

TOWN OF WESTWOOD
COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS
Weekly Update as of 11.6.20

Visit Westwood's Coronavirus [website](#) for daily updates
Health Department COVID-19 Case Update

Total confirmed cases in Massachusetts: 166,745
Total cases in Norfolk County: 12,291
Total documented cases in Westwood: 207 (+9)
New Cases in MA today: 1,809
Test Positivity Rate: 1.20%

The Massachusetts Department of Public Health is now reporting COVID-19 cases by city and town. This information is updated each week on Thursday and is available for your viewing [here](#). In addition, daily updates and information about COVID-19 and necessary precautions continue to be available on the [MDPH COVID-19 website](#).

A message from the Health Director:

I write this week to update you all after the latest revisions to the COVID-19 metrics released by the Governor's Office and are now in effect as well as updated mask regulations, guidelines on gatherings, limits on hours of operation for certain businesses and the introduction of the Stay at Home Advisory. [Please click here for the Latest MA COVID-19 Guidance](#).

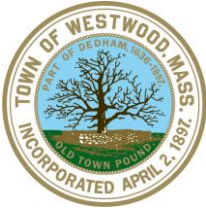
The basic difference between the old reporting format and the new focuses around a town's population and the testing positivity rate factoring to our color coded designation.

Westwood recorded 16 new cases of COVID-19 in the 14-day period from 10/18-10/31 and our testing positivity rate was 1.20%. Under the new color coded system our Average Daily Incidence Rate per One Hundred Thousand residents was calculated to be 7.8. This rate when coupled with our low percent positivity has us identified as green.

I am not relying on the color coded indicator as a method of determining how "safe" it is in Westwood with respect to COVID-19 transmission. No matter our color coded designation and the calculations used to arrive at it, our goal remains reducing the rate of COVID-19 transmission to the greatest extent possible.

To that end, we need to realize that we are heading into a pivotal moment in our community's efforts to contain COVID-19 before the holiday season is upon us. With a recent cluster at the high school and dwindling daylight and colder temperatures encroaching upon us, we must realize now that this is the time where the virus will spread most easily we all need take responsibility for ourselves and our families' COVID-19 prevention practices and make sure we are following the recommendations as much as possible.

Stay Well,
Jared



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