

## TOWN OF WESTWOOD COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS

### Weekly Update as of 1.25.21

# Visit Westwood's Coronavirus <u>website</u> for daily updates Health Department COVID-19 Case Update

Total confirmed cases in Massachusetts: 458,089
Total cases in Norfolk County: 36,134
Total documented cases in Westwood: 673
New Cases in MA today: 3,750
Test Positivity Rate: 6.02%

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 <a href="https://example.com/here">here</a>. In addition, daily updates and information about COVID-19 and necessary precautions continue to be available on the <a href="https://example.covid-19-nd-2-19

#### A message from the Health Director:

Dear Westwood Residents,

I am writing to update you on the latest COVID-19 metrics for the Town as well as to discuss the latest changes to Governor Baker's orders and outline where we are in the vaccine rollout.

According to the January 19, 2021 Weekly Public Health report, Westwood saw 159 new cases of COVID-19 reported over the previous 14 days. This number is 17 cases higher than the previous 14-day window reported on January 12, 2021 which was 142 new cases. What's more telling is the 14-day window reported on January 5, 2021 showed Westwood with 92 new cases during that reporting period. We have now documented 673 COVID-19 cases since testing began with approximately 220 (or 30%) of the cases occurring since the New Year. The data clearly shows the winter surge has not been kind to our community. Please keep these figures in mind as you plan to attend or host any gatherings as well as when you make choices to participate in any activity outside of your immediate household.

Beginning Monday January 25, 2021, the Governor has rescinded his order mandating certain businesses close early, although occupancy limits remain in effect. A full text of that order can be found at: https://www.mass.gov/temporary-limits-reopening-massachusetts

The Westwood Fire Department has vaccinated close to 90 first responders and other Phase 1 eligible staff. The Board of Health is grateful for the Fire Department's participation in this most important task. We are currently hard at work planning to open our vaccine site which will offer vaccination to Phase eligible residents and workers in Westwood. This vaccine site is being planned to open the when the Governor allows Phase 2 vaccinations to begin. We will announce details on how to sign up for an appointment when more information has been communicated to us from the State. The vaccine supply chain has proven inconsistent and we are doing everything we can to secure vaccine for residents. It is our hope that in addition to



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Gillette Stadium, other vaccine sites will continue to come on-line allowing for increased availability of appointments for individuals to be vaccinated. If you have questions about the vaccine timeline, please visit:

https://www.mass.gov/info-details/covid-19-vaccine-distribution-timeline-phase-overview

For all other inquiries please leave a message on our COVID-19 hotline (781) 320-1085.

Stay Well, Jared

Jared Orsini REHS/RS Health Director Westwood Board of Health