



News Release

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For Immediate Release

Five New Presumptive Positive Cases of COVID-19 Identified by Massachusetts State Public Health Laboratory

CDC to conduct additional testing to confirm these cases; Massachusetts cases now include 13—one confirmed, twelve presumptive positive

BOSTON (March 7, 2020) - The Massachusetts Department of Public Health today announced five new presumptive positive cases of COVID-19, bringing the total number of confirmed or presumptive positive cases in Massachusetts to 13. The cases include four people from Middlesex County: one woman in her 40s, one woman in her 50s, one man in his 40s and another man in his 60s. The five cases also include one man from Berkshire County in his 60s.

Of these five cases, three had a direct connection to the Biogen employee conference last week, one had recent international travel that included northern Italy, and the fifth case is still under investigation.

The State Public Health Lab's result is considered "presumptive positive" and the specimens will now be sent to the US Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) for confirmation.

The risk of COVID-19 to the general public in Massachusetts remains low at this time.

The Department of Public Health is providing daily updates on the number of confirmed and presumptive positive cases at mass.gov/info-details/covid-19-cases-quarantine-and-monitoring. Case-specific information will be updated on the site Monday, March 7th.

As of Wednesday, March 4th, 719 people have been subject to [self-quarantine](#) in Massachusetts because of COVID-19. Of those, 470 people have completed monitoring and are no longer quarantined, while 249 are currently quarantined. This information is updated online each Wednesday.

For more information on COVID-19 visit mass.gov/2019coronavirus.

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