Vector-borne Surveillance Report

CDC Week 42: Oct 18 - 24, 2026

Highlights:

- ***New Jersey is reporting four additional West Nile Virus (WNV) cases this week. To date, there have been 38 reported WNV cases, including four deaths, and six reported PVDs. WNV cases have been reported in 15 counties with the highest numbers reported in Camden (6), Monmouth (6), and Mercer (4) counties.***
- ***Since last week's report, six additional mosquito pools have tested positive for WNV, for a total of 1,295 positive pools, which is higher than historical trends. 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), eight pools for JCV, and one pool for La Crosse virus (LAC).***
- ***The number of tick-related emergency department visits decreased this week and is consistent with the historical average. Increases are expected in the coming weeks as adult blacklegged ticks are emerging.***
- ***The number of reported cases of ehrlichiosis and spotted fever group rickettsioses have exceeded 2025 totals.***

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	**543**	553
Dengue	**23**	14	Anaplasmosis	**213**	312
Malaria	**66**	89	Babesiosis	**176**	373
West Nile	**38**	23	Ehrlichiosis	**100**	98
Zika	**1**	-	Hard Tick Relapsing Fever	**6**	14
Eastern Equine Encephalitis	**-**	-	Lyme Disease	**5588**	6596
Jamestown Canyon	**-**	-	Powassan	**-**	2
			Spotted Fever Group Rickettsioses	**32**	25
			Tularemia	**4**	1

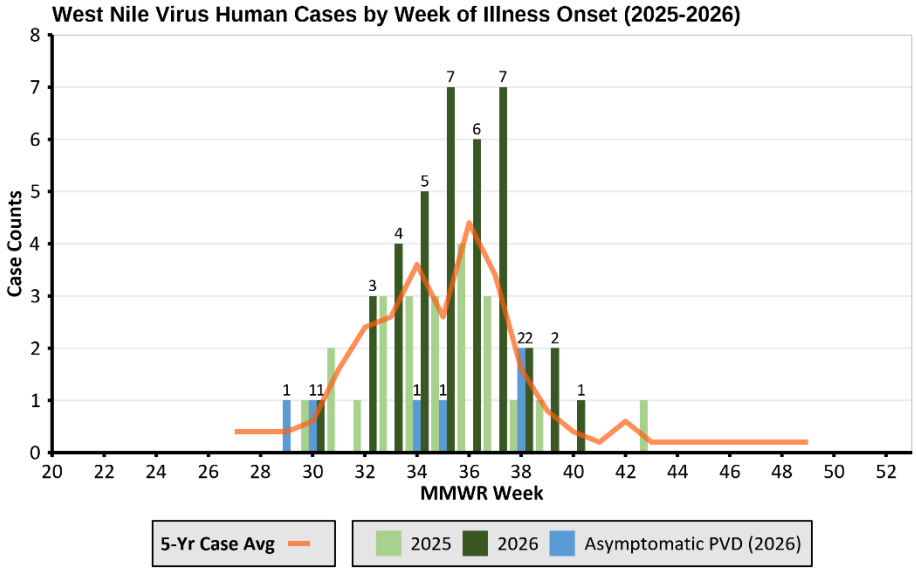
Mosquito-borne Disease Activity

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 29, 2026, at 12:00 pm.

West Nile Virus

- Thirty-eight human cases of WNV have been reported in 2026 from fifteen counties, including four deaths, and six PVD cases have been reported from five 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 11,724 pools tested, 1,295 have tested positive for WNV in 21 counties.
- WNV has been detected in *Culex pipiens/restuans/salinarius* (1,070), *Cx. pipiens* (77), *Aedes albopictus* (56), *Ae. japonicus* (37), *Cx. restuans* (15), *Ae. triseriatus* (9), *Anopheles punctipennis* (7), *Culiseta melanura* (7), *Ae. vexans* (4), *An. quadrimaculatus* s.l. (2), *Cx. erraticus* (2), *Cx. salinarius* (2), *Cx. territans* (2), *Ae. stricticus* (1), *Ae. taeniorhynchus* (1), *An. bradleyi* (1), *Coquillettidia perturbans* (1), and *Psorophora ciliata* (1) mosquitoes.



WNV Human Activity

	Cases		PVD*	
County	2026	2025	2026	2025
Camden	6	1	1	
Monmouth	6	2		
Mercer	4	1	2	
Essex	3	1		
Atlantic	2	2		
Bergen	2	2	1	
Burlington	2	2		2
Gloucester	2	1		
Hudson	2	1		
Middlesex	2	4	1	2
Ocean	2		1	
Passaic	2	1		
Somerset	1			
Union	1	2		
Warren	1			
Cape May				
Cumberland				
Hunterdon				
Morris		2		
Salem				
Sussex		1		1
Total	**38**	**23**	**6**	**5**

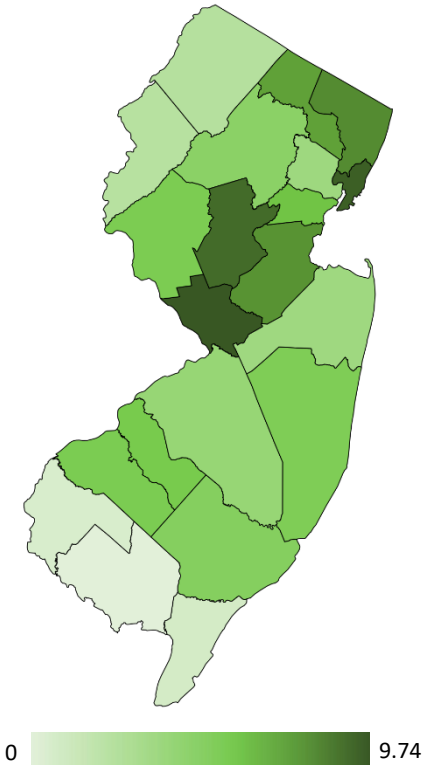
*Asymptomatic Presumptive Viremic Donors

