

## TOWN OF WESTWOOD COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS

## Weekly Update as of 3.9.21

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

Total confirmed cases in Massachusetts: 553,220
Total cases in Norfolk County: 46,398
Total documented cases in Westwood: 904 (+32)
New Cases in MA today: 892
Test Positivity Rate: 1.54%

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:

Dear Westwood Residents,

Westwood has seen its 14-day case count per 100,000 residents fall for the 3rd straight week. We have had 34 new cases in that time period. This was down from 40 the previous week. Our percent positive test rate is also lower, down to 1.54 from 1.67. All told, our numbers are clearly trending in the right direction. We have had a total of 904 residents test positive for COVID-19 since testing began.

Since our last message, the Commonwealth has re-entered Phase 3, Step 2 of the Governor's phased reopening plan. Most notably capacity increases to 50 percent are now acceptable in most businesses, and indoor dining is allowed to operate without limit so long as all tables remain six feet apart, parties are no larger than 6, and the meal lasts no longer than 90 minutes.

The Governor also announced a plan for the Commonwealth to move to Phase 4 Step 1 should our case counts continue their downward trajectory. Large capacity venues, amusement parks and some health club operations would be allowed to resume in Phase 4. More information will be provided as me move closer to that time.

An additional vaccine has been approved by the FDA and has been put into use in the Commonwealth. The single dose J&J vaccine is now available as an alternative to 2 dose Pfizer and Moderna vaccine. The J&J vaccine may not be the right choice for every resident, so please do your research and consult with your healthcare provider if you have any questions.

Vaccine supplies are still extremely limited and with 65+ residents and educators eligible along with 75+ and those with 2 or more co-morbidities, we urge everyone to be patient when planning their vaccine appointment realizing it may be difficult to find one right away.

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