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**PUBLIC SCHOOLS of  
BROOKLINE**

Advisory Panel 4:  
Public Health, Safety, & Logistics

Meeting Slides

May 21, 2021

# Community Benchmarks - Status

<b>Benchmark</b> (each measured over prior 14 days)	Status 4/28/21	Status 5/5/21	Status 5/12/21	Status 5/19/21
<b>Avg. daily new case count in Brookline = &lt;10 per 100k people</b>	5.8	4.5	3.6	<b>2.8</b>
<b>Avg. daily new case count in Mass. = &lt;10 per 100k people</b>	20.0	15.9	12.5	<b>8.7</b>
<b>Avg. test positivity rate in Brookline = &lt;5.0%</b>	0.52%	0.45%	0.45%	<b>0.39%</b>
<b>Avg. test positivity rate in Massachusetts = &lt;5.0%</b>	2.01%	1.73%	1.48%	<b>1.21%</b>

*Panel 4 selected these four community transmission benchmarks in August 2020 as triggers for focused evaluation and discussion of whether changes in operations are warranted, not as definitive indicators of in-school risk or thresholds for automatic action. Research and PSB-specific data since that time have convincingly shown that in-school transmission risk can be kept very low even at high levels of community case incidence.*

# MA DPH Color Scale



Incidence Rate Color Table  
 Massachusetts Department of Public Health COVID-19 Dashboard - Thursday, November 12, 2020  
**Average Daily Incidence Rate per 100,000 Color Calculations**

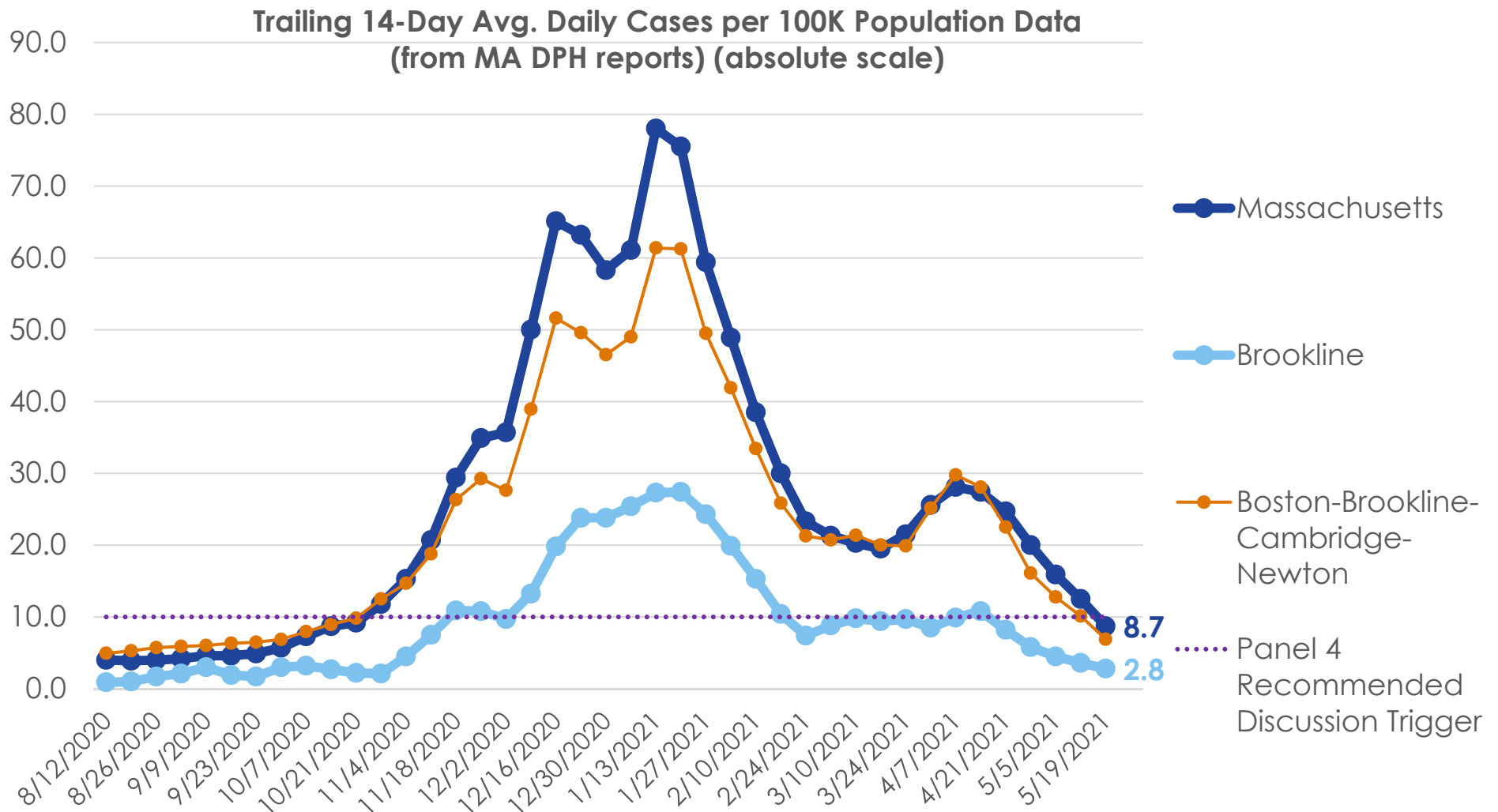
Group	Population		
	Under 10K	10K-50K	Over 50K
Grey	Less than or equal to 10 total cases	Less than or equal to 10 total cases	Less than or equal to 15 total cases
Green	Less than or equal to 15 total cases	<10 avg cases/100k AND >10 total cases	<10 avg cases/100k AND >15 total cases
Yellow	Less than or equal to 25 total cases	≥10 avg cases/100k OR ≥5% pos rate	≥10 avg cases/100k OR ≥ 4% pos rate
Red	More than 25 total cases	≥10 avg cases/100k AND ≥5% pos rate	≥10 avg cases/100k AND ≥4% pos rate