WNV Mosquito Pool Testing

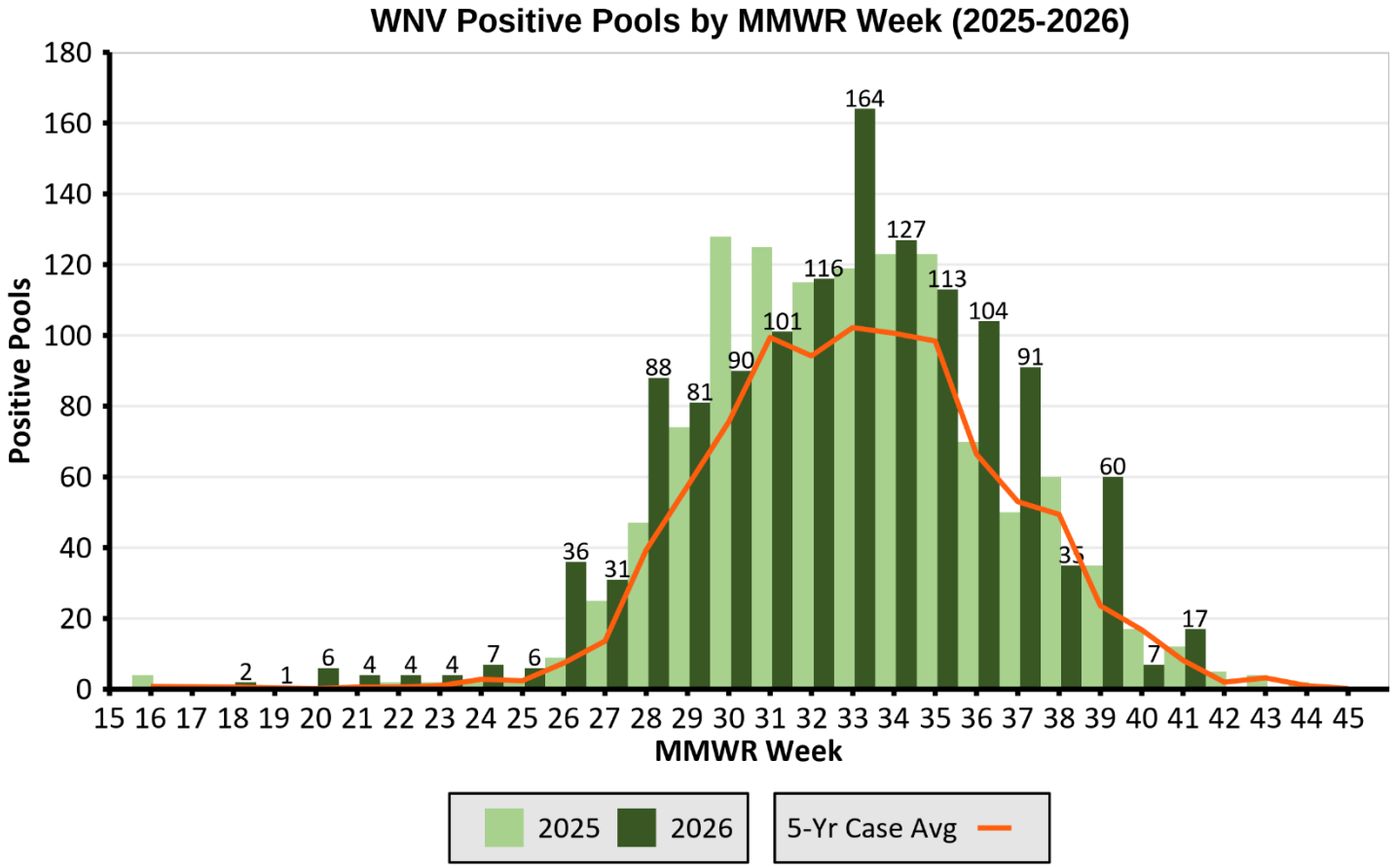
	WEEK 42 Positive Pools		Cumulative Pos. Total (WEEK 42)		# Pools Tested	Cumulative MIR
County	2026	2025	2026	2025	2026	2026[1]
Mercer	-	-	56	65	372	9.74
Hudson	-	2	122	84	344	9.50
Somerset	-	-	71	64	328	9.14
Bergen	-	-	211	212	487	8.19
Middlesex	-	1	107	107	445	7.97
Passaic	-	-	58	21	398	7.47
Union	-	-	52	70	235	6.20
Camden	-	1	41	19	667	5.81
Gloucester	-	-	98	65	883	5.63
Hunterdon	-	-	79	81	354	5.62
Ocean	-	-	23	14	488	5.48
Atlantic	-	-	57	43	530	5.14
Morris	-	-	53	61	483	4.86
Burlington	-	-	37	19	391	4.24
Essex	-	-	29	59	490	3.87
Monmouth	-	-	69	54	460	3.84
Sussex	-	-	37	58	542	2.71
Warren	-	-	34	16	464	2.61
Cape May	-	-	50	29	2339	1.16
Salem	-	1	9	8	569	0.95
Cumberland	-	-	2	4	455	0.46
Total	**0**	**5**	**1295**	**1153**	**11724**	**-**

