

**WAIC, Springfield, Massachusetts****Issues/Programs List****January 1, 2021 through March 31, 2021.**

During this period, the stations broadcast programming about local issues that aired during program segments reserved for local feature-length reports, interviews and commentaries, Monday through Friday at (typically) 5:51 a.m., 6:22 a.m., 6:45 a.m., 7:22 a.m., 7:45 a.m., 7:51 a.m., 8:22 a.m., 8:45 a.m., 4:44 p.m., 5:44p.m. and 5:50 p.m. or similar times within the morning and afternoon news programs.

Weekly installments of ***The Short List*** were (typically) broadcast on Fridays at 5:50p.m. during the broadcast of *All Things Considered*. In this segment, a rotating panel of seasoned journalists and media professionals analyzes the major issues in the news during the current week. They provide context, and a fresh unpacking of information from three stories in a roughly eight and a half minute roundtable discussion.

In addition, local newscasts were broadcast immediately following national newscasts on the hour from 6:00 a.m. through 8:00 a.m. inclusive, and 4:00 p.m. through 6:00 p.m. inclusive. On Saturday, local issue programming was presented at 8:35 a.m., 9:35 a.m., 10:35 a.m., and on local newscasts following national newscasts on the hour from 8:00 a.m. through 10:00 a.m. inclusive, and at 12:00 p.m. On Sunday, local newscasts were broadcast following national newscasts on the hour at 8:00 a.m. and 9:00 a.m.

Many reports on the same and related subjects were broadcast daily and weekly during such national news programs as *Morning Edition*, *All Things Considered*, *Marketplace*, *Here & Now*, *Fresh Air*, *Weekend Edition* and others.

**Issues**

Arts & Culture  
Commentary  
Economic Development  
Education  
Energy/Environment  
Justice, Law & Public Safety  
Politics/Public Policy  
Public Health  
Science

# Reports on Morning Edition, All Things Considered, and Weekend Edition

TOPIC	AIRDATE	NEWSCAST	LENGTH	STATE	SUMMARY
Arts & Culture	1/12/2021	7:50am	8:08	MA	The Stockbridge-Munsee Band of Mohican Indians today are based in Wisconsin. But their homeland spanned the Housatonic and Hudson River valleys, and over the decades, members of the tribe have come back to the Berkshires to protect cultural sites, re-tell stories, and reclaim objects---including one centuries-old document.
Arts & Culture	1/21/2021	7:51am	5:57	MA	In the last 10 months, New England's rich arts scene has been hit hard, impacting the wages and even employment of those who depend on live audiences. Music clubs and theaters have had to hibernate or close outright.
Arts & Culture	1/22/2021	6:34am 8:34am	4:52	MA	A new limited series of the TV show 'Dexter' is preparing for production, with filming set to take place in Buckland and Shelburne, Massachusetts. The pandemic has led to a surge in binge-watching, and the need for new film, television, and streaming content has been a boon for Massachusetts.
Arts & Culture	2/2/2021	6:45am 8:45am	2:57	MA	Williams College and the Stockbridge-Munsee Band of Mohican Indians are launching a new collaboration focused on historic preservation. The partnership has a special significance because of the tribe's history with some members of the Williams family.

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Arts & Culture	2/12/2021	6:45am 8:45am	5:43	MA	The pandemic and a partly shut-down economy haven't stopped Valentine's Day, or dating in general. Even while people scramble to get a vaccine appointment, romantics are planning something special, and some who began the pandemic single have found love, somewhat to their surprise.
Community Voices	1/13/2021	6:34am 8:34am	2:40	MA	Working from home means more time for commentator Jamil Ragland to read and think---and grapple with how little sense things seem to be making these days.
Community Voices	1/26/2021	6:22am 8:22am	2:34	MA	Baseball legend Henry Aaron died last week. Breaking Babe Ruth's home run record in 1974, Aaron became the target of white supremacists. As commentator Martha Ackmann recalls, Aaron's early career included time in the Negro Leagues, where facing racism was as commonplace as facing fastballs.
Community Voices	1/27/2021	6:34am 8:34am	2:31	MA	175 years ago, a pathogen infected potatoes in Ireland. The anniversary got commentator Michael Carolan thinking about the contagion that followed there and its parallels to the present day.
Community Voices	3/17/2021	6:45am 8:45am	4:51	MA	High school senior Jack Kelley of Hadley, Massachusetts, has observed a milestone few others could claim. Inspired by a video game he began a real-life quest to visit fire towers, and has now been to hundreds throughout the region.

