

Thursday, June 10, 2021

COVID-19 Command Center

Massachusetts Emergency Management Agency

Situation Update

The Command Center Situation Report is published weekly. The next report will be published on Thursday, 6/17/21.



On Saturday, June 5th, Governor Baker toured Prince Hall Grand Lodge vaccination site in Dorchester. Governor Baker was joined by local community leaders to promote accessible community sites for vaccinations which are critical to the Commonwealth's continued vaccination progress.

In This Week's Report:

- Latest Data: Public Health & Vaccine Data Update
- Week in Review: Key State Actions
 - \$4.6 Million Rapid Reemployment Grant Program Launches
 - \$3.2 Million Awarded For COVID-19 Vaccine Equity Efforts
 - Announcement of \$109 Million in Direct Federal Aid for Four Communities
 - New COVID-19 Mobile Vaccination Program Webpage Launched
 - DPH, Emergency Management, and Disaster Recovery Updates
 - Holyoke and Chelsea Soldiers' Homes Update
 - New Communication Resources

Helpful Links:

- [COVID-19 Vaccine in Massachusetts](#)
- [Reopening Massachusetts](#)
- [FEMA COVID-19 Funeral Assistance](#)
- [Mass.gov/findfoodhelp](#)
- [Unemployment & COVID-19](#)
- [Massachusetts Emergency Management Agency](#)
- [COVID-19 Cost Eligibility and Tracking Guidance](#)



Situation in Numbers

Massachusetts **current as of 6/10**

662,544 Total Confirmed Cases ([click here for more information](#))

17,566 Deaths among confirmed cases

23,280,520 tests for the virus conducted to date by MA State Public Health Laboratory, hospitals, and commercial laboratories.

United States **Last Updated 6/10**

Case numbers are updated daily.

Total Cases Reported to CDC:

