Purpose: This report serves as the official statement of West Nile Virus activity in humans, mosquitoes, and birds within the jurisdiction of the Cook County Department of Public Health. All data are preliminary and may change as more reports are received.

Risk Assessment: The risk of human West Nile Virus infection is low.

Prevention: When outdoors between dusk and dawn, cover skin with lightly colored lose fitting clothing and use mosquito repellent with DEET, picaridin or oil of lemon eucalyptus. When applying repellent, always follow the directions on the product label. Get rid of standing water around your home in pet bowls, flower pots, old tires, baby pools and toys. Water that is allowed to stagnate for three or four days becomes a breeding ground for mosquitoes. Make sure your doors and windows have tightly fitting screens and repair any tears or other openings. Keep weeds and grass cut short and keep gutters clean and free of debris.

Mosquito\(^1\) Surveillance:

Weekly Summary | Week 38
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Number of mosquitoes tested | 1715
Number of mosquito pools tested | 83
Number of positive pools | 4
Percent of pools testing positive | 4.8%
Number of communities with positive pools | 3

Year To Date Summary | Year Average | 2018
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Number of mosquitoes tested | 231166 | 222656
Number of mosquito pools tested | 5495 | 6095
Number of positive pools | 1244 | 1722
Percent of pools testing positive | 22.7% | 28.3%
Number of communities with positive pools | 71 | 74

Percent of Mosquito Pools Positive for West Nile Virus

![Graph showing the percentage of mosquito pools positive for West Nile Virus from May 01, 2015 to October 1, 2018. The graph displays data for each week and shows a peak around mid-August for several years.]
1. Includes mosquito surveillance data from Cook County Department of Public Health, North West Mosquito Abatement District, North Shore Mosquito Abatement District, Des Plaines Valley Mosquito Abatement District, South Cook County Mosquito Abatement District, and the Illinois Department of Public Health.

2. When mosquitoes are tested for West Nile Virus, they are tested in groups, or "pools", of up to 50 mosquitoes. Therefore when a mosquito pool tests positive, the number of WNV positive mosquitoes in that pool is unknown. It is only known that at least one mosquito in the pool was positive.

3. See page 3.

Bird Surveillance:
Thirteen birds have been submitted for testing, eleven have tested negative. One bird has tested positive from Northbrook. One bird was untestable.

Human Case Surveillance:
35 cases of West Nile Virus have been reported; 26 cases were neuroinvasive.
The following map shows mosquito traps in suburban Cook County. The estimated infection rate is a measurement of how much West Nile Virus activity is occurring in mosquitoes caught by that trap. Higher numbers mean more mosquitoes capable of spreading West Nile Virus.

4. Estimated infection rate is calculated by dividing the number of positive mosquito pools by the total number of mosquitoes tested and multiplying by 1000. This is also called the minimum infection rate and is the most conservative estimate of West Nile Virus activity in mosquitoes.
The following towns had traps that were positive for West Nile Virus this week: Glenview, Hillside, Norridge.


Not all towns have mosquito traps so West Nile Virus activity may be unknown in your area. CCDPH recommends all residents practice good West Nile Virus prevention habits throughout the summer season.