

# Communicable Diseases

## Monthly Newsletter



**Public Health**  
Prevent. Promote. Protect.

**Joplin City and Jasper County**

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## Increased Pertussis in Missouri

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A total of 443 pertussis cases have been reported in Missouri. This represents a significant increase in the number of pertussis cases for the same time period during the previous five years in the state. Although no fatalities have been reported, this rate (8 cases per 100,000 persons) is double the national rate.

Majority of cases have been reported in St Louis and Kansas City metro areas, with the most significant increase in the Kansas City metro area (157 cases).

The statewide trend is consistent with the national trend which shows an increase among children aged between 10 to 14 years. The same trend is also being seen in an on-going pertussis epidemic in Washington State.

Source: [DHSS](#)

### Joplin/Jasper County

Two cases of pertussis have been reported in Joplin and 6 in Jasper County as of August 10, 2012.

Those cases reported in Jasper County in 2012 was a significant increase from cases reported in 2011 within the same period as shown in table 1 in p3.

### Missouri

Missouri has reported [2 cases](#) of West Nile Virus human infections to CDC, as of August 14, 2012.

### Joplin/Jasper County

As of August 10, no case has been reported in Joplin/Jasper County.

## Increase in West Nile Virus Infections

West Nile virus infections in people, birds, or mosquitoes have so far been reported in 43 states. A total of 693 cases of the disease in people including 26 deaths, have been reported to the CDC. Of these, 406 were classified as neuroinvasive disease (such meningitis or encephalitis). The numbers represent the highest number of WNV disease cases reported to CDC through August since 1999.



Majority (80%) of the cases have been reported in 6 states (Texas, Mississippi, Louisiana, Oklahoma, South Dakota, and California).

*(Continued on page 2)*

# West Nile Virus Infection (cont'd from p.1)

## What is West Nile Virus Infection?

West Nile virus (WNV) is a potentially serious illness. Experts believe WNV is established as a seasonal epidemic in North America that flares up in the summer and continues into the fall.

## What Can I Do to Prevent WNV?

Prevention measures consist of community-based mosquito control programs that reduce vector populations, personal protection measures and surveillance programs that characterize patterns.

The best way to avoid WNV is to prevent mosquito bites.

- Many mosquitoes are most active at dusk and dawn. Use insect repellent and wear long sleeves and pants at these times or consider being indoors at these hours.
- Make sure you have good screens on your windows and doors to keep mosquitoes out.
- Get rid of breeding sites by emptying standing water.

## What Are the Symptoms of WNV?

While some people will not show symptoms, others do exhibit mild or severe symptoms. **Severe** symptoms can include high fever, headache, neck stiffness, stupor, disorientation, coma, tremors, convulsions, muscle weakness, vision loss, numbness and paralysis. These symptoms may last several weeks, and neurological effects may be permanent.

## How Does WNV Spread?

The virus is spread when infected mosquitoes bite a person. Symptoms develop between 3 and 14 days after being bitten by an infected mosquito.

Source: CDC

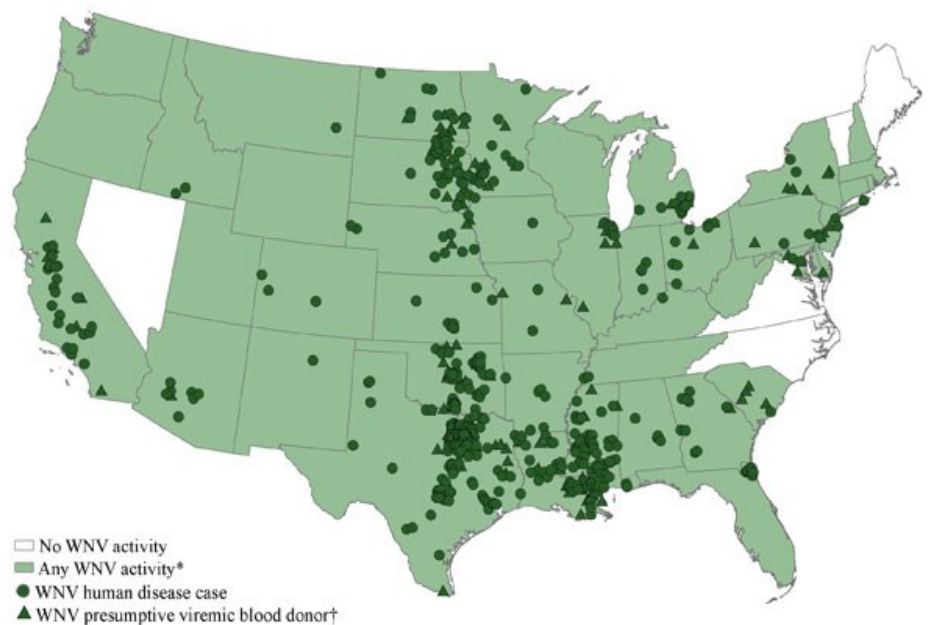
## What Is the Joplin Health Department Doing About WNV Prevention and Control?

