



**Board of Health Meeting  
September 14, 2022  
4:00 pm**

**AGENDA**

- 1. Chairperson's Remarks**
- 2. Executive Office Report**
- 3. Acceptance and Approval of Minutes**
- 4. Public Health Accreditation and Planning**
- 5. ARPA Substance Use Disorder Investments**
- 6. COVID-19 Update**
- 7. Monkeypox Update**
- 8. Adjourn**

# Executive Office Report

# Acceptance and Approval, July 13<sup>th</sup> Meeting Minutes

# Public Health Accreditation and Planning Efforts

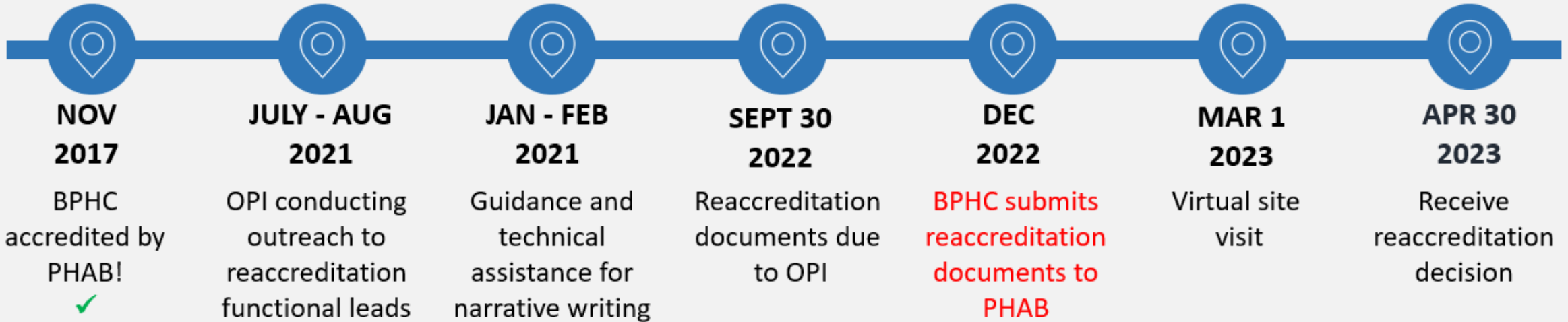
# Public Health Accreditation

- What is Accreditation?
  - The measurement of health department performance against a set of nationally recognized, practice-focused and evidenced-based standards
  - The issuance of recognition of achievement of accreditation within a specified time frame by a nationally recognized entity (Public Health Accreditation Board—PHAB)
  - The continual development, revision, and distribution of public health standards
  - Voluntary; fee associated
- What does PHAB look for?
  - Performance improvement
  - Strong infrastructure
  - Innovation



# Public Health Accreditation

## Reaccreditation Timeline



# Community Health Needs Assessment Priority Areas

## Housing



Affordability, quality,  
homelessness,  
ownership, gentrification,  
and displacement

