

## TOWN OF WESTWOOD COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS

### Weekly Update as of 2.23.21

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

Total confirmed cases in Massachusetts: 533,024
Total cases in Norfolk County: 43,929
Total documented cases in Westwood: 872 (+78)
New Cases in MA today: 1,803
Test Positivity Rate: 3.32%

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">MDPH COVID-19 website</a>.

#### A message from the Health Director:

February 23, 2021

Dear Westwood Residents,

I am writing to update you on the current COVID-19 metrics in Westwood. According to the February 18, 2021 Weekly Public Health Report there have been 872 total confirmed COVID-19 cases in Westwood since testing began. In the last 14 days we have had 78 total new cases. This number is significantly lower than the 121 that was reported in the 14-day case count on February 11th. Our test positivity rate is also down to 3.32 percent. Both of these numbers have us positioned in the color coded risk category "Yellow" for the 2nd week in a row.

Hopefully this report will be the start in a downward trend in new COVID-19 cases and not just a statistical anomaly. We will continue to monitor the community for signs of clusters or outbreaks.

We would also like to remind all residents how important the continued use of properly fitting masks and social distancing is in all public places both inside and outside.

The CDC has opined recently that the type of mask being worn and the fit of that mask are extremely important to protecting ourselves and each other from COVID-19 transmission. Please take a moment to make sure the masks you are currently using are still in serviceable condition and covers your nose and mouth without any gaps around the edges. Click the link here to learn more. <a href="https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/prevent-getting-sick/mask-fit-and-filtration.html">https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/prevent-getting-sick/mask-fit-and-filtration.html</a>

Lastly, we have been notified by the Commonwealth that our vaccine clinics will be coming to an end once we have administered 2nd doses to all that have come to our clinics at the Senior Center. If you were vaccinated there you should expect an email registration link for your 2nd dose about 7 days before your 2nd dose appointment. The State has committed to supplying us



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with 2nd doses for everyone we have vaccinated at our clinics. For those of you who are eligible and not able to get an appointment here, please know we are disappointed in the Governor's decision and wish we had the opportunity to continue.

For those of you who are now eligible to be vaccinated please visit <a href="https://vaxfinder.mass.gov">https://vaxfinder.mass.gov</a> to search for available appointments, or call 2-1-1 if you do not have internet access.

Stay Well,

Jared Orsini REHS/RS Health Director Westwood Board of Health