



## CORONAVIRUS BRIEFING: AUGUST 12, 2020

THE CENTRAL COMMUNICATIONS BRIEFING FOR THE TOWN OF WELLESLEY

Visit Wellesley's Coronavirus Information Hub at [www.wellesleyma.gov/coronavirus](http://www.wellesleyma.gov/coronavirus)

### Wellesley Health Department COVID-19 Case Update.

**Total confirmed and probable cases in Massachusetts:** 121,707

**Total cases in Norfolk County:** 10,682

**Total confirmed positive cases in Wellesley:** 258 (2 new cases in the past week)

Total probable cases (positive antibody tests): 126

Wellesley Health Department officials are reporting two new confirmed positive cases of COVID-19 in our community in the past week, raising our total confirmed case count from the start of the pandemic to 258. The majority of these cases have recovered. None of these new cases are in long-term care facilities. Due to extraordinary vigilance, sanitation, and adherence to restrictions, the case count in our long-term care facilities remains at 82.

There are 36 new probable cases of COVID-19 in Wellesley. This number is separate from the confirmed positive case number and reflects the individuals who have tested positive for COVID-19 antibodies but are not actively ill. As more people are tested, officials expect to see greater increases in this number.

**Want to get tested for COVID-19?** The Massachusetts Emergency Management Agency (MEMA) offers a map to locate test sites near Wellesley. Click on the [Test Site Locator](#) and input your information. Learn more about the specific types of COVID-19 tests, how they're administered, and their accuracy in this [FDA Coronavirus Testing Basics Guide](#).

### Enhanced Community Data on the Spread of COVID-19.

In an effort to implement community specific strategies to stop the spread of the virus and determine where more resources are needed, the Massachusetts Department of Public Health is providing enhanced COVID-19 data on every community in the Commonwealth. A [map of COVID-19 cases by community](#) is now part of the MDPH weekly report, categorizing cities and towns as red (higher risk), yellow (moderate risk), green/white (lower risk) based upon the average daily COVID-19 incidence rate per community. Wellesley is in the green (lower risk) category with less than 4 cases per 100,000 residents. [See the most recent map and the weekly COVID-19 Public Health Report](#).

### September 1, 2020 Election Ballots.

The Town Clerk's office has received more than 7,000 Vote-by-Mail ballot requests to date for the September 1, 2020 State Primary and the Board of Selectmen Special Election. This could result in one of the highest election turnouts ever!

Staff in the Clerk's office are working as quickly as possible to process all requests. As this is a dual election, there are two different ballots which must be mailed separately. Some residents have received only one of the two ballots or are missing ballots per household. PLEASE BE PATIENT!

To track requested ballots for the State Primary, go to

<https://www.sec.state.ma.us/wheredoivotema/track/trackmyballot.aspx>

A ballot listed as “pending” means that the request has been received and the ballot will be mailed by the end of this week.

**PLEASE NOTE:** Vote-by-Mail ballots for the State Primary are postage paid, however ballots for the Board of Selectmen Special Election require a 55 cent or Forever stamp to be processed by the U.S. Post Office. Completed ballots also may be placed in the secure ballot Drop Box in front of Wellesley Town Hall.

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