## Financial Security and Mobility



Jobs, employment,  
income, education, and  
workforce training, food  
security

## Behavioral Health



Mental health and  
substance use

## Access to Services



Healthcare, childcare,  
and social services

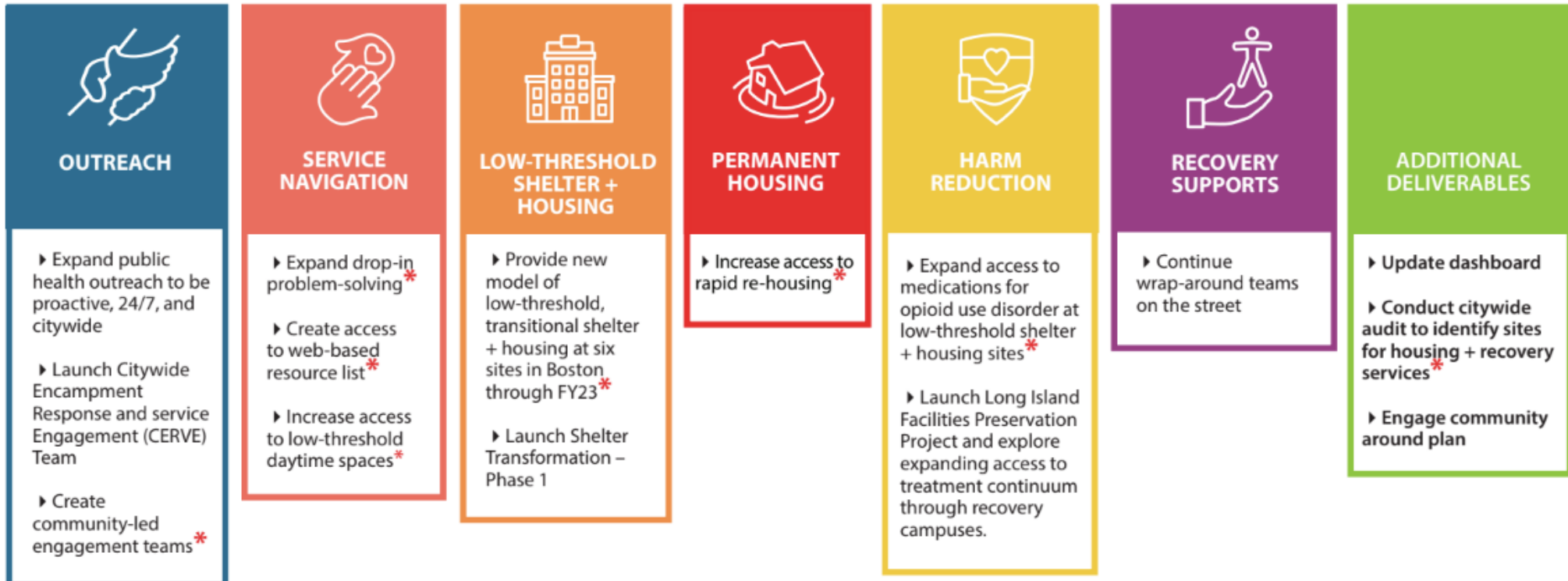
# American Recovery Plan Act (ARPA) Substance Use Disorder Response Investments



# ARPA Substance Use Disorder Response

## Long-Term Public Health Strategic Outlook

### Mid-term Strategic Initiatives



# ARPA Substance Use Disorder Response

## **Post-Encampment Response**

- Storage of belongings for unhoused individuals
- Transportation services
- Increased security
- Cleaning efforts

