

COMMUNITY UPDATE COVID-19

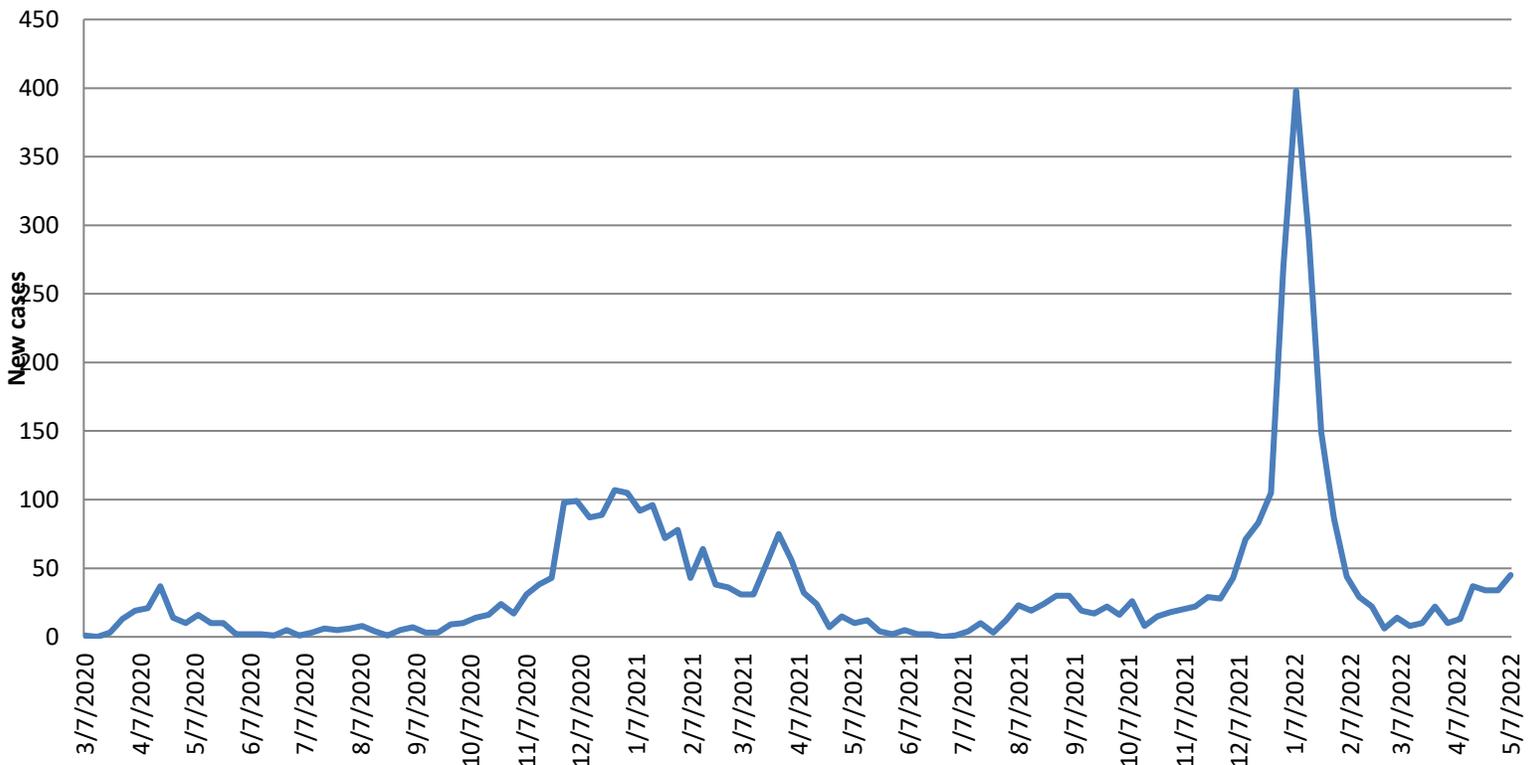
May 9, 2022:

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	47	(updated 05/09 08:00)
Positive Cases recovered	4299	
Total tested positive since beginning:	4383	
Covid-19 Related Deaths	37	Last Covid death in Mansfield 3/22/22

