



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](mailto:healthofficer@newcastlenh.org)