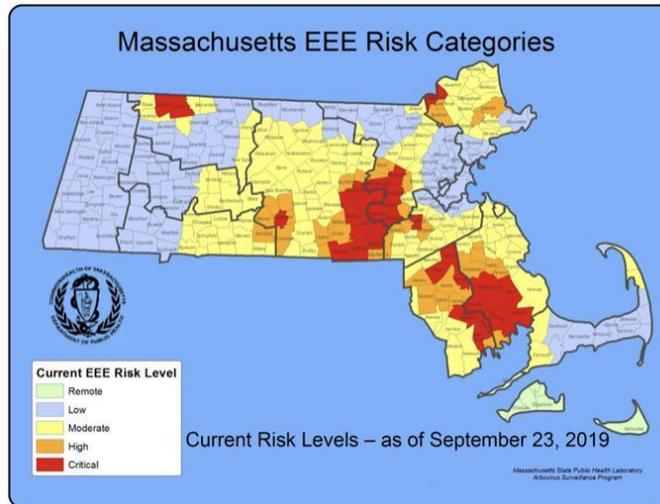


Why the town of Bolton wanted to create a Mosquito Response Committee.

In the 2019 mosquito season, 191 Massachusetts communities were designated at “moderate” risk. Of those, 13 are at “high” risk and 28 are at “critical” risk. According to the Department of Public Health a “critical” risk designation advises those communities to consider cancelling outdoor activities and sporting events to avoid peak mosquito hours. Outbreaks of EEE usually occur in Massachusetts every 10-20 years. These outbreaks will typically last two to three years.



Risk levels for EEE Massachusetts cities and towns, as of Sept. 23, 2019, are shown. (Courtesy Massachusetts Department of Public Health)

<https://www.wcvb.com/article/rhode-island-eee-death-confirmed-by-health-officials/28970030>

Disease Information

Most people who become infected with EEEV show either no or mild symptoms such as fever and joint or muscle pain. Severe cases of EEEV infection include encephalitis (swelling of the brain) or meningitis (swelling of the membranes that surround the brain and spinal cord) and begin with the sudden onset of fever, chills, headache, and vomiting. The illness may then progress into disorientation, seizures, and coma. Approximately a third of patients who develop encephalitis due to EEEV infection die, and many of those who survive have mild to severe brain damage.

<https://www.cdc.gov/easternequineencephalitis/index.html>

<https://www.cdc.gov/westnile/index.html>

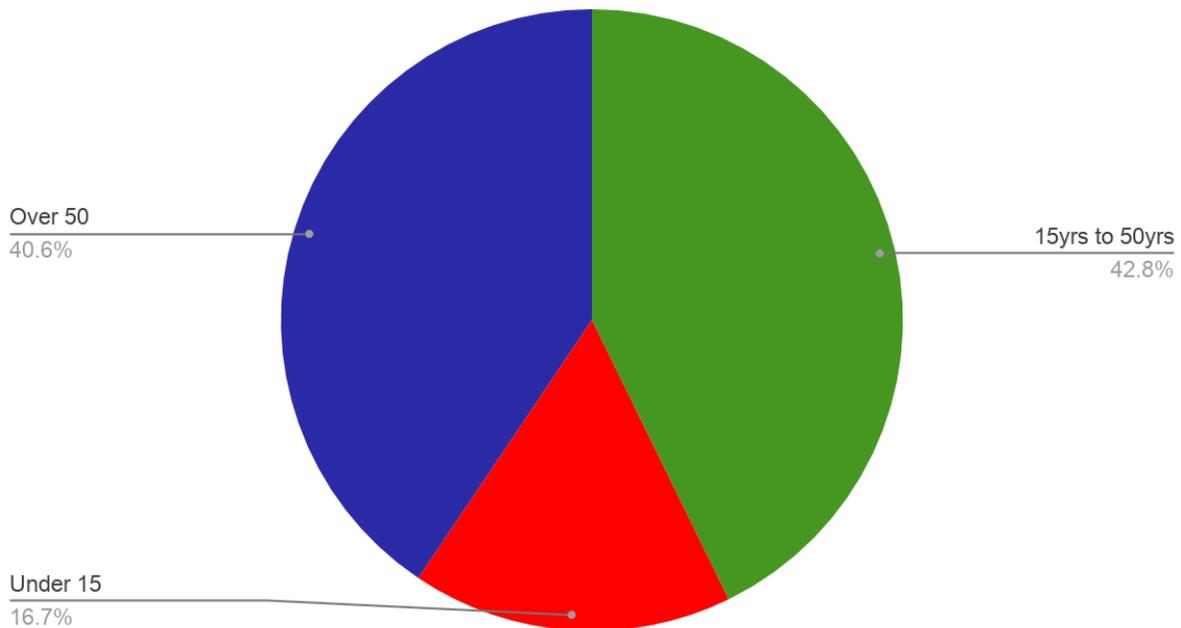
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=YieI2owY9lo>

Who is at risk?

People who engage in outdoor work and recreational activities in endemic areas are at increased risk of infection. People over age 50 and under age 15 seem to be at greatest risk for developing severe disease when infected with EEEV.

<https://www.cdc.gov/easternequineencephalitis/tech/epi.html>

Bolton at Risk Population 2020



Bolton's current population data

Committee Objectives

- Assess and minimize Health risks to people & animals
- Protect the environment
- Develop an action plan, and communication streams

What we can do....

Identify our risk

- Mosquito monitoring for species and disease carried
- Reduce larval habitats through ditch management, tire recycling and public education
- Reduce mosquito population through larval control programs
- Make educated and informed decisions on when and where adulticide programs are warranted
- Networking with other groups and communities

Massachusetts Department of Public Health 2019 Massachusetts Arbovirus Surveillance and Response Plan Information

<https://www.mass.gov/doc/2019-arbovirus-surveillance-and-response-plan/download>