

Public Health Nursing Division

Board of Health Report for February 1, 2023 Meeting

Report submitted on January 23, 2023 by Public Health Nurse Manager, Nicole Chauncey, BSN, RN

**A. Communicable diseases reported**

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

Note: All counts in this table are classified as **confirmed** events unless otherwise specified. MDPH Case Classification Manual can be accessed [here](#).

Disease	Dec. 2022 totals†	Jan. 2023 MTD†	2023 YTD†	2022 totals	2021 totals	2020 totals	2019 totals
Amebiasis	0	0	0	1	0	0	0
Anthrax	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Arbovirus (other)	0	0	0	0	0	0	1 revoked
Avian Influenza	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Babesiosis	0	0	0	1 revoked	1 revoked	1 confirmed 4 revoked 1 suspect	1 probable
Borrelia miyamotoi infection	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Botulism	0	0	0	0	0	1 revoked	0
Calicivirus/Noroviruses	0	0	0	3	3	3	3
Campylobacteriosis	1	0	0	11	11	5 confirmed 2 probable	16 confirmed 1 probable
Clostridium perfringens	0	0	0	1 revoked	1 revoked	0	0
Cryptococcus neoformans	0	0	0	0	0	2 suspect	1 suspect
Cryptosporidiosis	1 probable	0	0	3 confirmed 3 probable	2 confirmed 5 probable	7	10
Cyclosporiasis	0	0	0	0	0	1	1
Dengue Fever	0	0	0	1 revoked	1 revoked	0	1
Diphtheria	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Eastern equine infection	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Ehrlichiosis	0	0	0	0	0	4 revoked	3 revoked
Encephalitis	0	0	0	1 suspect	1 suspect	1 suspect	0
Enterovirus	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Giardiasis	0	0	0	6 confirmed 13 probable	3 confirmed 16 probable	4 confirmed 3 probable	7 confirmed 20 probable
Glanders	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Group A Streptococcus	1 confirmed 8 revoked	0	0	2 confirmed 36 revoked 1 suspect	3 confirmed 44 revoked 1 suspect	4 confirmed 27 revoked 1 suspect	8 confirmed 48 revoked 1 suspect
Group B Streptococcus	28 revoked	3 confirmed 23 revoked	3 confirmed 23 revoked	9 confirmed	13 confirmed	13 confirmed 7 revoked	1 confirmed 2 revoked

				206 revoked	198 revoked	1 suspect	
<b>Haemophilus Influenzae</b>	1 revoked	1 revoked	1 revoked	4 confirmed 1 revoked	4 confirmed 1 revoked	2 confirmed 2 revoked	2 confirmed
<b>Hansen's Disease (Leprosy)</b>	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
<b>Hantavirus infection</b>	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
<b>Hemolytic Uremic Syndrome</b>	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
<b>Hepatitis A</b>	0	0	0	1	1 confirmed	1 confirmed 7 suspect	11 confirmed 1 suspect
<b>Hepatitis B</b>	1 confirmed 1 contact 3 probable 1 suspect	1 contact 1 probable 1 suspect	1 contact 1 probable 1 suspect	7 confirmed 9 contact 43 probable 1 revoked 1 suspect	4 confirmed 12 contact 45 probable 1 revoked	25 confirmed 25 contact 41 probable 14 revoked 3 suspect	31 confirmed 24 contact 3 probable 8 revoked 4 suspect
<b>Hepatitis C</b>	3 confirmed 4 probable 1 revoked	2 confirmed 5 probable	2 confirmed 5 probable	41 confirmed 37 probable 51 revoked	42 confirmed 81 probable 45 revoked	55 confirmed 43 probable 44 revoked	79 confirmed 45 probable 72 revoked
<b>Hepatitis D</b>	0	0	0	0	0	1 suspect	1 suspect
<b>Hepatitis E</b>	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
<b>Human Granulocytic Anaplasmosis</b>	0	0	0	1 confirmed 1 revoked	1 confirmed 1 revoked	1 confirmed 1 probable 1 revoked	1 confirmed 1 probable 1 suspect
<b>Influenza</b>	666 confirmed 4 suspect	100 confirmed 1 suspect	100 confirmed 1 suspect	1462 confirmed 10 suspect	1427 confirmed 14 suspect	1335 confirmed 26 suspect	1207 confirmed 32 suspect
<b>Invasive bacterial infection (other)</b>	0	0	0	1 suspect	1 suspect	1 suspect	1 revoked 1 suspect
<b>Legionellosis</b>	0	0	0	0	0	2	9
<b>Leptospirosis</b>	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
<b>Listeriosis</b>	0	0	0	0	0	1	0
<b>Lyme Disease</b>	2 suspect	0	0	3 probable 37 suspect	3 probable 36 suspect	1 confirmed 53 suspect	67 suspect
<b>Lymphocytic choriomeningitis</b>	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
<b>Malaria</b>	0	0	0	2	2 confirmed	2 confirmed 1 revoked	4
<b>Measles</b>	0	0	0	0	0	0	7 revoked
<b>Melioidosis</b>	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
<b>Meningitis – Unknown Type</b>	1 revoked	0	0	1 confirmed 1 revoked 1 suspect	1 confirmed 2 suspect	2 confirmed 2 revoked 1 suspect	1 confirmed 1 revoked 2 suspect
<b>Meningococcal Disease</b>	0	0	0		0	0	1 revoked
<b>Monkeypox</b>	0	0	0	5 confirmed 9 contact 5 probable 6 revoked	6 confirmed 9 contact 5 probable 6 revoked	0	0

