



CORONAVIRUS BRIEFING: FEBRUARY 19, 2021

THE CENTRAL COMMUNICATIONS BRIEFING FOR THE TOWN OF WELLESLEY

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

Total confirmed COVID-19 cases in Massachusetts: 536,506

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

Total confirmed positive cases in Wellesley: 992 (50 new cases in past 14 days)

Average Daily Incidence Rate/100,000 for Wellesley: 12.0 (past 14 days)

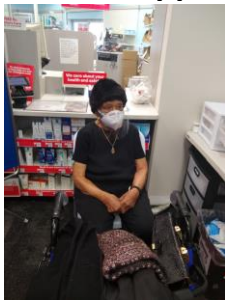
Percent Positivity of Testing: 0.42% (past 14 days)

[View the Weekly COVID-19 Public Health Report.](#)

Wellesley's percent positivity rate continues to decrease. Health officials are encouraged by this news but are reminding the community that Wellesley is still in the yellow (moderate) risk category. Please continue to follow all of the current COVID-19 precautions – wearing a mask, keeping your distance, and washing your hands – even if you have been vaccinated for COVID-19.

The Health Department has reported the first case in Wellesley of the U.K. COVID-19 variant (B.1.1.7). This case appears to be from community spread and not acquired from traveling.

Vaccine Appointments for 65+ and 2+ Medical Conditions



Individuals [now eligible for the COVID-19 vaccine](#) continue to be frustrated by difficulties scheduling appointments. The State is streamlining vaccine allocations and prioritizing mass vaccination sites and retail pharmacies instead of local clinic to dispense shots. Wellesley public health officials are urging eligible residents not to not wait to get vaccinated and check State websites frequently for appointments.

At left, Wellesley's oldest resident Herlda Senhouse, age 110 (almost!), received her first dose of the vaccine.

- [Massachusetts vaccine finder](#) (State website)
- [Vaccinate MA](#) (independent website)

The Council on Aging continues to provide scheduling help for residents at **781-235-3961**. Seniors can also call the State call center at **2-1-1** for assistance, Monday through Friday from 8:30 a.m. to 5 p.m.

Vote-by-Mail Ballots

The final day to request Vote-by-Mail ballots for the 2021 Town Election is Wednesday, February 24. The Town Clerk's office recommends completing the [application](#) before that date to allow for mailing time. Applications can be returned by email, U.S. mail, or placing it in the Town Hall drop box. In-person voting will take place on March 2 at specific polling locations in Wellesley. Election information is available on the [Town Clerk webpages](#).