

Period of Countermeasures to Prevent Spread of Infection and to Maintain Social Infrastructure

【Request Period】 Friday, April 29 – Sunday, May 22, 2022

Basic Concept	<p><u>In working towards preventing the further spread of COVID-19, and in order to maintain social infrastructure, based on the Act on Special Countermeasures against COVID-19 (hereinafter referred to as the "Act"), Article 24, Paragraph 9 requests will be made to prefectural residents and businesses, and any necessary cooperation will be encouraged.</u></p>
Area	The Entirety of Okinawa Prefecture

【Countermeasures to Prevent the Spread of the Infection and to Maintain Social Infrastructure】

Current Situation

- The increase in the number of infected cases, which had been continuing since late March, has been gradually coming under control since mid-April. However, the number of newly positive cases per 100,000 population in the last week remained extremely high, exceeding 600 cases.
- The number of hospitalized elderly patients increased as the infection spread among the elderly, who are at higher risk of serious illness. The bed utilization rate worsened to 54.7% on April 17, and has generally remained around 50% since then.
- In the main island area (municipalities within the main island), the hospital bed utilization rate temporarily exceeded 60%, raising concerns about a medical care shortage.
- In light of this situation, the prefectural government issued a COVID-19 infection spread alert for the main island area from April 20 to 28, and increased vigilance against the spread of infection, but the rise in the hospital bed utilization rate has remained under control.
- On the other hand, there will be more opportunities for people to return home, travel, and go out during the Golden Week period, which may lead to the spread of infection.

Prefectural Policies and Countermeasures

- The prefectural government has implemented the following countermeasures based on the characteristics of the Omicron strain to **prevent the spread** of the infection and to maintain social infrastructure.
 - ① Avoid spread of infection to the elderly to have a high risk of serious illness
 - ② Protect children from spread of infection
 - ③ Avoid risks related to travel and dining out
 - ④ Acceleration of vaccination
- **If the spread of infection causes a rapid increase in medical care**, we will consider a request to the national government to be designated for priority measures in order to prevent the spread of the disease.

*Benchmark: If the total number of new positive cases in 7 days has more than doubled from the previous week or the hospital bed utilization rate reaches 60% or more in each area (the level at which the number of inpatients increases and

Requests to Prefectural Residents

【The Act, Article 24, Paragraph 9: Requests for Cooperation】

Requests Regarding Traveling and Going Out

- **Refrain from going out or traveling to places with a high risk of infection**
 - Avoid places where a 1 meter distance from others (even with a mask) cannot be maintained or facilities with inadequate ventilation.
 - Whenever possible, spend time with family members or friends that you normally interact with.
 - Refrain from using stores or facilities with inadequate infection prevention measures, such as those that do not comply with industry-specific guidelines.

- **Careful consideration should be given to travel to and from out-of-prefecture destinations after confirming the COVID-19 status of the destination.**
When visiting a destination, refrain from activities that carry a high risk of infection, such as dining with an unspecified number of people.
 - Before traveling to or from other areas, observe your health and follow the precautions of the cities and prefectures that you are visiting.
 - Prior to departure, the third round of vaccination should be completed or a PCR test or other tests should be taken. Immediately after returning to Okinawa, please take a PCR test or other tests.

- **When traveling to/from outer islands, please check the website of each outer island's municipality for information on the conditions of acceptance of your visit.**
 - In case of illness, consider canceling or postponing the visit. Also, the third round of vaccination should be completed or undergo PCR or other tests prior to the visit.

- **Observe your health by taking your temperature every day, and if you have any symptoms, refrain from commuting to work, school, and going out.**

Requests to Prefectural Residents

【The Act, Article 24, Paragraph 9: Requests for Cooperation】

Request for Basic Infection Prevention Countermeasures

- Maintain proper social distance from others, properly wear a mask (non-woven masks are recommended), wash and disinfect your hands frequently, avoid "closed spaces, crowded places and close-contact settings" (aim for zero densification), and ensure adequate ventilation indoors and inside vehicles.
- Observe your health by taking your temperature every day, and if you have any symptoms, refrain from commuting to work, school, and going out.
- If you are not feeling well during the day, please visit your family doctor such as at a clinic, etc., and contact the prefectural call center (098-866-2129) when you have a fever.
- Since a lot of the spread of infection occurred at home, it is important to take thorough countermeasures to prevent children from becoming infected at home by regularly ventilating rooms and washing hands frequently.
- Those who come in contact with the elderly or those with underlying medical conditions should be especially thorough in infection control measures.
- It has been shown that the vaccine's efficacy against the Omicron strain is restored after the third dose.
After 6 months have passed since the completion of the second vaccination, please have the third vaccination as soon as possible.
- According to an Expert Committee of the Ministry of Health, Labor and Welfare, the percentage of vaccinated individuals who require hospitalization is lower than that of unvaccinated individuals, and the vaccine is expected to be effective in "preventing serious illness" and "preventing the onset of illness".
- Please positively consider the first and second round of vaccinations (Especially the elderly, those with underlying medical conditions, and those who are obese).
- If you are concerned about the spread of the infection, please consider taking a free PCR or other tests, the availability will be extended until [May 31](#).
- ◆ Even those who have completed two rounds of vaccination are still at risk of infection. Please continue to take countermeasures to prevent infection, such as wearing a mask and washing your hands.

