



Advisory Panel 4:  
Public Health, Safety, & Logistics

Metrics Review

January 15, 2021

# Community Benchmarks - Status

Benchmark (each measured over prior 14 days)	Status 12/23/20	Status 12/30/20	Status 1/6/21	Status 1/13/21
Avg. daily new case count in Brookline = <10 per 100k people	23.8	23.8	25.4	27.3
Avg. daily new case count in Mass. = <10 per 100k people	63.2	58.3	61.1	78.0
Avg. test positivity rate in Brookline = <5.0%	1.77%	2.16%	3.19%	2.79%
Avg. test positivity rate in Massachusetts = <5.0%	6.14%	6.51%	7.71%	7.99%

*Because at least two of these four thresholds have been exceeded, Panel 4 has advised PSB to make further enhancements to anti-transmission measures:*

[www.brookline.k12.ma.us/cms/lib/MA01907509/Centricity/Domain/62/PSB%20Advisory%20Panel%204%20-%20Statement%20of%20Recommendations%20for%20Times%20of%20Elevated%20Community%20Spread\\_12.11.20.pdf](http://www.brookline.k12.ma.us/cms/lib/MA01907509/Centricity/Domain/62/PSB%20Advisory%20Panel%204%20-%20Statement%20of%20Recommendations%20for%20Times%20of%20Elevated%20Community%20Spread_12.11.20.pdf)

# Updated 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**

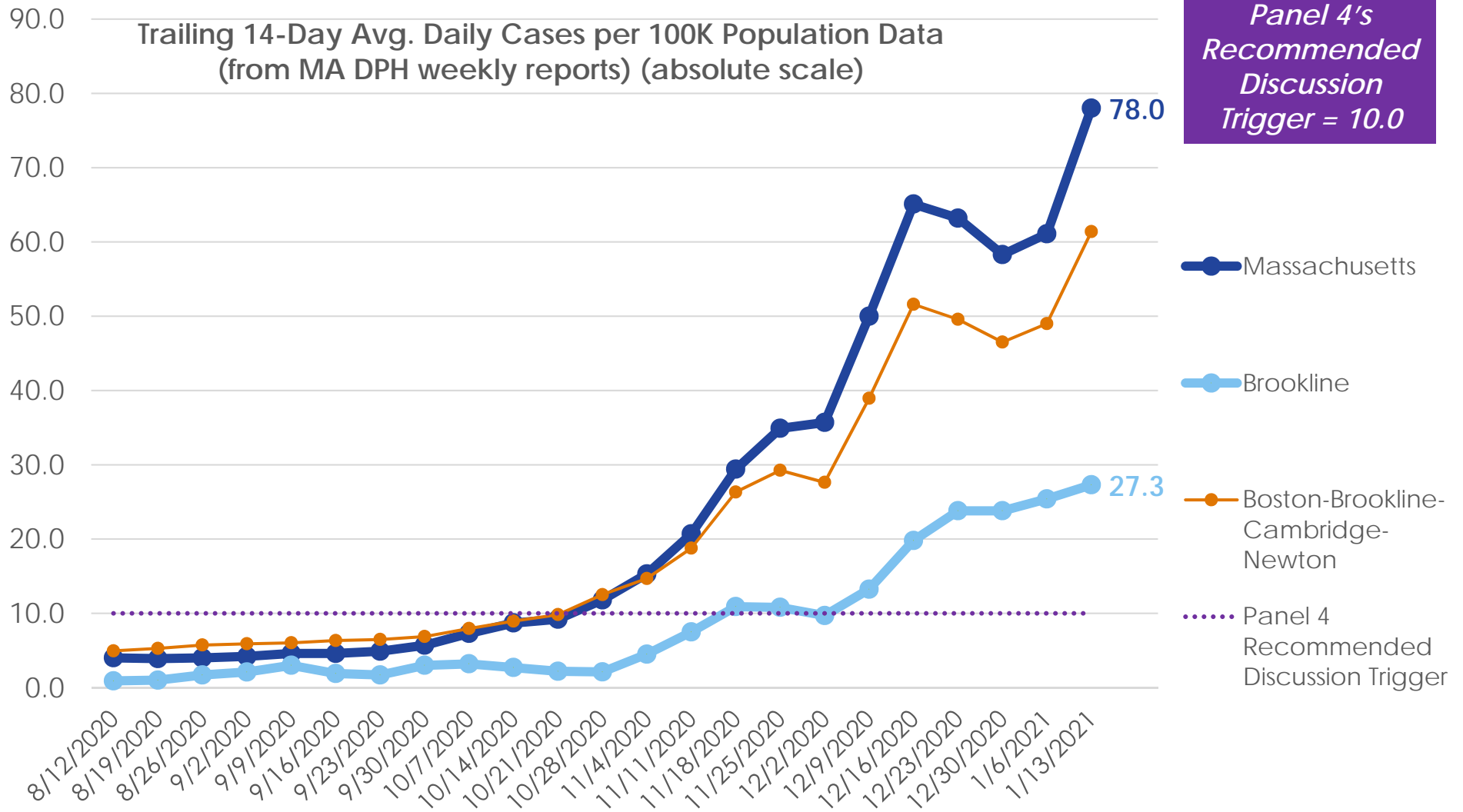
Group	Population		
	Under 10K	10K-50K	Over 50K
Grey	Less than or equal to 10 total cases	Less than or equal to 10 total cases	Less than or equal to 15 total cases
Green	Less than or equal to 15 total cases	<10 avg cases/100k AND >10 total cases	<10 avg cases/100k AND >15 total cases
Yellow	Less than 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 1/13/2021 (yellow zone)**

