

Mosquito-borne Virus Test Results

For the week ending August 23, 2013

In This Update: West Nile virus activity has been detected in all counties in New Jersey except Cumberland and Salem. Eastern equine encephalitis activity has been identified in Cape May county.

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.

- Two cases of WNV have been identified: one each in Burlington and Camden counties.

Avian Testing

The NJDOH PHEL tests select bird species for WNV infection.

- To date, 90 birds were tested for WNV from 17 counties, including Atlantic, Bergen, Burlington, Cape May, Cumberland, Essex, Gloucester, Hunterdon, Mercer, Middlesex, Monmouth, Morris, Ocean, Salem, Sussex, Union and Warren.
- 14 WNV positive birds were identified from 7 counties, including Burlington (1), Cape May (2), Hunterdon (2), Middlesex (1), Monmouth (1), Ocean (6) and Warren (1).

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):

- Mosquito pools have been tested for WNV from 20 counties (all counties except Cumberland have submitted mosquito pools for WNV testing).
- A total of 309 WNV positive mosquito pools were detected in the following 19 counties: Atlantic (1), Bergen (50), Burlington (15), Camden (22), Cape May (7), Essex (2), Gloucester (25), Hudson (31), Hunterdon (12), Mercer (20), Middlesex (22), Monmouth (3), Morris (14), Ocean (9), Passaic (6), Somerset (10), Sussex (8), Union (44) and Warren (8).

Eastern equine encephalitis virus (EEE):

- Mosquito pools have been tested for EEE from 8 counties including Atlantic, Burlington, Camden, Cape May, Gloucester, Monmouth, Ocean and Salem.
- 6 EEE positive mosquito pools were identified from Cape May county.

St. Louis encephalitis virus (SLE):

- Mosquito pools have been tested for SLE from 2 counties including Burlington and Cape May.
- No SLE positive mosquito pools have been identified.

La Crosse encephalitis virus (LAC):

- Mosquito pools have been tested for LAC from 2 counties including Cape May and Salem.
- 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 horse from Cape May county tested positive for EEE.
- For more information on equine testing, visit the Department of Agriculture website at www.state.nj.us/agriculture.