

Vector-borne Surveillance Report

CDC Week 39: Sep 27 – Oct 3, 2026

Highlights:

- **New Jersey is reporting four additional West Nile Virus (WNV) cases this week and one death. To date, there have been 30 reported WNV cases, including two deaths, and five reported presumptive viremic blood donors (PVD). WNV cases have been reported in 14 counties with the highest number reported in Monmouth (6), Mercer (4), and Camden (4) counties. The number of reported cases in recent weeks is higher than average.**
- **Since last week's report, 45 additional mosquito pools tested positive for WNV, for a total of 1,250 positive pools, which is higher than historical trends. The cumulative minimum infection rate is highest in Mercer, Hudson, and Somerset counties. The average number of Culex mosquitoes, which are associated with WNV transmission, is highest in Bergen County.**
- **To date, one mosquito pool has tested positive for Eastern Equine Encephalitis (EEE), six pools for JCV, and one pool for La Crosse virus (LAC).**
- **The number of tick-related emergency department visits increased slightly this week, consistent with historical averages. Increases are expected to continue in the coming weeks when adult blacklegged ticks are active.**

Human Vector-borne Disease Cases

N.J.A.C. 8:57 mandates public health reporting of communicable diseases. 2026 data reflect cases that have been approved by NJDOH and do not include cases under investigation. Due to the time needed for public health investigation, the number of tickborne diseases (except for Lyme disease) may be significantly lower than actual counts and should be interpreted with caution. All 2026 numbers are preliminary and subject to change. Some cases are considered "presumptive positive" and are pending additional testing. Case counts for 2025 reflect the annual total for that year.

Mosquito-borne Diseases			Tickborne Diseases/Conditions		
	2026	2025		2026	2025
Chikungunya	2	10	Alpha-Gal Syndrome	498	539
Dengue	22	14	Anaplasmosis	208	312
Malaria	64	89	Babesiosis	171	373
West Nile	30	23	Ehrlichiosis	95	98
Zika	1	-	Hard Tick Relapsing Fever	6	14
Eastern Equine Encephalitis	-	-	Lyme Disease	5280	6595
Jamestown Canyon	-	-	Powassan	-	2
			Spotted Fever Group Rickettsioses	31	25
			Tularemia	3	1

Mosquito-borne Disease Activity

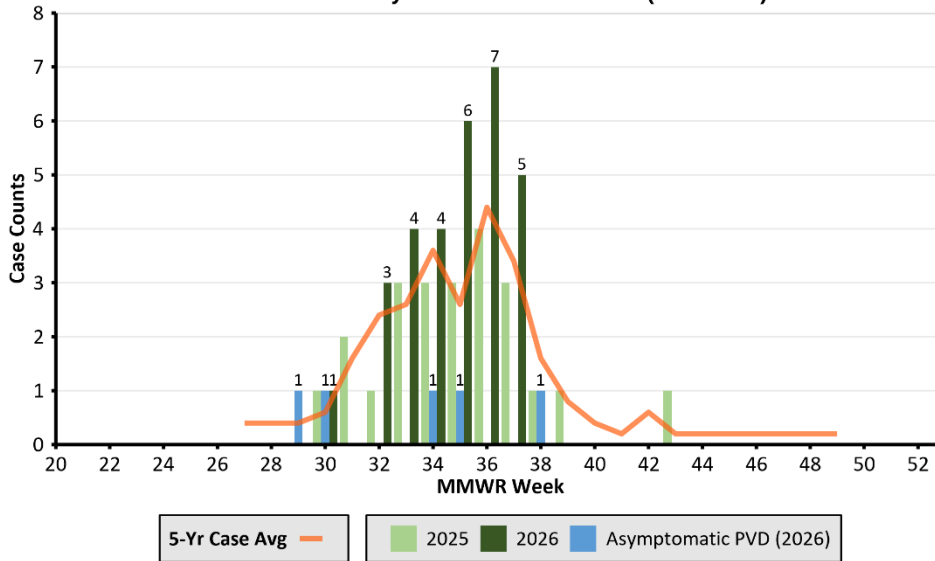
The New Jersey Department of Health Public Health and Environmental Laboratories (PHEL) and the Cape May County Department of Mosquito Control Bio-safety Level 3 Laboratory (CMBSL3) perform arboviral testing on mosquito pools collected by county mosquito control agencies throughout NJ.

Test results may be incomplete as counties submit pools for testing on specific weekdays. Data reflects test results downloaded from JerseySurv on October 8, 2026, at 12:00 pm.

West Nile Virus

- Thirty human cases of WNV have been reported in 2026 from fourteen counties and five PVD cases have been reported from four counties. There have been no animal cases of WNV reported in 2026.
- State mosquito surveillance and testing started May 18th, although some counties collected "early season" samples (403 mosquito pools collected prior to week 20). Out of 10,693 pools tested, 1,250 have tested positive for WNV in 21 counties.
- WNV has been detected in *Culex pipiens/restuans/salinarius* (1,033), *Cx. pipiens* (72), *Aedes albopictus* (53), *Ae. japonicus* (34), *Cx. restuans* (15), *Ae. triseriatus* (9), *Anopheles punctipennis* (7), *Culiseta melanura* (7), *Ae. vexans* (3), *An. quadrimaculatus* s.l. (2), *Cx. erraticus* (2), *Cx. salinarius* (2), *Cx. territans* (2), *Ae. stricticus* (1), *Ae. taeniorhynchus* (1), *Coquillettidia perturbans* (1), and *Psorophora ciliata* (1) mosquitoes.

