

DOE – Medical and Infectious Disease Update – Wednesday, November 12, 2003

DOE weekly updates on SARS, West Nile Virus, or other illnesses will continue as appropriate or as requested. The following information is current as of Thursday, November 13, 2003, 0700 hours, EDT. Information presented is routinely taken from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), <http://www.cdc.gov/>, The World Health Organization (WHO), <http://www.who.int/en/>, the Department of Defense Global Emerging Infections Surveillance and Response System site, (DoD-GEIS) <http://www.geis.ha.osd.mil/>, and other creditable sources.

PROTECT YOURSELF AND YOUR LOVED ONES—GET A FLU SHOT!

Recent News

Air pollutants alone may cause asthma attacks: Early research on animal model uses new testing method, November 10, 2003

UCLA researchers have shown for the first time that diesel exhaust particles alone may be enough to induce acute asthma attacks. A new testing method used in an animal model helped researchers better isolate the effect of diesel exhaust particles, a component of air pollution, on asthma. "Previously, we thought that air pollution alone was not enough to incite acute asthma attacks, but [that an attack] also required the presence of allergens such as pollen or house dust mites to establish airway inflammation and allergic responses in the airways," said Dr. Andre Nel, the study's principal investigator and a professor of medicine in the division of clinical immunology and allergy at UCLA's David Geffen School of Medicine. "However, this new experimental study shows that we need to pay closer attention to the intrinsic abilities of the air pollutant particles to induce asthma." ... <http://newsroom.ucla.edu/page.asp?id=4692>

New genetic link in autoimmune diseases, NEW YORK, Nov. 10 (UPI) -- A new study has unveiled an unexpected genetic link among three common autoimmune diseases: psoriasis, rheumatoid arthritis and systemic lupus erythematosus ... Scientists said the link among the three diseases involves a protein that helps the thymus gland train immune system cells. Autoimmune diseases are caused when such cells mistakenly attack the body's own tissues. <http://washingtontimes.com/upi-breaking/20031110-043850-7020r.htm>

UCLA Researchers Find Ginkgo Biloba May Help Improve

Memory, November 10, 2003 - Researchers at the UCLA Neuropsychiatric Institute found significant improvement in verbal recall among a group of people with age-associated memory impairment who took the herbal supplement ginkgo biloba for six months when compared with a group that received a placebo... <http://newsroom.ucla.edu/page.asp?id=4691>

CDC INFLUENZA SUMMARY UPDATE ... The CDC's most recent update ... During week 44 (October 25 – November 1, 2003), One state health department reported regional influenza activity, 3 states reported local influenza activity, 19 states, New York City, and Puerto Rico reported sporadic influenza activity, and 24 states and the District of Columbia reported no influenza activity. See the map near the end. <http://www.cdc.gov/ncidod/diseases/flu/weekly.htm>

CDC West Nile Virus Home Page - <http://www.cdc.gov/ncidod/dvbid/westnile/index.htm>

Three Ways to Reduce your West Nile Virus Risk:

[Avoid Mosquito Bites](#); [Mosquito-Proof Your Home](#); [Help Your Community](#)

CDC West Nile Virus Statistics, Surveillance, and Control

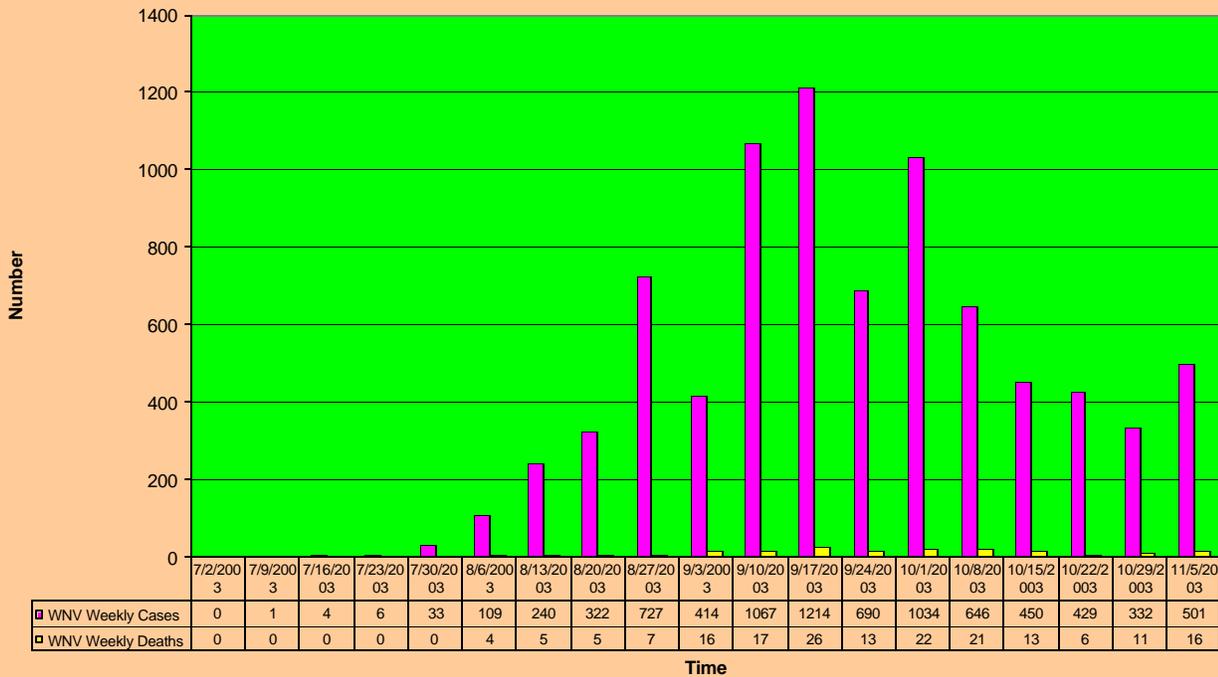
[Maps and Data](#) | [Surveillance Program](#) | [Guidelines](#) | [Case Definition](#) | [See Also](#)