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Community Voices	3/21/2021	5:51am 7:51am	4:07	MA	Kids may not be eligible for covid vaccines yet, but singer Dolly Parton is, and she made news recently by receiving a vaccine developed with the help of her generous donation to research. Commentator Martha Ackmann is writing a book about Parton, and says no one should be surprised by Parton's philanthropy---or her smarts.
Community Voices	3/23/2021	6:21am 8:21am	2:44	MA	Commentator Grace Lin is a best-selling Asian-American author and illustrator loved worldwide for her children's books. After 6 Asian women were killed in Atlanta last week, Lin says she has a message for readers of children's books everywhere.
Community Voices	3/26/2021	6:34am 8:34am	3:06	MA	Friends remember Virginia Marie Koonz of West Springfield, who died at Mercy Hospital of covid-19 on February 5. She was 79.
Community Voices	3/26/2021	7:51am	2:15	MA	Passover is a time of remembrance---and of food. Commentator Tinky Weisblat combines them with memories of her grandmother.
Community Voices	3/31/2021	6:21am 8:21am	6:12	MA	The short documentary 'Ashes To Ashes' tells two stories. One---a friendship between a doctor from Amherst, Massachusetts and a New Haven man who became an artist, decades after he survived being lynched. Their story in the film coincides with a funeral service for thousands of black Americans who didn't survive.
Education	2/9/2021	6:45am 8:45am	5:27	VT	School consolidation has been a major topic in New England lately as districts with dwindling enrollments seek to combine. A planning committee is working in Canaan, Vermont, on what would be the third interstate school arrangement between Vermont and New Hampshire.

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Education	3/9/2021	7:43 am	6:08	MA	A year ago today, Amherst College announced that it was sending students home early for spring break, and they were told not to return. Classes would go remote to prevent to spread of the corona virus. The college's chief financial and administrative officer, Kevin Weinman, looked back to the past year.
Education	3/24/2021	6:45am 8:45am	4:48	MA	Remote learning has been tough for many students this year. For some English learners in communities with higher covid-19 rates, it's been even harder. Some educators now call for skipping the standardized test that's given to multi-lingual students.
Education	3/26/2021	4:50pm	1:38	CT	Hartford's school superintendent wants all teachers and pupils back in the classroom next week, but many staffers say it's too early. A look at how educators come to grips with in-person schooling during a pandemic.
Education	3/30/2021	6:45am 8:45am	4:20	MA	With many Massachusetts classrooms set to reopen in less than a week, educators are scrambling to get vaccinated--- and many are facing feelings of exhaustion and frustration.
Energy & Environment	1/13/2021	6:34am 8:34am	4:27	NH	Studies show that climate change could prompt millions to relocate in the coming decades. And by some measures, northern New England could be an ideal destination. But preparing for those potential waves of 'climate migrants' will be no easy task.
Energy & Environment	1/26/2021	6:22am 8:22am	3:29	MA	The federal government has lifted a quarantine on an invasive insect, the emerald ash borer, which has killed trees in Massachusetts and Connecticut. Critics of the change have been more vocal outside those two states.

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Energy & Environment	3/4/2021	7:50am	3:54	MA	It's been a 'salty' winter in the region, with a barrage of snowstorms meaning a lot of salt on the roads. And that salt eventually makes its way into local streams where it can damage freshwater ecosystems. The problem has no simple solution.
Energy & Environment	3/19/2021	5:51am 7:5am	6:19	VT	Bats have been ravaged for years by a fungal disease known as White Nose Syndrome. Now a Vermont science advisory committee says more needs to be done to protect bats from the effects of mosquito-control insecticide spraying. Vermont's Department of Fish and Wildlife disagrees.
Energy & Environment	3/26/2021	7:51am	4:08	MA	The federal government's plan to clean up toxic PCBs from the Housatonic River faces a new legal challenge. Four residents of Lee, Massachusetts, filed a complaint this week against the town and select board members who approved the agreement, which includes a low-level toxic waste dump in the town.
Justice, Law & Public Safety	1/19/2021	6:45am 8:45am	4:29	MA	A court hearing is to be held on the Springfield City Council's lawsuit against Mayor Domenic Sarno. The council twice passed ordinances changing the police department's leadership structure, only to have the mayor ignore the measures each time.
Justice, Law & Public Safety	1/27/2021	6:34am 8:34am	5:24	MA	As part of an effort to address racial justice and equity, The Boston Globe says it will consider requests by people who have suffered from having old stories involving criminal charges archived on the internet: the paper could update the articles or even remove names as part of a 'fresh start' initiative.

