

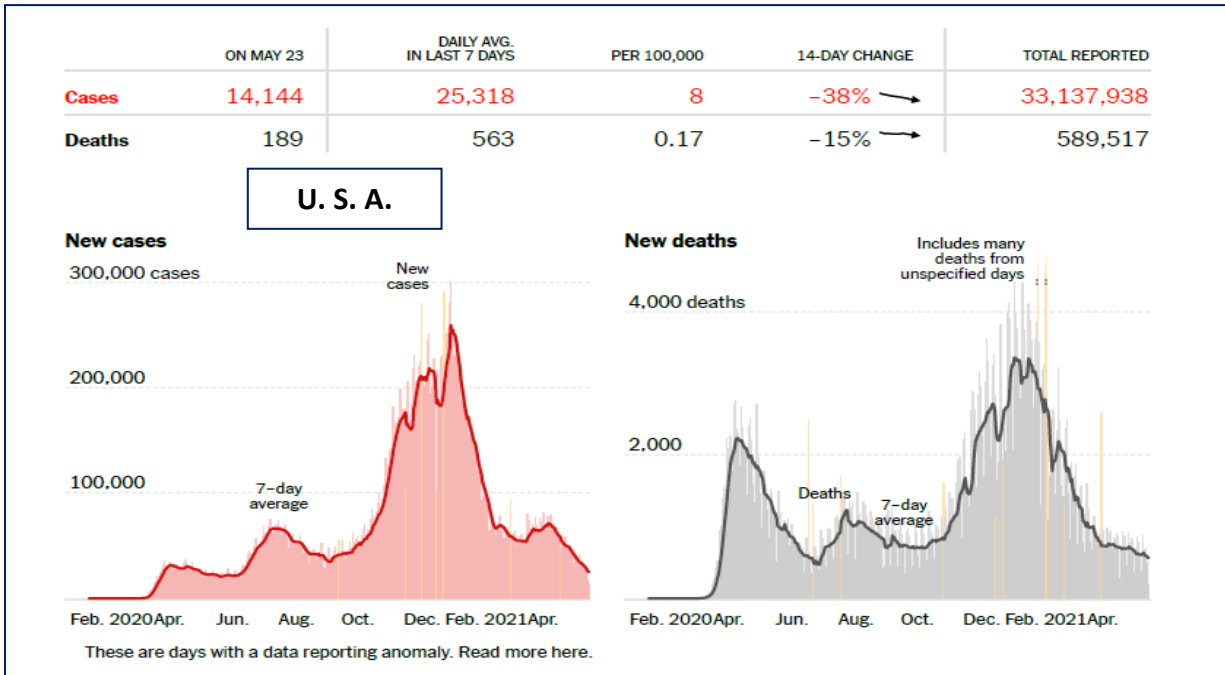
COVID-19 UPDATE – MONDAY, MAY 24, 2021

Dear Members of the DoM Community,

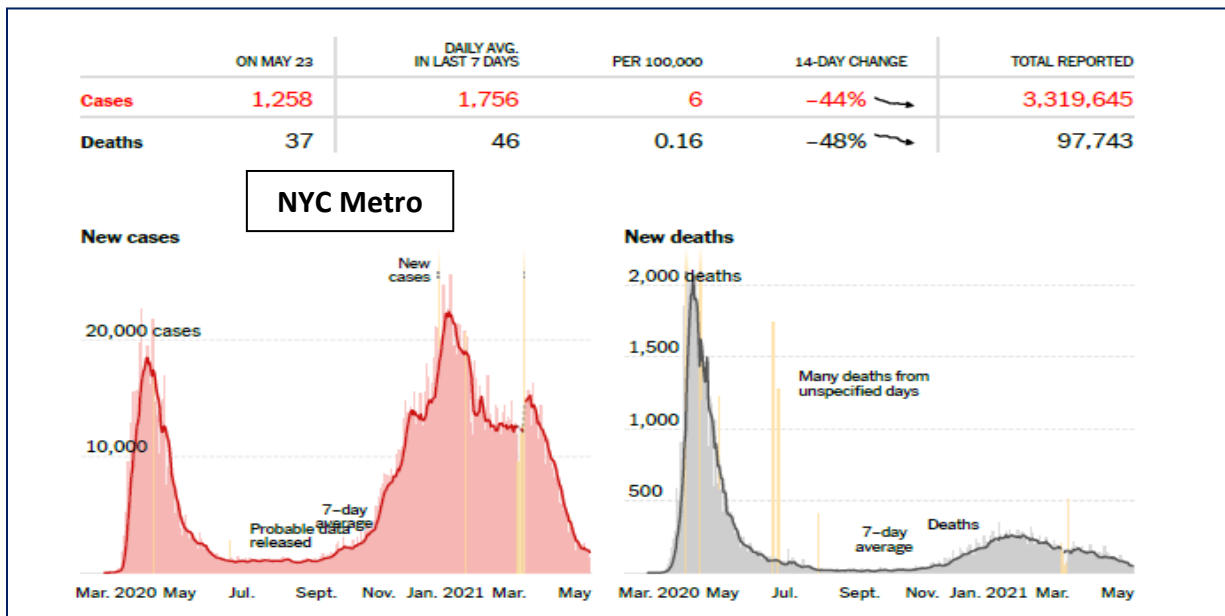
Good day to you on this Monday. Here is what’s happening in the COVID-19 pandemic last week and all trends have continued to be encouraging, especially in our region. I hope the information is of some use to you.

1. Nationwide COVID-19 Data

Daily new case numbers in the U.S. continued to decline and are their lowest levels in 11 months.

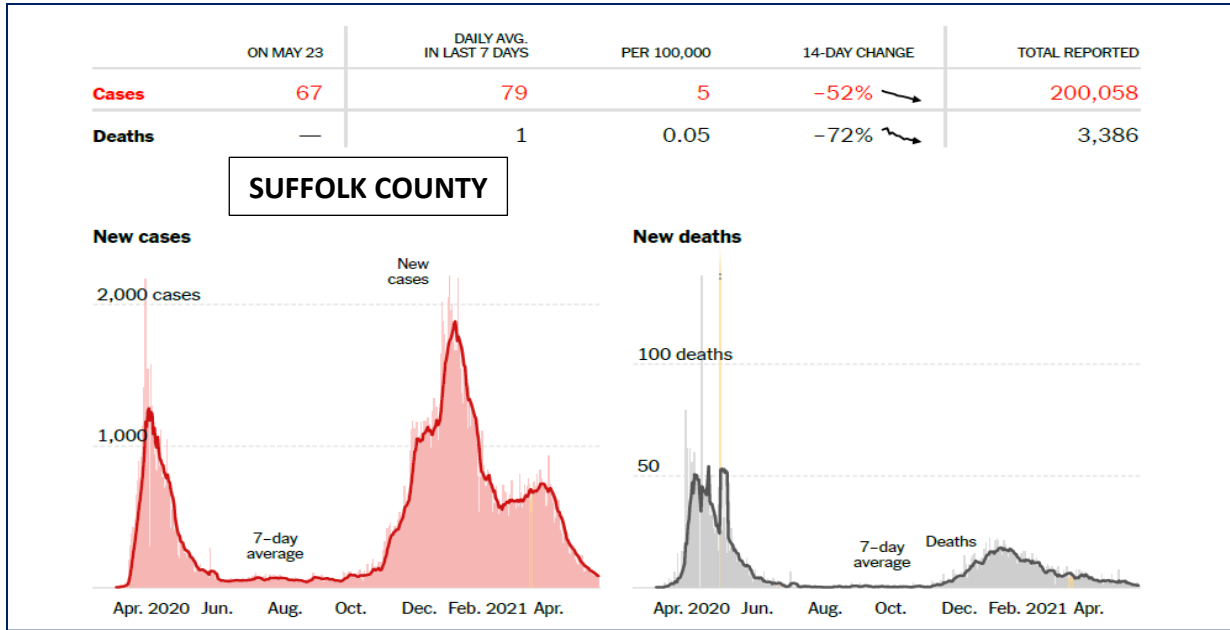


2. New case numbers in the New York City metro area are also declining rapidly.



Metro area definition - The New York City area metro area has a population of 19.8 million people and contains Bergen County, Essex County, Hudson County, Hunterdon County, Middlesex County, Monmouth County, Morris County, Ocean County, Passaic County, Somerset County, Sussex County and Union County in New Jersey; Dutchess County, Nassau County, Orange County, Putnam County, Rockland County, Suffolk County, Westchester County and New York City in New York and Pike County in Pennsylvania.

