



NEEDHAM PUBLIC HEALTH DIVISION



Needham Covid-19 Update

February 18, 2021 – The Town of Needham and Needham Public Health today provided the following update regarding COVID-19.

State DPH COVID-19 Numbers

The Massachusetts Department of Public Health reports the number of positive cases and deaths daily on the state's COVID-19 [dashboard](#).

Town-specific case numbers are published by the state every Thursday.

- 1364 Needham cases to date (2/18/2021). This is an increase of 44 cases since the 2/11/21 report.
- Needham is in the YELLOW category this week. Read the state’s Weekly Public Health Report [here](#).
- 115 Coronavirus deaths in Needham to date (2/11/21).

NEEDHAM VACCINE STATUS

Doses Received to Date	Doses Administered to Date	Doses Scheduled for Distribution	Total Doses Administered or Scheduled
2,670*	3,082	1,280	4,362

*While Needham Public Health received 195 vials of Pfizer vaccine this week, 1,170 doses can be drawn from those vials.

Needham Public Health Vaccine Update

Needham Public Health continues to offer vaccine appointments for those who are eligible as the department receives doses from the state. While the state has expanded eligibility for additional groups of individuals including those 65+ and those with two or more qualifying health conditions, the state is not receiving additional vaccine doses from the federal government. That has made an already limited supply even more tight. Needham Public Health will continue to request doses from the state until March 1st, the date that the state has notified all local public health departments that they will no longer receive new orders of first doses. Needham Public Health will request additional doses when and if the state re-starts its deliveries to local public health departments.

If you have received your first dose at a Needham Public Health clinic, you will receive your second dose at a Needham Public Health Second Dose Clinic. You will have gotten a confirmed date for your second dose on the date you received your first. If you did not, please email needhamvaccine@needhamma.gov.

What’s a Qualifying Health Concern?

The state this week expanded vaccine eligibility to those individuals who have two or more qualified health issues. Eligible health issues include cancer, heart conditions, COPD, moderate or severe asthma and more. A full list of qualified health issues can be found [here](#).

Masks, Distancing Still Necessary Post-Vaccination

While the Covid vaccine protects you from severe illness if you contract the virus, it does not guarantee you immunity and may not prevent you from spreading the virus to others. That’s why even after you receive the first dose and the second dose of the vaccine, you must continue to wear a mask, maintain social distance and wash your hands frequently. Studies are underway to determine whether those who receive the vaccine can spread the virus.