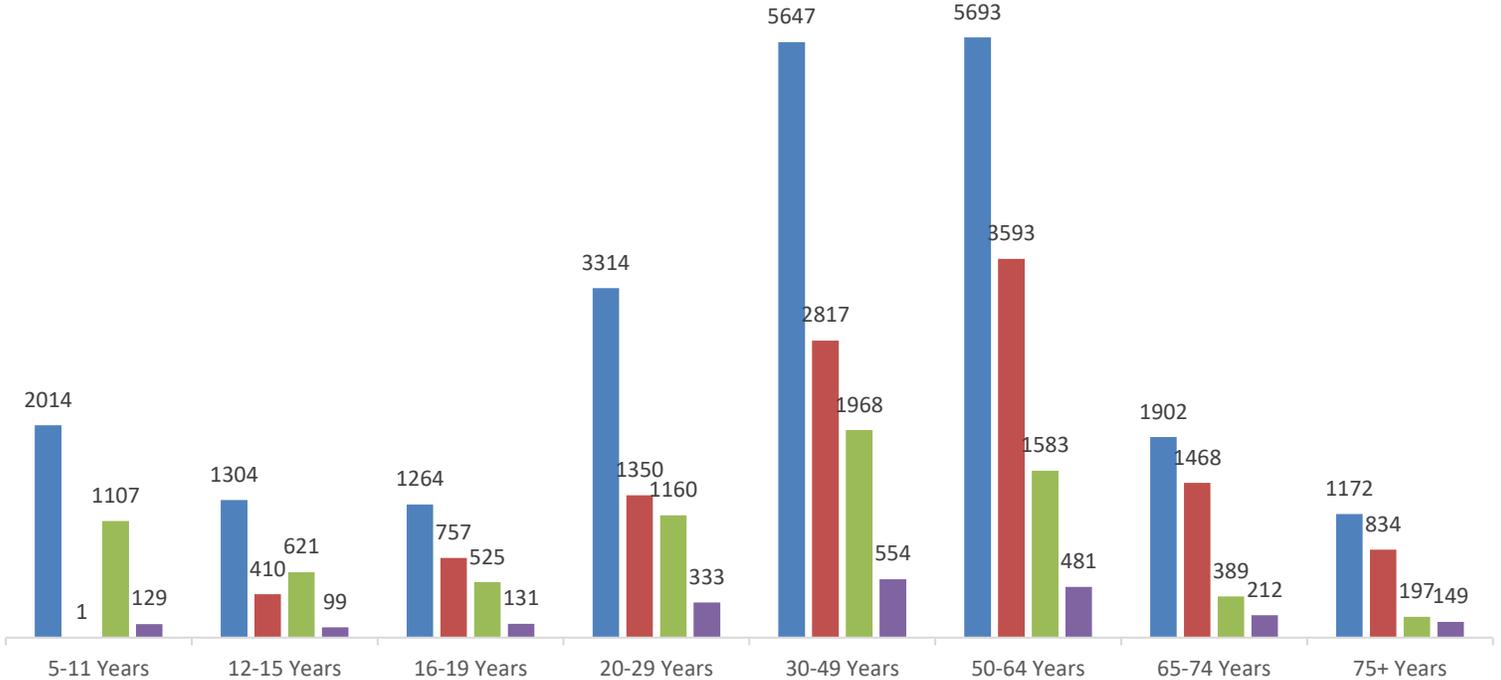
New COVID-19 cases per week*
March 7, 2020 - May 7, 2022



* At home test results are not reported nor included in state data

Vaccine Distribution in Mansfield- data through May 3, 2022

■ Population ■ Individuals with booster doses ■ Fully vaccinated individual, no booster ■ Partially vaccinated individuals



All data obtained from [Massachusetts COVID-19 vaccination data and updates | Mass.gov](https://www.mass.gov/info-details/massachusetts-covid-19-vaccination-data-and-updates)

- [Treatments for COVID-19](#)

For people who are [more likely to get very sick](#) from COVID-19 infection, medications are available that can reduce the chances of severe illness and death. Other medications can help reduce [symptoms](#) and help manage the illness.

People who are more likely to get very sick include [older adults](#) (ages 50 years or more, with risk increasing with older age), people who are unvaccinated, and [people with certain medical conditions](#), such as a weakened immune system.



Being vaccinated makes you much less likely to get very sick. Still, some vaccinated people, especially those ages 65 years or older or who have other risk factors for severe disease, may benefit from treatment if they get COVID-19. A healthcare provider will help decide which treatment, if any, is right for each individual.

The FDA has issued emergency use authorizations (EUA) for certain antiviral medications and monoclonal antibodies to treat mild to moderate COVID-19 in people who are more likely to get very sick. For more information click [here](#).

Treatment is available for people who are at increased risk of severe disease, test positive for COVID-19 and have any symptoms, even mild ones (such as runny nose or cough). The sooner you start treatment, the better.

- **Call your doctor right away** to learn about your treatment options, OR
- **Call (508) 213-1380** to speak with a Gotham's representative. If you're eligible for COVID-19 treatment, they can schedule an infusion appointment for you at one of their 7 sites in Massachusetts. Gotham's COVID-19 Self-Referral Treatment Line is open Monday–Saturday from 8 a.m. to 6 p.m.