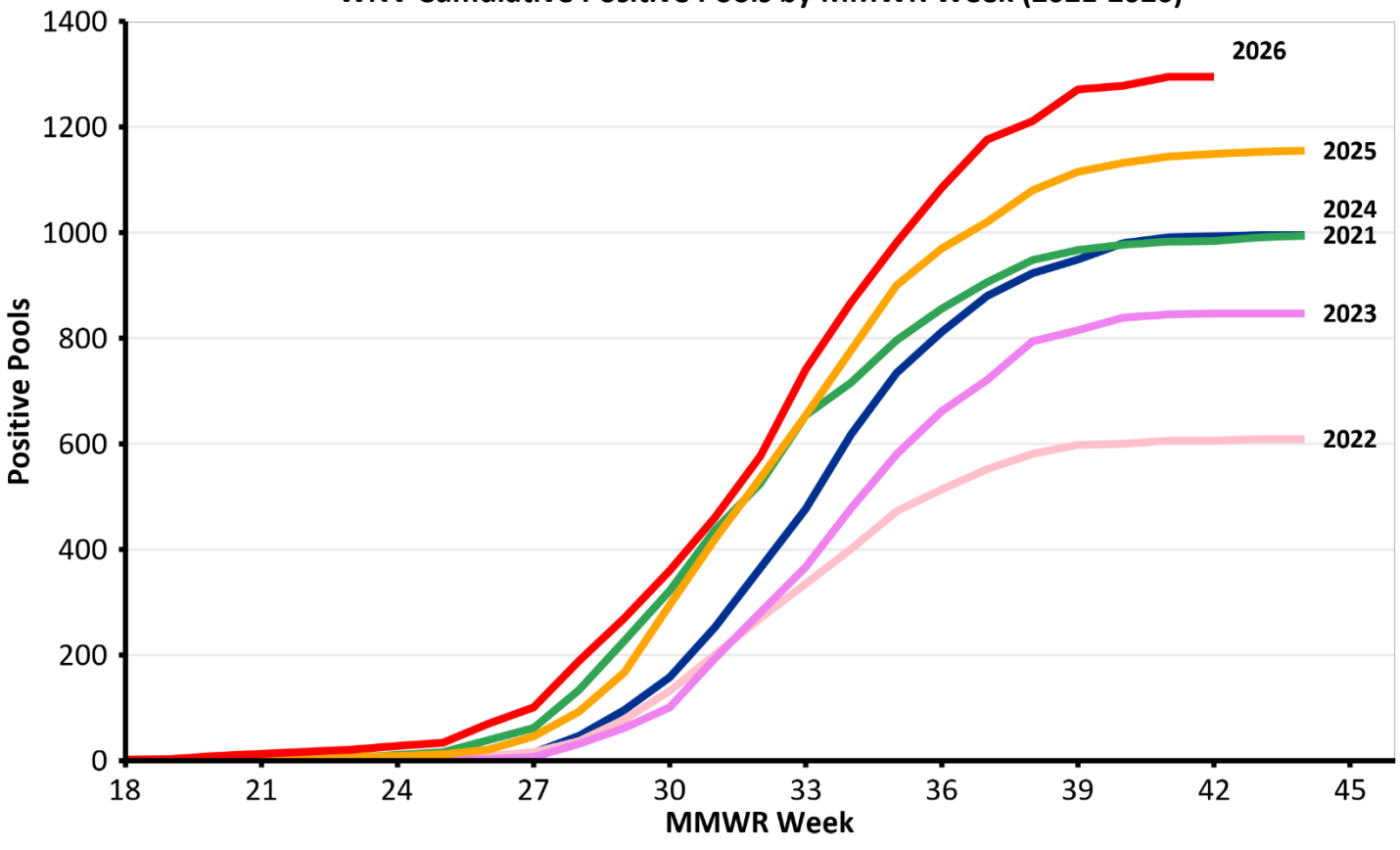
WEEK 42: Oct 12 - 18, 2025; Oct 18 - 24, 2026

Cumulative WNV MIR, 2026

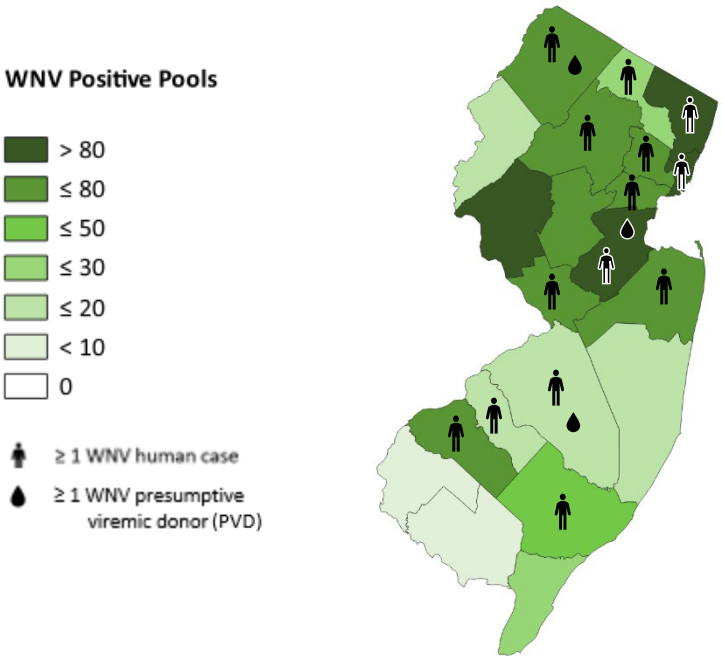


Minimum infection rate (MIR) is defined as the number of positive mosquito pools divided by the total number of mosquitoes tested x 1000

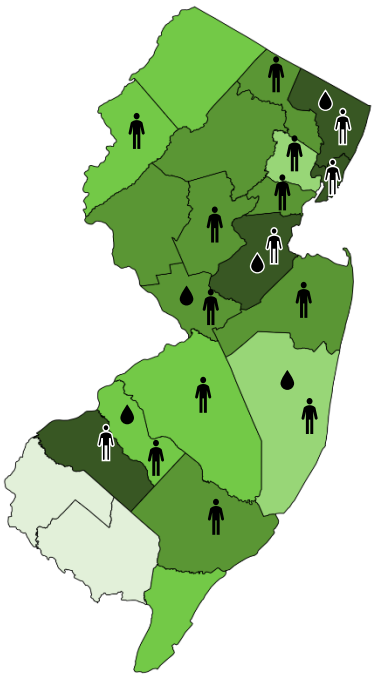

WNV Positive Pools by MMWR Week (2025-2026)
Positive Pools
MMWR Week
2025
2026
5-Yr Case Avg


