

### COVID-19 Dashboard

A dashboard with daily data updates will be available [Acton's Covid-19 Information Center](http://www.actonma.gov/covid19)

[<http://www.actonma.gov/covid19>]: <http://www.actonma.gov/covid19>  
[<http://www.actonma.gov/covid19>]

### Translation

Translation of this update is available: Call 978-929-6600

Ke genjù yaoqiú tígong

Una transacción de este documento está disponible a pedido

is dastaavez ka ek lenaden anurodh par upalabdh hai

Uma transação deste documento está disponível mediante solicitação

call 978-929-6600



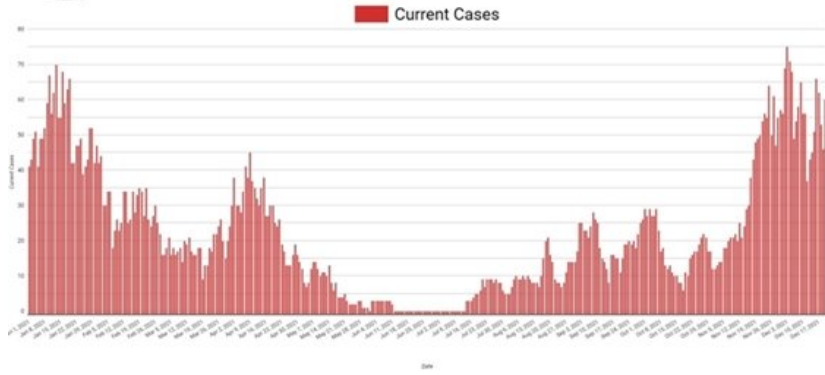
### Confirmed Cases

It has been reported to Acton Public Health that at this time there are 1538 cumulative cases of COVID-19 in Acton with 89 individuals in isolation, 1417 recovered and 32 fatalities. Above is a chart showing the cumulative number of cases in Acton

in blue and the daily trend in current cases in red. The chart below shows the daily trend in current cases as red bars as of yesterday.



## Confirmed COVID-19 Cases in Acton, Massachusetts



### Masks Required in Acton on December 22, 2021 Following Acton Board of Health Emergency Public Health Order of December 21, 2021

All members of the public entering any public business premises, including but not limited to grocery stores, pharmacies, home improvement or retail stores and the like must cover their mouth and nose with a mask or cloth face covering, unless exempted by MDPH guidance <https://www.mass.gov/info-details/covid-19-mask-requirements> [<https://www.mass.gov/info-details/covid-19-mask-requirements>]

All members of the public entering a restaurant or food establishment premises for purposes of picking up food for takeout must cover their mouth and nose with a mask or cloth face covering, unless exempted by MDPH guidance <https://www.mass.gov/info-details/covid-19-mask-requirements> [<https://www.mass.gov/info-details/covid-19-mask-requirements>]

All members of the public when entering an indoor municipal property or building, including but not limited to the Acton Public Safety Facility, Acton Town Hall, Acton Memorial and Citizens Library and Acton Fire Stations, must cover their mouth and nose with a mask or cloth face covering, unless exempted MDPH guidance <https://www.mass.gov/info-details/covid-19-mask-requirements> [<https://www.mass.gov/info-details/covid-19-mask-requirements>]

Here is the full order as approved by the Board of Health:

Whereas the Board of Health desires to enforce guidelines of COVID-19 with measures to protect the health and welfare of the residents and community, Whereas Acton has a role in helping to contain the spread and need to limit exposure to all of our residents from this highly contagious and potentially life-threatening virus, Whereas the Town of Acton seeks to reduce the risk of exposure to the novel coronavirus for residents, employees and the community,

NOW, THEREFORE, pursuant to 310 CRM 11.05, 105 CRM 300.200, and Chapter 111, Sections 30, 31 and 104 of the Massachusetts General Laws and all other necessary and appropriate powers and authorities, to take additional steps to prepare for, respond to, and mitigate the spread of COVID-19 to protect the health and welfare of the people of Acton,

**The Board of Health HEREBY ORDERS:**

The provisions of the Emergency Order of the Acton Board of Health as of December 22, 2021, requiring Face Coverings in Indoor Public Places are hereby adopted by the Town of Acton.