*Brookline's population is ~60,000*

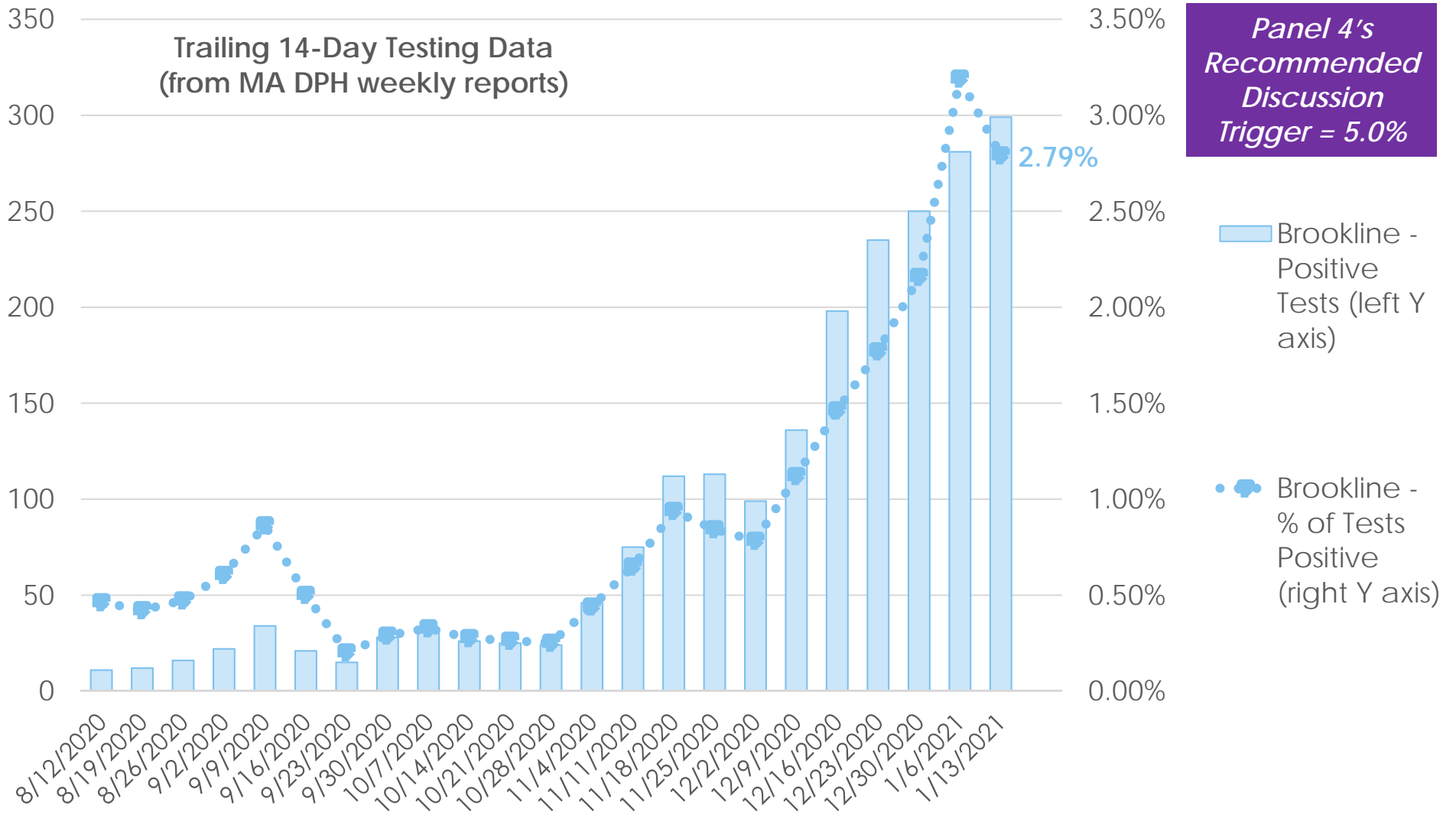
As of 11/5, DPH is using 2019 population estimates derived from a method developed by the University of Massachusetts Donahue Institute. The 2019 estimates are the most currently available data.

