COVID19Conversations.org

[#COVID19Conversations](https://twitter.com/COVID19Conversations)



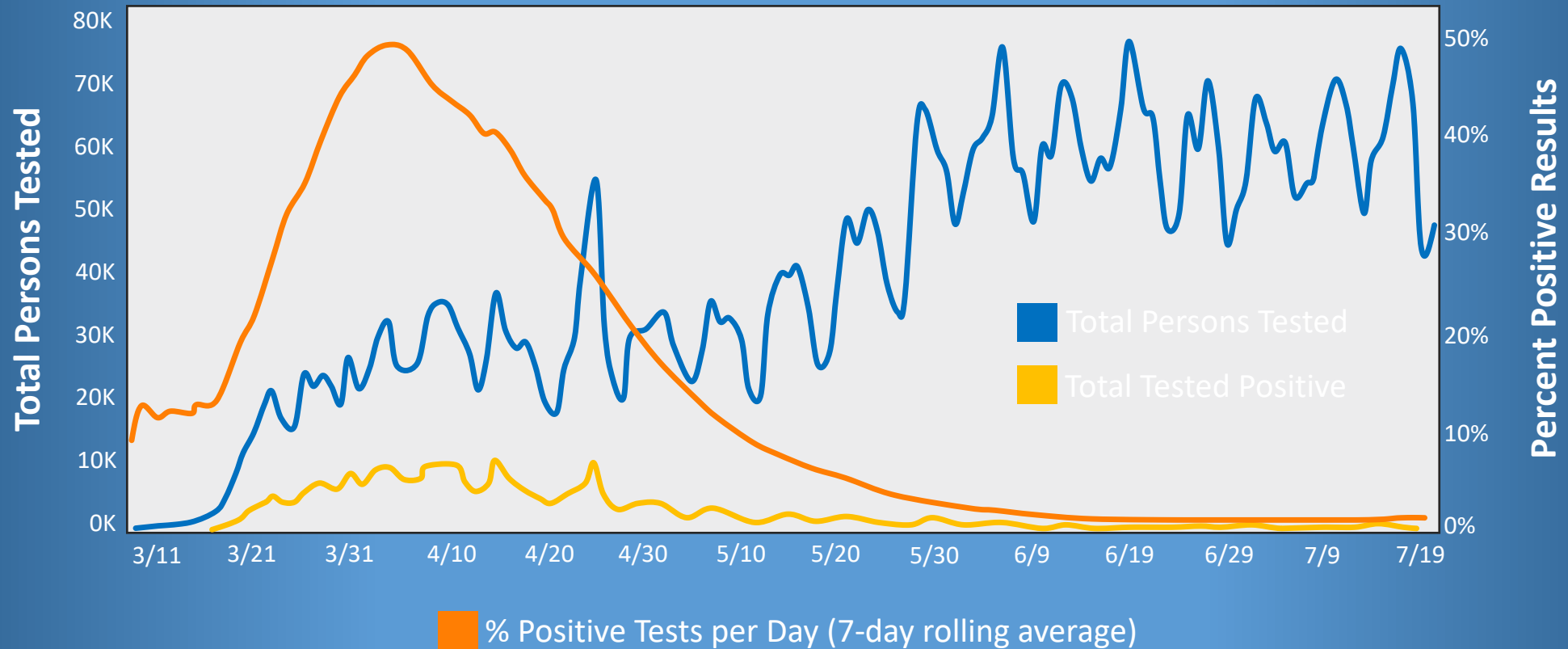
New York State vs. COVID-19: Offense and Defense