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

Following updated recommendations from the federal government, all residents aged 50 and older or individuals who are younger with certain medical conditions may now access a second COVID-19 booster. Those eligible include:

- Individuals 50 years of age and older at least 4 months after getting a first booster
- Individuals 18 and older with [certain medical conditions](#) may get a second Moderna booster at least 4 months after first booster
- Individuals 12 and older with [certain medical conditions](#) may get a second Pfizer booster at least 4 months after the first booster.

Separately and in addition, per the CDC, individuals 18 and older who received a primary vaccine and booster dose of Johnson & Johnson's Janssen COVID-19 vaccine at least 4 months ago may now receive a second booster dose using an mRNA COVID-19 vaccine.

The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) recommends that [Americans stay "up to date" with COVID-19 vaccines](#), rather than be "fully vaccinated." Up to date means a person has received all recommended COVID-19 vaccines, including any booster dose(s) when eligible. Fully vaccinated means a person has received their primary series of COVID-19 vaccines.

Important Links for Vaccination:

- MA COVID-19 Vaccine Information: www.mass.gov/info-details/massachusetts-covid-19-vaccine-information
- Find a Vaccine Location, including boosters: www.vaxfinder.mass.gov
- COVID-19 Vaccine frequently asked questions: www.mass.gov/info-details/covid-19-vaccine-frequently-asked-questions
- COVID-19 vaccine booster shots, ages 12+: www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/vaccines/booster-shot.html
- COVID-19 booster frequently asked questions: www.mass.gov/info-details/covid-19-booster-frequently-asked-questions

- Generate a COVID-19 digital vaccine card: www.mass.gov/massachusetts-vaccination-records
- Request a copy of your vaccine record: www.mass.gov/info-details/requesting-a-copy-of-your-covid-19-vaccination-record
- [Bristol County COVID-19 Community Level is identified as LOW](#)

[COVID-19 Community Levels](#) are a tool to help communities decide what prevention steps to take based on the latest data. Levels can be low, medium, or high and are determined by looking at hospital beds being used, hospital admissions, and the total number of new COVID-19 cases in an area. Take precautions to protect yourself and others from COVID-19 based on the COVID-19 Community Level in your area.

COVID-19 [cases](#) and [hospitalizations](#) are on the rise in the United States. Although [deaths](#) continue to decrease, the United States is expected to reach 1 million deaths soon.

When trends start to change across the country and in your community, you can use CDC’s [COVID-19 Integrated County View](#) to find out how to protect yourself and others from severe illness. For example, each county’s COVID-19 Community Level is ranked as low, medium, or high, based on hospital beds being used by patients with COVID-19, new hospital admissions among people with COVID-19, and the total number of new COVID-19 cases in your area. It’s easy to [check your county’s level](#) on CDC’s website and learn what actions you should take.

In **Bristol County**, community level is **Low**. If you are immunocompromised, learn more about [how to protect yourself](#).

What Prevention Steps Should You Take Based on Your COVID-19 Community Level?

Community Burden Levels		
Low	Medium	High
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Stay up to date with COVID-19 vaccines • Get tested if you have symptoms 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • If you are at high risk for severe illness, talk to your healthcare provider about whether you need to wear a mask and take other precautions • Stay up to date with COVID-19 vaccines • Get tested if you have symptoms 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Wear a mask indoors in public • Stay up to date with COVID-19 vaccines • Get tested if you have symptoms • Additional precautions may be needed for people at high risk for severe illness
<p>People may choose to mask at any time. People with symptoms, a positive test, or exposure to someone with COVID-19 should wear a mask.</p>		

COVID-19 Community Level designations throughout Massachusetts today:

County	COVID-19 Community Level
Barnstable	High
Berkshire	High
Bristol	Low
Dukes	Medium
Essex	Medium
Franklin	High
Hampden	Medium

County	COVID-19 Community Level
Hampshire	Medium
Middlesex	High
Nantucket	Medium
Norfolk	High
Plymouth	Medium
Suffolk	High
Worcester	High

- [Isolation and Quarantine Guidance for the General Public](#)

Important Links for Isolation and Quarantine:

- Mansfield COVID information: www.mansfieldma.com/601/Covid-Information
- COVID-19 Isolation and Quarantine Guidance for the General Public: www.mass.gov/info-details/covid-19-isolation-and-quarantine-guidance-for-the-general-public
- How To Talk To Your Close Contacts: www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/daily-life-coping/tell-your-contacts.html
- Enable MassNotify on your smartphone: www.mass.gov/info-details/enable-massnotify-on-your-smartphone

The CDC has a new [COVID-19 Quarantine and Isolation \(Q&I\) Calculator](#) which offers customized information to address each unique situation. It takes the stress out of figuring when, and for how long, people with COVID-19 and close contacts need to stay home, get tested, and wear a well-fitting mask. The calculator provides important information about what precautions people with COVID-19 and their close contacts can take to protect loved ones and prevent COVID-19 in their communities. This online, mobile-friendly calculator provides a simple, easy-to-use way to help people follow CDC's [Quarantine and Isolation](#) guidance and get customized information that applies to their unique situation.

