

**What is the purpose of reporting testing data?**

The purpose of reporting testing data to the Curry community is to provide clear and up-to-date information about our campus health with regard to COVID-19. By consistently reporting the number of tests conducted and the number of individuals who have tested positive, negative, and inconclusive, as well as comparative positivity statistics, we hope to provide a transparent picture of where we stand in terms of our prevention efforts on a daily basis.

It is inevitable, due to the nature of a pandemic that has impacted more than five million nationwide, that positive cases will occur. However, test reporting is designed both to promote awareness of what is happening on campus, and to remind our community of the importance of following the protocols that have been established to help keep our positive cases down and Curry healthy: Monitoring their health, washing their hands, wearing their masks and social distancing at all times.

**How often will the numbers be updated and reported?**

The Curry College community will be notified of each day's test results via a daily email, noting that test results are received over the course of the subsequent 24-48 hours. All results not reported today will appear on tomorrow's daily report.

The online dashboard will be updated weekly on Thursdays. Each update will include:

- Cumulative test results (including total number, negative results, inconclusive results, and positive results)
- Test results from the past 7 days (including total number, negative results, inconclusive results, and positive results)
- Comparative 14-day positivity statistics (including with the Town of Milton and Commonwealth of Massachusetts)

Each dashboard update will contain results from surveillance and COVID clinic tests conducted on campus in the previous week. The College may change the method, platform and/or frequency of reporting as the semester progresses for a variety of reasons, and we will inform the community promptly if so.

**Will the numbers include all populations (students, faculty, staff, vendor employees) within the Curry community?**

At the start, only resident student data was included, as students started to move in and be onboard tested on August 10. As onboard testing for commuter students, faculty, staff and vendor employees (which began on August 13) began to produce results, and weekly surveillance testing for some populations (which started on August 17) began, additional student, faculty, staff and vendor employee data began to be included.

The College expanded the on-campus testing program as of September 21 to include weekly surveillance testing of all students (residential and commuter who are on campus this fall), all faculty who are teaching on campus this fall, all staff, and all vendor employees. Data from this expansion began to be included the week of September 21.

**Why did the previous email reports include data about both on- and off-campus testing and the online dashboard and new email reports only include on-campus test results?**

When the College expanded its surveillance testing program to include all students, faculty, staff and vendor employees, it became required for all of these community members to be tested on-campus and largely eliminated the need to include data self-reported to the College by members of the community who were tested off-campus. The online dashboard does note positive results that have been obtained and reported to the College through off-campus testing in the past, and will also note any that are reported in the future.

**Why do the daily email reports include data about quarantine and isolation status and the online dashboard does not?**

Because quarantine and isolation data changes daily, as test results are obtained and individual statuses shift, with weekly reporting it is not as efficient or as informative to report on these items in the same way via the dashboard. The new inclusion of the 7-day data, as well as the College's positivity rate and comparison data to the City of Milton and to the Commonwealth of Massachusetts on the online dashboard are designed to provide a similar snapshot of the College's overall health.

**How should community members report results from off-campus testing?**

Any community member who obtains a test from an external entity has a responsibility to immediately report positive tests and negative test clearances to the College, both for tracking and reporting to the Board of Health.

- Faculty and staff should contact Human Resources at 617-333-2263 or [hr@curry.edu](mailto:hr@curry.edu);
- Traditional undergraduate students should contact Health Services at 617-333-2182 or [healthservices@curry.edu](mailto:healthservices@curry.edu);
- CE-Grad students should confirm with their test provider that the test provider will contact their local Board of Health;
- ACCEL Nursing students should contact their clinical coordinator;
- MSN students should contact the Graduate Program Coordinator.

**Why are some results labeled inconclusive, invalid, or TNP and what do those that mean?**

The College's testing program through the [Broad Institute](#) will provide a positive or negative result from the lab the vast majority of the time. However, occasionally neither a positive or negative result is produced, and that swab will be labeled an inconclusive test result. This can be the result of a number of factors, including a swabbing error at the time or during the collection, not enough sample from the swab to process, or another technical reason. Inconclusive results are not common but do happen in a clinical laboratory processing large numbers of samples. Efforts will be made to quickly resolve them and obtain a negative or positive result by re-testing the individual in question.

Please note that these were previously identified in College test reporting via daily email as TNPs (tests not performed due to lab or specimen error), and Invalid test results (tests not processed due to collection error); the Inconclusive number reported now encompasses both of these categories.

**What is the difference between individuals in isolation and in quarantine?**

“Isolation” refers to the living arrangement that will apply to individuals who test positive for COVID-19- most often in their own homes off campus, although the College will provide isolation living space for students who live more than 200 miles from Curry. “Quarantine” refers to a 14-day period for people who have been identified as being a close contact with a person who has tested positive for COVID-19, or to the period of time during which resident students returning to campus from outside the lower risk states defined by the Commonwealth of Massachusetts awaited test results before move-in. Generally, the College will provide quarantine living space on campus for resident students who live more than 200 miles from Curry, while students who live within 200 miles of campus, faculty, staff and vendor employees will quarantine at their homes off campus.

**Will individually identified test results ever be reported publicly?**

No. There will never be person-specific information reported to the community.

**How will community members demonstrate that they are complying with the College’s symptom checking and testing program?**

Previously, resident students were required to wear colored bracelets in order to designate completion of weekly testing and all community members were required to submit a daily COVID-19 screening via email each morning. With the implementation of the CoVerified app on September 21 for both symptom monitoring and test scheduling and results, users will be assigned one of three status labels in the app: Remote (gray), Cleared (green) or Restricted (red).

“Remote” designates an individual who is not on campus and therefore is not expected to follow the daily symptom check and testing requirement. You will be “Restricted” if you do not complete your daily symptom check, if it has been more than a week since your last test, or if you are in quarantine or isolation.

In various places on campus, students may be asked to show the app status screen or a website printout to demonstrate their campus status as “Cleared” (green).

**If a student is awaiting a test result, can they come to class?**

Yes, if they are awaiting results garnered as part of the weekly surveillance testing and have no symptoms or close contact reason to believe they may be positive. If a student has been tested for any other reason, has symptoms or has reason to suspect that they may have been exposed via close contact, they should consult Health Services before attending class.

**How are community members being notified of the results of their on-campus tests?**

As of September 21, all tests results will be provided through the CoVerified app. If you were tested in Miller Field House and have not received your results within 48 hours, please call Health Services at 617-333-2182.

**Will the data that is being collected be able to help the College in other ways?**

Yes. Using data from testing in addition to the results publicly available, the College will be able to help define “hot spots” (where clusters of positive tests occur) in one specific part of campus, or one building, like a residence hall. Knowing that information can allow the College to take action, like quarantining individuals or groups identified through contact tracing, to contain virus spread more quickly and efficiently.

**What should the community pay most attention to, when looking at the test reports?**

Curry College has developed a robust testing program that includes both onboard and surveillance testing for community members every day who have no symptoms or reason to believe they are infected. Since surveillance testing has been defined as one of the most effective way to measure the health of a community, it’s important to note that the reports will reflect those findings as well as results from people who report symptoms.

It is also important to note that while positive cases are expected, we can all do our part to help keep them down and keep Curry healthy by following the terms of the [Community Agreement](#) at all times (both on AND off campus), by practicing the key protocols (wash your hands, wear your mask, social distance and monitor your health) that have been established for the safety of our community, and by encouraging and supporting each other in these efforts.