# Community Benchmarks - Status

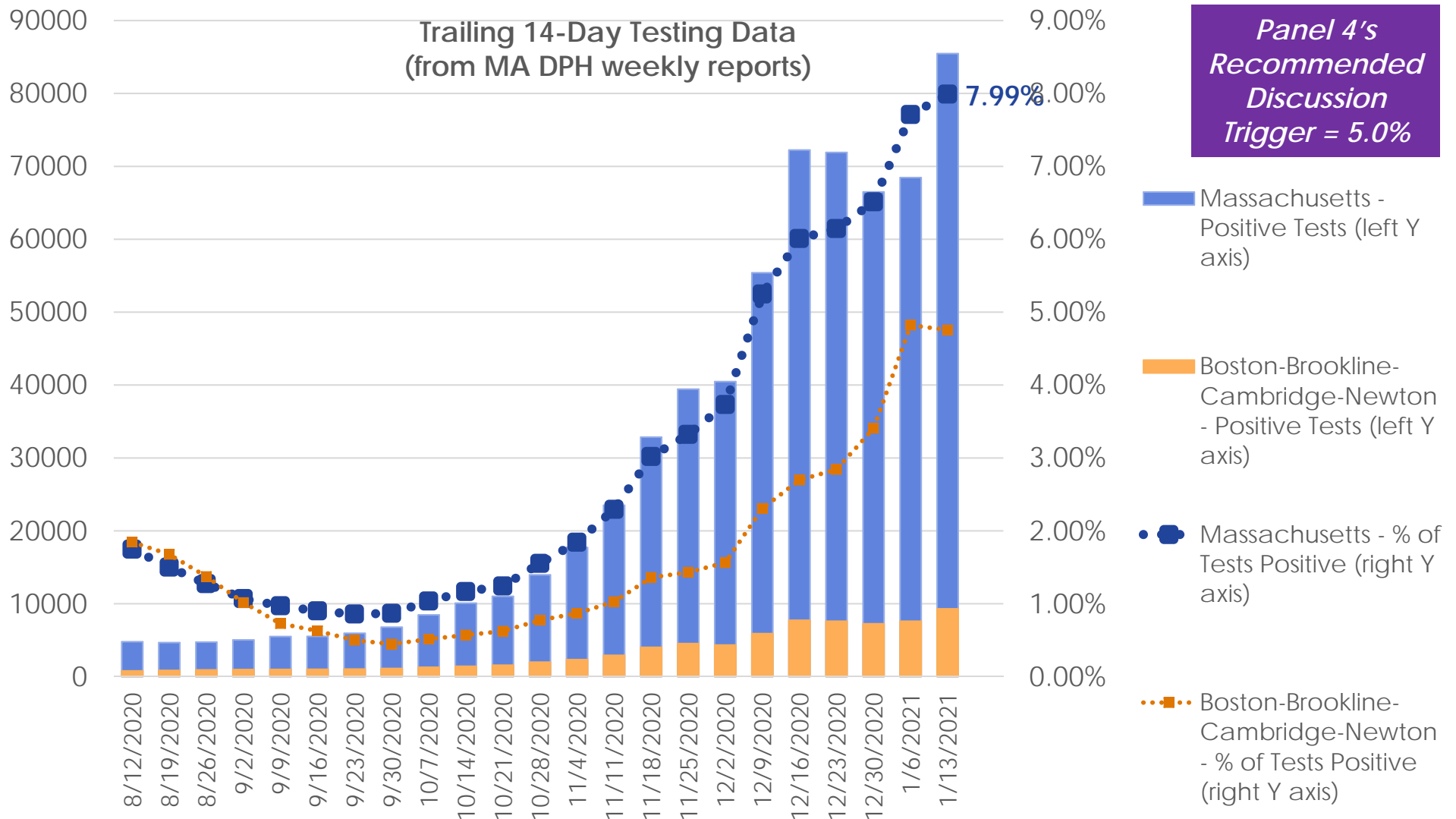


Data source: <https://www.mass.gov/info-details/covid-19-response-reporting# covid-19-weekly-public-health-report->

