

Massachusetts Department of Public Health Arbovirus Surveillance Program Report

Key Public Risk Communication Messages for This Week:

Over the last two weeks MDPH reported 95 West Nile virus positive mosquito samples collected in Barnstable, Berkshire, Bristol, Franklin, Hampden Middlesex, Norfolk, Plymouth, Suffolk and Worcester Counties. Due to expansion of WNV activity in mosquitoes, MDPH raised the West Nile virus risk level to Moderate for 70 communities in Franklin, Hampshire, Middlesex, Norfolk and Worcester Counties. Please visit <http://www.mosquitoresults.com/> for a complete listing of positive findings and risk level increases. Residents should be reminded that the majority of human cases occur in the months of August and September. With increasing detections of West Nile virus across the Commonwealth the likelihood of human infections increases as well. To date there have no detections of EEE in MA for 2018. MDPH will continue to conduct comprehensive surveillance activities to ensure early detections and notification. Above average precipitation events combined with above average temperatures are likely to support increased mosquito populations. Residents are urged to take appropriate personal protection activities to reduce mosquito bites. Check your risk levels throughout the season by visiting www.mass.gov/dph/mosquito

Establish good mosquito avoidance habits now

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

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

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.

WNV and EEE Virus Surveillance Summary	
Results contained in this report reflect data inclusive of MMWR Week 32 (Sunday, 08/05/2018– Saturday, 08/11/2018)	
Mosquito Surveillance	
Number of Mosquito Samples Tested	3415
Number of WNV Positive Samples	172
Number of EEE Positive Samples	0
Equine/Mammal Surveillance	
Number of Mammal Specimens Tested	2
Number of WNV Positive Horses	0
Number of EEE Positive Horses	0

Number of other EEE Positive Mammals	0
Human Surveillance	
Number of Human Specimens Tested	120
Number of Human WNV Cases	0
Number of Human EEE Cases	0

Summary of 2018 Mosquito Samples Tested Massachusetts State Public Health Laboratory												
MMWR Week: (Specimens Tested)	Berkshire County MCP	Bristol County MCP	Cape Cod MCP	Central MA MCP	Dukes County MCP	East Middlesex MCP	Norfolk County MCP	Northeast MA MCP	Plymouth County MCP	SLI	Suffolk County MCP	Total Tested
24 (6/10-6/16/2018)	8	9	11	42	0	0	7	13	8	52	0	150
25 (6/17-6/23/2018)	33	17	23	101	0	0	10	7	34	68	0	293
26 (6/24-6/30/2018)	29	34	25	136	0	0	25	12	38	93	6	398
27 (7/1-7/7/2018)	24	20	0	157	0	11	22	0	0	119	0	353
28 (7/8-7/14/2018)	44	37	48	65	1	13	17	35	75	155	10	500
29 (7/15-7/21/2018)	30	31	29	157	0	30	17	24	49	96	7	470
30 (7/22-7/30/2018)	34	39	31	156	2	22	11	26	46	106	6	479
31 (7/29-8/04/2018)	20	27	21	129	2	10	19	24	44	77	3	376
32 (8/5-8/11/2018)	35	27	30	137	2	8	23	30	41	56	7	396
Total	257	241	218	1080	7	94	151	171	335	822	39	3415

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, 2018**
(these data are current as of 08/13/2018 and are subject to change)

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

Note: Although local transmission of the mosquito-borne viruses dengue or chikungunya is extremely unlikely at this time due to limited establishment of populations of *Aedes albopictus*, surveillance for cases of human infection with these diseases is occurring. All confirmed and probable cases listed below were travel-acquired unless otherwise noted.