WNV Cumulative Positive Pools by MMWR Week (2021-2026)
Positive Pools
MMWR Week
2026
2025
2024
2021
2023
2022

2025 WNV Activity

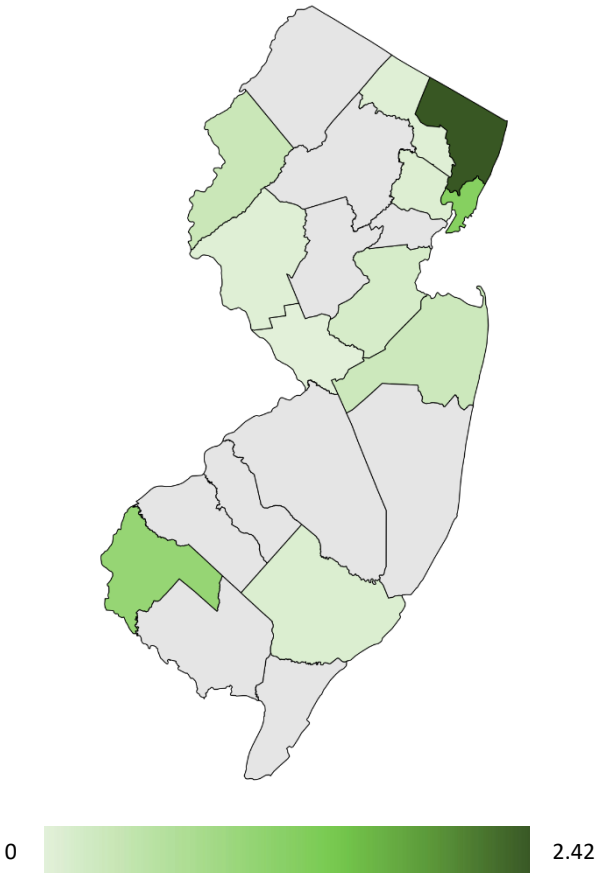


2026 WNV Activity



Average *Culex* Mosquitoes per Trap Night (average mosquito abundance)	
County	**WEEK 41 - 42 Average Abundance***
Bergen	2.42
Hudson	1.22
Salem	1.01
Warren	0.35
Monmouth	0.31
Middlesex	0.19
Atlantic	0.12
Essex	0.09
Passaic	0.07
Hunterdon	0.07
Mercer	0.03
Burlington	No available data
Camden	No available data
Cape May	No available data
Cumberland	No available data
Gloucester	No available data
Morris	No available data
Ocean	No available data
Somerset	No available data
Sussex	No available data
Union	No available data

Average Mosquito Abundance, *Culex* spp., Week 41 – 42[*]



[t] 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

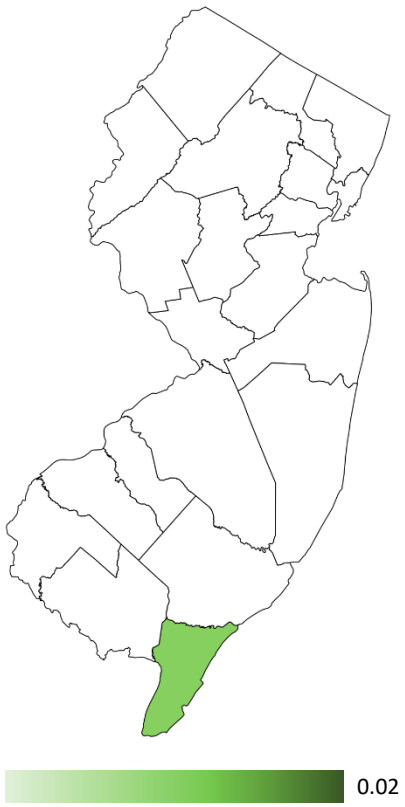
- There have been no human or animal cases of EEE reported in 2026. EEE human cases were last reported in 2024 (2 cases).
- Out of 11,556 mosquito pools tested for EEE, one pool tested positive from Cape May County in week 35. EEE was detected in *An. punctipennis* mosquitoes.
- In 2025, the first EEE positive pool was detected in week 33 in Atlantic County.

EEE Mosquito Pool Testing

	WEEK 42 Positive Pools		Cumulative Pos. Total (WEEK 42)		# Pools Tested	Cumulative MIR
County	2026	2025	2026	2025	2026	2026[1]
Cape May	-	-	1	2	2339	0.02
Atlantic	-	-	-	11	530	0.00
Bergen	-	-	-	-	487	0.00
Burlington	-	-	-	1	387	0.00
Camden	-	-	-	2	665	0.00
Cumberland	-	-	-	-	455	0.00
Essex	-	-	-	-	490	0.00
Gloucester	-	-	-	-	859	0.00
Hudson	-	-	-	-	344	0.00
Hunterdon	-	-	-	-	347	0.00
Mercer	-	-	-	-	372	0.00
Middlesex	-	-	-	-	442	0.00
Monmouth	-	-	-	-	460	0.00
Morris	-	-	-	3	483	0.00
Ocean	-	-	-	-	482	0.00
Passaic	-	-	-	-	398	0.00
Salem	-	-	-	-	568	0.00
Somerset	-	-	-	-	328	0.00
Sussex	-	-	-	-	460	0.00
Union	-	-	-	-	235	0.00
Warren	-	-	-	-	425	0.00
Total	**0**	**0**	**1**	**19**	**11556**	-

