



CORONAVIRUS BRIEFING: NOVEMBER 9, 2020

THE CENTRAL COMMUNICATIONS BRIEFING FOR THE TOWN OF WELLESLEY

Visit Wellesley's COVID-19 Information Hub at www.wellesleyma.gov/coronavirus

Total confirmed cases in Massachusetts: 166,745

[View the COVID-19 daily dashboard.](#)

Total confirmed positive cases in Wellesley: 314 (14 new cases in past 14 days)

Average Daily Incidence Rate/100,000 for Wellesley: 3.36 (past 14 days)

Total Tests: 56,918

[See the weekly COVID-19 Public Health Report.](#) *Data from November 6.

Revised COVID-19 Community Risk Map.

State health officials have updated the criteria for town-by-town COVID-19 information. A revised [COVID-19 community risk map](#) was released on Friday with data that is adjusted to reflect the population size of cities and towns. For small communities, color-coded categories will be assigned based on only the number of new cases. Mid- to large-size communities will be color-coded according to the positive test rate. Wellesley has a population of approximately 28,000 and is considered a mid-size community. The map color-coding for our community is as follows:

Population 10,000-50,000:

- Grey: Less than or equal to 10 total cases
- Green: Fewer than 10 average daily cases per 100,000 in population and more than 10 total cases
- Yellow: 10 or more average daily cases per 100,000 in population OR a positive test rate of 5% or higher
- Red: 10 or more average daily cases per 100,000 in population AND a positive test rate of 5% or higher

Hockey/Ice Skating Resumes.

Hockey and ice skating has resumed and ice rinks have reopened but must adhere to the current COVID-19 orders now in place and all sector-specific guidelines. Hockey is considered a moderate risk contact sport. [Guidelines for sports](#) include:

- Wearing masks at all times.
- Keeping updated rosters for all participants in order to assist with contact tracing if necessary.
- No tournaments (or weekend series/jamborees).
- No out-of-state travel, or hosting out-of-state teams, or players for any high or moderate risk sports.
- Except for accessing restrooms or if used for in-person learning to change clothing, locker rooms may not be used before, during, or after games, or for team meetings.
- Unless absolutely necessary, do not drive anyone other than family members.
- Spectators for indoor facilities are limited to 50% of building occupancy, or 2 adult chaperones and sibling of a participating player.

- No congregating or tailgating in common areas or parking lots for any sports.

Updated Travel Rules.

California is no longer on the list of lower-risk states for Massachusetts travelers. Current **lower-risk states** are Hawaii, Maine, New Hampshire, New York, Vermont, Washington State, and Washington D.C. Under the Massachusetts travel rules, anyone entering or returning to Massachusetts from a state other than these on the lower-risk list must fill out a [Massachusetts Travel Form](#) and quarantine for 14 days unless they test negative for COVID-19.

Reminder: New COVID-19 Orders Now in Effect.

New executive orders to stop the spread of rising COVID-19 cases in Massachusetts are now in effect. They include:

Statewide Mask Order

- Masks or face coverings are now **mandatory** for everyone over 5 years old, whenever in public, indoors or outdoors, and regardless of the ability to maintain social distancing.

Stay at Home Advisory

- All residents are advised to stay home between the hours of 10 p.m. and 5 a.m. (Permitted exceptions are commuting for work or school, emergency care, essential errands such as emergency care, grocery store or pharmacy trips, take-out food pick up or delivery.) **Along with the Stay at Home advisory**, restaurants must stop in-person dining by 9:30 p.m., retail alcohol sales must end by 9:30 p.m., and gyms/recreation areas, entertainment venues, and other businesses must close by 9:30 p.m.

Further Revised Gatherings Order

- Gatherings of any kind are discouraged unless among members of the same household.
- Gatherings at **private residences** are limited to no more than 10 people indoors and no more than 25 people outdoors.
- Gatherings at **public spaces or event venues** are limited to no more than 25 people indoors, or no more than 100 people outdoors for lower risk communities such as Wellesley.
- Any gatherings greater than 50 people must notify the Wellesley Health Department at least one (1) week prior to the event.

Accurate contact tracing is critical to stopping the spread of Coronavirus. Please be responsible and help the Health Department by providing complete and timely information about any possible COVID-19 exposures in our community.

Questions? Please [email](#) the Health Department or call 781-235-0315.

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