

California Arbovirus Surveillance Bulletin #2

Week 16 Friday, April 19, 2024



WEEKLY UPDATE

Humans

No human infections have been reported in 2024.

Dead Birds

A total of 2 new West Nile virus (WNV) positive dead birds were reported from 2 counties: Alameda (1) and San Mateo (1). In 2024, a total of 13 WNV positive dead birds have been reported in 4 counties. At this time last year, 1 WNV positive dead bird had been reported from one county.

Mosquito Pools

No new WNV positive mosquito pools were reported this week. In 2024, 1 WNV positive mosquito pool has been reported from 1 county: Alameda (1). At this time last year, 2 WNV positive mosquito pools had been reported from 2 counties.

Sentinel Chickens

No seroconversions have been reported in 2024.

2023 & 2024 YTD West Nile Virus Comparisons		
	2023	2024
Total No. Dead Bird Reports	1,020	782
No. Positive Counties	3	4
No. Human Cases	0	0
No. Positive Dead Birds / No. Tested	1 / 48	13 / 89
No. Positive Mosquito Pools / No. Tested	2 / 1,405	1 / 2,320
No. Seroconversions / No. Tested	0 / 0	0 / 0

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YTD WNV Activity by Element and County, 2024					
County	Humans	Horses	Dead Birds	Mosquito Pools	Sentinel Chickens
Alameda			5	1	
San Diego			2		
San Mateo			3		
Santa Clara			3		
Totals			13	1	

TESTING SUMMARIES

		WNV	SLEV	WEEV
Human Cases	Week	0	0	0
	YTD	0	0	0

		Positive / Total Tested					
		WNV	SLEV	WEEV	CHIK	DENV	ZIKA
Dead Birds	Week	2 / 22					
	YTD	13 / 89					
Chicken Sera	Week	0 / 0	0 / 0	0 / 0			
	YTD	0 / 0	0 / 0	0 / 0			
Mosquito Pools	Week	0 / 399	0 / 399	0 / 399	0 / 0	0 / 0	0 / 0
	YTD	1 / 2,320	0 / 2,223	0 / 2,223	0 / 91	0 / 91	0 / 91

POSITIVES

Dead Birds

County	Agency	City	Zip Code	Species	Date Reported	Virus
Alameda	Alameda Co MAD	Pleasanton	94566	Finch	4/17/2024	WNV
San Mateo	San Mateo Co MVCD	Menlo Park	94025	Yellow-rumped Warbler	4/14/2024	WNV

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TEST PROTOCOLS

Humans:

Specimens are tested by local laboratories with an IgM or IgG immunofluorescent assay (IFA) and/or an IgM enzyme immunoassay (EIA). Specimens with inconclusive results are forwarded to the California Department of Public Health Viral and Rickettsial Disease Laboratory (VRDL) for further testing with a plaque reduction neutralization test (PRNT).

Dead Birds

Oral swab samples collected from bird carcasses are tested at the UC Davis Arbovirus Research and Training laboratory (DART) or at a local agency for West Nile virus by RT-qPCR.

Sentinel Chickens:

Dried blood spot samples from sentinel chickens are tested at the California Department of Public Health Vector-Borne Disease Laboratory for IgG antibodies to West Nile, St. Louis encephalitis, and western equine encephalomyelitis viruses by an EIA. Positive samples are confirmed by IFA, western-blot, or PRNT.

Mosquito Pools:

Mosquito pools are tested at DART or at a local agency for West Nile, western equine encephalomyelitis, and St. Louis encephalitis viral RNA using a multiplex RT-qPCR. Invasive *Aedes* mosquitoes (*Ae. aegypti* and *Ae. albopictus*) are also tested at DART for chikungunya, dengue, and Zika viral RNA by a separate RT-qPCR.

Website Information: For updated information on WNV in California, please visit the California WNV website, <https://westnile.ca.gov>, or the California Vector-Borne Disease Surveillance System website, <https://maps.vectorsurv.org>.

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