West Nile Virus Human Cases by Week of Illness Onset (2025-2026)



WNV Human Activity

County	Cases		PVD*	
	2026	2025	2026	2025
Monmouth	6	2		
Camden	4	1	1	
Mercer	4	1	2	
Atlantic	2	2		
Essex	2	1		
Hudson	2	1		
Middlesex	2	4		2
Ocean	2		1	
Bergen	1	2	1	
Burlington	1	2		2
Gloucester	1	1		
Passaic	1	1		
Somerset	1			
Union	1	2		
Cape May				
Cumberland				
Hunterdon				
Morris		2		
Salem				
Sussex		1		1
Warren				
Total	30	23	5	5

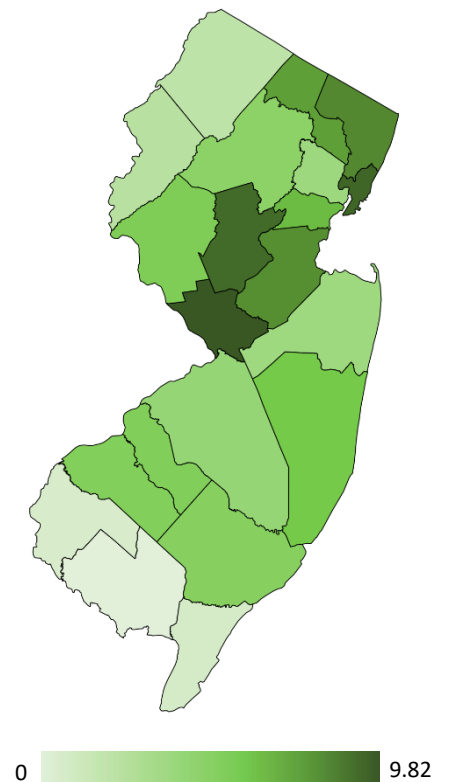
*Asymptomatic Presumptive Viremic Donors

WNV Mosquito Pool Testing

County	WEEK 39 Positive Pools		Cumulative Pos. Total (WEEK 39)		# Pools Tested	Cumulative MIR
	2026	2025	2026	2025		
Mercer	-	2	56	65	357	9.82
Hudson	1	1	118	82	297	9.36
Somerset	1	3	71	62	298	9.24
Bergen	9	6	207	206	445	8.35
Middlesex	6	1	106	102	397	8.15
Passaic	-	-	58	21	370	7.62
Union	-	-	52	70	218	6.61
Ocean	-	1	23	10	435	5.98
Hunterdon	9	4	76	78	328	5.54
Camden	1	-	36	17	599	5.40
Gloucester	3	1	84	65	764	5.31
Atlantic	-	-	55	42	468	5.15
Morris	-	3	52	61	447	4.87
Burlington	1	3	34	19	350	4.33
Essex	-	-	29	59	448	4.00
Monmouth	1	5	68	52	400	3.95
Warren	-	1	34	15	416	2.65
Sussex	-	-	30	58	489	2.34
Cape May	13	3	50	24	2267	1.20
Salem	-	1	9	7	505	1.05
Cumberland	-	-	2	4	395	0.53
Total	45	35	1250	1119	10693	-

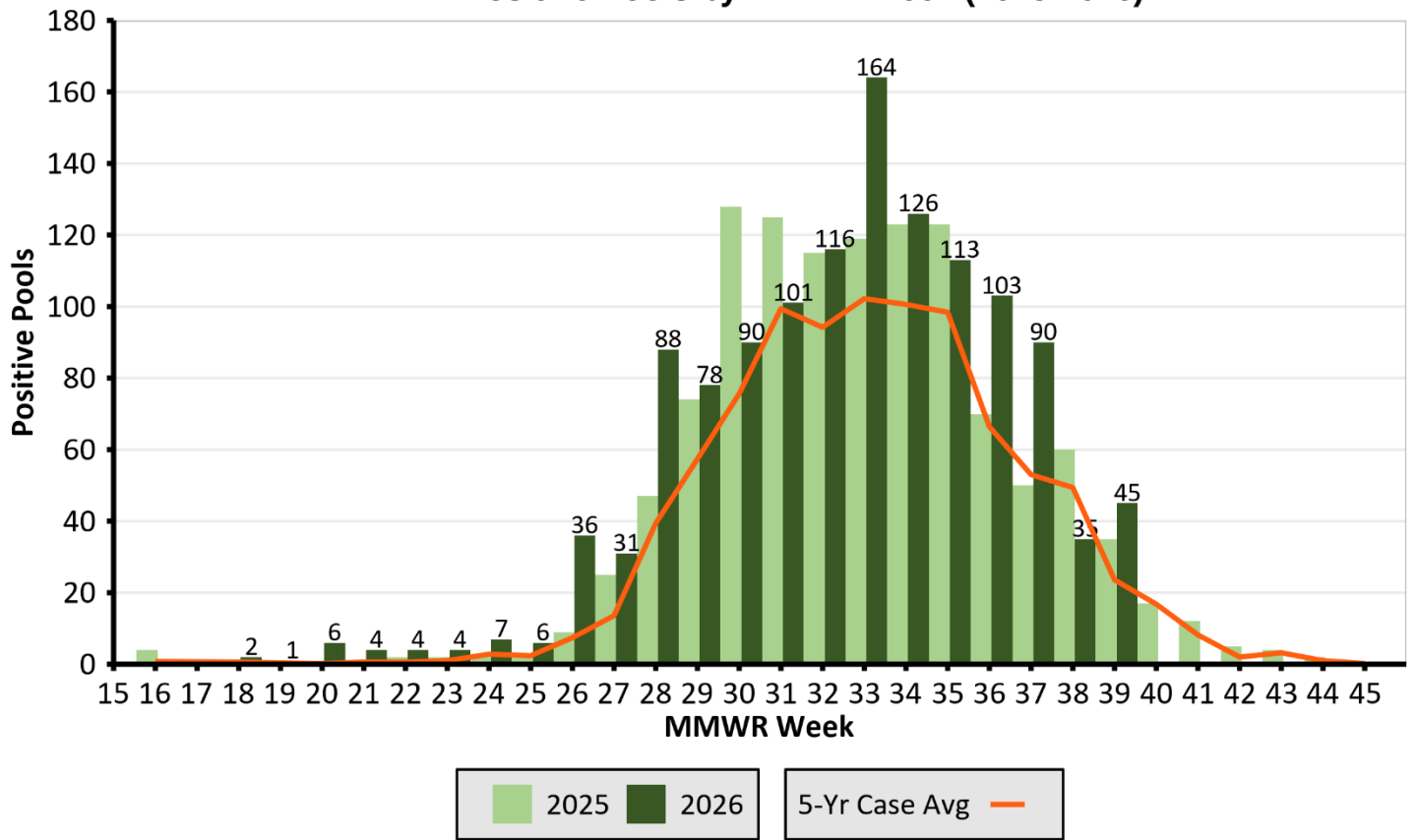
WEEK 39: Sep 21 - 27, 2025; Sep 27 - Oct 3, 2026

