

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

COVID-19 WEEKLY REPORT

CAMBRIDGE CITY COUNCIL

APRIL 5, 2021



Cambridge  
Public Health  
Department

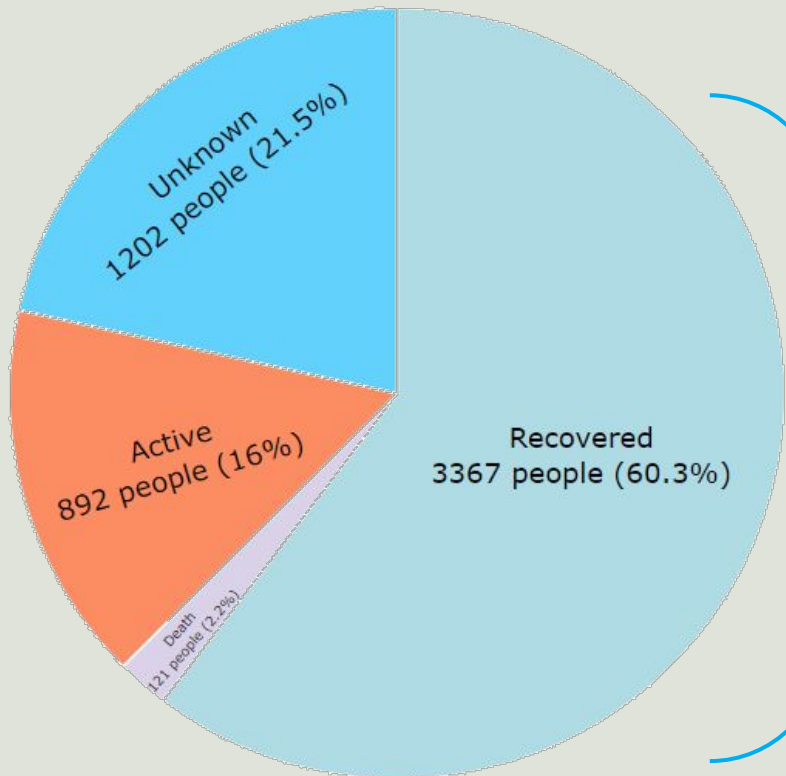


**CHA** Cambridge  
Health Alliance



# Case Snapshot (as of April 2)

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



## 5,582 Total Cases<sup>1</sup>

(confirmed, probable and suspect)

- 5,278 in the community
- 304 cases in long-term cares

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

- 63% of deaths were among LTC residents

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

- 16% of all cases are active

## 17.3 Confirmed Cases per 100,000<sup>1</sup>

(7-day average for March 26–April 1)