## **Expand Harm Reduction Outreach**

## **Expand Low Barrier Work Opportunities**

# ARPA Substance Use Disorder Response

## **Community Engagement and Outreach**

(2) Neighborhood Engagement Teams

(2) Day Spaces and Service Navigation

## **Recovery Community Support**

Health and wellness

Employment and training opportunities

New residential program



# COVID-19 Update

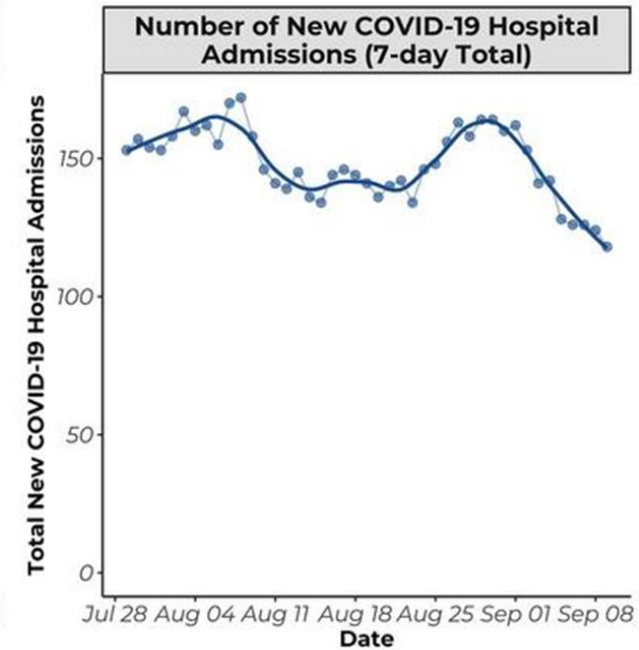
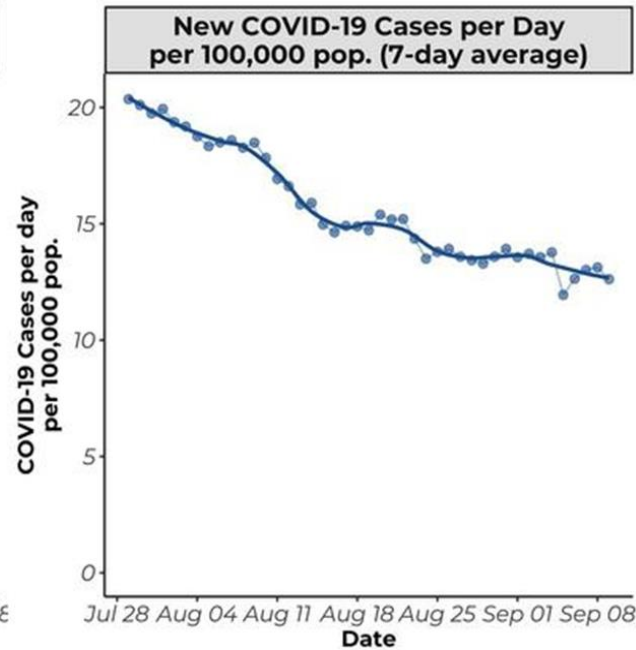
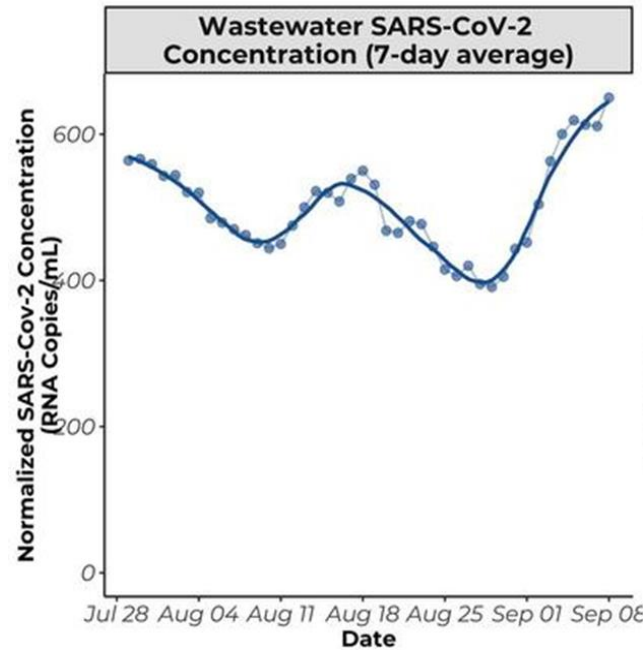
# Summary Metrics

## Suffolk County, Massachusetts

[State Health Department](#) 