* Please return to the starting point once again, please implement thorough basic infection control countermeasures.

Requests to Prefectural Residents

【The Act, Article 24, Paragraph 9: Requests for Cooperation】

Requests for Group Dining (Eating and Drinking)

- ◆ Group dining should be held with no more than 4 people, and for no more than 2 hours (exception when all participants have been tested).
- ◆ Group dining should be held with family members who live together or people who are always together.
- ◆ Proactively cooperate with infection prevention countermeasures required by the establishment (avoid shouting/cheering, wear masks when talking, etc.)
- ◆ Avoid visiting establishments that are not taking thorough infection prevention measures and use an "Infection Prevention Measure Certified Facility".
- ◆ If you are feeling even a little unwell, please do not participate in dining out or if someone else is feeling the same, please do not allow the person to participate.
- The same precautions should be taken for group dining elsewhere, such as at a residence.
- ※ Do not participate in any events where an unspecified large number of people gather and it is expected to be crowded (especially when food and drinks are involved).

※ No more than 4 people, avoid the 3 Cs, less than 2 hours, and return home after the 1st event.

To visitors (who are considering coming to Okinawa)

【Before your visit: Request for cooperation, not based on a law】

【After your visit: Request for cooperation, based on The Act, Article 24, Paragraph 9】

Requests for Coming and Going

- In accordance with the request regarding inter-prefectural travel required by the governor of your residential area, please ensure that you take basic infection prevention countermeasures when visiting the prefecture, avoid high risk places, and eat with four or less people within a two hour time limit.
*Except when all travelers have been tested.
- Before coming to the prefecture, please make sure to observe your health well in advance and take all possible countermeasures to prevent infection. When you are not feeling well, please postpone or cancel your trip to the prefecture.
- **We ask that visitors to Okinawa on school excursions take thorough countermeasures to prevent infection and act in accordance with the (separate) "Okinawa School Trip Quarantine and Tourism Guidelines".**
- **Before coming to Okinawa on a school excursion, etc.,** please make sure that you have received the third dose of vaccination, or confirm in advance that you are negative by a PCR or other test. In particular, if you are going on a "business trip," "returning home," or "participating in an event" where you will interact with prefectural residents, please take a PCR or other test in advance. **(*Please also take advantage of the free testing provided by the prefecture in which the traveler resides before coming to Okinawa.)**
- For those who are unable to take tests in advance, we have established a system where one can take a PCR test upon their arrival at Naha Airport, Miyako Airport, Shimojishima Airport, New Ishigaki Airport, and Kumejima Airport. **(Plans are in place to expand capacity)**
- When coming to the prefecture avoid restaurants and hotels that are not taking thorough infection prevention countermeasures and please use an "Infection Prevention Countermeasure Certified Facility" instead.

- If you feel unwell or have a fever during your stay in Okinawa, please contact the Traveler's Access Center Okinawa.
【Traveler's Access Center Okinawa (TACO)】
※ Telephone number : 098-840-1677 Operating hours : 8a.m.~9p.m. (open all year round)

Requests to Restaurants

[The Act, Article 24, Paragraph 9: Request for Cooperation] [Request for cooperation, not based on a law]

<p>Target Facilities</p>	<p>{Restaurants} Restaurants (excluding takeout and delivery) {Entertainment facilities/wedding halls} Facilities like bars, karaoke boxes, wedding halls, etc., that possess a restaurant business license under the Food Sanitation Act.</p>
<p>Details of the Requests</p>	<p>[Request for Cooperation with Infection Prevention Countermeasures]</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ <u>Thorough implementation of infection prevention countermeasures, including compliance with industry-specific guidelines (The Act, Article 24, Paragraph 9)</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Recommend COVID-19 testing to employees, orderly guide entering patrons, and ventilate the facility. • Prohibit the entry of patrons who have a fever. (Check the temperatures of patrons) • Installation of hand sanitizing equipment and disinfect areas where business is conducted. • Ensure that patrons are informed about wearing masks and other countermeasures to prevent infection. • Prohibit the entry of those who do not wear a mask and do not follow infection prevention countermeasures without a valid reason. (Wear a mask when talking) • Installation of acrylic panels, etc. (or secure at least 1 meter space between seats and seating positions that face each other are prohibited) ➤ Encourage obtaining the "Infection Prevention Countermeasure Certified Facility" certification. (The Act, Article 24, Paragraph 9) ➤ When using Karaoke equipment avoid close proximity between users and thoroughly implement infection control countermeasures such as ensuring adequate ventilation. (The Act, Article 24, Paragraph 9) ➤ <u>In principle, there should be no more than four people in the same group at the same table (The Act, Article 24, Paragraph 9) (exception: when a certified infection prevention facility confirms that all the relevant people have tested negative or when assistance or care is required).</u> <p>(* When holding events such as wedding ceremonies, please act according to the request for holding the event)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ <u>Limit use of facilities to 2 hours or less (request for cooperation not based on the law) *Except when all travelers have been tested.</u>