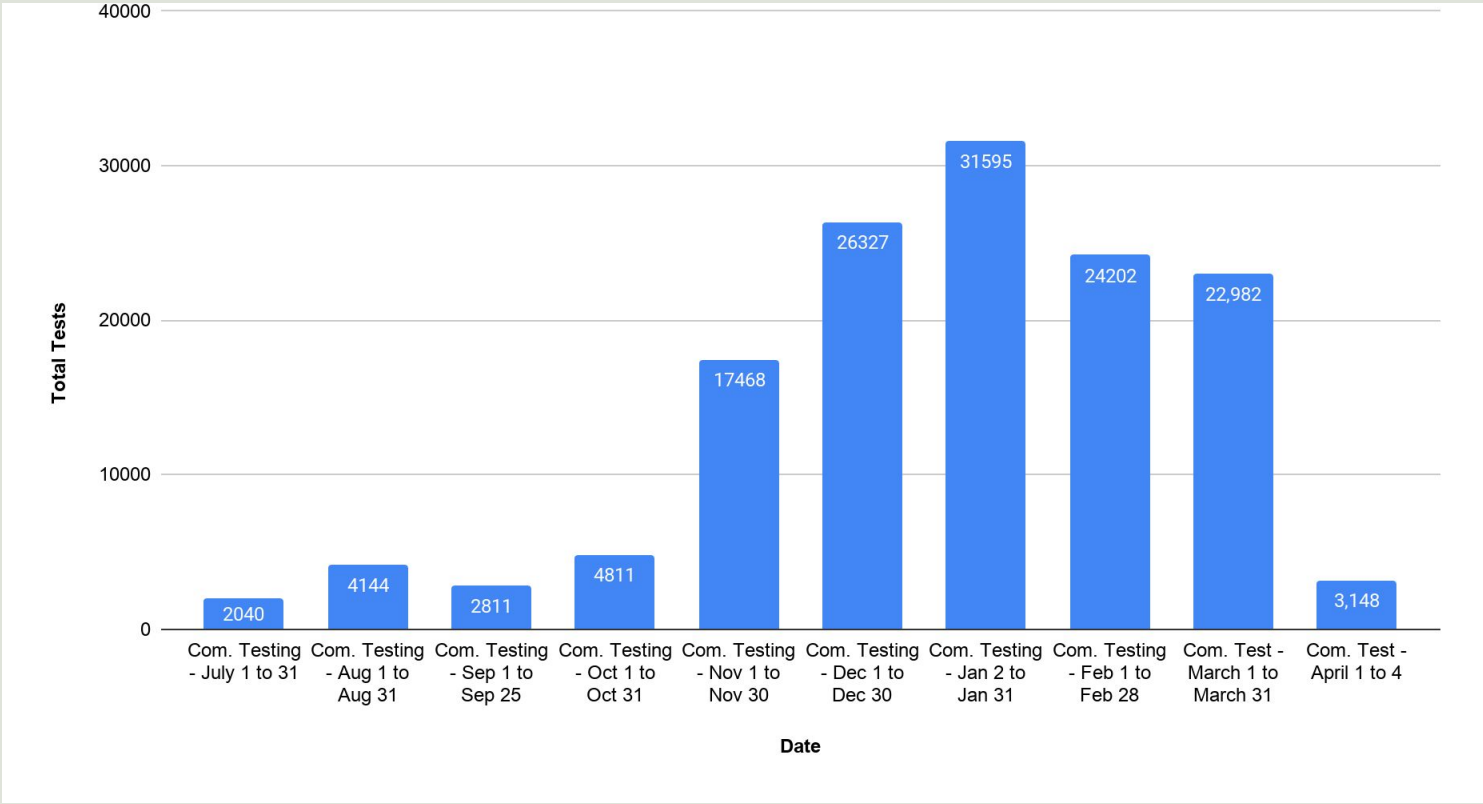
## Test Positivity<sup>2</sup>

- 0.56% (2-week period ending March 27)

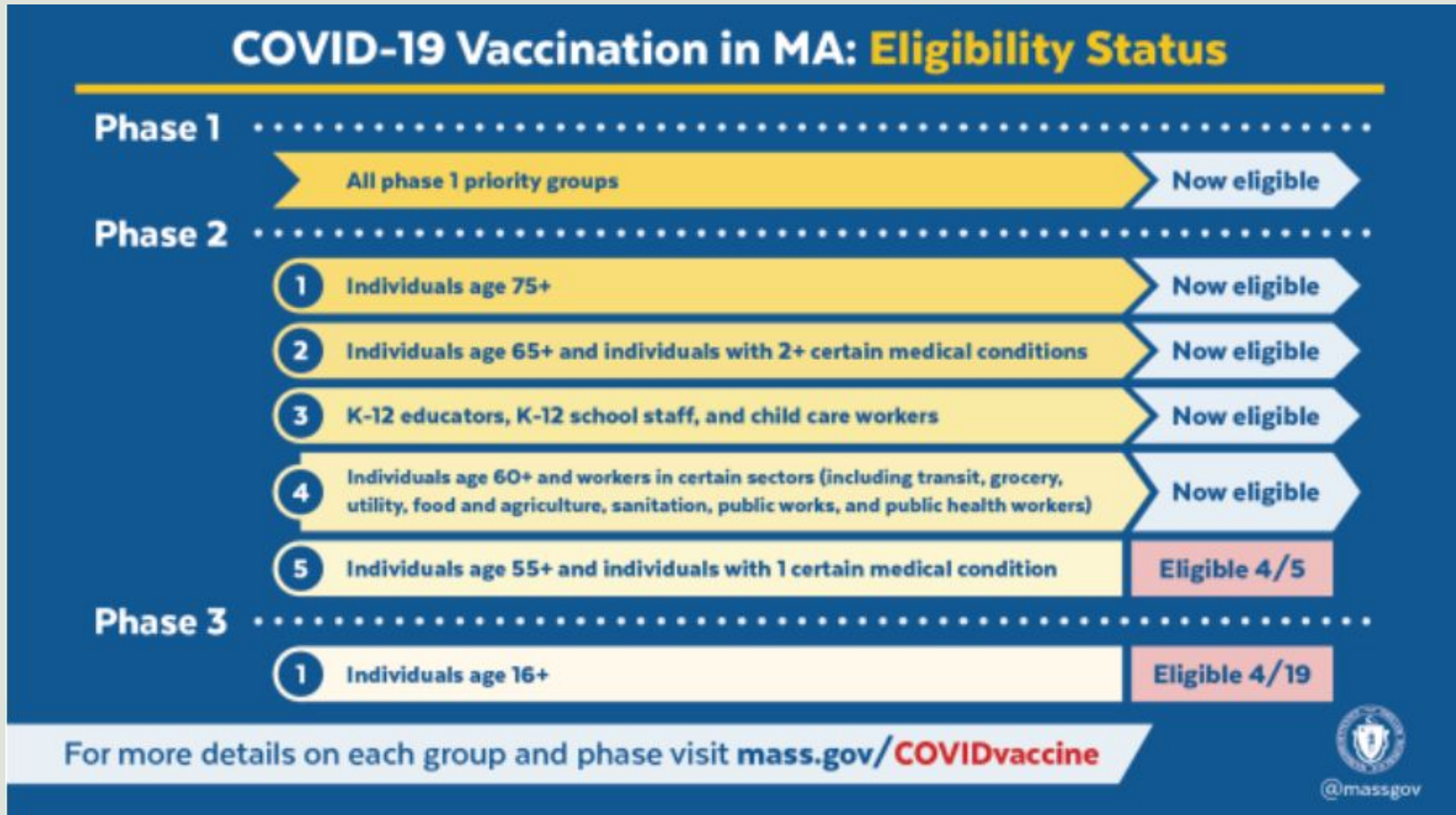
Sources: <sup>1</sup>Cambridge Public Health Department data, accessed on 4/02/21 @ 5 pm;

<sup>2</sup>Massachusetts Department of Public Health Weekly COVID-19 Report, April 1, 2021.

