

## **Board of Health Update, July 22, 2022**

Statewide, new Covid cases increased last week to 19,395 compared to 18,996 two weeks ago (+2% compared to +1% two weeks' ago) Over the past week, new cases in ages 0 to 19 increased 5%, from 2,737 two weeks' ago to 2,886 last week, with new cases in 0 to 9 year olds increasing by 8%, from 1,652 two weeks' ago to 1,782 last week.

Last week, new hospitalizations for Covid increased by 7% as compared to those hospitalized two weeks ago, with those in ICUs increasing from 46 to 52. Of the 589 hospitalized, 348 (59%) were fully vaccinated but still became infected.

Over the past week, there were new cases of Covid-19 in Boxford, as compared to 14 cases two weeks' ago (1,598 total to date).

The Omicron BA.5 variant has spread rapidly across the U.S and now accounts for over 80% of new cases. Symptoms in adults include runny nose, sore throat, headache, persistent cough and fatigue. But children tend to have more gastrointestinal symptoms compared to adults, like nausea, abdominal pain, vomiting and diarrhea.