CDC West Nile Virus Case Count - [Maps](#) reporting WNV activity and [human disease cases](#) reported to CDC have been updated each **Wednesday, but not as yet this week.**

The information for the week ending November 5, 2003 is shown in the chart below. Total cases and deaths now stand at 8219 and 142, respectively.

<http://www.cdc.gov/ncidod/dvbid/westnile/surv&controlCaseCount03.htm>

WNV Weekly Cases & Deaths
 (Totals From This Week - Totals From Last Week = # Of Weekly Items)
 (Source - CDC-Weekly Updates)



[West Nile Virus Home](http://www.cdc.gov/ncidod/dvbid/westnile/city_states.htm) > State and Local Government Sites -http://www.cdc.gov/ncidod/dvbid/westnile/city_states.htm

Links to State and Local Government West Nile Virus Web Sites

Click on a state to link directly to their West Nile virus Web page.
 See list below for additional city-level and main State Health Department Web sites.

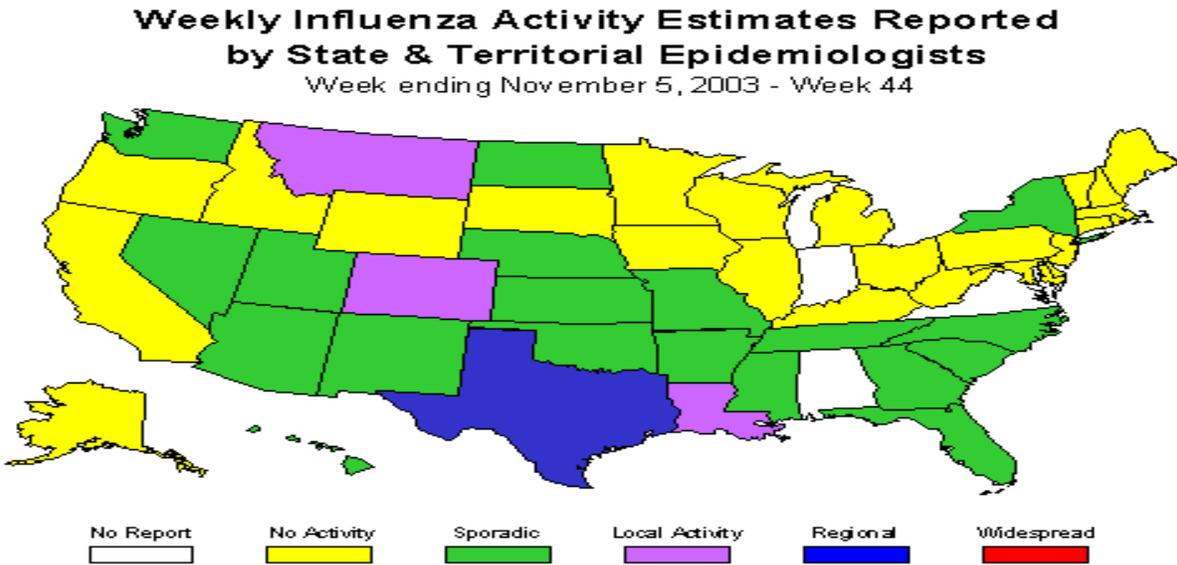


West Nile Virus Interactive Map – If you go to this site, each State will be 'HOT', and moving your mouse on a State will link you to its Health Department's West Nile web site and bring up other information. Where the CDC map and case summary is a lagging indicator, this map, linked to each State's

Health Department, provides real-time information for those states which update regularly, such as PA and CO.
http://www.mosquitoczar.com/west_nile_virus.

West Nile Virus: What You Need To Know

CDC Factsheet - http://www.cdc.gov/ncidod/dvbid/westnile/wnv_factSheet.htm



<http://www.cdc.gov/ncidod/diseases/flu/weekly.htm>

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