# COVID-19 Community Testing in Cambridge



# COVID-19 Vaccine Update



# State Vaccine Update

- **33% of Massachusetts residents** have received at least one dose of vaccine, as of March 30.<sup>1</sup>
- MA vaccine supply increased 15% for week of March 26–April 1 compared to prior week, with over 602,500 doses shipped to MA from the federal government.<sup>2</sup>
- Timeline for remaining groups:
  - **April 5:** Residents age 55+ and those with one medical condition that meets state criteria.
  - **April 19:** General public age 16+.
- Residents can pre-register to book an appointment at a mass vaccination site at [mass.gov/COVIDVaccine](https://mass.gov/COVIDVaccine).

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

# City Vaccine Update

## Phase 2 Eligible Groups

**Cambridge Pandemic Collaborative** began administering vaccines in early January. As of April 1:

- **2,672 eligible people** had received at least one dose (*Moderna*) or the single-dose vaccine (*J&J*) at City-run clinics.
- **CHA Senior/Disabled Housing:** For the week ending April 2, a total of 276 people had received at least one dose (*Moderna*) or the single-dose (*J & J*) in CHA senior/disabled housing, and in other low-income housing.
- **Unhoused Residents:** Between Jan. 20-Feb. 26, CPHD and its partners provided a total of 631 first and second doses (*Moderna*) to our unhoused community.

# City Vaccine Update

- **Undocumented Residents:**

- As a sanctuary City, Cambridge is committed to providing services to all residents, regardless of immigration status, which extends to vaccinations.
- We do not ask for identification of anyone who participates in a City-run vaccine clinic.

- **Vaccinating children under the age of 16:**

- *Pfizer* expects their vaccine to be ready for use in teens ages 12-15+ in late summer/early fall; trials of the other vaccines are also underway.
- Expectation that children ages 5-11+ will be able to be vaccinated in early 2022, with the very youngest children getting vaccines later next year.

- **Neighborhood Outreach:**

- CPHD and the City are working on a concrete plan to vaccinate eligible residents in neighborhoods hardest hit by the pandemic.

# City Vaccine Update (as of March 30)

## 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 <sup>1</sup>	MA <sup>2</sup>
Asian	15%	21%
<b>Black</b>	<b>29%</b>	<b>22%</b>
<b>Hispanic/Latinx</b>	<b>17%</b>	<b>15%</b>
Multiracial	21%	31%
White	29%	34%
Total % of all residents who have received at least one dose	28%	33%

<sup>1</sup>MA Department of Public Health Weekly COVID-19 Municipality Vaccination Report, April 1, 2021.<sup>2</sup> Race/Ethnicity Data: MA Department of Public Health Weekly Vaccine Report, April 1, 2021. Data for Cambridge and Massachusetts are current as of March 30, 2021.



# COVID-19 Vaccine Communications

## Communications Campaign

- Citywide mailing announcing “eligibility for all” with instructions on how to register (multiple languages and low-literacy) will land in mailboxes mid-April.
- Micro-targeted campaign being operationalized by communications consultants, City, and CPHD.

## Clinician Speakers Bureau

- Haitian Community; co-sponsored with Cambridge Public Library (April 19).
- Outreach in progress to other immigrant communities; faith community.

# Cambridge Public Schools Testing

- **PCR Testing.** As of October 2020, there have been:
  - CPS Staff:*
    - A total of 1,463 unique adults tested
    - A total of 21,538 tests administered
  - CPS Students:*
    - A total of 1,266 unique children tested
    - A total of 4,185 tests administered
- Since October 2020, **50 positive cases** have been identified through school PCR testing.
- **Pooled Testing.** On Monday, March 27, CPHD administered 263 testing pools; approximately 1,476 children were swabbed.

# Behind the Numbers

CPHD and City partners have been vaccinating Cambridge residents since January, and the voices of our community have important stories. This email was sent to CPHD's Associate Chief for Clinical Services by the daughter of a 97 y.o. homebound woman who received her COVID-19 vaccine.

*“Most appreciated of all is your care. It is so uplifting to know people like you and the EM technicians. You are not only saving lives but bringing joy into elderly homes-my mother so enjoyed all of you as did I. I am an artist and am sending you my Angel of Hope for the 3 earth angels who came to us yesterday”.*