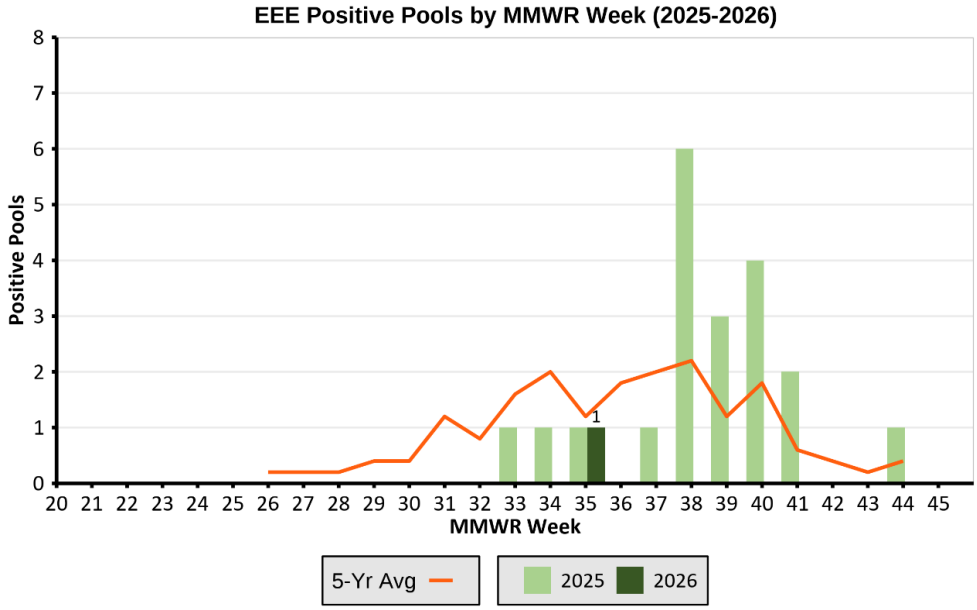
WEEK 42: Oct 12 - 18, 2025; Oct 18 - 24, 2026

Cumulative EEE MIR, 2026



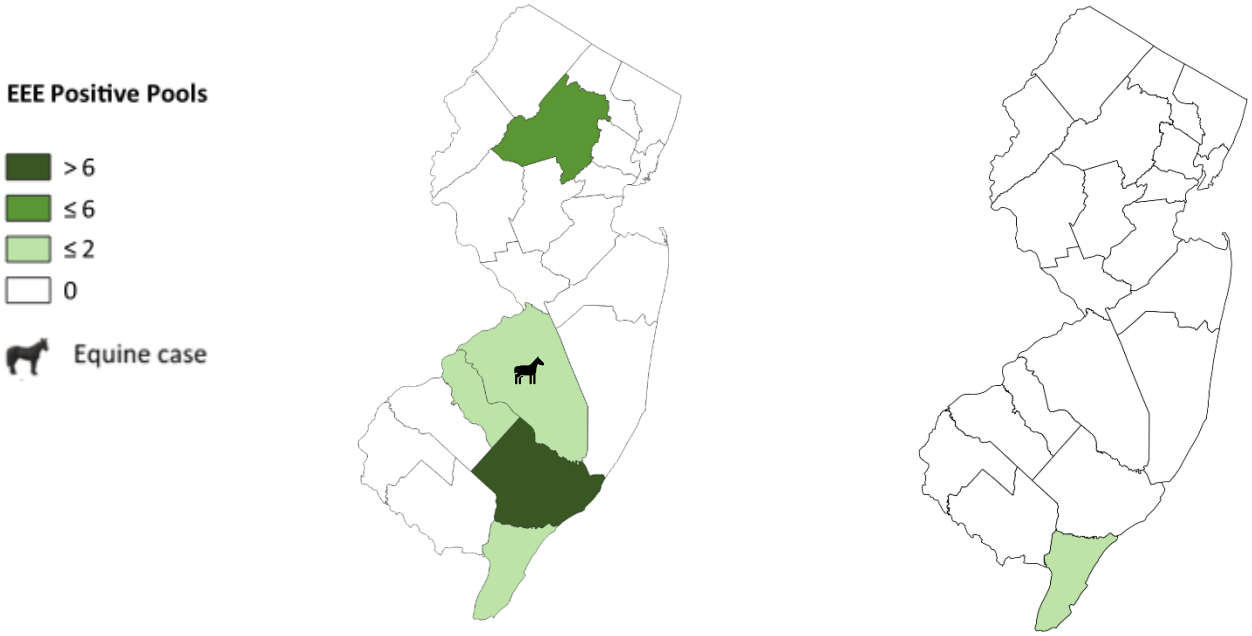
Minimum infection rate (MIR) is defined as the number of positive mosquito pools divided by the total number of mosquitoes tested x 1000

EEE Positive Pools by MMWR Week (2025-2026)



2025 EEE Activity

2026 EEE Activity



Jamestown Canyon Virus

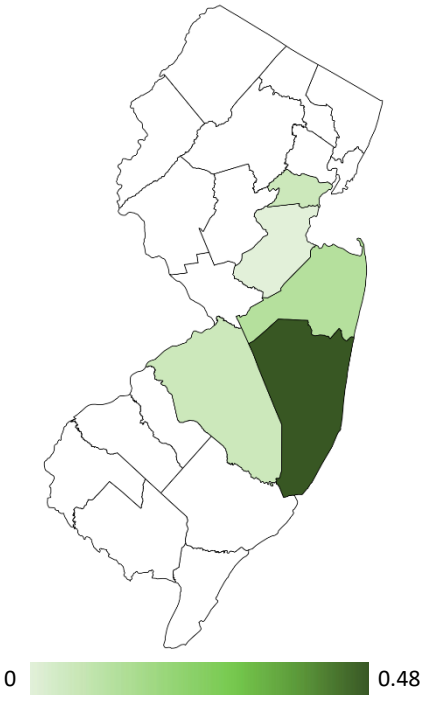
- There have been no human cases of JCV reported in NJ in 2026. In 2025, there were two human cases of JCV from Middlesex and Burlington counties.
- Out of 11,556 mosquito pools from 21 counties tested for JCV, eight pools were positive in Monmouth (3), Ocean (2), Burington, Middlesex, and Union counties. JCV was detected in *Ps. columbiae* (3), *Ae. albopictus* (1), *Ae. atlanticus/tormentor* (1), *An. bradleyi* (1), *Ae. sollicitans* (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