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Justice, Law & Public Safety	2/4/2021	6:45am 8:45am	4:39	MA	For Efrem Sigel, jury service was life-changing and eye-opening. He was one of 12 jurors who in 2017 convicted a man charged in two fatal shootings between rival gang-affiliated drug dealers. Sigel, a Great Barrington resident, was 'juror number two,' which is the title of his new book.
Justice, Law & Public Safety	2/16/2021	7:32am	11:00	MA	Scientists have long claimed that eyewitness testimony can be both highly convincing and incredibly unreliable. According to the Innocence Project, three-quarters of convictions overturned by DNA evidence came down to faulty eyewitness testimony. In the first of a 3-part series, 'Questioning The Witness,' NEPM's Karen Brown looks at the evolving science of eyewitness testimony.
Justice, Law & Public Safety	2/17/2021	7:32am	11:30	MA	A decade ago, a state Supreme Judicial Court task force studied the use of eyewitness evidence and offered science-based recommendations. But if left many people convicted before the report...still in prison. NEPM's Karen Brown reports in part two of our series, 'Questioning The Witness.'
Justice, Law & Public Safety	2/18/2021	7:32am	10:01	MA	Advocates for the wrongly convicted say they'd rather prevent mistakes rather than fix them after years of incarceration, but how to best do that is a matter of debate, as NEPM's Karen Brown reports in the final part of our series, 'Questioning The Witness.'
Politics & Public Policy	1/4/2021	6:45am 8:45am	5:30	MA	Beacon Hill In 5: a new session begins for lawmakers in Boston with 19 new faces and a new House speaker; a climate bill from the previous session is still pending and the governor has two days left to sign or reject it.

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Politics & Public Policy	1/5/2021	5:51am 7:51am	3:09	MA	Tomorrow's dual Senate runoff election in Georgia is far from Massachusetts...but some state residents have been donating time and money to those contests.
Politics & Public Policy	1/8/2021	5:51pm	9:32	MA	The Short List: regional reaction to the US Capitol riot; state house and senate sessions wrap up; the latest on the Springfield diocese clergy abuse issue; Worcester diocese accused of 'lack of transparency.'
Politics & Public Policy	1/8/2021	7:45am	3:28	MA	Boston Mayor Marty Walsh is President-elect Biden's pick as Labor Secretary, and that has many union groups celebrating. Walsh headed the Boston Building Trades Council before his election as mayor in 2013.
Politics & Public Policy	1/11/2021	6:45am 8:45am	5:30	MA	Beacon Hill In 5: The state's GOP chairman has condemned the Capitol Hill riot; the new state legislative session's opening week was overshadowed by national events---what will the House and Senate take up now as priorities? And in a TV interview the new House speaker raised eyebrows by saying he has no idea how the vaccine rollout is proceeding despite being a 3-decade veteran of the legislature.
Politics & Public Policy	1/18/2021	6:45am 8:45am	5:30	MA	Beacon Hill In 5: Governor Baker vetoed a climate bill passed in the final hours of the last legislative session and lawmakers say they will send it right back once the new session is underway; the state has seen its first cases of the new coronavirus variant; how are Massachusetts officials reacting to President-elect Biden's plan for more direct federal assistance?



