



CORONAVIRUS BRIEFING: SEPTEMBER 2, 2020

THE CENTRAL COMMUNICATIONS BRIEFING FOR THE TOWN OF WELLESLEY

Visit Wellesley's Coronavirus Information Hub at www.wellesleyma.gov/coronavirus

Total confirmed cases in Massachusetts: 119,426

[View the COVID-19 daily dashboard.](#)

Total confirmed positive cases in Wellesley: 271 (9 new cases in the past 14 days)

Average Daily Incidence Rate/100,000: 2.16 (past 14 days)

NEW! The [Wellesley Coronavirus Information Hub](#) now features an enhanced data dashboard that is specific to Wellesley COVID-19 cases. In addition to total and new cases, the Hub now includes information on testing, percent positivity rate, and the Average Daily Incidence Rate/100,000, a key public health indicator. This information is updated weekly on Wednesdays with data from the Massachusetts Department of Public Health. The Hub also includes the [COVID-19 community level data map](#) with stoplight colors indicating COVID-19 risk levels by community: red (high risk), yellow (moderate risk), green and white (low risk). Wellesley remains in the green (low risk) category. Read the [COVID-19 Weekly Health Report by community](#).

Travel Order Changes.

Health officials have updated the State COVID-19 Travel Order, adding Colorado, Delaware, Pennsylvania, and West Virginia to the list of lower-risk states. Travelers to those states are not required to quarantine or complete the [Massachusetts Travel Form](#). See the complete list of low-risk states [here](#). For international travel, please consult the [U.S. State Department Travel Map](#) to see the current advisories for all countries. Note: Both Canada and Mexico are currently at Level 3 – travelers are urged to reconsider trips to those areas. Residents who may be returning from these countries should quarantine for 14 days or until a negative COVID-19 test is received. Massachusetts requires that all tests performed must be molecular/PCR tests.

REMINDER: Safely Celebrate Labor Day.

The Health Department is reminding residents to enjoy the upcoming Labor Day holiday weekend AND remember the current COVID-19 guidelines. Outdoor gatherings are encouraged, and smaller numbers are recommended. The [State gatherings order](#) allows for 50 people or less outdoors; indoor gatherings are limited to 25 people or less. This applies to both public areas and private spaces. Plan ahead in case the weather changes, try to maintain distance from others, and wear masks or face coverings when not with family members.

Emergency Preparedness Campaign for September.

It's Emergency Preparedness Month! State officials have launched a public campaign to thank essential workers and organizations who are helping all of us be better prepared during the Coronavirus pandemic. Recognize these essential workers with a certificate of appreciation or thank them on social media with #EPisEssential. [Learn more about this campaign here.](#)

Prepare for Flu Season.

The Wellesley Health Department will offer community flu clinics this fall. Flu clinic dates and COVID-19 safety protocols are being developed and will be announced in the next few weeks. This year, the State is requiring all students, in daycare through college, to be vaccinated for the flu. Residents of all ages are also urged to get flu shots as flu symptoms can be easily confused with COVID-19. [Watch for flu updates on the Health Department webpages.](#)

High Voter Turnout for Election 2020.

More than half of Wellesley's residents - 51 percent of registered voters - cast ballots in the September 1 dual election, voting in the State Primary and the Town Special Election to fill a vacancy on the Board of Selectmen. Due to COVID-19, there were new polling locations and strict procedures in place. Thank you to all the volunteers, Town staff, and residents for their help and patience in making sure everyone remained safe. [See preliminary Election 2020 results here.](#)



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