



TOWN OF WESTPORT
WESTPORT, MASSACHUSETTS 02790

OFFICE OF BOARD OF HEALTH
856 MAIN ROAD

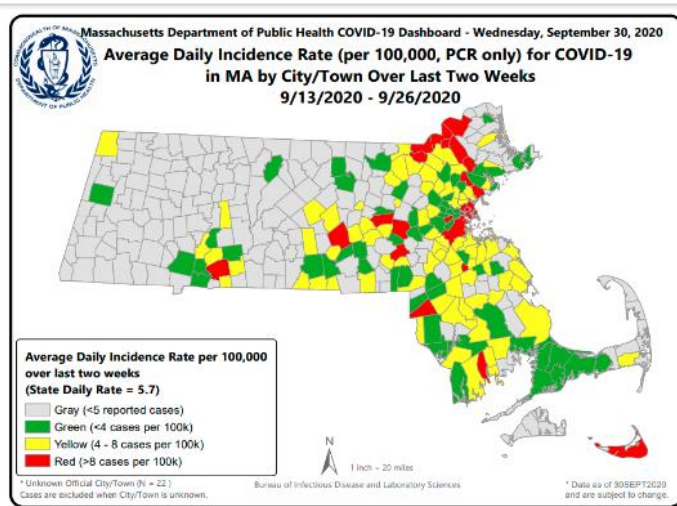
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Westport Board of Health COVID-19 Update
October 1, 2020

Case Update:

Total number of state confirmed COVID-19 positive cases of Westport residents as of Sept. 30th is **136, which is an increase of 3 cases since last week**. Westport remains in the **green** or low risk category. The rolling 14 day incidence rate is now 3.4/100,000. We have had 125 recoveries to date, and no new deaths or hospitalizations.



But as can be seen on [the statewide interactive map](#), the number of high risk towns has climbed due to a spike in cases – which are often associated with large gatherings. So if we want Westport to stay green we have to keep at it and maintain social distancing, wear face coverings, and wash or sanitize hands frequently. The state map is updated based on the [state's weekly community COVID report](#), which is published every Wednesday evening.

Statewide there have been **129,753 confirmed cases** and **9,242 confirmed deaths** as of September 30th. The state is also reporting 847 cases associated with higher education to date, with 218 added in the last week.

Testing Data:

5721 COVID tests have been performed on Westport residents up through September 30th. There were **9 positive tests** out of 713 done in the last 14 days for a rate of **1.26%; a small increase**. The statewide 14-day average is holding at 0.87% positive.

The state's **Stop the Spread** free testing initiative in certain communities has been extended through October. The sites in these communities are open to all. To find a site visit www.mass.gov/stophespread.

Other COVID-related news:

"Phase 3, Step II" starts Monday, October 5th for lower-risk communities – including Westport. *Lower risk communities are cities and towns that have not been a designated in the "red" category in any of the last three weekly DPH weekly reports.*

Effective October 5, a **limited number of sectors** can reopen with restrictions:

- Indoor performance venues can open with 50% capacity with a max. of 250
- Outdoor performance venue capacity will increase to 50% or max of 250 people.

- Fitting rooms will be allowed to open in all types of retail stores.
- Gyms, museums, libraries & driving schools can also increase capacity to 50%.

Statewide gatherings order is modified, effective October 5:

- The limit for indoor gatherings remains at a maximum of 25 people.
- Outdoor gatherings in private backyards will remain at a maximum of 50 people.
- Outdoor gatherings at event venues and in public settings will have a limit of 100.

Travel Order: The list of higher and lower risk states changes often so make sure to check the status before any travel. The latest (as of 9/26) list of lower risk states is: WA, CO, NM, NY, NJ, VT, NH, ME & CT. Rhode Island remains on the restricted list. Detailed travel order instructions and the travel risk map can be found [here](#). In summary, all visitors entering Massachusetts, including returning residents, must:

1. Complete the online Massachusetts Travel Form prior to arrival, unless they are visiting from a lower-risk state.
2. Quarantine for 14 days or produce a negative COVID-19 test result that has been administered up to 72-hours prior to arrival in Massachusetts.

COVID-19 Community Impact Survey (CCIS) is an online survey to collect data on the social, economic, and health needs and inequities resulting from the COVID-19 pandemic. Open to anyone over age 14: <http://www.mass.gov/COVIDsurvey>

Town COVID Updates:

- **Special Town Meeting – Saturday, October 3rd at 10 am behind the High School.** The BOH will be doing brief COVID-19 screenings and temperature checks before voters sign in.
- **The temporary Food Pantry is at the Westport Grange, 931 Main Rd.** The next food pantry pick-up is scheduled for Monday, October 5th from 9 am to noon at the Grange. Food donation days are Tuesday and Thursday mornings.
- **Schools -** The Westport Community Schools [website](#) has the latest on what is happening locally. You can also find FAQs for families with information from the state at: <http://www.doe.mass.edu/backtoschool/>
- **Town Hall and Annex –** Open to the public, but service by phone, mail, outdoor dropbox, or online is recommended. Face masks are required for in person visits.

Other BOH announcements:

- **Septic system information session:** The Board of Health will host a virtual webinar on Wednesday, October 7th, 2020 at 5:30 pm with several speakers discussing the science and technology related to denitrifying septic systems and a proposed septic regulation. Details are posted on the [BOH website](#).
- **Flu season:** Flu vaccines are available from the Town Nurse by appointment only. Please call 508-636-1030.
- **Extreme Drought:** We are now in extreme drought conditions in southeastern Mass, with higher risk of fire and negative impact on groundwater supply. To reduce risk of your well running dry, eliminate lawn watering and other optional uses.

Stay safe everyone. Thank you for your continued cooperation.

Matthew J. Armendo, Director