

I continue to report on both new confirmed and new probable cases as reported by the DPH and as they appear in MAVEN, respectively. Reporting on both of those numbers allows the best longitudinal comparison with past data and also most accurately reflects the incidence of new cases and thus the workloads of our town Public Health Nurses who carry out the contact tracing work.

Daily new case number in Barnstable County continue at their post-autumn elevated levels. Our **7-day average cases per 100,000 population per day** continues to rise and is 36/100K, with 7-day **average cases per day** of 76. Yesterday afternoon the DPH reported **92** new confirmed cases for Barnstable County.

Barnstable County's 3-day (12/9-12/11) new case tally peaked at **267** cases last week.

Nantucket's 7-day average cases per 100,000 population remains very high at 175/100K (avg. 20 new cases per day) but is down from its high of 202/100K (avg. 23 new cases per day) last week. However, yesterday afternoon the DPH reported **29** new cases for Nantucket.

Martha's Vineyard's 7-day new case rate per 100,000 is climbing, recorded yesterday at 64/100K (avg. 11 cases per day) which is up from 41/100K (avg. 7 cases/day) last week. Tuesday afternoon the DPH reported **20** new confirmed cases for MV; an additional 3 cases were reported yesterday.

During the 14-day period from 11/22 to 12/5/2020 Barnstable County added 840 confirmed cases, with a test positivity rate of 4.39%--higher than the prior two-week period. During that same two-week period Nantucket and Martha's Vineyard jointly added 239 confirmed cases, with a test positivity rate of 5.84%--higher than the prior two-week period. **Martha's Vineyard and Nantucket percent positivity figures remain higher than the statewide positivity rate of 5.25% during the same period.**

**Fatalities** from COVID are increasing in Barnstable County; the total is now **211**. **Our fatalities have now climbed beyond the muted pattern of last summer and fall** (see chart below).

**Hospitalizations** and **acuity of illness** have increased very significantly since the second week of November and remain elevated. Cape Cod Hospital and Falmouth Hospital have now **suspended visitation** of inpatients except under very limited circumstances (end-of-life, etc.).

As of yesterday at 3pm the DPH's reporting shows that there were **39 COVID patients in hospital**, **7** of which were in the **ICU**. (See table below)

**School districts** are staying vigilant and reacting well to new cases. Several school districts (Cape and Islands) are dealing with increased confirmed and probable cases and the necessary knock-on effects of information transfer and follow-up. Several school districts on the Cape and Islands have move to 100% remote learning.

Our County Health Department is working on setting up **additional testing locations in Barnstable County** for both symptomatic and asymptomatic persons--one in Falmouth at the Fairgrounds, one in Hyannis at the Melody Tent, and others on the Outer Cape (location TBD). **The Hyannis and Falmouth locations opened this week**. Eligibility criteria for the testing will includes residency in Barnstable County. Testing will be done by appointment only. Additional details can be found here: <https://www.capecodhealth.org/medical-services/infectious-disease/coronavirus/covid-19-testing-process/>

DPH-mandated **routine testing** in skilled nursing facilities/long term care settings (SNF/LTC) continues. This provides critical surveillance and allows these facilities to stay ahead of asymptomatic spread amongst staff and residents. Routine testing in SNF/LTC settings has increased to weekly for staff.

In addition, the State's **BinaxNOW rapid testing program** (already available to **schools**) has been extended to visitors of **nursing homes** and rest home residents (LTC settings) to allow visitation of residents while limiting the risk of infection from visitors. DPH has published guidance on this. The program has also been extended to **childcare centers** and further information will be forthcoming.

Among the charts below is DPH's weekly analysis of new and active **case clusters**. The table presents the number of cases by type of location, statewide. **I have sorted the DPH data to show the listing of cluster settings by greatest number of new confirmed cases.** The top 5 are listed here; the full table can be found below.

