



CORONAVIRUS BRIEFING: NOVEMBER 13, 2020

THE CENTRAL COMMUNICATIONS BRIEFING FOR THE TOWN OF WELLESLEY

Visit Wellesley's COVID-19 Information Hub at www.wellesleyma.gov/coronavirus

Total confirmed cases in Massachusetts: 174,953

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

Total confirmed positive cases in Wellesley: 337 (22 new cases in past 14 days)

Average Daily Incidence Rate/100,000 for Wellesley: 5.3 % (past 14 days)

Percent Positivity of Testing: 0.23% (past 14 days)

[View the Weekly COVID-19 Public Health Report.](#)

State and local Health officials are reporting that Massachusetts is experiencing a second surge in Coronavirus cases. Wellesley has seen an increase in cases in recent days, however we remain in the low risk (green) category according to revised community metrics developed by the Massachusetts Department of Public Health. The updated metrics adjust for the reporting of cases by population size and incorporate cases per 100,000 residents and the test positivity rate when determining a color designation for communities.

CITY & TOWN METRICS			
Population			
Group	Under 10k	10k - 50k	Over 50k
Grey	Less than or equal to 10 total cases	Less than or equal to 10 total cases	Less than or equal to 15 total cases
Green	Less than or equal to 15 total cases	<10 avg cases/100k AND >10 total cases	<10 avg cases/100k AND >15 total cases
Yellow	Less than or equal to 25 total cases	≥10 avg cases/100k OR ≥5% pos rate	≥10 avg cases/100k OR ≥4% pos rate
Red	More than 25 total cases	≥10 avg cases/100k AND ≥5% pos rate	≥10 avg cases/100k AND ≥4% pos rate

Test Site Locator: If you need to get tested for COVID-19, there are sites near Wellesley. Use the [COVID-19 test site locator map](#) which provides location information and details about appointments, insurance, services, etc.

Full Remote Learning for Wellesley High School.

As a result of surveillance testing that identified new COVID-19 cases at Wellesley High School, the school moved to full remote learning starting on November 12 through the Thanksgiving holiday. In-person classes will resume on December 1. The Health Department is conducting contact tracing with any affected individuals. Read complete information on the [Wellesley Public Schools website](#).

Wellesley Middle School and all elementary schools continue to follow the hybrid learning model. A reminder that students are eating lunch outdoors and some classes are taking place outdoors. Please do not park, walk dogs, or exercise on school property during the school day to help ensure the safety of our students.

Interstate Youth Hockey Suspended.

Governors in seven states, including Massachusetts, have suspended interstate competitions for public and private school hockey teams, and youth hockey teams beginning on Saturday, November 14 through at least December 31, 2020. [Read the joint announcement.](#)

New CDC Guidelines: Masking Up Protects Wearers

Studies from the Centers for Disease Control (CDC) now show that wearing a mask or cloth face covering helps protect people from inhaling COVID-19 particles, as well as protecting infected people from spreading the virus. The [new guidance](#) shows that masks reduce the risks of catching or transmitting the virus by up to 70%. A reminder that a mask mandate is effect in Massachusetts for anyone over 5 years old, when indoors and outdoors regardless of social distancing.

Wellesley Holiday Toy Drive, November 14-28.

The Recreation Department and Youth Commission are collecting new, unwrapped toys for Wellesley families who need extra help this holiday season. Residents may drop off toys beginning on Saturday, November 14 during the mobile movie night, and through Saturday, November 28. Look for a collection bin in the Tailby commuter rail lot.

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