

Public Health Nursing Division  
Board of Health Report for August 2, 2023 Meeting

*Report submitted on June 30, 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).

Cases are broken down by their Case Classification: Confirmed, contact, probable, revoked, or suspect. The MDPH Case Classification Manual, which defines each of these categories by disease, can be accessed [here](#).

Case numbers may fluctuate as data cleaning and case investigation occurs. Case numbers in this report reflect the point in time at which the report was run.

Disease	June 2023 MTD**	May 2023 totals	April 2023 totals	2023 YTD**	2022 totals
Amebiasis				1 confirmed	1 confirmed
Anthrax					
Arbovirus (other)					
Avian Influenza					
Babesiosis					1 revoked
Borrelia miyamotoi infection					
Botulism					
Brucellosis			1 confirmed	1 confirmed	
Calciavirus/Norovirus		1 confirmed	1 confirmed	3 confirmed	3 confirmed
Campylobacteriosis		1 confirmed	1 confirmed 1 probable	2 confirmed 1 probable	11 confirmed
Clostridium perfringens					1 revoked
Cryptococcus neoformans					
Cryptosporidiosis			1 probable	2 probable	3 confirmed 3 probable
Cyclosporiasis					
Dengue Fever	1 suspect			1 suspect	1 revoked
Diphtheria					
Eastern equine infection					
Ehrlichiosis					
Encephalitis					1 suspect
Enterovirus					
Giardiasis	2 probable			2 confirmed 2 probable	6 confirmed 13 probable
Glanders					
Group A Streptococcus	5 confirmed 2 suspect	5 confirmed	3 confirmed	20 confirmed 1 revoked 2 suspect	2 confirmed 36 revoked 1 suspect
Group B Streptococcus	3 confirmed 32 revoked	41 revoked	2 confirmed 37 revoked	6 confirmed 216 revoked	8 confirmed 208 revoked
Haemophilus Influenzae		1 confirmed 1 revoked		1 confirmed 1 revoked	4 confirmed 1 revoked

<b>Hansen's Disease (Leprosy)</b>					
<b>Hantavirus infection</b>					
<b>Hemolytic Uremic Syndrome</b>					
<b>Hepatitis A</b>	1 confirmed 1 revoked	1 confirmed		2 confirmed 1 revoked	1 confirmed
<b>Hepatitis B</b>	2 contact 8 probable 1 suspect	1 contact 7 probable	1 confirmed 2 contact 8 probable 1 suspect	2 confirmed 6 contact 34 probable 5 suspect	9 confirmed 9 contact 40 probable 1 revoked 1 suspect
<b>Hepatitis C</b>	6 confirmed 2 probable 4 revoked 1 suspect	6 confirmed 3 probable 4 revoked	5 confirmed 1 probable 6 revoked	27 confirmed 13 probable 32 revoked 1 suspect	44 confirmed 37 probable 51 revoked
<b>Hepatitis D</b>					
<b>Hepatitis E</b>					
<b>Human Granulocytic Anaplasmosis</b>			1 suspect 1 revoked	1 revoked 1 suspect	1 confirmed 1 revoked
<b>Influenza</b>	4 confirmed	16 confirmed	6 confirmed 1 suspect	175 confirmed 2 suspect	1465 confirmed 10 suspect
<b>Invasive bacterial infection (other)</b>					1 suspect
<b>Legionellosis</b>		1 confirmed		1 confirmed	
<b>Leptospirosis</b>					
<b>Listeriosis</b>					
<b>Lyme Disease</b>	7 suspect	2 probable 2 suspect	2 probable 3 suspect	7 probable 20 suspect	8 probable 32 suspect
<b>Lymphocytic choriomeningitis</b>					
<b>Malaria</b>		1 malaria		2 confirmed	2 confirmed
<b>Measles</b>					
<b>Melioidosis</b>					
<b>Meningitis – Unknown Type</b>		1 suspect	1 suspect	1 suspect	1 confirmed 1 revoked 1 suspect
<b>Meningococcal Disease</b>	1 suspect				
<b>Monkeypox</b>					8 confirmed 9 contact 2 probable 6 revoked
<b>Mumps</b>					2 revoked
<b>Novel coronavirus (SARS, MERS, etc.)</b>	38 confirmed 4 probable 3 suspect	68 confirmed 4 probable 1 suspect	87 confirmed 7 probable 1 suspect	1319 confirmed 265 probable 8 revoked 7 suspect	15477 confirmed 15 contact 2079 probable 23 revoked 106 suspect
<b>Pertussis (and other Bordatella species)</b>					1 confirmed 1 revoked
<b>Plague</b>					
<b>Polio</b>					
<b>Powassan virus infection</b>					
<b>Psittacosis</b>					
<b>Rocky Mountain Spotted Fever</b>					