Howard Zucker, M.D., J.D.
Commissioner of Health, New York State

American Public Health Association • July 29, 2020



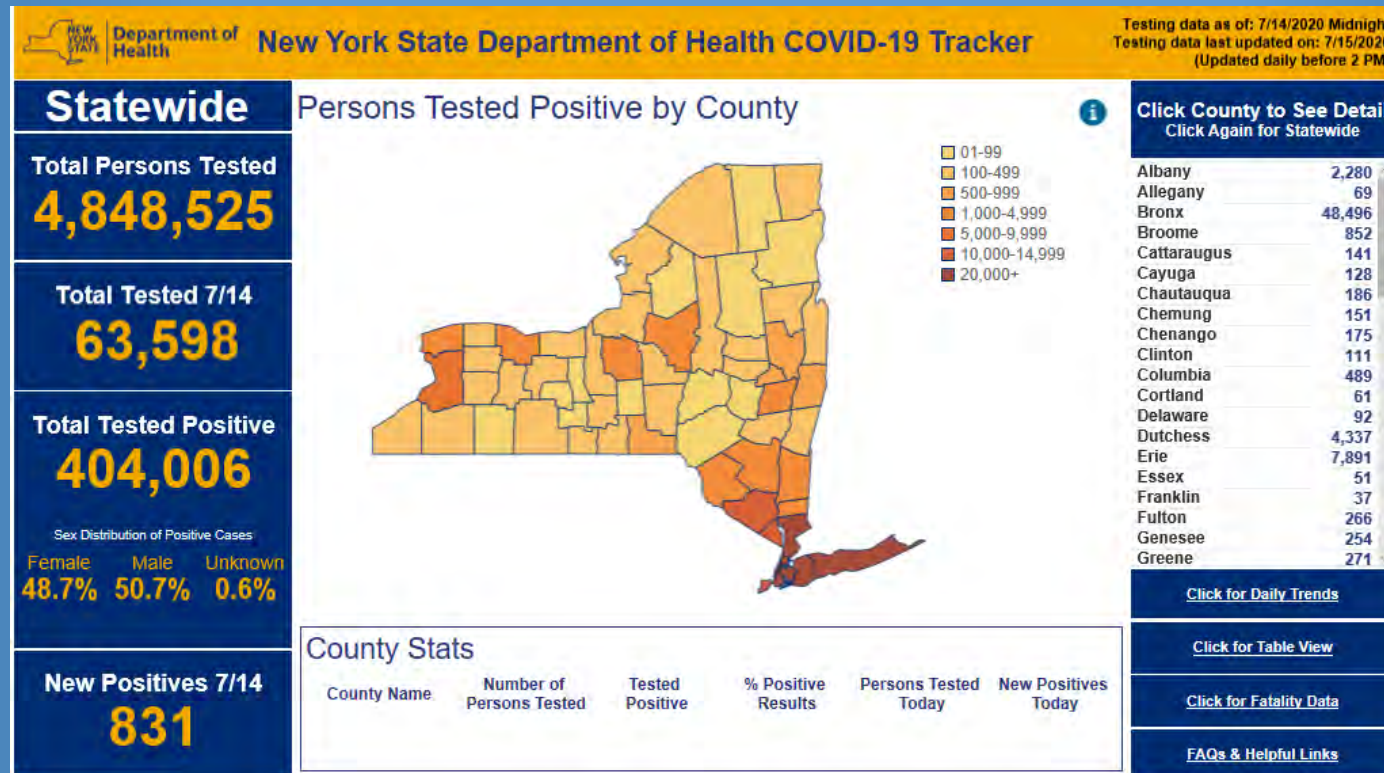
How did we get down from the mountain?



