

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

COVID-19 WEEKLY REPORT

CAMBRIDGE CITY COUNCIL

APRIL 12, 2021



Cambridge
Public Health
Department

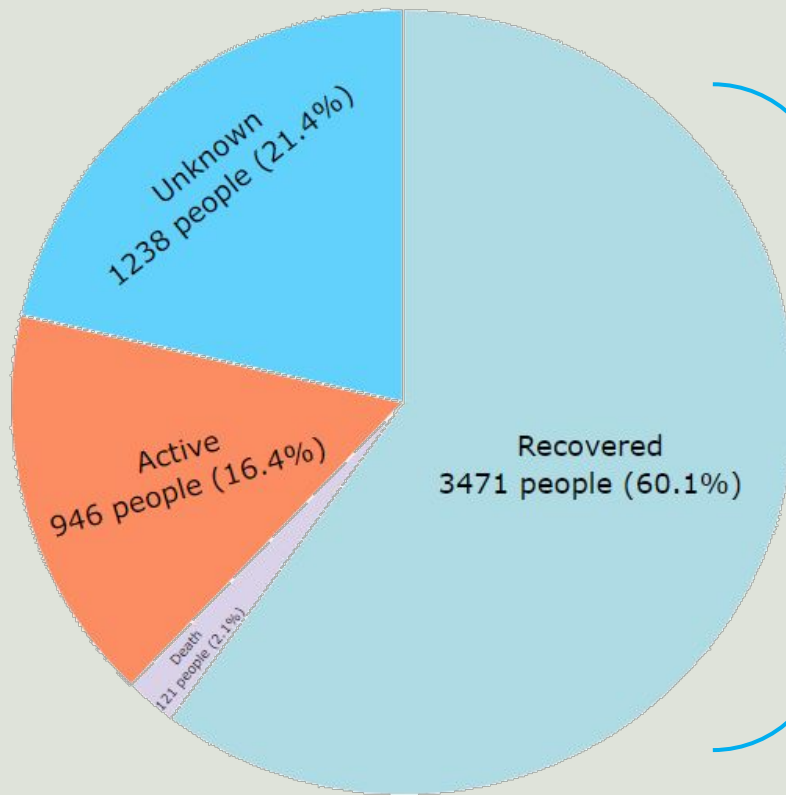


CHA Cambridge
Health Alliance



Case Snapshot (as of April 9)

New infection rates among Cambridge residents have increased since mid-February, mirroring statewide trends.



5,776 Total Cases¹

(confirmed, probable and suspect)

- 5,472 in the community
- 304 cases in long-term cares

121 Deaths¹

- 63% of deaths were among LTC residents

Active Cases¹

- 16.4% of all cases are active

17.4 Confirmed Cases per 100,000¹

(7-day average for April 2–April 8)

Test Positivity²

- 0.59% (2-week period ending April 3)

Sources: ¹Cambridge Public Health Department data, accessed on 4/09/21 @ 5 pm; ²Massachusetts Department of Public Health Weekly COVID-19 Interactive Dashboard, April 8, 2021.

COVID Variants

Wastewater Variant Surveillance

- Biobot Analytics has been developing analytical methods to detect new variants.
- Cambridge is participating in Biobot's free 4-week pilot screening program for the B.1.1.7 variant:
 - Mutations associated with the B.1.1.7 variant have been detected at all four Cambridge sites during the first 3 weeks of the pilot.
 - B.1.1.7 is "likely already circulating" in Cambridge, based on the Biobot data.
- Wastewater variant surveillance is beneficial for detecting new variants of concern; may have less value once a variant is circulating widely in the community.

COVID Variants (cont'd)