	New Clusters (Identified 11/8/20 – 12/5/20)			Ongoing Clusters (Cluster Identified Prior to 11/8 But Not Meeting Criteria for Closing)			Total		
	Exposure Setting	Clusters	Confirmed Cases	Close Contacts	Clusters	Confirmed Cases	Close Contacts	Clusters	Confirmed Cases
1	Household	12,583	31,921	---	4,812	2,908	---	17,395	34,827
2	Long Term Care Facilities	150	1,437	---	138	1,272	---	288	2,709
3	Child Care	100	283	467	89	47	110	189	330
4	Hospitals	13	191	14	17	85	17	30	256
5	24/7 Congregate Settings	32	186	39	54	87	33	88	253

In addition, the weekly **town risk table** for the Cape and Islands is included below. This week the towns of **Harwich and Yarmouth have joined Barnstable** in being coded Red, indicating highest risk of community spread.

**Regionally** case levels continue to increase, without exception. Travel restrictions among all states in the Northeast Corridor have been mutually re-imposed; Hawaii is now the only state without travel restrictions.

The **State COVID Vaccination Plan** for Phase 1 has been announced and conforms to the phases and prioritized populations identified by the CDC. In Phase 1 of the State Plan healthcare workers, older adults living in skilled nursing facilities/congregate care settings, police/fire/EMS, shelters/corrections, and other healthcare workers will be prioritized for vaccination as doses become available. We hope to see a prioritization of **childcare staff** alongside school staff in Phase 2. First shipments of vaccine will be to hospitals across the state for vaccination of their workers. The State has contracted with **CVS and Walgreens** to arrange vaccination of **older adults in SNFs/congregate care**.



## PHASE ONE

In order of priority

- Clinical and non-clinical healthcare workers doing direct and COVID-facing care
- Long term care facilities, rest homes and assisted living facilities
- Police, Fire and Emergency Medical Services
- Congregate care settings (including corrections and shelters)
- Home-based healthcare workers
- Healthcare workers doing non-COVID-facing care



## PHASE TWO

In order of priority

- Individuals with 2+ comorbidities (high risk for COVID-19 complications)
- Early education, K-12, transit, grocery, utility, food and agriculture, sanitation, public works and public health workers
- Adults 65+
- Individuals with one comorbidity



