

COMMUNITY UPDATE COVID-19

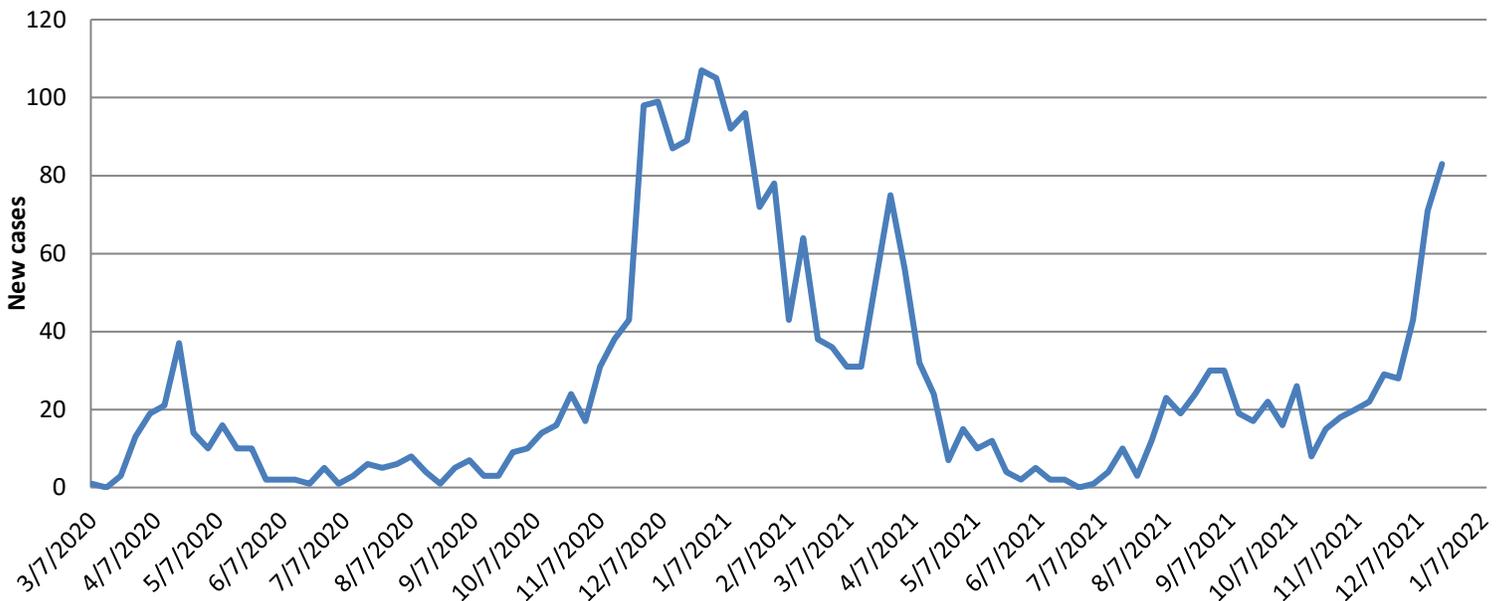
December 23, 2021:

The Town of Mansfield continues its community update on our website with our up to date information and important tips for the public as it relates to the COVID-19 pandemic. For more complete information, please see the town [coronavirus webpage](#).

- **As of today, please see the below chart that represents our communities COVID-19 relates cases:**

