



Weekly COVID-19 Report

On Friday, November 6, the Massachusetts Department of Public Health (DPH) modified the metrics used to classify city and town risk level designations, to be more in line with metrics being used by other states. When they published the updated town by town information this week, our community risk designation was reclassified to the YELLOW (moderate risk) level, based on new cases in the 14 day period ending October 31. According to their weekly reports, our numbers went from 13.0 Average Daily Incident Rate per 100,000 on October 29 up to 18.2 Average Daily Incident Rate per 100,000 on November 6.

Average Daily Incident Rate per 100,000 (last* 14 days)

8/12/2020	8/19/2020	8/26/2020		
3.1	0	2.6		
9/2/2020	9/9/2020	9/16/2020	9/23/2020	9/30/2020
5.7	3.1	1.1	8.3	9.3
10/7/2020	10/14/2020	10/22/2020	10/29/2020	
5.7	8.8	9.3	13.0	
11/6/2020				
18.2				

New metrics (as of November 6) for communities with 10,000-50,000 population

Gray: less than or equal to 10 total cases

Green: less than 10 cases per 100,000 population AND greater than 10 total cases

Yellow: greater than or equal to 10 cases per 100,000 population OR greater than or equal to 5% positivity rate

Red: greater than or equal to 10 cases per 100,000 population AND greater than or equal to 5% positivity rate

**last 14 days* refers to the two-week reporting period ending the Saturday prior to the DPH's weekly report

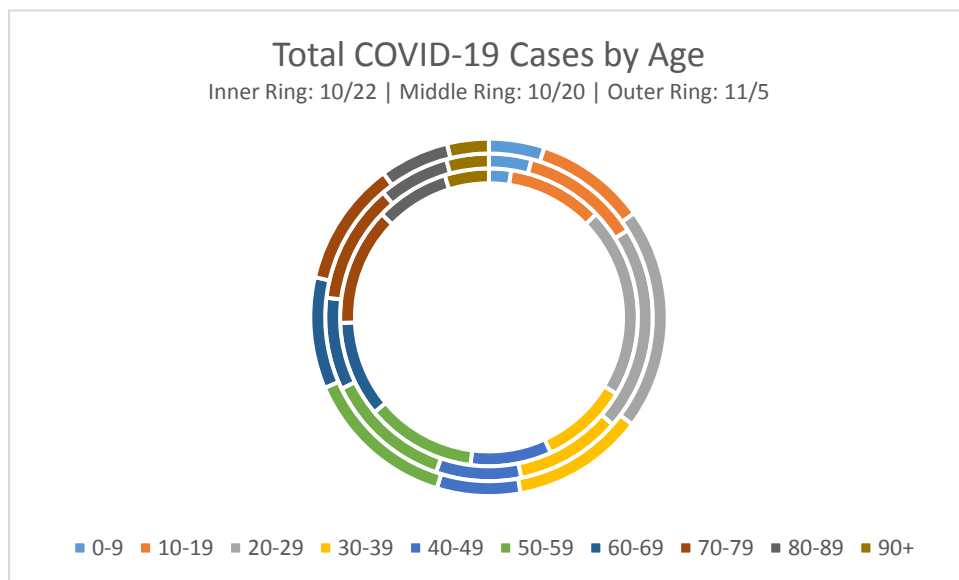
We no longer have any cases at either a long-term care facility or an elderly housing complex. Looking at our list of active cases, there are 3 clusters co-located at single family homes, and 15 individual cases at other single family homes. That means our 22 cases are spread out over 18 distinct addresses. Contact tracing is not finding demonstrable linkage between most cases in these locations; community spread continues to occur. Consistent with statewide trends, spread in a few cases can be traced back to informal gatherings, eating out, and participating in sports leagues.

MEMA sent out a Wireless Alert on Wednesday evening to cellular devices within range of the cell towers covering Holliston. This contained similar messaging sent by the Town on October 28, emphasizing the key mitigation steps of use of approved face coverings, washing hands, maintaining physical distancing, staying home if sick, getting tested, and stopping gatherings with family and friends. Those who did not get a Blackboard alert the previous week can register for the system at <https://townofhollistonportal.bbcportal.com/>



Looking at our local data, there was a 33% increase in cases in the 0-9 age range, and a 10% increase in cases in the 20-29 age range between October 29 and November 5.

For the second week in a row, those in the 80-89 and 90+ age ranges saw *no change* from October 29 to November 5, while those in the 70-79 age range saw only a 6% increase during that same time period.



Because we had been a RED community within the last three weeks, we are still not permitted to move into Step 2 of Phase III of the Commonwealth's reopening plan. We will not be permitted to move from Step 1 until we have not been designated as RED in any of the last three weekly DPH reports. This continues to restrict both indoor and outdoor gathering sizes, along with sector specific restrictions for other segments of our economy. The inability to move to Step 2 of Phase III is independent of the changes to gathering size restrictions and the *Stay at Home Advisory* which went into effect statewide at 12:01 AM on Friday, November 6.

#MaskUpMA