

8AM Covid-19 Response Call

Campus Management Update

May 2, 2022

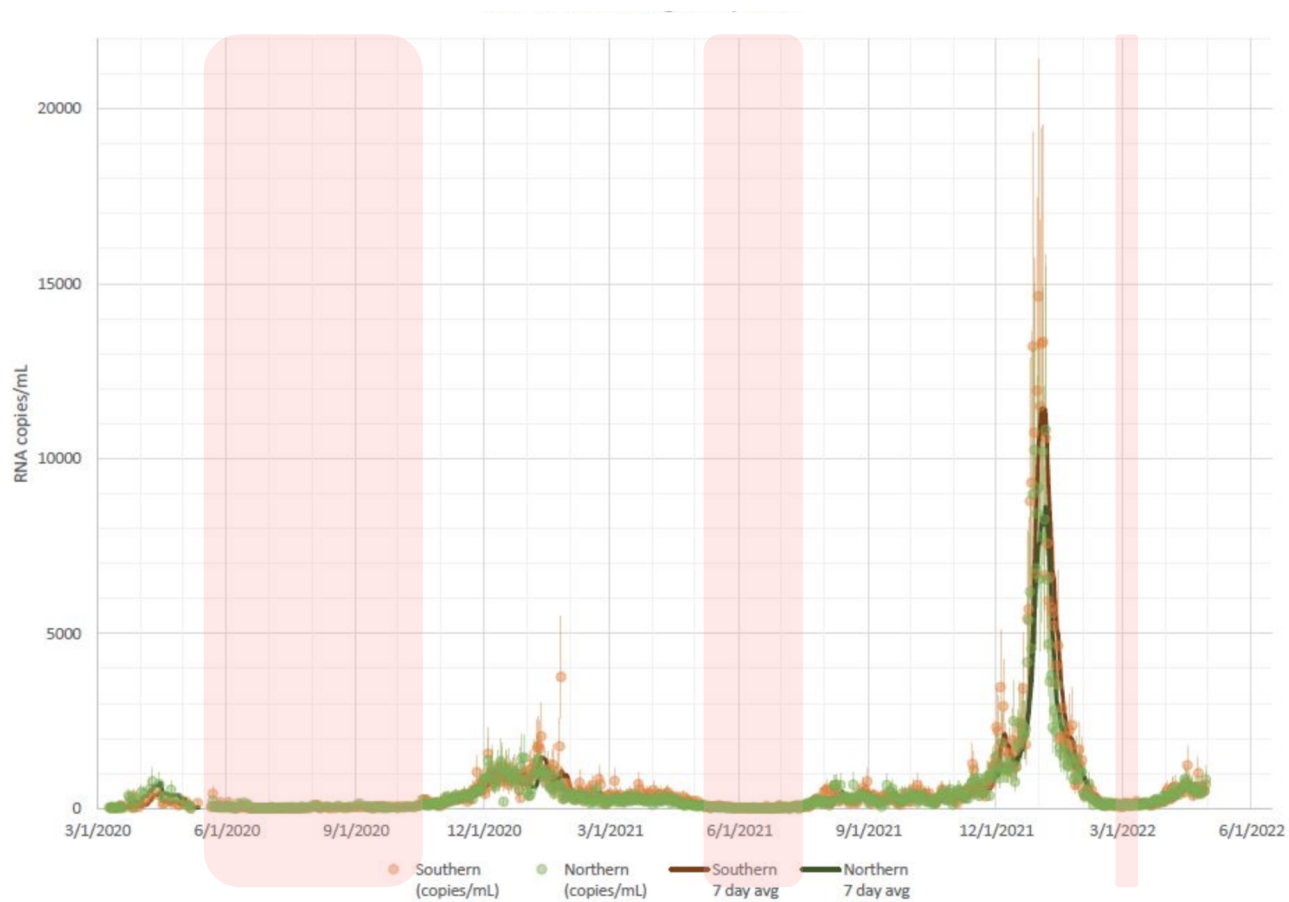


Main messages

- We are seeing a rise in cases in our community.
- It is a critical time for academic continuity with finals in two weeks and 3000 students planning to graduate.
- We are strongly encouraging all community members to wear masks indoors when around others until the end of finals.