Requests when Holding Events

【The Act, Article 24, Paragraph 9: Request for Cooperation】

Request for Organizers to Hold Events in Accordance with the Event Capacity Requirements (maximum number of people, venue capacity, etc.)

	Maximum Venue Capacity of Facilities (※1)		
	Less Than 5,000 People	Over 5,000 People ~ Less Than 10,000 People	Over 10,000 People
Events free from Loud Spectator Cheering and/or Shouting	Up to Capacity	Up to 5,000 People (※3)	Up to Half of the Capacity (※3)
Events with Loud Spectator Cheering and/or Shouting (※2)	Up to Half of the Capacity		

※1: In the case a maximum venue capacity has not been set, the capacity shall be as follows.

- Events free from loud spectator cheering and/or shouting → The spacing should be sufficient to avoid having close-contact between people. (There should be enough to avoid person-to-person contact at a minimum).
- Events where spectators tend to cheer and/or shout → Sufficient space (at least 1m and 2m where possible) between people must be provided.

※2: A "Loud Voice" is defined as "a spectator ①speaking louder than their usual voice and ②speaking up repeatedly and continuously", and events that actively encourage this practice or do not take sufficient necessary countermeasures are classified as "Events where spectators tend to shout".

※3: The maximum number of people is allowed up to the capacity of the facility, under the condition that an infection prevention safety plan is prepared and implemented.

- In addition, organizers should ensure compliance with industry-specific guidelines to implement thorough tracking countermeasures, such as the national governments Contact Confirming Application (COCOA) and the Okinawa COVID-19 Countermeasure Personal Support Application (RICCA) or through the creation of a list of participants.
- For events with more than 5,000 spectators and a capacity ratio of more than 50%, the organizer must prepare and submit to the prefecture at least two weeks prior to the event a "Safety Plan for Infection Prevention" that describes specific countermeasures to be taken. If the requests from the prefecture are not met, postponement or cancellation of the event might be requested.
- Organizers should take prompt action in any of the following events: a nationwide spread of infection or clusters occurring, and the government revises industry-specific guidelines, the maximum capacity requirements, or the ceiling of the maximum number of participants.
- For events that attract a large number of visitors from outside the prefecture, visitors should be encouraged to be vaccinated or have negative results confirmed by a PCR test or other tests prior to the event.
- When food and beverages are served, the participants are requested to refrain from eating and drinking outside of the areas dedicated to eating and drinking. However, this does not apply in environments where measures can be taken to ensure that no vocalizations are made, such as when masks are worn except to eat or drink, or eating and drinking times are shortened to reduce the time with masks off.
- For events that do not have a "Safety Plan for Infection Prevention", thorough infection control countermeasures should be taken through the creation of checklists, etc. (For details, refer to "About Event Restrictions" at <https://www.pref.okinawa.lg.jp/site/chijiko/kohokoryu/koho/20200828.html>)

- ◆ We ask that those attending the event take basic infection control measures before and after participating in the event and take measures to reduce the risk of infection, such as going directly home.

Requests to Facilities

【The Act, Article 24, Paragraph 9: Request for Cooperation】

Requests to Retail Facilities and Customer Facilities

Requests for the implementation of the countermeasures stipulated in Article 11, Paragraph 1, Enforcement of the Special Countermeasures Act are requested for sports facilities, amusement centers, movie theaters, shopping centers and other facilities. In addition, the implementation status of each countermeasure should be actively published on the facility's website.

- Thorough implementation of infection prevention countermeasures, including compliance with industry-specific guidelines (The Act, Article 24, Paragraph 9)
 - Organize and guide entering patrons to avoid crowding. (Work to avoid crowding and close proximity especially when conducting events that attract customers.)
 - Countermeasures effective in preventing infection through droplets from conversations (especially at food courts) (Installation of acrylic panels, maintaining distance between seats, and thorough room ventilation, etc., should be implemented)
 - Installation of hand sanitizing equipment, recommend the usage of hand sanitizer, and encourage employees to take PCR tests.
 - Countermeasures to prohibit the entry of those with a fever or other symptoms (temperature check upon entry, installation of thermography)
 - Encourage entering patrons to wear masks properly at all times.
 - Prohibit the entry of patrons who do not wear a mask with valid reasons.
 - In game centers, sports clubs, and other amusement facilities, check for symptoms, take temperatures and request good hand hygiene before entering.