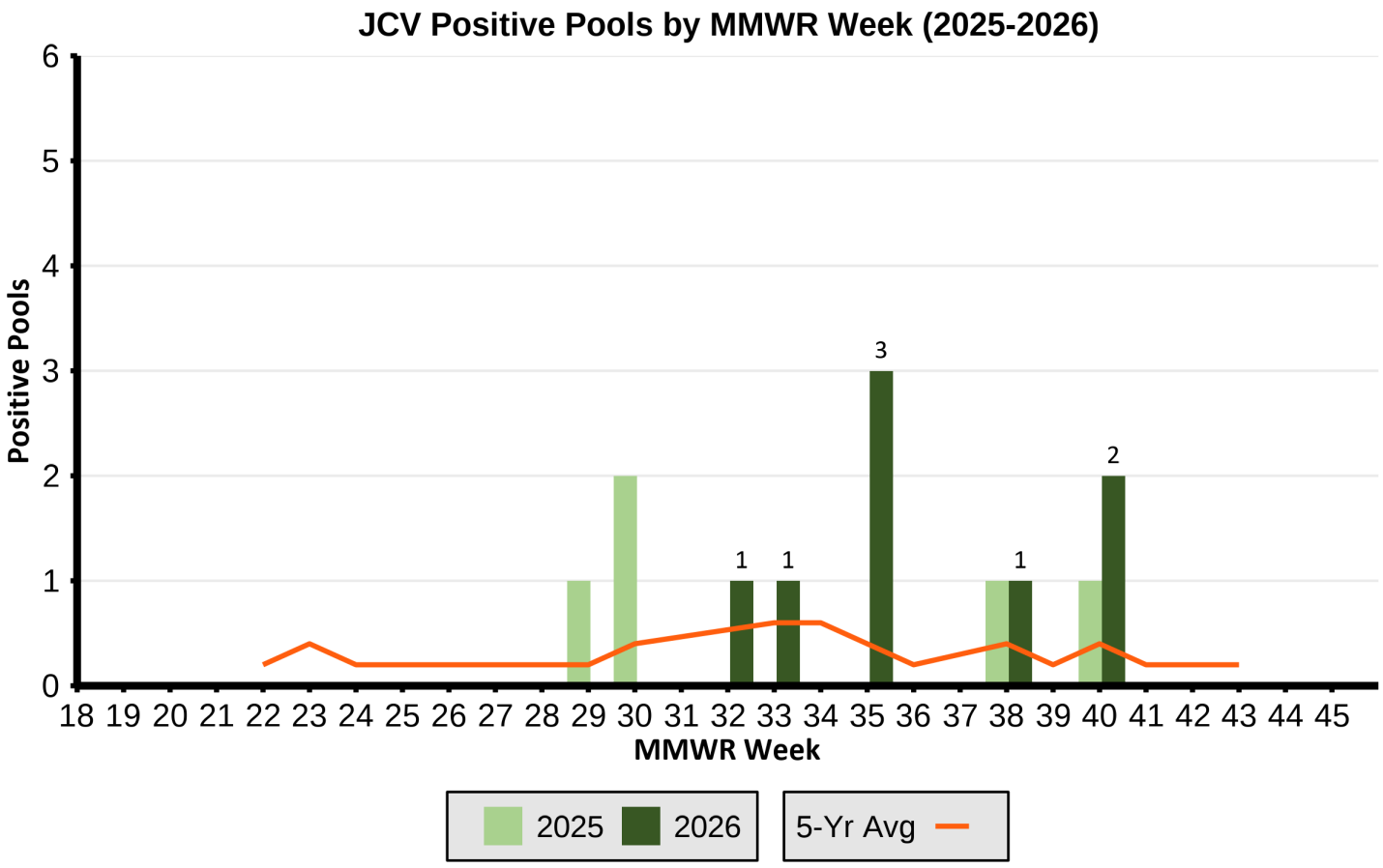
	WEEK 42 Positive Pools		Cumulative Pos. Total (WEEK 42)		# Pools Tested	Cumulative MIR
County	2026	2025	2026	2025	2026	2026[1]
Ocean	-	-	2	-	482	0.48
Monmouth	-	-	3	-	460	0.17
Union	-	-	1	-	235	0.12
Burlington	-	-	1	-	387	0.12
Middlesex	-	-	1	-	442	0.07
Atlantic	-	-	-	1	530	0.00
Bergen	-	-	-	-	487	0.00
Camden	-	-	-	-	665	0.00
Cape May	-	-	-	-	2339	0.00
Cumberland	-	-	-	-	455	0.00
Essex	-	-	-	-	490	0.00
Gloucester	-	-	-	-	859	0.00
Hudson	-	-	-	-	344	0.00
Hunterdon	-	-	-	-	347	0.00
Mercer	-	-	-	1	372	0.00
Morris	-	-	-	2	483	0.00
Passaic	-	-	-	-	398	0.00
Salem	-	-	-	-	568	0.00
Somerset	-	-	-	-	328	0.00
Sussex	-	-	-	1	460	0.00
Warren	-	-	-	-	425	0.00
Total	**0**	**0**	**8**	**5**	**11556**	**-**

