



Human cases of West Nile virus in Canada, 2017

Source: Public Health Agency of Canada. [Surveillance of West Nile virus](http://healthycanadians.gc.ca/diseases-conditions-maladies-affections/disease-maladie/west-nile-nil-occidental/surveillance-eng.php). <http://healthycanadians.gc.ca/diseases-conditions-maladies-affections/disease-maladie/west-nile-nil-occidental/surveillance-eng.php>

During the West Nile virus (WNV) season from mid-April to October, Canada conducts ongoing human case surveillance across the country. Monitoring West Nile virus nationally is a joint effort between the Government of Canada and its partners, including provincial and territorial ministries of health, First Nations authorities and blood supply agencies.

The Government of Canada relies on the provinces and territories to report the number of West Nile virus cases. To accurately reflect the annual occurrence of WNV cases in Canada, health professionals need to remain vigilant in diagnosing WNV, and reporting cases to their public health regional authorities. See source for case definitions.

West Nile virus clinical cases in Canada, as of October 21, 2017

Province/Territory	Total number of clinical cases
Newfoundland and Labrador	0
Prince Edward Island	0
Nova Scotia	0
New Brunswick	0
Quebec	14
Ontario	148
Manitoba	4
Saskatchewan	0
Alberta	7
British Columbia	0
Yukon	0
North West Territories	0
Nunavut	0
Canada	173

In 2017, there were a total of 173 clinical cases and six asymptomatic infections reported as of October 21, 2017. These numbers may change slightly as provincial or territorial public health organizations can sometimes retroactively identify cases. Surveillance detects only a portion of West Nile virus cases in Canada; the true number is likely greater.

Overall, this summer has recorded the highest number of cases since 2012 in Canada, with most (94%) being reported in the central region (ON and QC). The heavy rainfall in spring, long and warm summer in the region was favorable to mosquito abundance and increased the risk of human exposure.

How many human cases of West Nile virus are reported annually?

Year	Number of human cases
2007	2215
2008	36
2009	13
2010	5
2011	101
2012	428
2013	115
2014	21
2015	80
2016	100
2017	173