## PHASE THREE

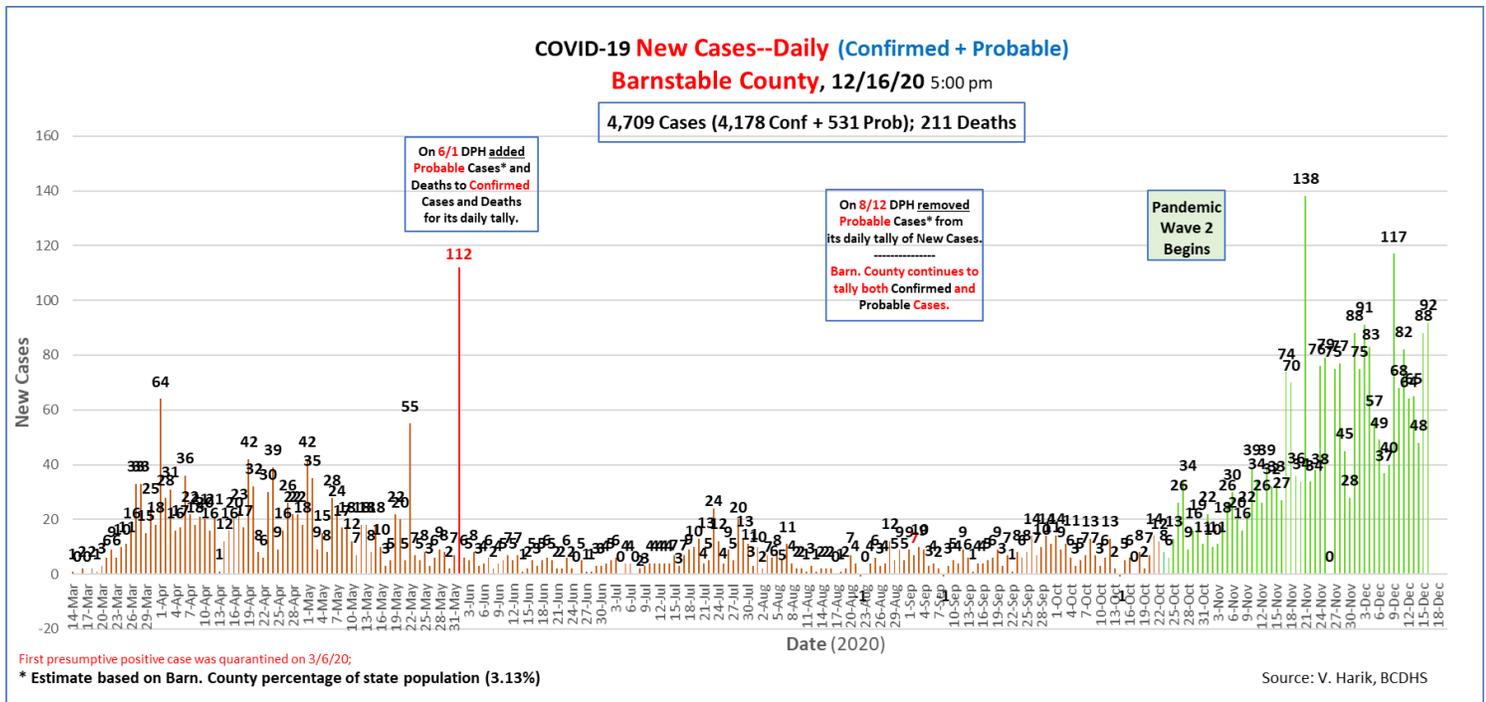
Vaccine available to general public

December - February

Estimated timeframes

February - April

April - June

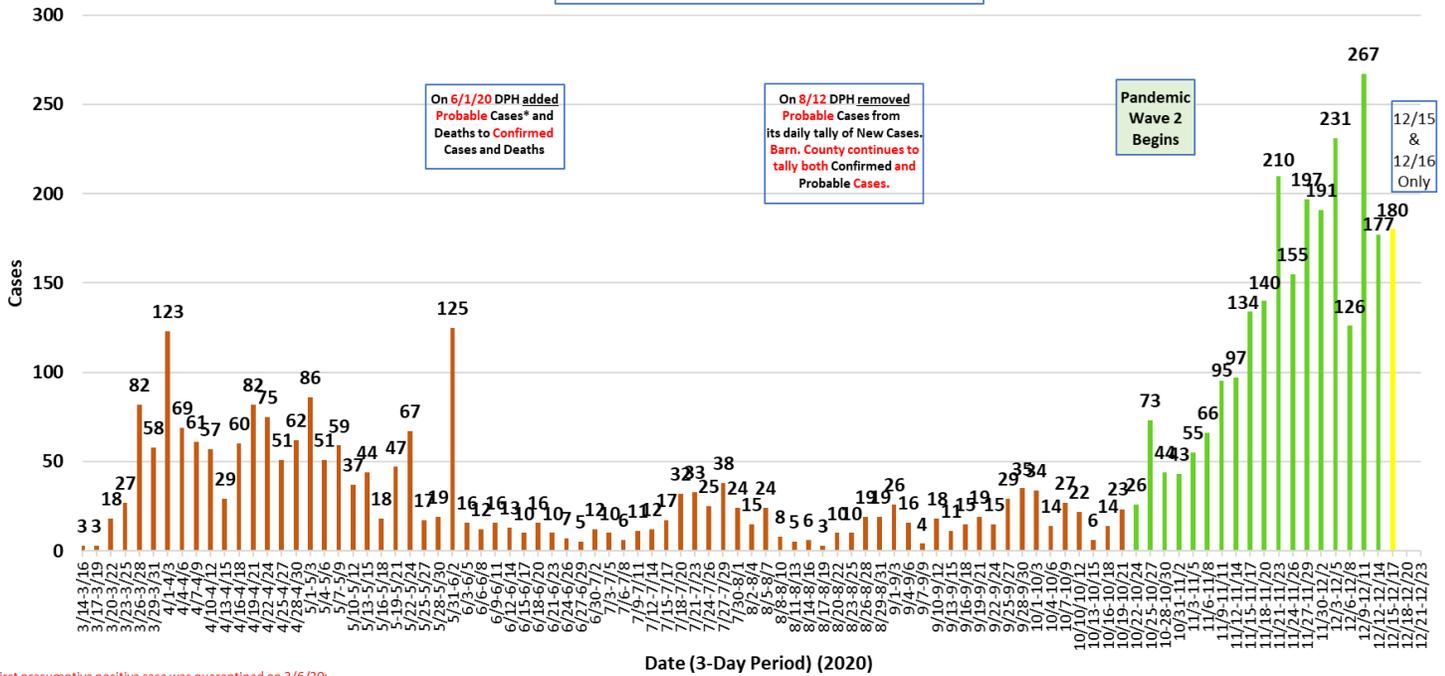


### COVID-19 Epidemiological Curve--New Cases (Confirmed + Probable)

Barnstable County, as of 12/15/20 5:00 pm

(New Cases per 3-Day Period)

4,709 Cases (4,178 Conf + 531 Prob); 211 Deaths



First presumptive positive case was quarantined on 3/6/20;

Incubation Period = 14 Days; Data presented in 3-day periods which equal ~1/4 of the Incubation Period; \* Estimate based on Barn. County percentage of state population (3.13%)

