

California Arbovirus Surveillance Bulletin #4

Week 19 Friday, May 9, 2025



WEEKLY UPDATE

Humans

No human infections have been reported in 2025.

Dead Birds

A single (1) new West Nile virus (WNV) positive dead bird was reported this week from 1 county: Santa Clara (1). In 2025, a total of 9 WNV positive dead birds have been reported from 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, 3 WNV positive mosquito pools had been reported from 3 counties.

Sentinel Chickens

No seroconversions have been reported in 2025.

2024 & 2025 YTD West Nile Virus Comparisons		
	2024	2025
Total No. Dead Bird Reports	1,190	2,668
No. Positive Counties	7	2
No. Human Cases	0	0
No. Positive Dead Birds / No. Tested	14 / 159	9 / 213
No. Positive Mosquito Pools / No. Tested	3 / 3,979	0 / 4,350
No. Seroconversions / No. Tested	0 / 49	0 / 158

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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			5		
Totals			9		

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	1 / 20					
	YTD	9 / 213					
Chicken Sera	Week	0 / 123	0 / 123	0 / 123			
	YTD	0 / 158	0 / 158	0 / 158			
Mosquito Pools	Week	0 / 558	0 / 558	0 / 558	0 / 3	0 / 3	0 / 3
	YTD	0 / 4,350	0 / 4,139	0 / 4,139	0 / 6	0 / 6	0 / 6

POSITIVES

Dead birds

County	Submitting Agency	City	Zip Code	Species	Date Reported	Virus
Santa Clara	Santa Clara Co VCD	Sunnyvale	94087	American Crow	4/29/2025	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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