**Brookline is here as of 5/19/2021 (green)**

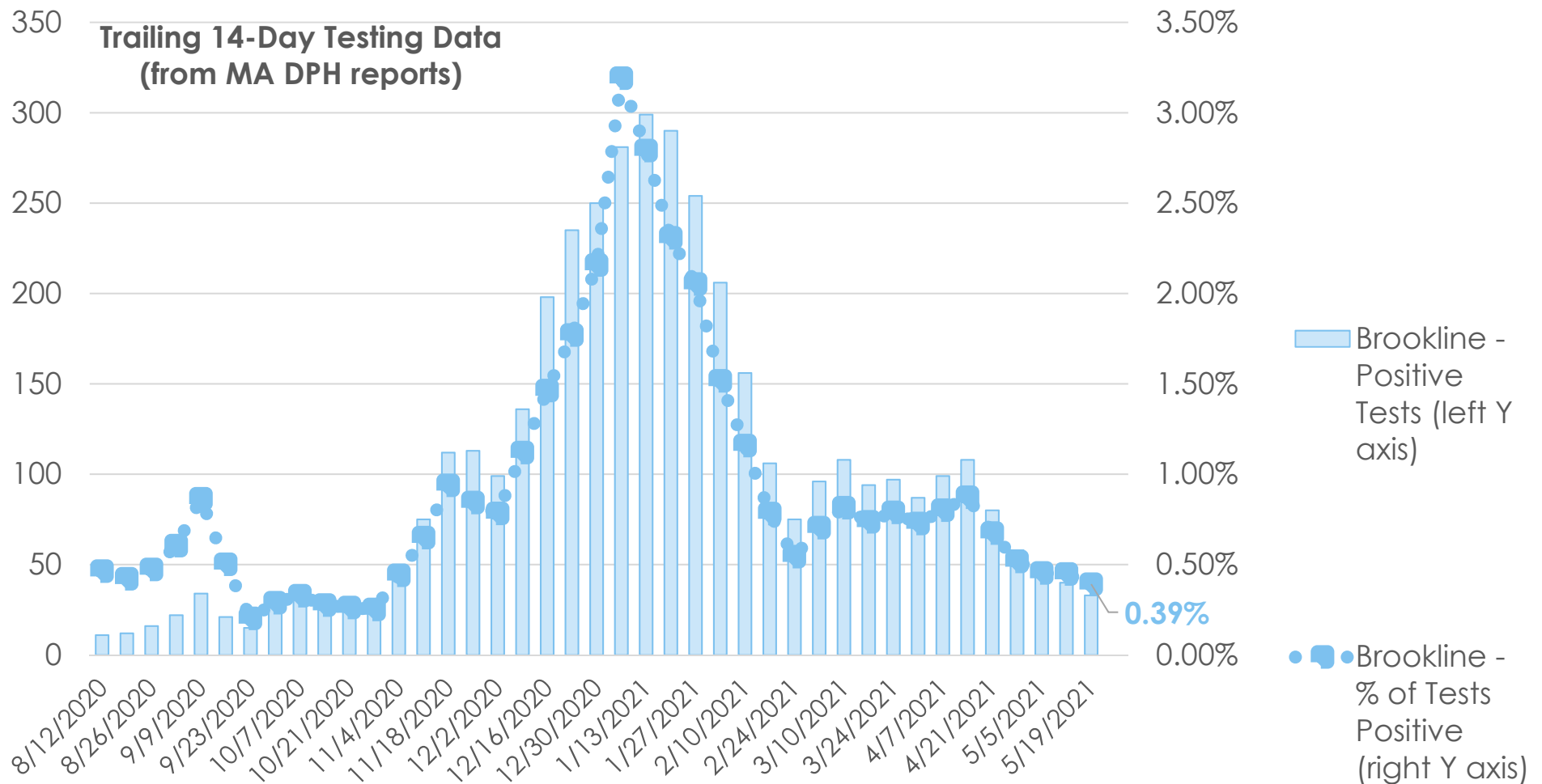
*Brookline's population is ~60,000*

As of 11/5, DPH is using 2019 population estimates derived from a method developed by the University of Massachusetts Donahue Institute. The 2019 estimates are the most currently available data.