33,224,075 Total Cases

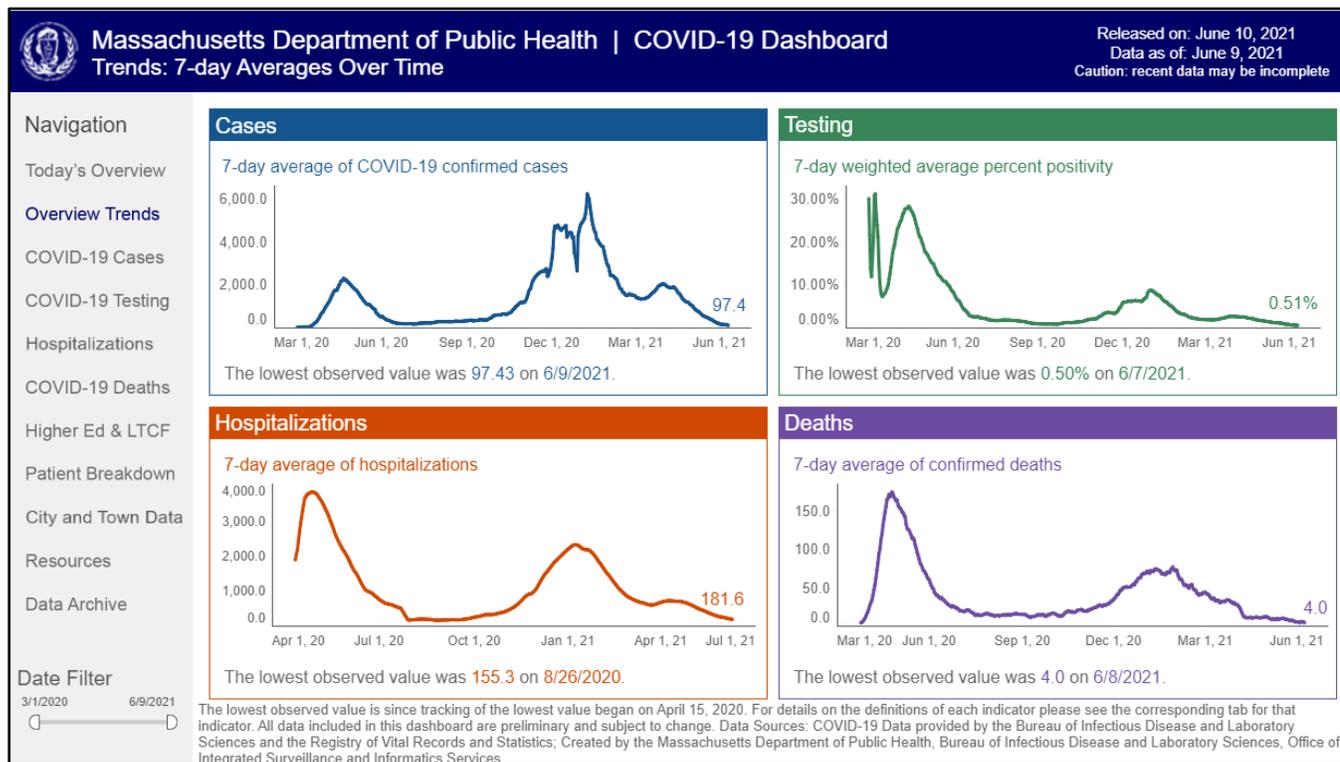
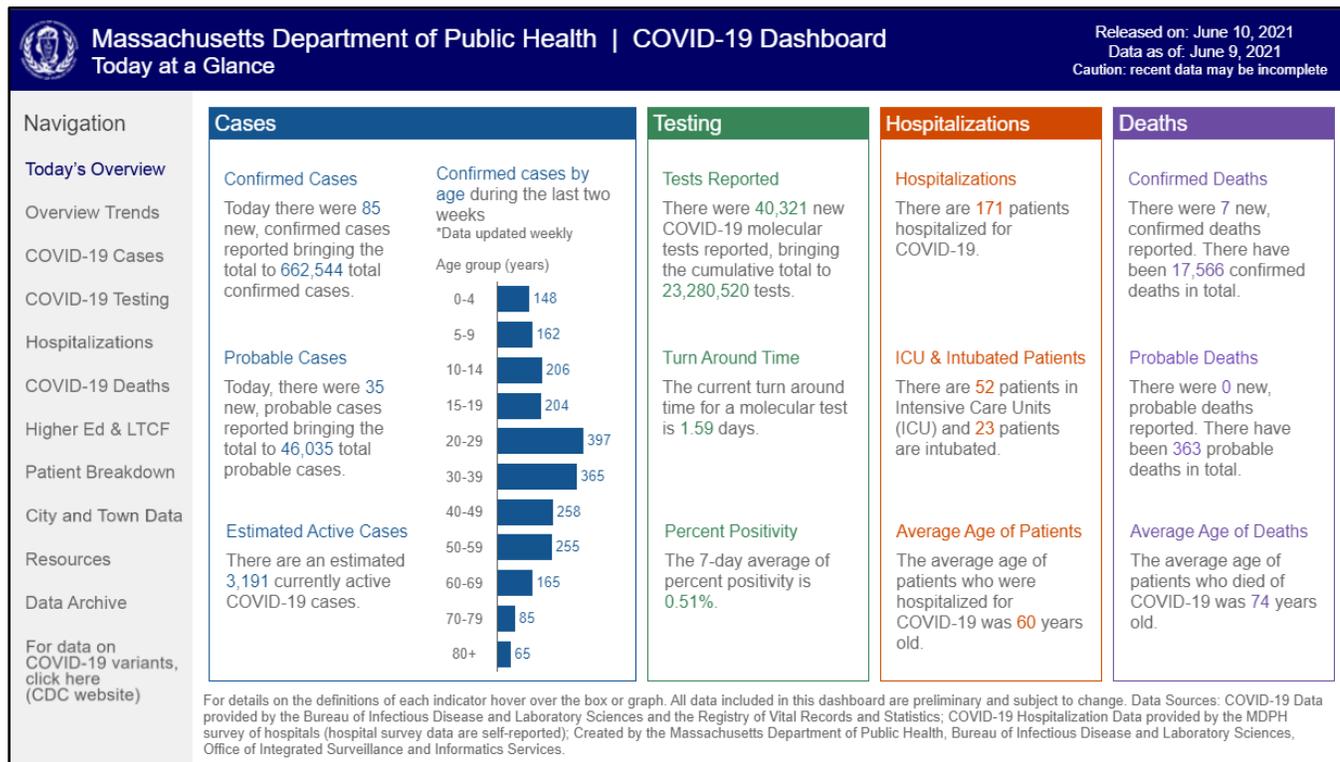
595,625 Deaths

57 Jurisdictions Reporting Cases (50 states, D.C., Puerto Rico, Guam, Northern Marianas, Marshall Islands, American Samoa, and US V.I.)



Mass.Gov/CovidVaccine

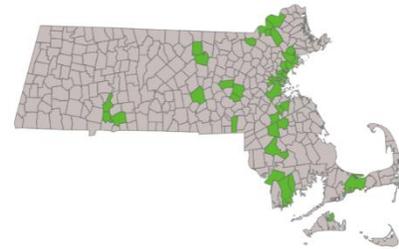
Latest Data: COVID-19 Public Health Update



COVID-19 RESPONSE COMMAND CENTER WEEKLY SITUATION REPORT

City and Towns Show Continued Improvements in Case Rates:

For the second week in a row, no city or town in Massachusetts is classified as red, or high-risk due to coronavirus case rates. The number of communities in the high-risk zone peaked in mid-January 2021, when 229 of the 351 cities and towns in the Commonwealth were classified as red. To see this week's map, visit the [COVID-19 Interactive Data Dashboard](#) and select "City and Town Data."