Requests to Businesses

【The Act, Article 24, Paragraph 9: Request for Cooperation】

Requests to Businesses and the Business Community

- Businesses engaged in operations that are essential for ensuring the stability of people's lives and the national economy, as well as businesses that support these operations, should re-examine their business continuity plans (BCP) (if they have not already done so, they should do so as soon as possible) based on the characteristics of their businesses. In addition, proactive efforts should be made to implement video conferencing and working from home (telework).
- Encourage vaccination at the workplace. (Development of a vaccination friendly environment)
- Monitor the physical condition of staff, and do not come to work or do not allow staff to come to work if they are not feeling well.
- To reduce close contact opportunities, make efforts to reduce the number and density of commuters, expansion of work from home (telework), and staggered commuting,
- Request employees to avoid using facilities that have not responded to the request to implement infection prevention countermeasures.
- Be careful about switching places in the workplace (break room, change room, smoking room, cafeteria), which increases the risk of infection.
- Thorough implementation of the industry specific guidelines

Requests to Transportation Operators

- Perform temperature checks at major terminals.
- We request that public transportation operators, such as airlines, ships, buses, and taxis, etc. strictly comply with the industry specific guidelines for countermeasures to prevent the spread of COVID-19.
- Re-examine the Business Continuity Plan (BCP) (if it has not yet been formulated, create it as soon as possible) in preparation for a situation when employees are forced to take a leave of absence.

Requests to Businesses

【The Act, Article 24, Paragraph 9: Request for Cooperation】

Requests to Welfare Facilities

- Thoroughly monitor the physical condition of staff, and do not come to work or do not allow staff to come to work if they are not feeling well (e.g., encouraging employees to take leave when they are ill).
- Reconfirm and strengthen infection control countermeasures such as wearing masks, hand disinfection, and thorough ventilation.
- In order to prevent the spread of COVID-19 to users of welfare facilities for the elderly, **consideration should be given to the visitor's physical condition, vaccination history, COVID-19 test results, etc., as well as** consideration for other countermeasures, including the implementation of online face-to-face visits.
- In addition, infection control countermeasures should be taken according to the local COVID-19 situation and the characteristics of the facility, such as wearing masks during recreational activities, opening windows during transportation, and separating flow lines inside facilities.
- If there are any family members living with the employee who are not feeling well, actively encourage them to take a COVID-19 test.
- Actively encourage employee participation in periodic PCR **or other** testing.
Apply Here → <https://www.pref.okinawa.jp/site/hoken/kansen/soumu/kansenshou/ewpccr.html>
- Encourage vaccination (For the 1st, 2nd, and 3rd doses)
- Re-examine the Business Continuity Plan (BCP) (if it has not yet been formulated, create it as soon as possible) in preparation for a situation when employees are forced to take a leave of absence.
- ◆ If you find a positive case in a facility for the elderly or disabled, please contact the Hospital and Facility Support Group, General Information Department, COVID-19 Headquarters, to report the outbreak in the facility.

Implementation of Initiatives in Each Municipality in Cooperation with the Prefecture

- Raising awareness about infection prevention countermeasures among local residents through use of public information vehicles and disaster warning systems, etc. and calling for cooperation from residents' associations, etc.
- Initiatives as a manager of various facilities, parks, etc. (including cautioning against drinking in groups on the street and in parks)
- Notification of how to receive treatment when one has a fever (Please refrain from any non-essential and non-emergency trips to the emergency room, and for information on how to use the antigen test kit, contact the Okinawa Prefecture Covid-19 Call Center: 098-866-2129)
- Provide information on positive cases to municipalities and work together to support people receiving treatment at home.
- Promote Vaccination. Work on the third round of vaccination for medical personnel, personnel working in elderly care facilities, and residents of these facilities.
- Childcare Facility, etc.: While taking countermeasures based on the "Guidelines for Infectious Disease Control at Childcare Facilities" and other guidelines avoid activities with a high risk of infection. Continue to provide childcare and request that childcare be provided as usual, with basic countermeasures against infectious diseases and thorough health management of children and staff and recommend vaccinations for staff.

Countermeasures at Public Facilities, etc.

