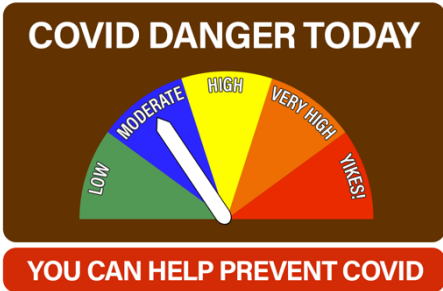


# Yarmouth SARS-CoV-2 (COVID-19) Wastewater Testing Results — January 18, 2023

## Summary

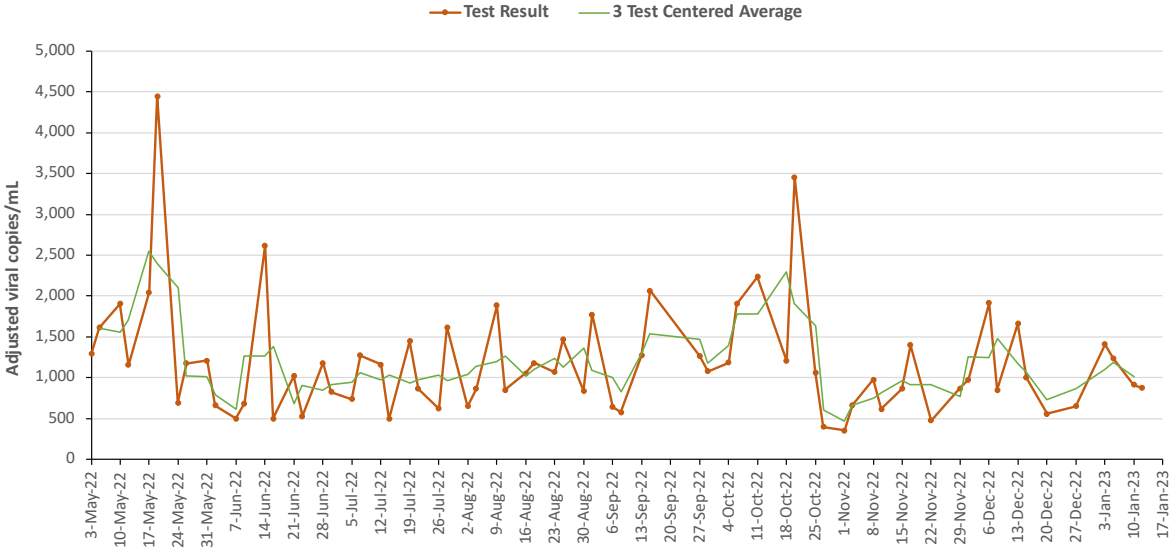
- In the six weeks since our last Yarmouth, Maine, COVID report on December 8, 2022, wastewater levels of SARS-CoV-2 were relatively stable with a slight fall during the holiday period. COVID-19 cases rose slightly during the first four weeks and then rose sharply during the last two weeks when the greatest number of cases were reported since late October and early November 2022.
- In light of the levels of SARS-CoV-2 in Yarmouth's wastewater during December and the first half of January, we are keeping the COVID-O-Meter at the Moderate level.



## Wastewater Results for SARS-CoV-2

- The adjusted virus levels were 915 and 873 copies/mL in the two most recent wastewater samples (January 9–10 and January 11–12, respectively).
- Viral levels for December 8 through January 12 fluctuated between 556 and 1,661 copies/mL. The overall trend was slightly downward during this period (Figure 1, Table 1).
- December viral levels averaged 1,086 copies/mL, as compared to monthly averages of 1,240 copies/mL during September, 1,635 during October, and 777 during November. So far, January's viral levels have averaged 1,109 copies/mL.
- Yarmouth's December viral levels were similar to those measured in Portland's and Brunswick's December wastewater samples. The trends during December for Brunswick's, Portland's East End Facility, and Portland's Westbrook-Gorham Regional Facility were relatively flat.
- In early January 2023, the highest state wastewater SARS-CoV-2 virus levels were in Connecticut, Massachusetts, Missouri, New Hampshire, and Rhode Island, followed by Georgia, Idaho, New Mexico, and Puerto Rico.