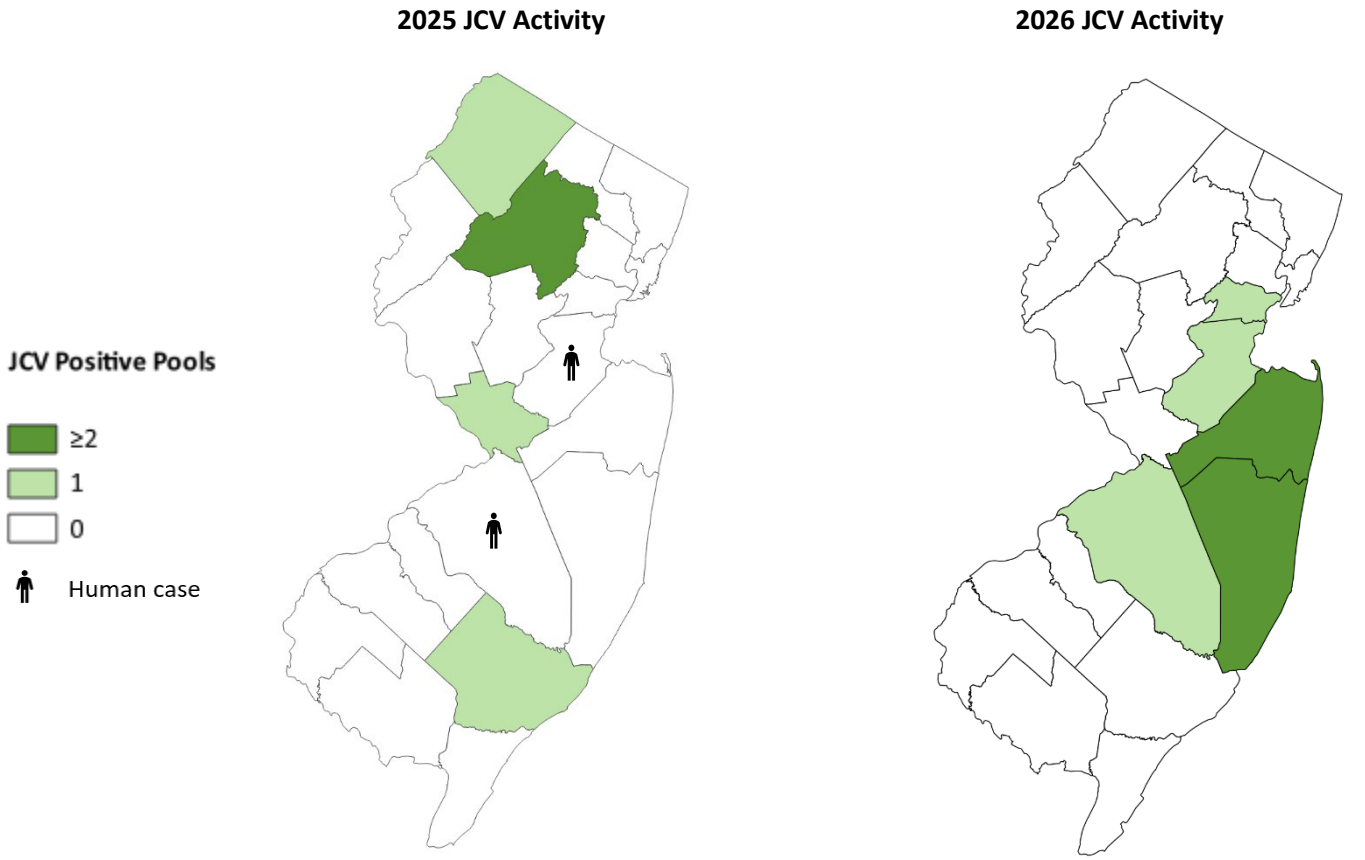
WEEK 42: Oct 12 - 18, 2025; Oct 18 - 24, 2026

Cumulative JCV 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


JCV Positive Pools by MMWR Week (2025-2026)
Positive Pools
0
1
2
3
4
5
6
1
1
3
1
2
18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30 31 32 33 34 35 36 37 38 39 40 41 42 43 44 45
MMWR Week
2025
2026
5-Yr Avg


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])