MWRA wastewater testing data

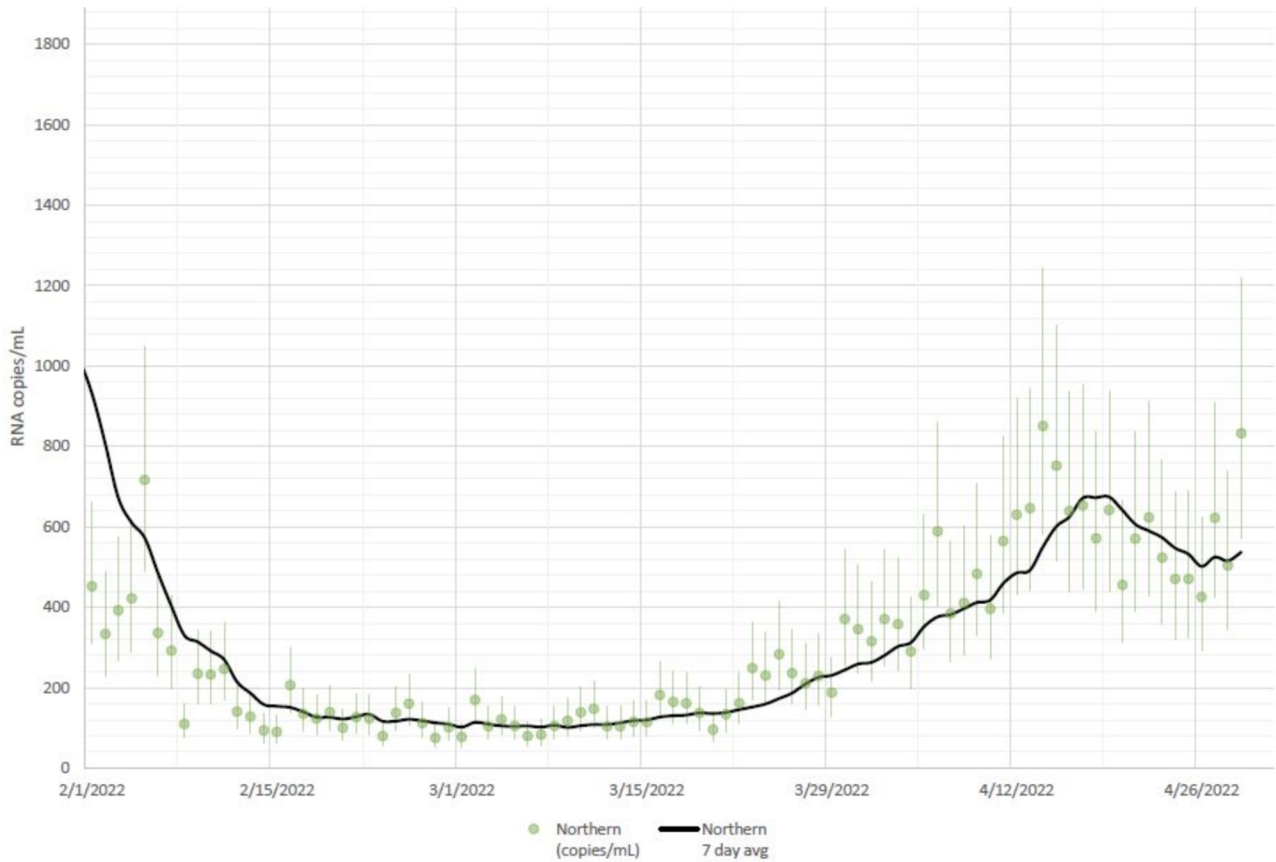
<https://www.mwra.com/biobot/biobotdata.htm>, 5/1/2022



