



TOWN OF WESTWOOD
COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS
Weekly Update as of 12.17.20

Visit Westwood's Coronavirus [website](#) for daily updates

Health Department COVID-19 Case Update

Total confirmed cases in Massachusetts: 292,316

Total cases in Norfolk County: 21,684

Total documented cases in Westwood: 381 (+36)

New Cases in MA today: 4,985

Test Positivity Rate: 3.76 (+0.84)

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:

As we are now in the middle of the winter holiday season, the Board of Health would like wish you all a happy and safe holiday season. We would also like to remind all residents that it is recommended that they stay at home this year and only celebrate the holidays with members of their immediate household with whom they have already been quarantining. We realize some may still choose to gather and if you do, we remind you to do so safely by quarantining and getting tested for COVID-19 if you attend or host any gathering over the limits set forth by the Governor.

With a COVID-19 vaccine becoming available we feel the beginning of the end of the pandemic is upon us. Unfortunately, the vaccine is not available to us now so we must remain vigilant to protect ourselves from COVID-19 infection while we wait. This is the hardest time of year to separate ourselves from friends and family, but we must continue to make choices that will keep ourselves and our families safe.

If you leave MA for the holidays or winter recess you must comply with the Governor's Travel Order. You must fill out a MA Travel Form and self-quarantine for 14 days upon your return. If you choose to get a COVID-19 test instead, you should schedule that test for within 72 hours of your return to MA. You MUST self-quarantine while you await your result. The only reason you should leave your home during this time is for urgent medical care.

If your family includes school aged children, be extra cautious that an immediate return to school without isolation, quarantine or testing for COVID-19 puts others at risk and threatens the ability of the schools to continue to provide the in person learning our children need to continue to grow socially and emotionally during this time.

We look ahead with hope and optimism for 2021.

Happy Holidays and Stay Well,

Jared