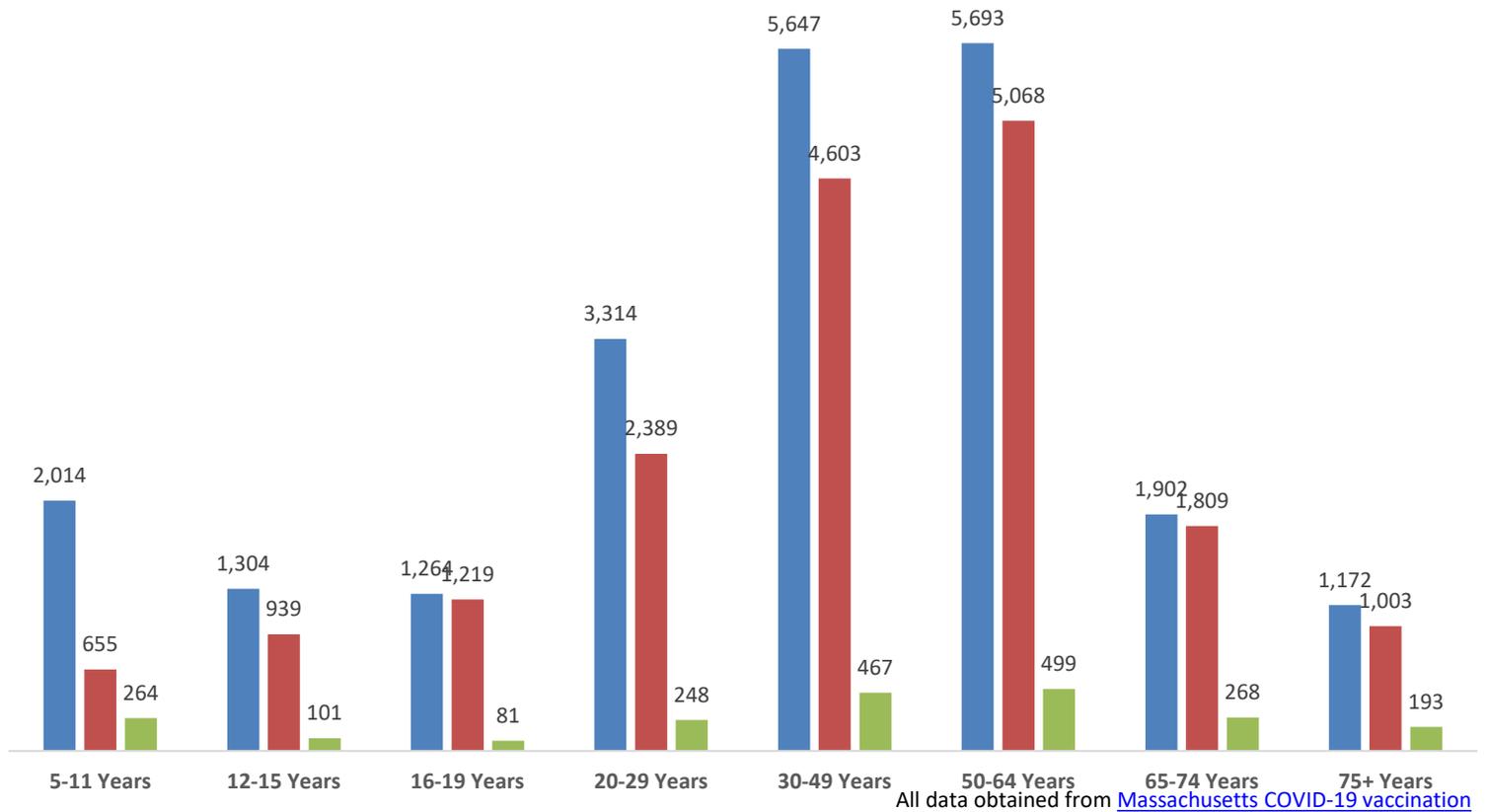
<i>Mansfield Covid-19 Workflow</i>	#	
Positive COVID-19 under isolation	145	(updated 12/23 08:00)
Positive Cases recovered	2452	
Total tested positive since beginning:	2625	
Covid-19 Related Deaths	28	Last Covid death in Mansfield 12/17/21

**New COVID-19 cases per week
March 7, 2020 - December 18, 2021**



Vaccine Distribution in Mansfield- data through December 14, 2021

■ Population ■ Fully vaccinated individuals ■ Partially vaccinated individuals



- [Mask Advisory for Vaccinated and Unvaccinated Residents](#)

Effective December 21, 2021: In response to the spread of the Delta variant and the emerging Omicron variant, the Department of Public Health now advises that all residents, regardless of vaccination status, wear a mask or face covering when indoors (and not in your own home). The DPH particularly urges this recommendation if you have a weakened immune system, or if you are at increased risk for severe disease because of your age or an underlying medical condition, or if someone in your household has a weakened immune system, is at increased risk for severe disease, or is unvaccinated.