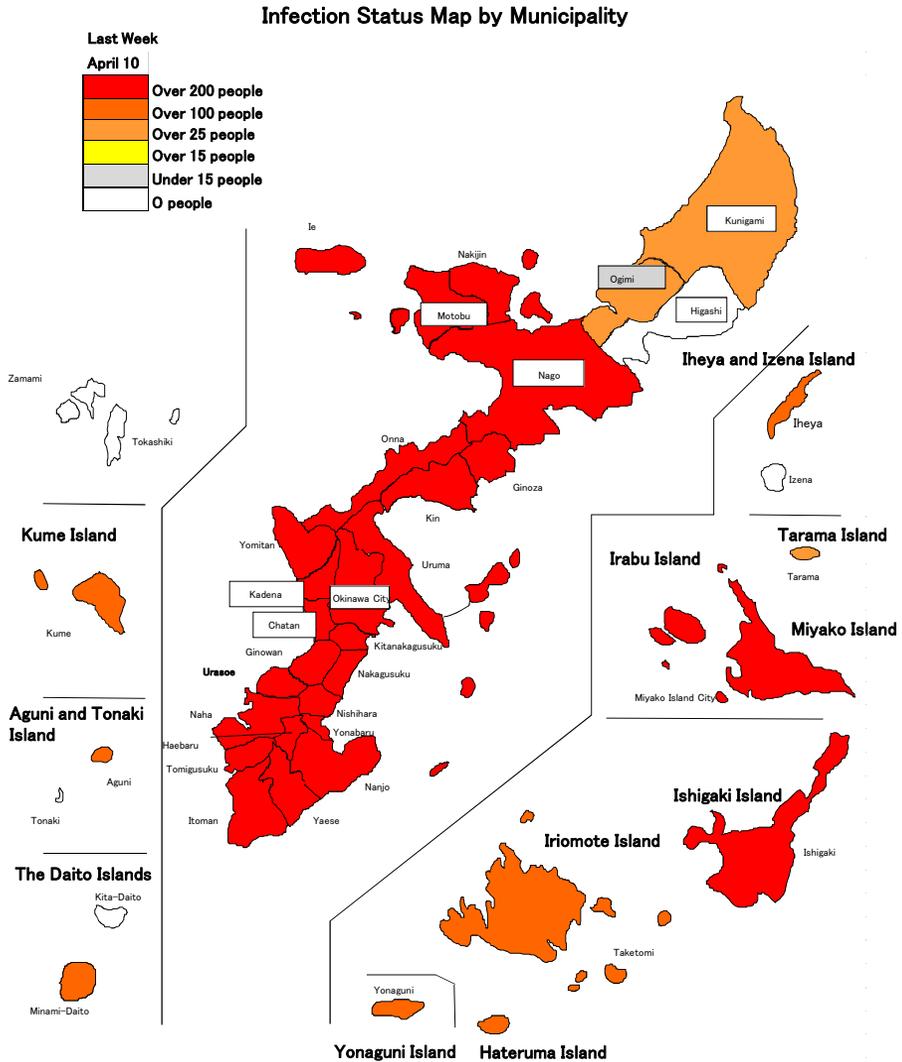
- For prefectural public facilities such as museums, art galleries, and athletic facilities, they should be operated while taking thorough countermeasures to prevent infection, such as organizing and guiding entering patrons to avoid congestion, and municipalities are requested to take the same countermeasures as prefectural governments.
- Request facility managers caution and advise the public against behaviors with high-risk of infection, such as drinking in groups on the street or in parks.

Requests to Schools, etc.

- In principle, in order to “ensure learning,” students will attend school as usual. However, depending on the infection situation at the school, class closures and other countermeasures should be implemented. Elementary and junior high schools should ask their municipal boards of education to make decisions based on the situation of the community and school, by referring to the countermeasures of prefectural schools.
- While taking countermeasures based on the hygiene management manual, etc., please refrain from conducting educational activities (*) that have a particularly high risk of infection, regardless of the level in the manual. Carefully consider how to implement the countermeasures even in areas where the infection has not spread.
- In the event of class closure, etc., online and other means will be utilized to guarantee learning.
- For students who are unable to attend school due to health concerns, the school will be more flexible in terms of suspending attendance, and will make efforts to support their learning through online and other means.
- Thoroughly monitor the health of students at home and inform them to refrain from coming to school if they are not feeling well.
- School events (welcome events, field trips, overnight learning, etc.) should be postponed, reduced, or cancelled based on the local situation and school conditions.
- Please refrain from club activities that have a high risk of infection, and while thoroughly implementing the countermeasures against the spread of infection, club activities should be limited to 2 hours or less on weekdays (including early morning practice) and 3 hours or less on weekends and holidays. Health checks should be conducted at the start of activities and before various competitions.
- Universities and vocational schools should take appropriate countermeasures to balance infection prevention and effective implementation of face-to-face classes and remote classes.
- Universities should thoroughly remind students and others to have group dining, eating and drinking with no more than 4 people, avoid the 3Cs, and for no more than 2 hours, as there is a high risk of infection.
 - ※ Examples: A chorus performed indoors in music class a short distance from others, playing a wind-instrument such as a recorder, and exercises performed densely in a gym class.(Countermeasures to prevent infection based on the characteristics of omicron strain 【from the 12th Subcommittee on Countermeasures against Novel Coronavirus Infections】)