3. Case numbers in Suffolk County have also continues to decline, now at a 7-day average of 5 per 100,000 population. This is a decrease of another 3 per 100,000 from a week ago.



COVID-19 Testing Results in Suffolk County on May 23:

- 9,003 COVID-19 tests were administered.
- 67 new cases were reported.; 7-day average = **79**, a decrease of 37 from one week ago.
- 200,058 total cases have been reported since March of 2020.
- Seven-day average test positivity rate = **0.8%**, a decrease of 0.2% from a week ago.

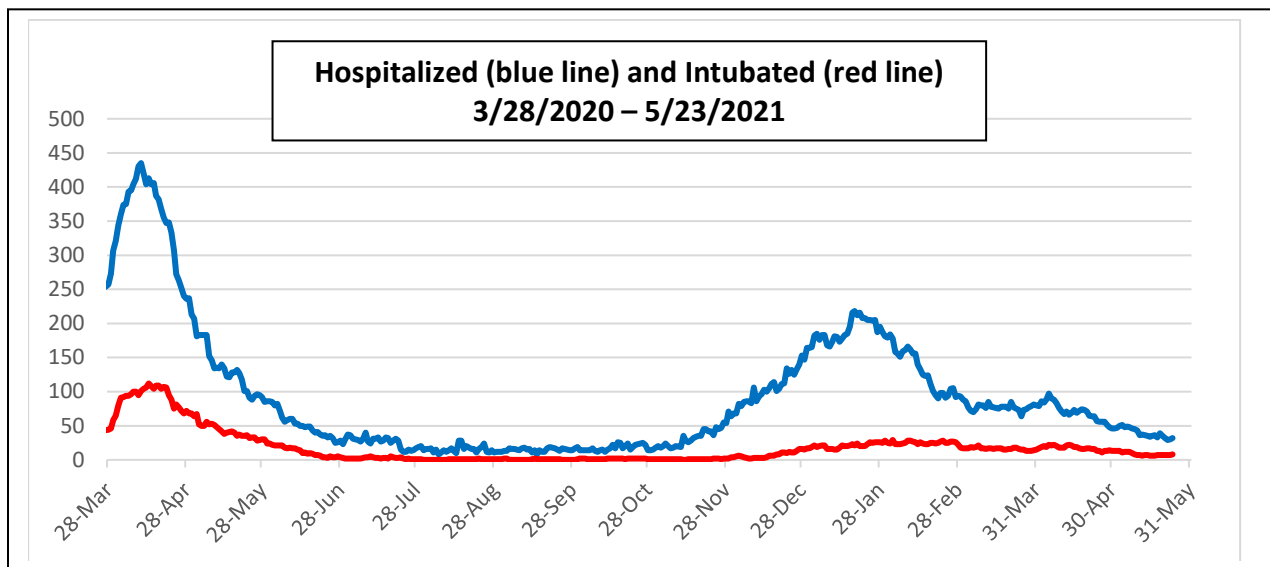
Fatalities:

- 3,386 total fatalities, an increase of 5 from one week before.

COVID-19 Hospitalizations:

- 108 individuals were hospitalized, a decrease of 19 from one week before.
- 23 patients were in the Intensive Care Unit (ICU), a decrease of 5 from a week ago.