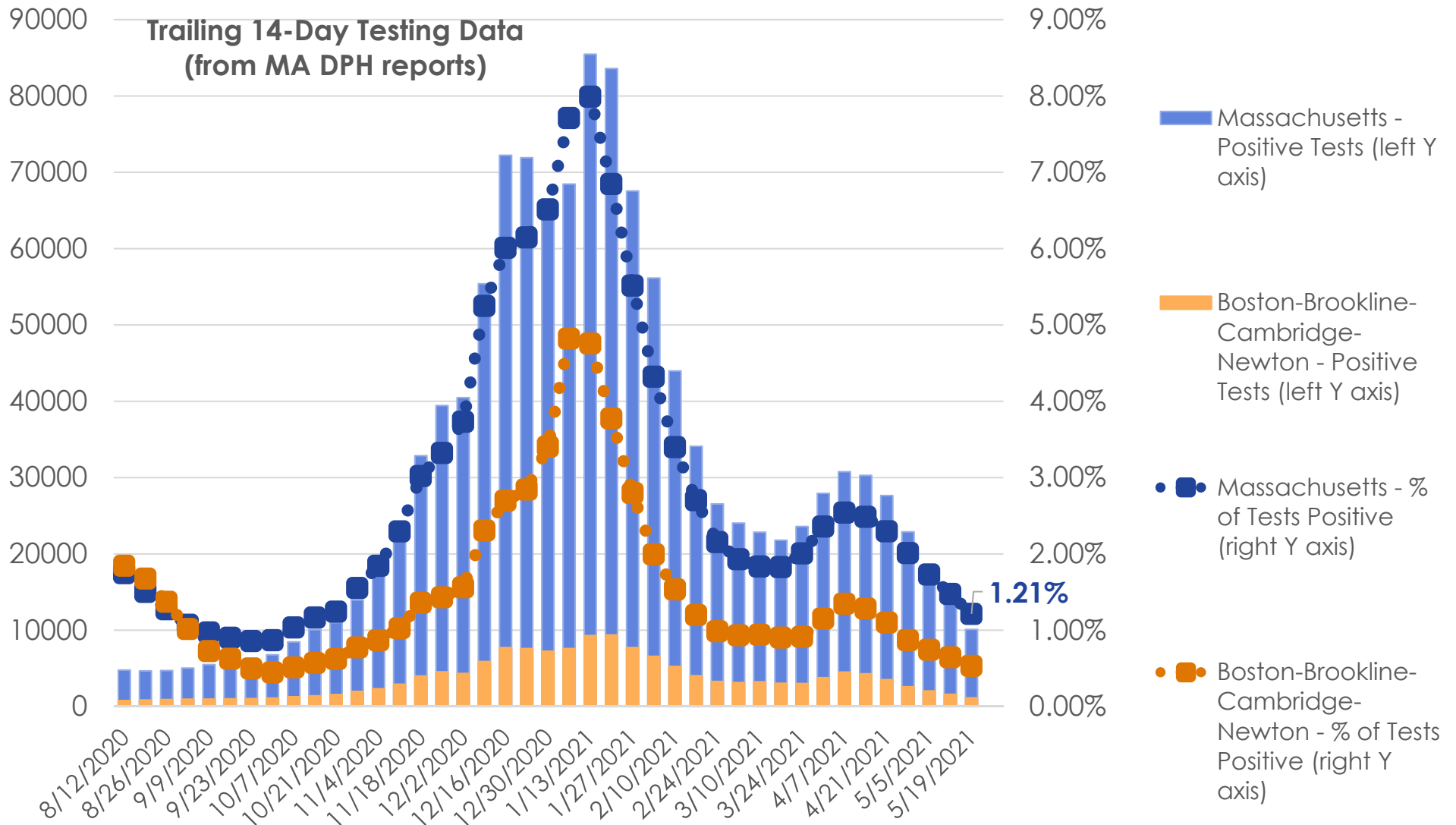
# Trends: Avg. Daily New Cases per 100k



# Trends: Test Positivity (Brookline)



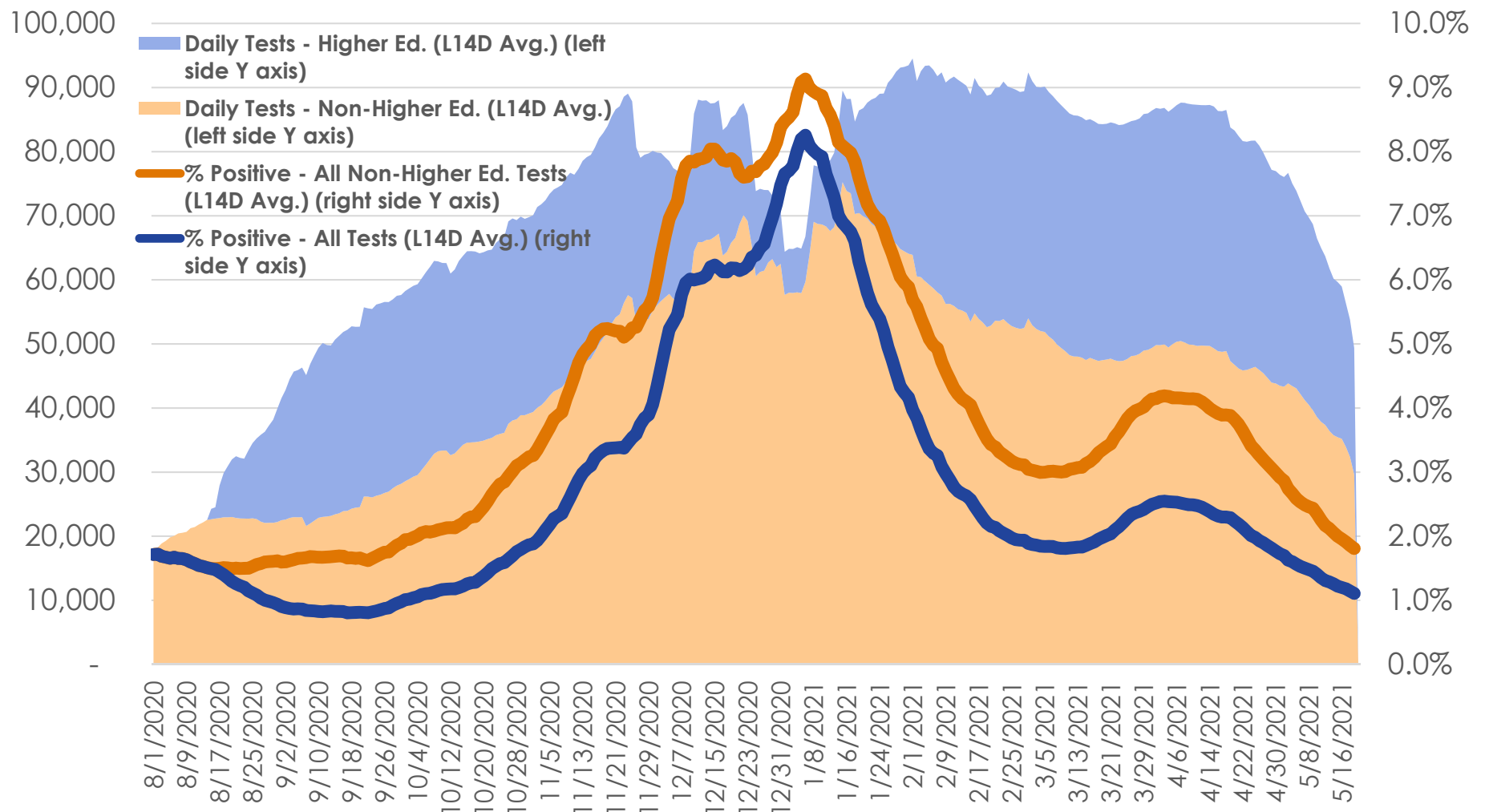
# Trends: Test Positivity (Statewide)