Cumulative WNV MIR, 2026

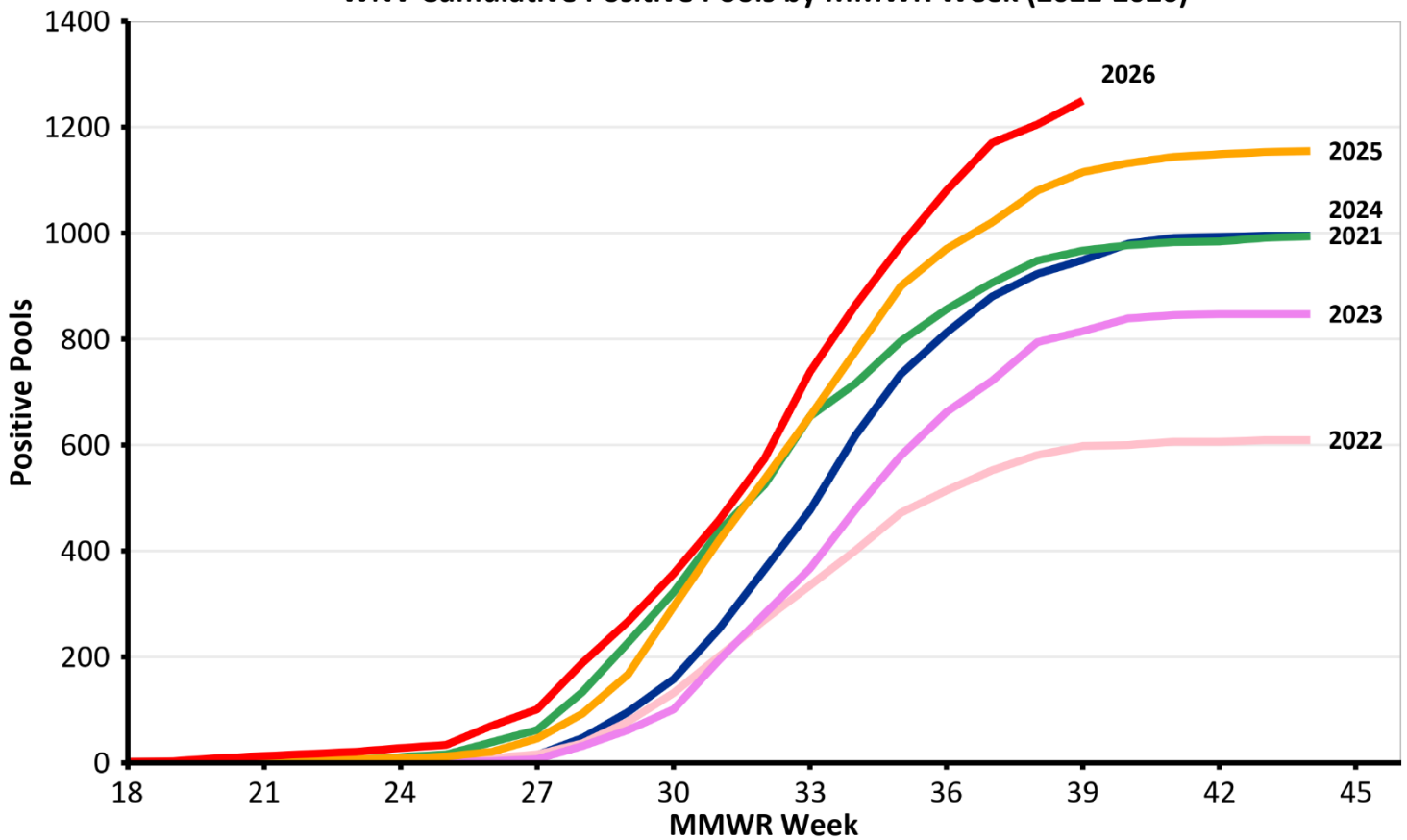


Minimum infection rate (MIR) is defined as the number of positive mosquito pools divided by the total number of mosquitoes tested x 1000

WNV Positive Pools by MMWR Week (2025-2026)

