

West Nile Virus Update:

Yesterday, the Massachusetts Department of Public Health (DPH) announced the fourth human case of West Nile virus (WNV) in a Massachusetts resident this year. The individual is a male in his 60s who was exposed in Norfolk County.

The risk of human infection with WNV is already moderate in the Greater Boston area (Middlesex, Norfolk, and Suffolk counties), and in parts of Berkshire, Bristol, Hampden, Hampshire, Plymouth, and Worcester counties. Twelve additional municipalities - Ashland, Holliston, Hopkinton and Sherborn in Middlesex County, and Dover, Medfield, Medway, Millis, Norfolk, Norwood, Walpole, and Westwood in Norfolk County - are now also considered to be at moderate risk. Residents should continue to take precautions to avoid mosquito bites.

Risk from eastern equine encephalitis (EEE) virus is moderate or high in southern parts of Hampden, Norfolk, and Worcester counties and there have been EEE infected animals identified in both Rhode Island and Connecticut. Based on recent EEE positive mosquitoes in Massachusetts, thirteen additional municipalities are now considered to be at moderate risk. These municipalities include Easton, Norton, Raynham, Rehoboth, and Taunton in Bristol County; Agawam, Chicopee, Holyoke, Longmeadow, and West Springfield in Hampden County; Bridgewater and West Bridgewater in Plymouth County; and Warren in Worcester County.

To read the complete press release, click [here](#). More information, including all WNV and EEE positive results, can be found on the Arbovirus Surveillance Information web page at [Mosquito-borne Diseases | Mass.gov](#), which is updated daily.

Viral Respiratory Illness Dashboards:

DPH also announced yesterday that they have launched several new weekly dashboards that track viral respiratory illness trends across the Commonwealth focusing on COVID-19, influenza, and respiratory syncytial virus (RSV). The new Viral Respiratory Illness Reporting homepage features a snapshot of respiratory illness in Massachusetts with opportunities to explore more in-depth data by clicking on different dashboards. Opportunities to compare current data to previous seasons appear throughout the new dashboards. Massachusetts maintains one of the most robust and comprehensive viral respiratory illness public data reports in the nation and continues to regularly review and adjust its reporting. This is in line with the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), which also has [updated](#) the way it presents data.

All dashboards will be updated weekly on Thursdays. To view the new dashboards, click [here](#). I will refer to these new dashboards throughout the Fall and Winter seasons.

Please let me know if you have any questions.

