**Town of Harwich**

**Board of Health**

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April 23, 2021

**WEEKLY COVID-19 UPDATE**

**CASES & STATISTICS**

To date, Harwich has seen a cumulative total of 730 cases of COVID-19. We are currently following 15 active cases. The positivity rate has increased to 6.35%, which leaves us in the “Red” designation. Over the last two weeks, the Town has seen 57 positive tests out of 897 tests (57 ÷ 897 x 100= 6.35%).

With more people getting vaccinated, and the travel order now an advisory, less people are getting tested than previously. This makes our overall test population smaller, which in turn may potentially show a higher percentage rate. Although our case numbers are dropping, so are the number of total tests.

Another measure of disease frequency we can look at is called “Incidence Proportion”, also called “Cumulative Incidence”. Incidence Proportion is the probability of developing disease over a specific period of time, and is used to estimate risk. For example, the two week Incidence Proportion for Harwich is 0.45%. That can be interpreted to mean that in Harwich, over the past two weeks, the probability, or estimated risk, of contracting COVID-19 was 0.45%. We can then compare these numbers to other towns or cities, as shown below, to determine if we have a higher probability of developing COVID-19. Massachusetts as a whole showed that over the past two week time period, the estimated risk of developing COVID-19 was 0.56%. We need to look at multiple measures of disease frequency in order see the bigger picture. Just because we have a low risk, does not mean that we can minimize protective measures such as mask use and social distancing.

**Harwich**

Incidence Proportion (4/16- 4/22) = 15 new cases ÷ 12,589 population x 100= **0.12%**

Incidence Proportion (4/9-4/22) = 57 new cases ÷ 12,589 population x 100**= 0.45%**

**Brewster** (4/9-4/22)= 37 new cases ÷ 9,926 population x 100= **0.37%**

**Chatham** (4/9-4/22) = 8 new cases ÷ 5,830 population x 100= **0.14%**

**Dennis** (4/9-4/22) = 58 new cases ÷ 13,088 population x 100 = **0.44%**

**Edgartown** (4/9-4/22) = 57 new cases ÷ 4,086 population x 100= **1.40%**

**Oak Bluffs** (4/9-4/22) = 48 new cases ÷ 5,209 population x 100= **0.92%**

**Tisbury** (4/9-4/22) = 42 new cases ÷ 4,174 population x 100= **1.01%**

**Nantucket** (4/9-4/22) = 82 new cases ÷ 11,416 population x 100= **0.72%**

**Massachusetts** (4/9-4/22) = 705,239 ÷ 125,358,885 x 100= **0.56%**

**VACCINE**

To date, 5,567 full time residents are fully vaccinated, and 7,855 full time residents have received at least one dose.

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Age Group** | **Population Size** | **Individuals with at least one dose** | **Fully vaccinated individuals** |
| 0-19 Years | 1,993 | 126 | 32 |
| 20-29 Years | 1,055 | 391 | 181 |
| 30-49 Years | 2,146 | 1,259 | 643 |
| 50-64 Years | 3,012 | 2,105 | 1,204 |
| 65-74 Years | 2,551 | 2,169 | 1,902 |
| 75+ Years | 1,833 | 1,805 | 1,605 |
| **Total** | **12,589** | **7,855** | **5,567** |

A private vaccination clinic has been re-scheduled for Wednesday April 28th at the Harwich Community Center. Outer Cape Health was able to obtain the Moderna vaccine for the clinic. We have 131 individuals scheduled from 8 AM to 1 PM. Harwich EMS will be administer the vaccines. This is a closed clinic, and is scheduled by appointment only.

Barnstable County is transitioning to the new, state-run vaccine pre-registration system, called “Color”. In order to get a first-dose vaccine appointment you must pre-register at <https://www.mass.gov/info-details/preregister-for-a-covid-19-vaccine-appointment>. Over the coming weeks, vaccine availability at select pharmacy location is also expected to increase substantially.

**TESTING**

For free testing at Outer Cape Health, please call [508-905-2888](tel:+1-508-905-2888) to make an appointment.

Barnstable County offers FREE COVID-19 testing at the Barnstable County Fairgrounds Tuesdays 10:00 AM – 12:00 PM and Fridays 10:00 AM – 12:00 PM? Call to make and appointment 774-330-3002 – or take 1 minute and schedule online at [https://bit.ly/3doeaH5](https://bit.ly/3doeaH5?fbclid=IwAR37YUKWzbAiTzw7qX71FacPnifv3a9QO3XZI1pqRTTs7xBoAWbTcCub4Gg)

Testing is still available in other locations 7 days per week through Cape Cod Healthcare. Call the Community Testing Line at 508-534-7103 to make an appointment.

***REMINDER***

Please continue to maintain social distancing, mask use, and good hand hygiene. We need to work together as a community to minimize the spread!

Stay Safe!

~Dr. O’Neill

*Health Director*

**4/23/2021: Barnstable County Regional COVID-19 Update**

**New Cases:**DPH confirmed cases reported yesterday:

**Barnstable County:        39** new cases;

**Martha's Vineyard:        15**new cases;   
**Nantucket:                       15** new cases;

**Test Positivity Rates**(14-day average, as of **4/21/21**)**:**

Barnstable County:                     **4.34%** (vs. 5.14%) (**lower**vs. previous fortnight)

Dukes & Nantucket Counties:    **7.03%** (vs. 8.31%) (**lower**)

A test percent positivity rate below 5% suggests that an outbreak is on the way to **containment**.



