Routine asymptomatic COVID-19 Testing Results Data Guide
District of Columbia

Routine asymptomatic surveillance testing is conducted to identify positive COVID-19 cases in school settings so they may isolate at home and not spread the virus to others. It is one component of a layered mitigation strategy (which also includes vaccination, mask-wearing, physical distancing, etc.) to reduce transmission and save lives. In Fall 2021, District of Columbia Public Schools (DCPS) and Charter Schools were mandated to conduct weekly asymptomatic testing for at least 10% of its student population; staff asymptomatic testing data are reported as well. Data sources and data collection methods are different between data reported here and data reported on the DC Health Schools Data page; thus, numbers of positive test results will not match. These data only include asymptomatic surveillance testing results, while the DC Health Schools Data page contains data on all positive cases reported to DC Health, regardless of test type or data source. Some charter schools operate their own COVID-19 testing programs and are not yet reported here; their data will be reported as received.

Data Notes:

- “Routine asymptomatic surveillance testing” is the weekly testing of students and staff in each DCPS and public charter school.
- A Local Education Agency (LEA) is any individual or group of public charter schools operating under a single charter in the District; DCPS is considered to be a single LEA. As another example, KIPP DC is a single LEA which operates many individual schools.
- A student is anyone enrolled at a school in the District of Columbia, including adult education students.
- A staff member is anyone employed at a school in the District of Columbia. This includes teachers and non-teaching staff, such as administrators, secretaries, custodians, security officers, and culinary staff.
- “Number of Tests Given” is the number of routine surveillance tests given at each school; data reported here do not include tests given outside of the school.
- “Number of Positive Test Results” is the number of routine surveillance tests given at each school with a positive result.
- Data is provided for students on the left (“tests given” in light blue vertical bars, “positive test results” in dark blue) and staff members on the right (“tests given” displayed in light yellow vertical bars, “positive test results” in dark yellow).
- You may select from the dropdown lists to display LEA-specific and school-specific data.
- You may move the date sliders to display data for specific date ranges by week.
- Any school with fewer than 10 cases reported in a week will be “suppressed” to promote confidentiality; the number will appear as “n < 10” next to “Number of positive test results” if data are suppressed.
- In accordance with DCPS policy, asymptomatic testing results among staff are not be shown by individual school, but instead are displayed by selecting “DCPS Staff” in the “Select a Local Education Agency” dropdown menu; if you select a DCPS school, only testing results for students are displayed.

Updated 2/9/2022
• Routine surveillance testing is not conducted for weeks when schools are out of session (for instance, the week of December 25th)
• All data are subject to change periodically as more information is collected and data is processed.

Example interpretation:

Between 11/28/2021 and 1/29/2022, there were 72,751 asymptomatic routine surveillance tests given to students, of which 1763 were positive; there were 4,606 tests given to staff, of which 165 were positive. For the week of January 23rd, 2022, 12,406 tests were given to students, of which 103 were positive, and 566 tests were given to staff members, of which 0 were positive.