Rubella					1 revoked
Salmonellosis	1 confirmed		2 confirmed	5 confirmed 1 suspect	9 confirmed
Shiga toxin producing organism				1 suspect	1 confirmed 1 probable
Shigellosis	1 confirmed			1 confirmed	6 confirmed
Staphylococcal Enterotoxin					
Streptococcus pneumoniae					2 confirmed 1 revoked
Tetanus					
Toxic shock syndrome					
Toxoplasmosis					
Varicella	1 suspect	1 suspect		1 probable 5 suspect	6 probable 1 revoked 3 suspect
Vibrio sp.					1 confirmed
Viral Hemorrhagic Fevers				3 contact	36 contact
Viral Meningitis (aseptic)			1 suspect	2 suspect	2 suspect
West Nile Virus Infection					1 revoked
Yellow fever					
Yersiniosis			1 confirmed	1 confirmed	1 confirmed
Zika Virus Infection					

\*\*up to date as of 6/29/23

\*will denote if a 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 (LTBI) reported to the Lowell Health Department via the Massachusetts Virtual Epidemiologic Network (MAVEN).

Cases are broken down by their Case Classification: Confirmed, contact, probable, revoked, or suspect. The MDPH Case Classification Manual, which defines each of these categories by disease, can be accessed [here](#).

Case numbers may fluctuate as data cleaning and case investigation occurs. Case numbers in this report reflect the point in time at which the report was run.

Disease	June 2023 MTD**	May 2023 totals	April 2023 totals	2023 YTD**	2022 totals
TB disease	1 suspect	1 suspect	1 confirmed 2 suspect	4 confirmed 6 suspect 1 revoked	9 confirmed 4 revoked
TB infection (LTBI)	45 confirmed 7 suspect	52 confirmed 7 suspect	40 confirmed 1 contact 1 revoked 13 suspect	255 confirmed 6 contact 4 revoked 38 suspect	507 confirmed 25 contact 15 revoked 36 suspect

\*\*up to date as of 6/30/23

Only events classified as confirmed are guaranteed to have a positive test result (Tuberculin Skin Test or IGRA) indicating TB infection. Events classified as contact or suspect may **or may not** have a positive test result. A way of more clearly reporting this data is being explored.

As of 6/30/23, the PHN team is providing case management to 9 suspect/confirmed cases of TB disease. 7 of the current cases are currently on treatment for TB disease and 2 cases are awaiting final rule-out.

### 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).

\*\*up  
as of

	June 2023 MTD**	May 2023 totals	April 2023 totals	2023 YTD**	2022 totals
<b>Total families</b>	1	3	3	27	53
<b>Total persons</b>	2	9	4	46	132

to date

6/30/23

### 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	June 2023 totals	May 2023 totals	April 2023 totals	2023 YTD †	2022 totals
COVID-19	1	3	2	12	383
Influenza	1	0	0	15	262

†up to date as of 6/29/23

- 1 in-home vaccination given since last report.

### E. Public Health Nursing Division highlights and updates: May and June 2023

- The PHN team continues to offer flu shots and COVID boosters at the weekly Health Department clinic on Tuesdays, and in-home upon request. Interest remains low. (Clinic closed 6/13/23 - 8/1/23)
- Attended regular meetings with community partners
- Attended annual MAPHN conference in May and monthly chapter meeting in June
- Simmons University nursing student started her preceptorship
- Tabled at Crash Course event with community health coordinator
- Planned and held a blood pressure screening event at the library
- Attended Greater Lowell Regional Emergency Preparedness Coalition (GLREPC) meeting
- Attended annual vaccine storage and handling training
- Gave presentation to senior nursing students at UMass Lowell with epidemiologist
- Renewed standing orders for 2023-2024
- We now have 2 open Public Health Nurse positions