4. Daily COVID-19 Hospitalization Data in SBUH

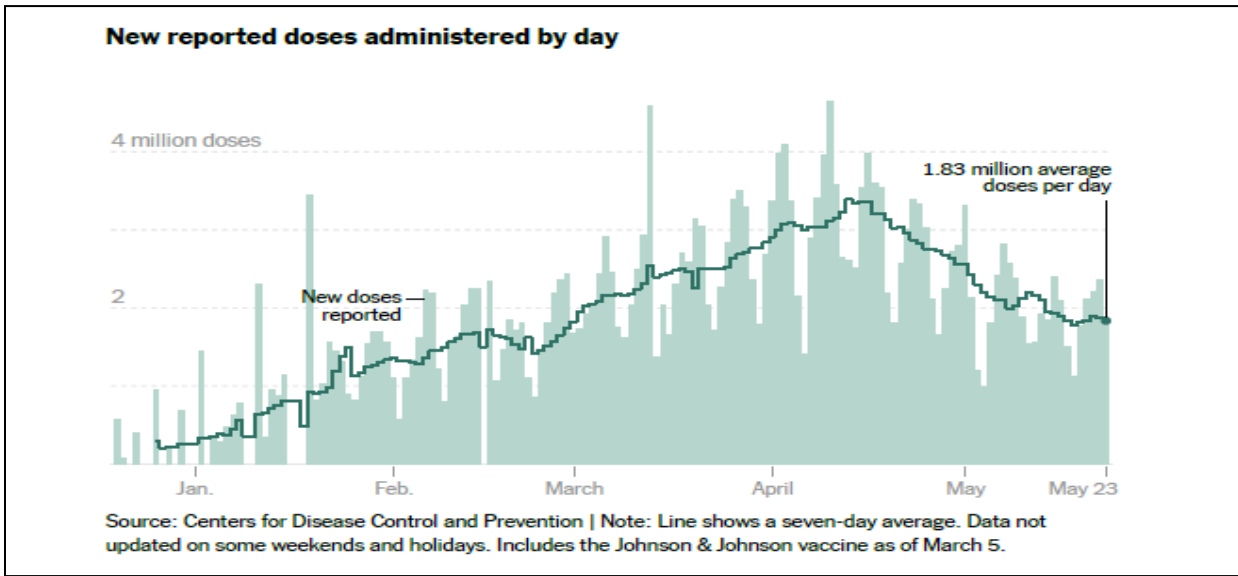


At midnight Sunday, May 23, SBUH census is as follows (see figure above for all-time trend of hospitalizations).

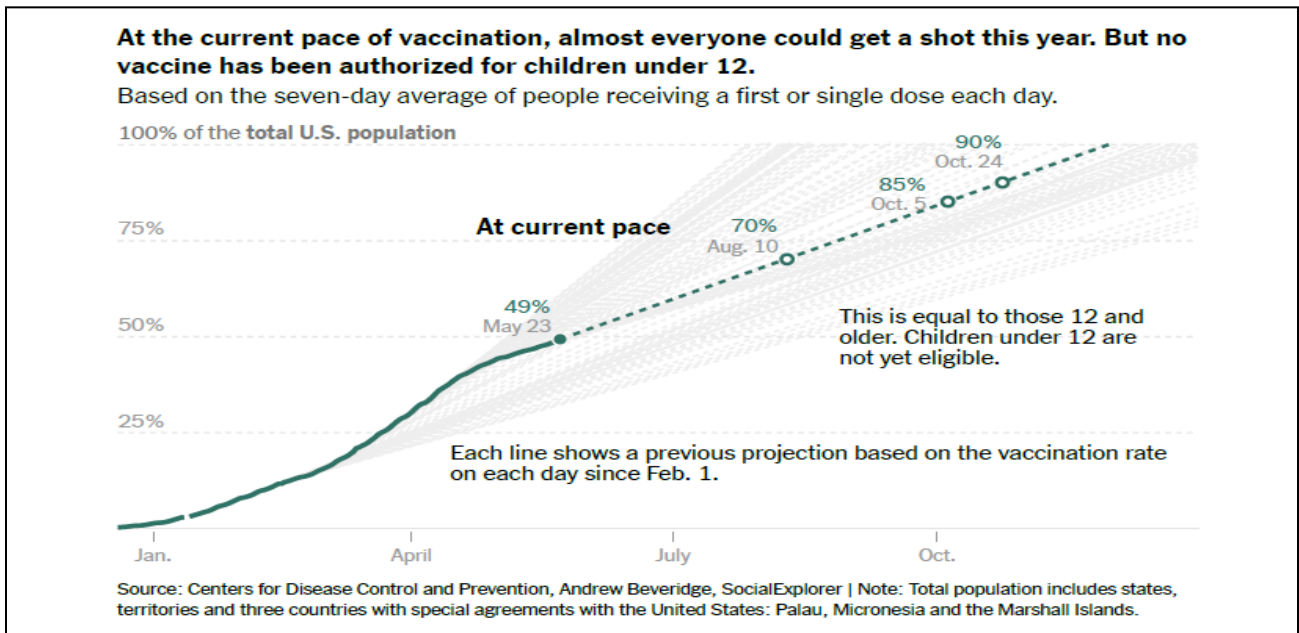
- 32 COVID + inpatients; 7-day average = 32, a **decrease of 3** from one week before.
- 8 patients were in ICU level of care; 7 on ventilators; 4 in ICR.
- Total hospital census = 620; Med/Surg = 483 (109%).

