Twitter Thread by Judd Legum



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1. @NYGovCuomo became a pandemic star by contrasting himself with Trump

Cuomo crafted an IMAGE of being determined, honest and grounded in science

But 11 months later this image is falling apart

Follow along for a FACTUAL assessment of Cuomo's

@NYGovCuomo 2. Cuomo WROTE A BOOK, published in October, celebrating his own leadership during the pandemic.

Cuomo writes that NY had "confronted and defeated" the virus, and had "achieved what all the experts told us was impossible."

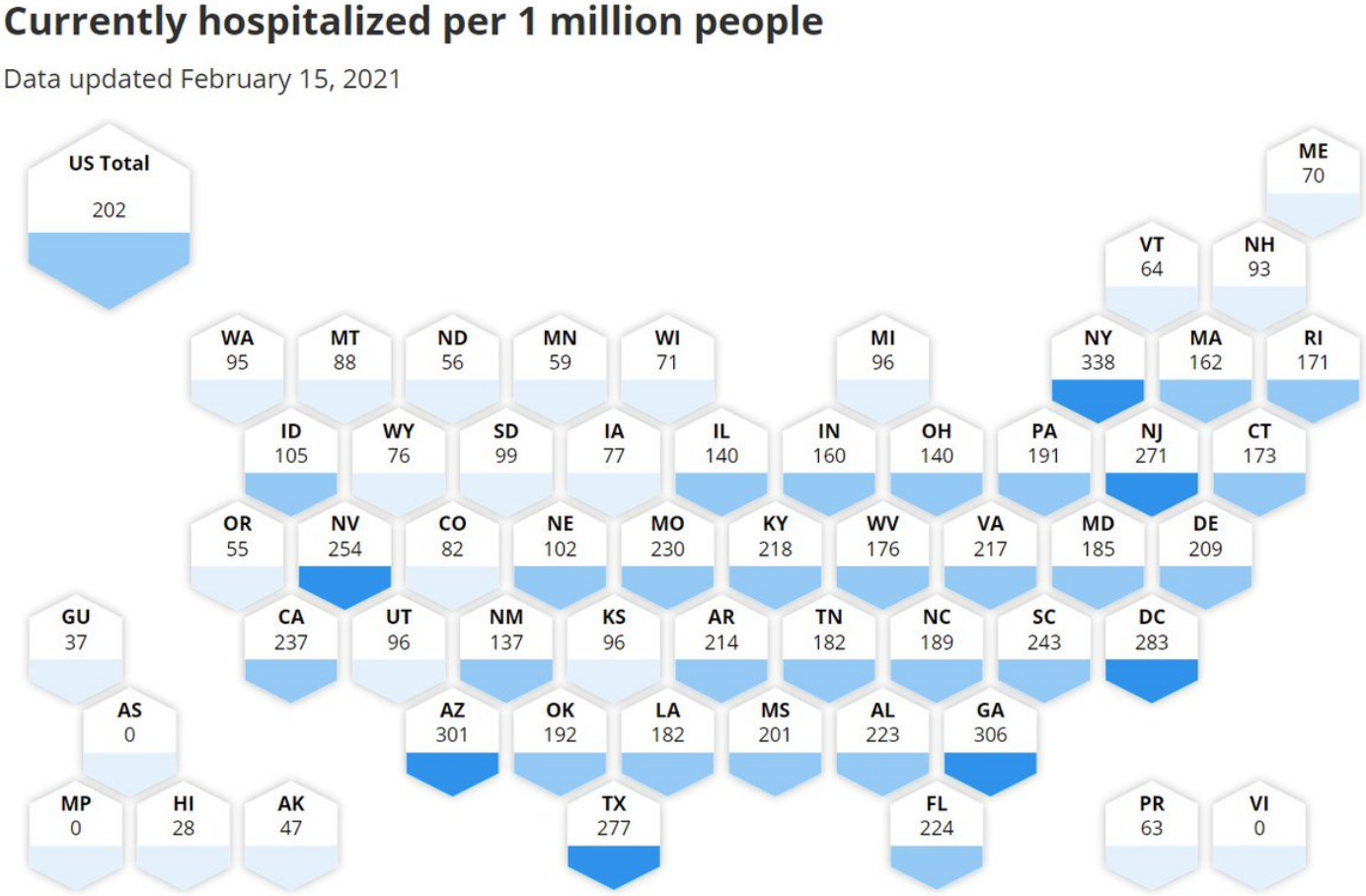
Today, things look different.

https://t.co/Hl4fsFxB6l

@NYGovCuomo 3. Today, New York has 338 people hospitalized with COVID per million residents.

This is the HIGHEST NUMBER IN ANY STATE by a considerable margin.

