

According to the [Pew Research Center](#), Americans are immersed in COVID-19 news and most think the media are covering the pandemic well. Here, we take a closer look at how the media has covered New England campuses' COVID-19 outbreaks, their disciplinary action for behavior violations, and students' on- and off-campus parties.

Institution	Reason for media coverage	Campus snapshot
M A S S A C H U S E T T S		
<u>BOSTON COLLEGE</u>	Off-campus party in early September, reportedly resulting in 100 positive cases	257 total positive cases 232 recovered cases Positive test rate of .3% (cumulative)
<u>COLLEGE OF THE HOLY CROSS</u>	Off-campus party, resulting in a cluster of positive cases	21 total positive cases 21 recovered cases Positive test rate of 0% (7-day)
<u>MERRIMACK COLLEGE</u>	12 students tested positive as a result of a single cluster	146 total positive cases 5 cases reported in the week of 10/27 Positive test rate of .28% (cumulative)
<u>NORTHEASTERN UNIVERSITY</u>	11 students dismissed after hosting a party in hotel housing in early September.	149 total positive cases (students only) 125 recovered cases (students only) Positive test rate of .07% (7-day)
<u>SALEM STATE UNIVERSITY</u>	Off-campus party	6 total positive cases Positive test rate of .11% (cumulative)
<u>UMASS AMHERST</u>	Off-campus party in late September, believed to have resulted in 13 positive cases.	188 total positive cases 6 cases reported in week of 10/26 Positive test rate of .15% (cumulative)
C O N N E C T I C U T		
<u>UNIVERSITY OF CONNECTICUT, STORRS</u>	On-campus party resulting in 50 positive cases	229 total positive cases 14 active cases Positive test rate of .28% (cumulative)
<u>CENTRAL CONNECTICUT STATE UNIVERSITY</u>	Two on-campus parties, which resulted in a cluster of positive cases	99 total positive cases 3 cases reported in the week of 10/27 Positive test rate of 1.5% (cumulative)

Institution	Reason for media coverage	Campus snapshot
NEW HAMPSHIRE		
UNIVERSITY OF NEW HAMPSHIRE, DURHAM	Two on-campus parties resulting in over 30 positive cases.	331 total positive cases 46 active cases Positive test rate of .19% (7-day)
RHODE ISLAND		
PROVIDENCE COLLEGE	Spike in positive cases in mid-September caused a shift to online instruction	270 total positive cases 244 recovered cases Positive test rate of .72% (cumulative)
UNIVERSITY OF RHODE ISLAND	Cancelled spring break in order to reduce travel and contain the spread of the virus	468 total positive cases Positive test rate of 1% (cumulative)

Note: Institutions' dashboards are hyperlinked in in the table above.

Sources:

URI Cancels Spring Break over Coronavirus Concerns, *CBS 10 Boston*, September 26, 2020.

Here Are All of the Coronavirus Outbreaks at Colleges in New England, *CBS 10 Boston*, September 28, 2020.

Over 100 BC Students Have Tested Positive for COVID-19. Now the Baker Administration Is Stepping In, *CBS 10 Boston*, September 16, 2020.

Northeastern University Dismisses 11 Students for Attending Hotel Party, *CBS 10 Boston*, September 5, 2020.

Coronavirus outbreak reported among 13 UMass Amherst students, *Boston Globe*, September 27, 2020.

Go to <https://nebhe.org/coronavirus> to explore NEBHE's COVID-19 Institutional Tracker and additional resources