COVID-19 Community Level

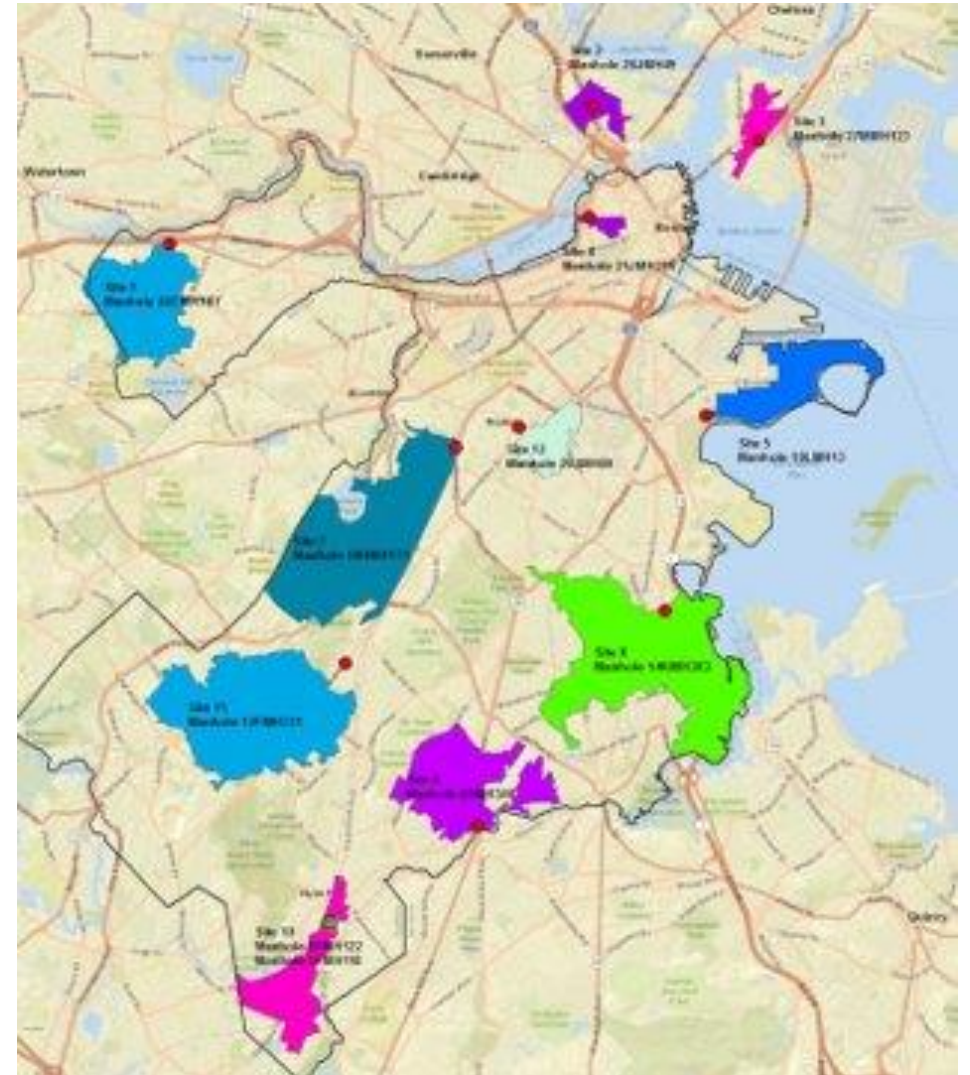
 Low



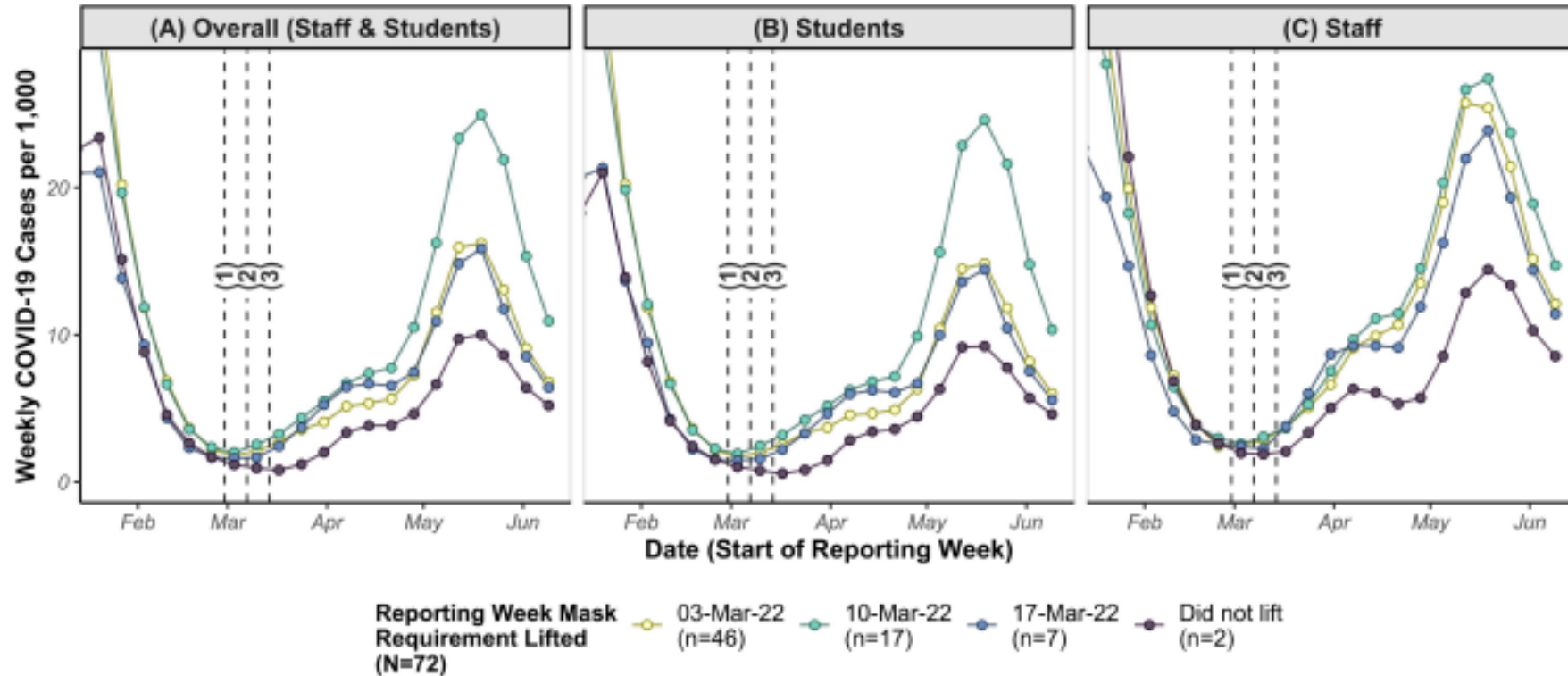


# Boston SARS-CoV-2 Wastewater Surveillance

- Set up early warning and monitoring system for COVID-19 in communities and neighborhoods across Boston
- Contract awarded to Biobot, Cambridge MA
- Wastewater sampling two times a week from 11 manhole sites across the city