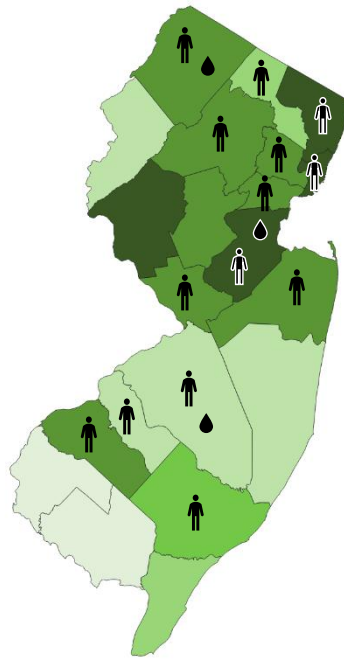
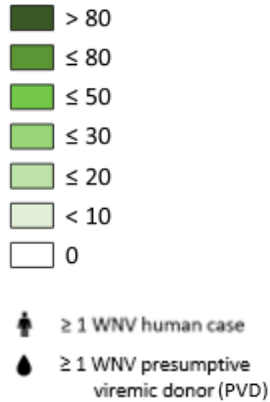


WNV Cumulative Positive Pools by MMWR Week (2021-2026)

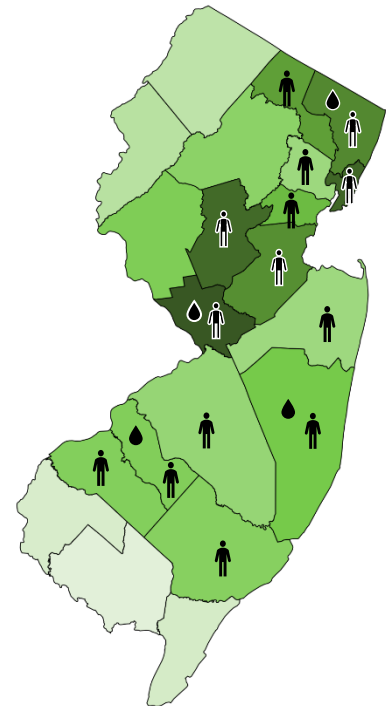


2025 WNV Activity

WNV Positive Pools



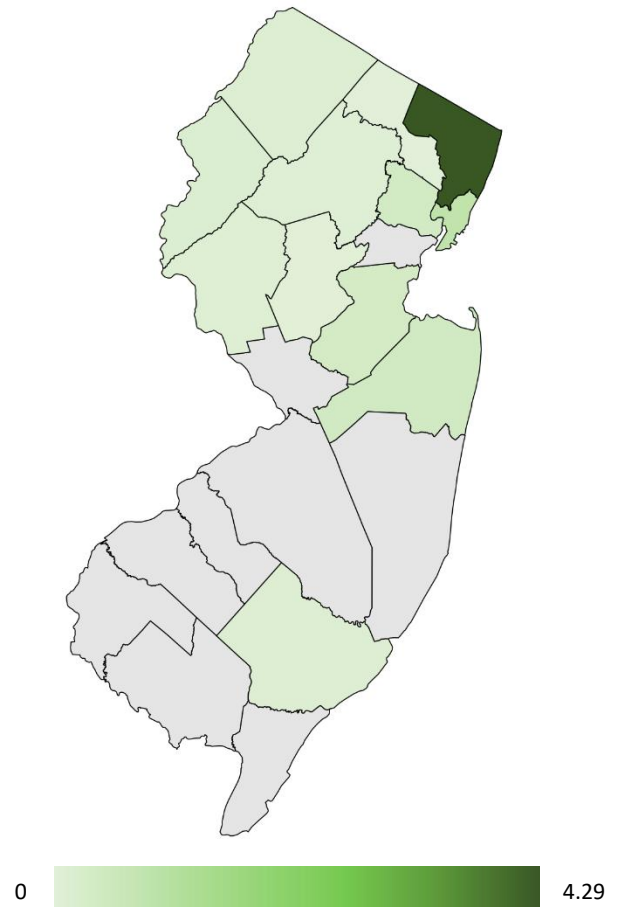
2026 WNV Activity



Average *Culex* Mosquitoes per Trap Night (average mosquito abundance)

County	WEEK 38 - 39 Average Abundance*
Bergen	4.29
Hudson	0.81
Monmouth	0.41
Essex	0.37
Middlesex	0.35
Warren	0.16
Atlantic	0.14
Sussex	0.14
Hunterdon	0.12
Morris	0.10
Somerset	0.05
Passaic	0.02
Burlington	No available data
Camden	No available data
Cape May	No available data
Cumberland	No available data
Gloucester	No available data
Mercer	No available data
Ocean	No available data
Salem	No available data
Union	No available data

Average Mosquito Abundance, *Culex* spp., Week 38 – 39*



* Average mosquito abundance is defined as the average number of mosquitoes caught per trap night over a defined period and is calculated based on *Culex pipiens*, *restuans*, and *salinarius* species caught in NJ Light Traps (NJLT) only. These species are associated with WNV transmission.

