



Town of Glastonbury

Health Department

Memo

March 14, 2023

To: Richard J. Johnson
Town Manager

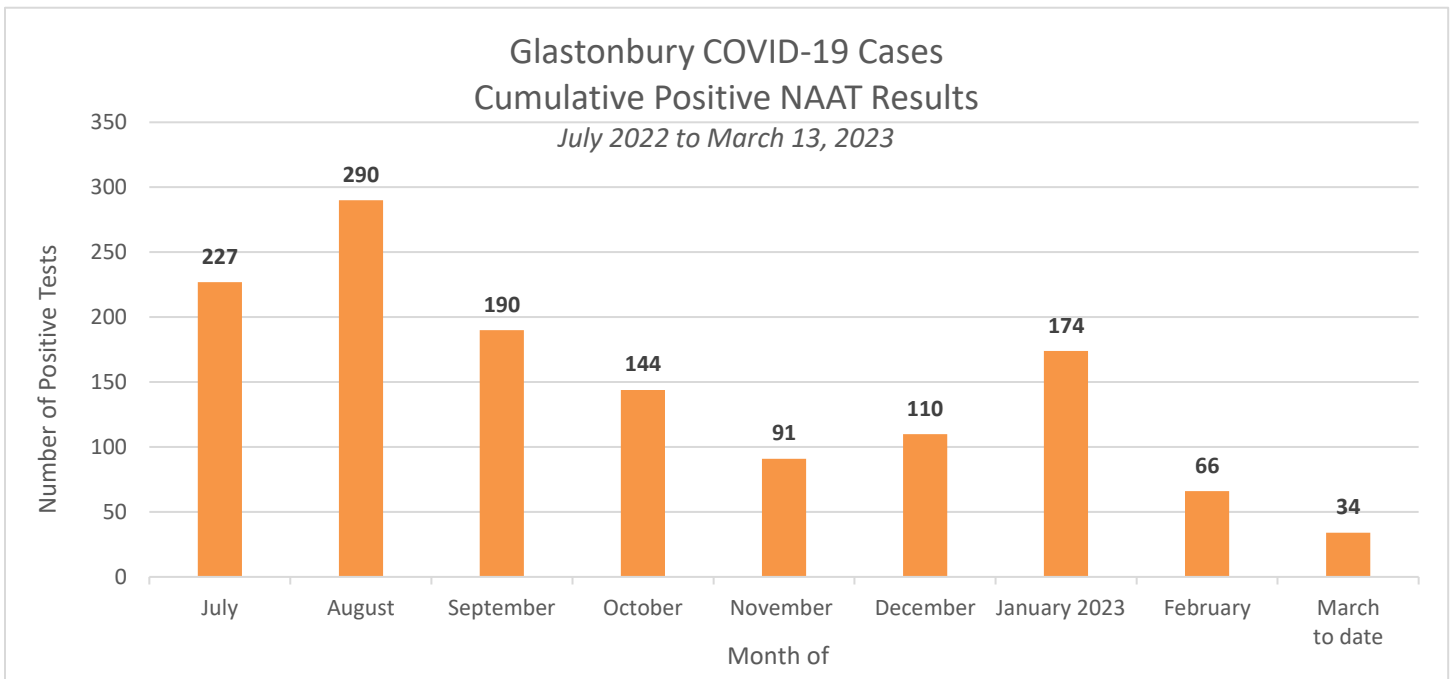
Fr: Wendy S. Mis *WSM*
Director of Health

Re: COVID-19 update

This report uses publicly available laboratory-confirmed results for COVID-19 data from Connecticut Department of Public Health (CT DPH) for local, county, and Connecticut overall. At-home test results are not included, so information and graphs demonstrate trends rather than a full accounting of cases. Numbers in (parentheses) indicate change from the previous week. The chart directly below shows data in approximate one-month intervals.