Weekly Public Health Report:

The Command Center released the [Weekly Public Health Report](#) on Thursday, 6/10. The report primarily includes information related to cases and inspection data for Long Term Care Facilities. Data previously included in the Weekly Report, including town-level data, contact tracing information (including active COVID cluster information by Exposure Setting Type), are now presented in the [Daily Interactive Dashboard](#).

Vaccine Update: For a more detailed weekly breakdown, [visit the MA COVID-19 Vaccination Data webpage](#).

Massachusetts Department of Public Health COVID-19 Vaccine Data – Thursday, June 10, 2021

	6/4	6/5	6/6	6/7	6/8	6/9	6/10
DOSES SHIPPED							
Doses Shipped to MA Providers (MIIS)*	5,774,595	5,782,405	5,782,405	5,782,405	5,802,625	5,802,625	5,804,345
Doses Shipped to Pharmacies and Directly by the Federal Government - Including FPPP Providers (Tiberius)	3,542,055	3,551,235	3,551,235	3,563,555	3,565,945	3,572,005	3,584,685
Grand Total Shipped to MA	9,316,650	9,333,640	9,333,640	9,345,960	9,368,570	9,374,630	9,389,030
DOSES ADMINISTERED (MIIS)*							
1st Moderna or Pfizer Doses Administered # of people with at least one dose	4,223,649	4,250,716	4,260,666	4,266,137	4,273,784	4,282,514	4,293,423
2nd Moderna or Pfizer Doses Administered # of people fully vaccinated	3,486,286	3,554,065	3,577,989	3,591,640	3,612,120	3,632,666	3,651,875
Janssen (J&J) Doses Administered (MIIS) # of people fully vaccinated	254,963	256,497	257,288	257,807	259,031	260,305	261,389
Grand Total Doses Administered (MIIS)	7,964,898	8,061,278	8,095,943	8,115,584	8,144,935	8,175,485	8,206,687
Grand Total Fully Vaccinated People with Existing COVID-19 Vaccines**	3,741,249	3,810,562	3,835,277	3,849,447	3,871,151	3,892,971	3,913,264
% of Total Doses Shipped That Have Been Reported as Administered	85.5%	86.4%	86.7%	86.8%	86.9%	87.2%	87.4%

*Data from the Massachusetts Immunization Information System (MIIS) are as of midnight the night before.

**Fully vaccinated people have 2 doses of Moderna or Pfizer vaccine or 1 dose of Janssen (J&J) vaccine

Week in Review: State Actions

\$4.6 Million Rapid Reemployment Grant Program Launches in Massachusetts

Today, the Baker-Polito Administration announced the launch of the \$4.6 million Rapid Reemployment grant program, with the first round of grant funding totaling \$360,000 being awarded today to six employer partner programs that will train 105 participants. The grants will support training residents who have experienced an employment interruption due to COVID-19 and help place them in high-demand job categories such as Information Technology and Health Care by scaling up training opportunities provided by organizations to employers.



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“As Massachusetts focuses on economic recovery from the COVID-19 pandemic, it is important that we think strategically about getting people back to work and increasing our investments in programs that are successfully serving local businesses and people most affected,” said Governor Charlie Baker. “The Rapid Reemployment Program can help thousands of people get access to high demand jobs in the Commonwealth through workforce training and building skills to get people hired quickly.”

“The pandemic has been particularly difficult for those who experienced job loss over the past year,” said Lt. Governor Karyn Polito. “Our Administration is committed to prioritizing investments like these in addition to ones in the Workforce Skills Cabinet and Career Technical Institutes so that those looking for work have access to the skills-building programs they need to acquire a good, high-paying and sustainable job.”

The Rapid Reemployment Program is designed to help businesses develop a pipeline of workers to meet their skills needs as well as providing better lifetime earnings potential for those whose job prospects have been disproportionately affected by the pandemic. These grants are funded through the federal Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security Act (the “CARES” Act). The application process is rolling through September 30, 2021, or until funds are expended.

“No economy can succeed without a high-quality workforce. This funding will help individuals and businesses accelerate a return to full employment that is more equitable and leads to more employment resiliency in Massachusetts,” said Labor and Workforce Secretary Rosalin Acosta.

“This grant program will play a key role in helping people get back to work, which is a central component of our strategy for economic recovery,” said Housing and Economic Development Secretary Mike Kennealy. “As we continue taking steps to put this pandemic behind us, efforts that assist in matching workers with available jobs and that provide necessary training to address gaps in skills will further our goal of accelerating the Commonwealth’s recovery.”

“Community colleges play an important role in reemployment efforts, particularly in healthcare occupations like certified nursing assistants, home health aides, and pharmacy techs. These types of programs at community colleges provide individuals with opportunities to earn credentials while they work, and give them a pathway to continue their education and move toward a degree to further advance their careers,” said Education Secretary James Peyser.

