

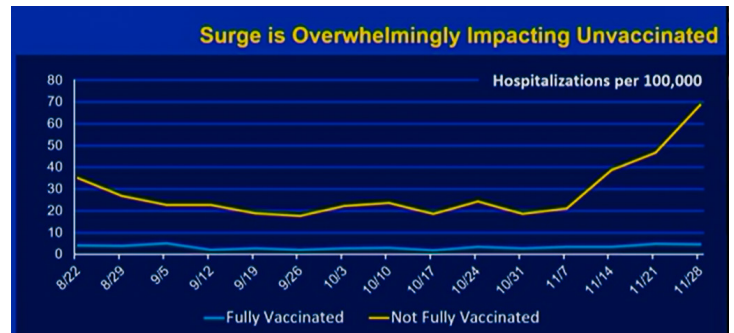


# TOWN OF MONROE

## OFFICE OF THE FIRST SELECTMAN

### COVID-19 Pandemic Update December 23, 2021

- As I'm sure everyone is aware, with the higher transmission of the delta, and now omicron, variants, case rates have continued to rise quite a bit throughout the state. Monroe is now averaging around 11 new cases per day.
- Thankfully, the overall course of illness continues to remain milder, and while hospitalizations continue to rise, sufficient capacity remains at our state hospitals.
- As reported by the state earlier this week, the current surge in cases is overwhelmingly impacting unvaccinated individuals, who represent 76% of the currently hospitalized cases. Data indicate that the greatest protection appears to result after receiving full vaccination and the booster dose. We continue to offer booster dose appointments each week. Signup is on our website and opens every Friday at noon.
- We are well aware that COVID testing is currently limited, and have asked the state to increase access to tests in our area. Testing locations can be found from a link on our website. We are awaiting further details on the federal government's upcoming distribution of free, self-test kits.
- With the current increase in transmission, please be cautious as you celebrate the holidays. Public health officials recommend masks indoors with those not from your immediate household, especially when unable to remain distanced.
- If you do experience symptoms, separate yourself from others, get tested as soon as possible, and contact your healthcare provider.



Source: State of Connecticut

I wish everyone a safe, happy, and healthy holiday and new year.

Kenneth M. Kellogg  
First Selectman