

## A message on prevention of COVID-19 outbreaks from Oshu City Mayor

Nationwide, outbreaks of the new coronavirus have not been curtailed, and on July 29, the number of people infected in Japan exceeded 10,000 for the first time. A return to normalcy is still not in sight, and we are in a critical situation.

In addition, a State of Emergency has been declared for six prefectures including Tokyo, and a quasi-State of Emergency where measures to prevent the spread of the virus are being implemented has been declared for five prefectures including Hokkaido. There is a growing sense of crisis concerning the explosive spread of infection.

Even in Iwate prefecture, infections are spreading as seen in newly infected people every day with the rise of multiple clusters and with the delta strain, which is said to be strongly contagious. Iwate prefecture has made an “Iwate Warning Declaration” in which it requests that you strengthen your basic measures against infection, wear masks even after being vaccinated, and refrain from unnecessary and unurgent travel to and from areas under a State of Emergency or such.

In Oshu, although it cannot be said that infections have spread, infected people have been confirmed from time to time. The situation is unpredictable.

In order to prevent the further spread of infections, the way you spend time is very important during summer vacation and the Obon period, when it is expected that people will move about and be more active, such as when traveling or returning home, crossing prefectural boundaries. The utmost caution is required.

Please take thorough measures to control infections to protect yourself, your loved ones, the community, and society.

**In principle, cancel or postpone traveling or returning home in which prefectural borders are crossed!**

Please carefully consult with your family and friends concerning unnecessary and unurgent travel or returning home when crossing prefectural borders, including traveling to or from areas where infections are

spreading (areas under a State of Emergency or quasi-State of Emergency where measures to prevent the spread of the virus are being implemented). Please choose not to go, not to invite, or to postpone such travel.

If you absolutely need to move between prefectures, please take thorough measures to prevent infection and spread at your destination, and act with caution.



**Take actions so that you won't be infected and you won't infect others!**

Each person should be strongly aware about preventing infection, and in all places, please thoroughly implement basic measures to control infection by washing hands, disinfecting, wearing a mask at all times, and avoiding the 3 Cs.

The new coronavirus vaccine does not prevent infection 100%, so please continue to take thorough measures to prevent infection even after being vaccinated.

**Let's be warm to others!**

Firmly abstain from actions such as discrimination, prejudice, or besmirching infected persons, those in close contact with them, medical workers, and their families. Please act with compassion based on correct information.

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