



KIMBERLEY DRISCOLL
MAYOR

CITY OF SALEM, MASSACHUSETTS
BOARD OF HEALTH
98 WASHINGTON STREET, 3RD FLOOR
SALEM, MA 01970
TEL. (978) 741-1800
health@salem.com



Public Health
Prevent. Promote. Protect.

DAVID GREENBAUM, RS
HEALTH AGENT

INDOOR MASK MANDATE

City of Salem COVID-19 Public Health Mandate of the Salem Board of Health

Whereas, as of December 14, 2021, 76.4% of the total Salem resident population has received at least one vaccination dose and 68.8% of the total Salem resident population is fully vaccinated;

Whereas, as of December 14, 2021, 84.3% of the Salem resident population over the age of 12 has received at least one dose and 76.3% of the Salem resident population over the age of 12 is fully vaccinated;

Whereas, as of December 11, 2021, the two-week positivity rate in Salem has reached 6.2%, up from a low of 0.2% in June 2021 and above the Massachusetts Department of Public Health's 5.0% threshold for the red alert level category;

Whereas, as of December 16, 2021, the percentage of occupied non-surge ICU beds in the northeast region of Massachusetts has reached 95.0%, compared to 83.0% occupancy on December 16, 2020, and exceeding the Boston Public Health Commission threshold of concern for ICU occupancy;

Whereas, as of November 20, 2021, Salem again exceeded the Massachusetts Department of Public Health's metrics to classify as being in the "red," or highest, alert level category for COVID-19;

Whereas, as of December 14, 2021, only 46% of the Salem resident population age 16-19 and only 50% of the Salem resident population age 20-29 is fully vaccinated;

Whereas, as of December 17, 2021, Salem's two-week average new case rate is 15% higher than the state's rate and Salem's two-week positivity rate is 24% higher than the state's rate;

Whereas, as of December 16, 2021, only 11 medical/surgical hospital beds are available in the northeast region of Massachusetts, compared to 150 beds available on December 16, 2020, and around 10% of the capacity of other regions of the Commonwealth;

Whereas, when the Commonwealth's final "reopening" phase went into effect on July 13, 2020, Salem had 138 active cases, a 1.11 two-week case rate, a 2.1% two-week positivity rate, and 546 available hospital beds in the region, compared to the most current data of 322 active cases, 71.6 two-week case rate, a 6.2% two-week positivity rate, and 16 available hospital beds in the region;

Whereas, these conditions recited above present a public health emergency within the City of Salem;

Therefore, pursuant to M.G.L. Chapter 111, sections 31 and 104, 310 CMR 11.05, 105 CMR 300.200 and all other authorizing statutes and regulations, acting by and through its agent authorized under MGL c. 111 §31, the Board of Health of the City of Salem, Massachusetts, hereby Orders the following:

Effective immediately, face coverings are required for all individuals, vaccinated and unvaccinated, aged two years and above in all indoor public spaces or private spaces open to the public, except where an individual is unable to wear a face covering due to a medical condition or disability, and subject to the following:

- Food service establishment customers may only remove face coverings when seated and actively eating or drinking.
- Indoor performance venue customers may only remove face coverings in the actual act of eating and drinking.
- Indoor bar and dance venue customers may only remove face coverings when seated at tables or seated at a bar. Patrons standing or ordering at the bar must be masked.
- Guests must be masked on indoor dance floors.
- Lodging guests and workers are required to wear face coverings when inside hallways and common areas.
- Houses of worship are included in this order.
- Fitness Centers/Health Clubs workers, customers, and visitors are required to wear face coverings during fitness activity, including strenuous activity.
- At Personal Services establishments, including but not limited to barber shops, hair, and nail salons, all customers and workers are required to wear face coverings, except for skin or beard care that occurs on the face, the customer may temporarily remove the face covering, but must immediately put the face covering back on for the remainder of the visit.
- Masks remain mandatory for all individuals on public and private transportation systems (including rideshares, livery, taxi, ferries, MBTA, Commuter Rail and transportation stations), in healthcare facilities and in other settings hosting vulnerable populations, such as congregate care settings.
- All entry doors of businesses open to the public must be posted advising customers that face masks must be maintained inside the establishment.

This emergency order shall be effective immediately and shall remain in effect until at least March 8, 2022 when the Board will assess the state of the COVID-19 pandemic and determine if the order should be extended, modified or rescinded by the Board of Health.

To the extent necessary, this Order shall be enforced by Board of Health officials.

Penalties will be issued in accordance with municipal fines as set forth in the City Ordinance of \$50 for the first offense, \$150 for the second offense and \$300 for third and subsequent offenses.

ORDERED at City Hall this 22nd day of December 2021.

For the Board of Health



David Greenbaum
Health Agent
Salem Board of Health