To learn more about this initiative, find an existing pipeline in your region, or request a free consultation to get customized support, you can visit—[A Partnerships for Recovery Talent Access Portal](#) or download the [Rapid Re-Employment One-Pager](#) now. The Rapid Reemployment Program is administered by Commonwealth Corporation on behalf of the Executive Office of Labor and Workforce Development.

“CommCorp is dedicated to getting people the training and jobs they need in these unique circumstances. New funding opportunities allow for just that,” said Christine Abrams, CEO, and President of CommCorp. “As the economy continues to expand, we will continue to push for strategies which lead to a more productive and diverse in the Commonwealth.”

A total of \$360,000 has been awarded this round to train 105 program participants:

- JVS: \$60,000 to train 15 Participants
 - In partnership with MassHire Downtown Boston Career Center, JVS will provide training and placement to prepare individuals impacted by COVID-19 for jobs as Patient Care Technicians. Individuals trained will be placed at employer partners, including Mass General Brigham and Boston Children’s Hospital.
- Montachusett Regional Vocational Technical School: \$30,000 to train 10 Participants
 - In partnership with MassHire North Central Career Center, Montachusett Regional Vocational Technical School will provide training and placement to prepare individuals impacted by COVID-19 for jobs as Certified Nursing Assistants. Individuals trained will be placed at employer

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partners, including Next Step Healthcare, Heywood Wakefield Commons, Sunrise Assisted Living, Care Central VNA & Hospice, Inc.

- Polus Center for Social & Economic Development, Inc.: \$45,000 to train 15 Participants
 - In partnership with MassHire North Central Career Center, Polus Center for Social & Economic Development, Inc. will provide training and placement to prepare individuals impacted by COVID-19 for jobs as Pharmacy Technicians. Individuals trained will be placed at CVS Pharmacy.
- Roxbury Community College: \$45,000 to train 15 Participants
 - In partnership with MassHire Boston Career Center, Roxbury Community College will provide training and placement to prepare individuals impacted by COVID-19 for jobs as Pharmacy Technicians. Individuals trained will be placed at CVS Pharmacy
- Tech Foundry: \$80,000 to train 20 Participants
 - In partnership with MassHire Springfield Career Center, Tech Foundry will provide training and placement to prepare individuals impacted by COVID-19 for jobs as Computer Network Support Administrators. Individuals trained will be placed at Rediker Software, Paragus Strategic IT, Veritas Prep Charter School and Winslow Technology Group.
- Upper Cape Cod Regional Technical School: \$100,000 to train 30 Participants
 - In partnership with MassHire Cape and Islands Career Center, Upper Cape Cod Regional Technical School will provide training and placement to prepare individuals impacted by COVID-19 for jobs as Pharmacy Technicians, Medical Assistants and C.N.As. Individuals trained will be placed at Community Health Center of Cape Cod, Cape Cod Healthcare and Bourne Manor.

Additional Employer Resources:

WorkShare

If an employer had furloughed workers during the pandemic and wants to call them back, the employer may want to consider using the Commonwealth's WorkShare program. Workshare helps employers bring employees back part-time while allowing them to maintain the additional \$300 a week in federal UI benefits as well as continuing to subsidize a portion of their wages. For more information on WorkShare go to <https://www.mass.gov/workshare-for-employers> or call (617) 626-6877.

Virtual Career Fairs

Employers may also contact their local MassHire Career Center to set up a free virtual recruitment event to assist with reaching out to unemployed individuals in their area. Employers can contact their local MassHire center to discuss their options [here](#).

Baker Administration Awards \$3.2 Million For COVID-19 Vaccine Equity Efforts

On Tuesday, The Baker-Polito Administration announced \$3.2 million in grants and contracts to community-based organizations as part of the Massachusetts Vaccine Equity Initiative to increase awareness and access to the COVID-19 vaccine in the 20 cities and towns hardest hit by the pandemic. The awards are part of the Administration's [investment of \\$27.4 million in federal funds](#) announced in March.

The funds, which will be distributed to select community- and faith-based organizations statewide, aim to reduce barriers to vaccination for communities and populations most disproportionately impacted by COVID-19.



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Seven new community-based organizations, community health centers, and behavioral health centers have been awarded \$2.2 million to support vaccine navigation services and customized vaccine administration, building on \$6.8 million previously awarded to 25 other organizations.

Award recipients:

- SSTAR Family Healthcare Center
- North Shore Community Health Center
- Boston Health Care for the Homeless
- Latino Health Insurance Program
- Caring Community Health Center
- Community Health Connections
- Holyoke Health Center

These organizations will receive funding to link individuals to vaccination services in the community, and to directly administer vaccination to groups that are not reached by other outreach efforts. These include populations who may benefit from one-on-one vaccination support, such as substance use disorder treatment facilities, places of worship, homeless encampments, food pantries/congregate meal locations, LGBTQ+ community programs, shelters and day programs, and immigrant assistance centers.

“As we work to build trust in the vaccine across the Commonwealth, we also put our full trust in community-based organizations to know what their communities need, and how to best serve them,” said Public Health Commissioner Monica Bharel, MD, MPH. “Our goal has always been to work toward equity by finding solutions that are right for each community.”