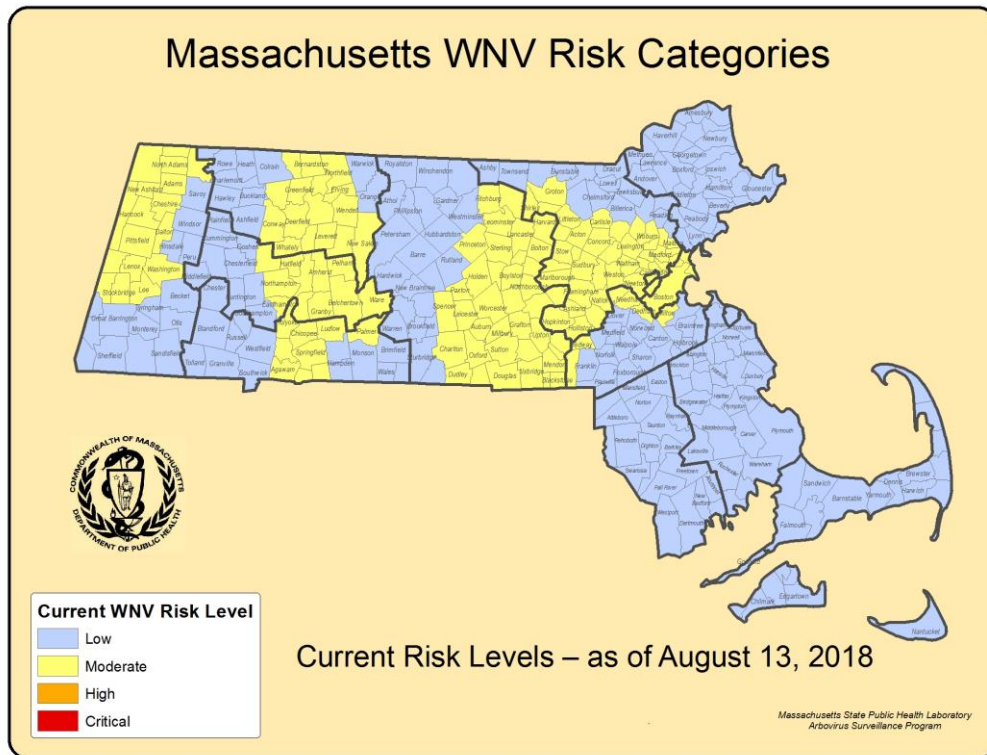


Figure 1: Current WNV Risk Categories as described in Table 1 of the 2018 MDPH Surveillance and Response Plan

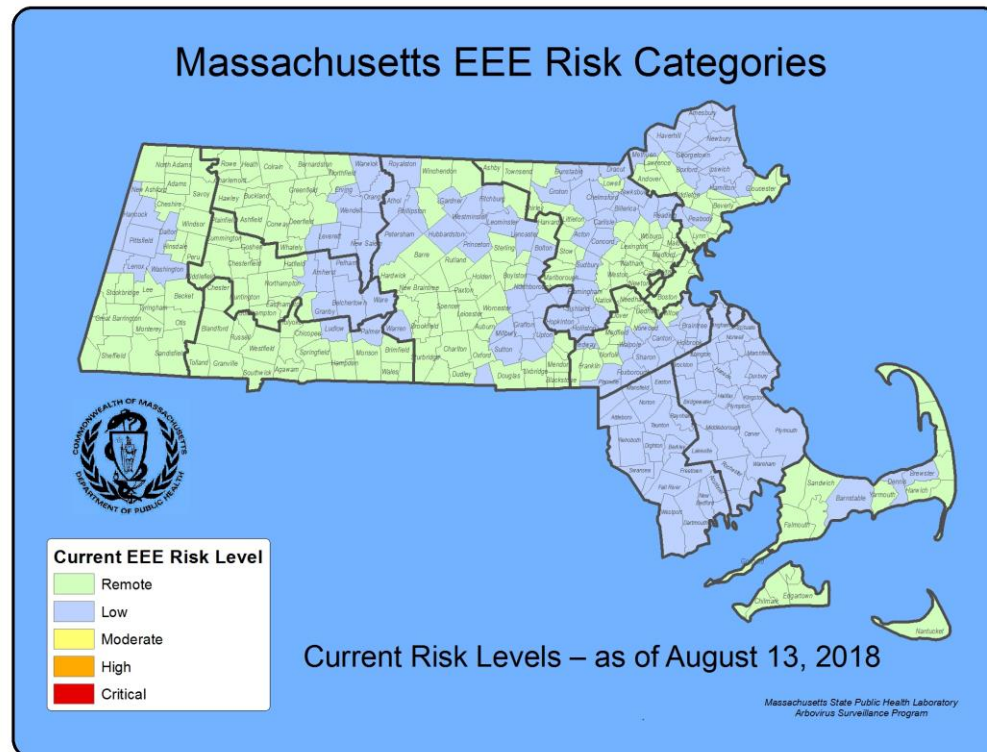


Figure 2: Current EEE Risk Categories as described in Table 2 of the 2018 MDPH Surveillance and Response Plan