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Politics & Public Policy	1/22/2021	5:51pm	9:37	MA	The Short List: Massachusetts eases some covid restrictions; a legislative committee looks into the covid outbreak at the Holyoke Soldiers' Home; pandemic-driven binge-watching furnishes a big boost to the state's film industry.
Politics & Public Policy	1/25/2021	6:45am 8:45am	5:30	MA	Beacon Hill In 5: The state transportation secretary and the mayor of Boston are taking jobs with the Biden Administration--- will that give Massachusetts more influence in Washington? Governor Baker's rollback of pandemic restrictions is meeting with some criticism; a newspaper report says Massachusetts is lagging in vaccination rates; a preview of the 2022 state budget proposal, expected to be unveiled later this week.
Politics & Public Policy	2/1/2021	6:45am 8:45am	5:30	MA	Beacon Hill In 5: Those over 75 are now eligible for vaccines in Massachusetts but face a daunting task trying to navigate the registration website---could the fallout affect Governor Baker's popularity? The governor's budget proposal would increase funding for education and public health while reducing overall state spending; there's been a call for more transparency in the House as a new session gets underway.
Politics & Public Policy	2/5/2021	5:51pm	9:39	MA	The Short List: more calls for Springfield police reform; drunk driving cases could be thrown out due to problems with breathalyzers; state officials work on fixes for the covid vaccine rollout; lawmakers voice concerns over plans for a new Soldiers' Home in Holyoke

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Politics & Public Policy	2/8/2021	6:45am 8:45am	5:30	MA	Beacon Hill In 5: Coronavirus metrics have improved enough to allow for some rollback of restrictions; a new call center has opened to help those over 75 make vaccination appointments; lawmakers in the state Senate will consider adding three new joint committees to the 29 already existing.
Politics & Public Policy	2/15/2021	6:45am 8:45am	5:30	MA	Beacon Hill In 5: Governor Baker defends his offer to let people not yet eligible for the covid vaccine to get the shot when they escort an elder, which has drawn criticism from some lawmakers; despite four women now assuming prominent leadership roles in the House, speaker Ron Mariano faces calls to implement more changes in pursuit of diversity; the debate continues over changes to a major climate-policy bill.
Politics & Public Policy	2/26/2021	5:51pm	10:02	MA	The Short List: Governor Baker faces lawmakers' questioning in a hearing on covid vaccine distribution; Connecticut reforms its vaccination system; state education officials renew a push for in-person learning.
Politics & Public Policy	3/1/2021	6:45am 8:45am	5:30	MA	Beacon Hill In 5: the state says more than half a million residents have now been given covid vaccines; more pandemic restrictions will be lifted this week including restaurant capacity limits; Governor Baker and his education secretary push for a prompt return to full-time in-person instruction; there's a new head of the state's campaign and political finance office.

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Politics & Public Policy	3/3/2021	7:50am	4:03	MA	A new law offers nearly all workers in Massachusetts paid family and medical leave, yet there have been snags and some people are getting their checks many weeks late or not at all.
Politics & Public Policy	3/5/2021	6:20am 8:45am	4:44	MA	The race for governor of Massachusetts has begun even though the election is over a year and a half away. Incumbent Charlie Baker hasn't said if he will seek re-election. Democrat Ben Downing, a former state senator, has thrown his hat into the ring.
Politics & Public Policy	3/8/2021	6:45am 8:45am	2:41	MA	Beacon Hill In 5: A state board has voted to give the education commissioner more power to move ahead with the governor's efforts to get schools reopened, and that has led to some controversy; with covid restrictions easing, what are public health professionals saying about allowing fans into Fenway Park for Opening Day? And the House and Senate are hard at work on a new foster-care bill.
Politics & Public Policy	3/15/2021	6:45am 8:45am	5:30	MA	Beacon Hill In 5: the latest of Gov. Baker's pledge to offer covid-19 vaccines to all adults beginning May 1; there are some tensions around the issue of giving vaccine priority to schoolteachers; a pivotal hearing looms for the future of the Holyoke Soldiers' Home, with the added pressure of federal funding deadlines.
Politics & Public Policy	3/19/2021	5:51pm	9:39	MA	The Short List: In the wake of the Atlanta killings, hate-crime legislation gets renewed attention; an ADL report indicates a rise in white supremacist propaganda in New England; debate continues on funding the new Holyoke Soldiers' Home.