Status of Infection and Medical Systems in Okinawa

By Municipality



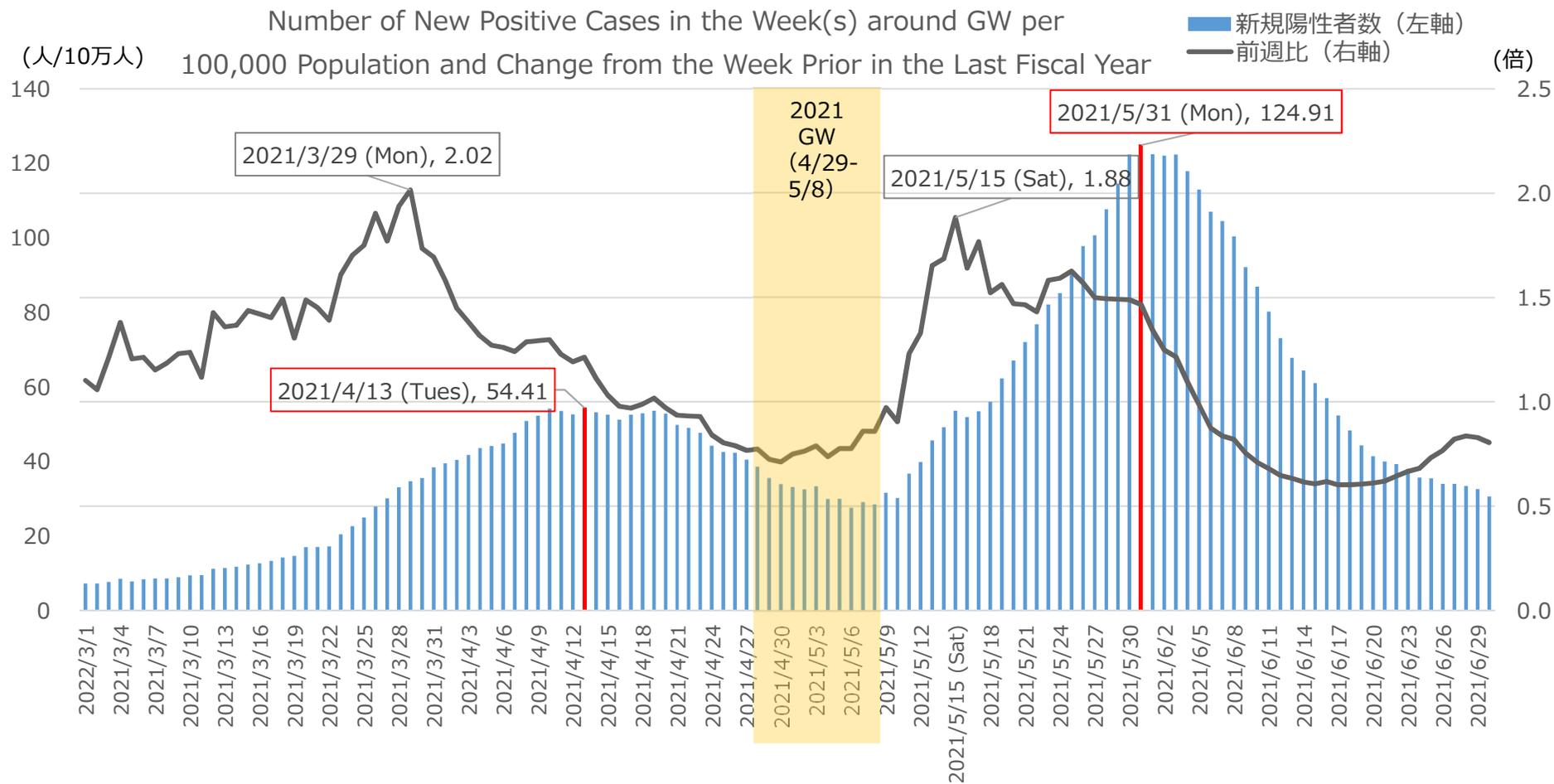
	New Positive cases per 100,000 people
	Bed Utilization Rate

As of 4/24 (4/17~4/23)		
Municipalities		Comparison with previous week
Naha	650.30	1.06
Ginowan	700.76	0.86
Ishigaki	860.62	1.18
Urasoe	778.03	1.01
Nago	541.40	1.15
Itoman	489.18	0.78
Okinawa City	564.44	0.91
Tomigusuku	910.80	1.40
Uruma	712.47	1.14
Miyakojima	912.25	1.49
Nanjo	663.34	1.09
Northern Municipalities	314.47	0.71
Central Municipalities	595.11	1.07
Southern Municipalities	572.38	0.87
Miyako Municipalities	91.66	Increased
Yaeyama Municipalities	134.63	4.00
Okinawa	652.61	1.03

By Region

Region	Municipalities	As of 4/23	
Main Island	Municipalities on the Main Island		642.13 people
			55.2%
Outer Islands around the Main Island	Ie, Tokashiki, Zamami, Aguni, Tonaki, Minami-Daito, Kita-Daito, Iheya, Izena, Kumejima		146.99 people
Miyako	Miyako Island, Tarama		896.45 people
			3.0%
Yaeyama	Ishigaki, Taketomi, Yonaguni		783.29 people
			22.7%
All of Okinawa	All of the Municipalities (excluding those outside of Okinawa)		650.79 people
			47.8%

Number of New Positive Cases in the Week(s) around GW per 100,000 Population and Change from the Week Prior in the Last Fiscal Year



○ The number of new positives was less than 1 in the week prior to GW (around April 20) and there was even a decrease in the number of new positives. However, the number of newly positive cases gradually increased during the GW period (around May 6).

