

California Arbovirus Surveillance Bulletin #5

Week 20 Friday, May 16, 2025



WEEKLY UPDATE

Humans

No human infections have been reported in 2025.

Dead Birds

A total of 4 new West Nile virus (WNV) positive dead birds were reported this week from 3 counties: Alameda (1), San Diego (2), and Santa Clara (1). **This is the first detection of WNV activity in San Diego County this year.** In 2025, a total of 13 WNV positive dead birds have been reported from 3 counties. At this time last year, 15 WNV positive dead birds had been reported from 5 counties.

Mosquito Pools

A total of 4 new WNV positive mosquito pools were reported from 2 counties: Riverside (1) and Tulare (3). **These are the first detections of WNV activity in Riverside and Tulare counties this year.** In 2025, a total of 4 WNV positive mosquito pools have been reported from 2 counties. At this time last year, 9 WNV positive mosquito pools had been reported from 4 counties.

Sentinel Chickens

No seroconversions have been reported in 2025.

2024 & 2025 YTD West Nile Virus Comparisons		
	2024	2025
Total No. Dead Bird Reports	1,397	2,942
No. Positive Counties	7	5
No. Human Cases	0	0
No. Positive Dead Birds / No. Tested	15 / 212	13 / 250
No. Positive Mosquito Pools / No. Tested	9 / 4,751	4 / 5,054
No. Seroconversions / No. Tested	0 / 153	0 / 176

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YTD WNV Activity by Element and County, 2025					
County	Humans	Horses	Dead Birds	Mosquito Pools	Sentinel Chickens
Alameda			5		
Riverside				1	
San Diego			2		
Santa Clara			6		
Tulare				3	
Totals			13	4	

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	4 / 37					
	YTD	13 / 250					
Chicken Sera	Week	0 / 18	0 / 18	0 / 18			
	YTD	0 / 176	0 / 176	0 / 176			
Mosquito Pools	Week	4 / 615	0 / 615	0 / 615	0 / 0	0 / 0	0 / 0
	YTD	4 / 5,054	0 / 4,843	0 / 4,843	0 / 7	0 / 7	0 / 7

POSITIVES

Dead Birds

County	Submitting Agency	City	Zip Code	Species	Date Reported	Virus
Alameda	Alameda Co MAD	Union City	94587	American Crow	5/4/2025	WNV
San Diego	San Diego Co VCP	Lemon Grove	91945	American Crow	5/6/2025	WNV
San Diego	San Diego Co VCP	Lemon Grove	91945	American Crow	5/8/2025	WNV
Santa Clara	Santa Clara Co VCD	Los Altos Hills	94024	Red-shouldered Hawk	5/2/2025	WNV

Mosquito Pools

County	Site	Pool No	Species	City	Pool Size	Trap	Collected	Virus
Riverside	COAV 54	1780	Cx tarsalis	North Shore	50	CO2	5/6/2025	WNV
Tulare	DLTA 509358	80	Cx quinquefasciatus	Visalia	10	GRVD	4/25/2025	WNV
Tulare	DLTA 509467	146	Cx tarsalis	Visalia	32	BGSENT	4/30/2025	WNV
Tulare	DLTA 512166	300	Cx tarsalis	Visalia	50	BGSENT	5/3/2025	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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