

## California Arbovirus Surveillance Bulletin #2

Week 15 Friday, April 17, 2026



### WEEKLY UPDATE

#### Humans

No human infections have been reported in 2026.

#### Dead Birds

There were no new West Nile virus (WNV) positive dead birds 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

No WNV positive mosquito pools have been reported in 2026. At this time last year, no WNV positive mosquito pool 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	1,193
No. Positive Counties	2	1
No. Human Cases	0	0
No. Positive Dead Birds / No. Tested	5 / 138	1 / 63
No. Positive Mosquito Pools / No. Tested	0 / 2,193	0 / 4,511
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		
<b>Totals</b>			<b>1</b>		

### TESTING SUMMARIES

		WNV	SLEV	WEEV
<b>Human Cases</b>	Week	0	0	0
	YTD	0	0	0

		Positive / Total Tested					
		WNV	SLEV	WEEV	CHIK	DENV	ZIKA
<b>Dead Birds</b>	Week	0 / 4					
	YTD	1 / 63					
<b>Chicken Sera</b>	Week	0 / 0	0 / 0	0 / 0			
	YTD	0 / 0	0 / 0	0 / 0			
<b>Mosquito Pools</b>	Week	0 / 504	0 / 504	0 / 504	0 / 0	0 / 0	0 / 0
	YTD	0 / 4,511	1 / 4,511	0 / 4,511	0 / 23	0 / 23	0 / 23

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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).

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#### **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.

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#### **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.

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#### **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.

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*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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