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Politics & Public Policy	3/23/2021	6:21am 8:21am	3:57	MA	Today is Kim Janey's first full day as the acting mayor of Boston. She was elevated from City Council president yesterday when Marty Walsh resigned upon being confirmed as U-S Labor Secretary. Janey is the first woman and first person of color to lead Boston, and many around the city are celebrating those milestones.
Politics & Public Policy	3/25/2021	7:50am	8:25	MA	Tomorrow is Holyoke, Massachusetts mayor Alex Morse's last day on the job. He drew national attention when he was elected the city's youngest and first openly gay mayor in 2011. He resigned to become town manager in Provincetown and spoke with NEPM's Adam Frenier about the differences he expects to encounter in his new role.
Politics & Public Policy	3/26/2021	5:51pm	9:32	MA	The Short List: Legislative panel grills Governor Baker over the covid vaccine rollout; some Massachusetts educators voice concerns over standardized tests for English-language learners; Northampton looks into transferring some duties away from police.
Politics & Public Policy	3/26/2021	6:34am 8:34am	4:31	MA	Charlie Baker, long among the most popular governors in the country, has faced sharp criticism over his administration's pandemic response, including concerns over a slow vaccine rollout, a glitchy website, and complaints from teachers. Now there are increasing questions about what all this might mean for his political future.

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Politics & Public Policy	3/29/2021	6:45am 8:45am	5:30	MA	Beacon Hill In 5: With covid-19 cases reportedly on the rise on Cape Cod, what would it take for the governor to reimpose some restrictions? How are so-called 'vaccine passports' being viewed by Massachusetts officials, especially in light of Connecticut Governor Lamont's rejection of the concept? And Senate President Spilka outlined her chamber's legislative priorities in a meeting with business executives---how do these align with the agenda in the House?
Public Health	1/5/2021	5:51am 7:51am	4:49	NH	So far more than 13,000 New Hampshire residents have received a covid-19 vaccination, all of them in groups considered most vulnerable. Vaccines will eventually be available to the general public. Skepticism persists, and some organizations are beginning community-based efforts to build public faith in the vaccine.
Public Health	1/21/2021	7:51am	2:19	CT	As Connecticut transitions to the next phase of vaccination, there is growing concern about reaching diverse communities disproportionately impacted by covid-19. One doctor is documenting his experience with the vaccine to build trust among his patients.
Public Health	2/11/2021	6:45am 8:45am	3:45	MA	Health-care workers were the first in Massachusetts to be offered a covid vaccine, but a significant number of them chose not to receive it.
Public Health	3/5/2021	6:20am 8:45am	1:55	CT	Massachusetts teachers will soon be able to book covid vaccination appointments---but some educators in neighboring Connecticut have already received their first dose, as Hartford schools have partnered with area hospitals to get nearly 3,000 teachers and staff vaccinated.

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Public Health	3/10/2021	6:45am 7:50am	4:07	MA	Once a Moderna or Pfizer vaccine vial is opened, there are just 6 hours before the contents expire---or 2 hours in the case of the Johnson & Johnson vaccine. So to prevent waste, clinics must try to match their supplies against the anticipated number of people coming in each day. And that's not as easy as it sounds.
Public Health	3/21/2021	5:51am 7:51am	4:17	MA	The U-S expects to have enough covid-19 vaccines for adults by the end of May, but millions of children may not be in line for shots. Tests of vaccines for children are underway throughout the country, including in Worcester, Massachusetts, which is a test site for the Moderna vaccine.
Public Health	3/24/2021	7:45am	4:10	MA	As the state enters its next phase of reopening, the head of western Massachusetts' largest hospital system sounded a note of caution. Dr. Mark Kerouack of Baystate Health says that despite the rate of covid-19 infections hovering around two percent in recent days, he's concerned that another surge is around the corner.
Public Health	3/25/2021	6:45am 8:45am	5:29	CT	In Massachusetts and Connecticut, over 200-thousand elderly residents are living with Alzheimer's disease, according to the Alzheimer's Association. The report says that black, Hispanic, and Native Americans are at greater risk, and the ongoing pandemic poses an even greater challenge in finding proper care. Dr. Kristina Zdanys of the University of Connecticut outlined the racial and ethnic disparities in care.