

**Public Health Nursing, Contact Tracing, and Epidemiology Report
February 4, 2026, Board of Health Meeting**

Report submitted by Gisela Yeboah January 27, 2025.

A. Seasonal respiratory viruses

Seasonal Respiratory Virus Cases Reported				
	Dec. 2025	Jan. 2026*	2026*	2025
Influenza	688	379	379	2102
Novel coronavirus (SARS, MERS, etc.)	163	174	174	1323

**Up to date as of January 27, 2026*

Data obtained from the Massachusetts Virtual Epidemiological Network (MAVEN). Includes confirmed, probable, and suspected disease cases.

Highlights

- Approximately 30.1% of Lowell residents have been vaccinated against Influenza, while 6.5% have been vaccinated against COVID-19.
- For the week of January 11–17, 2025, Massachusetts statewide influenza-like illness activity is classified as High, while overall influenza severity statewide remains moderate for the same period.
- Statewide laboratory surveillance indicates that the predominant circulating influenza strain is Influenza A (unsubtyped).

Access MDPH'S full respiratory illness reporting dashboard here

<https://www.mass.gov/info-details/respiratory-illness-reporting>

B. Arboviral diseases

Arboviral Disease Cases Reported				
	Dec. 2025	Jan. 2026*	2026	2025
Arbovirus (other)	0	0	0	1
Babesiosis	0	0	0	4
Borrelia miyamotoi infection	0	0	0	1
Dengue fever	0	0	0	1
Eastern Equine Encephalitis (EEE)	0	0	0	0
Encephalitis	0	0	0	1
Human granulocytic anaplasmosis (HGA)	0	0	0	9
Lyme Disease	1	2	2	45
Malaria	0	1	1	1
Powassan Virus	0	0	0	0
West Nile Virus	0	0	0	0

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C. Foodborne / gastrointestinal (GI) illnesses

Foodborne / Gastrointestinal (GI) Illness Cases Reported				
	Dec. 2025	Jan. 2026*	2026*	2025
Amebiasis	0	0	0	1

Calicivirus/Norovirus	3	3	3	49
Campylobacteriosis	1	0	0	27
Cryptosporidiosis	0	0	0	4
Cyclosporiasis	0	0	0	1
Enterovirus	1	0	0	3
Giardiasis	0	2	2	17
Salmonellosis	1	0	0	20
Shiga toxin-producing E. coli (STEC)	0	0	0	5
Shigellosis	1	1	1	6
Vibrio	0	0	0	3
Yersiniosis	0	0	0	3

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D. Other diseases

Other Disease Cases Reported				
	Dec. 2025	Jan. 2026*	2026*	2025
Brucellosis	0	0	0	0
Group A streptococcus	4	1	1	32
Group B streptococcus	1	1	1	7
Haemophilus influenzae	0	1	1	2
Hepatitis A	0	0	0	3
Hepatitis B	46	31	31	530
Hepatitis C	1	6	6	39
Hepatitis D	0	1	1	0
Legionellosis	0	0	0	1
Measles (suspect)	0	0	0	0
Melioidosis	0	0	0	0
Meningococcal disease	0	0	0	0
Mpox	0	0	0	3
Mumps	0	0	0	1
Pertussis/other Bordetella species	1	0	0	4
Streptococcus pneumoniae	1	5	5	6
Varicella	0	0	0	13
Viral Meningitis (aseptic)	0	0	0	2

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E. Tuberculosis (TB)

TB Point-in-time snapshot (January 27, 2026)

- 9 cases on treatment for TB disease

- o 1 initiated treatment since last report
- o 0 transferred to Lowell since last report
- o 1 completed treatment since last report
- 5 cases to be revoked pending final culture results

	Jan. 2026	2026*	2025
TB disease cases reported (suspected and confirmed)	2	2	23
TB disease cases reported (revoked)	0	0	13
Contacts reported	3	3	29
TB infection (LTBI) cases reported	53	53	893

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F. Immunizations

	Jan. 2026	Current flu season
COVID-19	2	42
Flu	11	329
Hep A	0	n/a
Hep B	2	n/a
MMR	5	n/a
Polio	4	n/a
Tdap	1	n/a
Varicella	1	n/a
<i>Given in-home</i>	<i>1</i>	<i>8</i>

**Up to date as of January 27, 2026*

Data obtained from the Massachusetts Immunization Information System

G. Additional activities and accomplishments

Immunization	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 1/27 PHN'S held a Flu Clinic at the Health Department.
Community education and outreach	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 1/07 Martha conducted BP screenings at Dragonfly Cafe (3 individuals screened.) • 1/20 Martha conducted BP screenings at Senior Center (10 individuals screened.) • 1/23 Theresa conducted BP screenings at Roger Hall (15 Individuals screened.)
Miscellaneous	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 1/16 Martha attended MAPHN monthly.

	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• 1/7-26 Theresa attended a weekly TB nurse case management course.
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