

**From:** [Superintendents-owner@list1.doe.mass.edu](mailto:Superintendents-owner@list1.doe.mass.edu)  
[<mailto:Superintendents-owner@list1.doe.mass.edu>] **On Behalf Of**  
Correa, Leldamy (DESE)  
**Sent:** Thursday, October 22, 2020 1:04 PM  
**To:** Correa, Leldamy (DESE) <[leldamy.correa@mass.gov](mailto:leldamy.correa@mass.gov)>  
**Subject:** Update to DPH Public Health Report

Good afternoon,

**For your reference, the following message was issued by DPH yesterday and will be discussed during our call with you next Tuesday.**

Weekly Public Health Report with City/Town Risk Map Moves to Thursday Release. Over the past several months, the Command Center has continued to enhance our COVID-19 data, public reporting, and analysis, which enables us to take a more targeted approach with our guidance. The Command Center is continuously refining, enhancing and adding to this public data, some of the most comprehensive in the nation, to further strengthen the information and analysis we provide to local communities to guide their decisions. Effective beginning with the Thursday, 10/22 weekly report, the Command Center will identify if a municipality's positive cases have been significantly impacted by a clearly identified cluster in a long-term care facility, higher education institution or correctional facility. To accommodate this added analysis, the weekly map and public health report will be published on Thursdays moving forward. Specifically, the municipality's risk level color will be identified with an asterisk if one of these identified institutions has more than 10 cases and results in 30% of their total cases over the past 14 days. Adding this identification acknowledges the impact of a particular institution or facility on the community's case count and provides valuable information for residents and municipal

leaders to consider when implementing policies in their community. These municipalities will remain in their red or yellow category. As a reminder, the Department of Elementary and Secondary Education's guidance calls for districts to monitor three weeks of reports before making changes to learning plans for schools. **In addition, districts and schools currently open for in-person instruction are encouraged to remain open even if their local community is designated as red, so long as there is no evidence of COVID-19 transmission in the schools.** An asterisk will not change a community's advancement forward or backward for Step 2 Phase 3, or its treatment under rules regulating gatherings.

###

Note: DESE has bolded the sentence above.

Best,  
Leldamy

---

**Leldamy Correa**, M.Ed.  
Chief of Staff  
W 781-338-3136 | C 781-661-8123  
[leldamy.correa@mass.gov](mailto:leldamy.correa@mass.gov)

[Office of the Commissioner](#)  
Massachusetts Department of Elementary and Secondary Education  
75 Pleasant Street, Malden, MA 02148  
[Web](#) | [Twitter](#) | [Facebook](#) | [YouTube](#) | [News](#)

**This school year, we all have a role to play to keep each other healthy. [Learn more.](#)**

*CONFIDENTIALITY NOTICE: This electronic transmission is for the intended recipient only and may contain information that is privileged, confidential, or otherwise protected from disclosure. Any review, dissemination, or use of this transmission or any of its contents by persons other than the intended recipient is strictly prohibited. If you receive this transmission in error, please notify the sender immediately upon receipt and delete or destroy the communication and its attachments. Thank you for your cooperation*