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Bryan Expresses Concern With 'Persistence' of Covid Surge in St. Thomas as Islands Leads Territory Overwhelmingly With 111 Positive Cases

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Kyle Murphy **June 08, 2021**

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St. Thomas is still experiencing a surge in positive Covid-19 cases, said Governor Albert Bryan Monday. Of the 126 active cases in the territory as of Monday, 111 were on St. Thomas and Mr. Bryan urged residents to get vaccinated after stating that inoculations had stalled about about 40,000. The governor's goal is to get to 50,000 vaccinations by July 1.

“We are very concerned with the persistence of the surge on the Island of St. Thomas,” the territory's leader said during his weekly press briefing Monday afternoon. He also stressed the need for residents to remain vigilant. “We all have a little Covid weariness and we are tired of wearing our masks, but we must continue to persist by practicing good hygiene, social distancing and getting somebody to get vaccinated.”

Mr. Bryan added, “We should have people herding us, their friends, neighbors, loved ones, into our community vaccine centers... We need community activism in terms of getting people to the vaccine because if we get this herd immunity we can really be through this.”

To encourage people to get the vaccine, the governor announced [a vaccine lottery](#) giving away \$100,000 every week for ten weeks to ten lucky winners. The lottery will begin on July 6, said Gov't House in a release following the press briefing, though Mr. Bryan had said July 7.

Below, Covid-19 USVI data as of June 5:

- 3.76% positivity rate
- Currently tracking 126 active cases (8 STX; 111 STT; 7 STJ).
- 118,738 individuals tested to date.
- 115,147 of those tests were negative.
- 3,591 tests came back positive.
- 3,437 people have recovered.
- 28 fatalities.
- No Covid-19 patients are hospitalized at Juan F. Luis Medical Center on St. Croix.
- Five Covid-19 patients, with one on a ventilator, currently are hospitalized at Schneider Regional Medical Center on St. Thomas.