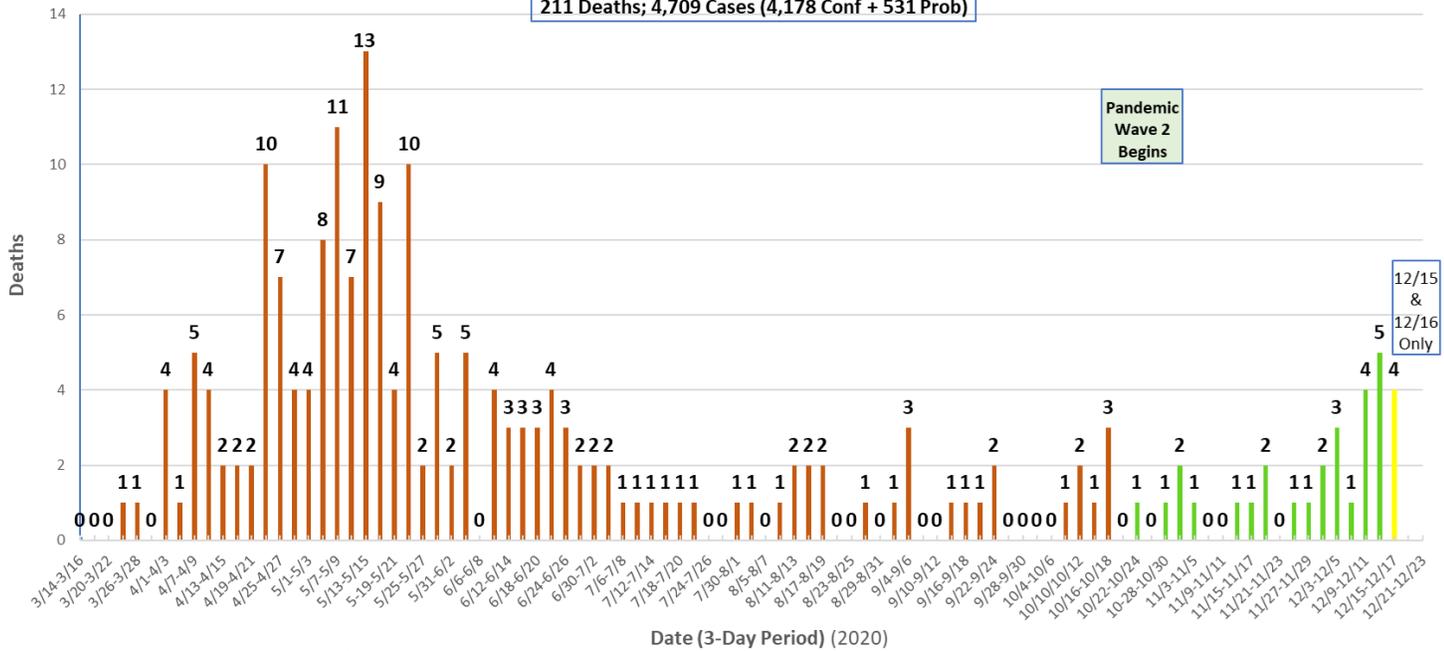
Source: V. Harik, BCDHS

### COVID-19 Epidemiological Curve--New Deaths (Confirmed + Probable)

Barnstable County, as of 12/16/20 5:00 pm

(New Deaths per 3-Day Period)

211 Deaths; 4,709 Cases (4,178 Conf + 531 Prob)



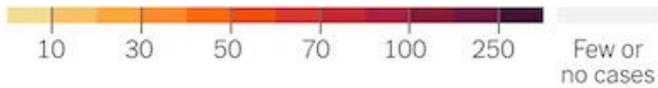
First presumptive positive case was quarantined on 3/6/20;

Incubation Period = 14 Days; Data presented in 3-day periods which equal ~1/4 of the Incubation Period

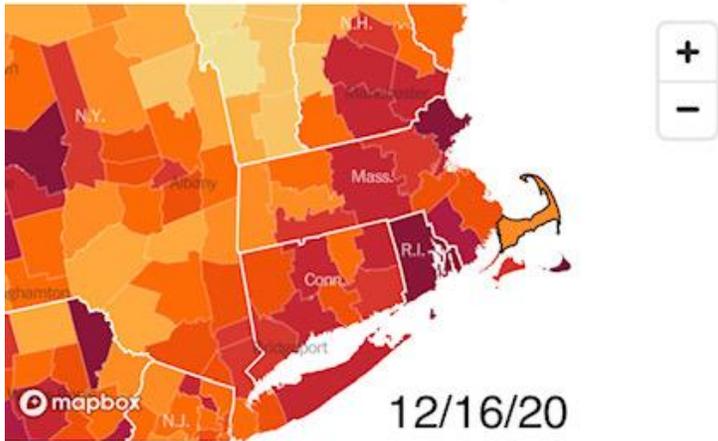
Source: V. Harik, BCDHS; Using data provided by the MA Department of Public Health

Hot spots Total cases Deaths Per capita

Average daily cases per 100,000 people in past week



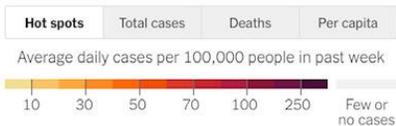
Use two fingers to pan and zoom. Tap for details.



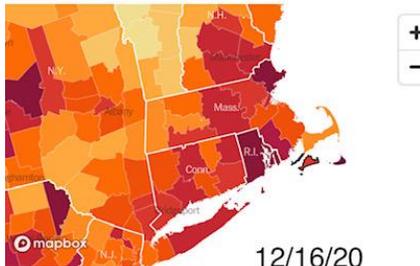
Sources: State and local health agencies. Population and demographic data from Census Bureau.

► About this data

## BARNSTABLE



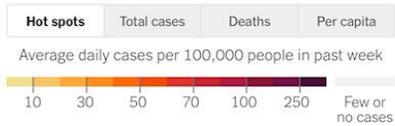
Use two fingers to pan and zoom. Tap for details.



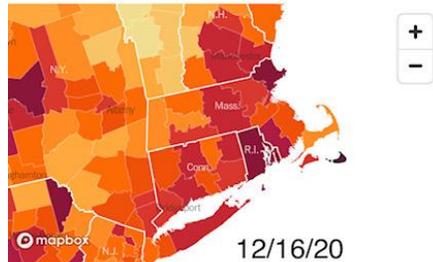
Sources: State and local health agencies. Population and demographic data from Census Bureau.

► About this data

## DUKES



Use two fingers to pan and zoom. Tap for details.



Sources: State and local health agencies. Population and demographic data from Census Bureau.

