



Emerging and Reemerging Infectious Diseases, Region of the Americas

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West Nile Virus (WNV) in the USA and Mexico

USA

Up to 13 August 2003, 393 human cases of WNV infection were confirmed by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) in the United States. Nine deaths were registered: two in Alabama; five in Colorado and two in Texas.

West Nile Virus (WNV) in the USA, 13 August 2003

State	Human Cases	Deaths
Alabama	10	2
Arkansas	1	-
Colorado	195	5
Florida	4	--
Georgia	1	--
Iowa	4	--
Kansas	1	--
Kentucky	3	--
Louisiana	21	--
Minnesota	7	--
Mississippi	14	--
Missouri	1	--
Nebraska	6	--

Mexico

The National Center of Epidemiological Surveillance (*Centro Nacional de Vigilancia Epidemiológica / CNVE*) reported that since the 1999 identification and dissemination of WNV in the USA, authorities from both the Secretaries of Health (*Secretaría de Salud / SSA*) and of Agriculture, Livestock, Rural Development, Fishing, and Food (*Secretaría de Agricultura, Ganadería, Desarrollo Rural, Pesca y Alimentación / SAGARPA*) of Mexico have initiated epidemiological surveillance activities from 2000 on specifically aimed at identifying any possible WNV activity in the country. As a result, a national state of emergency for animal health (DINESA) was officially declared on 14 July 2003, commencing with its publication in the official journal and declaring "the presence in the national territory of West Nile Virus, an exotic disease and the reason why DINESA has been implemented, with a view to monitoring, diagnosing, preventing and controlling the virus and minimizing the potential economic and social impact on the country." Moreover, on 24 July 2003, both the SSA and SAGARPA signed the *Basis of*

New Mexico	3	--
North Dakota	6	--
Ohio	7	--
Oklahoma	2	--
Pennsylvania	12	--
South Carolina	1	--
South Dakota	51	--
Texas	39	2
Wisconsin	1	--
Wyoming	3	--
Total	393	9
<i>Source:</i> Centers for Disease Prevention and Control (CDC), USA.		

Additional information can be found on the [CDC website](#).

Source: Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), USA.

Collaboration for Establishing Collaboration Mechanisms to Design, Promote, Coordinate, and Carry out Technical and Administrative Actions, in Accordance with Its Respective Scopes of Action, for the Surveillance, Prevention, and Control of WNV.

In 2002, 21 asymptomatic horses with positive serology were identified in the States of Coahuila and Tamaulipas.

In 2003, to date, 290 cases of serologically positive birds and horses have been reported, in the two states identified in the previous year and in six more Mexican States. To date, they have not registered the disease in horses or in humans; in birds, only one crow has been confirmed as having the disease (in May 2003). The National Vector Program is in operation in all malaria- and dengue-endemic areas for the purpose of diminishing WNV risk as well.

Source: National Center for Epidemiological Surveillance (CNVE), Secretary of Health, Mexico.