

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

COVID-19 WEEKLY REPORT

CAMBRIDGE CITY COUNCIL

MARCH 8, 2021



Cambridge  
Public Health  
Department

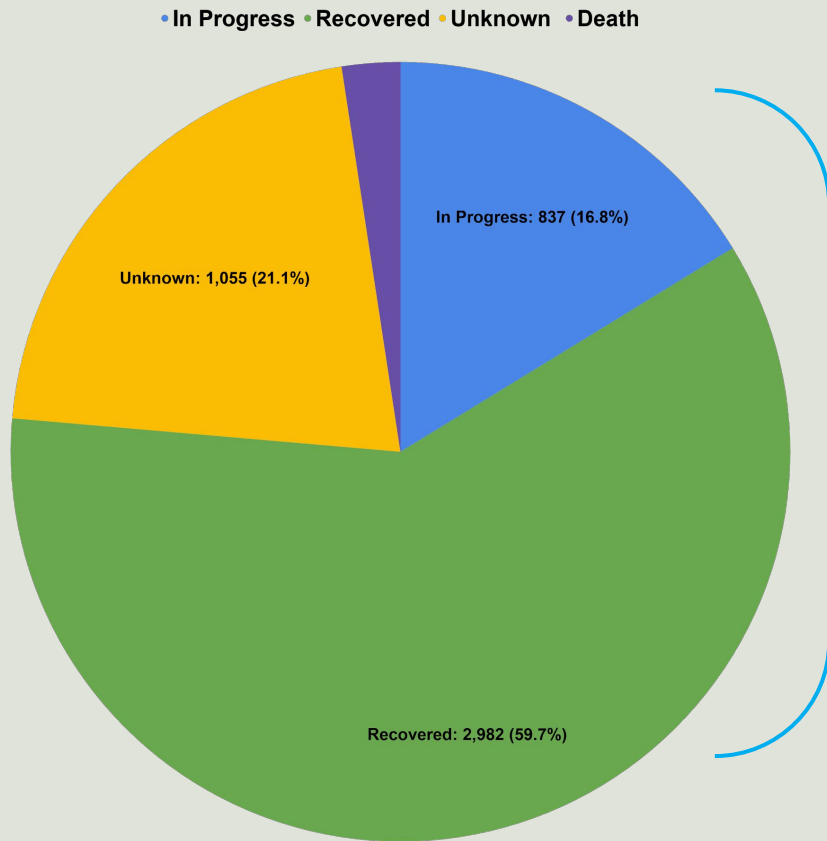


**CHA** Cambridge  
Health Alliance



# Case Snapshot (as of March 6)

We continue to monitor cases in Cambridge, especially in neighborhoods of greatest need:



## 4,995 Total Cases<sup>1</sup>

(confirmed, probable and suspect)

