The Public Health Response to the COVID-19 Pandemic in Cambridge

COVID-19 Weekly Report

Cambridge City Council

December 14, 2020
# Massachusetts Cities Comparison

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>City/Town</th>
<th>Average Daily Incident Rate per 100,000 (14 days*)</th>
<th>December 3 Report</th>
<th>December 10 Report</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Boston</td>
<td>31.7</td>
<td></td>
<td>46.1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cambridge</td>
<td>18.9</td>
<td></td>
<td>22.3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lowell</td>
<td>78.3</td>
<td></td>
<td>102.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Newton</td>
<td>20.2</td>
<td></td>
<td>23.6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Somerville</td>
<td>35.4</td>
<td></td>
<td>36.7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Springfield</td>
<td>64.9</td>
<td></td>
<td>78.8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Worcester</td>
<td>47.4</td>
<td></td>
<td>67.5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>State</td>
<td>35.7</td>
<td></td>
<td>50.0</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Source: Massachusetts Department of Public Health Weekly COVID-19 Data Reports
Situational Update

- New infections statewide and in Cambridge continue to remain high and above pre-Thanksgiving levels.
  - Cambridge confirmed cases increased 30% in the 2-week period following Thanksgiving compared to prior 2-week period.

- Hospitalizations\(^1\)
  - Available non-ICU hospital beds in Metro West (incl. Cambridge) communities: 14%
  - Available ICU hospital beds in Metro West communities: 27%

- Cambridge Caseload (as of Dec. 13)
  - 617 active cases; 24% of all cases are currently active\(^2\)
  - Daily rate of new cases (7-day average): 22.8 per 100,000 residents\(^2\)

\(^2\) City of Cambridge COVID-19 Data Center day period reflects 12/5/20 - 12/12/20.
Case Snapshot

• **2,628** confirmed, probable, and suspect cases\(^1\)
  ○ 2,340 in the community
  ○ 276 in nursing homes and assisted living
  ○ 100 deaths

• **1,486** recoveries; **617** active cases\(^1\)

• **Demographics**
  ○ **Race/Ethnicity:** Rate of new infections highest in Other, Latinx, and Black residents, followed by White and Asian residents for late Oct. –present.\(^2\)
  ○ **Age:** Number of current new infections in week of Dec. 6–12 were highest in 20-29s (29%), followed by 30-39s (20%) and then 0-19s (14%).\(^2\)

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\(^1\) City of Cambridge COVID-19 Data Center, data current as of Dec. 13, 2020.
\(^2\) Cambridge Public Health Department, special data analysis, December 2020.
Cambridge Cases by Neighborhood
(March 1 - December 12)
Mobile Testing and Outreach

FRESH POND APARTMENTS

- **Onsite testing will be available on Friday, Dec. 18 from 3 p.m.–9 p.m.**
- Cambridge Community Corps went door-to-door Dec. 12 to let residents know and encourage testing, and will do so again on Dec. 18.
- Flu shots will be made available.
- No appointments necessary; testing for apartment residents only.
- Future sites to be considered based on what the data indicate.

THOSE EXPERIENCING HOMELESSNESS

- Residents and staff of the Temporary Emergency Homeless Shelter were tested today in preparation for move to Spaulding Rehabilitation Center later this week.
COVID-19 Community Testing

ALL TESTING SITES

380,497 Tests since March 2\(^1\) | 41,023 Tests in past 14 days\(^2\)

Tests administered to Cambridge residents at any health care or city site.

CITY-FUNDED TESTING PROGRAM

- Four sites/Testing offered 7 days a week
- Walk-ins accommodated.
- Additional testing offered at CambridgeSide from 11a.m. to 7p.m. on Monday, Dec. 21 and Dec. 28.
- Testing Stats:
  - 44,986 tests administered since April.
  - 9,358 tests from Dec 1–12.

\(^1\)Testing period Mar 2 - Dec 5, 2020
\(^2\)Testing period Nov 22 - Dec 5, 2020
COVID-19 Community Testing

Community Testing - Total Tests per Month

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Total Tests</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Mobile Testing - Jul 1 to 31</td>
<td>2040</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mobile Testing - Aug 1 to 31</td>
<td>4144</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mobile Testing - Sep 1 to 25</td>
<td>2811</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mobile Testing - Oct 1 to 31</td>
<td>4811</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mobile Testing - Nov 1 to 30</td>
<td>17468</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mobile Testing - Dec 1 to 12</td>
<td>9358</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Cambridge Public Schools Metrics

December 13, 2020

Metrics that exceed recommended thresholds are displayed as orange

**Metric 1**
Daily New Cases

**21.6**
7-day average of new confirmed cases per day, per 100,000 people in Cambridge, ending Dec. 12.

**Threshold:** < 25 new confirmed cases per day, per 100,000 people (7-day average)

**Metric 2**
Test Positivity Rate

**1.01%**
Percentage of positive COVID-19 tests among Cambridge residents in last 14 days ending Dec. 5.

**Threshold:** <5% of COVID-19 tests among residents are positive.

**Metric 3**
Wastewater Monitoring

**946**
Level of COVID-19 found in sewage wastewater in MWRA, as of 12/10/20.

**Threshold:** COVID-19 in wastewater detected at less than 100 copies viral genomes/mL
Wastewater Surveillance Data

Normalized SARS-CoV-2 (copies/mL) vs. Sampling Date

Sampling Location:
- Red: Mid Camb.
- Blue: E. Camb
- Green: Cambridgeport
- Purple: N+W Camb.
- Gray: MWRA-North
- Gray Dashed: MWRA-North 7 Day Average

Timeline:
- Oct 01
- Oct 15
- Nov 01
- Nov 15
- Dec 01
COVID-19 Vaccine Update

When can I get a **COVID-19** vaccine in MA?

**PHASE ONE**
In order of priority
- Clinical and non-clinical healthcare workers doing direct and COVID-facing care
- Long term care facilities, rest homes and assisted living facilities
- Police, Fire and Emergency Medical Services
- Congregate care settings (including corrections and shelters)
- Home-based healthcare workers
- Healthcare workers doing non-COVID-facing care

**PHASE TWO**
In order of priority
- Individuals with 2+ comorbidities (high risk for COVID-19 complications)
- Early education, K-12, transit, grocery, utility, food and agriculture, sanitation, public works and public health workers
- Adults 65+
- Individuals with one comorbidity

**PHASE THREE**
Vaccine available to general public

December - February
Estimated timeframes
February - April
April - June

For more information on vaccine distribution visit [Mass.gov/COVIDvaccine](https://www.mass.gov/COVIDvaccine)
Expert Advisory Panel Update

DECEMBER 10 AGENDA

- Clinical and Case/Surveillance Data
  - Hospital Updates
  - MWRA Sewage Data
- Governor’s Order *(Roll back to Phase 3, Step 1)*
- Indoor Dining Guidance
- Mask Use
- Vaccine Rollout