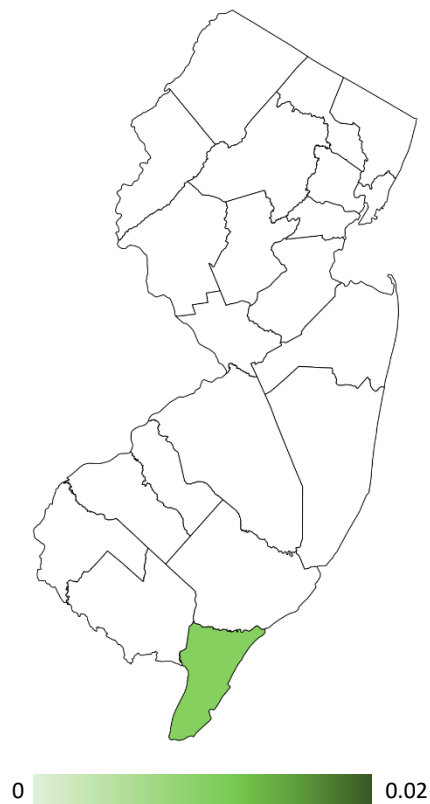
Eastern Equine Encephalitis

- There have been no human or animal cases of EEE reported in 2026. EEE human cases were last reported in 2024 (2 cases).
- Out of 10,532 mosquito pools tested for EEE, one pool tested positive from Cape May County in week 35. EEE was detected in an *An. punctipennis* mosquito.
- In 2025, the first EEE positive pool was detected in week 33 in Atlantic County.

EEE Mosquito Pool Testing						
County	WEEK 39 Positive Pools		Cumulative Pos. Total (WEEK 39)		# Pools Tested	Cumulative MIR
	2026	2025	2026	2025		
Cape May	-	-	1	-	2267	0.02
Atlantic	-	3	-	11	468	0.00
Bergen	-	-	-	-	445	0.00
Burlington	-	-	-	1	347	0.00
Camden	-	-	-	1	597	0.00
Cumberland	-	-	-	-	395	0.00
Essex	-	-	-	-	448	0.00
Gloucester	-	-	-	-	740	0.00
Hudson	-	-	-	-	297	0.00
Hunterdon	-	-	-	-	321	0.00
Mercer	-	-	-	-	357	0.00
Middlesex	-	-	-	-	394	0.00
Monmouth	-	-	-	-	400	0.00
Morris	-	-	-	-	447	0.00
Ocean	-	-	-	-	429	0.00
Passaic	-	-	-	-	370	0.00
Salem	-	-	-	-	504	0.00
Somerset	-	-	-	-	298	0.00
Sussex	-	-	-	-	407	0.00
Union	-	-	-	-	218	0.00
Warren	-	-	-	-	383	0.00
Total	0	3	1	13	10532	-

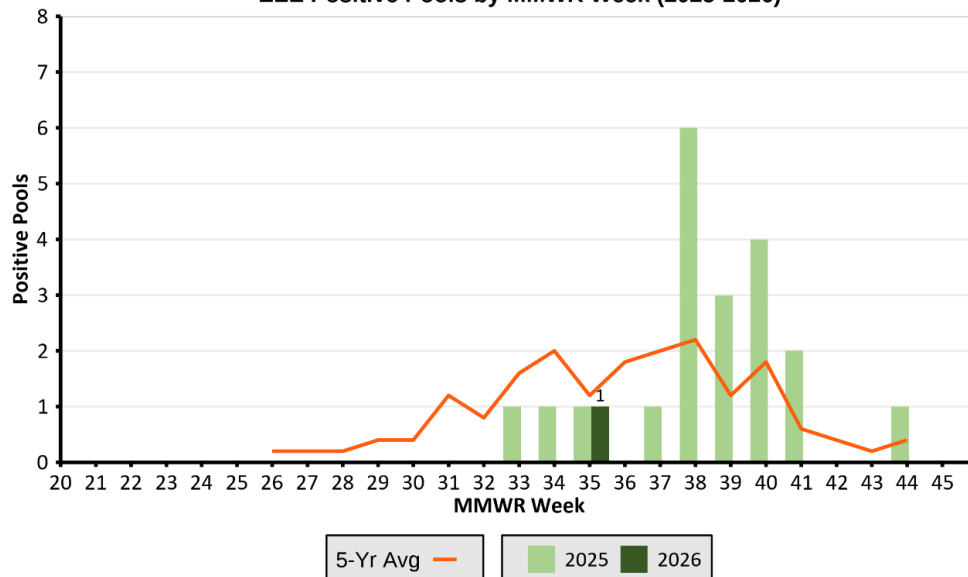
WEEK 39: Sep 21 - 27, 2025; Sep 27 – Oct 3, 2026

Cumulative EEE MIR, 2026



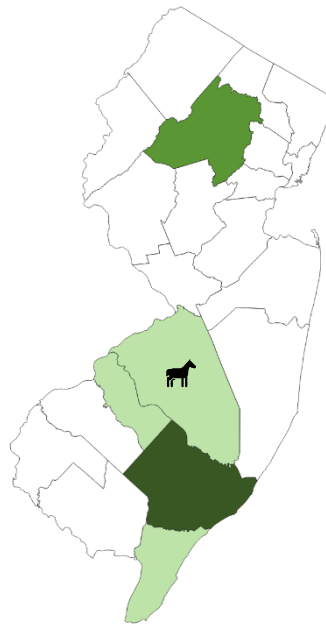
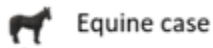
Minimum infection rate (MIR) is defined as the number of positive mosquito pools divided by the total number of mosquitoes tested x 1000

EEE Positive Pools by MMWR Week (2025-2026)



