

**Case Numbers:** Though ADPH dashboard has not updated in a few days the numbers of cases are down again **Alabama showed 27,116 for the week** compared to 39,117 last week. **Coffee County cases are also down at 312 in the last 7 days** compared to 455 last week. It should be noted that with the proliferation of home testing and some people now receiving their tests through the government at home testing program not all cases are showing. Despite this, when all the information is taken together there is still significant evidence for this overall downward trend. The number of people seeking test is down, the number of positives in schools has dropped off significantly (about 1/3 of where it was a few weeks ago), positivity rate of those that do test at a reportable site is dropping.

**Positivity Rate:** Still higher than we would like but Coffee Countites is down this week to **40.6%** from 46.5% last week. **State numbers are also down and sit at 34.2%** this week compared to 39.8% last week

**Hospitalizations:** We have also seen a SLIGHT decline in hospitalization this week we had been hovering around 2,800 but hit our lowest point this week yesterday with **2,513 in Alabama hospitals with Covid**. That being said, are numbers are still very high and some hospitals have temporarily stopped elective surgery. Overall hospital stay times are still less than in the previous variant (Delta). Unfortunately we have noted an increase in ICU patients over the last week and noted some more Covid related deaths.

**Deaths:** Coffee County recorded **5 more deaths from Covid reported this week**. We have now lost 208 Coffee County residence over the course of this pandemic.

**Testing:** The site at ESCC is still up and running, with new hours being 8 am -3 pm Monday- Friday. Due to the significant drop in testing we look for this to be closed or moved to another county soon. We took about a 1/4 as many test during the last week as the previous week and about 90% less then when we first opened the site. Only 127 test given all of last week.

**Vaccinations:** Coffee County observed statistically insignificant changes in our vaccination rate, gaining .2% (2/10<sup>th</sup> of 1%) of those receiving 1<sup>st</sup> dose sitting at 46.84% and gaining .1% (1/10<sup>th</sup> of 1%) in those completing the series at 38.38%.

**Observations/Concerns,** Concerned to see increases in ICU use despite slight declines in hospitalizations overall. Since hospitalizations follow case expansion by about 2 weeks we are still hopeful for further decline in these numbers. We are seeing signs that this wave is declining but are cautiously watching as Mardi Gras and spring breaks approach.