An additional \$1 million in funding is being administered by Health Resources in Action (HRiA) in partnership with the Massachusetts Department of Public Health, building on \$2.8 million in previously awarded funds. These funds are being awarded to 23 organizations (resulting in 61 total organizations through this funding) to support their efforts to expand vaccine education and awareness that address the specific needs of Black, Indigenous, Latinx, Asian, and other communities of color within the 20 prioritized communities.

Newly funded organizations:

- African Community Center of Lowell
- Asian American Civic Association
- Asociacion Ministerial Evangelica Del Area de Lawrence
- Autism Sprinter
- Black Ministerial Alliance of Greater Boston
- Black Springfield COVID-19 Coalition
- Brockton Workers Alliance
- Building Audacity
- Catholic Social Services of Fall River
- Chelsea Black Community
- Disability Policy Consortium & Boston Center for Independent Living
- Greater Framingham Community Church
- Immigrants Assistance Center
- JAHAN Women and Youth Intercultural
- Justice 4 Housing
- Lawrence Community Works
- Massachusetts Council of Churches
- Pioneer Valley Project

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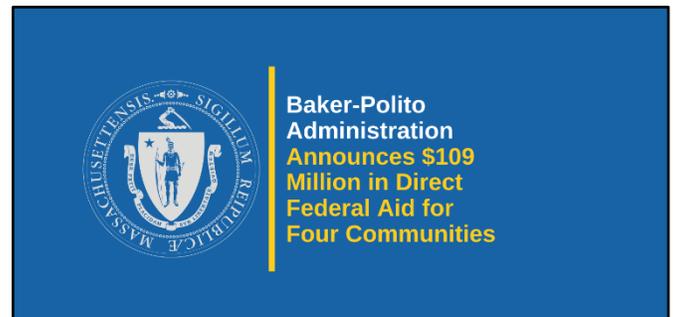
- Randolph Community Partnership
- Sociedad Latina
- Southeast Asian Coalition of Central Massachusetts
- Spanish American Center
- YWCA Southeastern Massachusetts

About the [Vaccine Equity Initiative](#):

Announced by the Baker-Polito Administration in February 2021, the Vaccine Equity Initiative focuses on 20 cities and towns with the greatest COVID-19 case burden, taking into account social determinants of health and the disproportionate impact of COVID-19 on Black, Indigenous, People of Color (BIPOC). These communities are Boston, Brockton, Chelsea, Everett, Fall River, Fitchburg, Framingham, Haverhill, Holyoke, Lawrence, Leominster, Lowell, Lynn, Malden, Methuen, New Bedford, Randolph, Revere, Springfield, and Worcester.

Baker-Polito Administration Announces \$109 Million in Direct Federal Aid for Four Communities

The Baker-Polito Administration announced a total of \$109 million in discretionary funding from the federal American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) will be distributed today to Chelsea, Everett, Methuen, and Randolph. These four communities were amongst the hardest hit by the COVID-19 pandemic, but due to shortcomings in the federal ARPA funding formula, were set to receive disproportionately smaller amounts of federal funding compared to other hard-hit communities.



“Our Administration committed additional funds to Chelsea, Everett, Methuen and Randolph to ensure all of the Commonwealth’s communities received the funding they deserved from the federal relief package,” said Governor Charlie Baker. “These four communities were disproportionately impacted by the virus, and this additional funding will support critical local COVID response and recovery efforts.”

“As the Commonwealth’s economy reopens, this funding will allow the four communities to make investments to recover from the pandemic,” said Lt. Governor Karyn Polito. “Our Administration was pleased to work directly with local officials in these communities to deliver this funding.”

The following amounts will be distributed to the communities today:

- Chelsea \$28.5 million
- Everett \$33.3 million
- Methuen \$26.3 million
- Randolph \$21 million

ARPA allocated direct aid to some municipalities based on the federal Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) program formula, while assistance to other communities was allocated on a per-capita basis. The use of these two different allocation formulas created disparities in distributions among cities and towns, and Chelsea, Everett, Methuen and Randolph are the four designated hardest hit communities with disproportionately smaller levels of federal funding compared to other hardest hit communities. The Administration worked closely with key state and local stakeholders to determine the extent of the necessary additional resources given federal funding levels and local needs.

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These four municipalities will be able to use this funding to support costs related to the COVID-19 pandemic, including direct response efforts, addressing negative economic impacts, replacing revenue lost during the pandemic, making investments in water, sewer, and broadband infrastructure, as well as other eligible expenditures.

New Mobile Vaccination Webpage:

Last month, the Baker-Polito Administration established a mobile, on-site, vaccination program that would expand convenient access to COVID-19 vaccine in the Commonwealth. [A new web page has been launched](#) where organizations can request a mobile, on-site, vaccination clinic. A vaccination provider will come to the organization's host-property to vaccinate individuals. If Moderna or Pfizer is administered, the vaccination provider will return 3-4 weeks later to deliver 2nd doses. Organizations are encouraged to survey individuals and confirm participation prior to requesting a clinic.



