Infection Rate



I have followed the number of new cases daily. The numbers are dropping.

I have also looked at the doubling rate which is the number of days it would take for the number of cases to double. That number is now north of three months and continuing to rise. The graph below is a little hard to follow but you can see it is going up for Franklin, Somerset Co., NJ and NY. That's good.



The Governor keeps promoting following hospitalization which is dropping somewhat predictably. If this continues the hospitals will be near empty, of COVID, in a month or so.



There is another way to follow progress, the infection rate R. It is the number of people an infected person is expected to infect. If the number is greater than one, then the pandemic grows. If it is less than one the pandemic wanes. Well, that's true for a closed system. Because people come and go into and out of the state it gets more complicated, but R under one is still a good thing. Calculating R can get very tricking. It is affected by how long it takes from exposure to testing positive and how long one is infectious. Mike Roe gave me a method the works fairly well and is easy. Simply divide the sum of positive tests for the last seven days by the sum of positive tests for the previous seven days. I call it R7.



Like doubling times the lines get pretty wavy but you can definitely see a trend downward.

All four indicators are moving in the right direction. Great job. Keep up the social distancing.