



Together for Maine Plan

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Community Guidance

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Recent Updates

[Together for Maine Daily Briefing and COVID-19 Data Update: 11/19/20](#)
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[Together for Maine Daily Briefing and COVID-19 Data Update: 11/18/20](#)
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[Together for Maine Daily Update and COVID-19 Data Update: 11/17/20](#)
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Earlier Updates

- [November 2020 \(19\)](#)
- [October 2020 \(31\)](#)
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Together for Maine Daily Briefing and COVID-19 Data Update: 11/16/20

16
NOV 2020

University of Maine System COVID Data by Campus

41 — Known Case of UMS students or employees in public health agency Isolation among the more than 30,000 students, faculty, and staff in the University of Maine System community.

- 30 UMaine: One fewer cases
 - Two employees released from isolation
 - One new case involving a commuter student identified via UMS testing
- 2 UMA:
- 0 UMF: one student released from isolation
- 2 UMFK:
- 1 UMM:
- 0 UMPI: An employee released from isolation
- 6 USM: One new case involving a commuter student
- 0 Maine Law

5 of the 41 cases are residence hall students: Of the 41 cases reported above there are five (5) active known cases among residence hall students in the UMS.

- 2 UMaine
- 1 UMFK
- 2 USM

Isolation and Quarantine Capacity Remains Very Strong: 94% of UMS quarantine space and 97% of UMS isolation space is available.

The above Data reflects ACTIVE known cases identified through the UMS asymptomatic screening and other testing venues. When an individual is released from an isolation order by a public health agency the active case number shared in the Together for Maine daily update is reduced to reflect that change. UMS is reporting 43 known cases today, one case fewer than the cases reported in the [11/15/20 update](#).

Asymptomatic Screening Update for Fall Safe Return

- 31,843 Test Results to Date
- 50 positives results representing new diagnoses of COVID-19

The Asymptomatic Screening Dashboard at [Together.Maine.edu](#) represents known results on all asymptomatic tests going back to July 22, 2020. About 48 hours passes from the time a test sample is collected and when the results are known.

UMS News

UMS Scientific Advisory Board Reviews Results of Round Six of Fall Surveillance Testing: The University of Maine System Scientific Advisory Board, Chaired by President Joan Ferrini-Mundy, has reviewed the results of the latest round of COVID-19 sampling, which was the sixth of seven planned rounds of fall surveillance testing. More than 3,300 tests were completed, including more than 1,000 tests as part of a random sample of members of the University community.

The Advisory Board and the University System monitor the positivity rate (number of positive results out of total number of test results) of the University System's testing overall. The national positivity rate is currently estimated at nearly 10%. Maine's overall positivity rate has recently increased to approximately 2%. The current cumulative positivity rate from the University System's testing stands at 0.16% or 50 positive tests of ~32,000 completed tests as of November 16, 2020. In the most recent completed round of testing, which concluded on November 12, the University System's positivity rate was approximately 0.59% or 20 positive results of ~3,400 completed tests. In the random sample portion of Round 6, the positivity rate was approximately 0.3% or 3 positive tests of ~1,000 tests.

The Advisory Board also estimates prevalence rates. The current round of results, with 3 positive results in the random sample and taking into account all prior results this fall, support an inference with 95% confidence that the University System's in-person population has an estimated prevalence rate of no more than 0.12%. A prevalence rate is a different measure from the positivity rate. A positivity rate is the percentage of tests that are positive out of the total number of tests conducted. For example, the University's positivity rate is calculated based on testing that includes both random sampling and administratively-directed testing, sometimes including populations of concern such as the close contacts of a COVID-positive individual. A positivity rate of a tested population that includes close contacts can easily result in a higher rate of positive results than the estimated prevalence rate across the entirety of the community. A prevalence rate is the level of disease in a particular population and any estimate of the prevalence rate must be based on a randomly-selected sample.

The University is now in the midst of conducting its seventh and final round of planned fall testing. Any further additional positive tests will continue to be reported in the University's daily briefing and on its public dashboard.

Quick Facts About Final Week of Fall Safe Return

- **Final Full Week of In-Person Classes:** Monday, November 16th marks the start of the final full week of in-person classes for the Fall 2020 semester. The University of Maine System transitions to remote instruction at the Thanksgiving break.
- **Wastewater Tests Negative for COVID Virus:** Wastewater samples collected at UMaine, UMFK, and USM – Gorham on 11/9 – 11/10 were negative for the virus that causes COVID.
- **Safe Departure Testing Underway:** The University of Maine System is now conducting its final round of statewide asymptomatic testing for the fall semester. Approximately 8,000 tests will be conducted to help send resident hall and out-of-state students home safely with a negative test in hand and to monitor for the disease.

University News

UMaine

UMA

UMF

UMFK

UMM

UMPI

USM — Suspending Athletic Group Practices: In line with the [System's guidance](#) on limiting exposure over the final two weeks the University of Southern Maine will be suspending Athletics group practices and in-person team activities through Thanksgiving. President Cummings shared the news in the [Nov. 16, Monday Missive](#).

Maine Law

Campus-Specific Return Information

