

Navy Region Southeast All Hands Message

Coronavirus (COVID-19)
Update: October 26, 2021

Oct. 26, 2021

HPCON Bravo – NSA Beaufort, NAS Corpus Christi, NAS Jacksonville, NAS Key West, SUBASE Kings Bay, NAS Kingsville, NS Mayport, NAS Meridian, NSA Mid-South, NAS JRB New Orleans, NSA Orlando, NSA Panama City, NAS Pensacola and NAS Whiting Field.

HPCON Bravo+ – NAS JRB Fort Worth and NCBC Gulfport

Team Southeast,

Good news! We are seeing a significant decrease in the number of COVID cases around Navy Region Southeast's installations. Today most installations have been approved to change to HPCON B while a few reduced to HPCON B+.

Individually, for those who have received the vaccine, things won't change much as fully vaccinated individuals were already treated as if they were in HPCON B. For anyone who has not yet taken the shot, you can find vaccine locations at <u>vaccines.gov</u>.

The US Fleet Forces Command fragmentary order (FRAGO) that came out earlier this month will enable commands in HPCON B to bring more people back into the workplace, not to exceed 50% of normal occupancy. Installations in HPCON B+ must maintain less than 40% of normal occupancy.

We will continue to follow procedures that help prevent the spread of the disease as indicated in the FRAGO, such as:

- Medically vulnerable individuals (e.g., persons who are elderly, have underlying health conditions, have respiratory disease, are immunocompromised, etc.) And mission critical personnel awaiting deployment/employment may be prioritized for telework status.
- Emphasize personal hygiene measures, such as washing hands frequently and for at least 20 seconds with soap and water; using hand sanitizer; avoiding touching eyes, nose, and mouth; staying home when ill and avoid contact with others; covering coughs and sneezes; avoiding sick persons; and ensuring that immunizations are up to date.

- Encourage physical distancing (>6 feet) and minimizing in-person social gathering and time spent in crowded environments.
- Communicate to personnel how and when to report illness and seek care for potential influenza like illness.

Rest assured that our primary concern remains the safety and well-being of our people and their families. Changing HPCON levels is a risk-based decision that commanders make in consultation with medical leadership and in accordance with CDC guidance, public health data, and collaboration with state and local authorities.

The transition to BRAVO does not mean that the installation or surrounding community is safe from COVID. It only means that conditions on the installation and the surrounding area show favorable downward trends on transmission of the virus. HPCON B still means that our workforce is at moderate risk from the disease.

Under BRAVO we need to avoid false confidence, complacency and COVID "fatigue". It is important to continue following local and installation health protection measures so that we can continue with our mission here in Navy Region Southeast. All these measures are in place for your welfare and to ensure the continued mission of the Navy.