

Regarding COVID-19 Countermeasures After March 1st 【Extension of Special Urgent Request】

Miyagi Prefecture is currently implementing **a special urgent** request based on the characteristics of the 6th wave of COVID-19 infections (February 1st until February 28th)
→As it will take more time to get infections under control, we are **extending** the request period until **March 21st**

Characteristics and Trends of the 6th Wave



【Characteristics of the Omicron Variant】

- ✓ Unprecedented levels of **transmissibility**
- ✓ **Lower rate of severe symptoms** than previous variants
 - ※(Taking into consideration the effectiveness of vaccines)



【Changes in Settings where Infections Happen】

- ✓ More infections are occurring in **settings closer to daily life** (Schools and daycares, care facilities, workplaces, households) than at restaurants and bars



【Age Groups】

- ✓ Increases in infections among people **under 40**
In particular, there are concerns about the spread of infection among **preschoolers, young children, and students**
- ✓ As the number of infected people increases, the hospitalization rate of elderly people at high risk for severe COVID-19 symptoms also increases



All Regions in Miyagi Prefecture Special Urgent Requests (2/1-3/21)

▶ In addition to following basic infection countermeasures, we are also requesting cooperation with the following:



① Accelerate the **third shot of the COVID-19 vaccine**



② Strengthen infection countermeasures at **schools and daycares**



③ Maintain infection countermeasures and programs **at elderly and disabled persons care centers**



④ Further promotion of **telework and staggered work hours, etc.**



By not entering **Quasi-State of Emergency Measures** and requesting restaurants and bars to shorten their business hours, etc., **which has a significant negative economic impact, we aim to balance the prevention of the spread of infection with maintaining social and economic activities as much as possible**

Content of Prevention Requests for **Prefectural Residents** 【All Regions】

From **February 1st** to **March 21st**

【Per Article 24, Paragraph 9】

○ **When holding events that involve eating** (excluding delivery and takeout), use restaurants that have taken appropriate infection prevention measures, such as Ninshoten※¹, and **ensure that events are held over a short period of time** and that masks are worn during conversation

※ 1 : Ninshoten are restaurants recognized under the Miyagi Restaurant COVID-19 Countermeasures Certification System

○ Refrain from activities that carry a high risk of infection, and follow infection prevention measures (**People who are not yet vaccinated should be especially careful**)

○ When dining out at a restaurant, etc., **avoid eating with more than five people in the same group at the same table**

○ Actively comply with infection prevention measures implemented by restaurants

○ **Refrain from going out to crowded places or places where the risk of infection is high**

In particular, refrain from any unnecessary travel to areas where infection is spreading, such as areas under state of emergency measures and areas under quasi-state of emergency measures

○ Asymptomatic prefectural residents who are worried that they have been infected should get tested

※ In consideration of the rapid spread of infection, including breakthrough infections, there shall be no relaxation of restrictions regarding the application of the vaccine-test package system