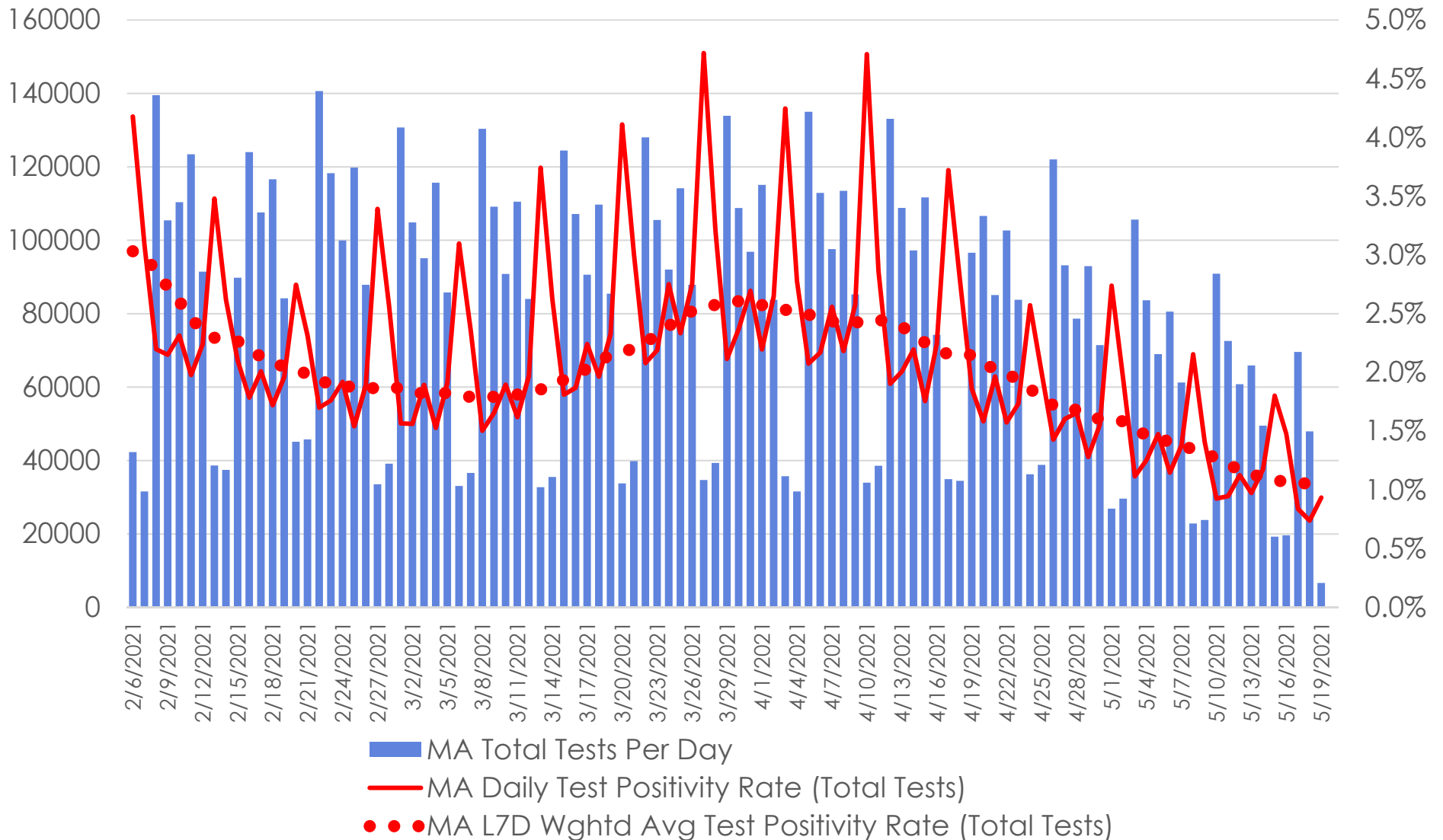
Data source: <https://www.mass.gov/info-details/covid-19-response-reporting>

# Trends: Test Positivity and Testing Volume (Statewide)

MA Statewide Test Positivity and Volume



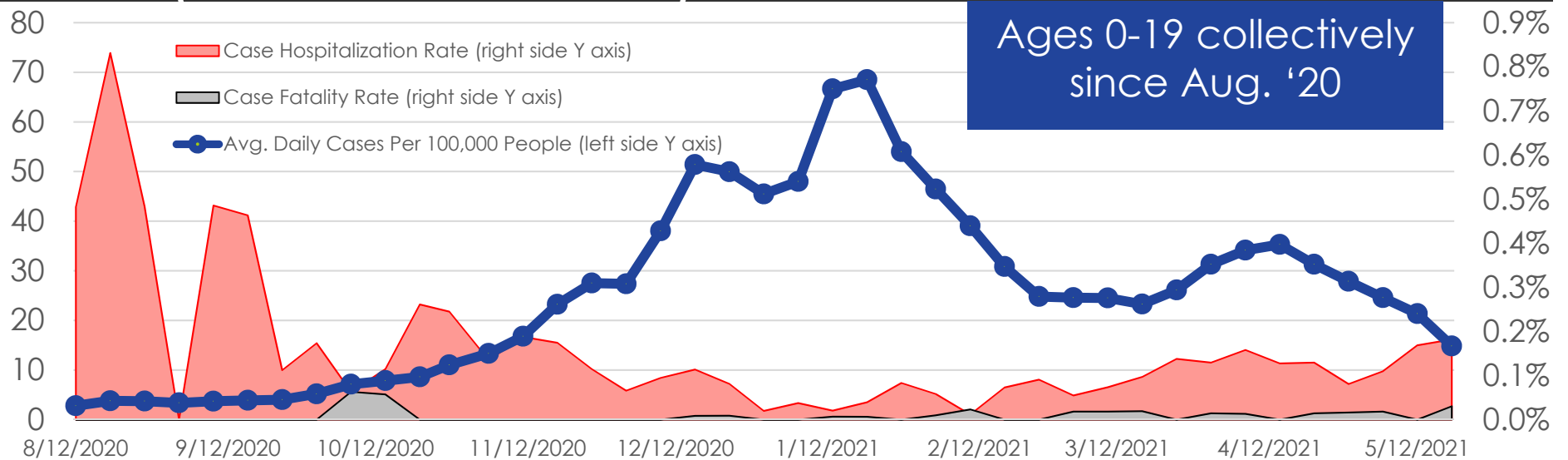
# Trends: Daily Test Volumes and Positivity (Statewide)