5. Vaccination Program Update (sources = CDC, NYS DOH, and NYT)

- On May 23, the 7-day average of COVID vaccine administered in the U.S. was 1.83 million. This was 150,000 fewer than that of a week ago. A total of 285 million+ doses have been administered since the beginning of the rollout.
- **49% of the U.S. population have received at least one dose (NY state and Suffolk County are both at 54%).**



- The projection below only shows the share of the total population with at least one shot based on the current rate of newly vaccinated people, but it provides a rough indication of when the virus’s spread could begin to stall.



6. On May 19, New York adopted CDC's "[Interim Public Health Recommendations for Fully Vaccinated People](#)" for most businesses and public settings.
 - Pre-K to 12 schools, public transit, homeless shelters, correctional facilities, nursing homes, and healthcare settings will be exempt until more New Yorkers are fully vaccinated.
 - **Mask Guidelines Remain Unchanged in Healthcare Settings**

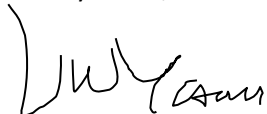
While mask and social distancing guidelines are changing in certain settings, it's important to note that the CDC and New York State guidance remains unchanged within healthcare settings, where masks are still required.

At Stony Brook Medicine (including our hospitals, as well as physician practices and outpatient areas outside of the hospitals), everyone must wear masks at all times, practice social distancing and should continue to prevent the spread of infection by performing hand hygiene and becoming vaccinated. As directed by SUNY, these guidelines also apply to all SBUH employees, including those who work in office settings and in other non-patient-facing areas until otherwise notified.

Additionally, as part of our new normal, all employees should continue to wear eye protection, such as goggles, eye shields or full-face shields, when caring for all patients regardless of a patient's COVID status.
7. Finally, in line with State and University initiatives on returning to the workplace, Health Sciences Schools and RSOM departments should use the following as a guideline:
 - Most RF and State administrative employees should have already returned at approximately 50% - 75% of the time.
 - While May 21st is the target date to increase the number of hours/days that staff are working on campus and for those employees who have continued to work 100% remotely to join those employees who are already working staggered schedules on campus, we will continue to implement an incremental return based upon operational need, and employee safety. This will allow us to better monitor operational issues and workplace safeguards and adjust as needed.
 - July 2nd ends the State University-wide telecommuting program as we know it. If a medical exception is required, employees should follow the normal HR policies governing such absences. The supervisor, in consultation with Human Resources, should review other exception requests.
 - Those employees returning for the first time should view the pre-return training in [SOLAR->For Employees->Learning & Development->Return to Work](#), set-up and complete the [CampusClear](#) for 14 days prior to return, and complete mandatory weekly [COVID-19 Pooled Testing](#).

That's about it in the world of COVID-19 pandemic last week. Once again, I hope the information provided here is useful to you in keeping track of the progression of the pandemic. While the decreasing infection rates and increasing rollout of COVID vaccines are encouraging trends, we should remain vigilant. So please do keep safe and healthy.

Sincerely Yours,



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