- 4,690 in the community
- 305 cases in long-term cares

## 121 Deaths<sup>1</sup>

- 63% of deaths were among LTC residents

## Active Cases<sup>1</sup>

- 17% of all cases are active

## 16.3 confirmed Cases per 100,000<sup>1</sup>

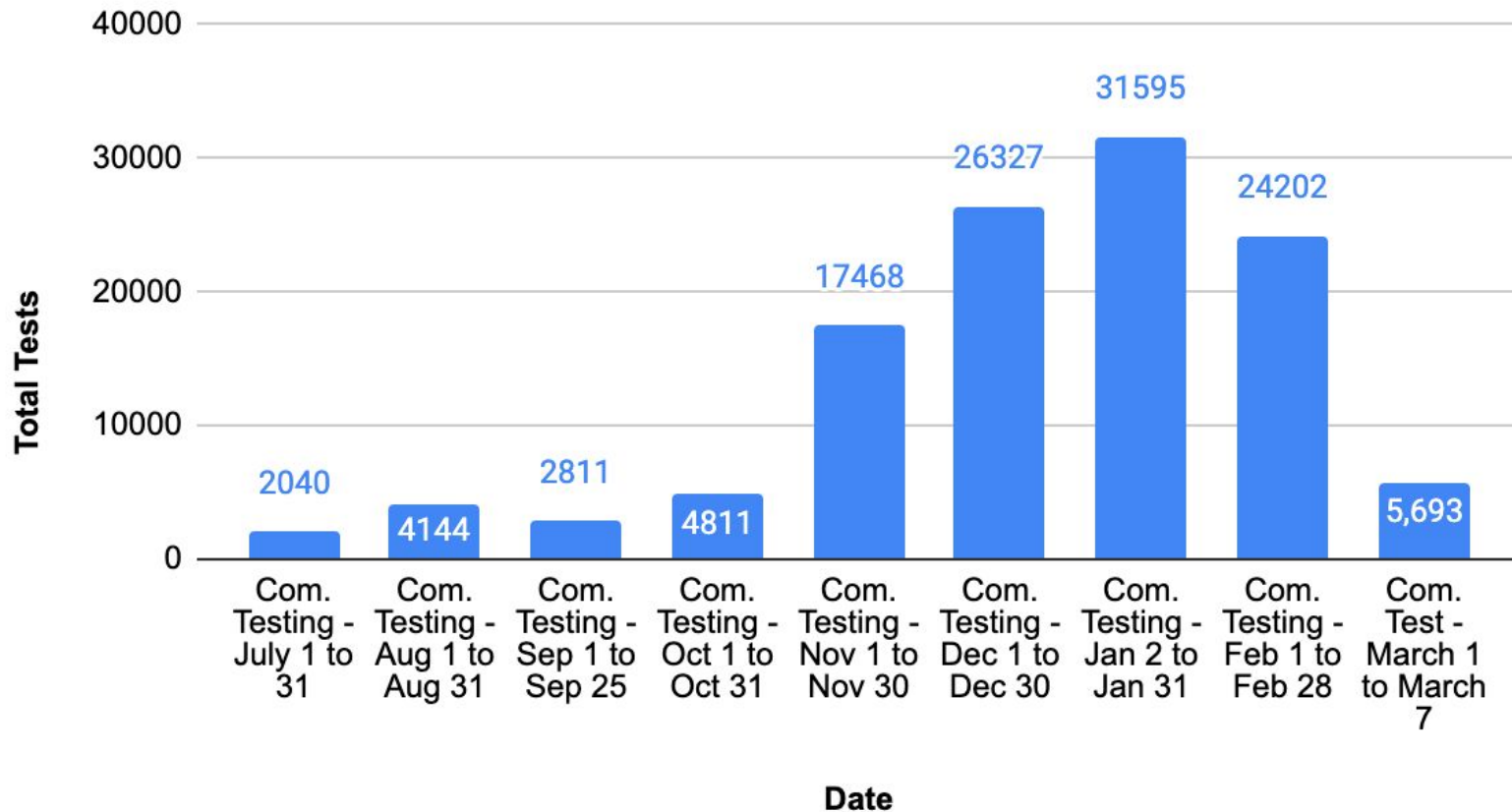
(7-day average for Feb. 28-March 6)

## Test Positivity<sup>2</sup>

- 0.39% (2-week period ending Feb. 27)

# COVID-19 Community Testing

## Community Testing - Total Tests per Month



# Vaccine Administration Update

- **Massachusetts ranked #1** for first and second doses administered per capita among states with 5 million people or more, as of March 1.<sup>1</sup>
- Over **1.4 million people** who live, work, or study in Massachusetts have received the first dose of the Moderna or Pfizer vaccine, as of March 8.<sup>2</sup>
- In Cambridge:<sup>3</sup>
  - Approximately **2,200 eligible people** have received vaccine first doses (Moderna) or the single-dose vaccine (J&J) at City-operated vaccination clinics, as of March 8.
  - 93% of Moderna vaccine received by the City has been administered, as of March 8.

<sup>1</sup>Massachusetts Department of Public Health local board of health call (March 5);

<sup>2</sup>Massachusetts Department of Public Health COVID-19 Vaccine Data – Sunday, March 7, 2021; <sup>3</sup>Cambridge Public Health Department internal data.