- Scheduled to start 10/10
- Sites: Allston/Brighton, Charlestown, East Boston, Back Bay, South Boston, Jamaica Plain, Dorchester 02122, 02124, Mattapan, Hyde Park, Roslindale/West Roxbury, Roxbury



# BPHC study on masking supports protective benefits of masking in Boston Public Schools

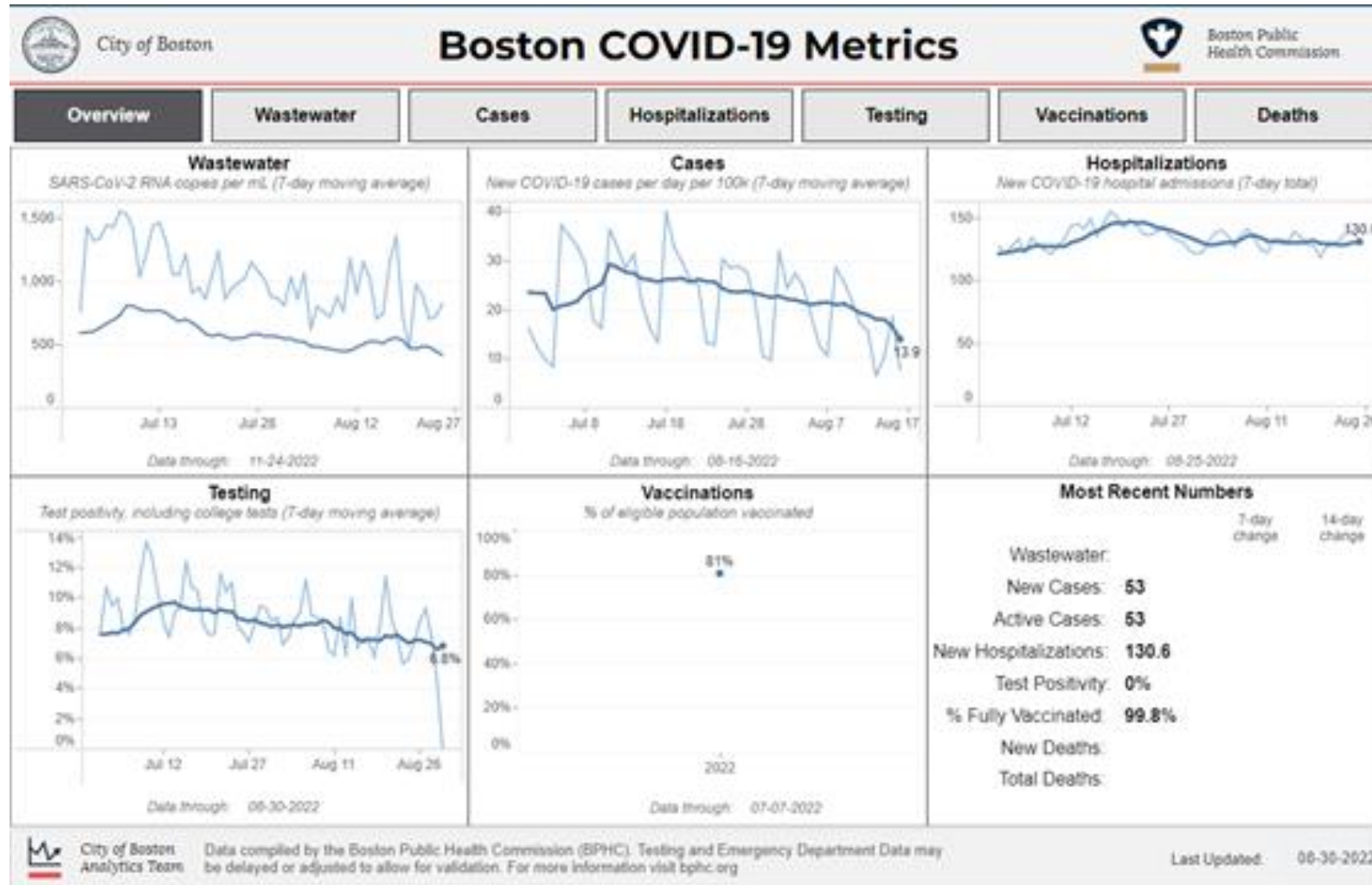


(1) Week of 28-Feb-22: DESE Statewide Mandate lifted (n = 46)