To use the tool:

- People with COVID-19 who do not have symptoms need to know the date they were tested for COVID-19
- People with COVID-19 who have symptoms need to know the date their symptoms began
- Close contacts need to know the date they last came into close contact with someone with COVID-19

- [Public Health Advisory regarding COVID-19 Testing](#)

The Massachusetts Department of Public Health advises all residents to seek COVID-19 tests when exhibiting [COVID symptoms](#), or five days following a known close contact with someone diagnosed

with COVID pursuant to MA DPH quarantine and isolation protocols, updated in accordance with the new CDC guidance.

Important Links for Testing:

- CDC's online COVID-19 Viral Testing Tool: <https://bit.ly/covid-testing-tool>
- MA DPH COVID-19 Testing information: <https://www.mass.gov/covid-19-testing>
- Find a COVID-19 Test: <https://www.mass.gov/info-details/find-a-covid-19-test>
- Using a COVID-19 Self-Test: <https://www.mass.gov/info-details/using-a-covid-19-self-test>
- CDC COVID-19 Testing: <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/testing/index.html>
- **Every home in the U.S. is eligible to order 2 sets of 4 free at-home tests. If you already ordered your first set, order a second today.** Order free At-Home COVID-19 Tests: <https://special.usps.com/testkits>

- [COVID-19 Mask Requirements](#)

Important Links for Masks and Respirators:

- COVID-19 Mask Information: www.mass.gov/info-details/covid-19-mask-information
- Types of Masks and Respirators: www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/prevent-getting-sick/types-of-masks.html
- Your Guide to Masks: www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/prevent-getting-sick/about-face-coverings.html
- Improve How Your Mask Protects You: www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/your-health/effective-masks.html
- Types of Masks and Respirators: www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/prevent-getting-sick/types-of-masks.html
- Find Free Masks (N95 Respirators): www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/your-health/free-masks.html

Free N95 Respirators

The Strategic National Stockpile has distributed N95 respirators to pharmacy distribution centers throughout the country. For information about how to use your N95 correctly, see [How to Use Your N95 Respirator](#).

[Free Mask Locator](#)

Find free masks (N95 respirators) at a participating location near you. Click [here](#).

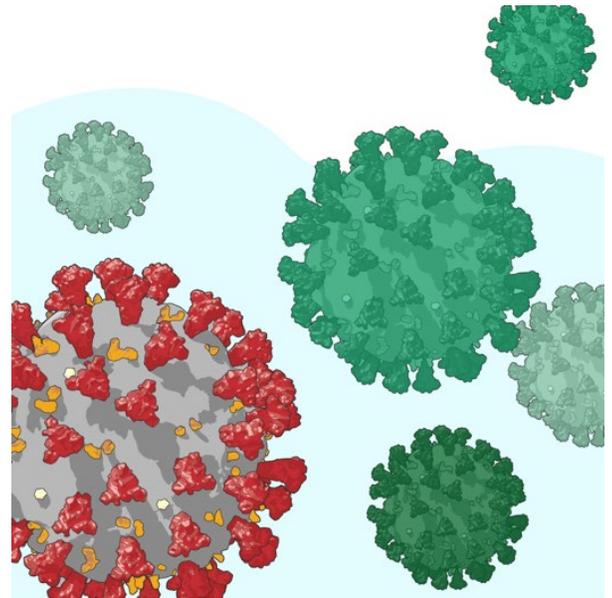
- [Mansfield Public School COVID information and dashboard](#)

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>

[What You Need to Know About Variants](#)

What You Need to Know

- New variants of the virus are expected to occur.
- Slowing the spread of the virus, by [protecting yourself and others](#), can help slow the emergence of new variants.
- The Omicron variant causes more infections and spreads faster than the original [SARS-CoV-2](#) strain of the virus that causes COVID-19.
- CDC is working with state and local public health officials to [monitor the spread of all variants, including Omicron](#).
- Getting [a vaccine](#) reduces your risk of severe illness, hospitalization, and death from COVID-19. [Staying up to date on your COVID-19 vaccines](#), which includes getting a booster when eligible, further improves your protection.



Viruses constantly change through mutation and sometimes these mutations result in a new variant of the virus. Some variants emerge and disappear while others persist. New variants will continue to emerge. CDC and other public health organizations monitor all variants of the virus that cause COVID-19 in the United States and globally.

Scientists monitor all variants but may classify certain ones as [variants being monitored](#), [variants of interest](#), [variants of concern](#) and [variants of high consequence](#). Some variants spread more easily and quickly than other variants, which may lead to more cases of COVID-19.

Even if a variant causes less severe disease in general, an increase in the overall number of cases could cause an increase in hospitalizations, put more strain on healthcare resources and potentially lead to more deaths.