Data source: <https://www.mass.gov/info-details/covid-19-response-reporting>



# Trends: 0-19 Year-Old Age Cohort (MA Statewide)



More specific, for period of 5/2 – 5/15/2021:	Avg. Daily Cases/100k	Case Hospitalization Rate (approx.)	Case Fatality Rate (approx.)
<5 yo	11.3	0.2%	0.00%
5-9 yo	13.8	0.3%	0.00%
10-14 yo	16.8	0.1%	0.00%
15-19 yo	16.7	0.2%	0.09%
<b>All ages (incl. vaccinated people)</b>	<b>10.1</b>	<b>1.0%</b>	<b>1.30%</b>

Data source: <https://www.mass.gov/info-details/covid-19-response-reporting>

# Public Schools of Brookline Case Counts: Trends Over Time

Data Last Updated: 5/21/21

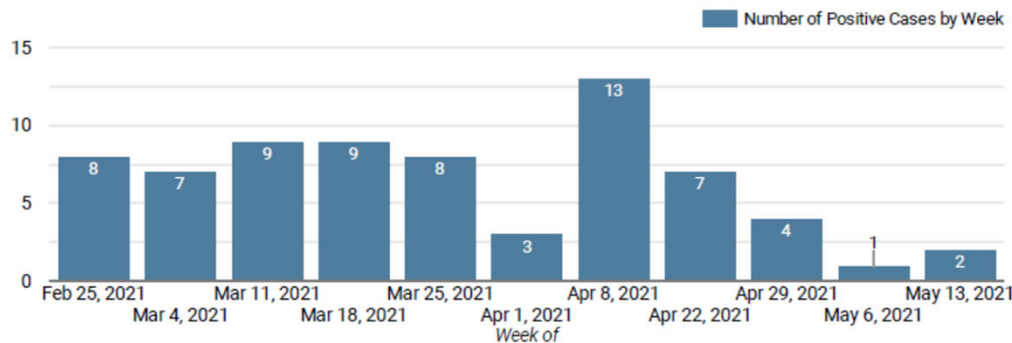


## COVID-19 CASES: DISTRICT DASHBOARD

Dashboard outlines number of positive COVID-19 cases in the PSB school community by week and learning model. For the purpose of this dataset, weeks run **Friday to Thursday**.

Source: Public Schools of Brookline School Health Services Department

Number of Positive Cases, by Week\*



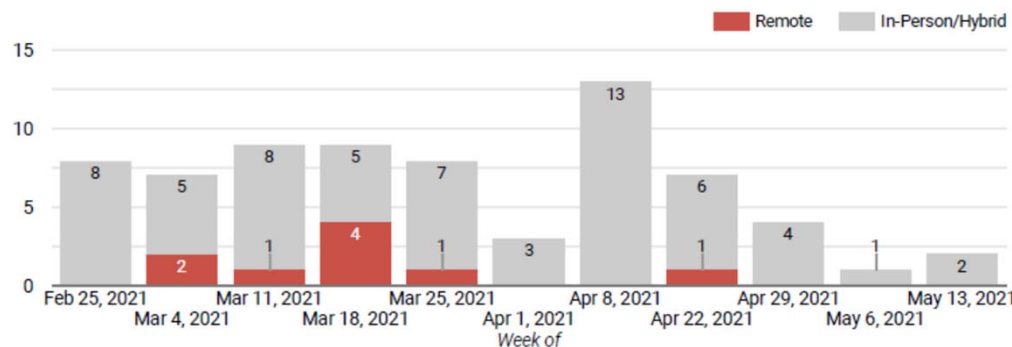
**TOTAL PSB CASES TO DATE\*: 302**

Remote: 35  
Hybrid/In-Person: 267

Total among school-based students and staff: 298

\*Testing paused from 4.16 - 4.22 due to April Vacation.

Number of Positive Cases, by Week and Learning Model



**TOTAL CLOSE CONTACTS\*\*: 376 connected to 70 cases**

Total positive cases with no close contacts\*\* at school: 206

\*\*Close contacts are defined as anyone who has been within 6 feet of an positive case for at least 15 minutes during the infectious period.

