

MANITOBA HEALTH, HEALTHY LIVING & SENIORS

WEEKLY WEST NILE VIRUS SURVEILLANCE REPORT (WEEK 29)

The weekly 'West Nile Virus Surveillance Report' outlines the most current surveillance data and is posted weekly on the website (www.gov.mb.ca/health/wnv) during the summer season. Surveillance data are subject to change and will be updated accordingly as new information becomes available.

Manitoba Health, Healthy Living & Seniors (MHLS) conducts surveillance for West Nile virus (WNV) within human, mosquito & horse populations annually:

- **Mosquito:** Mosquito surveillance is conducted twice per week between mid-May and mid-September (weather dependent) in a number of southern Manitoba communities. In Manitoba WNV testing is conducted on *Culex tarsalis* mosquitoes, the principal vectors of WNV, and both mosquito numbers and infection rates (i.e. positive mosquito pools*) are reported.
 - Communities chosen for mosquito trap placement were selected based on population density, local evidence of prior WNV activity and representative geographic distribution.
- **Human:** Human WNV surveillance is conducted throughout the year (January – December) by Cadham Provincial Laboratory and Canadian Blood Services, with all data reportable to MHLS.
 - Human cases are included in the Weekly WNV Surveillance Report based on the date they are reported to MHLS. Case classification information is not included in this report but can be found on the website (www.gov.mb.ca/health/wnv/stats.html).
- **Horse:** Surveillance of WNV in horses is conducted by Manitoba Agriculture Food and Rural Development (MAFRD) with cases reported to MHLS as detected.

The risk of WNV transmission is expected to be present throughout southern Manitoba each year and mosquito trapping provides a localized estimate of WNV risk. The absence of traps in a community or region does not imply that there is no risk of WNV in those locations. Further, low *Culex tarsalis* numbers and/ or infection rates should not be interpreted as zero risk. Residents and visitors are strongly encouraged to protect themselves from mosquito bites throughout the season even in areas with no mosquito traps or low WNV activity.

The accumulation of Degree Days* are recorded throughout the season as there is a general correlation between increased and/ or rapid accumulation of Degree Days and WNV transmission risk. Warmer temperatures associated with increased Degree Days serve to decrease mosquito development times, shorten the WNV incubation period and increase biting activity. All of which can increase the risk of WNV transmission, should other conditions also be favourable. Seasonally the greatest accumulation of Degree Days typically occurs in the southwestern portion of the province and along the Red River valley.

For additional West Nile virus information, including precautionary measures and symptoms, please consult the MHLS WNV website (www.gov.mb.ca/health/wnv) or contact Health Links at 204-788-8200 (in Winnipeg) or toll free at 1-888-315-9257.

*** For a more detailed description of mosquito pool & degree days consult Appendix 2.**

- WNV Provincial Surveillance Data -

- During Week 29* (July 12 – 18) Manitoba Health, Healthy Living & Seniors (MHLS) there were no additional WNV positive surveillance indicators detected (Figure 1).
- To date MHLS surveillance has detected a single WNV positive mosquito pool from a community in the Southern Health Region. There have been no positive WNV human or WNV horse cases detected to date in 2015.
- *Culex tarsalis* mosquitoes were collected from all but one of the twenty-nine sentinel communities spread across all four southern Manitoba Health regions; Interlake-Eastern, Prairie Mountain, Southern and Winnipeg (Table 1 & 2; Figure 2).
- *Culex tarsalis* numbers were highest in both the Prairie Mountain and Southern Health Regions.

* **For a listing of CDC surveillance weeks and corresponding dates for the 2015 please see Appendix 1.**

2014 Year-End WNV Surveillance Data*

- *With the detection of WNV activity in Manitoba in Week 28 the 2014 Year-End WNV Surveillance summary will no longer be included in the current, or future, weekly surveillance reports. The 2014 Year-End Surveillance summary can be found in earlier 2015 weekly surveillance reports.*

Table 1 – Average number of *Culex tarsalis* mosquitoes captured by Health Region (current to Week 29)

Health Region	CDC Week									
	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	31
Interlake-Eastern	0.00	3.44	6.89	2.15	3.25	3.22	20.76	18.83		
Prairie Mountain	0.00	1.13	0.21	0.10	1.18	0.30	9.84	22.53		
Southern	0.04	7.63	7.15	3.47	10.98	11.44	37.17	26.76		
Winnipeg	0.09	10.43	7.63	1.15	2.69	3.09	29.54	14.97		
Provincial Average	0.04	5.96	5.23	1.73	4.94	5.14	24.82	21.59		
	Indicates that one or more positive mosquito pools were detected within the health region.									

