

TEAM **M** MSE

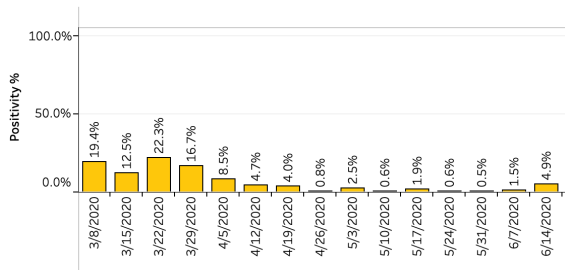
Keeping you in the know.

Staying on top of COVID-19 news -- which seemingly can change in the blink of an eye -- is not always easy...especially when you're busy trying to keep up with your studies and research. We get it. That's why we're re-launching a weekly department newsletter, to help keep us all up to date on the latest need-to-know COVID news on campus. If you have any comments or additional information you'd like to see, please email Kristen at krisfres@umich.edu. We may not be in quarantine anymore, but we're still in this together and here for you.

We also want to give a big shout-out to the tireless efforts of MSE students in raising awareness about health and safety on campus and working to build an inclusive community in the department and beyond. THANK YOU!

Campus COVID Status

Positivity by Week (Percent of tests with a positive result.)
Axis shows weekly start date



Latest Dashboard Data

The campus COVID-19 Dashboard now displays case numbers listed by residence halls and research buildings (but not department affiliation). The positivity rate on campus for the past 14 days (6,000 tests) is 1.5%. [Public Health Community notice board](#) displays the locations of positive cases.

[Click here to access U-M COVID-19 Dashboard](#)

Reported cases among researchers total nine since March

Two U-M researchers tested positive for COVID-19 last week, bringing the total cases among researchers since March to nine. No MSE researcher (to our knowledge) has been confirmed as testing positive.

South Quad outbreak update

Last week there were 19 confirmed positive cases centered on two floors in the South Quad residence hall. Further testing found no new additional cases as of yesterday.

Feeling sick?

It is very important that U-M students who feel ill or are concerned about possibly having contracted COVID-19 get their testing done [through UHS](#). It's fast and easy.

Expanded testing coming soon

Beginning in early October, U-M will be offering saliva-based COVID-19 diagnostic surveillance tests, which will increase testing capacity to 6,000 individuals per week. So far 5,700 students, faculty and staff have volunteered for the U-M COVID-19 Community Sampling and Tracking program, and more than half are students who live off campus. To learn more and/or sign up for the program, [click here](#).

Increasing all forms of safety a top priority

In addition to keeping students safe from the coronavirus, U-M is working to build an initiative on public safety and policing that identifies what is going well, what needs to be improved, and how the university can address anything that is not working. Said U-M President Mark Schlissel last week: "All people at our university deserve to be and feel safe and I appreciate the students and many community members who have spoken passionately on this important issue." Watch this space in the coming weeks for progress reports on this vital issue.

Wolverine Culture of Care changes

In response to broad feedback from student organizations and other campus groups, the [Wolverine Culture of Care](#) is refocusing its health and safety efforts, including:

- discontinuing the use of students, faculty and staff to canvas surrounding campus neighborhoods through the Michigan Ambassador program, and
- continuing to use Student Life staff and volunteers to answer non-emergency calls into the COVID Reporting Line before involving the AAPD.

Additional information on changes to the Wolverine Culture of Care is [available here](#).

GO VOTE, GO BLUE!

We need your vote!

U-M is participating in the [Big Ten Voting](#)



[Challenge](#). This is a non-partisan effort to increase student voter participation in all elections. The average student voter rate across the Big Ten Conference spiked to 43 percent for the 2018 midterm elections, surpassing the national average student voting rate of 40 percent, and more than doubling the national student voting rate of 19 percent in 2014. The goal is to increase U-M student voter turnout even more for this upcoming election.

[CLICK HERE](#) for important information about the Nov. 3 election



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Our mailing address is:

2300 Hayward St.
3062 H.H. Dow Building
Ann Arbor, MI 48109