2025 EEE Activity

EEE Positive Pools



2026 EEE Activity



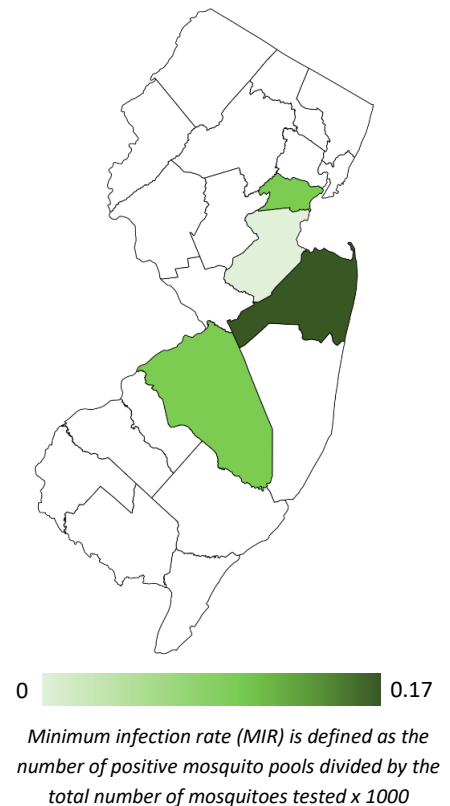
Jamestown Canyon Virus

- There have been no human cases of JCV reported in NJ in 2026. In 2025, there were two human cases of JCV from Middlesex and Burlington counties.
- Out of 10,532 mosquito pools from 21 counties tested for JCV, six pools were positive in Monmouth (3), Burlington, Middlesex, and Union counties. JCV was detected in *Ps. columbiae* (3), *Ae. albopictus* (1), *Ae. atlanticus/tormentor* (1), and *Cx. pipiens/restuans/salinarius* (1) mosquitoes.
- In 2025, the first JCV positive pool was detected in week 29 in Sussex County.

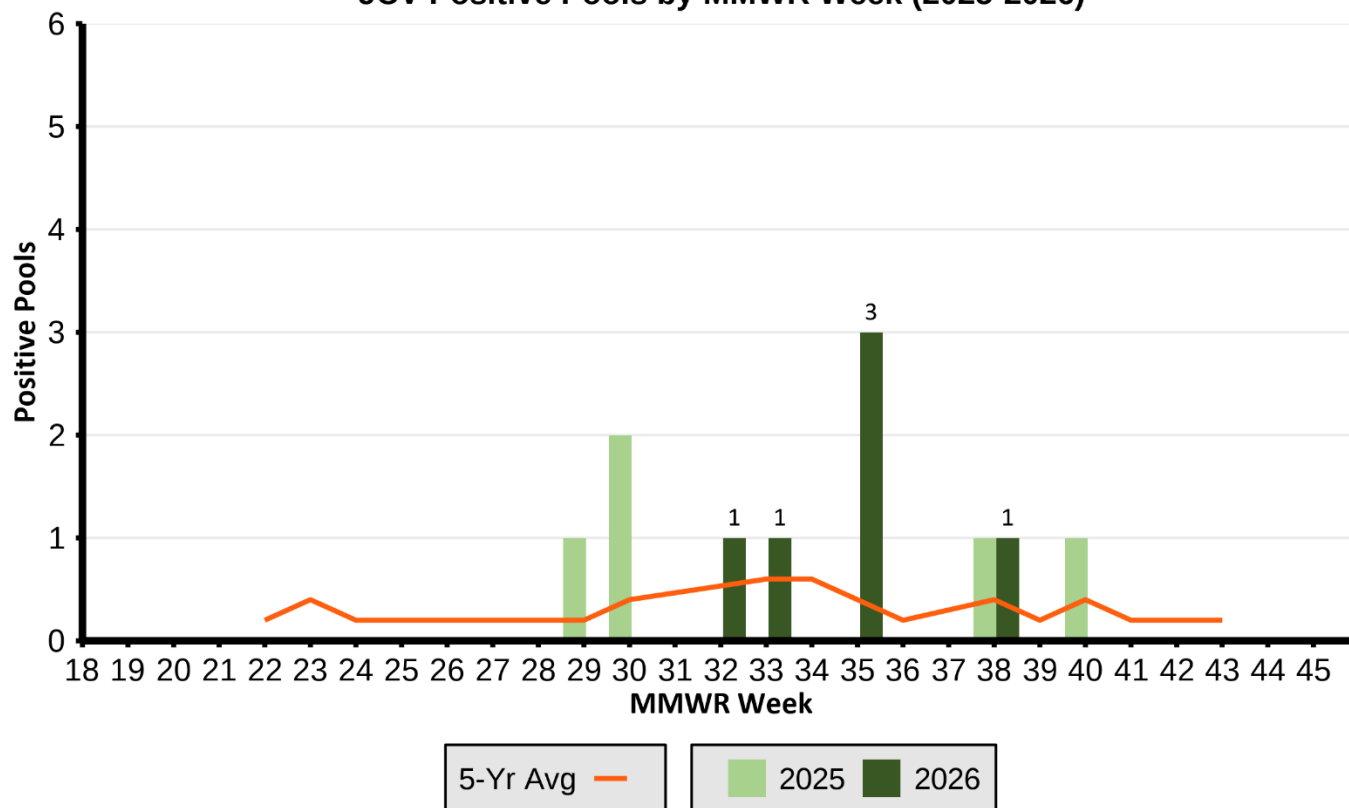
JCV Mosquito Pool Testing

County	WEEK 39 Positive Pools		Cumulative Pos. Total (WEEK 39)		# Pools Tested	Cumulative MIR
	2026	2025	2026	2025		
Monmouth	-	-	3	-	400	0.17
Burlington	-	-	1	-	347	0.13
Union	-	-	1	-	218	0.13
Middlesex	-	-	1	-	394	0.08
Atlantic	-	-	-	-	468	0.00
Bergen	-	-	-	-	445	0.00
Camden	-	-	-	-	597	0.00
Cape May	-	-	-	-	2267	0.00
Cumberland	-	-	-	-	395	0.00
Essex	-	-	-	-	448	0.00
Gloucester	-	-	-	-	740	0.00
Hudson	-	-	-	-	297	0.00
Hunterdon	-	-	-	-	321	0.00
Mercer	-	-	-	1	357	0.00
Morris	-	-	-	2	447	0.00
Ocean	-	-	-	-	429	0.00
Passaic	-	-	-	-	370	0.00
Salem	-	-	-	-	504	0.00
Somerset	-	-	-	-	298	0.00
Sussex	-	-	-	1	407	0.00
Warren	-	-	-	-	383	0.00
Total	0	0	6	4	10532	-