This advisory may change based on public health data and further guidance from the CDC.



- [COVID-19 Vaccine Booster Shots](#)

Due to high demand, public Booster Clinics will be held at the Mansfield Public Safety Building located at 500 East Street in the Community Room on Monday, December 27th from 9:00am – 4:00pm and Tuesday, December 28th from 9:00am – 4:00pm. The Moderna booster will be available to anyone 18 years of age or older who is eligible for a booster shot.

Preregistration is required. Please bring your vaccine card with you. Masks are required in the building. No insurance information is needed and the booster is at no cost to the patient. **Sign up here:** <https://home.color.com/vaccine/register/mansfield>

Find out when you are eligible for a COVID-19 Booster:

- You can check if you're eligible for a booster at <http://mass.gov/BoosterCheck>
- If you are eligible, visit <http://vaxfinder.mass.gov> for a list of locations to receive a booster (or call 2-1-1)
- More info on the boosters can be found at [COVID-19 booster frequently asked questions | Mass.gov](#)

Am I eligible for a COVID-19 booster shot?

Who?
Individuals 16+ who are fully vaccinated*
*Individuals age 16-17 can only get the Pfizer booster

When?

- At least 6 months after Pfizer or Moderna
- At least 2 months after J&J

Which booster shot do I get?

- You may have a preference, but you can get any type of vaccine for your booster shot

More information at mass.gov/COVID19booster

- [Safe and Happy Holidays](#)

Here are safer ways to celebrate the holidays:

Generally:

- Protect those not yet eligible for vaccination such as young children by getting yourself and other eligible people around them [vaccinated](#).
- [Wear well-fitting masks](#) over your nose and mouth if you are in public indoor settings and you are not fully vaccinated.

- Even those who are fully vaccinated should wear a mask in public indoor settings in communities with substantial to high transmission.
- Outdoors is safer than indoors.
- Avoid crowded, poorly ventilated spaces.
- If you are sick or have symptoms, don't host or attend a gathering.
- Testing can give you information about your risk of spreading COVID-19.
 - Consider using a self-test before joining indoor gatherings with others who are not in your household.
 - A positive self-test result means that you have an infection and should avoid indoor gatherings to reduce the risk of spreading disease to someone else.
 - A negative self-test result means that you may not have an infection. Repeating the test with at least 24 hours between tests will increase the confidence that you are not infected.
 - Ask your healthcare provider if you need help interpreting your test results.

If you are considering traveling for a holiday or event, visit CDC's [Travel](#) page to help you decide what is best for you and your family. CDC still recommends delaying travel until you are [fully vaccinated](#).

- If you are not fully vaccinated and must [travel](#), follow CDC's [domestic travel](#) or [international travel](#) recommendations for unvaccinated people.
- If you will be traveling in a group or family with unvaccinated people, choose safer travel options.
- Everyone, even people who are fully vaccinated, is [required to wear a mask](#) on public transportation and follow [international travel recommendations](#).

Special considerations:

- People who have a condition or are taking medications that weaken their immune system may not be fully protected even if they are fully vaccinated and have received an [additional dose](#). They should continue to take all [precautions recommended for unvaccinated people, including wearing a well-fitted mask](#), until advised otherwise by their healthcare provider.
- You might choose to wear a mask regardless of the level of transmission if a member of your household has a weakened immune system, is at increased risk for severe disease, or is unvaccinated.
- If you are gathering with a group of people from multiple households and potentially from different parts of the country, you could consider [additional precautions](#) (e.g., avoiding crowded indoor spaces before travel, taking a test) in advance of gathering to further reduce risk.
- Do NOT put a mask on children younger than 2 years old.

By working together, we can enjoy safer holidays, travel, and protect our own health as well as the health of our family and friends.

