



TOWN OF SHREWSBURY

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October 22, 2020

WEEKLY REPORT OF CONFIRMED CASES OF COVID-19 IN THE TOWN OF SHREWSBURY

The Town of Shrewsbury has been notified by the Central Massachusetts Regional Public Health Alliance ([CMRPHA](#)) that additional Shrewsbury residents have tested positive for Coronavirus (COVID-19). Public Health Officials are working closely with the individuals and will notify others that the individuals may have been in contact with. CMRPHA will continue to work with the Massachusetts Department of Public Health to ensure any affected residents are properly monitored, quarantined and isolated as each case dictates.

Positive cases in the Town of Shrewsbury as of today, **October 22, 2020: 488 (+33)**

Positive cases in the Town of Shrewsbury as last reported, **October 15, 2020: 455**

State designation: **High Risk (RED) Community as of October 22, 2020**

The Town has been advised that it's designation for last week has been changed to yellow due to an error in State reporting.

The Town of Shrewsbury was informed by the Executive Office of Health and Human Services (EOHHS) that Shrewsbury is now designated as a **High Risk (RED) Community** based on the Commonwealth's enhanced [community-level data](#) on key COVID-19 metrics as part of the Baker-Polito Administration's [efforts](#) to partner with cities and towns to slow the spread of the virus. A community is designated higher risk when the two week case rate exceeds more than 8 cases per 100,000. In the past two weeks, 53 residents have tested positive for COVID-19. This results in a 9.6 average daily incident rate per 100,000 persons.

We are not seeing spread in our schools or congregate type settings. We are urging residents to consider their own responsibility to help reduce the spread of the novel coronavirus. The most effective ways to reduce your risk in contracting the virus and preventing the spread remain the same: wearing masks or face coverings, personal hygiene, social distancing, avoiding large or medium gatherings and staying home when possible. The Town is doing everything it can from a public health and public safety standpoint to reduce the spread and ensure the continued operations of all essential services. The Commonwealth has launched "Stop the Spread", a strategic testing program in communities across Massachusetts that have continued to see a higher number of residents testing positive for COVID-19 and is providing [free testing](#).

The Town of Shrewsbury is committed to keeping the public informed during this period of the Coronavirus (COVID-19) pandemic. Effective October 23, 2020 the Town will begin reporting new positive cases each weekday by 4:30PM*. Weekend cases will be included in the Monday release. The Town Manager's Office will update the public with any new developments or

changes in Town operations including confirmed cases of COVID-19 in Shrewsbury, in the following order:

1. [Website Newsflash](https://shrewsburyma.gov/list.aspx) (visit <https://shrewsburyma.gov/list.aspx> to subscribe)
2. [Alert for COVID-19 Page](https://shrewsburyma.gov/list.aspx) (visit <https://shrewsburyma.gov/list.aspx> to subscribe)
3. [Cases Tab on COVID-19 Page](#)
4. Social Media Accounts ([Facebook](#) & [Twitter](#))

Additionally, The Worcester City Manager Edward M Augustus will now also hold weekly press briefings on Thursday evenings in which Shrewsbury's positive cases will also be reported at that time. The weekly press briefings can be streamed live here: <http://www.worcesterma.gov/video-on-demand> *Updates *will not* be provided if there are no new developments.

General Coronavirus Information: <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/index.html>
As a reminder, the Town of Shrewsbury is part of the coalition of the seven municipalities in the Central Massachusetts Regional Public Health Alliance ([CMRPHA](#)).

A COVID-19 information line has been established for Shrewsbury Residents to use at [508-799-1019](tel:508-799-1019). The line provides facts and information about COVID-19, how to stop the spread, what to do if someone is experiencing symptoms and quarantine information. The line will be available in multiple languages. If you have a medical emergency, please dial 911 and not the number above.

If you would like to reach out via email, you may do so at Health@worcesterma.gov , however, please note that this email is monitored Monday through Friday-8:30 AM to 5:00PM. Due to the high volume of COVID-19 inquiries, you may expect a response back within 1-2 business days.