




## Town of Palm Beach Fire-Rescue



TO: Kirk Blouin, Town Manager

FROM: Darrel Donatto, Fire Rescue Chief 

SUBJECT: May 2021 Update on COVID-19 pandemic

DATE: May 10, 2021

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The positive news is that the number of new cases in both Palm Beach County and the Town of Palm Beach, as well as the positivity rates for Palm Beach County are all trending downward.

The seven-day moving average for the percent of positivity in Palm Beach County is currently 4.74%. The seven-day moving average of the number of new cases per day in Palm Beach County is now 231, that is compared to 403 last month. And, the seven-day moving average of the number of new cases per day in the Town of Palm Beach is now 0.57 per day compared to 3.14 per day last month.

As the season comes to an end, and more and more people leave Town for the summer months, we anticipate the numbers in the Town to continue their downward trend, or at the very least, to remain below the 1 case per day threshold.

As of May 10, 2021, there were 181 hospital beds occupied by COVID-19 patients, also trending down. There has been a cumulative total of 2,788 COVID-19 deaths in Palm Beach County as of May 8, 2021.

Both Palm Beach County and the State are shifting the vaccine effort to private sector providers. Vaccines are widely available at numerous locations within a 60-mile drive from the Town, including at select Publix, Walmart and Sam's Clubs, Winn-Dixie, CVS, and many private doctor offices. Many of these sites are offering walk-up appointments.

Over 679,000 people in Palm Beach County have received at least one dose of the COVID-19 vaccine.

The rate of vaccinations per day in PBC is slowing. Early in the year, people who wanted a vaccine had to wait weeks to receive one. Today, vaccines are widely available, and the challenge now is convincing people who have not received a vaccine to get one.

The Governor recently issued an executive order that did away with local face mask requirements. As more and more people stop wearing a face mask, we can anticipate that the virus will spread. In Palm Beach County, 679,000 people have been vaccinated, and another 145,000 people possibly have some degree of natural immunity. Hopefully, this will make it harder for the virus to spread. Nevertheless, the virus is still present and can be spread. Thus, those who have not been vaccinated are urged to continue to wear their face mask and continue to pursue getting a vaccination wherever and whenever it is available to them.