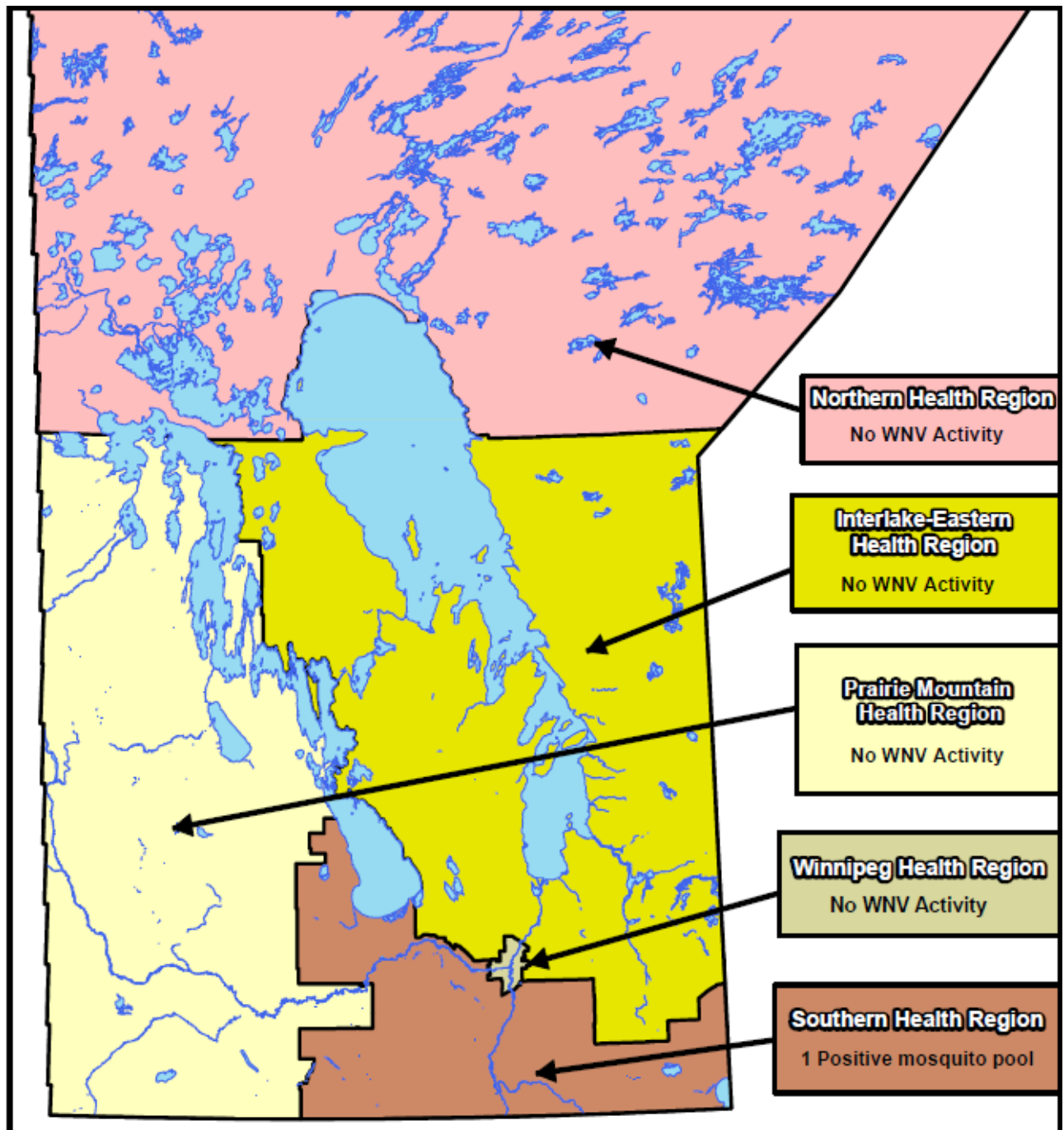


Figure 1 – WNV activity by Health Region within Manitoba (current to Week 29).

Table 2 – Average number of *Culex tarsalis* mosquitoes collected by surveillance community* in southern Manitoba – three week trend (current to Week 29).