Genomic Sequencing Update

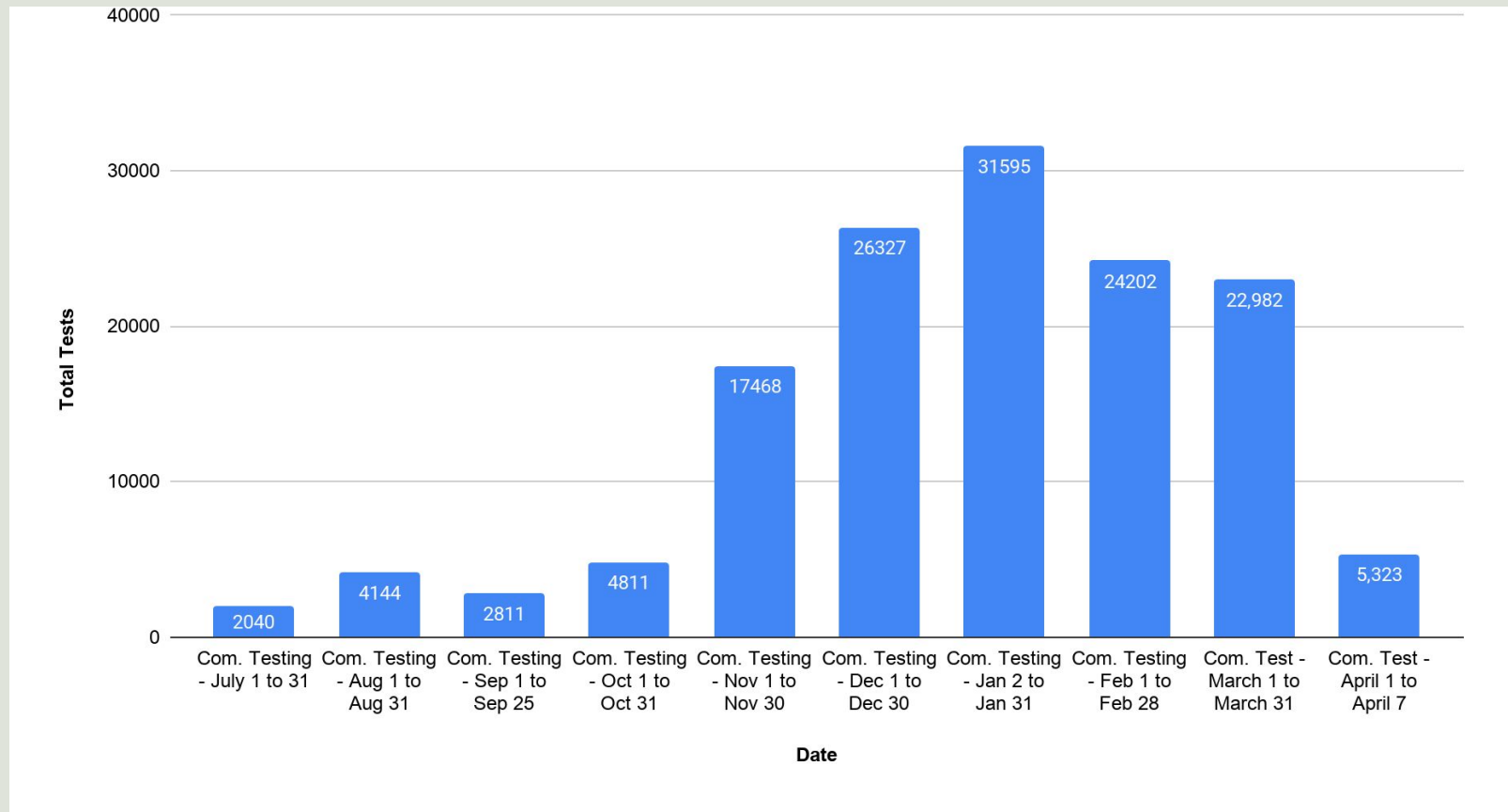
Variant	Cambridge cases¹	MA cases²	US cases²	Estimated Prevalence (MA)³
B.1.1.7	6	1,100	20,915	18.6%
P.1	2	102	497	1.4%
B.1.351	3	12	453	0.2%

¹ Cambridge Public Health Department data received from Massachusetts Dept. of Public Health. Data current as of 4/6/21.

² CDC. US COVID-19 Cases Caused by Variants, accessed on 4/12/21. Data current as of 4/10/21.

³ CDC. Proportions of SARS-CoV-2 Variants of Concern by State. Variant proportions are based on representative CDC sequence data collected over a 4-week period ending 3/13/21.