- [Get Vaccinated Against COVID-19 for individuals age 5+](#)

People age 5+ who live, work or study in Massachusetts can be vaccinated. Sign up and be notified of appointments near you.

Use [VaxFinder.mass.gov](https://vaxfinder.mass.gov) to search for appointments at pharmacies, health care providers, and other community locations.

Council on Aging staff is available to assist any vaccine-eligible seniors who need help navigating the scheduling process. Please call 508-261-7368.

- [Testing for COVID-19](#)

CDC's online COVID-19 Viral Testing Tool can help you understand your COVID-19 testing options. Get started: <https://bit.ly/covid-testing-tool>.

Testing is our best tool to identify those who have been exposed and slow the uptick in cases. You should get tested for COVID-19 if you have symptoms or you've been exposed to someone with COVID-19, even if you're fully vaccinated. If you've had COVID-19 in the past 3 months and you've been exposed to someone with COVID-19, you don't need to get tested if you don't have new symptoms. Testing is encouraged regardless of vaccination status. <https://www.mass.gov/covid-19-testing>

The Town of Mansfield does not have any public testing or self-test kits available at this time. Please check the [Mansfield Health Department Coronavirus Information webpage](#) for updates.

- [COVID-19 Self-tests](#)

Self-tests may be used if you have COVID-19 symptoms or have been exposed or potentially exposed to an individual with COVID-19.

Even if you don't have symptoms and have not been exposed to an individual with COVID-19, using a self-test before gathering indoors with others can give you information about the risk of spreading the virus that causes COVID-19. This is especially important before gathering with [unvaccinated children](#), [older individuals](#), those who are [immunocompromised](#), or [individuals at risk of severe disease](#).

There are CDC videos available to learn more about self-tests.

[How To Use a Self-Test - YouTube](#)

[How To Interpret Self-Test Results - YouTube](#)

More information can be found here: [Self-Testing | CDC](#)

- [Omicron Variant](#)

Vaccines

Vaccines remain the best public health measure to protect people from COVID-19, slow transmission, and reduce the likelihood of new variants emerging.

- COVID-19 vaccines are highly effective at preventing severe illness, hospitalizations, and death.
- Scientists are currently investigating Omicron, including how protected fully vaccinated people will be against infection, hospitalization, and death.
- CDC recommends that everyone 5 years and older protect themselves from COVID-19 by getting [fully vaccinated](#).
- CDC recommends that everyone ages 18 years and older should get a [booster](#) shot at least two months after their initial J&J/Janssen vaccine or six months after completing their primary COVID-19 vaccination series of Pfizer-BioNTech or Moderna.



Masks

Masks offer protection against all variants.

- CDC continues to recommend wearing a mask in public indoor settings in areas of substantial or high [community transmission](#), regardless of vaccination status.
- CDC provides [advice about masks](#) for people who want to learn more about what [type of mask](#) is right for them depending on their circumstances.

Testing

Tests can tell you if you are currently infected with COVID-19.

- Two types of tests are used to [test for current infection](#): nucleic acid amplification tests ([NAATs](#)) and [antigen tests](#). NAAT and antigen tests can only tell you if you have a current infection.
- Individuals can use the [COVID-19 Viral Testing Tool](#) to help determine what kind of test to seek.
 - Additional tests would be needed to determine if your infection was caused by Omicron.
 - Visit your [state](#), [tribal](#), local, or [territorial](#) health department's website to look for the latest local information on testing.
- [Self-tests](#) can be used at home or anywhere, are easy to use, and produce rapid results.

- If your self-test has a positive result, stay home or isolate for 10 days, wear a mask if you have contact with others, and call your healthcare provider.
- If you have any questions about your self-test result, call your healthcare provider or public health department.

Until we know more about the risk of Omicron, it is important to use **all tools available** to [protect yourself and others](#).

For more information: [Omicron Variant: What You Need to Know | CDC](#)

- [Bristol county identified as an area of high transmission](#)

Bristol county has been identified by the CDC as an area of high transmission for COVID-19. The CDC recommends all people, no matter their vaccination status, wear masks indoors and in crowded outdoor settings in areas of substantial or high transmission. More information can be found [here](#).