# Public Schools of Brookline Case Counts: By School

Data Last Updated: 5/21/21



## COVID-19 CASES: SCHOOL BY SCHOOL DASHBOARD

The table outlines the number of positive COVID-19 cases by week and the number of cumulative cases for the year at each school. For the purpose of this dataset, weeks run **Friday to Thursday**.  
Source: Public Schools of Brookline School Health Services Department

### Number of Positive Cases, by School & District Offices (Week of 5/13 - 5/20)

School/Building	Weekly Positive Cases	Cumulative Positive Cases	Close Contacts	Cases with Close Contacts
BEEP @ Beacon	0	3	-	-
BEEP @ Clark	0	2	-	-
BEEP @ Lynch	0	1	-	-
BEEP @ Putterham	0	3	-	-
Baker	0	39	-	-
Brookline High School	1	80	-	-
Driscoll	0	17	-	-
Florida Ruffin Ridley	0	26	-	-
Heath	0	12	-	-
Lawrence	0	26	-	-
Lincoln	0	26	-	-
Pierce	1	36	-	-
Remote Learning Academy K-8	0	12	-	-
Runkle	0	18	-	-
<b>Total*</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>301</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>

\*1 staff case shared between schools during week of 1.28-2.4

School/Building	Weekly Positive Cases	Cumulative Positive Cases	Close Contacts	Cases with Close Contacts
District Office	0	4	-	-

# Public Schools of Brookline Case Counts: Students (By Grade) and Staff

Data Last Updated: 5/21/21



## COVID-19 CASES: GRADE LEVEL AND STAFF DASHBOARD

The table outlines the number of positive COVID-19 cases by week and the number of cumulative cases for the year at each school. For the purpose of this dataset, weeks run **Friday to Thursday**.  
Source: Public Schools of Brookline School Health Services Department

### Total Number of Positive Cases, by Grade Level and Staffing (Week of 5/13 - 5/20)

Grade Level	Weekly Positive Cases	Cumulative Positive Cases
BEEP/Pre-K	0	5
Kindergarten	0	23
1st Grade	0	20
2nd Grade	0	13
3rd Grade	0	12
4th Grade	0	11
5th Grade	0	14
6th Grade	0	15
7th Grade	0	13
8th Grade	0	24
9th Grade	1	12
10th - 12th Grade	0	49
Staff (School-Based)*	1	85
Staff (District Office)	0	4
<b>Total</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>300</b>

\*1 staff case shared between schools during week of 1.28-2.4

# Public Schools of Brookline Case Counts: Asymptomatic Testing Program Results

Data Last Updated: 5/21/21



## COVID-19 CASES: STAFF ASYMPTOMATIC TESTING

The table outlines the test results of our COVID-19 pooled testing program. For the purpose of this dataset, weeks run **Friday to Thursday**.

Source: Public Schools of Brookline School Health Services Department

### Staff Asymptomatic Testing Program Results

On Friday, January 15, 2021, the Public Schools of Brookline launched the voluntary staff COVID-19 PCR testing program for all "student-facing staff". This program is strictly for asymptomatic staff. This program is piloted by the Broad Institute, with tests collected and brought to each school. The turn-around time for these test results is within 24 hours.

The asymptomatic testing was paused from February 5 through February 26 as the district expanded the program to include pooled testing with students with support from the Massachusetts Department of Elementary and Secondary Education (DESE). Pooled testing involves mixing several test samples together in a "pool" and then testing the pooled sample with a PCR test for detection of SARS-CoV-2. Staff were put into pools of 5. The first week of this program launched on Monday, March 1, 2021. Testing was paused for the week of April 19 due to April Vacation.

Week of	Tests Processed	Positive Results	TNP (Tests Not Processed)	Test Positivity %	Pools Submitted	Positive Pools	Pool Positivity %
2021-03-01	395	2	0	0.51%	81	2	2.47%
2021-03-08	433	0	0	0%	88	0	0%
2021-03-15	450	0	0	0%	91	0	0%
2021-03-22	501	1	2	0.2%	92	1	1.09%
2021-03-29	520	0	0	0%	94	0	0%
2021-04-05	481	0	0	0%	87	0	0%
2021-04-12	495	0	0	0%	94	0	0%
2021-04-26	504	0	0	0%	94	0	0%
2021-05-03	490	0	0	0%	89	0	0%
2021-05-10	475	0	0	0%	84	0	0%
2021-05-17	473	0	0	0%	69	0	0%
<b>Total</b>	<b>7,022</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>43</b>	<b>0.09%</b>	<b>963</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>0.31%</b>

Chart source: <https://sites.google.com/psbma.org/psb-reopening-hub/dashboard>

# Public Schools of Brookline Case Counts: Asymptomatic Testing Program Results

Data Last Updated: 5/14/21



## COVID-19 CASES: STUDENT ASYMPTOMATIC TESTING

The table outlines the test results of our COVID-19 pooled testing program. For the purpose of this dataset, weeks run Friday to Thursday.

Source: Public Schools of Brookline School Health Services Department

### Student Asymptomatic Testing Program Results

In March 2021, the district expanded the asymptomatic testing program to include pooled testing with students with support from the Massachusetts Department of Elementary and Secondary Education (DESE). Pooled testing involves mixing several test samples together in a "pool" and then testing the pooled sample with a PCR test for detection of SARS-CoV-2. The first week of this program launched on Monday, March 8, 2021. Testing was paused for the week of April 19 due to April Vacation.

Week of	Tests Processed	Positive Results	Test Positivity %	Pools Submitted	Positive Pools	Pool Positivity %
2021-03-08	157	0	0%	19	0	0%
2021-03-15	395	1	0.25%	47	1	2.13%
2021-03-22	1,463	0	0%	161	0	0%
2021-03-29	1,474	0	0%	121	0	0%
2021-04-05	2,014	0	0%	214	0	0%
2021-04-12	2,180	2	0.09%	225	2	0.89%
2021-04-26	2,256	0	0%	312	0	0%
2021-05-03	2,348	0	0%	234	0	0%
2021-05-10	2,271	0	0%	241	0	0%
2021-05-17	2,293	0	0%	181	0	0%
<b>Total</b>	<b>14,558</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>0.02%</b>	<b>1,755</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>0.17%</b>

# Public Schools of Brookline Case Counts: Asymptomatic Testing Program Results

Data Last Updated: 5/14/21



## COVID-19 TESTING: PARTICIPTION RATE

The table outlines the test results of our COVID-19 pooled testing program. For the purpose of this dataset, weeks run Friday to Thursday.

