



Town of New Castle, NH
Settled 1623
Incorporated 1693

COVID Update May 21, 2021

Good morning. I am going to keep it short since an update was sent out earlier this week. I do not have access to what percentage of people in our town have been vaccinated.

Again there are many good things to report. Nationally cases are at the lowest level in a year (about 30,000 new cases yesterday). More people are vaccinated. Hospitals are not overwhelmed.

Currently, we have no active COVID cases in New Castle. We have done a fantastic job thus far, and I hope that we can continue to do so.

May 20 saw 149 new cases for New Hampshire.

The 7 day test positivity rate is 2.8%. There have been 157 cases per 100,000 over the last 14 days.

Only 53 people are in hospital with COVID in NH.

44.7% of New Hampshire residents are fully vaccinated.

There are walk in hours for vaccinations, and ALL people ages 12 and up are eligible to receive the vaccine.

In Europe, the EU has agreed to allow entry to vaccinated travelers from countries with low infection rates, easing longstanding travel restrictions in the bloc. An approved list of "safe" destinations should be coming this week, but it's not clear when these changes will be in place.

A Covid-19 booster shot will likely be needed within a year of initial vaccination to keep up immunity, Dr. Anthony Fauci says. He added that variant-specific boosters may not be needed. That's yet another reason to get even more Americans vaccinated, which is a top priority.

Please get vaccinated if you have not done so already.

Antibody testing not currently recommended to assess immunity after vaccination: FDA safety communication

The U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) is reminding the public and health care providers that results from currently authorized SARS-CoV-2 antibody tests should not be used to evaluate a person's level of immunity or protection from COVID-19 at any time, and especially after the person received a COVID-19 vaccination.

Link for NH Public Health Recommendations for People Who Are Fully Vaccinated When Around Others From Outside the Household

May 17, 2021

<https://www.dhhs.nh.gov/dphs/cdcs/covid19/documents/fully-vaccinated-guidance.pdf> (Please cut and paste this into your browser)

AGAIN, PLEASE GET VACCINATED

Yours in Health,

Kathy Hollister, MD

Deputy Health Officer

Email: healthofficer@newcastlenh.org