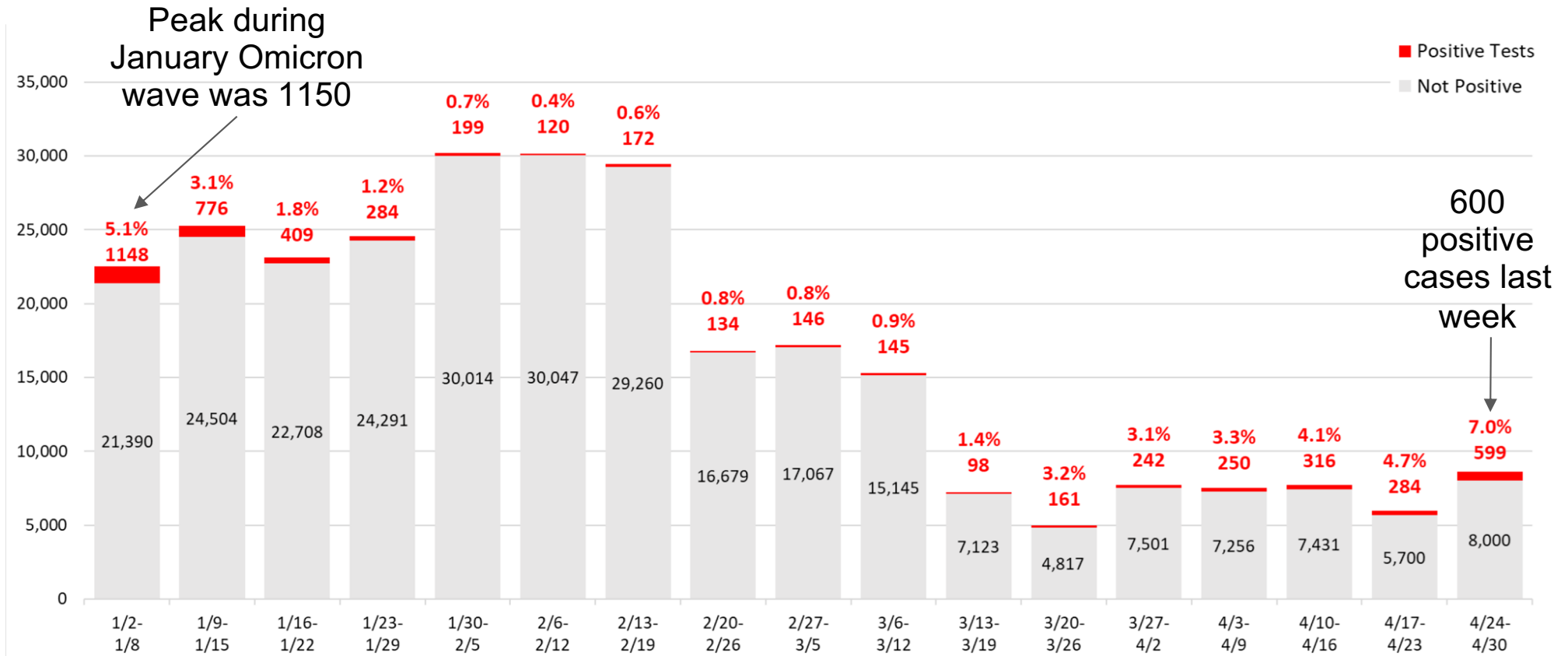
These periods are < 110 RNA copies/mL based on 7-day average

MWRA wastewater testing data (recent close-up)

