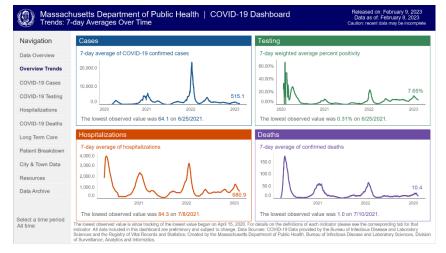
Health Update: February 10

COVID-19: COVID-19 related hospitalization, deaths, and cases as well as testing have decreased in Massachusetts (Source: MDPH). However, wastewater data has slightly increased in the last week (Source: MWRA).

Approximately, 29% of all Massachusetts residents have received the updated, bivalent vaccine, compared to only 15.7% in the United States. Fortunately, 62% of residents 65 and older have received the bivalent vaccine, compared to 40.5% in the country (Source: CDC).



As a reminder, you can visit <u>myvaxrecords.mass.gov</u> to obtain a copy of your COVID-19 vaccination records, which can either be sent via email or text. You can also conveniently use My Vax Records to get a digital vaccine card to keep on your phone.

Influenza: Influenza severity for Massachusetts, as well as the Central Region is low this week. The percent of influenza-like illness visits, and percent of hospitalizations associated with influenza across the state are also low.

Narcan Trainings: Our GBPH Narcan Trainings continue to be very successful. Our public health nurse has led 6 group trainings and distributed 84 kits since we started this program! There are several trainings scheduled for the rest of the month, please see the image for more information and registration information.

Sunscreen Dispensers: To combat the increasing incidence of skin cancer, our region has been working to partner with IMPACT Melanoma to install sunscreen dispensers at high-traffic areas, like parks, beaches, etc. IMPACT Melanoma is a non-profit 501(c)(3) organization providing education, prevention, and support for melanoma nationally. Practice Safe Skin, one of their many programs, works to make a positive impact of communities by installing convenient sunscreen dispensers in high-traffic areas to provide access to free sunscreen to increase sun health awareness. This program has been very successful in many Massachusetts communities and throughout the country. Currently, the Practice Safe Skin program has installed over 4,000 dispensers across the country. We are hoping to get this project running in time for this summer!

