

Saskatchewan West Nile Virus (WNV) Weekly Surveillance & Transmission Risk Report

FOR WEEK ENDING AUGUST 21, 2021

Highlights:



***Culex tarsalis* mosquito numbers** have likely peaked for the season.



WNV transmission risk remains moderate in Zone 3, low in Zone 4, and minimal in Zone 2.



Mosquitoes infected with WNV have been found in the moist mixed-grass prairie/aspen parkland ecological risk area (Zone 3) for the past three weeks.



Mosquitoes are most active on warm evenings and between dusk and dawn. As days grow shorter, dusk occurs earlier. To avoid being bitten, use mosquito repellents, cover up, and limit time outside during peak times of mosquito activity.



Risk of being bitten by an infected mosquito this week by zone

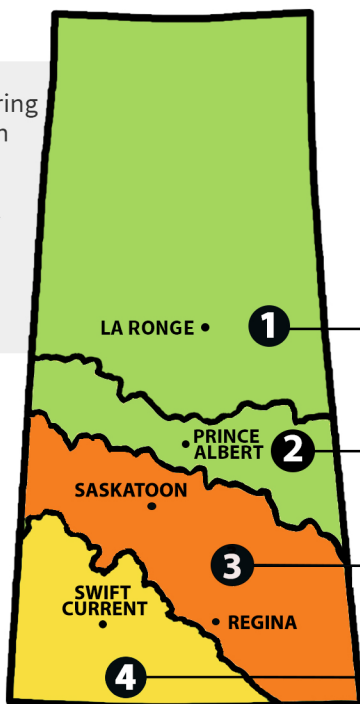


Percentage of mosquito pools that tested positive for WNV this week and this season

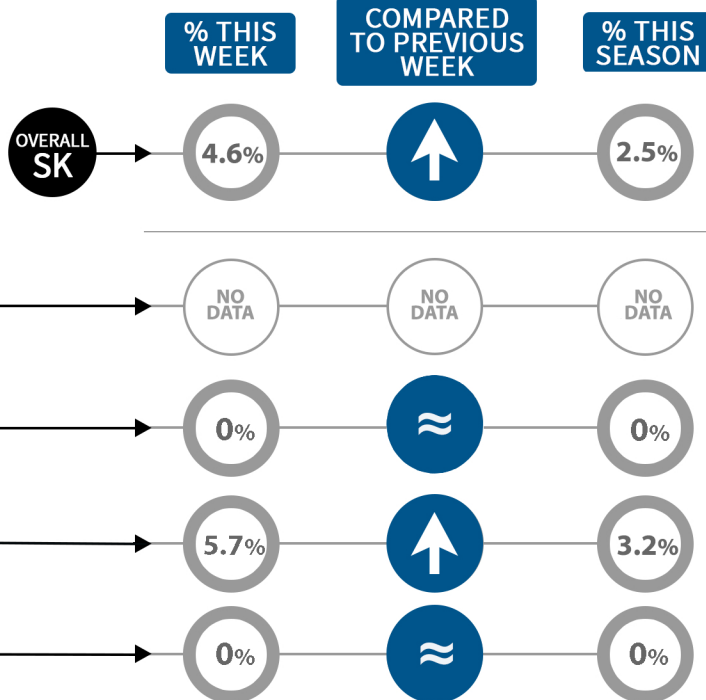
The risk of humans acquiring WNV infection depends on various factors including time of year, number and location of infected *Culex tarsalis* mosquitoes, and numbers of days with sufficient heat.

Risk level:

- Minimal
- Low
- Moderate
- High



Due to extremely low numbers of *Culex* spp. mosquitoes this season, ecological risk area 1 will not be surveyed in 2021.

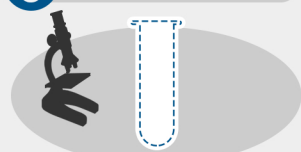


≈ - No change

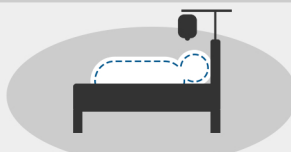
Human surveillance

THIS WEEK

0 WNV positive lab tests



0 cases of WNV neuroinvasive disease



0 deaths due to WNV



THIS SEASON

0 positive lab tests*

0 neuroinvasive cases

0 deaths due to WNV

*These include tests done by the Roy Romanow Provincial Laboratory (RRPL) and Canadian Blood Services (CBS). A positive laboratory test does not necessarily indicate a current WNV infection.