# Community Benchmarks - Status



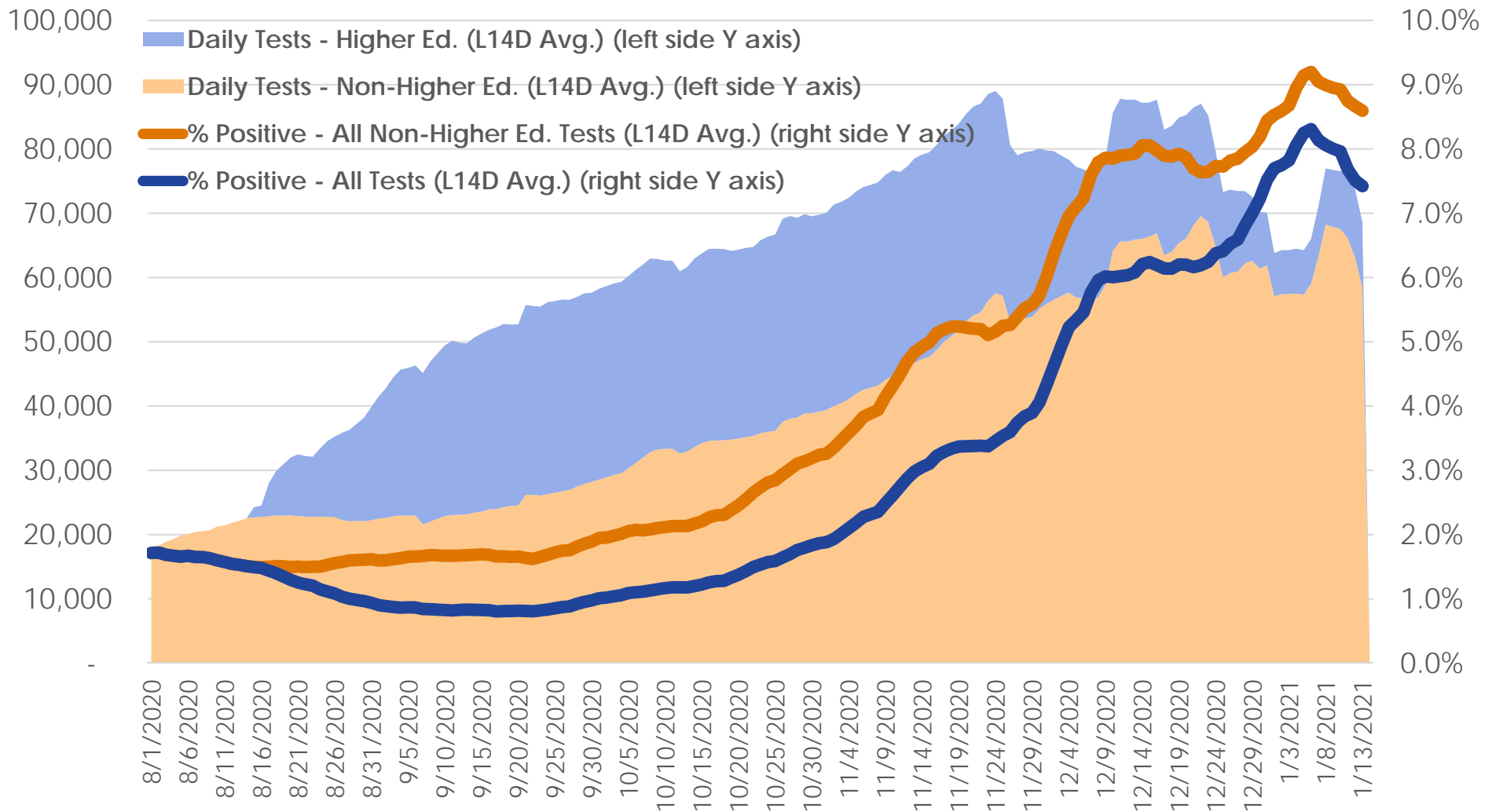
# Community Benchmarks - Status



Data source: <https://www.mass.gov/info-details/covid-19-response-reporting# covid-19-weekly-public-health-report->

# Statewide Test Positivity

MA Statewide Test Positivity



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

# Brookline in Regional Context

(as of 1/13/2021)

Municipality	Avg. Daily Cases/100k L14D	% of Tests Positive L14D	Total Tests L14D / Muni. Population
Milton	78.3	5.7%	21%
Boston	72.4	5.9%	19%
Dedham	71.5	7.0%	16%
Watertown	63.8	4.9%	21%
Somerville	57.9	4.3%	21%
Needham	52.3	4.0%	20%
Belmont	41.2	3.8%	17%
Newton	37.1	3.0%	19%
Cambridge	32.8	1.8%	31%
Arlington	32.6	3.5%	15%
<b>Brookline</b>	<b>27.3</b>	<b>2.8%</b>	<b>17%</b>
Wellesley	24.5	2.1%	18%

Data source: <https://www.mass.gov/info-details/covid-19-response-reporting# covid-19-weekly-public-health-report->