Reminder: Fully vaccinated MA residents can resume pre-pandemic activities such as travel within the United States. If you have not yet been vaccinated, find a location near you to receive your COVID-19 shot today: <http://vaxfinder.mass.gov>

Important Updates

Department of Public Health Updates:

- The mass.gov/COVID website has been streamlined and updated to reflect the current COVID landscape in Massachusetts. The site features the latest information on COVID data, vaccine availability, testing, travel and more. Visit www.mass.gov/COVID
- This week, the North American Indian Center of Boston held a mobile vaccine clinic in Jamaica Plain with the Native American Lifelines Title 5 Urban Indian Health Services and DPH.
- DPH Epidemiology Line handled 97 COVID-19 calls and 86 non-COVID-19 calls for a total of 183 calls from 5/31 through 6/6.
- As of 6/8, the [Academic Public Health Volunteer Corps](#) (APHVC) has 310 volunteers supporting 38 local boards of health.
- All HMCC Regions remain at Tier 1 status, in accordance with the [DPH COVID-19 Resurgence Planning and Response Guidance for Acute Care Hospitals](#). The final series of HMCC hospital meetings were held on June 7, and DPH will rescind the COVID-19 Resurgence Planning and Response Guidance effective June 15, 2021.
- DPH issued updated guidance to long-term care facilities (LTCF) to reflect that visitors may now be included in vaccination efforts.
- DPH provided LTCF with updated COVID-19 Vaccination Trackers for Healthcare Personnel and Residents to aid LTCF in reporting weekly COVID-19 vaccination reporting via the CDC National Healthcare Safety Network (NHSN).
- There are currently 3 Rapid Response Teams, comprised of nursing staff, deployed to nursing homes across the Commonwealth. Teams are also administering second doses of Pfizer vaccine to nursing and rest home



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residents as well as Homebound individuals. The team is also administering Janssen vaccine at nursing homes and rest homes that have a high number of residents that are unvaccinated while awaiting further recommendations.

Emergency Management and Disaster Recovery Updates:

Mass Care

- One state contracted isolation/recovery hotel in the City of Everett continues to receive client placements. 4 individuals are currently housed in the program.
 - Top 5 referring cities:
 - Boston (470)
 - Worcester (201)
 - Springfield (197)
 - Quincy (130)
 - Brockton (124)
 - To date, a total of 2,510 residents have been placed in these hotels for safe isolation and recovery.

Community Food Box Program Update 6/3-6/10:

MEMA is partnering with the Salvation Army, and a vendor, to bring in shelf-stable food boxes each week to support communities in their effort to deliver food to individuals and families in quarantine and isolation who require assistance accessing food. While requests from communities for food boxes have decreased in recent months as active cases have declined, and a grocery card option became available for individuals in isolation and quarantine, MEMA’s State Logistics Warehouse will continue distributing its remaining food box inventory until it is depleted. Ongoing distribution of food boxes is coordinated between MEMA and communities in need. The table below reflects the current food box inventory and number of food boxes distributed to communities during the weekly reporting period (data is updated every Friday).

Total Number of Food Boxes in MEMA’s Inventory	Total Number of Food Boxes Distributed to One or More Local Communities During the Reporting Period	Total Number of Communities that Received Food Boxes During the Reporting Period
2,562	1,297	11

Grocery Card Distribution Program Update 6/3-6/10:

As an extension of the isolation and quarantine food program, the Food Security Task Force has begun coordinating the distribution of grocery cards in addition to or in lieu of shelf-stable food boxes. These grocery cards allow individuals to have greater flexibility of food options and help accommodate unique dietary needs and cultural food preferences.

Store Name	Number of Cards Distributed During the Reporting Period	Total Value of Cards
Stop & Shop	30	\$3,000
Total Number of Communities Receiving Cards: 1		

Logistics (including Personal Protective Equipment and Supplies)

- 21 orders prepared for pickup or delivery from the MEMA State Logistics Warehouse from 6/4-6/10.
 - As part of these orders, MDPH Community Health Centers and Command Center Vaccine Equity Programs are being supported.

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- MDPH coordinated 17 deliveries to healthcare entities on Tuesday (6/8) (3 PPE, 1 testing supply, 1 surplus, 46 BinaxNOW At-Home Kits, 133 BinaxNOW kits); 6 deliveries on Thursday (6/10) (12 BinaxNOW At-Home Kits, 37 BinaxNOW); and 5 deliveries on Friday (6/11) (21 BinaxNOW, 4 BinaxNOW At-Home Kits).