Health Region	Community	Week 29	Week 28	Week 27
Interlake-Eastern	Beausejour	5.33	10.00	4.75
	Gimli	9.33	18.00	2.00
	Oakbank	7.75	53.25	5.50
	Selkirk	39.75	6.00	1.00
	Stonewall	26.25	9.33	1.75
Prairie Mountain	Boissevain	100.25	47.00	1.75
	Brandon	1.30	1.40	0.00
	Carberry	24.50	5.00	1.00
	Dauphin	1.50	0.00	0.00
	Killarney	6.75	3.50	0.00
	Minnedosa	1.75	0.50	0.00
	Sioux Valley FN	7.50	21.50	0.00
	Souris	11.25	3.75	0.50
	Virden	72.25	19.50	0.25
Southern	Altona	16.67	4.00	12.75
	Carman	12.67	6.00	1.75
	Headingley	0.00	3.50	0.00
	Morden	11.50	40.25	6.50
	Morris	21.67	15.50	6.33
	Niverville	65.75	98.75	9.25
	Portage la Prairie	82.67	37.75	55.75
	Roseau River FN	13.00	47.75	7.50
	Ste. Anne	41.75	39.67	12.75
	Sandy Bay FN	0.25	2.25	0.00
	Steinbach	30.50	59.00	9.50
	Winkler	18.00	48.00	8.25
Winnipeg	East St Paul	4.50	12.50	1.50
	West St Paul	33.50	177.00	8.50
	Winnipeg	14.37	18.67	2.83
	Indicates that one or more positive mosquito pools were detected within the community.			

* Top three communities with the highest weekly average of *Culex tarsalis* are indicated in bold.