All members of the public entering any public business premises, including but not limited to grocery stores, pharmacies, home improvement or retail stores

and the like must cover their mouth and nose with a mask or cloth face covering, unless exempted by MDPH guidance <https://www.mass.gov/info-details/covid-19-mask-requirements> [<https://www.mass.gov/info-details/covid-19-mask-requirements>]

All members of the public entering a restaurant or food establishment premises for purposes of picking up food for takeout must cover their mouth and nose with a mask or cloth face covering, unless exempted by MDPH guidance <https://www.mass.gov/info-details/covid-19-mask-requirements> [<https://www.mass.gov/info-details/covid-19-mask-requirements>]

All members of the public when entering an indoor municipal property or building, including but not limited to the Acton Public Safety Facility, Acton Town Hall, Acton Memorial and Citizens Library and Acton Fire Stations, must cover their mouth and nose with a mask or cloth face covering, unless exempted MDPH guidance <https://www.mass.gov/info-details/covid-19-mask-requirements> [<https://www.mass.gov/info-details/covid-19-mask-requirements>]

The Board of Health will also seek assistance from the Acton Police with help in asking the public for compliance with this order, concurrent with their employment with the Town of Acton.

To the extent necessary, this Order shall be enforced by the Board of Health and duly authorized agents of the Board of Health.

This Order shall be effective at 12:00 noon December 22, 2021 and shall remain in effect until further notice given, pursuant to our judgment that the conditions leading to this Order no longer exists.

The foregoing Order was made at a meeting of the Acton Board of Health on December 21, 2021 duly noticed pursuant to Open Meeting Laws.



## **Covid-19 Update from Baker-Polito Administration**

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:**

December 21, 2021

**Baker-Polito Administration Provides COVID-19 Update on Mask Advisory, Hospital Support  
Governor Baker Activates National Guard**

BOSTON – Today, the Baker-Polito Administration announced additional measures to address a recent rise in COVID-19 cases and to ensure acute care hospitals have sufficient capacity to care for both COVID and non-COVID patients.

The Commonwealth's healthcare system is facing a critical staffing shortage which has contributed to the loss of approximately 500 medical/surgical and ICU hospital beds since the beginning of the year. Hospitals are also seeing a high level of patients, many due to non-COVID related reasons.

Residents are reminded that getting a vaccine and booster remain the best way to protect against serious illness or hospitalization from COVID. The Department of Public Health (DPH) [released](https://link.edgepilot.com/s/12afd100/TDaFPWky8Uyi8vrz7dPtWQ?u=https://www.mass.gov/news/breakthrough-case-review-finds-97-of-covid-19-cases-in-vaccinated-individuals-dont-result-in-severe-illness) [<https://link.edgepilot.com/s/12afd100/TDaFPWky8Uyi8vrz7dPtWQ?u=https://www.mass.gov/news/breakthrough-case-review-finds-97-of-covid-19-cases-in-vaccinated-individuals-dont-result-in-severe-illness>] updated COVID breakthrough data this week showing that 97% of COVID breakthrough cases in Massachusetts have not resulted in hospitalization or death. Unvaccinated individuals are five times more likely to contract COVID than fully vaccinated individuals and 31 times more likely to contract COVID than individuals who have a booster.

Massachusetts is a national leader in COVID-19 vaccinations, with over 94% of eligible residents having received at least one dose. Over 89% of the entire Massachusetts population has at least one dose, and 74% of the entire population fully vaccinated. Massachusetts also leads the nation in vaccinating communities of color, with 68% of all black residents and 67% of all Hispanic residents receiving at least one dose, compared to 42.0% of black residents

and 51.7% of Hispanic residents nationally.

### **National Guard Activation**

Governor Charlie Baker today will activate up to 500 members of the Massachusetts National Guard to address the non-clinical support needs of hospitals and transport systems. Up to 300 of these Guard members will begin training this week and will support 55 acute care hospitals, as well as 12 ambulance service providers across the Commonwealth.