Disaster Recovery

On March 27, 2020, the President [declared](#) a Major Disaster Declaration for the Commonwealth of Massachusetts related to the COVID-19 pandemic response. Through this declaration, federal aid will be made available to cities and towns, state agencies, and certain non-profits in all Massachusetts counties to help pay for emergency protective measures (response costs) related to the COVID-19 pandemic. MEMA’s Recovery Unit has developed a [webpage](#) with information and guidance on, but not limited to, disaster declaration, eligibility criteria, and the application process. Highlights from the Disaster Recovery process include the following:

Data as of: 6/4/2021			
MEMA COVID-19 EXECUTIVE DASHBOARD			
AGGREGATE PROGRAM VIEW			
<small>Note: Financial data for pre-submission projects reflect 100% federal cost share while submitted projects continue to reflect 75% federal cost share. The remaining 25% federal cost share for submitted projects will be reported as FEMA adjusts cost share for these projects on a rolling basis. In addition, figures do not include MEMA management cost allowance.</small>			
Overall (Best Available Estimate)	Submitted (Eligibility & Cost Review)	Approved* (by FEMA)	Paid (by MEMA)
\$1.6B +\$443.19K	\$1.2B +\$4.33M	\$693.3M +\$244.03K	\$405.7M +\$969.78K
1,104 Projects +10	774 Projects +5	289 Projects +8	199 Projects +1
Approved Applicants: 668			

- FEMA RPA Requests: 677 (+ 3)
- Technical Assistant Requests: 529
- Conducted the third COVID-19 Safe Opening presentation on 6/10. The PA Summer webinar series schedule and topics are being finalized this week.
- Staff continue to review the appeals process with each applicant that receives a FEMA eligibility Determination Memo to ensure all appeals letters are submitted within the 60-day appeal timeframe.
- Compiling all data on non-congregate sheltering operations to submit to FEMA by the 6/14 reporting deadline.
- New project obligations (4): \$1,095,016.10

FEMA Funeral Assistance as of 6/9/21

FEMA began processing applications for funeral assistance starting on 4/12 ([learn more here](#)).

State	Registrations	In Process	Eligible	Award Amount	Withdrawn	Ineligible
MA	4,589	4,018	552	\$3,951,994.05	0	19

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Massachusetts COVID-19 Response Dashboard

MEMA has developed and maintains a public-facing COVID-19 ArcGIS Online dashboard, available [here](#). This dashboard is continuously updated and captures information about current COVID 19 case counts, cases by age, cases by county, hospital status, hospital bed status, death tolls, and deaths by age. Users should refresh the dashboard daily as enhancements are continuously being added.

Health care facilities can learn more about [requesting personal protective equipment here](#).

Holyoke and Chelsea Soldiers' Homes Update:

NOTE: The Soldiers' Homes are continuing regular reporting on the status of COVID-19 cases at the facilities but are transitioning the weekly reporting to the EOHHS State Facility Dashboard which is published every Wednesday afternoon. Cases will be reported weekly each Wednesday [on this dashboard](#).

Communications Resources

New Animated Video - No ID or Insurance Needed

Use this video to spread the word. Flyers can also be downloaded from [mass.gov](#) and posters can be ordered at the [Public Health Clearinghouse](#) at no cost.



New Editable COVID-19 Vaccination Clinic Flyer
[Download](#) and customize this flyer to promote a vaccination clinic.

New Get Vaccinated at Market Basket!

Anyone getting the COVID-19 vaccine at a Market Basket mobile clinic in Chelsea, Fall River, Lawrence, Lynn, and Revere will receive a \$25 gift card. Other cities being added. Walk-ins are welcome, and no appointment, ID, or insurance is necessary. Learn more at <http://bit.ly/3uJZmcn>.



New Highlights from the Vaccine Equity Initiative

Visit [COVID-19 Vaccine Equity Initiative Communities](#) to see what's happening. This week, the North American Indian Center of Boston held a mobile vaccine clinic in Jamaica Plain with the Native American Lifelines Title 5 Urban Indian Health Services and DPH.

COVID-19 vaccination for youth ages 12+

Youth ages 12+ can now be vaccinated with the Pfizer COVID-19 vaccine.

- For details, including information on parental consent, and FAQs, visit [mass.gov/vaccinesforYOUTH](#).



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- Youth age 12 and above may be preregistered at <http://VaccineSignup.mass.gov>.
- Download our [youth-related graphics](#) for your messaging.

Flyer No ID or health insurance: Please spread the word that the COVID-19 vaccine is free, and no ID or insurance is required to get vaccinated. Flyers can be downloaded from mass.gov and posters can be ordered from the [Public Health Clearinghouse](#) at no cost.

Reminder Request a DPH COVID-19 Vaccine Ambassador

DPH ambassadors can attend community forums or meetings to share information about the safety of and access to the vaccine. They can speak, answer questions, or listen to feedback to share with DPH. To invite a DPH ambassador to your forum, please complete [this form](#).