Facts & Transparency

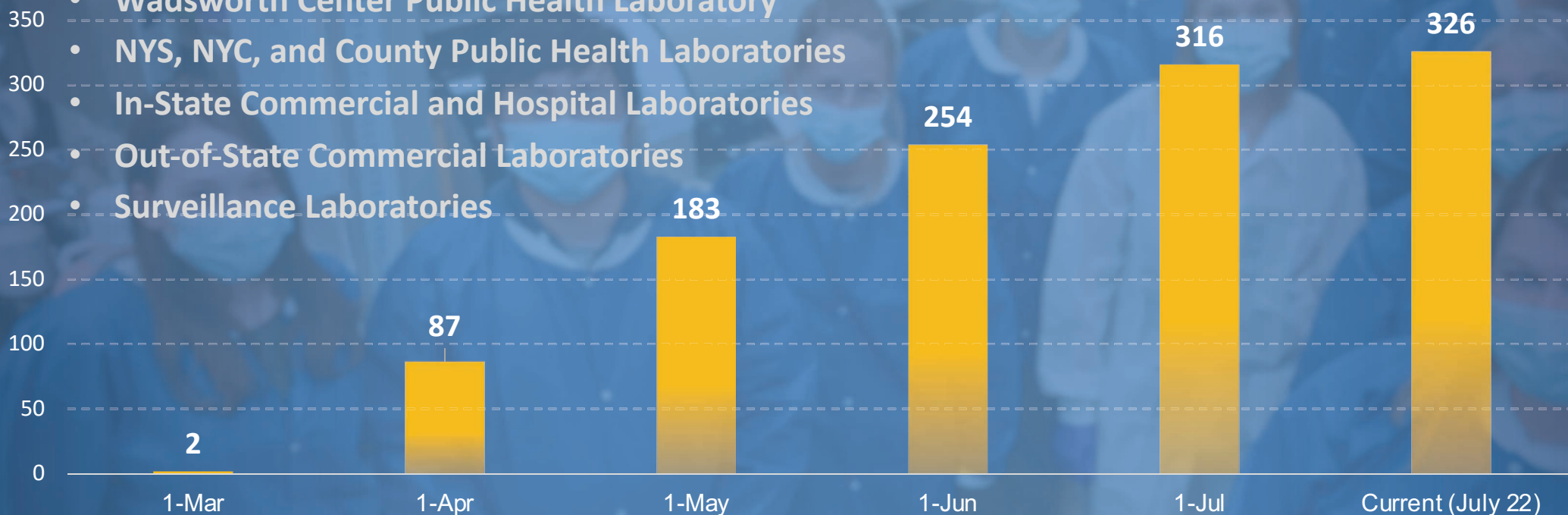


Department of Health COVID-19 Tracker



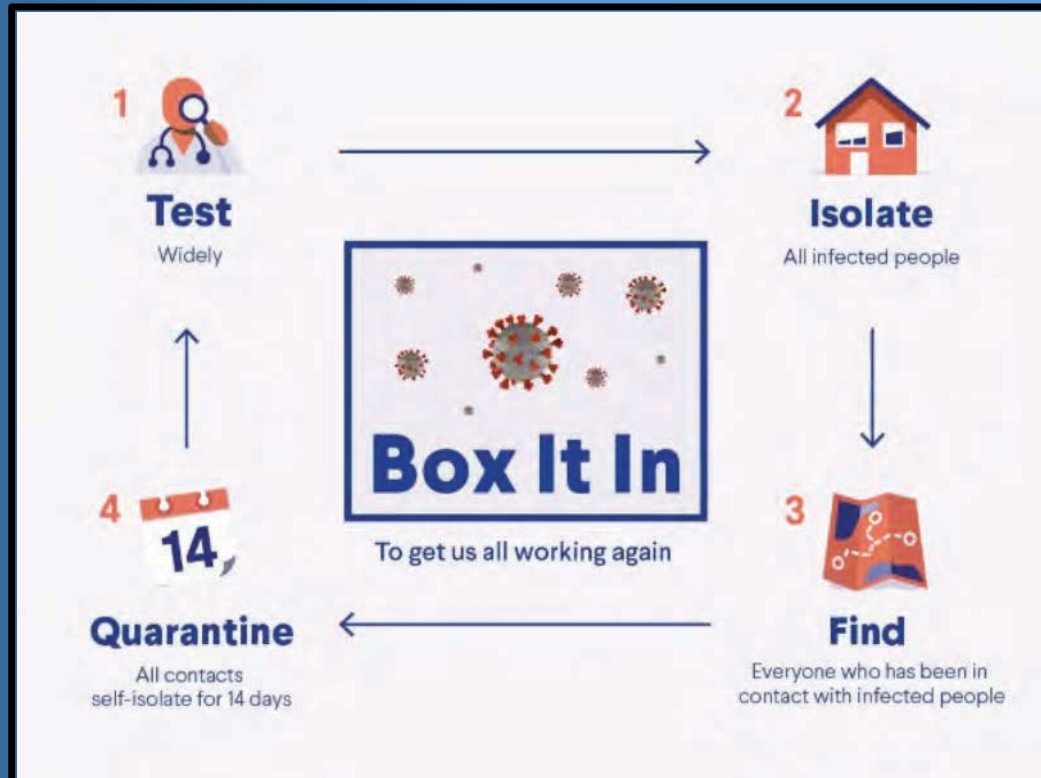
Increasing NYS Laboratory Testing Capacity