(2) Week of 07-Mar-22 (n = 17)

(3) Week of 14-Mar-22 (n = 7)

# New COVID-19 Dashboard in collaboration with City of Boston





# Surge Planning

- **Values**
  - Equity
  - Inclusivity
  - Accessibility
- **Plan Components**
  - Incident management
  - Share situational awareness with partners
  - Testing and Vaccination Operations
  - Workforce Protection
  - Public Information
  - Community Outreach & Engagement

# Surge Planning - Operations

- **Ongoing Data Monitoring**
  - Community Level
  - Wastewater Surveillance
  - Metrics
- **Free, Accessible Testing & Vaccination Services**
  - Standing Sites
  - Mobile Sites (Events, Partner Sites)
  - Combined Services
    - COVID and Flu, referral to treatment
- **Continued Distribution of PPE, Cleaning Supplies, At-Home Test Kits**
  - Public events
  - Community partners
  - Healthcare, CBO, Social Services partners

# Surge Planning - Testing & Vax Sites

Site Name	Location	Status
Bruce Bolling Building	Roxbury, Nubian Square	Tuesday – Saturday: 12PM – 8PM Offers COVID PCR Testing and Vaccinations
West End House	Allston	Monday-Friday: 6:30 AM – 8:00 AM Saturday: 9:30 AM – 1:30 PM Offers COVID PCR Testing
TBD	Hyde Park	Standing Site, In progress
TBD	Dorchester	Standing Site, In progress
TBD	Mattapan	Standing Site, In progress
TBD	Dorchester	Standing Site, In progress
TBD	TBD	The Anna Mae Cole Community Center site closed on 9/9. Working with our vendor to reopen at another location.

# BPS COVID-19 Planning

- **Access to COVID-19 testing**
  - At-home tests for weekly use by BPS students and staff
  - Standing order for in-school symptomatic testing
  - Enhanced testing availability for outbreak and case response
- **Supporting pediatric COVID-19 vaccination and back-to-school events**
  - B Healthy Family Fun Day- July 9th
  - BPS Physical Exam Day- August 13th
  - B Healthy Back to School- September 17th
  - Community partner events, July 30th, August 6th, August 25th
- **COVID-19 Policies**
  - Case reporting
  - Isolation and exposures

# Monkeypox Virus (MPV) Update

# MPV Epidemiological summary, as of 9/6/22

- A total of **136** cases among Boston residents reported via Massachusetts Virtual Epidemiologic Network (MAVEN)
- Demographic characteristics:
  - All **male** gender
  - Median age: **35**
  - **Neighborhoods** with highest # of cases
    - Dorchester
    - South End
    - East Boston
    - Jamaica Plain
    - Roxbury
    - Fenway
- Clinical characteristics
  - # of MPV cases referred for TPOXX antiviral treatment: 57
  - # of deaths: 0


**TALK TO YOUR  
HEALTH CARE PROVIDER  
ABOUT TPOXX, AN  
ANTIVIRAL MEDICATION  
THAT CAN BE USED  
TO TREAT MONKEYPOX.**

◦ TPOXX should be prescribed for people who have severe disease or who are at high risk of severe disease (e.g. individuals who are immunocompromised)

◦ Consider TPOXX if you are experiencing severe pain or have lesions near your eyes, mouth, rectum, or urethra.

◦ TPOXX may help ease symptoms, control pain, and shorten the length of illness.

