

(Update 8/2/21) The Department of Public Health has issued a new [mask advisory](#) in light of the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention’s updated guidance. Fully vaccinated individuals are advised to wear [a mask or face](#) covering when indoors (and not in your own home) if you have a weakened immune system or if you are at increased risk for severe disease because of your age or an underlying medical condition, or if someone in your household has a weakened immune system, is at increased risk for severe disease or is an unvaccinated adult. Masks are still mandatory for all individuals on public and private transportation systems, in healthcare facilities and other settings hosting vulnerable populations. The Town of Needham continues to monitor state and federal guidance.

(UPDATE 7/22/21) While many of us have returned to what might be called “normal” life, thanks to the Covid-19 vaccines, [Needham Public Health](#) is still actively monitoring the virus and its impact on the Needham community.

As cases rise across the country and in MA, due in large part to the Delta variant, Needham Public Health continues to actively monitor virus data and contact trace positive cases in Needham.

Needham’s infection rate remains very low. The Town’s positivity rate is just 0.4 percent. Needham’s vaccination rates are very high. To date, more than 95 percent of eligible residents (those 12 and older) have received at least one dose.

Public Health continues to update the [Covid dashboard](#) weekly with case rates and vaccination data.

Do I need to wear a mask?

Based on current case rates, Needham Public Health does not believe a mask mandate is warranted at this time. If the data changes, staff will work with the [Needham Board of Health](#) on any recommended policy changes.

Residents should continue following the [CDC guidance](#). If you are not fully vaccinated, you should wear a mask in indoor spaces. If you are fully vaccinated, you do not need to wear a mask but may do so if you prefer.