► About this data

## NANTUCKET



## Barnstable County COVID-Related Hospital & ICU Beds Occupied, with Cases & Deaths

Source: V. Harik, Barn. County Dept of Human Services; Tabulation of MA DPH Data

<b>WEEKLY: (On Tuesdays)</b>		Not Cumulative		Cumulative		3-day Avg. of Persons in Hosp. (Ward + ICU)
Date Reported by DPH	Hospital	Hospital Beds Occupied	ICU Beds Occupied	Barnstable County Cases (Confirmed)	Barnstable County Deaths	
<b>11/12/2020</b>	Cape Cod Hospital	1	0	<b>2,266</b>	<b>187</b>	1.0
	Falmouth Hospital	0	0			
		<b>1</b>	<b>0</b>			
<b>11/17/2020</b>	Cape Cod Hospital	8	1	<b>2,835</b>	<b>188</b>	9.3
	Falmouth Hospital	3	0			
		<b>11</b>	<b>1</b>			
<b>11/24/2020</b>	Cape Cod Hospital	11	0	<b>3,261</b>	<b>190</b>	15.7
	Falmouth Hospital	4	0			
		<b>15</b>	<b>0</b>			
<b>12/1/2020</b>	Cape Cod Hospital	14	3	<b>3,129</b>	<b>192</b>	25.7
	Falmouth Hospital	7	1			
		<b>21</b>	<b>4</b>			
<b>12/8/2020</b>	Cape Cod Hospital	14	5	<b>3,554</b>	<b>198</b>	19.3
	Falmouth Hospital	7	2			
		<b>21</b>	<b>7</b>			
<b>12/15/2020</b>	Cape Cod Hospital	19	5	<b>4,086</b>	<b>210</b>	27.3
	Falmouth Hospital	7	1			
		<b>26</b>	<b>6</b>			
<b>MOST RECENTLY REPORTED:</b>						
<b>12/16/2020</b>	Cape Cod Hospital	22	6	<b>4,178</b>	<b>211</b>	26.7
	Falmouth Hospital	10	1			
		<b>32</b>	<b>7</b>			

## MA DPH Data Dashboard, WEEKLY REPORT of 12/10/20 (for the Period 11/22/20 to 12/05/20)

City/Town	(March 2020 to Present) Total Case Count	Case Count Last 14 Days	Average Daily Incidence Rate per 100K	Relative Change in Case Count	Total Tests	Total Tests Last 14 Days	Positive Tests Last 14 Days	Percent Positivity Last 14 Days	Change in Percent Positivity
Barnstable	1,231	314	50.09	Lower	31,260	4,613	339	7.35%	Lower
Bourne	384	76	25.82	Higher	17,559	1,989	81	4.07%	Higher
Brewster	158	17	12.23	Higher	7,140	1,050	18	1.71%	Higher
Chatham	58	6	7.35	Higher	4,039	483	6	1.24%	No Change
Dennis	195	42	22.92	Higher	8,003	939	42	4.47%	Higher
Eastham	39	8	12.42	Higher	2,428	263	8	3.04%	Higher
Falmouth	495	117	26.79	Higher	29,495	4,141	137	3.31%	Higher
Harwich	237	41	23.26	Higher	8,453	921	48	5.21%	Higher
Mashpee	189	52	23.91	Higher	11,356	1,500	53	3.53%	Higher
Orleans	39	12	15.25	Higher	3,090	341	13	3.81%	Higher
Provincetown	35	3	8.30	Higher	2,654	262	3	1.15%	Higher
Sandwich	216	35	11.86	Higher	13,358	1,681	37	2.20%	Higher
Truro	17	2	7.26	Higher	1,168	105	2	1.90%	Higher
Wellfleet	20	2	10.35	No Change	1,682	175	6	3.43%	No Change
Yarmouth	358	111	32.95	Higher	16,091	2,397	122	5.09%	Higher
<b>Barnstable County</b>	<b>3,671</b>	<b>838</b>	<b>27.7</b>	<b>Higher</b>	<b>157,776</b>	<b>20,860</b>	<b>915</b>	<b>4.39%</b>	<b>Higher</b>
Aquinnah	3	0	0	No Change	327	24	0	0%	No Change
Chilmark	5	0	0	No Change	2325	182	0	0%	Lower
Edgartown	106	27	47.20	Lower	6,835	715	30	4.20%	Higher
Gosnold	5	0	0	No Change	111	0	0	0%	No Change
Oak Bluffs	71	16	21.94	Lower	4,421	441	18	4.08%	Higher
Tisbury	110	21	35.94	Lower	8,572	853	25	2.93%	Higher
West Tisbury	36	8	19.90	Lower	3,034	265	10	3.77%	Higher
<b>Dukes County</b>	<b>341</b>	<b>73</b>		<b>Lower</b>	<b>25,625</b>	<b>2,480</b>	<b>83</b>	<b>3.35%</b>	<b>Lower</b>
<b>Nantucket County</b>	<b>480</b>	<b>167</b>	<b>104.49</b>	<b>Higher</b>	<b>12,677</b>	<b>1,868</b>	<b>171</b>	<b>9.15%</b>	<b>Higher</b>
<b>State</b>	<b>259,324</b>	<b>48,789</b>	<b>50.00</b>	<b>Higher</b>	<b>9,181,066</b>	<b>1,055,707</b>	<b>55,403</b>	<b>5.25%</b>	<b>Higher</b>