New Trust the Facts Creative Toolkit

This creative materials toolkit gathers all the creative assets ASG and MORE Advertising have developed for our statewide vaccine campaign. This [toolkit of creative assets](#) includes flyers, social media graphics and sample posts, doorknob hangers, videos and more. Use them with your constituents and communities.

New Materials for refugees, immigrants, and migrants

The National Resource Center for Refugees, Immigrants, and Migrants (NRC-RIM), funded by the CDC, has free, customizable, and translated campaigns for anyone to use. Materials are in 30+ languages that are representative of refugee populations living in Massachusetts. Visit [Stop COVID-19 – Vaccine education and outreach materials | Mass.gov](#).



Increasing COVID-19 Vaccine Uptake Among Members of Racial and Ethnic Minority Communities

This CDC [guide](#) includes strategies, interventions, and ready-made messages and materials, as well as information on how to connect with others to increase COVID-19 vaccination confidence and access in racial and ethnic minority communities.

CDC 'plain language' materials in multiple languages

- [Facts about COVID-19 Vaccines](#)
- [Communication Resources for COVID-19 Vaccines](#)
- [Myths and Facts about COVID-19 Vaccines](#)
- [Benefits of Getting a COVID-19 Vaccine](#)



Other Public Messaging Resources for Communities:

The COVID-19 Command Center and DPH have produced many communication resources aimed at helping communities inform and educate residents on recent executive orders and guidance related to COVID-19.

- [Trust the Facts, Get the Vax Campaign Materials | Mass.gov](#)
- [COVID-19 Vaccine Posters | Mass.gov](#)
- [Preparing for your COVID-19 Vaccination Appointment flier | Mass.gov](#)
- [Guide to hosting a forum on the COVID-19 Vaccine | Mass.gov](#)

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Resources

MassSupport

MassSupport is the Massachusetts Crisis Counseling Program funded by the Federal Emergency Management Agency and managed in partnership between the Massachusetts Department of Mental Health and Riverside Trauma Center, a program of Riverside Community Care. Contact MassSupport by phone at **888-215-4920** or by email at MassSupport@riversidecc.org

Red Cross Virtual Family Assistance Center

In order to provide support to families and communities who have suffered loss as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic, the American Red Cross has developed a Virtual Family Assistance Center (VFAC), staffed by a team of specially trained mental health, spiritual care, and health services volunteers who are:

- Connecting with families over the phone to offer condolences, emotional and spiritual support, and access to available resources
- Providing support for virtual memorial services for families, including connecting with local faith-based community partners
- Hosting online classes to foster resilience and facilitate coping skills
- Assisting families with access to national, state, or local resources such as grief counseling, legal resources, funeral information, financial information services, or veterans' assistance
- Additional state- and local-specific resources are available.

People can visit: <https://www.redcross.org/virtual-family-assistance-center/ma-family-assistance-center.html> to access this resource with special virtual programs, information, referrals, and services to support families in need. People without internet access can **call toll-free 833-492-0094** for help. All Family Assistance Center support will be provided virtually and is completely confidential and free.

Department of Elementary and Secondary Education

The Department of Elementary and Secondary Education (DESE) now reports on the number of positive COVID-19 cases as reported to the DESE by school districts (including charter schools), collaboratives, and approved special education schools. The data only represents what has been reported to DESE. For more information and to view the report people can visit: <http://www.doe.mass.edu/covid19/positive-cases/>

COVID-19 Test Site Locator

MEMA, in conjunction with the COVID-19 Command Center, has developed an [interactive tool](#) that shows the locations of COVID-19 testing sites around the Commonwealth.

Stay Informed

- Get information from trusted sources. Get notified by text, email, or phone call in your preferred language. Visit <https://member.everbridge.net/index/406686158291020/#/signup> to sign-up for **AlertsMA** for the latest news on the Commonwealth's response to COVID-19
- Take care of your emotional health:
- Call 2-1-1 and choose the "CALL2TALK" option.
- Samaritans is continuing operations 24/7, as always. During this unprecedented time, it can feel overwhelming to receive constant messages about COVID-19. Call or text their 24/7 helpline any time at 877-870-4673.
- The Disaster Distress Helpline, 1-800-985-5990, is a 24/7, 365-day-a-year, national hotline dedicated to providing immediate crisis counseling for people who are experiencing emotional distress related to any

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natural or human-caused disaster, including disease outbreaks like COVID-19. This toll-free, multilingual, and confidential crisis support service is available to all residents in the United States and its territories.

How to Help Out

[Donate](#) to organizations supported by the Massachusetts COVID-19 Relief Fund

The Need for Blood Donations Continues, and Recovered COVID-19 Donors Can Help Save Lives

In coordination with the FDA, the Red Cross is seeking people who are fully recovered from coronavirus to sign up to donate plasma to help current COVID-19 patients. Interested individuals can visit

[RedCrossBlood.org/plasma4covid](https://www.RedCrossBlood.org/plasma4covid) to learn more. To donate blood visit www.RedCrossBlood.org