

California Arbovirus Surveillance Bulletin #1

Week 14 Friday, April 10, 2026



WEEKLY UPDATE

Humans

No human infections have been reported in 2026.

2025 Final Summary

West Nile virus: In 2025, a total of 113 symptomatic and 11 asymptomatic infections with West Nile virus (WNV) were reported from 23 counties. Of the 113 symptomatic cases, 101 (89%) had neuroinvasive disease and 11 (10%) fatalities were reported. There were 75 (66%) cases that were male and the median age of neuroinvasive disease cases was 65 years. Dates of symptom onset ranged from June 6 to November 23, 2025.

St. Louis encephalitis virus: No human infections of St. Louis encephalitis virus (SLEV) were reported in 2025.

Dead Birds

No WNV positive dead birds have been reported this week. In 2026, 1 WNV positive bird has been reported from 1 county: San Diego (1). At this time last year, 5 WNV positive dead birds had been reported from 2 counties.

Mosquito Pools

West Nile virus

No WNV positive mosquito pools have been reported in 2026. At this time last year, no WNV positive mosquito pools had been reported.

St. Louis encephalitis virus

No SLEV positive mosquito pools have been reported this week. In 2026, 1 SLEV positive mosquito pool has been reported from 1 county: Riverside (1). At this time last year, no SLEV positive mosquito pools had been reported.

Sentinel Chickens

No seroconversions have been reported in 2026.

2025 & 2026 YTD West Nile Virus Comparisons		
	2025	2026
Total No. Dead Bird Reports	2,098	1,070
No. Positive Counties	2	1
No. Human Cases	0	0
No. Positive Dead Birds / No. Tested	5 / 138	1 / 59
No. Positive Mosquito Pools / No. Tested	0 / 2,193	0 / 3,777
No. Seroconversions / No. Tested	0 / 0	0 / 0

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YTD WNV Activity by Element and County, 2026					
County	Humans	Horses	Dead Birds	Mosquito Pools	Sentinel Chickens
San Diego			1		
Totals			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	0 / 2					
	YTD	1 / 59					
Chicken Sera	Week	0 / 0	0 / 0	0 / 0			
	YTD	0 / 0	0 / 0	0 / 0			
Mosquito Pools	Week	0 / 640	0 / 640	0 / 640	0 / 1	0 / 1	0 / 1
	YTD	0 / 3,777	1 / 3,777	0 / 3,777	0 / 22	0 / 22	0 / 22

POSITIVES

Dead birds

County	Submitting Agency	City	Zip Code	Species	Date Reported	Virus
San Diego	San Diego Co VCP	San Diego	92104	American Crow	2/26/2026	WNV

Mosquito Pools

County	Site	Pool No	Species	City	Pool Size	Trap	Collected	Virus
Riverside	COAV 55	231	Cx tarsalis	Mecca	50	CO2	02/10/2026	SLEV

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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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