Cumulative JCV MIR, 2026



JCV Positive Pools by MMWR Week (2025-2026)



2025 JCV Activity

2026 JCV Activity

JCV Positive Pools

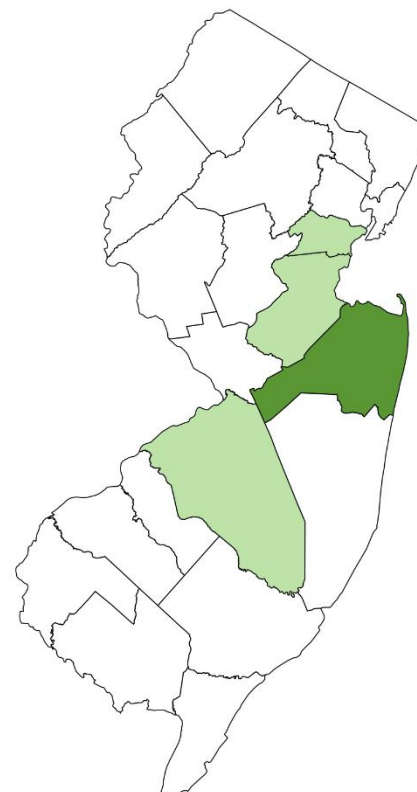
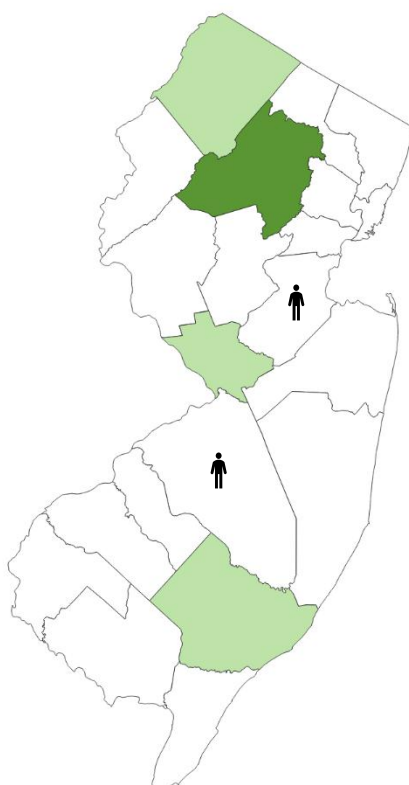
≥2

1

0



Human case



Other Mosquito-borne Diseases

- Mosquito pools in selected counties have been tested for St. Louis encephalitis, La Crosse virus, Chikungunya, Dengue, and Zika.
- One mosquito pool was positive for La Crosse virus in Sussex in week 36.

Cumulative 2026 Mosquito Pool Testing (Other Viruses ^a)										
County	SLE		LAC		CHIKV		DENV		ZIKV	
	Pools	Pos	Pools	Pos	Pools	Pos	Pools	Pos	Pools	Pos
Atlantic	468									
Bergen	445				8		8		8	
Burlington	347		4							
Camden	597		2		18		18		18	
Cape May	2267									
Cumberland	395									
Essex	448									
Gloucester	740		102		91		91		91	
Hudson	297									
Hunterdon	321		7							
Mercer	357				1		1		1	
Middlesex	394		3		20		20		20	
Monmouth	400									
Morris	447				8		8		8	
Ocean	429		8							
Passaic	370		44							
Salem	504		50							
Somerset	298				1		1		1	
Sussex	407		128	1						
Union	218									
Warren	383		34							
Total	10532	0	382	1	147	0	147	0	147	0

^a St. Louis virus (SLE), La Crosse encephalitis (LAC), Chikungunya virus (CHIKV), Dengue virus (DENV), Zika Virus (ZIKV)

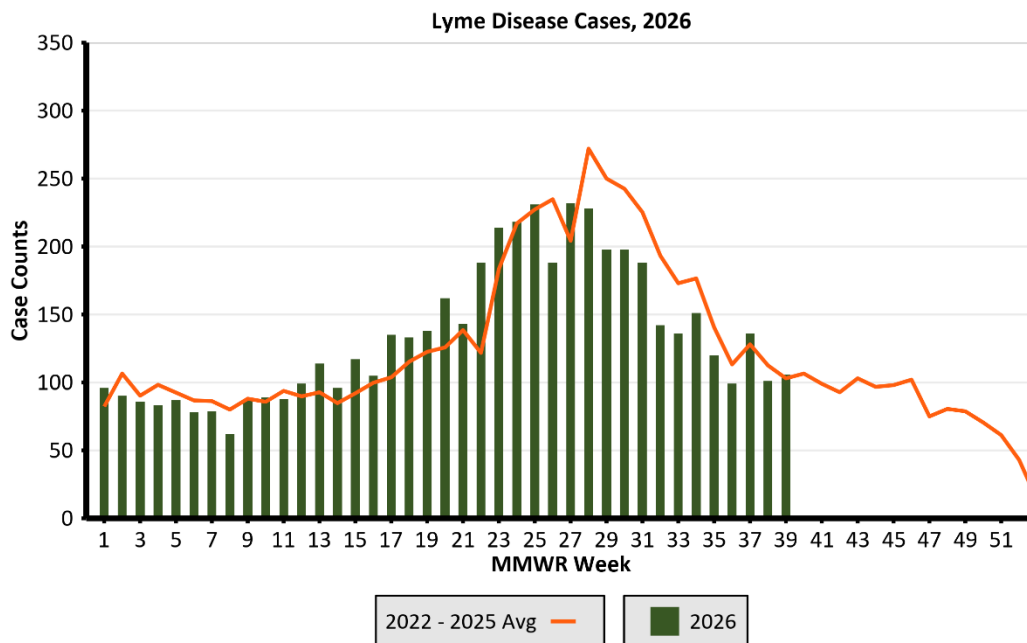
Numbers in white columns represent number of pools tested to date in 2026