** Adult mosquito trapping started during CDC Week 21.

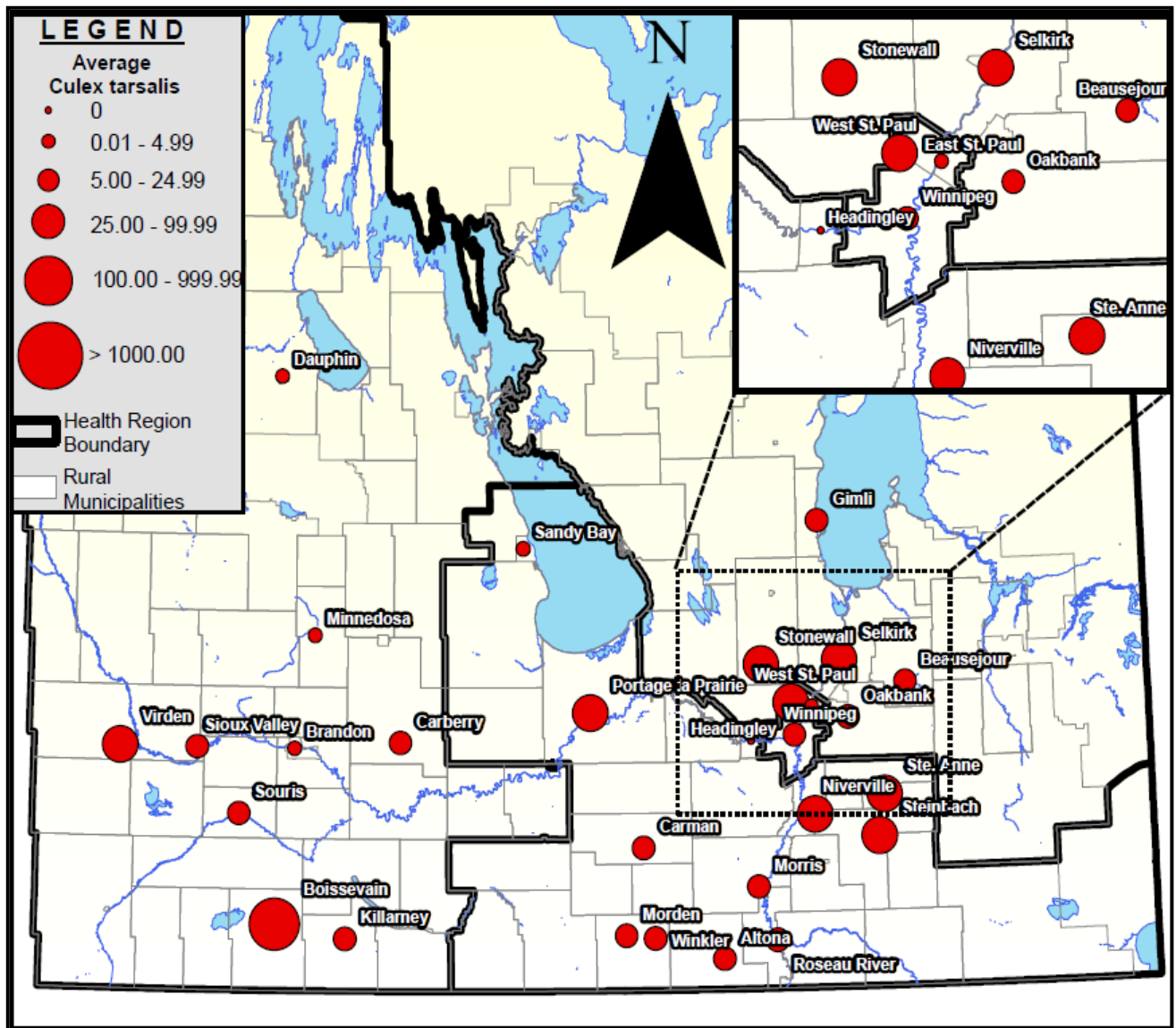
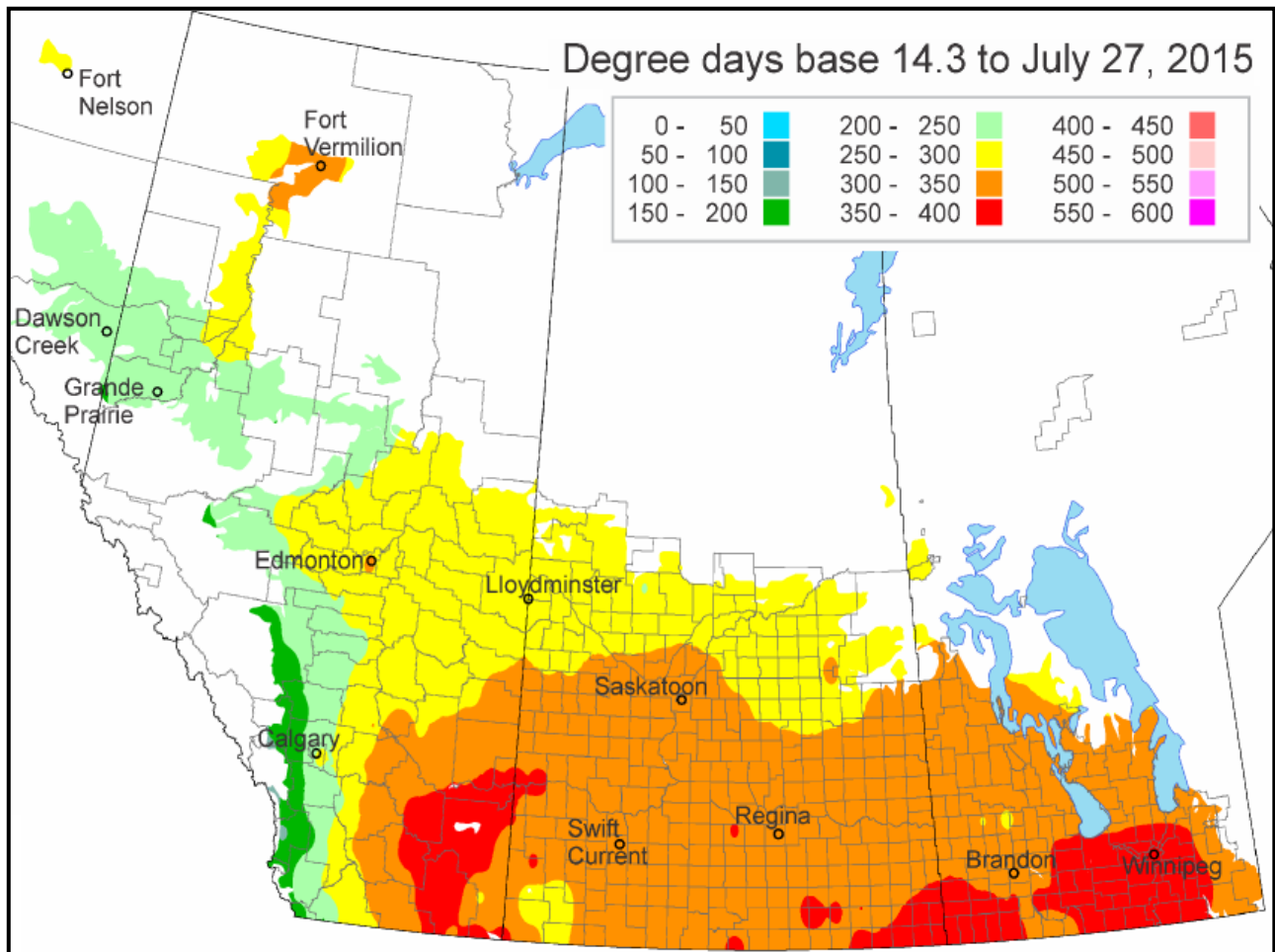