Source: Public Schools of Brookline School Health Services Department

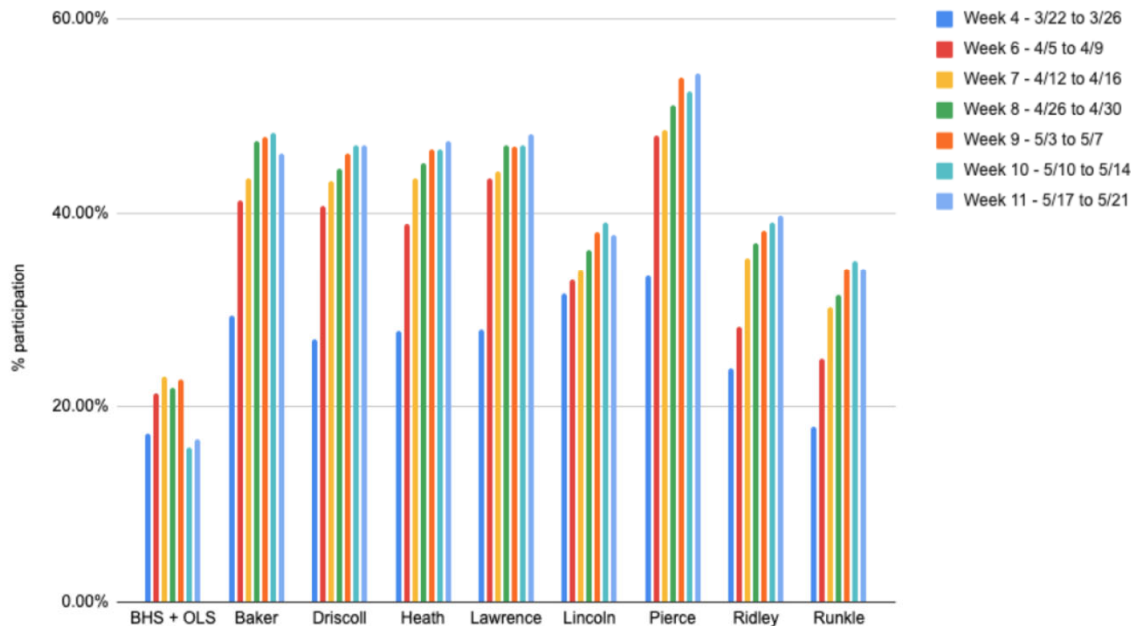
**Total tests (staff and students) processed to date\*: 22,033**

**Total positives (staff and students) to date (3/2 to 5/14): 6**

**Cumulative individual test positivity: 0.03%**

*\*Testing paused from 4.16 - 4.22 due to April Vacation.*

Student Participation Rate (%) for Pooled Testing



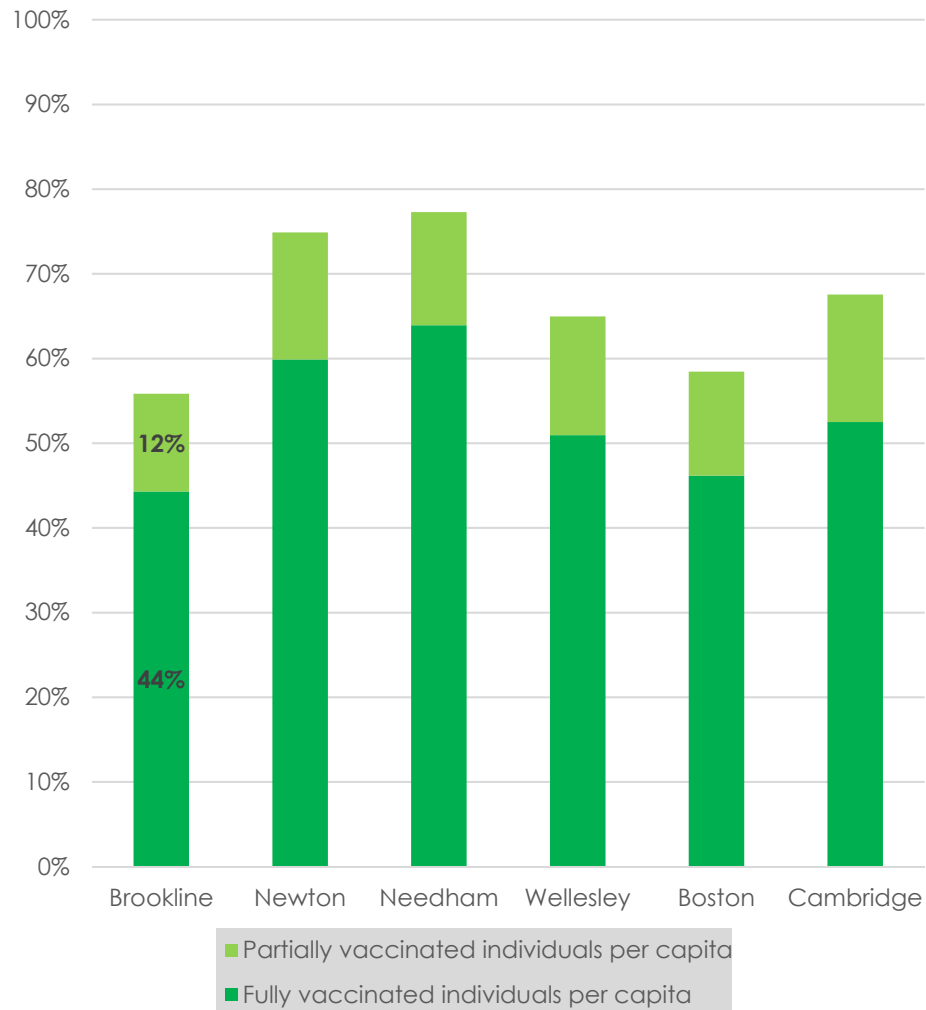
## Summary of PSB's COVID-19 Experience to Date (through 5/20/2021)