Number in green shaded columns represent positive pools in 2026

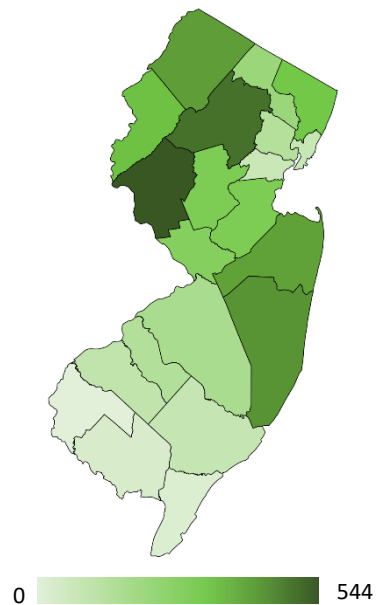
Tickborne Disease Activity

Lyme Disease

- There have been 5,280 cases of Lyme disease reported in NJ in 2026.
- The number of cases increased slightly this week, consistent with the four-year average.
- Most Lyme disease cases have been reported in the northwestern part of the state (Hunterdon, Morris, and Sussex counties) as well as in Ocean and Monmouth counties.

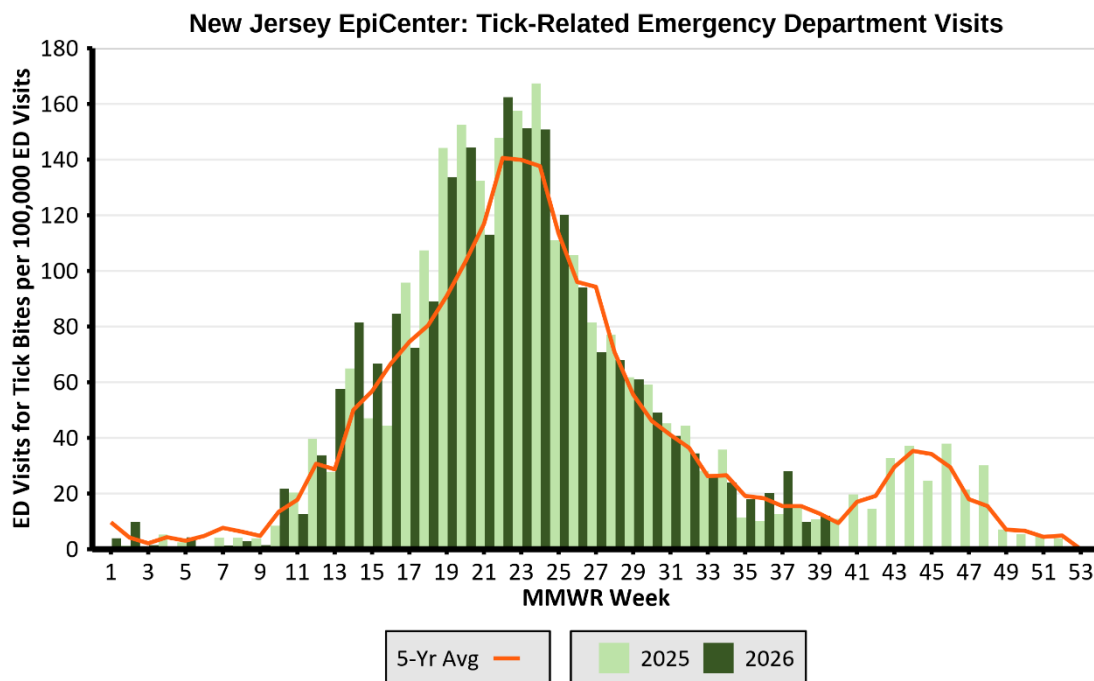


Lyme Disease Cases, 2026



Tick-related Emergency Department Visits

The chart below represents NJ residents seen at emergency departments with a tick-bite complaint or signs/symptoms associated with a reported tick bite relative to total ED visits. The number of tick-related emergency department visits increased this week and is consistent with the 5-year average.



For more information

- NJDOH Communicable Disease Service: <https://www.nj.gov/health/cd/topics/vectorborne.shtml>
- New Jersey Vector-borne Disease Dashboard: https://www.nj.gov/health/cd/topics/vector_borne_disease_data_dashboard.shtml
- New Jersey Arboviral Activity Maps: <http://bit.ly/JerseySurv>
- NJDEP Office of Mosquito Control Coordination: <https://www.nj.gov/dep/mosquito/>
- NJDA Division of Animal Health: <https://www.nj.gov/agriculture/divisions/ah/>