

California Arbovirus Surveillance Bulletin #2

Week 17 Friday, April 25, 2025



WEEKLY UPDATE

Humans

No human infections have been reported in 2025.

Dead Birds

A total of two new WNV positive dead birds were reported this week from 1 county: Alameda (2). In 2025, a total of 7 WNV positive birds have been reported in 2 counties. At this time last year, 14 WNV positive dead birds had been reported from 5 counties.

Mosquito Pools

No WNV positive mosquito pools have been reported in 2025. At this time last year, 1 WNV positive mosquito pool had been reported from 1 county.

Sentinel Chickens

No seroconversions have been reported in 2025.

| 2024 & 2025 YTD West Nile Virus Comparisons | | |
|---|-----------|-----------|
| | 2024 | 2025 |
| Total No. Dead Bird Reports | 895 | 2,285 |
| No. Positive Counties | 5 | 2 |
| No. Human Cases | 0 | 0 |
| No. Positive Dead Birds / No. Tested | 14 / 104 | 7 / 154 |
| No. Positive Mosquito Pools / No. Tested | 1 / 2,712 | 0 / 3,163 |
| No. Seroconversions / No. Tested | 0 / 8 | 0 / 0 |

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| YTD WNV Activity by Element and County, 2025 | | | | | |
|--|--------|--------|------------|----------------|-------------------|
| County | Humans | Horses | Dead Birds | Mosquito Pools | Sentinel Chickens |
| Alameda | | | 4 | | |
| Santa Clara | | | 3 | | |
| Totals | | | 7 | | |

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 / 16 | | | | | |
| | YTD | 7 / 154 | | | | | |
| Chicken Sera | Week | 0 / 0 | 0 / 0 | 0 / 0 | | | |
| | YTD | 0 / 0 | 0 / 0 | 0 / 0 | | | |
| Mosquito Pools | Week | 0 / 703 | 0 / 703 | 0 / 703 | 0 / 0 | 0 / 0 | 0 / 0 |
| | YTD | 0 / 3,163 | 0 / 2,952 | 0 / 2,952 | 0 / 3 | 0 / 3 | 0 / 3 |

POSITIVES

Dead birds

| County | Submitting Agency | City | Zip Code | Species | Date Reported | Virus |
|---------|-------------------|-----------|----------|-------------------------|---------------|-------|
| Alameda | Alameda Co MAD | Livermore | 94550 | Unknown - Crow or Raven | 4/23/2025 | WNV |
| Alameda | Alameda Co MAD | Livermore | 94550 | Unknown - Crow or Raven | 4/23/2025 | 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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