Deaths set record again

Although new infections wane, the hardest hit are still those under age 20, who are one-third of cases.

BY JON HUGHES AND CHRISTOPHER FOY/STAFF

The number of new infections waned, but Florida still reported a record number of COVID-19 deaths this past week.

The state added 120,340 new COVID-19 cases over the past seven days, the lowest weekly rate in more than a month, in a state report released Friday. But it also reported 2,340 COVID-related deaths, the highest single-week death toll since the start of the pandemic.

Due to normal lags in how deaths are reported, more than 1,900 of these deaths occurred three weeks earlier. New federal data shows that Florida’s daily death toll peaked at 2,644 on Aug. 15, well above the previous record of daily death set in August 2020.

New infections continue to be concentrated among children and adolescents under 20 years old, who represent more than one-third of new cases. However, reports on hospital admissions this week prevailed some hope that the worst of the current infection wave is over.

The Florida Hospital Association on Friday reported 1,779 COVID-19 admissions in its Florida hospitals, almost 10 percent fewer than one week ago.

Next quarter of hospital-ized COVID patients are in their teens.

"While the total number of hos-pitalized patients remains high and workforce challenges remain, it is a positive trend," said morning report.

GOP-led states: Texas has template

At least six Republican state governors are planning to use the law curbing abortions as a model.

LOCAL GROUP STAVES OFF EVICTIONS

The Eviction Prevention Coalition of Houston offers financial aid and information in English and Spanish about Chapter 13 evictions.

HIRING DROPS, AS DOES JOBLESS RATE

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Two decades ago, many Afghans hoped for a new start. Now they face uncertainty with the Taliban’s return.

THE AGE OF THE U.S. Era

This is the first time in a decade, on the 20th anniversary of Sept. 11, 2001.

BY KAREN JAMISON

Afghanistan’s are from 9/11 to today

Two decades ago, many Afghans hoped for a new start. Now they face uncertainty with the Taliban’s return.