Data Source: MA DPH, 12/3/20 Weekly COVID Report (<https://www.mass.gov/info-details/covid-19-response-reporting>); Analysis: V. Harik BCDHS.

### Massachusetts COVID Testing Rates, As Applied to Barnstable County (Thru 12/05/20)

Sources: Census.gov; MA DPH Weekly COVID Report, 12/3/20. Analysis: V. Harik, BCDHS

	MA	Barnstable County
Population Estimate (@ July 1, 2019)	6,892,503	212,990
Barnstable County % of MA Pop.		3.09%
Barn. County % of Total MA Tests		1.72%
Barn. County % of MA Tests, Past Two Weeks		1.98%
Barn. County % of MA Total Confirmed Cases		1.42%
Barn. County % of MA Confirmed Cases, Past Two Weeks		1.72%
MA % Positive Tests Last 14 Days		5.25%
Barnstable County % Positive Tests Last 14 Days		4.39%

## Active COVID Clusters by Exposure Setting Type, as of 12/10/20

Source: <https://www.mass.gov/info-details/covid-19-response-reporting>. Tabulation: V. Harik, Barnstable County DHS

### Sorted by Number of Cases in New Cluster Settings

	Exposure Setting	New Clusters (Identified 11/8/20 – 12/5/20)			Ongoing Clusters (Cluster Identified Prior to 11/8 But Not Meeting Criteria for Closing)			Total	
		Clusters	Confirmed Cases	Close Contacts	Clusters	Confirmed Cases	Close Contacts	Clusters	Confirmed Cases
1	Household	12,583	31,921	---	4,812	2,906	---	17,395	34,827
2	Long Term Care Facilities	150	1,437	---	138	1,272	---	288	2,709
3	Child Care	100	283	467	89	47	110	189	330
4	Hospitals	13	191	14	17	65	17	30	256
5	24/7 Congregate Settings	32	186	39	54	67	33	86	253
6	Corrections	5	186	.	11	717	128	16	903
7	Senior Living	34	159	126	41	196	4	75	355
8	Social Gatherings	25	134	71	44	34	52	69	168
9	K-12 Schools	29	121	131	47	24	58	76	145
10	Restaurants & Food Courts	18	105	109	56	28	38	74	133
11	Colleges & Universities	11	79	16	36	25	42	47	104
12	Industrial Settings	19	71	12	57	130	83	76	201
13	Other Workplaces	15	70	47	19	39	2	34	109
14	Other Healthcare	7	40	35	23	28	15	30	68
15	Organized Athletics/Camps	8	31	77	29	13	136	37	44
16	Retail & Services	11	28	8	22	19	15	33	47
17	Other	2	24	.	7	7	37	9	31
18	Recreation/Cultural	2	17	.	4	.	.	6	17
19	Places of Worship	3	15	1	15	15	15	18	30
20	Other Food Establishments	2	5	1	7	2	2	9	7
21	Offices	2	4	5	13	13	1	15	17
22	Shelters	1	2	9	4	14	4	5	16
23	Travel & Lodging	.	.	.	3	.	3	3	.
	<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>13,072</b>	<b>35,109</b>	<b>1,168</b>	<b>5,548</b>	<b>5,661</b>	<b>795</b>	<b>18,620</b>	<b>40,770</b>