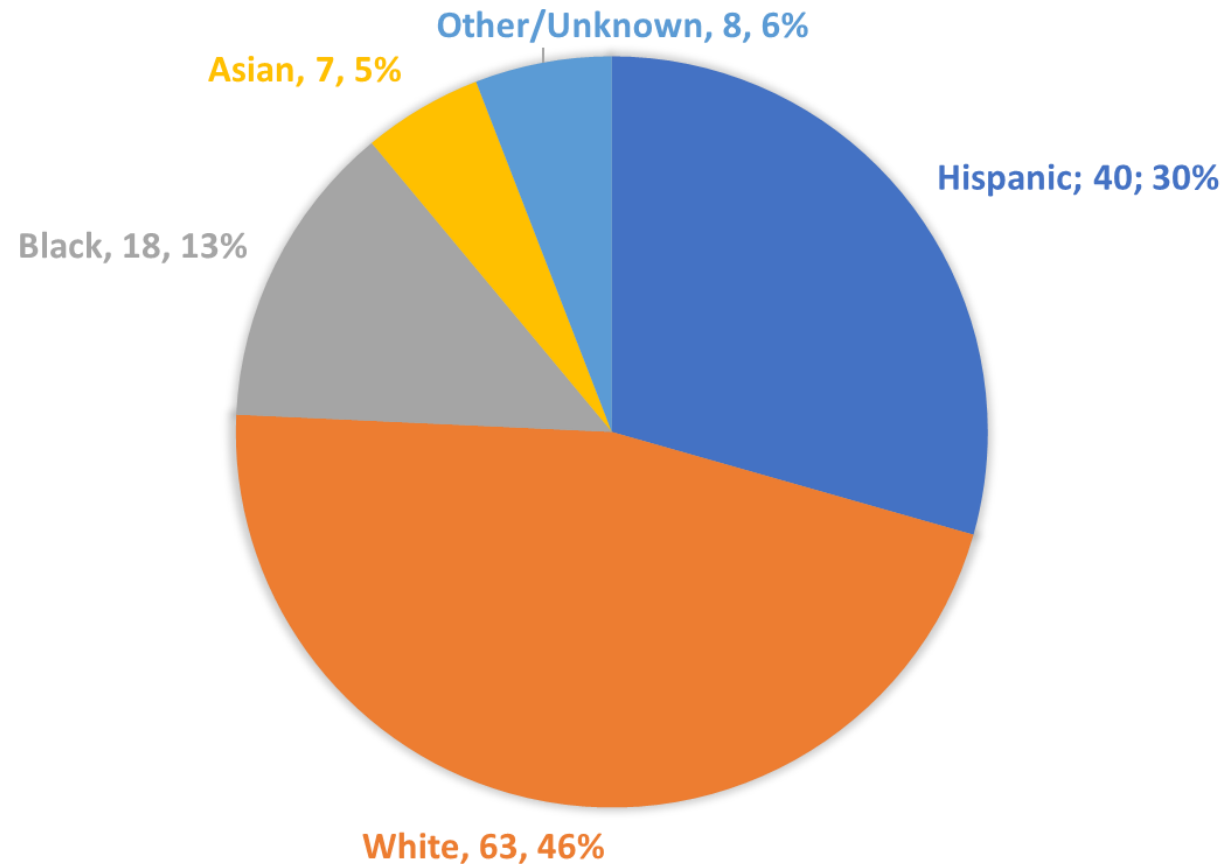
◦ TPOXX is available for free with a prescription.