The Joplin Health Department operates a mosquito control program. This program utilizes occasional fogging to control adult mosquitoes and the treatment of mosquito breeding areas with a larvicide to prevent mosquitoes from becoming adults.

Fogging routes are posted on the City of Joplin website [www.joplinmo.org](http://www.joplinmo.org). Notices are also posted on the Health Department's Facebook page. If a case of WNV is reported in Joplin, the Joplin Health Department increases its mosquito control activities in that reported area.

Remember, all efforts to reduce mosquito populations will only be partially effective unless citizen involvement occurs. The individual resident can do more to control mosquitoes around their home than all other methods combined.

**Figure 1. West Nile virus (WNV) activity reported to ArboNET, by state, United States, 2012 (as of August 14, 2012)**



## Communicable Diseases Report—July 2012

Cumulative Cases from January through August 3, in Joplin City and Jasper County: 2011 & 2012  
(Data includes confirmed, probable and suspect cases)

	Diseases/Conditions	Joplin City		Jasper County	
		2011	2012	2011	2012
<b>Food and Waterborne Illnesses</b>	Campylobacteriosis	3	2	22	23
	Coccidioidomycosis	0	0	1	0
	Cryptosporidiosis	0	2	1	3
	E Coli Shiga Toxin	1	0	5	4
	E Coli O517 H7	0	0	0	1
	E Coli (Non Shiga Toxin Producing)	0	0	0	1
	Giardiasis	0	0	0	1
	Legionellosis	0	0	0	1
	Salmonellosis	5	5	0	11
	Shigellosis	0	7	0	1
<b>Tickborne Diseases</b>	Anaplasma Phygocytophilum	0	0	0	4
	Ehrlichia Chaffeensis	1	1	1	4
	Rocky Mountain Spotted Fever	3	7	5	13
	Tularemia	0	1	0	0
<b>Other</b>	Chicken Pox (Varicella)	2	2	16	6
	Hepatitis B (Acute)	0	3	0	3
	Hepatitis B (Chronic)	1	10	5	7
	Hepatitis B (Pregnancy)	0	3	1	1
	Meningococcal Disease	0	0	1	0
	Mycobacterium Other Than TB (MOTT)	1	0	3	6
	<b>Pertussis (Whooping Cough)</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>6</b>
	Rabies Post Exposure Prophylaxis	0	0	0	2
	Streptococcal Disease (Group A)	0	0	0	1
	Streptococcal Pneumoniae (Drug Resistant)	0	0	0	1
	Toxic Shock Syndrome (Staph)	0	0	1	0
	Tuberculosis Disease	1	1	0	0
Tuberculosis Infection	19	9	28	24	

### Sexually Transmitted Diseases, Jasper County - 2012

	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	June
<b>Chlamydia</b>	40	50	47	42	49	45
<b>Gonorrhea</b>	8	4	7	14	3	9
<b>Syphilis</b>	0	0	0	0	2	0



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## Influenza H3N2v Virus In the U.S.

As of Thursday, August 10, there were 153 human infections of H3N2v virus, since the current outbreaks began in July of this year. These cases are considered part of an ongoing outbreak. The table below shows the states that have reported the H3N2v cases to-date.

Confirmed cases have had exposure to swine, and most of these infections have occurred in people exhibiting swine, family members of exhibitors, people visiting swine barns at fairs, or people attending fairs where swine are present.

The severity of human illness with this virus continues to resemble that of seasonal flu. Most cases are

mild and self-limited and resolve on their own. Most cases (93 percent) have occurred in children (i.e. under 18 years).

CDC has not received any report of deaths associated with H3N2v infection, and there have been two confirmed hospitalizations with H3N2v infection so far. Both patients have recovered and have been discharged.

Missouri has not reported any cases of human infection of H3N2v at this time.

Additional information can be found on [www.cdc.gov](http://www.cdc.gov)

States Reporting H3N2v Cases	Cases in 2012
Hawaii	1
Indiana	120
Illinois	1
Ohio	31
<b>Total</b>	<b>153</b>

### Joplin and Jasper County

The H3N2v virus has not been reported in Joplin City or Jasper County as of August 10, 2012.

The 2012-2013 seasonal influenza season starts in October 2012 through May 2013.

*"Believe that life is worth living and your belief will help create the fact"*

*William James*