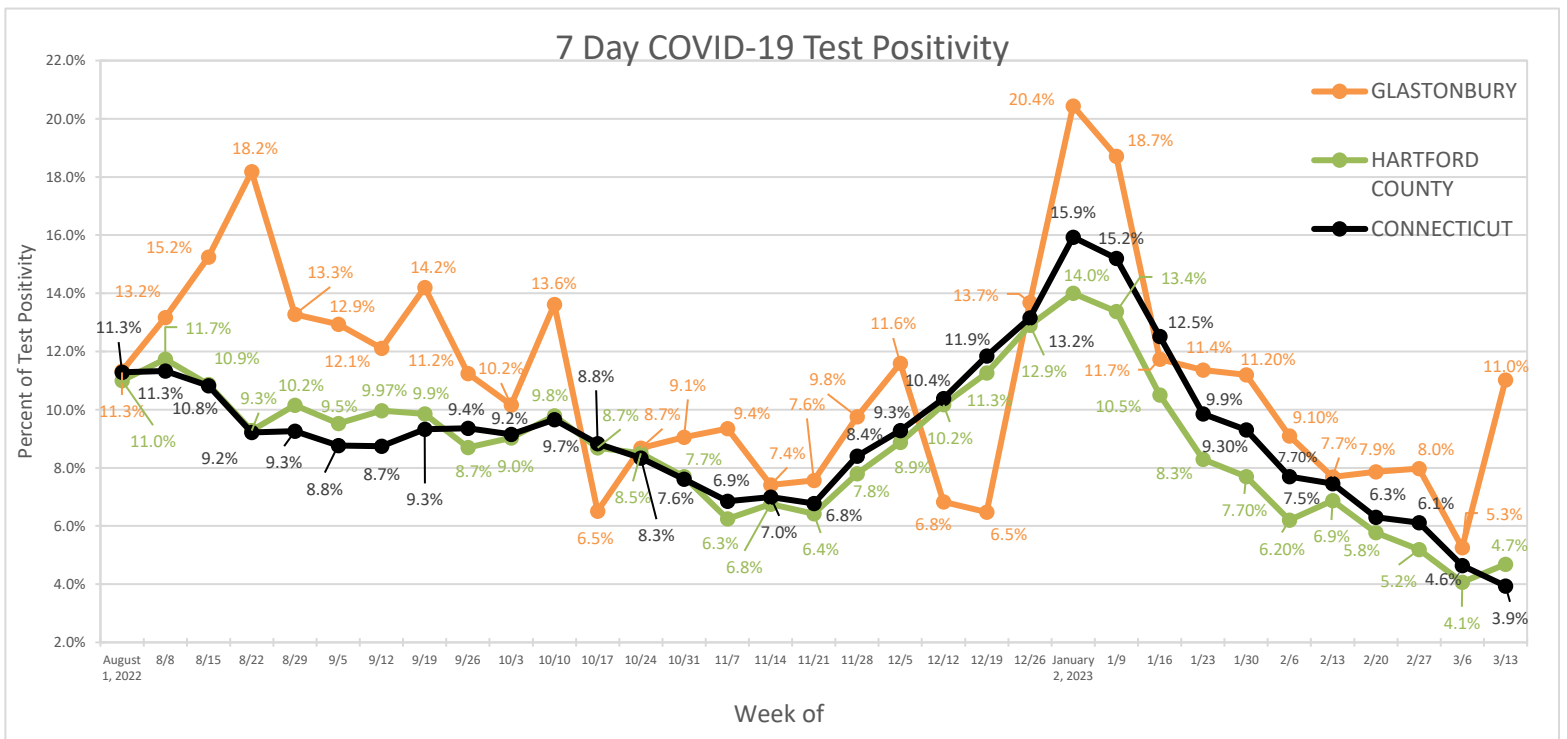
As per CT DPH data up to March 13, 2023:

- A total of 137,313 tests have been administered to Glastonbury residents. (+211)
- Of the 137,313 tests administered, 7,898 were laboratory positive NAAT cases. (+22)
- One death was recorded this week. The loss of Glastonbury residents increases to 128. (+1)



Test positivity is calculated as a rolling 7-day test positivity by specimen collection date; all positive molecular (PCR/NAAT) test results are divided by all molecular (PCR/NAAT) test results (positive and negative) for the last 7 days and multiplied by 100 to reach a percentage. Results are shown below for Glastonbury, Hartford County, and the state of Connecticut overall. The graph below has been revised from previous reports to show data between August 1, 2022 to current date. This will allow easier viewing of the information. The Glastonbury website will post previous reports showing data reaching back to June 2022 until the week of March 13, 2023.