# Public Schools of Brookline Case Count

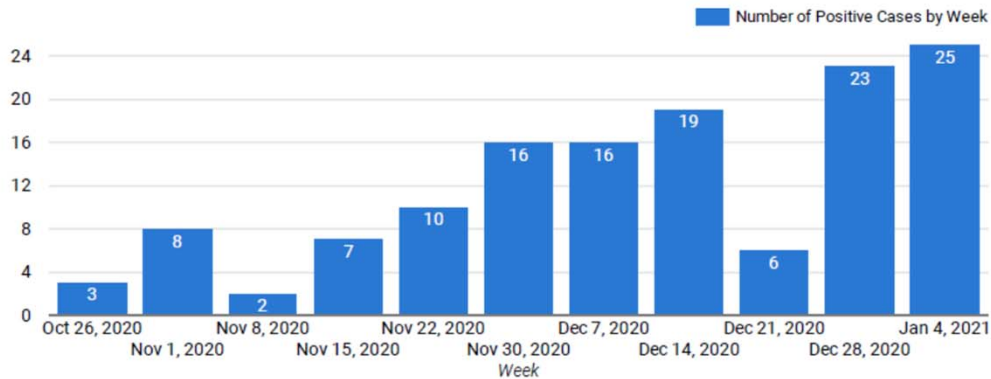
Data Last Updated: 1/11/21



## COVID-19 CASES: DISTRICT DASHBOARD

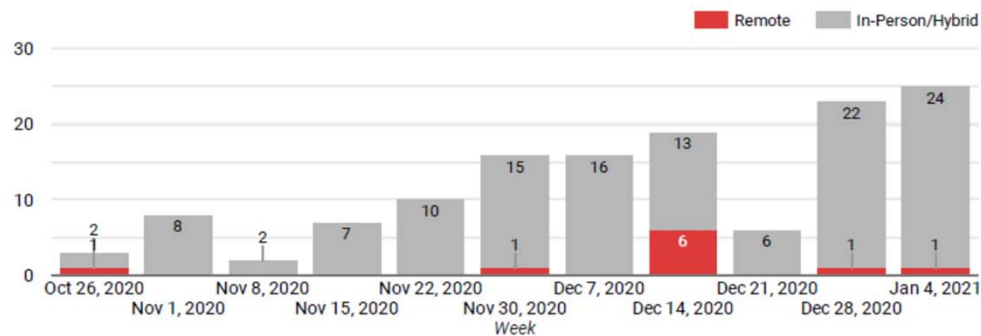
Dashboard outlines number of positive COVID-19 cases in the PSB school community by week and learning model. For the purpose of this dataset, weeks run Monday - Sunday.  
Source: Public Schools of Brookline School Health Services Department

Number of Positive Cases by Week -- Total Cases



**TOTAL PSB CASES TO DATE:**  
**150**

Number of Positive Cases by Week and Learning Model



**TOTAL PSB CASES TO DATE:**  
**Remote: 20**  
**In-Person/Hybrid: 129**

# Public Schools of Brookline Case Count

Data Last Updated: 1/11/21



## 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 Monday - Sunday.

Source: Public Schools of Brookline School Health Services Department

### Number of Positive Cases by School & District Offices -- # by Week and Total Cumulative Cases

School	Weekly Positive Cases (1/4)	Cumulative Positive Cases
BEEP @ Beacon	0	1
BEEP @ Clark	0	1
BEEP @ Lynch	0	0
BEEP @ Putterham	1	1
Baker	4	26
Driscoll	0	10
Florida Ruffin Ridley	2	10
Heath	1	5
Lawrence	3	13
Lincoln	4	17
Pierce	2	16
Runkle	0	7
Remote Learning Academy K-8	1	7
Brookline High School	7	32
<b>Total</b>	<b>25</b>	<b>146</b>
	<b>Weekly Positive Cases (1/4)</b>	<b>Cumulative Positive Cases</b>
District Office	1	4

Chart source: <https://sites.google.com/psbma.org/psb-reopening-hub/dashboard?authuser=0>

