

**Massachusetts Department of Public Health Arbovirus
Surveillance Program Report
Pioneer Valley**

Key Public Risk Communication Messages for This Week:

Eastern Equine Encephalitis positive mosquitoes have been identified in Barnstable, Bristol, Essex, Middlesex, Norfolk, Plymouth, and Worcester counties. These samples include mosquitoes known to bite humans. MDPH has identified and reported four human cases and four animal cases of EEE. Adaptive mosquito surveillance indicates EEE activity in mammal biting species in Central MA and Essex County. Due to human, animal, and mosquito detections risk levels have been elevated in the Central MA and Essex regions.

The second round of aerial spraying in Bristol and Plymouth Counties was completed on 8/25. Aerial spraying in Middlesex and Worcester counties began on Monday 8/26/19 and will continue over several nights. Aerial spraying is weather dependent and the schedule may change. For updates on spraying activities please visit <https://www.mass.gov/guides/aerial-mosquito-control-summer-2019>

While ground and aerial spraying will reduce populations of mosquito species that spread EEE, risk will continue to exist until the first hard frost. Communities designated by MDPH as Critical and High for EEE risk are urged to cancel evening and early morning outdoor events and increase outreach to residents. Peak human EEE transmission occurs in August and September, residents should be cautioned to take personal preventative actions like using repellents and avoiding peak mosquito activity. Check your risk levels and positive findings 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

WNV and EEE Virus Surveillance Summary Franklin, Hampden and Hampshire County Results contained in this report reflect data inclusive of MMWR Week 34 (Sunday, 8/18/2019– Saturday, 8/24/2019)	
Mosquito Surveillance	
Number of Mosquito Samples Collected	914
Number of Mosquito Samples Tested	344
Number of WNV Positive Samples	3
Number of EEE Positive Samples	0

**Summary of 2019 Mosquito Samples Tested
Massachusetts State Public Health Laboratory**

MMWR Week: (Specimens Tested)	Franklin County	Hampden County	Hampshire County	Total Tested
31 (7/28-8/3/2019)	24	18	6	48
32 (8/4-8/10/2019)	16	0	9	25
33 (8/11-8/17/2019)	7	7	10	24
34 (8/18-8/24/2019)	5	5	1	11
Total	102	148	94	344

Numbers reflect finalized results; data are subject to change as additional test results are finalized

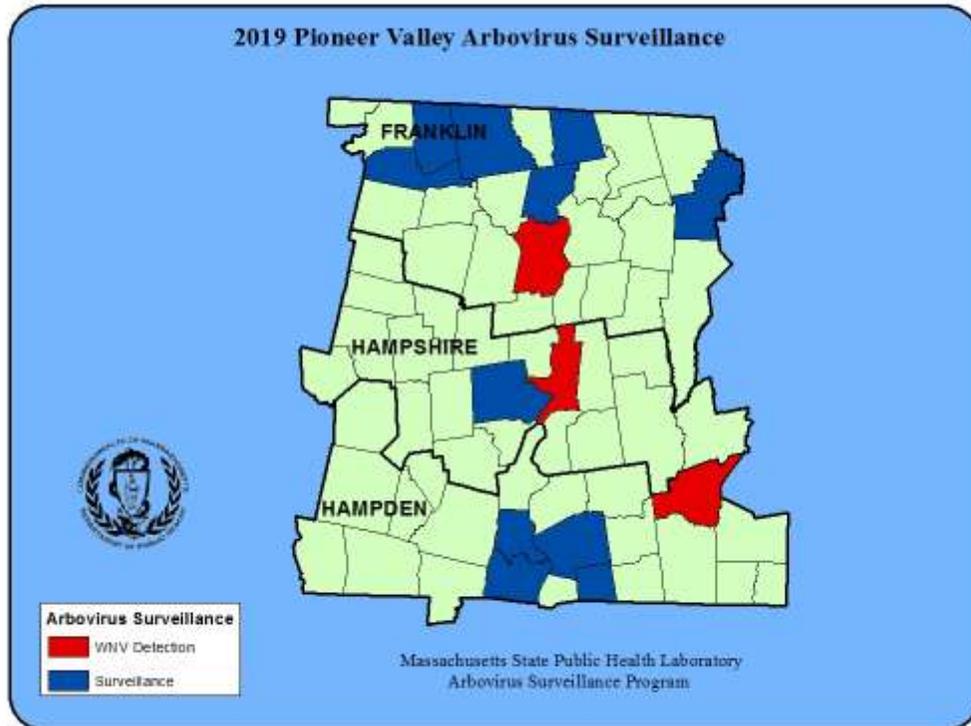


Figure 1: Year-to-date surveillance efforts and WNV detection in Franklin, Hampden and Hampshire Counties.