Figure 2 – Average number of *Culex tarsalis* mosquitoes collected across southern Manitoba during Week 29.



Source: Map produced courtesy of Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada.

Figure 3 - Degree day accumulations, as of Week 29, across the Prairie Provinces.

Table 3 – Total number of human WNV cases*, by Health Region of residence, reported to Manitoba Health, Healthy Living & Seniors by laboratories (current to Week 29)

Health Region	CDC Week											Totals
	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	31	
Interlake-Eastern	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0			0
Prairie Mountain	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0			0
Southern	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0			0
Winnipeg	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0			0
Totals	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0			0

* Note that cases are presented by week reported to MHHLS, adjustments may be made as more details (such as exposure CDC week) become available through follow-up investigation.

Table 4 – Total number of *Culex tarsalis* mosquito pools tested during the 2015 season by health region (current to Week 29)

RHA	CDC Week											Totals
	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	31	
Interlake-Eastern	0	0	15	18	11	13	14	18	20			109
Prairie Mountain	0	0	7	8	4	14	5	26	43			107
Southern	4	2	35	33	20	36	36	54	43			263
Winnipeg	8	2	30	23	9	12	18	34	33			169
Weekly Totals	12	4	87	82	44	75	73	132	139			648

Table 5* – Total number and percentage of WNV positive *Culex tarsalis* mosquito pools by Health Region (current to Week 29)

Health Region	CDC Week											Totals
	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	31	
Interlake-Eastern	0 (0)	0 (0)	0 (0)	0 (0)	0 (0)	0 (0)	0 (0)	0 (0)	0 (0)			0 (0)
Prairie Mountain	0 (0)	0 (0)	0 (0)	0 (0)	0 (0)	0 (0)	0 (0)	0 (0)	0 (0)			0 (0)
Southern	0 (0)	0 (0)	0 (0)	0 (0)	0 (0)	0 (0)	0 (0)	1 (1.9)	0 (0)			1 (0.4)
Winnipeg	0 (0)	0 (0)	0 (0)	0 (0)	0 (0)	0 (0)	0 (0)	0 (0)	0 (0)			0 (0)
Weekly Totals	0 (0)	0 (0)	0 (0)	0 (0)	0 (0)	0 (0)	0 (0)	1 (0.8)	0 (0)			1 (0.2)

* Note that numbers outside brackets represent positive pools, numbers within represent the percentage of total pools that tested positive for WNV.

Table 6 – Comparison of year-to-date cumulative and year-end total West Nile virus in Manitoba (current to Week 29)

Year	Cumulative (Year-to-Date) Amount		Year End Totals	
	Positive Mosquito Pools	Human WNV Cases	Positive Mosquito Pools	Human WNV Cases
2015	1	0	TBD	TBD
2014	0	0	24	5
2013	3	0	19	3
2012	20	9	116	39
2011	0	0	0	0
2010	2	0	20	0
2009	0	0	2	2
2008	0	1	41	12
2007	232	54	948	587
2006	28	12	171	51
2005	27	8	193	58
2004	1	0	57	3
2003	24	4	290	143

- WNV Activity in Canada and the U.S. -

Canada:

- As of Week 29 one (1) human WNV case (Ontario), seven (7) WNV positive mosquito pools (1 in Manitoba, 5 in Ontario and 1 in Saskatchewan) and six (6) positive birds (5 in Ontario and 1 in Quebec) have been detected in Canada (Table 7).
- Additional up to date Canadian WNV information can be obtained by consulting the Public Health Agency of Canada West Nile virus website at <http://www.phac-aspc.gc.ca/wnv-vwn/index-eng.php>

United States:

- As of Week 29 a total of thirty-eight (38) WNV human cases have been reported from twenty states (Alabama, Arizona, California, Colorado, Delaware, Kansas, Louisiana, Mississippi, Montana, Nebraska, Nevada, New Mexico, North Dakota, Oklahoma, South Dakota, Tennessee, Texas, Virginia, Washington & Wyoming). One WNV related death has been reported in 2015 (California).
- In addition WNV activity (non-human) has been detected to date in 16 states (Florida, Idaho, Illinois, Indiana, Kentucky, Massachusetts, Michigan, Missouri, New Jersey, New York, Minnesota, Ohio, Oregon, Pennsylvania, Utah, and Wisconsin)

- As of Week 29 Minnesota is reporting one (1) WNV positive mosquito pool. A number of WNV positive birds have also been detected (Table 7).
 - As of Week 29 North Dakota is reporting one (1) WNV human case and three (3) WNV positive mosquito pools (Table 7).
 - As of Week 29 South Dakota is reporting two (2) WNV human cases. A number of WNV positive mosquito pools have also been detected (Table 7).
- Additional up to date U.S. WNV information can be obtained by visiting the United States Geological Survey's 'Arbonet – Website' at <http://diseasemaps.usgs.gov/mapviewer/>

Table 7 – Positive human, mosquito, horse and bird West Nile Virus surveillance indicators across Canada and neighbouring US states as of Week 29.

Province/ State	Human Cases*	Positive Mosquito Pools	Veterinary ***	Birds
Manitoba	0	1	0	0
Saskatchewan	0	1	0	0
Alberta	0	N/A**	0	N/A
North Dakota	1	3	0	0
South Dakota	4	7	0	0
Minnesota	0	1	0	N/A
Ontario	1	5	0	5
British Columbia	0	0	0	0
Quebec	0	0	0	1
Maritimes	0	N/A	0	N/A
TOTAL	6	18	0	6

* Table numbers include travel related cases.

** Jurisdictions with N/A (not applicable) either do not maintain regular surveillance, or do not provide surveillance data on a weekly basis during the season.

*** Veterinary cases are primarily, but not all, horse cases.

- APPENDIX 1 -

Table 8 – 2015 CDC surveillance weeks

CDC Week Number	Dates	CDC Week Number	Dates
21	May 24 - May 30	30	July 26 - August 1
22	May 31 - June 6	31	August 2 - August 8
23	June 7 - June 13	32	August 9 - August 15
24	June 14 - June 20	33	August 16 - August 22
25	June 21 - Jun 27	34	August 23 - August 29
26	June 28 - July 4	35	August 30 - September 5
27	July 5 - July 11	36	September 6 - September 12
28	July 12 - July 18	37	September 13 - September 19
29	July 19 - July 25	38	September 20 - September 26

- Appendix 2 -

Average number of *Culex tarsalis* – This weekly value provides an estimate of the *Culex tarsalis* numbers and activity. The potential risk of WNV transmission is greater when more *Culex tarsalis* are present – should the virus itself be present and other conditions prove favorable. It is calculated by dividing the total number of *Culex tarsalis* mosquitoes captured in the specified area by the total number of trap nights for the week (a trap night is recorded for each night that a trap was operational).

EXAMPLE: 120 *Culex tarsalis* collected; 2 traps operating on 2 nights (= 4 trap nights);
Average number = 120 (*Culex tarsalis*)/ 4 trap nights = 30.0

Degree Day – Degree days are a measurement of heat accumulation. The threshold temperature below which West Nile virus development does not occur (when in mosquitoes) is 14.3°C. Degree days are calculated by taking the daily mean temperature and subtracting the cut-off threshold:

EXAMPLE: Mean Temperature = 19.3°C; Degree Day threshold = 14.3°C; 19.3 – 14.3 = 5.0 Degree Days.

During the season a running total of accumulated Degree Days is recorded. It is generally assumed that a total of 109 Degree Days are required for virus development to be completed and potential transmission to occur. The risk of transmission increases with increasing Degree Day accumulation. Moreover, consistently warmer temperatures will significantly shorten virus development time thereby increasing the potential risk of WNV transmission – should the virus itself be present and other conditions prove to be favorable.

Mosquito Pool – Mosquitoes of the same species, collected from the same trap on the same date are pooled together for the purposes of laboratory testing. *Culex tarsalis* mosquitoes collected from one trap on a given night are placed in pools of 1 – 50 mosquitoes for WNV testing. When more than 50 *Culex tarsalis* mosquitoes are collected from the same trap multiple pools are tested. Thus a positive pool refers to the detection of WNV in between 1 – 50 *Culex tarsalis* mosquitoes collected from a given trap.