# Further Update on B.1.1.7 Variant

- From yesterday's NY Times (we are working to verify from original data source):
  - *Initial reports were tinged with worry that children might be just as susceptible as adults, fueling speculation that schools might need to pre-emptively close to limit the variant's spread. But recent research from Public Health England may put those fears to rest.*
  - *Based on detailed contact-tracing of about 20,000 people infected with the new variant — including nearly 3,000 children under 10 — the report showed that young children were about half as likely as adults to transmit the variant to others. That was true of the previous iteration of the virus, as well.*
  - *"There was a lot of speculation at the beginning suggesting that children spread this variant more," said Muge Cevik, an infectious disease expert at the University of St. Andrews in Scotland and a scientific adviser to the British government. "That's really not the case."*
  - *But the variant does spread more easily among children, just as it does among adults. The report estimated that the new variant is about 30 percent to 50 percent more contagious than its predecessors — less than the 70 percent researchers had initially estimated, but high enough that the variant is expected to pummel the United States and other countries, as it did Britain.*

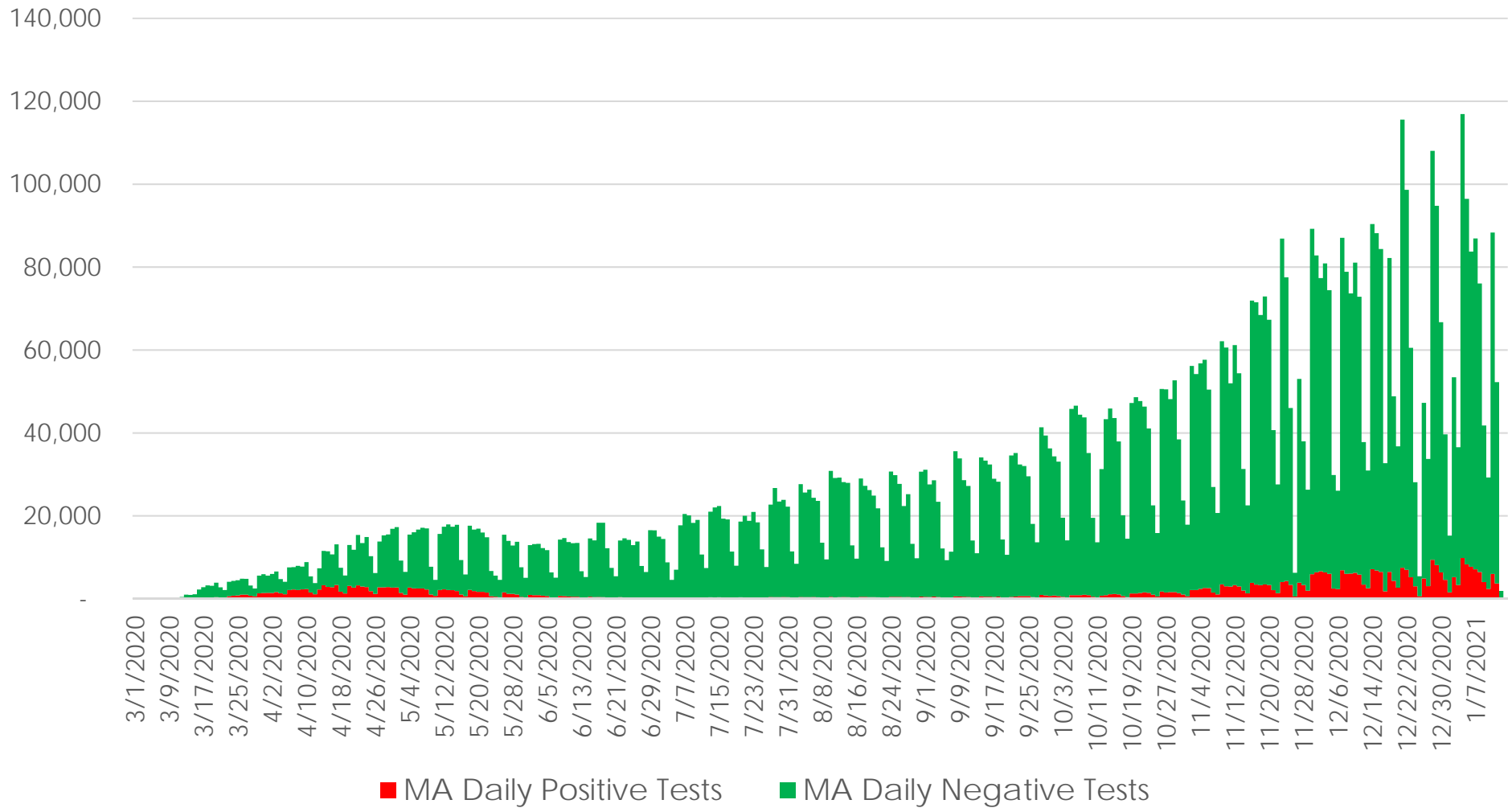
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Appendix – For Reference As Needed

