



MEDIA RELEASE

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East Hampton COVID-19 Update as of December 17, 2021

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East Hampton, CT, December 17, 2021 – East Hampton’s COVID case rates have more than doubled in the last two weeks according to reporting from CT DPH. The Town, along with most of the State, remains at the “Red Alert” level under the State’s COVID Response Framework with about 6.1 new daily cases over the last two weeks equating to about 48 cases per 100,000 population. This case rate is slightly higher than the Town experienced during the Christmas week last year and very close to the Town’s peak per 100,000 rate of 60 cases experienced in mid-January of this year. Middlesex County also remained at the Centers for Disease Control’s (CDC’s) “High Transmission Rate” status with a significant case rate of 397.08 new cases per 100,000 population over the seven day period ending December 14, or 645 actual cases. With special concern heading into the holiday period, residents and visitors are strongly encouraged to protect themselves and others by using masks, physical separation when possible and by getting vaccinated.

All eligible residents are encouraged to become vaccinated as the most important defense against illness and hospitalization from COVID-19. As of December 15, DPH information shows that about 75.2%, or about 9,665 of the Town’s residents have received at least the first dose of the vaccines and that about 69% of the Town’s residents are fully vaccinated. All residents are encouraged to complete their initial vaccination series and to get supplemental or booster shots when appropriate. As of now, about 6% of the Town’s population (children under 5) is not eligible for vaccination. Vaccine Providers in Connecticut, including Chatham Health District, are providing both first dose shots and supplemental or booster doses for all approved ages. Chatham Health District has partnered with Griffin Health to be able to provide Pfizer vaccinations to those under 18. Follow the [District on Facebook](#) or check its website ([www.chathamhealth.org](http://www.chathamhealth.org)) periodically to learn more about vaccine availability and vaccine clinics. To learn more about other options for vaccine providers, visit: <https://portal.ct.gov/Coronavirus/COVID-19-Vaccination-Scheduling-Options>.

Also, masks remain an important factor in protecting the community and everyone is safest wearing a mask or face covering when close to others indoors. In accordance with current State protocol, vaccinated persons are not required to wear a mask, but unvaccinated individuals must wear a mask. As always, masks are welcome for anyone who wishes to wear one. Currently, the mask requirement remains in place at the Library and Senior



Center based on the populations served at those locations. Pursuant to State DPH directives, masks are still required at schools and health facilities. Individual businesses are encouraged to adopt their own policies regarding the wearing of masks.

For the most current updates and recommendations regarding COVID-19, visit [ct.gov/coronavirus](https://ct.gov/coronavirus). For general questions, call 2-1-1. For information on Town services, monitor the [Town's website](#) and social media. The most recent state-wide data from the Department of Public Health can be found here: <https://data.ct.gov/stories/s/q5as-kyim>.

COVID-19 resources:

- Chatham Health District: <https://www.chathamhealth.org/>
- General vaccine information:  
<https://portal.ct.gov/Coronavirus/covid-19%20vaccinations>
- Online vaccination registration:  
<https://dphsubmissions.ct.gov/OnlineVaccine>
- All testing locations (Enter ZIP Code):  
<https://portal.ct.gov/Coronavirus>
- COVID-19 Community Alert Infographic: <https://portal.ct.gov/-/media/Departments-and-Agencies/DPH/Communications/Graphics/COVID-chart.jpg>
- COVID-19 Daily Rate Map is posted here at 4:00 pm on Thursdays:  
<https://portal.ct.gov/Coronavirus/COVID-19-Data-Tracker>.
- COVID-19 Vaccine distribution information is posted here:  
<https://data.ct.gov/stories/s/CoVP-COVID-Vaccine-Distribution-Data/bhcd-4mnv/>
- CDC County Transmission Data Tracker:  
<https://covid.cdc.gov/covid-data-tracker/#county-view>