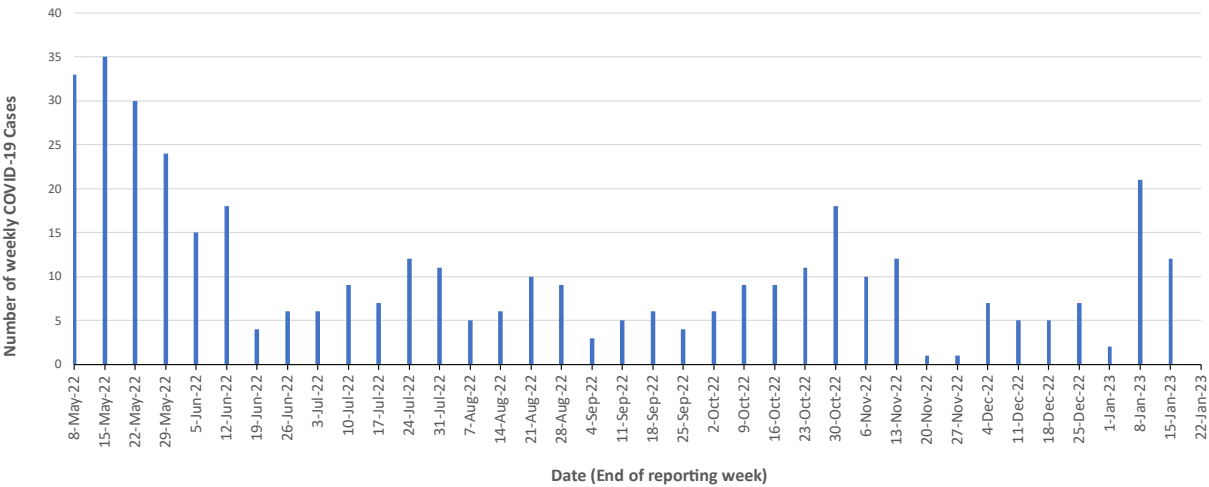
**Figure 1. Results of weekly Wastewater Testing for SARS-CoV-2 for Yarmouth, Maine, from May 3, 2022, through January 12, 2023.**



**COVID-19 Case Reports**

- Weekly cases of COVID-19 for Yarmouth—as reported by Maine CDC—ranged from 1 to 21 for September 4, 2022, through January 15, 2023, with 21 cases reported for January 2–8, and 12 cases for January 9–15 (Figure 2).
- The two most recent case reports reflect the two highest weekly numbers of reported cases since late October and early November 2022, although they were not as high as the numbers of cases reported during May 2022, when 35 cases were reported for the week of May 9–15 (Figure 2).
- Case counts are likely to be lower than the actual number of cases due to reduced testing and increased self-testing (home testing), which is not reported to Maine CDC.

**Figure 2. Weekly COVID-19 cases for Yarmouth, Maine, from May 8, 2022, through January 15, 2023, as reported by the Maine CDC.**



**We recommend that the Yarmouth Community continue to exercise caution:**

- Get vaccinated and boosted. Bivalent boosters with the original vaccine component and a new component based on the common variants currently circulating (i.e., BA.4 and BA.5) are available from Moderna and Pfizer.
- Consider wearing a mask in indoor public places particularly if you are unvaccinated, 60 years of age or older, or immune compromised.
- Avoid crowded indoor spaces.
- When indoors, good ventilation (air exchange) is important.
- Test with a rapid antigen test when gathering with friends and family who have been out and about, or if you will be spending time with people at higher risk.
- If you have COVID, leave isolation only after you have a negative rapid antigen test.
- Persons who are immune compromised due to medical conditions or medical treatments should take particular care, as should those around them.

**Table 1. Results of US CDC–Biobot wastewater testing for SARS-CoV-2 for Yarmouth, Maine, May 3, 2022–January 18, 2023**

Sample Submission date†	Effective virus concentration‡ (copies/mL)	Sample Submission date†	Effective virus concentration‡ (copies/mL)	Sample Submission date†	Effective virus concentration‡ (copies/mL)
3 May 2022	1,292	25 Aug	1,468	3 Jan 2023	1,409
5 May	1,612	30 Aug	841	5 Jan	1,237
10 May	1,903	1 Sept	1,775	10 Jan	915
12 May	1,156	6 Sept	642	12 Jan	873
17 May	2,047	8 Sept	578		
19 May	4,447	13 Sept	1,275		
24 May	692	15 Sept	2,063		
26 May	1,174	27 Sept	1,270		
31 May	1,207	29 Sept	1,078		
2 June	660	4 Oct	1,186		
7 June	499	6 Oct	1,906		
9 June	684	11 Oct	2,236		
14 June	2,619	18 Oct	1,204		
16 June	502	20 Oct	3,452		
21 June	1,022	25 Oct	1,065		
23 June	527	27 Oct	398		
28 June	1,180	1 Nov	353		
5 July	738	3 Nov	667		
7 July	1,271	8 Nov	975		
12 July	1,162	10 Nov	617		
14 July	497	15 Nov	865		
19 July	1,448	17 Nov	1,398		
21 July	864	22 Nov	477		
26 July	621	29 Nov	868		
28 July	1,616	1 Dec	976		
2 Aug	652	6 Dec	1,912		
4 Aug	863	8 Dec	851		
9 Aug	1,887	13 Dec	1,661		
11 Aug	850	15 Dec	1,000		
16 Aug	1,052	20 Dec*	556		
18 Aug	1,180	27 Dec 2022	648		

† 24-hour influent wastewater samples are collected proportional to flow from 7am on day 1 to 7am on day 2. Day 2 is the sample submission date.

‡ Effective virus concentration value is derived by adjusting the raw virus concentration to account for dilution and other factors.

\*There was no testing on November 24, December 22, and December 29, 2022 due to holidays.