○ Even after the end of the GW period, a week-to-week increase continued to be seen, and by May 15, the number of cases was 1.88 times that of the previous week, indicating a rapid spread of infection.

※ In order to prevent a rapid spread of infection like last year's GW, we ask that you take thorough measures to prevent it.

How to Spend Golden Week

Traveling, returning home, going out, etc.

- If you are going back to your home town or going on a trip, please have the third vaccination or PCR or other tests performed in advance (please take the PCR or other tests as soon as possible after returning to Okinawa).
- Please take a free PCR or other test as soon as possible after returning to Okinawa.
<<https://www.pref.okinawa.jp/site/chijiko/kohokoryu/pcr-test/free-test/index.html>>
- When going out to holiday destinations in the prefecture, please follow basic infection prevention measures such as ventilating the car and wearing a mask, and also follow the infection control measures of the facilities.
- If you are not feeling well, please refrain from traveling, returning home, or going out.
If you suspect you have COVID-19, please check:
<<https://www.pref.okinawa.lg.jp/site/hoken/vaccine/coronakana.html>>.

Events and Dinners

- When attending an event, please follow all requests made by the organizer. Please return straight home after participating in an event.
- Please refrain from beach parties and other multi-person dining events. (Please limit the number of diners to four or fewer and the duration to two hours or less.)
- When using restaurants, please use a "Infection Prevention Countermeasure Certified Facility" that has infection control measures in place.
- Please refrain from meeting with the elderly for several days if you engage in activities with a high risk of infection, such as dining with non-family members.

At home

- Please take basic infection prevention measures such as ventilating your car and rooms, wearing masks, and disinfecting your hands when you return home.
- Since fewer hospitals than normal are available, please obtain over-the-counter medicine and try to see a doctor during the day unless it is an emergency.

Requests to Prevent the Re-spread of Infection and to Maintain Social Infrastructure

① Protect the elderly, who have a high risk of serious illness, from the spread of infection

Please help us prevent the spread of infection to the elderly, which can lead to medical shortages.

② Protect children from the spread of infection

We ask for cooperation from parents/guardians, childcare/education staff, and child day care staff as spread of infection often occurs among children.

③ Avoid risks related to transportation and dining out

Please avoid the "3 Cs" and keep dinners to no more than 4 people for no longer than 2 hours. Restaurants are requested to take measures to prevent the spread of infection.

④ Accelerate vaccination

In order to prevent the onset and severity of the disease, we also ask that you promptly receive the third dose and the first two doses of vaccination (especially for the elderly, those with underlying medical conditions, and those who are overweight).

① Protect the Elderly, Who Have a High Risk of Serious Illness, from the Spread of Infection

What you can do

- Please ensure you follow basic infection prevention countermeasures (wash hands, wear a mask, and avoid the “3 Cs”) such as hand washing and wearing a mask.
- As much as possible, do not meet with family members, relatives, or grandchildren who do not live with you and with whom you do not usually have contact.
- Please proactively get vaccinated.

What families can do

- Please take measures to prevent the introduction of COVID-19 into your home.
 - If you have contact with the elderly, please refrain from activities that may increase the risk of infection.
- Please receive vaccinations when it is time.

What establishments can do

- Please continue to be vigilant against infection within establishments.
 - Please monitor the physical condition of staff and have staff participate in periodic PCR or other testing.
- The prefecture has a support program in place if someone tests positive, please inform the Prefectural COVID-19 Headquarters.

Prefectural Measures

- Implementation of periodic PCR or other testing for nursing care workers
- Establishment of a support for residential facilities for the elderly
 - To build a sustainable support system, support is provided through a hospital rotation system in Naha, and the Southern and Central region in cooperation with priority medical institutions and medical associations.
 - Implement a project to dispatch nursing assistants (caregivers) and expand the number of support personnel.
 - Reinforce prefectural staff in charge of supporting medical institution facilities, work with related organizations, and strengthen the support system for facilities.

② Protect Children from the Spread of Infection

Parents and/or Guardians

- Please be sure to take your temperature at home before coming to school.
- **○ If you have a fever, sore throat, runny nose, or any other symptoms of illness, please do not come to school.**
- If a family member is confirmed to be positive, please refrain from going out, going to school or preschool as you may be considered a person who has come into close contact with COVID-19.
- Please take measures to prevent infection such as washing hands **with your children**, avoiding crowded places and taking care of your health.