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# Statewide Test Results

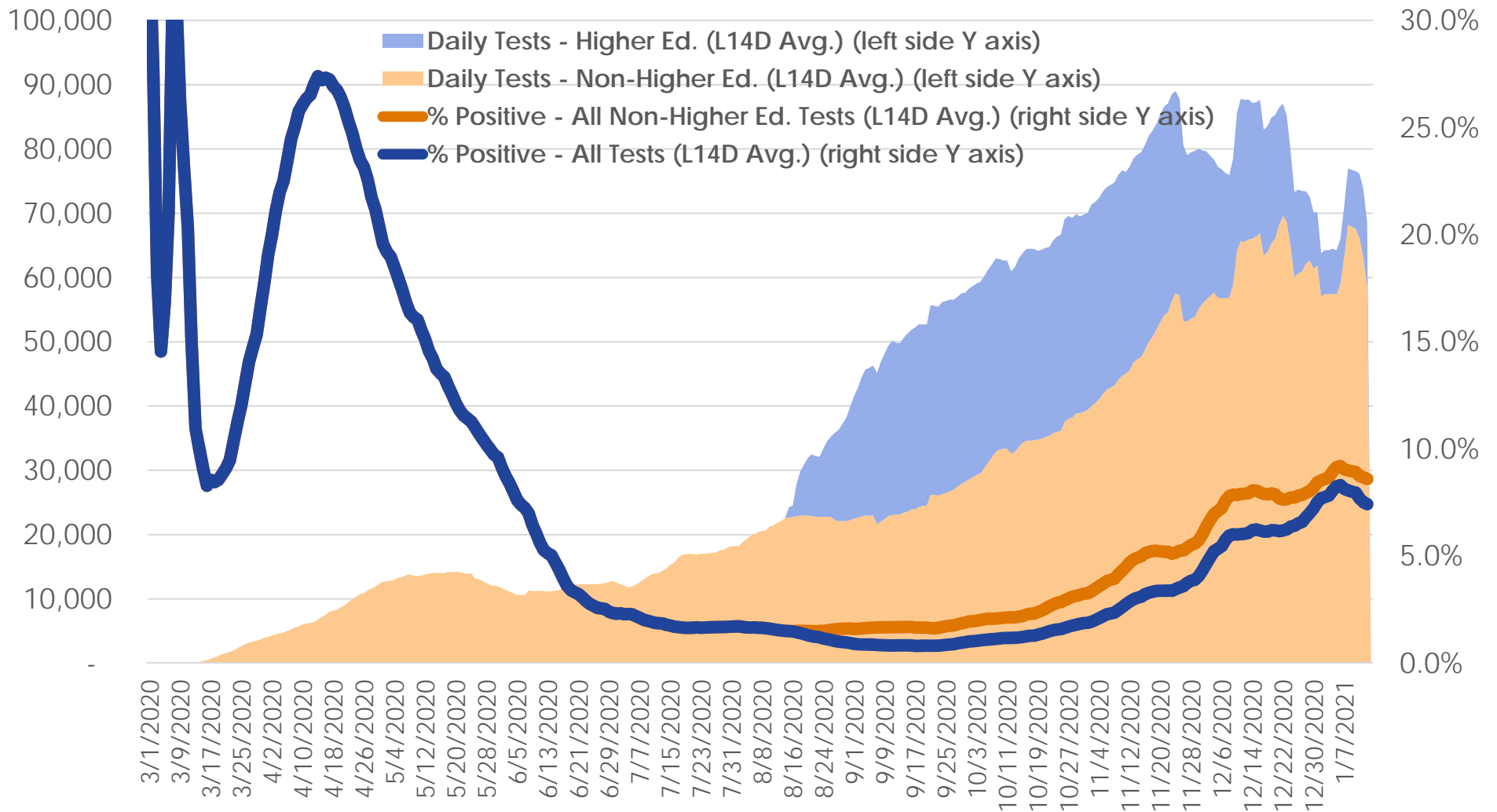
MA Daily Testing History



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

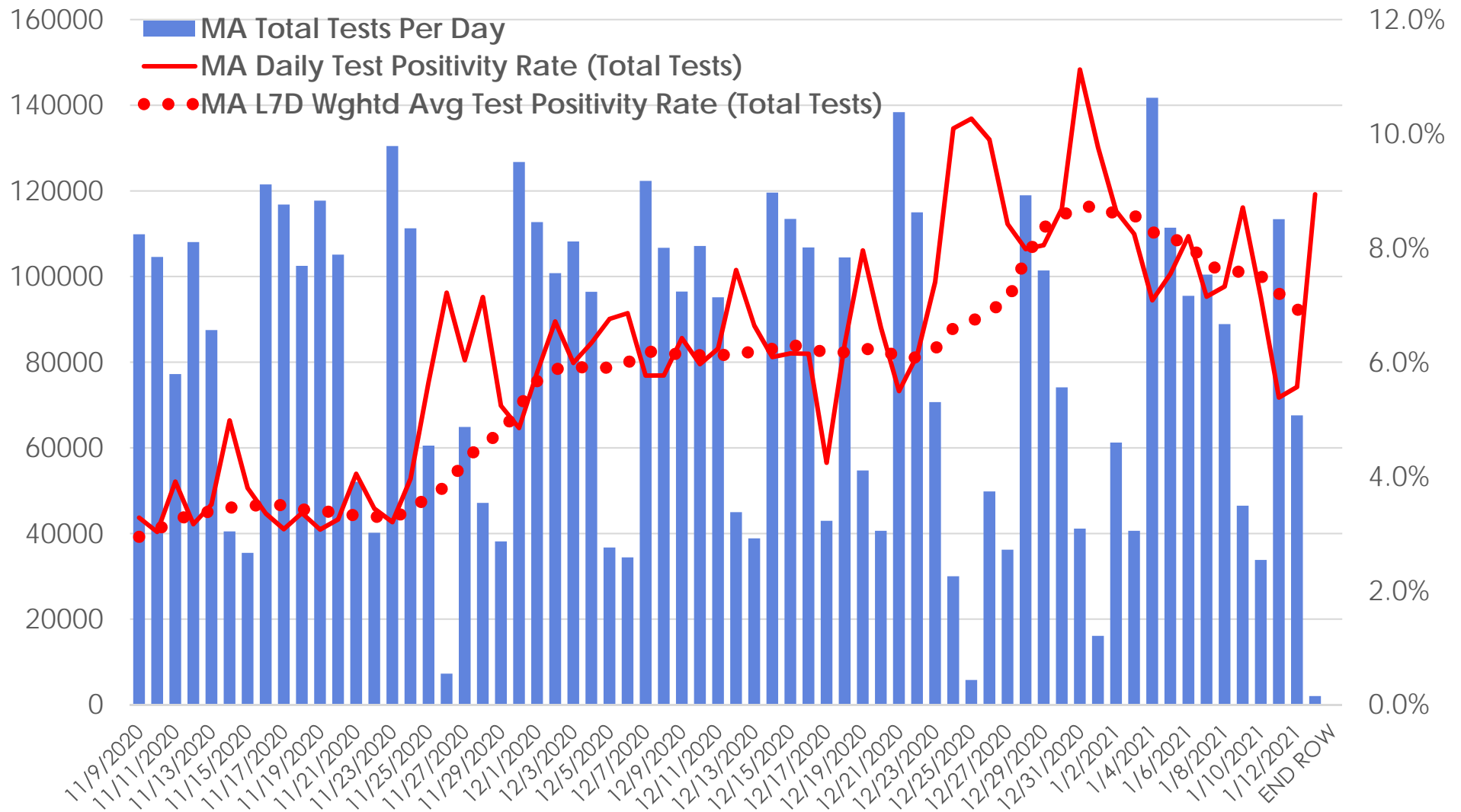
# Statewide Test Positivity

MA Statewide Test Positivity



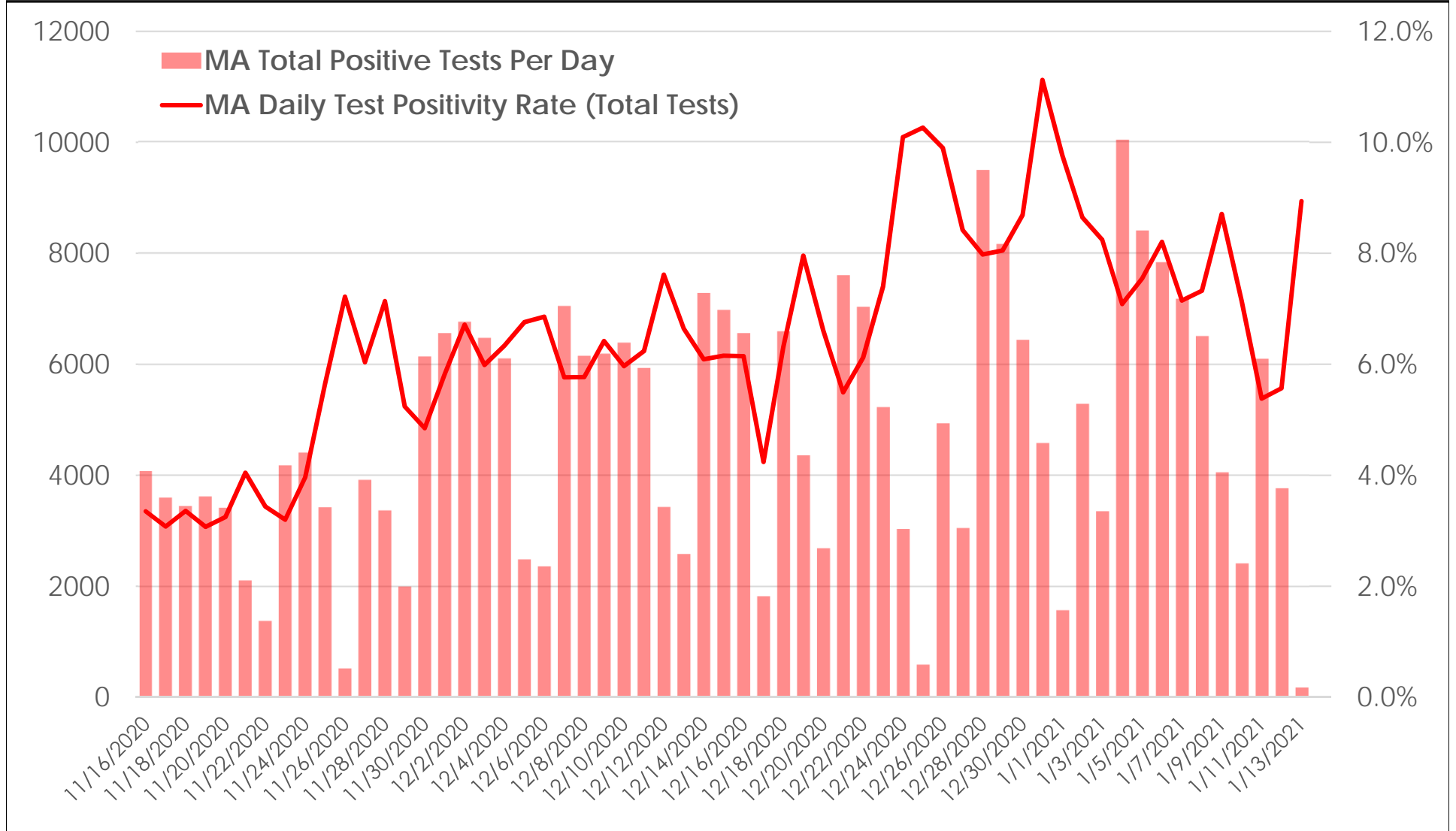
Data source: <https://www.mass.gov/info-details/covid-19-response-reporting>

# Statewide Daily Test Data



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

# Statewide Daily Test Data



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



# MA DESE Guidance – In-Person/Remote

<https://www.doe.mass.edu/covid19/on-desktop/interpreting-dph-metrics.html>

- *Districts are expected to prioritize in-person learning across all color-coded categories, unless there is suspected in-school transmission, in accordance with DESE's Guidance on Responding to COVID-19 Scenarios. Transmission in schools is defined as spread of the virus between people during interactions in the school setting. While there have been positive COVID-19 cases of staff and students in schools, most of these infections have occurred outside of the school setting. If there is suspected in-school transmission, then the affected classrooms or schools should temporarily shift to remote learning, in accordance with DESE's Guidance on Responding to COVID-19 Scenarios. Classrooms and schools should reopen after appropriate mitigation strategies have been implemented, as determined in consultation with the local board of health, DPH, and DESE.*

# MA DESE Guidance – In-Person/Remote

<https://www.doe.mass.edu/covid19/on-desktop/interpreting-dph-metrics.html>

- *Districts and schools in communities designated gray, green, or yellow are expected to have students learning fully in-person, if feasible. A hybrid model should be used only if there is no other way to meet health and safety requirements. Parents and caregivers will continue to have the option to choose a district's remote learning program for their children.*
  
- *Schools in red communities should implement hybrid models, while maximizing in-person learning time for high-needs students.*
  
- ...
  
- *Fully remote instructional models should be implemented only as a last resort in classrooms, schools, or districts when there is suspected in-school transmission or a significant municipal outbreak, in accordance with DESE's Guidance on Responding to COVID-19 Scenarios. Classrooms and schools should reopen after appropriate mitigation strategies have been implemented, as determined in consultation with the local board of health, DPH, and DESE.*