

Mosquito-borne Virus Test Results

For the week ending August 31, 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/or equine) has been identified in 8 counties in New Jersey including Atlantic, Burlington, Camden, Cape May, Gloucester, Monmouth, Ocean and Salem.

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 8 cases of WNV reported from the following 7 counties: Bergen, Essex (2), Hudson, Mercer, Middlesex, Monmouth and Ocean. 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, 199 birds were tested for WNV.
- A total of 72 WNV positive birds have been identified from the following 13 counties: Atlantic (1), Burlington (4), Cape May (1), Cumberland (3), Gloucester (1), Hunterdon (5), Mercer (3), Monmouth (5), Morris (14), Ocean (17), Somerset (2), Sussex (5) and Warren (11).

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, 7,344 mosquito pools have been tested for WNV by the NJDOH PHEL and CMBSL3 Laboratory.
- A total of 761 WNV positive mosquito pools were detected in the following 20 counties: Atlantic (3), Bergen (123), Burlington (21), Camden (42), Cape May (11), Essex (28), Gloucester (52), Hudson (64), Hunterdon (42), Mercer (52), Middlesex (68), Monmouth (8), Morris (61), Ocean (15), Passaic (11), Salem (2), Somerset (26), Sussex (14), Union (100) and Warren (18).

Eastern equine encephalitis virus (EEE):

- To date, 1,698 mosquito pools have been tested for EEE by the NJDOH PHEL and CMBSL3 Laboratory.

- A total of 24 EEE positive mosquito pools were detected in the following 7 counties: Burlington (2), Camden (8), Cape May (2), Gloucester (6), Monmouth (2), Ocean (1) and Salem (3).

St. Louis encephalitis virus (SLE):

- To date, 616 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, 109 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 4 equine cases of EEE were identified from Atlantic (1), Burlington (2) and Camden (1) counties.
- A total of 2 equine cases of WNV were identified from Monmouth and Salem counties.
- For more information on equine testing, visit the Department of Agriculture website at www.state.nj.us/agriculture.