Seven-day test positivity continues to decline for the state overall (3.9%). Hartford County increased slightly (4.7%), and Glastonbury test positivity increased significantly (11%).



COVID-19 Vaccine

COVID-19 vaccines are available for individuals ages 6 months and up.

The COVID-19 bivalent booster vaccine is available if it has been at least two months since an individual's last COVID-19 vaccine (whether the primary series or any booster). More [vaccination and booster information](#) is available from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention.

Additional clinics can be found at www.vaccines.gov and entering the zip code for the search area.

Free at home COVID-19 test kits; extended shelf life of test kits

The U.S. government still has at home test kits available to residential households for no cost. An order includes four (4) individual rapid antigen COVID-19 tests. The tests are completely free. Tests are currently available and can be ordered at <https://special.usps.com/testkits>.

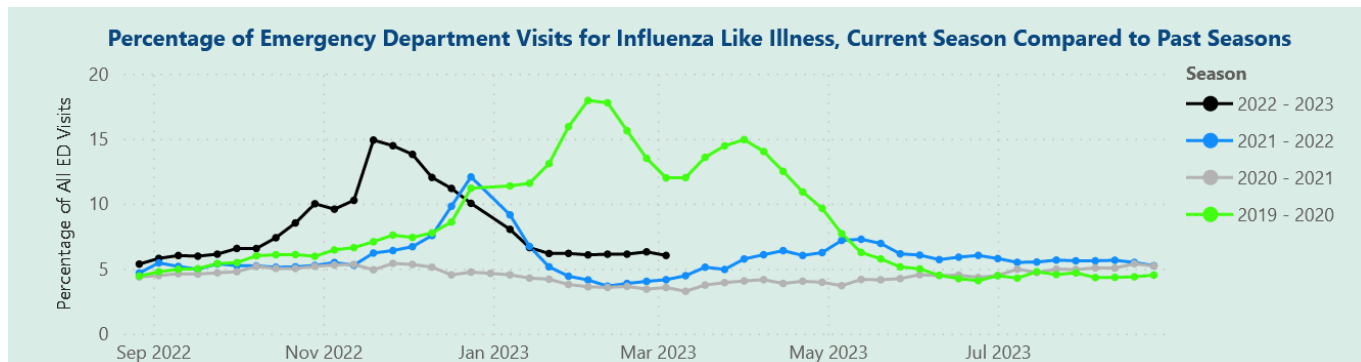
The expiration dates of many at home test kits have been extended. Go to [this website](#) to check the updated expiration date of kits in your home.

COVID-19 Testing locations

CLICK HERE for the 2-1-1 of Connecticut online site to search for COVID-19 testing. Users may refine their search by zip code, type of test and key demographics of individual to be tested.

Respiratory illness

Two basic types of influenza virus circulate in the U.S., flu group A and flu group B. A typical flu season starts with Flu A infections, followed by a second wave of Flu B infections. If the same model holds this year (Flu A then Flu B), a second wave of flu may appear in March. The first wave (Flu A) seems to have peaked. CT DPH statewide data indicates the percentage of Emergency Department visits for influenza like illness is holding steady, with small weekly fluctuations. Flu season continues for at least several more weeks, and **prevention strategies against respiratory viruses** are highly recommended.



Source: CT DPH

Flu shots are readily available in the community. Pharmacies and other locations providing flu shots as well as the vaccines available can be found at www.vaccines.gov.

While COVID-19, seasonal flu, and RSV may be addressed with slightly different medical treatments, **prevention strategies against respiratory viruses** are similar:

- Wash your hands often
- Clean and disinfect surfaces regularly
- Get your flu vaccine and COVID-19 booster
- Stay home when you are sick
- Wear a mask in crowded public areas, or near others who may be sick
- Wear a mask around others when you have respiratory illness symptoms

Data for this report is gathered from publicly available data at <https://data.ct.gov/stories/s/COVID-19-data/wa3q-tfvc/>. Test positivity is calculated as a rolling 7-day test positivity by specimen collection date; all positive molecular (PCR/NAAT) test results are divided by all molecular (PCR/NAAT) test results (positive and negative) for the last 7 days and multiplied by 100 to reach a percentage. All data are preliminary and subject to change. Data from previous dates are routinely updated. CT DPH data reporting changes have been summarized and can be read [here](#).