




Town of Palm Beach Fire-Rescue



TO: Kirk Blouin, Town Manager

FROM: Darrel Donatto, Fire Rescue Chief 

SUBJECT: June 2021 Update on COVID-19 pandemic

DATE: June 7, 2021

To sum up the change in perspective over the past month for COVID-19 it would be safe to say that COVID-19 is no longer viewed as the crisis of the day, but more so something that we must live with each day.

With vaccination rates above 50%, and a known natural immunity rate of another 10% plus, the number of new infections per day both in the Town and the County has dropped significantly, as has the percent of positivity.

The seven-day moving average for the percent of positivity in Palm Beach County is currently 2.99%.

The seven-day moving average of new cases per day in Palm Beach County is now 100. The median age of new COVID-19 cases is 32, and currently, there are only 102 COVID-19 occupied hospital beds within Palm Beach County.

The seven-day moving average of the number of new cases per day in the Town of Palm Beach has been moving between .14 and zero over the past two weeks. The season has come to an end, and more and more people have left Town for the summer months. With fewer people in Town and a highly vaccinated population, we do not expect the numbers in the Town to rise dramatically at least through the summer.

Vaccine efforts have primarily been transitioned over to private providers, and vaccines are widely available at numerous locations.

The State Department of Emergency Management has decreased its update calls with Counties to once a week. The Florida Health will be updating its infections and mortality data on its online COVID-19 dashboard weekly instead of daily. And Palm Beach County has transitioned its unified COVID-19 efforts over to the Health Department and the Health Care District.

It would be incorrect to say that COVID-19 is no longer a threat. Those unvaccinated are still at risk of getting ill, being hospitalized, or worse yet, dying from COVID-19. For those who have been vaccinated, the threat is all but gone for today. We should still be concerned about future variants. We should still be concerned about the duration of natural and vaccine immunity. And, we should be prepared to deal with COVID-19 as another health malady for the foreseeable future.