Schools, Kindergartens, Daycare Centers, After- school children's clubs, Tutoring School, Sports Organizations, etc

- Please instruct students to take basic infection prevention countermeasures during activities, on the way to and from school, during breaks, after school, and during other activities.
 - Properly wear a mask
 - Wash and disinfect hands frequently
 - Social distance (1m with a mask)
 - Frequent ventilation (e.g. opening windows)
 - Implementation of the three 'Cs' avoid closed spaces, crowded places, and close-contact settings
- Please refrain from learning activities (including club activities) with a high risk of infection.
- **Please take measures to prevent infection such as ventilation during indoor meetings and instruct students not to gather together to eat or drink before or after club activities.**
- Children and students who are not feeling well, without having to exert themselves, should be sent home.
- If there is a confirmed positive case, please conduct a wide range of testing at schools and day-care centers.

Prefectural Measures

- The strengthening of school and day-care PCR testing
 - **In addition, please reinforce the on-site dispatch team for specimen collection, etc., and maintain close communication and coordination with the contractor to ensure effective and efficient wide-ranging inspections.**
- Implementing periodic PCR tests for day-care staff
- **Prepare and distribute pamphlets on infection prevention for students and parents.**

③ Avoid Risks Related to Transportation and Dining Out

Out-of-Prefecture and Outer Island Travel

- Carefully consider the situation in the destination prefecture or the outer island.
Refrain from activities with a high risk of infection at the destination, such as dining with an unspecified large number of people.
- Complete **the third** vaccination or undergo PCR or other testing before departure, and undergo PCR or other testing as soon as possible after returning to Okinawa.

Dining Out

- No more than 4 people should dine at the same table in the same group for 2 hours or less.
- If you are going to have dinner with more than 5 people, whether at a restaurant or at home, please have PCR testing done in advance.
- Select an "Infection Prevention Countermeasure Certified Facility" that has infection control countermeasures in place

Dining Out

- × **Receptions and other dinner events with 5 or more people**
- × **Participating if sick** × **Speaking loudly or without a mask** × **Heavy Drinking**
- × **Sharing Drinks**

Prefectural Measures

- Expansion of airport PCR testing
- We will strive to monitor the supply and demand of test reagents and antigen qualitative test kits in the prefecture to ensure uninterrupted testing even during times of infection spread.

④ Accelerate Vaccination

To Prefectural Residents

(Third round of vaccinations)

- It has been noted that after the first and second doses of the COVID-19 vaccine, the efficacy in preventing onset of disease and hospitalization declines with time, but it has been suggested that it recovers 2 to 4 weeks after the third dose of the vaccine.

For this reason we recommend early vaccination at facilities where reservations can be made early in order to prevent serious illness.

(First and second round of vaccinations)

- The vaccination system is in place or those who wish to be vaccinated and for those who are newly eligible for vaccination and vaccinations continue to be offered. Please consider getting vaccinated if you have yet to receive your first vaccination.

Municipalities

We ask that each municipality make a systematic effort to accelerate the vaccination program in order to prevent serious illness and aid in the early recovery and maintenance of social infrastructure.

- Prompt issuance of vaccination tickets
- Respond effectively to prefectural residents who need to have their vaccination tickets reissued due to loss, etc.
- Encourage senior citizen facilities to provide vaccinations
- Call outs to residents in cooperation with neighborhood associations, etc.

Prefectural Measures

- Support for municipalities in securing medical personnel
- Operation of prefectural wide vaccination centers to complement municipalities' vaccinations
- Introduction of vaccination without reservations, establishment of corporate group vaccinations, and visiting large commercial facilities, etc. for vaccination
- Acceptance of group vaccinations by businesses, universities, etc.

Now, you can get free COVID-19 tests all over the prefecture !

(Until May 31)

■ Locations where free testing is available (As of **April 7, 2022**)

You can take tests during Golden Week too!

Region	PCR and Qualitative Antigen Testing	Qualitative Antigen Testing	The Detailed List for Vaccination Testing Sites Here ↓ ↓ ↓ 
Main Island	North: 2 locations Center: 13 locations South: 16 locations	North: 2 locations Center: 8 locations South: 8 locations	
Outer Islands	Kita-Daito , Minami-Daito, Iheya , Izena, Ie , and Kumejima (1 location each)	—	
Miyako	Miyakojima City: 8 locations	Miyakojima City: 8 locations	
Yaeyama	Ishigaki: 4 locations	Ishigaki: 4 locations	

※ If you do not have the time to go and take a test, you can purchase a test kit and take it yourself. (For more information, please visit the URL on the right)



Before taking the test, please refer to the leaflet “**If you wonder “is it COVID-19?”**”, to learn more about the process after vaccination.