- Wadsworth Center Public Health Laboratory
- NYS, NYC, and County Public Health Laboratories
- In-State Commercial and Hospital Laboratories
- Out-of-State Commercial Laboratories
- Surveillance Laboratories



Clinical Laboratories (CLIA) Reporting PCR Diagnostic and Serology Results for NYS Specimens

New York State's "Contact Tracing Playbook"



Replicable program developed with partners:

- **Bloomberg Philanthropies**
- **Johns Hopkins Bloomberg School of Public Health**
- **Resolve to Save Lives**

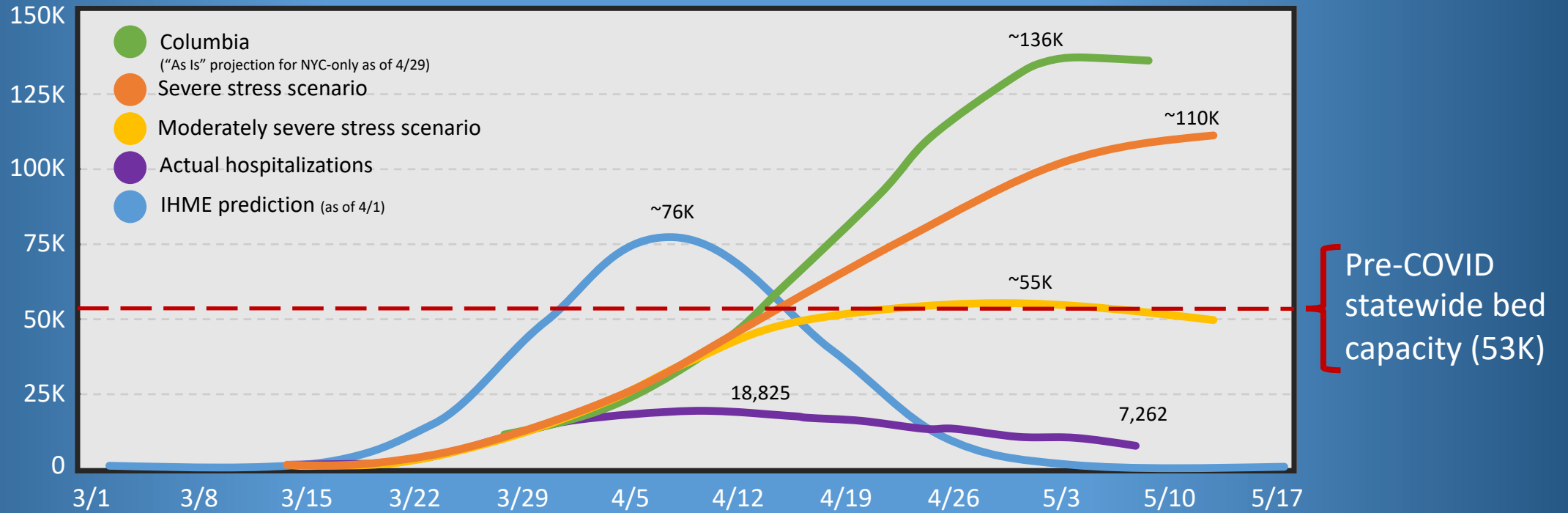
Antibody Testing

Department of Health Serology Initiative Wadsworth DBS Sample

Population Tested	Region	Number Tested	Percent Reactive
Grocery Store Sample (April)	Statewide	15,340	12.4%
Grocery Store Sample #2 (June)	Statewide	12,368	10.4%
Grocery Store Workers	Statewide	1,784	11.6%
Food Service Workers	Statewide	1,919	10.6%
Healthcare Workers	NYC/Metro	7,838	15.3%
First Responders	NYC/Metro	1,997	14%
Essential State Employees	Statewide	7,024	6.8%
New York State Police	Statewide	2,369	2.7%