<b>Mumps</b>	0	0	0	2 revoked	2 confirmed	2 revoked	1 probable 1 revoked
<b>Novel coronavirus (SARS, MERS, etc.)</b>	823 confirmed 106 probable 2 suspect	533 confirmed 72 probable	533 confirmed 72 probable	15444 confirmed 15 contact 2072 probable 21 revoked 106 suspect	15360 confirmed 15 contact 2054 probable 21 revoked 106 suspect	10951 confirmed 4935 contact 383 probable 18 revoked 135 suspect	0
<b>Pertussis (and other Bordatella species)</b>	1 revoked	0	0	1 confirmed 1 revoked	1 confirmed	2	1
<b>Plague</b>	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
<b>Polio</b>	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
<b>Powassan virus infection</b>	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
<b>Psittacosis</b>	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
<b>Rocky Mountain Spotted Fever</b>	0	0	0	0	0	1 revoked	0
<b>Rubella</b>	0	0	0	1 revoked	1 revoked	0	0
<b>Salmonellosis</b>	0	0	0	9 confirmed	9 confirmed	16	21
<b>Shiga toxin producing organism</b>	0	0	0	1 confirmed 1 probable	2 probable	1 probable 1 suspect	0
<b>Shigellosis</b>	0	0	0	6	5 confirmed	0	1
<b>Staphylococcal Enterotoxin</b>	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
<b>Streptococcus pneumoniae</b>	1 confirmed 1 revoked	0	0	2	1 confirmed	1 revoked 1 confirmed	0
<b>Tetanus</b>	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
<b>Toxic shock syndrome</b>	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
<b>Toxoplasmosis</b>	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
<b>Varicella</b>	0	1 suspect	1 suspect	6 probable 4 suspect	6 probable 4 suspect	1 confirmed 1 revoked	2 confirmed 5 probable 3 revoked 5 suspect
<b>Vibrio sp.</b>	0	0	0	1	1 confirmed	1 confirmed	0
<b>Viral Hemorrhagic Fevers</b>	21 contact	3 contact	3 contact	36 contact	34 contact	0	
<b>Viral Meningitis (aseptic)</b>	0	0	0	2 suspect	2 suspect	1 confirmed 1 suspect	2 suspect
<b>West Nile Virus Infection</b>	0	0	0	1 revoked	1 revoked	0	1 revoked
<b>Yellow fever</b>	0	0	0	0	0	0	1 revoked
<b>Yersiniosis</b>	0	0	0	1	0	1 probable	0
<b>Zika Virus Infection</b>	0	0	0	0	0	0	0

† up to date as of 1/23/23

\*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 TB and TB infection reported to the Lowell Health Department via the Massachusetts Virtual Epidemiologic Network (MAVEN).

Disease	Dec. 2022 totals	Jan. 2023 MTD†	2023 YTD†	2022 totals	2021 totals	2020 totals	2019 totals
TB disease	0	3	3	13	18	11	23
TB infection	42	19	19	591	523	211	397

† up to date as of 1/23/23

As of 1/23/23 the PHNs are case managing two suspect/confirmed cases of active TB. One case continues on antibiotic therapy and is receiving DOT. The other case is a suspect case awaiting further test results for diagnosis and treatment.

Additionally, the PHNs completed home visit and referral process to 1 B-waiver in December and 1 to date in January.

## C. 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).

	Dec. 2022 totals	Jan. 2023 MTD†	2023 YTD†	2022 totals	2021 totals	2020 totals	2019 totals
Total families	3	2	2	52	79	16	28
Total persons	8	4	4	131	191	28	81

† up to date as of 1/23/23

## D. Immunizations given

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

Vaccine type	Dec. 2022 totals	Jan. 2023 MTD†	2023 YTD†	2022 totals	2021 totals	2020 totals	2019 totals
COVID-19	22	4	4	383	10117	N/A	N/A
Influenza	30	1	1	262	190	88	330

† up to date as of 1/23/23

#### **E. Public Health Nurse Activities December - January**

Nicole Chauncey has returned as the Public Health Nurse Manager. Nicole updated the Vaccine Standard Operating Procedures as required when staff in charge of vaccine management changes. Nicole submitted the annual State Vaccine Program Enrollment, required annually to receive state-supplied vaccine, and the enrollment was approved.

The PHN team continues to offer flu shots and COVID boosters at the weekly Health Department clinic on Tuesdays, and in-home upon request, although interest has decreased since the holidays. Two in-home vaccinations were given in January. The PHNs, along with other health department staff, attended 2 of Greater Lowell Health Alliance's task force meetings on housing and the built environment and on maternal and child health, where we were able to participate in the Community Health Improvement Planning (CHIP) planning process. The PHNs and Community Health Coordinator are scheduled to offer flu vaccines at a community event at the PCEA Neema Church on Sunday, January 29. The PHN team continues to attend bi-weekly meetings for local health held by MAVEN and MDPH, as well as several meetings on vaccine equity.