COVID-19 Community Testing in Cambridge



COVID-19 Vaccine Update

COVID-19 Vaccination in MA: Eligibility Status

Phase 1

All phase 1 priority groups

Now eligible

Phase 2

1 Individuals age 75+

Now eligible

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

Now eligible

3 K-12 educators, K-12 school staff, and child care workers

Now eligible

4 Individuals age 60+ and workers in certain sectors (including transit, grocery, utility, food and agriculture, sanitation, public works, and public health workers)

Now eligible

5 Individuals age 55+ and individuals with 1 certain medical condition

Now eligible

Phase 3

1 Individuals age 16+

Eligible 4/19

State Vaccine Update

- **39% of Massachusetts residents** have received at least one dose of vaccine, as of April 6.¹
- MA vaccine supply increased 16% for week of April 2–8 compared to prior week, with 701,530 doses shipped to MA from the federal government.²
- Timeline for remaining group:
 - **April 19:** General public age 16+.
- Residents can pre-register to book an appointment at a mass vaccination site at mass.gov/COVIDVaccine.

¹ Massachusetts Department of Public Health Weekly COVID-19 Municipality Vaccination Report, April 8, 2021. ² Massachusetts Department of Public Health Daily COVID-19 Vaccine Report (April 8).

City Vaccine Update

Phase 2 Eligible Groups

The Cambridge Pandemic Collaborative (CPC) began administering vaccines in early January. As of April 10:

- **3,297 eligible people** had received at least one dose (*Moderna*) or the single-dose vaccine (*J&J*) at City-run clinics.
- **Cambridge Housing Authority senior/disabled housing:**
 - For the week ending April 9, 375 people had received at least one dose (*Moderna*) or the single-dose (*J & J*) vaccine in CHA senior/disabled housing and in other low-income housing, as well as at the CambridgeSide clinic.
- **Homebound:**
 - As of April 9, a total of 91 homebound residents had received the single-dose (*J & J*) vaccine; additional day scheduled for this week.

City Vaccine Update

North Cambridge Vaccine Clinic

- 3,000 single-dose (*J&J*) vaccines from the state.
- Clinic at Reservoir Church on Sat, April 10 for 362, 364 and 402 Rindge Avenue; **250 doses administered.**
- Outreach:
 - *Community Tracing Collaborative* (state and Partners in Health) called residents to encourage them to be vaccinated and answer any questions or concerns.
 - *Cambridge Community Corps, Fire Department and CPHD* went-door-to-door to register residents.
- **Additional Clinics:** CPHD and its partners will hold additional clinics at Reservoir Church through this week, including evening hours.

City Vaccine Update

North Cambridge Clinic (cont'd)

Of the 250 single dose (*J & J*) vaccines administered to eligible residents in North Cambridge this weekend:

- 48% of individuals vaccinated reside in one of the three buildings at 362, 364, and 402 Rindge Avenue.
- 53% of individuals vaccinated reside in low-income housing in other Cambridge neighborhoods.
- 65% of those vaccinated are people of color.
- 81% of those vaccinated live in North Cambridge.
- 91% overall live in Cambridge.

City Vaccine Update (as of April 6)

Vaccination Race/Ethnicity Data

The proportion of Cambridge residents by race and ethnicity who have received **at least one dose of vaccine** in Cambridge and Massachusetts:

Race/Ethnicity	Cambridge ¹	MA ²
Asian	19%	27%
Black	34%	25%
Hispanic/Latinx	22%	18%
Multiracial	27%	38%
White	35%	39%
Total % of all residents who have received at least one dose	34%	38%

¹MA Department of Public Health Weekly COVID-19 Municipality Vaccination Report, April 8, 2021.² Race/Ethnicity Data: MA Department of Public Health Weekly Vaccine Report, April 8, 2021. Data for Cambridge and Massachusetts is current as of April 6, 2021.

COVID-19 Vaccine Communications

Communications Campaign

- Citywide mailer will go out this week (in multiple languages).
- Additional outreach all week (and beyond) regarding April 19 eligibility for residents age 16 and older.
- Continued follow up over the next weeks; more micro-targeting in neighborhoods as/when needed.
- Additional communications in process:
 - For undocumented residents (via Clinician Speakers Bureau, immigrant community groups, and businesses).

Clinician Speakers Bureau

- Additional community forums in process (among immigrant communities and faith communities).

Cambridge Public Schools Testing

- **PCR Testing.** As of October 20, there have been:

CPS Staff:

- A total of 1,495 unique adults tested
- A total of 24,823 tests administered

CPS Students:

- A total of 1,368 unique children tested
- A total of 5,663 tests administered

- Since October 20, **59 positive cases** have been identified through school PCR testing.
- **Pooled Testing.** On Monday, April 5, CPHD administered:
 - 274 testing pools; approximately 1,570 children swabbed.