

# Massachusetts Department of Public Health Arbovirus Surveillance Program Report

## Key Public Risk Communication Messages for This Week:

MDPH will conclude mosquito testing and surveillance activities on 10/8/20 due to declining evening temperatures and low vector populations. Risk of human transmission will exist until the first hard frost.

Aerial spraying to control EEE mosquitoes in Plymouth County was completed on 8/10. While routine surveillance activities will end this week MDPH will continue to review high risk EEE habitat in anticipation of 2021. 2019 was likely the first year of a two to three-year EEE outbreak cycle.

Warm daytime temperature combined with cooler evenings may increase resident’s outdoor activity. Mosquito may feed before dusk due to low evening temperatures. Recommended public health measures include raising awareness among residents and reminding them that it is important to use mosquito repellents with an EPA-registered active ingredient, use long sleeves and pants to reduce exposed skin and be aware of mosquito activity until the first hard frost.

Check your risk levels throughout the season by visiting our interactive site <https://www.mass.gov/info-details/massachusetts-arbovirus-update>

### Establish good mosquito avoidance habits now

<b>• Teach children to be aware of mosquito activity around them and avoid it</b>	
<b>• Pick a repellent with an EPA-approved active ingredient</b>	<b>• Use long sleeves to cover up when possible</b>
<b>• Remove standing water to help reduce mosquito populations</b>	<b>• Repair screens</b>

Several 30 second PSA videos are available for download and use on your website to help promote prevention activities to your residents. These can be found at [www.mass.gov/mosquitoesandticks](http://www.mass.gov/mosquitoesandticks)

**NOTE:** Zika virus continues to be spread in Africa, Asia, the Caribbean, Central and South America, India, and Mexico. The mosquitoes that spread this disease are active during the day.

Travelers who are pregnant or part of a couple planning on becoming pregnant soon are advised not to travel to areas with ongoing Zika virus transmission. The most current information about locations at risk can be found here <https://wwwnc.cdc.gov/travel/page/zika-information>. If residents choose to travel, prevent mosquito exposure by: using EPA registered mosquito repellents, cover exposed skin by wearing long-sleeved shirts and pants, stay in places with screens and air-conditioning, or sleep under mosquito netting.

In order to avoid sexual transmission of Zika virus from a partner who has recently traveled to an area where Zika transmission is occurring, abstain from sexual contact or use condoms consistently and correctly during all sexual activity. Talk to your healthcare provider for more information.

<b>WNV and EEE Virus Surveillance Summary</b> Results contained in this report reflect data inclusive of MMWR Week 40 (Sunday, 09/27/2020–Saturday, 10/03/2020)	
<b>Mosquito Surveillance</b>	
<b>Number of Mosquito Samples Tested</b>	<b>7131</b>
<b>Number of WNV Positive Samples</b>	<b>97</b>
<b>Number of EEE Positive Samples</b>	<b>66</b>
<b>Equine/Mammal Surveillance</b>	

<b>Number of Mammal Specimens Tested</b>	11
<b>Number of WNV Positive Horses</b>	0
<b>Number of EEE Positive Horses</b>	0
<b>Number of other EEE Positive Mammals</b>	0
<b>Human Surveillance</b>	
<b>Number of Human Specimens Tested</b>	219
<b>Number of Human WNV Cases</b>	8
<b>Number of Human EEE Cases</b>	5

<b>Summary of 2020 Mosquito Samples Tested Massachusetts State Public Health Laboratory</b>													
<b>M M W R Week: (Specimens Tested)</b>	<b>Berkshire County MCP</b>	<b>Bristol County MCP</b>	<b>Cape Cod MCP</b>	<b>Central MA MCP</b>	<b>Dukes County MCP</b>	<b>East Middlesex MCP</b>	<b>Norfolk County MCP</b>	<b>Northeast MA MCP</b>	<b>Pioneer Valley</b>	<b>Plymouth County MCP</b>	<b>SLI</b>	<b>Suffolk County MCP</b>	<b>Total Tested</b>
36 (8/30-9/05/2020)	5	31	52	61	3	19	25	19	0	16	35	13	279
37 (9/06-9/12/2020)	4	31	19	38	2	3	17	20	8	0	24	0	166
38 (9/13-9/19/2020)	6	23	27	31	1	18	13	8	12	38	17	8	202
39 (9/20-9/26/2020)	0	13	25	25	0	0	0	0	7	0	10	0	80
40 (9/27-10/03/2020)	0	8	22	16	0	0	0	0	1	24	11	0	82
<b>Total</b>	<b>227</b>	<b>453</b>	<b>714</b>	<b>1198</b>	<b>28</b>	<b>428</b>	<b>540</b>	<b>307</b>	<b>329</b>	<b>609</b>	<b>2100</b>	<b>198</b>	<b>7131</b>

Numbers reflect finalized results; data are subject to change as additional test results are finalized

**Cumulative Confirmed and Probable Human Chikungunya Virus Infections and Dengue Fever Cases  
Reported in Massachusetts by County of Residence, 2020**  
(These data are current as of 10/02/2020 and are subject to change)

<b>County</b>	<b>Chikungunya virus infection</b>	<b>Dengue Fever</b>
<b>Barnstable</b>	0	0
<b>Berkshire</b>	0	0
<b>Bristol</b>	0	0
<b>Dukes</b>	0	0
<b>Essex</b>	0	0
<b>Franklin</b>	0	0
<b>Hampden</b>	0	0
<b>Hampshire</b>	0	0
<b>Middlesex</b>	0	0
<b>Nantucket</b>	0	0
<b>Norfolk</b>	0	0
<b>Plymouth</b>	0	0
<b>Suffolk</b>	0	0
<b>Worcester</b>	0	0
<b>Total</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>

**Note:** Cases listed above were travel-acquired unless otherwise noted