DPH surveyed all hospitals and ambulance service providers, and in concert with the Massachusetts Health and Hospital Association, has identified five key roles that non-clinical Guard personnel can serve in support hospital operations for up to 90 days:

- Non-emergency transport between facilities: driving ambulances used to transfer patients between two healthcare locations such as when patients are discharged from a hospital and transferred to a long term care facility.
- Patient observers: providing continuous or frequent observation of a patient who is at risk for harm to themselves.
- Security support: helping to maintain a safe workplace.
- In-hospital transport: bringing patients via wheelchair or, if needed, stretcher, from their patient room to tests such as x-ray or CT scan, or from the emergency department to their inpatient floor.
- Food service/tray delivery support: delivering patient meals to their rooms

Guard personnel will be deployed to the field beginning December 27th, 2021.

### **Elective Surgery Guidance**

DPH released updated guidance to hospitals concerning nonessential, elective invasive procedures. To preserve health care personnel resources, effective 12:01am on December 27th, all hospitals are directed to postpone or cancel all nonessential elective procedures likely to result in inpatient admission in order to maintain and increase inpatient capacity.

Patients are reminded to still seek necessary care at their hospital or from their health care provider.

To read the guidance, click [here](#)

[<https://link.edgepilot.com/s/23d3da5f/KQkadOResUOraotVAtE7TQ?u=https://www.mass.gov/doc/guidance-regarding-non-essential-non-urgent-scheduled-procedures/download>].

### **Mask Advisory**

DPH released an updated mask advisory today, recommending that all individuals, regardless of vaccination status, wear a mask or face covering in indoor, public spaces.

DPH particularly urges this recommendation for individuals who have a weakened immune system, or are at increased risk for severe disease because of age or an underlying medical condition, or if someone in their household has a weakened immune system, is at increased risk for severe disease, or is unvaccinated.

All people in Massachusetts (regardless of vaccination status) are required to continue wearing face coverings in certain settings, including transportation and health care facilities. Please see [here](#) [[https://link.edgepilot.com/s/4b82be26/kStNQbG0uE\\_-CJ-TS3Lw-Q?u=http://www.mass.gov/maskrules](https://link.edgepilot.com/s/4b82be26/kStNQbG0uE_-CJ-TS3Lw-Q?u=http://www.mass.gov/maskrules)] for a complete list of venues where face coverings have remained mandatory since May 29, 2021.

The Massachusetts Department of Elementary and Secondary Education's current mask requirement and [Policy on Vaccination Rate Threshold](#) [<https://link.edgepilot.com/s/0947d6db/Swqab0z5ak6iuRyT5xxqJA?u=https://www.doe.mass.edu/covid19/on-desktop/2021-0927vax-rate-guidance.pdf>] issued on September 27<sup>th</sup>, 2021 is not impacted by this advisory.

To read the full advisory, visit: [here](https://link.edgepilot.com/s/c984d966/W7LE3dLrukeRnSLgZTD7ww?u=https://www.mass.gov/info-details/covid-19-mask-requirements)  
[<https://link.edgepilot.com/s/c984d966/W7LE3dLrukeRnSLgZTD7ww?u=https://www.mass.gov/info-details/covid-19-mask-requirements>].



[View testing location map](#)

### Testing Information


The Commonwealth of Massachusetts provides comprehensive information about COVID-19 testing including an updated list of testing locations. More information is available at <https://www.mass.gov/covid-19-testing> [<https://www.mass.gov/covid-19-testing>]. An interactive map showing testing locations is also available using the link on the left.




### Town Services Hotline (978) 929-6600

The Acton Town Services Hotline is available to connect residents with a live worker to receive information and answers to their questions about the latest government news, COVID-19, and Town services in general. Hotline workers also help answer questions related to the topics such as town meetings, financial relief programs for residents and business owners, and Town reopening plans. The Acton Town Services hotline number is 978-929-6600 and is open on Monday through Thursdays from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m.; and Fridays from 8 a.m. to 2:30 p.m.

**For Additional Updates on Town Services go to the COVID-19 Information Center <http://www.actonma.gov/covid19>**

 Share on Facebook

 Share on Twitter

 Share via Email

A message from the Town of Acton, Massachusetts.  
472 Main Street | Acton, MA | 01720