# COVID-19 Vaccine Update

## COVID-19 Vaccination in MA: Phase 1 & 2 Eligibility Status

### Phase 1

All phase 1 priority groups

Now eligible

### Phase 2

1 Individuals age 75+

Now eligible

2 Individuals 65+ and individuals with 2+ certain medical conditions

Now eligible

3 Early education and K-12 workers, transit, grocery, utility, food and agriculture, sanitation, public works, and public health workers

Not yet eligible

4 Individuals with 1 certain medical condition

Not yet eligible

# City Vaccine Update

## Phase 1 and 2 Eligible Groups

**The Cambridge Pandemic Collaborative (CPC)** began administering vaccines in early January. As of March 5:

- **First Responders** (*and other Phase 1 eligible HC workers*):
  - Total of 2,322 first and second vaccines administered.
  - 90% dose 2 compliance.
- **Homeless Shelters** (*clients/staff*)
  - Total of 632 first and second dose vaccines administered.
  - 93% dose 2 compliance.
- **Cambridge Housing Authority senior/disabled buildings**
  - Total of 927 first and second doses of Moderna have been administered and 35 doses of the single shot J & J vaccine.

# City Vaccine Update

## Vaccination Race/Ethnicity Data

- City-run clinics: Among people who have received 1 or more doses of vaccine: 5.4% identified as Asian; 13.6% as Black; 8.1% as Hispanic/Latinx; 4.3% as Multiracial/Other Race; and 52.8% as White. Information was missing for 15.8%.
- Among people who have received **1+ dose of vaccine** in MA and the United States, the race/ethnicity breakdown is:

Race/Ethnicity	MA <sup>1</sup>	United States <sup>2</sup>
Asian	4.1%	4.7%
Black	5.0%	7.0%
Hispanic/Latinx	4.4%	8.5%
Multiracial	1.6%	12.4%*
White	69.8	65.4%

<sup>1</sup>MA Department of Public Health Weekly Vaccine Report, 3/04/21; <sup>2</sup>CDC COVID Data Tracker, 3/07/21; \*The CDC includes “other” in its multiple race category.

# Johnson & Johnson Vaccine

- The state has received a limited supply of the Johnson & Johnson vaccine. Additional shipments are not expected until early April.
- All three vaccines are highly effective at preventing serious illness, hospitalization and death from COVID-19
- Our motto: **The best vaccine is the one you can receive the soonest!**

	PFIZER-BIONTECH	MODERNA	JOHNSON & JOHNSON
TYPE	mRNA	mRNA	Viral vector
DOSES	2	2	1
PEAK EFFECTIVENESS*	7 days after the second dose*	14 days after the second dose*	28 days after the single dose*



# Vaccination of CPS Teachers/Staff

- CPHD is fully prepared to stand up a vaccine clinic for CPS educators and staff if vaccines are made available by the Commonwealth.
- Last week, Gov. Baker announced that K-12 educators and school staff and child care workers will be eligible to schedule appointments beginning March 11.
  - Mass vaccination sites, pharmacies, other venues open to eligible individuals (over 170 sites)
  - The state plans to designate specific days at the seven mass vaccination sites for educators to get their shots.

# COVID-19 Testing in K-12 Schools

**CPS staff** are being tested twice a week, on a voluntary basis, as part of a CPHD surveillance program. Testing is also offered to symptomatic students who become ill at school, and student athletes.

**16,683 Tests**

Tests administered to CPS staff through the voluntary testing program since Oct. 15

**11X**

Median number of times a CPS staff member has gotten tested through the program since Oct. 15

**1,380 Staff Tested**

Total # of CPS staff who have been tested through the voluntary testing program since Oct. 15

**568 students**

Symptomatic CPS students and student athletes who have been tested through the program since Oct. 15

*Data reflect Oct. 15- Feb 26.*

# COVID-19 Vaccine Communications

## Clinician Speakers Bureau: Recent Forums

- Councillor Simmons and Interfaith Council (March 3)
- Councillor Simmons' Senior Advisory Group (March 3)
- CNAHS/Homeowners Rehab Inc. (week of March 15)

## Planning Stages/Outreach:

- CPS Educators and Staff (Date TBD)
- Cambridge Community Center (Date TBD)
- Faith Community (Dates TBD)
- Immigrant Communities (Dates TBD)

## Communications Materials

- J & J vaccine Q & A; Vaccine and AA/Black Community PSA.