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@NYGovCuomo 4. Overall, 46K New Yorkers have died of COVID, which trails only California (47K), a state with 2x as many people.

On a per capita basis, New York has had more deaths than every state but New Jersey.

Cuomo made decisions that made things worse.

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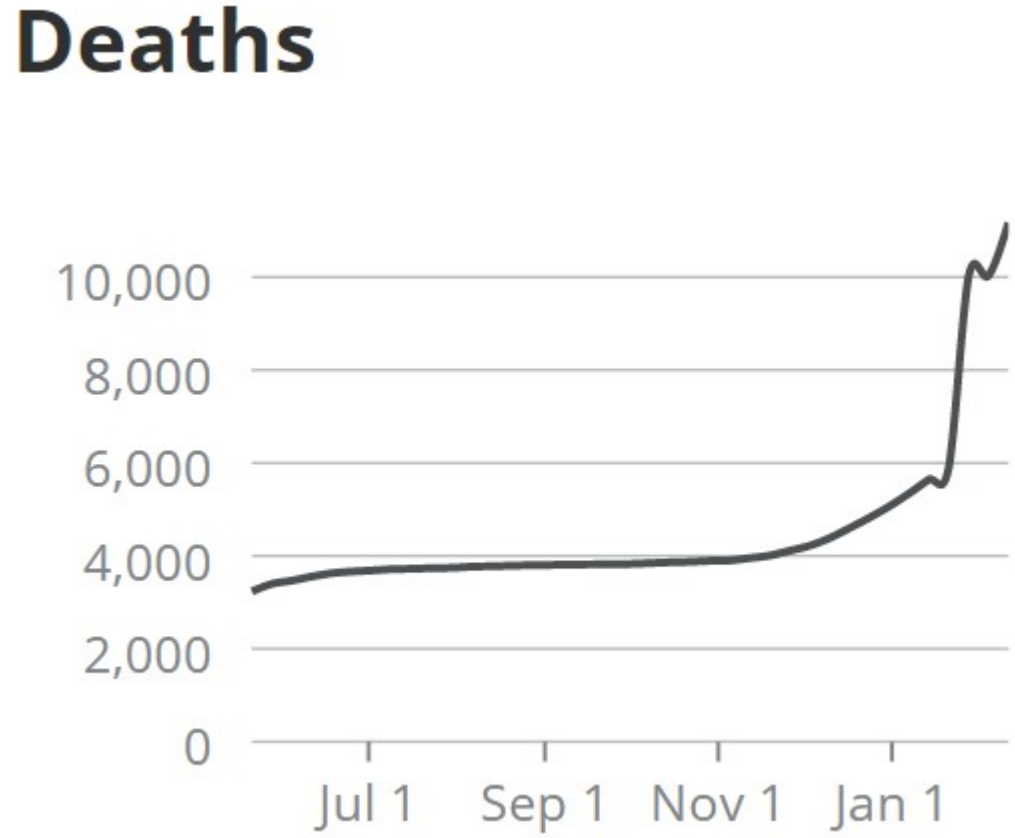
5. A new report by NY AG Letitia James (D) found Cuomo's order requiring nursing homes to accept residents w/COVID "may have put residents at increased risk of harm"

Cuomo dismissed criticisms of his nursing home policies in his book as "despicable"

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6. James also found that Cuomo was severely undercounting the number of COVID deaths in nursing homes. After James' report, Cuomo released new numbers which show that nursing home deaths were much higher than previously disclosed.

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7. A top Cuomo aide told a group of Democratic legislators that the administration did not release accurate nursing home data earlier because they were concerned the data "was going to be used against us."

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8. Cuomo's missteps weren't limited to nursing homes. He didn't issue a shelter in place order until March 22.

It was floated by the NYC mayor on March 17 and Cuomo dismissed it

"The fear, the panic, is a bigger problem than the virus."

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9. A delay of 5 days might not seem like a big deal.

But "Columbia University epidemiologists later estimated that a week’s delay in March quintupled the number of deaths in the New York metro area in the pandemic’s first two months."

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10. Today, Cuomo, who claimed to be guided by scientific expertise, has a much different perspective

“When I say ‘experts’ in air quotes, it sounds like I’m saying I don’t really trust the experts. Because I don’t. Because I don’t," Cuomo said on 1/29/21

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11. My newsletter, Popular Information, is unbought and unbossed.

Its only allegiance is to the truth.

Sign up for more independent accountability journalism.

https://t.co/TfpCItdVSo

12. Final note: COVID is an extremely complex problem. I'm not aware of any political leaders who have handled the situation perfectly. Nor should we expect them to.

But only one, that I know of, wrote a book in the middle of the pandemic celebrating their own leadership.