

Board of Health Report – January 2021
Public Health Nursing Division, Lowell Health Department

*Submitted by Public Health Nurse Manager
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A. Communicable diseases reported

The following table is a summary of the number of cases of each communicable disease reported to the Lowell Health Department via the Massachusetts Virtual Epidemiologic Network (MAVEN).

*Note: All counts are classified as **confirmed** events unless otherwise specified. MDPH case classification manuals can be accessed [here](#).*

Disease	Oct. 2021	Nov. 2021	Dec 2021 MTD (12/14/21 @ 1200)	2021 YTD (12/14/21 @ 1200)	2020 total	2019 total
Amebiasis	0	0	0	0	0	0
Anthrax	0	0	0	0	0	0
Arbovirus (other)	0	0	0	0	0	1 revoked
Avian Influenza	0	0	0	0	0	0
Babesiosis	1 suspect	0	0	2 suspect	1 confirmed 4 revoked 1 suspect	1 probable
Borrelia miyamotoi infection	0	0	0	0	0	0
Botulism	0	0	0	0	1 revoked	0
Calci virus/Norovirus	0	1	0	4	3	3
Campylobacteriosis	1 confirmed	0	0	12 confirmed 3 probable	5 confirmed 2 probable	16 confirmed 1 probable
Clostridium perfringens	0	0	0	0	0	0
Cryptococcus neoformans	0	0	0	0	2 suspect	1 suspect
Cryptosporidiosis	0	1	0	10	7	10
Cyclosporiasis	0	0	0	0	1	1
Dengue Fever	0	0	0	0	0	1
Diphtheria	0	0	0	0	0	0
Eastern equine infection	0	0	0	0	0	0
Ehrlichiosis	0	0	0	0	4 revoked	3 revoked
Encephalitis	0	0	0	1 suspect	1 suspect	0
Enterovirus	0	0	0	0	0	0
Giardiasis	1 probable 1 confirmed	2 probable	0	4 confirmed 4 probable	4 confirmed 3 probable	7 confirmed 20 probable
Glanders	0	0	0	0	0	0
Group A Streptococcus	1 confirmed 7 revoked	4 revoked	1 confirmed 4 revoked	7 confirmed 26 revoked	4 confirmed 27 revoked 1 suspect	8 confirmed 48 revoked 1 suspect
Group B Streptococcus	0	1 revoked	0	6 confirmed 4 revoked	13 confirmed 7 revoked 1 suspect	1 confirmed 2 revoked
Haemophilus Influenzae	0	0	0	1	2 confirmed 2 revoked	2 confirmed
Hansen's Disease (Leprosy)	0	0	0	0	0	0
Hantavirus infection	0	0	0	0	0	0
Hemolytic Uremic Syndrome	0	0	0	0	0	0

Hepatitis A	0	0	0	1 suspect	1 confirmed 7 suspect	11 confirmed 1 suspect
Hepatitis B	1 contact 10 probable	1 confirmed 2 contact 13 probable	8 probable	11 confirmed 10 contact 101 probable 6 revoked 2 suspect	25 confirmed 25 contact 41 probable 14 revoked 3 suspect	31 confirmed 24 contact 3 probable 8 revoked 4 suspect
Hepatitis C	3 confirmed 11 probable 3 revoked	1 confirmed 5 probable 5 revoked	1 confirmed 7 probable 1 revoked	32 confirmed 61 probable 107 revoked	55 confirmed 43 probable 44 revoked	79 confirmed 45 probable 72 revoked
Hepatitis D	0	0	0	1 suspect	1 suspect	1 suspect
Hepatitis E	0	0	0	1 suspect	0	0
Human Granulocytic Anaplasmosis	0	0	0	2 confirmed 3 revoked 5 suspect	1 confirmed 1 probable 1 revoked	1 confirmed 1 probable 1 suspect
Influenza	0	10	74	91 confirmed 1 contact	1335 confirmed 26 suspect	1207 confirmed 32 suspect
Invasive bacterial infection (other)	0	0	0	0	1 suspect	1 revoked 1 susptect
Legionellosis	0	0	0	4	2	9
Leptospirosis	0	0	0	0	0	0
Listeriosis	0	0	0	0	1	0
Lyme Disease	2 suspect	4 suspect	0	34 suspect	1 confirmed 53 suspect	67 suspect
Lymphocytis choriomningitis	0	0	0	0	0	0
Malaria	1	1	0	6	2 confirmed 1 revoked	4
Measles	0	1 revoked	0	1 revoked	0	7 revoked
Melioidosis	0	0	0	0	0	0
Meningitis – Unknown Type	0	0	0	2 suspect	2 confirmed 2 revoked 1 suspect	1 confirmed 1 revoked 2 suspect
Meningococcal Disease	0	0	0	0	0	1 revoked
Monkeypox	0	0	0	0	0	0
Mumps	0	0	0	1 revoked	2 revoked	1 probab;e 1 revoked
Novel coronavirus (SARS, MERS, etc.)	767 confirmed 281 contact 77 probable 18 suspect	1777 confirmed 301 contact 211 probable 22 suspect	1281 confirmed 65 contact 163 probable 16 suspect	12193 confirmed 4032 contact 1106 probable 5 revoked 174 suspect	10951 confirmed 4935 contact 383 probable 18 revoked 135 suspect	0
Pertussis (and other Bordatella species)	0	0	0	1	2	1
Plague	0	0	0	0	0	0
Polio	0	0	0	0	0	0
Powassan virus infection	0	0	0	0	0	0
Psittacosis	0	0	0	0	0	0
Rocky Mountain Spotted Fever	0	0	0	0	1 revoked	0
Rubella	0	0	0	0	0	0
Salmonellosis	0	1	0	11	16	21
Shiga toxin producing organism	0	1 suspect	0	1 suspect	1 probable 1 suspect	0
Shigellosis	0	0	0	1	0	1
Staphylococcal Enterotoxin	0	0	0	0	0	0