<https://www.mwra.com/biobot/biobotdata.htm>, 5/1/2022

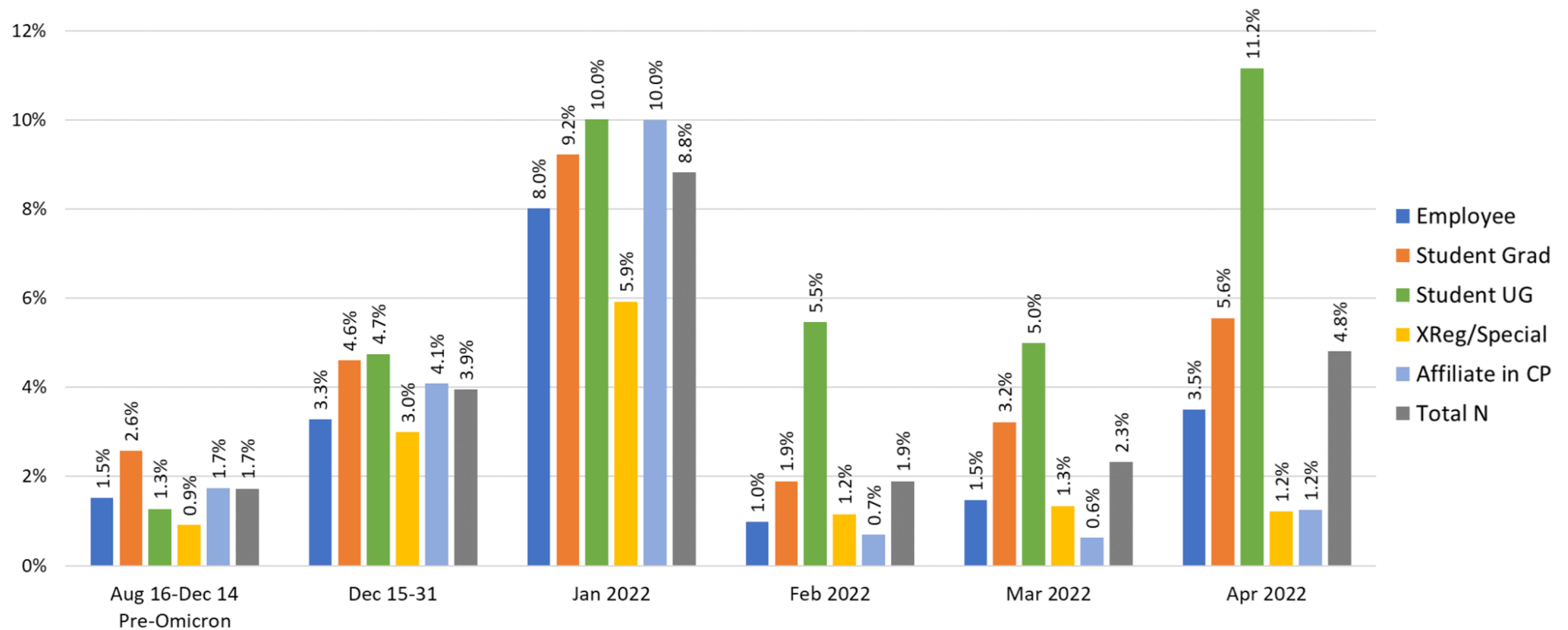


MIT Community Trends

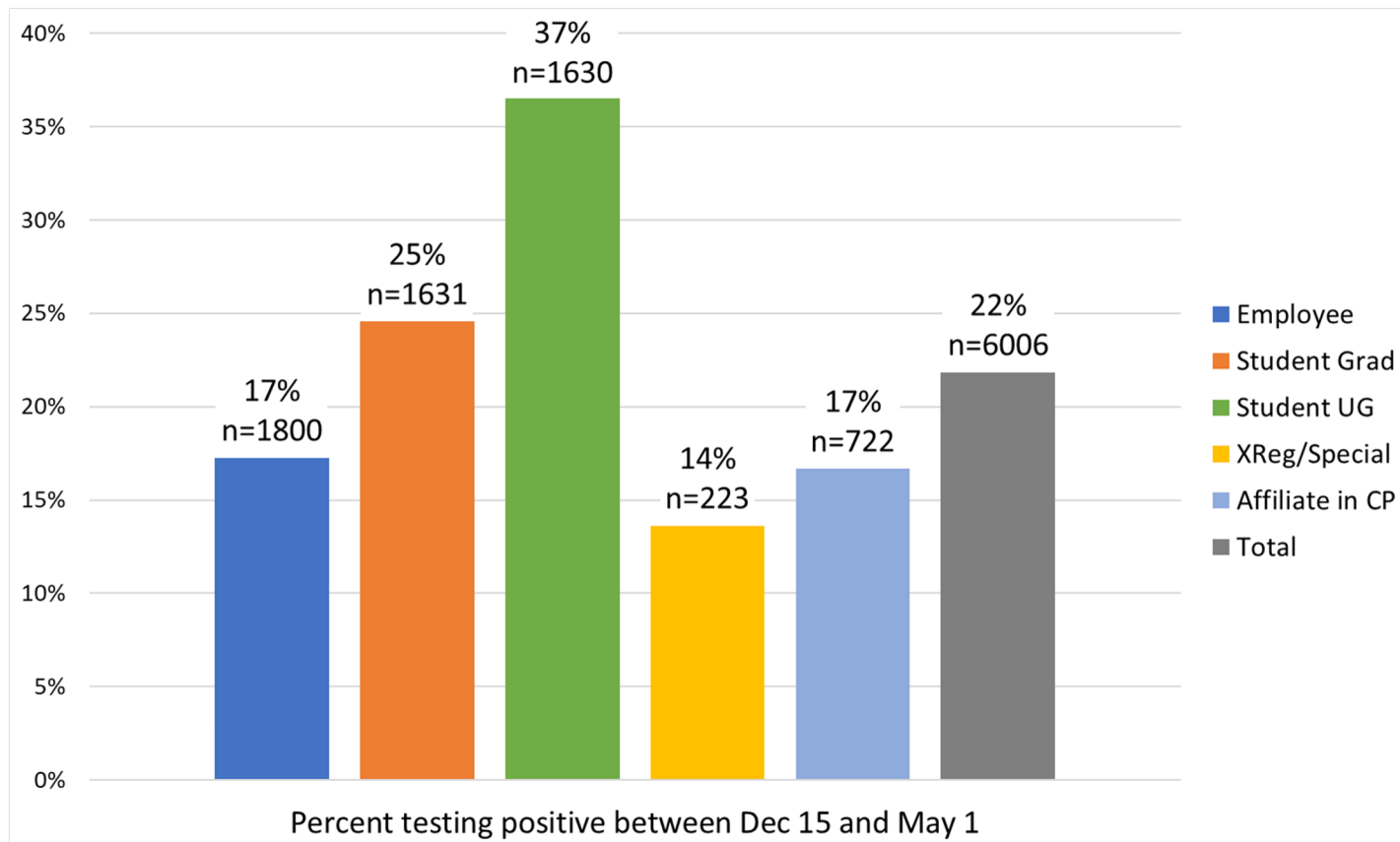


Percentage of cohort testing positive with Omicron per month

Of those who are coming to the Cambridge campus, how many have tested positive and when?