**New Clusters:** Clusters with the first case (indicated by the first positive lab result) identified during the four week period 11/8 – 12/5/2020.

**Ongoing Clusters:** Clusters with the first case identified prior to 11/1 that has not met criteria to be closed. Confirmed cases included in ongoing clusters occurred between 11/8 and 12/5 but are associated with a cluster that began prior to 11/8. Close contacts included in ongoing clusters occurred between 11/8 and 12/5 but are associated with a cluster that began prior to 11/8.

**Closed Clusters:** A cluster is closed after 28 days have passed since the last confirmed case; 18,435 clusters are closed, 93,495 cases are associated with closed clusters

**Source of Data:** Massachusetts Department of Public Health, Bureau of Infectious Disease and Laboratory Sciences. Long Term Care Facility Data from the National Healthcare Safety Network beginning 5/31/2020. All other data from MAVEN and are subject to change. Only clusters consisting of two or more confirmed Massachusetts cases with a common exposure have been included.

## MA DPH Data Dashboard, WEEKLY REPORT of 12/10/20 (for the Period 11/22/20 to 12/05/20)

Data Source: MA DPH, 12/10/20 Weekly COVID Report (<https://www.mass.gov/info-details/covid-19-response-reporting>)

County	Total Case Count	Case Count (Last 14 Days)	Average Daily Incidence Rate per 100,000 (Last 14 days)	Relative Change in Case Counts <sup>1</sup>	Total Tests	Total Tests (Last 14 days)	Total Positive Tests (Last 14 days)	Percent Positivity (Last 14 days)	Change in Percent Positivity <sup>2</sup>
Barnstable County	3,671	840	27.7	Higher	157,776	20,860	915	4.39%	Higher
Berkshire County	2,076	642	36.3	Higher	154,346	16,287	736	4.52%	Higher
Bristol County	24,158	4,990	62.4	Higher	546,657	63,220	5,762	9.11%	Higher
Dukes and Nantucket Counties	816	239	59.2	Higher	38,302	4,348	254	5.84%	Higher
Essex County	42,223	8,648	77.5	Higher	926,927	117,419	10,168	8.66%	Higher
Franklin County	840	201	20.2	Higher	81,004	6,336	212	3.35%	Higher
Hampden County	19,242	3,907	59.3	Higher	451,724	55,006	4,609	8.38%	Higher
Hampshire County	2,702	483	21.0	Higher	319,717	21,768	528	2.43%	Higher
Middlesex County	54,682	10,490	46.1	Higher	2,325,968	285,404	11,751	4.12%	Higher
Norfolk County	19,113	3,404	34.0	Higher	797,521	94,053	3,775	4.01%	Higher
Plymouth County	17,151	2,842	38.5	Higher	432,885	51,264	3,127	6.10%	Higher
Suffolk County	42,036	6,004	53.0	Higher	1,806,234	199,526	6,862	3.44%	Higher
Worcester County	29,876	5,931	50.5	Higher	971,704	104,005	6,535	6.28%	Higher
Unknown <sup>3</sup>	738	168	*	*	170,301	16,211	169	*	*
<b>State</b>	<b>259,324</b>	<b>48,789</b>	<b>50.0</b>	<b>Higher</b>	<b>9,181,066</b>	<b>1,055,707</b>	<b>55,403</b>	<b>5.25%</b>	<b>Higher</b>

**Vaira Harik, M.S.**

Deputy Director

Barnstable County Dept. of Human Services

Email: [vharik@barnstablecounty.org](mailto:vharik@barnstablecounty.org)