

Public Health Information Regarding COVID-19 Cases in the Town of Acton

Massachusetts Department of Public Health Advisory

To protect privacy and confidentiality of individuals who test positive for COVID-19, the Massachusetts Department of Public Health only publicly reports positive case counts and deaths by county. The decision to share more detailed case counts by community rests with each city or town, based on the assessment of the situation in their own communities. DPH only asks local boards of health to respect the privacy and confidentiality of residents when providing community case counts

Please see link: <https://www.mass.gov/info-details/covid-19-cases-quarantine-and-monitoring>

Acton Board of Health Advisory

A growing number of residents in our community have tested positive (or presumptive positive) for COVID-19 and are receiving appropriate care. These individuals include people who have been tested or self-reported to DPH. As virus transmission and testing increase we will update this page with the number of known positive test cases in our community for transparency and commitment to our residents.

Please Respect Individuals' Privacy

Anonymity for these individuals remains paramount. Please **respect their privacy** — even if you believe you know who they are — so they can focus completely on their health. As a community, we must do everything we can to support these individuals and one another through this incredibly difficult time.

Contact Tracing Efforts are Underway

Guided by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention and local public health agencies, the Acton Nursing Service follows protocols for evaluating individuals who have symptoms of COVID-19. In line with those protocols, the Department of Public Health oversees contact investigation and notification. Persons who have had close contact with the individuals in question have been notified by the Department of Public Health in accordance with standard public health principles. If you have not been notified, then you are not deemed to have increased risk because of exposure to these individuals.

Know When to Self-isolate/Quarantine

If you are concerned that you may have been exposed to COVID-19, please review and follow DPH's [guidance on whether you should self-isolate/quarantine](#). Please contact your health care provider if you need further advice or have symptoms.

Contact ANS if You Have Been Tested for COVID-19

Please let us know if you are being tested *or* if you tested positive for COVID-19. This will help us assess the impact on our community. Email us at sball@acton-ma.gov .

Take Preventative Measures

Every single one of us has the responsibility and the power to keep our community safe. Please continue to take these steps to keep yourself and those around you safe, especially those most vulnerable.

- Universal social distancing is critical to our community response.
- Practice and promote good basic hygiene.
- Know when and how to wash your hands and use sanitizer.

Take Care of Your Mental Health

Your mental health is just as important as your physical health in this time of uncertainty.

Additional Information

Please see our local community letter with a list of resources for more information.

The Town of Acton has set up a COVID-19 hotline, it can be accessed by calling 978-929-6619. Please refrain from calling the hotline to inquire about individuals who have tested positive to respect their privacy. The individual's medical information is confidential and the release of this information is limited by law.

Contact your Health Care Provider and Board of Health

If an individual in your family or living in your house knows or reasonably believes by exhibiting symptoms that they are infected with COVID-19, please immediately contact your medical provider and then notify the Board of Health so that they can assist you.