County	COVID transmission level
Barnstable	High
Berkshire	High
Bristol	High
Dukes	High
Essex	High
Franklin	High
Hampden	High
Hampshire	High
Middlesex	High
Nantucket	High
Norfolk	High
Plymouth	High
Suffolk	High
Worcester	High

Bristol County, Massachusetts

[State Health Department](#) 

7-day Metrics | [7-day Percent Change](#)

Community Transmission ● High

Everyone in **Bristol County, Massachusetts** should wear a mask in public, indoor settings. Mask requirements might vary from place to place. Make sure you follow local laws, rules, regulations or guidance.

[How is community transmission calculated?](#)

December 23, 2021

Cases	3,719
Case Rate per 100k	657.98
% Positivity	10.49%
Deaths	32
% of population ≥ 5 years of age fully vaccinated	64.5%
New Hospital Admissions	162

Data from [CDC COVID Data Tracker](#)

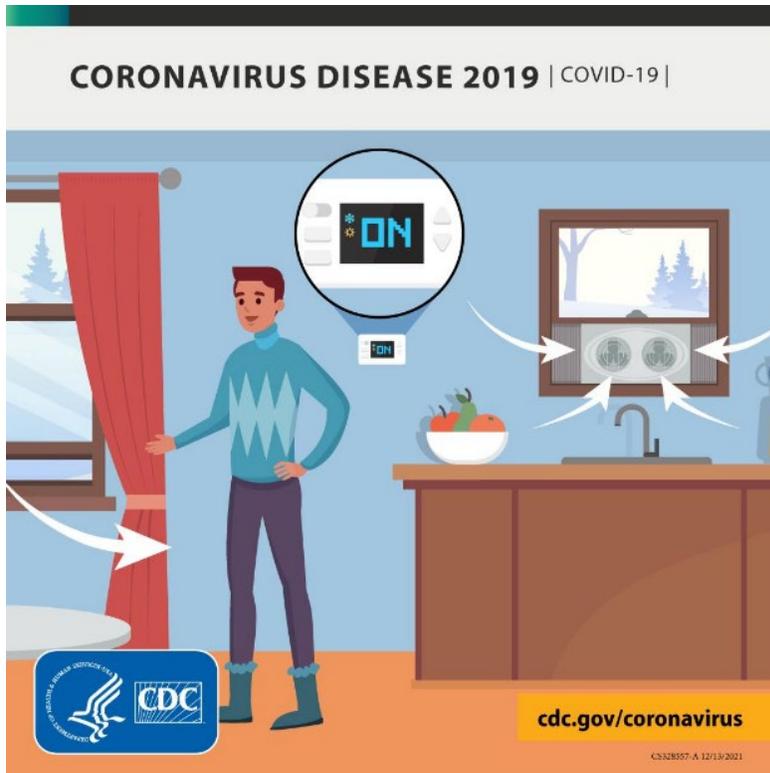
- [Requesting a copy of your COVID-19 vaccination record](#)

There are several options to request a copy of your COVID-19 Vaccination Record. Please go to [Requesting a copy of your COVID-19 vaccination record | Mass.gov](#) for more information.

- [Mansfield Public School COVID information and dashboard](#)

For information about the schools and COVID, please see their School Health and COVID Information webpage: <https://sites.google.com/mansfieldschools.com/covid-19/home>

For more information about how to keep kids safe in school: [School Settings | COVID-19 | CDC](#)



Having visitors in your home this winter? While opening windows can improve ventilation in your home during the visit, it might be too cold to do so comfortably. If possible, try cracking open a window for a little while. You can also take other steps to improve ventilation in your home, like upgrading your HVAC filter, running a HEPA purifier, and using your kitchen and bathroom exhaust fans. Taking steps to improve ventilation can reduce the number of COVID-19 particles in your home's air.

Check out CDC's new tool to see how much: <https://bit.ly/3F7bPgg>.