Connecticut's COVID-19 positivity rate has leveled off over the past week, even as hospitalizations continue to accelerate.

By Alex Putterman Hartford Courant

The state's seven-day positivity rate has remained at 2.68%, down slightly from Thursday and prac-
tically unchanged from late last week.

The state's four other counties—Middletown, Mont-
ville, and New London—have been identified as hotspots for community transmission of COVID-19 with an average of 100 cases per 100,000 people over the last seven days.

Hartford and New Haven, however, have substantially transmission, the CDC says. The state Department of Public Health is urging all residents, regardless of vaccination status, to wear masks in indoor public spaces when they cannot be sure of the vaccination status of others.

Some municipalities, such as Hartford and New Haven, have mandated masks wearing in roma-
tines and businesses.

Cases and positivity rate: Connecticut on Friday reported 424 COVID-19 cases out of 26,230 tests, for a positivity rate of 2.44%.

The state's seven-day positivity rate has remained at 2.5%, down from Thursday and prac-
tically unchanged from late last week.

Connecticut has averaged 537 cases a day over the past week, down from Thursday through still higher than through most of the summer.

Earlier this week, Dr. Ulysses Wu, an infectious disease specialist at Hartford HealthCare, said he thought the ongoing spike was beginning to slow; he said cases have still risen, but they're not rising as fast as they were earlier in June.

Wu said the trend could be due to people getting vaccinated and people also using masks ever since they were recommended.

He said he believed the state was doing well, but he also noted that COVID-19 isn’t over and people should be getting vaccinated and continuing to wear masks.

Queens of local youth are working to encourage Hartford residents to get vaccinated against the coronavirus.

Data shows younger individuals at higher risk of contracting virus

Hartford youth cover city with signs in vaccine push

“i'm not only proud of myself but also my co-workers. because i got the vaccine, i am protected from COVID-19. it helps me be able to get back to normal and protect myself and family members.”

- Bhak-Im Love, Jt. Hartford resident and Community Renewal Team member

Democratic primaries ahead for top jobs in Stamford, New Britain

East Hartford working to verify petition from mayor challenger

By Don Stacom Hartford Courant

Democratic voters in New Brit-
ain, Stamford and possibly East Hart-
dale will be choosing candi-
dates for mayor primaries next month.

In Bloomfield, a six-member
challenge slate, the current mayor and his two co-coun-
cils, is running against the party-en-
dorsed incumbent.

In Norwalk, Nov. 2, but primary votes will be held this fall. Rep. J. L. ine-
ly who believes will be held in Oct. 2022.

Wednesday was the deadline for challenges to try for party nomination, although there is still time for individuals to run as peti-
tioning candidates without party backing.

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and who believes will be held in Oct. 2022.

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The most widely watched may-
cal races are in New Britain, where Mayor David Martin is running his third
job against a challenge by state Rep. Caroline Chrin.

Emanuel narrowly edged out Martin at the party’s nominating convention in late July since then.

Martin and his supporters gathered about 1,000 petition signa-
tures to force a primary.

As of Wednesday afternoon, city registrars had not finished verifying all those signatures from registered voters.

Panel votes for removal of Native American imagery from Canton school logo

By Isabella Chen Hartford Courant

CANTON – A Canton Public
Schools committee unanimously voted yesterday to remove the image of a Native American from the school’s logo and website.

The school’s current logo has a Native American figure on it since the 1950s. However, at a recent Native American his-
tory event, the committee is examining the implications of the current mascot and its alignment with the Canton Public Schools and Canton High.

The committee consists of members of the school board, school administrators and teachers, students and Canton community members.

Based on the findings, the committee’s final recommendations are expected to be presented to the school board in May.

In Connecticut about a dozen schools with Native Ameri-
can-themed mascots, including Canton, Old Lyme, Montville, Monticello, Norwalk, Naugatuck, Torrington, New Britain, Technical, Wilton and Windsor, have seen state commitments to remove them.

The state’s new spending proposal includes a $1 million cut to the state budget that would withhold funds from school districts whose school logos contain Native American imagery.

The Canton logo does not violate the state’s ban but the board has said it would like to remove the image.

Canton’s mascot is a Warrior.

This school board this month took a moment to recognize the contributions of Native Americans in the history of the United States.

The committee will review the impression of Native American mascots in other states and will present recommendations.

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