- Since the fall:
  - **160,000+ staff member-days** in buildings
  - **445,000+ student-days** in buildings
- **302 known COVID-19 cases among PSB students and staff**
  - Contact tracing completed by local health dept. + school nursing team
  - Nearly all believed to be community-acquired (e.g., some individuals were in 100% remote cohorts)
  - **70 were present in buildings during likely contagious periods** (48 hours prior to symptom onset/COVID+ test)
- **Very few instances of suspected in-school transmission:**
  - ~4 likely or “can’t rule out” cases
  - Just ~2 of 376 (0.5%) of in-school close contacts have tested positive or developed COVID-19-consistent symptoms

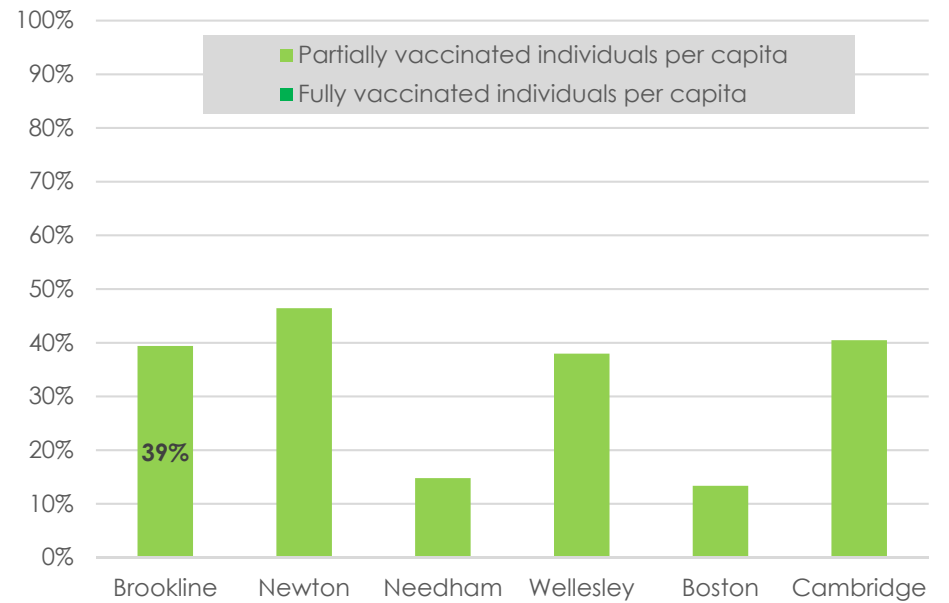


# MA DPH Vaccination Rate Data: 5/18/2021

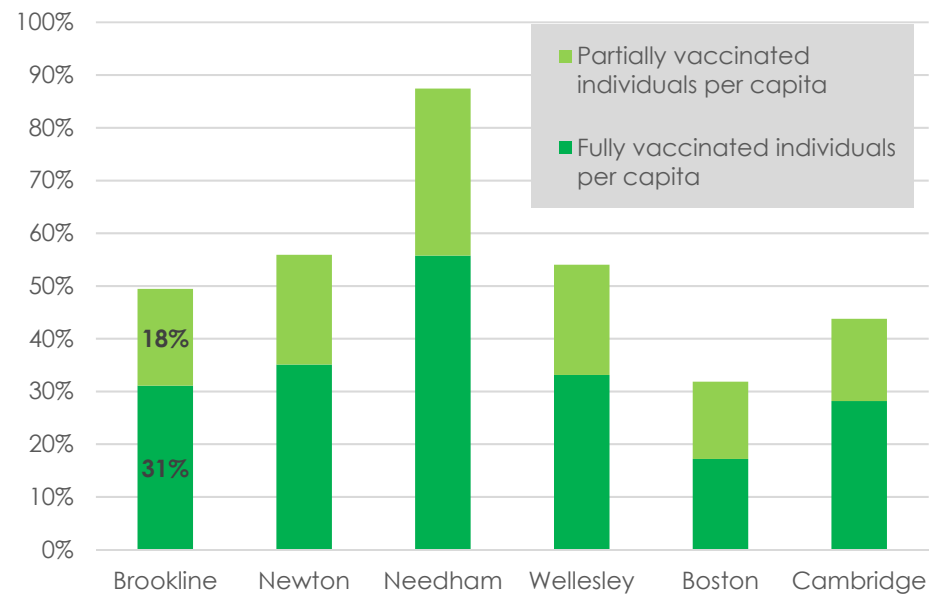
## All Ages



## Ages 12-15 Years Old



## Ages 16-19 Years Old



# PSB Vaccination Program

- We are happy to announce that the Public Schools of Brookline are partnering with Pelmeds Pharmacy to offer the 2 dose Pfizer Covid-19 vaccination series to our students ages 12 and above. Their team of vaccinators will come onsite to our school to provide immunizations on May 20th, May 26th and May 27th.
- **May 20** Brookline High School 1:00pm-5:00pm
- **May 26** Baker School 12:30pm-4:30pm
- **May 27** Ridley School 2:30pm-6:00pm
- **While the vaccine is strongly encouraged, it is not required at this time.**

# Updates on Outdoor Mitigation Measures

- **Effective May 19<sup>th</sup>**, PSB policy update (approved by Dr. Jett):
  - “Given the low rate of outdoor transmission of COVID-19, **students no longer have to wear masks when outdoors, even if distance cannot be maintained.** This updated guidance applies to recess, physical education, youth sports, and outdoor learning environments. Adults must continue to wear masks outdoors if distancing cannot be maintained.”
  - “**At this time, adults and students must continue to wear masks indoors.**”
- **Effective May 29<sup>th</sup>**,
  - Brookline’s outdoor mask mandate ends, but non-vaccinated individuals “advised to continue wearing face masks indoors and when unable to socially distance when outdoors.”
  - Statewide indoor mask mandate narrows to specific settings only, including K-12 schools (applying to adults and students).

# Updates on Outdoor Mitigation Measures

- **Questions:**

- Should efforts be maintained to keep outdoor distancing between students/adults?
  - While students are moving around?
  - While students are in one place for a period of time (e.g., sitting and eating lunch, etc.)?