Streptococcus pneumoniae	0	1	0	1	1 revoked 1 confirmed	0
Tetanus	0	0	0	0	0	0
Toxic shock syndrome	0	0	0	0	0	0
Toxoplasmosis	0	0	0	0	0	0
Varicella	0	0	1 suspect	3 probable 2 revoked 5 suspect	1 confirmed 1 revoked	2 confirmed 5 probable 3 revoked 5 suspect
Vibrio sp.	1	0	0	2 confirmed	1 confirmed	0
Viral Hemorrhagic Fevers	0	0	0	5 contact 2 revoked	0	
Viral Meningitis (aseptic)	0	0	0	7 suspect	1 confirmed 1 suspect	2 suspect
West Nile Virus Infection	1 revoked	0	0	1 revoked	0	1 revoked
Yellow fever	0	0	0	0	0	1 revoked
Yersiniosis	0	0	0	1	1 probable	0
Zika Virus Infection	0	0	0	0	0	0

**denotes case is connected to a foodborne illness investigation*

B. Tuberculosis (TB) cases reported

The following table is a summary of the number of cases of active and latent TB disease reported to the Lowell Health Department via the Massachusetts Virtual Epidemiologic Network (MAVEN).

Disease	Oct. 2021	Nov. 2021	Dec 2021 MTD (12/14/21 @ 1200)	2021 YTD (12/14/21 @ 1200)	2020 total
TB Active	1 confirmed 2 suspect	2 suspect 1 confirmed	0	9 confirmed 6 revoked 5 suspect	2 confirmed 9 revoked
TB LTBI	29 confirmed 18 suspect 1 contact	30 confirmed 1 contact 15 suspect	11 confirmed 3 suspect	368 confirmed 30 contact 1 revoked 65 suspect	183 confirmed 3 contact 2 revoked 23 suspect

C. Current TB caseload

As of 12/14/21 at 1300, the Public Health Nursing Division is following a total of 13 suspect/confirmed cases of active TB.

- Of the 14, 9 cases are currently on antibiotic therapy and receiving DOT or check-ins at least once per week virtually via WebEx and/or in person.
- Of the 14, 4 are suspect cases that will be revoked if their cultures remain negative for TB after 60 days.

D. Refugee arrivals reported

The following table is a summary of the number of refugees and refugee families reported to the Lowell Health Department via the Massachusetts Virtual Epidemiologic Network (MAVEN).

	Oct. 2021	Nov. 2021	Dec 2021 MTD (12/14/21 @ 1200)	2021 YTD (12/14/21 @ 1200)	2020 total	2019 total
Total families	6	18	1	47	16	28
Total persons	10	38	1	97	28	81

E. Immunizations

The following table is a summary of the number of patients vaccinated by the Lowell Health Department as reported to the Massachusetts Immunization Information System (MIIS).

*Note: Immunizations are counted by the number of patients who received 1 or more doses of the vaccine type indicated during the given time frame. For multi-dose vaccines (such as the Moderna and Pfizer COVID-19 vaccines), each patient is counted only once for the 2-dose series; thus, the total of **doses** administered may be greater than what is reported below.*

Vaccine type	Oct. 2021	Nov. 2021	Dec 2021 MTD (12/14/21 @ 1200)	2021 YTD (12/14/21 @ 1200)	2020 total
COVID-19	36	97	50	5909	n/a
Influenza	164	8	0	175	88

F. Public Health Nurse/Manager activities

- a. Recruiting, interviewing, and preparing to onboard
 - i. 2 full-time contact tracers into the new, grant-funded position
 - ii. 3 full-time Public Health Nurses
- b. COVID-19 vaccination
 - i. The COVID-19 vaccine clinic located at the Health Department is still open every Tuesday, now by appointment only due to increased demand.
 - ii. The clinic is currently now offering all vaccine types. All MA residents over the age of 16 are now eligible to receive a COVID-19 booster during the recommended time range, which is dependent on the vaccine they received.
- c. COVID-19 contact tracing
 - i. The CTC is closed to new cases as of November 30. The City's tracing will be supported by 2 contact tracers who will be supervised by the Public Health Nurse Manager and funded through the local health support for COVID-19 case investigation and contact tracing grant.
 - ii. 1 contact tracer has been hired and has a scheduled start date of 12/20/21. We are in process of offering the position to a 2nd contact tracer.

d. Flu vaccination

- i. The Public Health Nursing Division is now offering flu vaccines by appointment only during Tuesday clinic hours.