

Mosquito-borne Virus Test Results

For the week ending August 17, 2012

In This Update: West Nile virus activity (mosquito, bird, human and/or equine) has been identified in all 21 counties in New Jersey. Eastern equine encephalitis activity (mosquito and equine) has been identified in 7 counties in New Jersey.

Human Testing

The New Jersey Department of Health (NJDOH) Public Health and Environmental Laboratories (PHEL) tests blood and other clinical samples from people suspected of having West Nile virus (WNV), Eastern equine encephalitis (EEE) and St. Louis encephalitis (SLE) infection.

- To date, there have been two cases of WNV reported from the following counties: Monmouth and Hudson. The case from Monmouth was exposed in Ocean county; the case in Hudson was exposed out of state.

Avian Testing

The NJDOH PHEL tests select bird species for WNV infection.

- To date, 143 birds were tested for WNV.
- A total of 46 WNV positive birds have been identified from the following 9 counties: Atlantic (1), Burlington (2), Cumberland (2), Mercer (3), Monmouth (3), Morris (11), Ocean (14), Somerset (1) and Warren (9).

Mosquito Testing

The NJDOH PHEL and the Cape May Department of Mosquito Control Bio-safety Level 3 (CMBSL3) Laboratory test mosquitoes for the following viruses:

West Nile virus (WNV):

- To date, 6,257 mosquito pools have been tested for WNV by the NJDOH PHEL and CMBSL3 Laboratory.
- A total of 585 WNV positive mosquito pools were detected in the following 20 counties: Atlantic (3), Bergen (87), Burlington (17), Camden (32), Cape May (9), Essex (25), Gloucester (46), Hudson (53), Hunterdon (29), Mercer (37), Middlesex (52), Monmouth (5), Morris (48), Ocean (14), Passaic (7), Salem (1), Somerset (20), Sussex (8), Union (84) and Warren (8).

Eastern equine encephalitis virus (EEE):

- To date, 1,466 mosquito pools have been tested for EEE by the NJDOH PHEL and CMBSL3 Laboratory.
- A total of 21 EEE positive mosquito pools were detected in the following 7 counties: Burlington (2), Camden (8), Cape May (2), Gloucester (5), Monmouth (1), Ocean (1) and Salem (2).

St. Louis encephalitis virus (SLE):

- To date, 615 mosquito pools have been tested for SLE by the NJDOH PHEL.
- No SLE positive mosquito pools have been identified.

La Crosse encephalitis virus (LAC):

- To date, 85 mosquito pools have been tested for LAC by the NJDOH PHEL and CMBSL3 Laboratory.
- No LAC positive mosquito pools have been identified.

Horse Testing

Equine testing for WNV and EEE is conducted at the New Jersey Department of Agriculture's animal health laboratory.

- A total of 2 equine cases of EEE were identified from Burlington county.
- A total of 1 equine case of WNV was identified from Salem county.
- For more information on equine testing, visit the Department of Agriculture website at www.state.nj.us/agriculture.