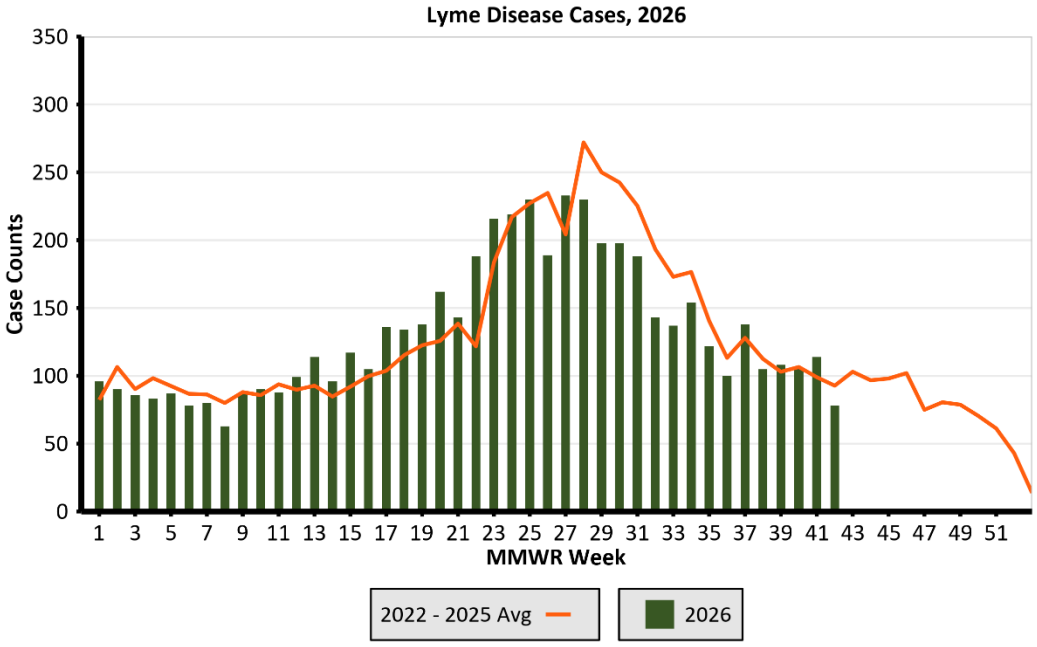
	SLE		LAC		CHIKV		DENV		ZIKV	
County	Pools	Pos	Pools	Pos	Pools	Pos	Pools	Pos	Pools	Pos
Atlantic	530									
Bergen	487				8		8		8	
Burlington	387		5							
Camden	665		2		18		18		18	
Cape May	2339									
Cumberland	455									
Essex	490									
Gloucester	859		117		97		97		97	
Hudson	344									
Hunterdon	347		7							
Mercer	372				1		1		1	
Middlesex	442		3		23		23		23	
Monmouth	460									
Morris	483				8		8		8	
Ocean	482		8							
Passaic	398		46							
Salem	568		52							
Somerset	328				1		1		1	
Sussex	460		142	1						
Union	235									
Warren	425		40							
Total	**11556**	**0**	**422**	**1**	**156**	**0**	**156**	**0**	**156**	**0**

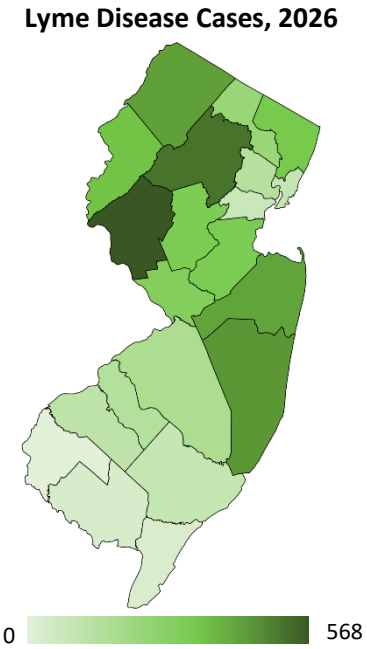
[a] St. Louis virus (SLE), La Crosse encephalitis (LAC), Chikungunya virus (CHIKV), Dengue virus (DENV), Zika Virus (ZIKV)
Numbers in white columns represent number of pools tested to date in 2026
Number in green shaded columns represent positive pools in 2026

Tickborne Disease Activity

Lyme Disease

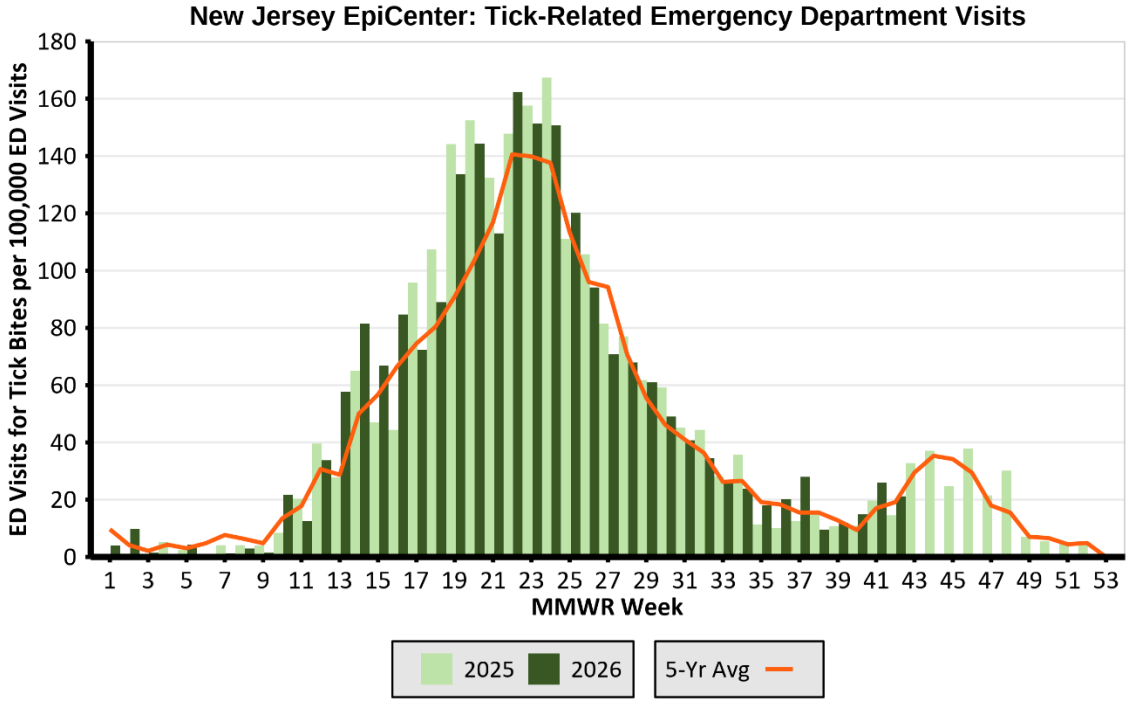
- There have been 5,588 cases of Lyme disease reported in NJ in 2026.
- The number of cases decreased this week and is slightly lower than the four-year average.
- Most Lyme disease cases have been reported in the northwestern part of the state (Hunterdon, Morris, and Sussex counties) as well as in Ocean and Monmouth counties.





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 decreased this week, falling only slightly below 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/