COVID-19 Hospitalizations in New York: Projected vs. Actual



Pre-COVID
statewide bed
capacity (53K)

Boosting Bed Capacity with Federal Assistance



Jacob K. Javits Convention Center



USNS Comfort

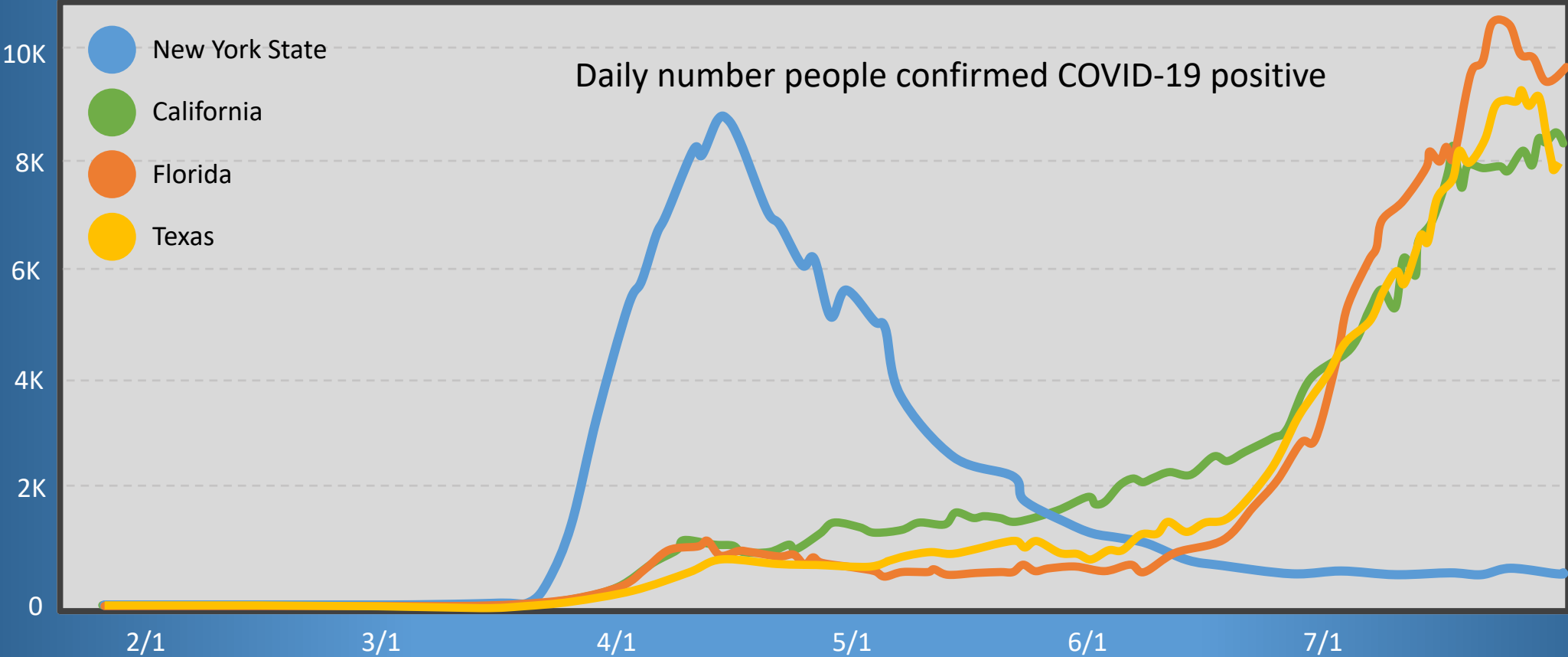
Department of Health Early-Warning Dashboard



What We Didn't Know

- Coronavirus came from **Europe** and **infected ~10k NYC residents** by mid-February.
- **40%** of transmissions occurred through **asymptomatic spread**.
- **Minority populations** would be at **elevated risk** for infection.
- COVID-19 can attack any organ, not just respiratory system.
- **Threat to children**, new condition called **MIS-C**.

Overtaking New York's COVID-19 "Mountain"





STAY HOME.

STOP THE SPREAD.

SAVE LIVES.



Department
of Health