Total percent of cohort contracting Omicron



Daily # of students in isolation

each positive case contributes over 5 days

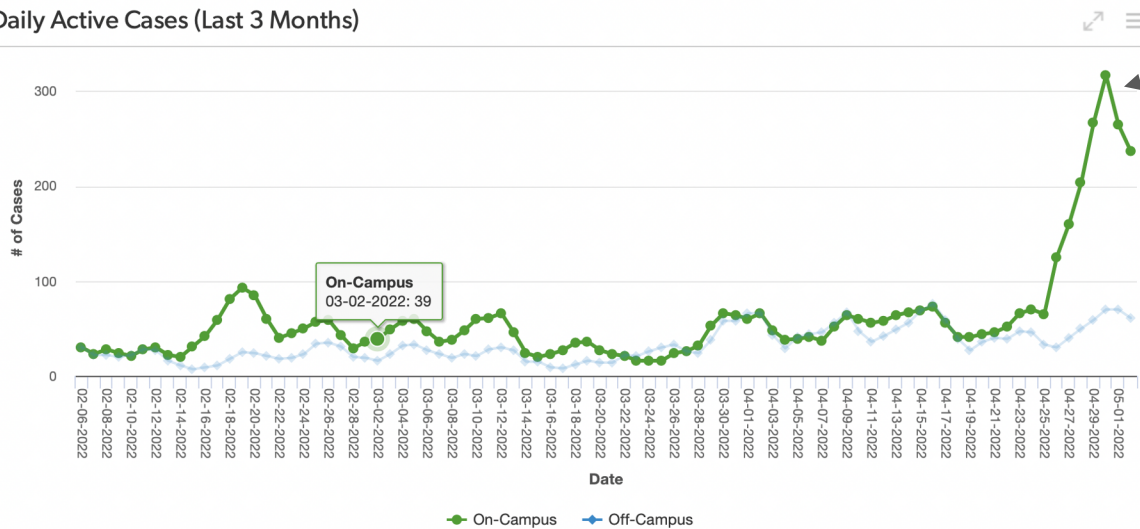
Positive Cases (Sep 2021 - Present)

Status		Active	Completed	Totals
On-Campus/Off-Campus	Affiliation	Number of Cases	Number of Cases	Number of Cases
Off-Campus	G	50	1463	1513
Off-Campus	UG	11	245	256
On-Campus	G	23	485	508
On-Campus	UG	214	1445	1659
Totals (8 groups)		298	3638	3936

Temporary Room Occupancy Summary

Temporary Room Type	Standard	Surge	Totals
Occupied/Empty	Number of Rooms	Number of Rooms	Number of Rooms
Empty	43	32	75
Occupied	65	-	65
Totals (3 groups)	108	32	140

Daily Active Cases (Last 3 Months)



Double the peak during the Omicron wave in the first week of January with many fewer students on campus

COVID Management

- Other than higher rates for undergraduates in the last week (driven we believe by typical end-of-semester social activities), there are no significant patterns in the data.
- There is high demand for food deliveries to isolating students but we are responding.
- People continue to do the right thing (testing and masking when they have symptoms or are concerned about being exposed).
- We are making several thousand additional antigen tests available to our students, and our on-demand PCR testing remains available and effective for all in CovidPass (W20 and MIT Medical Trailer drop-offs).
- We also continue to make high-quality masks available (including via new vending machines).



Self-Service Vending Machines
ist.mit.edu/ssa

Procedures for academic continuity

As in the [January 26th email](#) from Lily Tsai & Ian Waitz, MIT's goal remains: ensuring “robust academic continuity” in the face of evolving pandemic conditions and the likelihood of increased student and instructor absences.

Resources for instructors

- Policy guidance: <https://now.mit.edu/policies/faculty-teaching-staff/>
- TLL resources: <https://tll.mit.edu/maintaining-academic-continuity-during-spring-2022/>
- Self-service vending machines (microphones, HDMI connectors, masks, etc.)

Guidance for students

- If a student anticipates that they will miss class and/or exams, they should talk with the relevant instructor/instructional team as soon as possible to make arrangements.

General questions or issues: covidclasshelp@mit.edu

Recommendation (letter going to community today)

Because of the 2x increase case rates, and the importance of academic continuity at this time in the semester with finals coming and 3000 students planning to graduate...

Beginning today and through the conclusion of finals on May 19, we are strongly encouraging all students, staff, faculty, and campus visitors to wear high-quality masks indoors, especially in classrooms and other crowded or high-traffic areas on campus; at gatherings and events; and in residence halls.

While wearing a mask remains a personal choice, it is something that all of us can do to support academic continuity at this time.

Summary and Q&A

- MIT continues to do well in the face of the global pandemic.
- It is a credit to the entire community.

- We need to stick with it a little longer to help our students cross the finish line (warmer, sunnier days are on the horizon!).

Thank you for all you are doing!