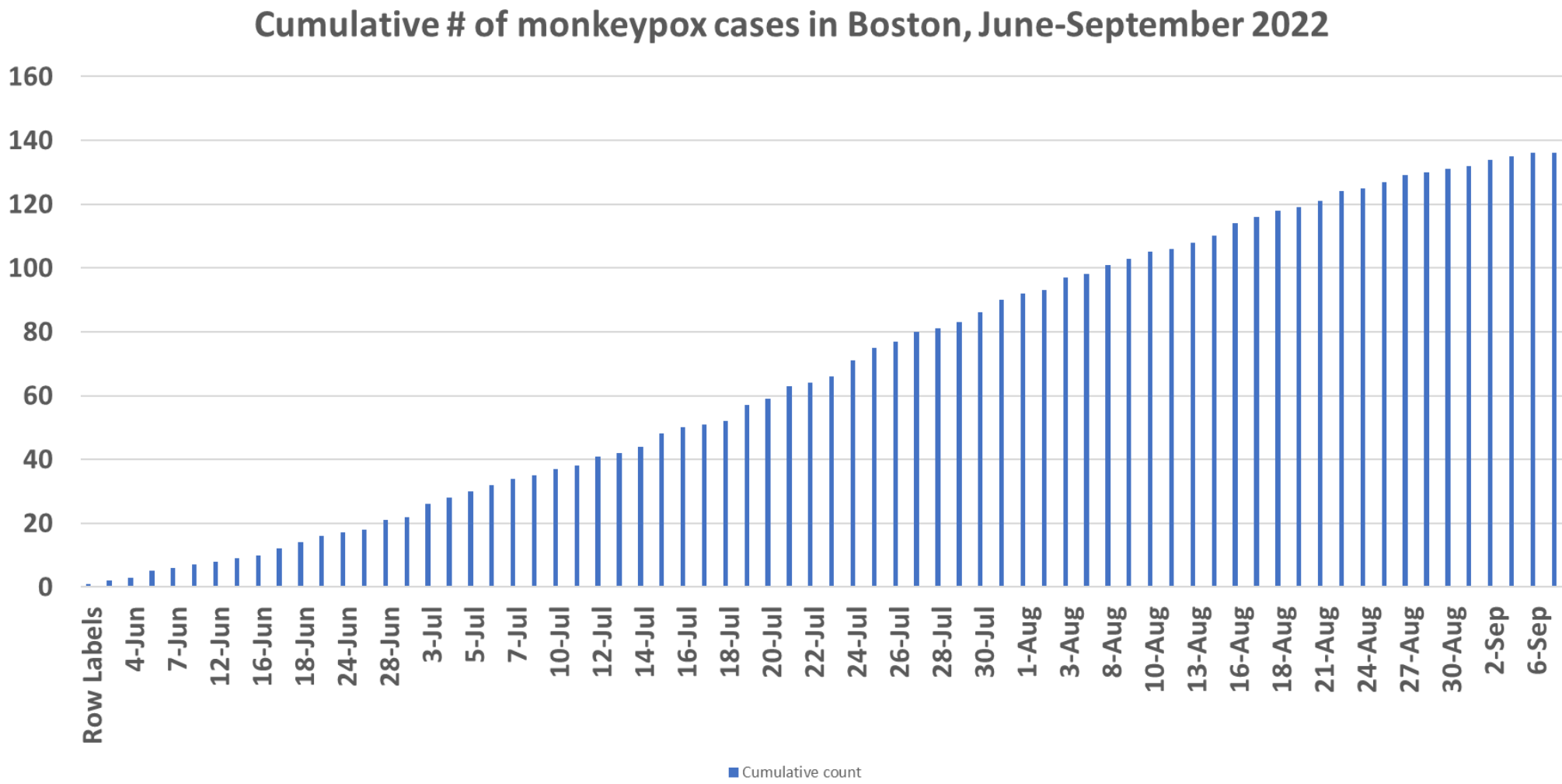
[Boston.gov/Monkeypox](https://Boston.gov/Monkeypox)

# MPV Epidemiological Summary, as of 9/6/22

# and % race/ethnicity of monkeypox virus (MPV) cases in Boston,  
June-Sept 2022, n=136



# MPV Epidemiological summary, as of 9/6/22





# BPHC MPV Response Updates

- **Multilingual health education** materials: [boston.gov/monkeypox](https://boston.gov/monkeypox)
  - Vaccine and prevention
  - Treatment
- **Community outreach** meetings
  - **Monkeypox Town Hall- 8/29/22**
    - Black Boston COVID-19 Coalition and Boston Lesbigay Urban Foundation and Mayor's Office of LGBTQ+ Advancement, MDPH
  - **Monkeypox Community Meeting- 7/26/22**
    - CoB Equity and Inclusion Cabinet, Mayor's Office of LGBTQ+ Advancement, Fenway Health, Club Café
- **Public health guidance-** calls and meetings with Boston sectors and stakeholders
  - **Colleges:** 8/18/22
  - **Boston Public Schools (BPS)** Health Services Day presentation: 9/7/22
  - **Early education centers (EECs):** 9/9/22
- Upcoming:
  - Massachusetts provider meeting on **TPOXX treatment access and equity**



**CAN'T  
STAY INSIDE?  
FOLLOW THESE  
TIPS.**

- Fully cover your rash and sores with clothing or bandages.
- Wear a well-fitting face mask.
- Sit at least 6 feet away from others if eating or drinking without a mask.
- Avoid crowded spaces.
- Avoid physical contact if using public transportation.
- Disinfect the toilet seat when using a public or shared bathroom.
- Do not share a bed or let others touch your clothing, towels or bedding.
- Do not share dishes, food, drinks or utensils.

**Boston.gov/Monkeypox**



# Discussion

