

September 13, 2022

To the people of Ehime,

Declaring the End of the Public Health Crisis and Continuation of the Special Alert Period for the Novel Coronavirus (COVID-19)

Thanks to everyone taking precautions, the number of daily cases has decreased and the public health situation is also improving. With this, we have decided to declare an end to the public health crisis due to the BA.5 subvariant on September 16.

However, the Special Alert Period will still be in effect after the 17th due to the following reasons:

- ◇ Daily cases in Ehime still remain high
- ◇ Efforts to reduce the burden on healthcare providers and to avoid a medical shortage must continue
- ◇ Exercise caution over the upcoming three-day weekend and as fall festivals are being held in various locations throughout the prefecture

We ask you to continue to practice basic preventive measures moving forward.

Main Changes

① Event/Fall Festival Measures

○ Events

- Large-scale events that attract visitors from all over Japan are subject to thorough preventive measures, such as confirming vaccination status (at least 3rd or 4th dose) or negative test results.

○ Regional Fall Festivals

- Attendees must comply with the measures outlined by the organizer(s), such as wearing a mask in certain situations, speaking at a reasonable volume, and behaving appropriately.

② Dining Restrictions

- Avoid large groups and long hours, and eat at certified restaurants if possible (practice basic preventive measures such as social distancing, speaking at a reasonable volume, and behaving appropriately).

- Although the self-isolation period has been shortened, if you test positive, do NOT attend any meal gatherings for at least 10 days starting with the day you begin showing symptoms (if you are asymptomatic, then at least 7 days after you test positive) because there is still a risk of you infecting others.

We ask for your cooperation in our efforts to protect the public health by ensuring people receive the appropriate medical care according to their symptoms, and directing those who test positive using home kits and are at low risk with mild to no symptoms to the Positive Persons Registration Center.

Lastly, the following will be resumed after having been suspended due to stricter measures during the public health crisis:

- We will resume taking reservations for renting facilities managed by the prefecture, such as sports and cultural halls, starting the 17th.
- We will resume accepting applications for the “New Mican Discount” starting the 14th. The discount will be available to use for travel beginning the 17th.

Tokihiro NAKAMURA
Governor of Ehime Prefecture