

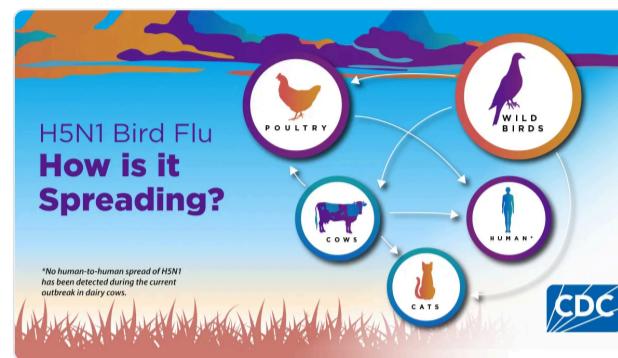


DECEMBER 19, 2024

H5 Bird Flu: Current Situation

WHAT TO KNOW

- H5 bird flu is widespread in wild birds worldwide and is causing outbreaks in poultry and U.S. dairy cows with several recent human cases in U.S. dairy and poultry workers.
- While the current public health risk is low, CDC is watching the situation carefully and working with states to monitor people with animal exposures.
- CDC is using its flu surveillance systems to monitor for H5 bird flu activity in people.



Current situation

H5 Bird Flu Detections in USA

- Dairy cattle: [Ongoing multi-state outbreak](#)
- Wild Birds: [Widespread](#)
- Poultry Flocks: [Sporadic outbreaks](#)
- Mammals: [Sporadic infections](#)
- Person-to-person spread: None
- Current public health risk: Low



61 Confirmed Total Reported Human Cases in the United States

Confirmed human case summary during the 2024 outbreak, by state and exposure source

Exposure Source

State	Exposure Associated with Commercial Agriculture and Related Operations		Other Animal Exposure [†]	Exposure Source Unknown [‡]	State Total
	Dairy Herds (Cattle)	Poultry Farms and Culling Operations			
California	33	0	0	1	34
Colorado	1	9	0	0	10
Louisiana	0	0	1	0	1

State	Exposure Associated with Commercial Agriculture and Related Operations		Other Animal Exposure [†]	Exposure Source Unknown [‡]	State Total
	Dairy Herds (Cattle)	Poultry Farms and Culling Operations			
Michigan	2	0	0	0	2
Missouri	0	0	0	1	1
Oregon	0	1	0	0	1
Texas	1	0	0	0	1
Washington	0	11	0	0	11
Source Total	37	21	1	2	61

NOTE: One additional case was previously detected in a poultry worker in Colorado in 2022.

[†]Exposure was related to other animals such as backyard flocks, wild birds, or other mammals

[‡]Exposure source was not able to be identified

Additional cases meeting the [Council of State and Territorial Epidemiologists \(CSTE\) probable case definition](#) [\[PDF\]](#) have been reported by states: 1 case with dairy cow exposure (CA), 3 cases with poultry exposure (WA), and 2 cases with poultry exposure (AZ) and 1 case with no defined exposure (DE). Confirmatory testing at CDC for these cases was negative.

This table is typically updated by 5 PM EST on Mondays (for cases confirmed by CDC on Friday, Saturday, or Sunday), Wednesdays (for cases confirmed by CDC on Monday or Tuesday), and Fridays (for cases confirmed by CDC on Wednesday and Thursday). Affected states may report cases more frequently. This table was last updated on Tuesday, December 17, 2024, outside of CDC's routine posting cadence.

H5 Monitoring in People

CDC influenza (flu) surveillance systems show no indicators of unusual influenza activity in people, including avian influenza A(H5).

[Monitoring Current Situation](#)



National flu surveillance (since February 25, 2024)

Specimens tested	Human cases
67,000+ specimens tested that would have detected influenza A(H5) or other novel influenza viruses	3 case detected through national flu surveillance

Targeted H5 surveillance (since March 24, 2024)

Total people monitored	Total people tested	Human cases
9,600+ after exposure to infected animals	500+ after exposure to infected animals	58 cases detected through targeted H5 surveillance

These data will be updated weekly on Fridays. CDC numbers on specimens tested for national flu surveillance is the number of seasonal flu tests conducted by public health labs. CDC numbers on H5 testing and monitoring are based on weekly state aggregate reports since 2022. CDC defers to states for updated information on people being monitored and tested. March 24, 2024, was the date of the first reported dairy cow infections in the United States. April 1, 2024, was the date of the first reported human case in the United States since the outbreaks in dairy cows began. Infected animals include poultry, dairy cows, and other birds and mammals.

Detections in Animals

- 10,852 wild birds detected as of 12/17/2024 | [Full Report](#)

- **51** jurisdictions with bird flu in wild birds
- **125,025,136** poultry affected as of 12/19/2024 | [Full Report](#)
- **50** states with outbreaks in poultry
- **866** dairy herds affected as of 12/19/2024 | [Full Report](#)
- **16** states with outbreaks in dairy cows

These data will be updated daily, Monday through Friday, after 4 p.m. to reflect any new data.

Cumulative data on wild birds have been collected since January 20, 2022. Cumulative data on poultry have been collected since February 8, 2022. Cumulative data on humans in the U.S. have been collected since April 28, 2022. Cumulative data on dairy cattle have been collected since March 25, 2024.

What CDC is doing

[CDC Confirms First Severe Case of H5N1 Bird Flu in the United States](#)

December 18, 2024-- A patient has been hospitalized with a severe case of avian influenza A(H5N1)

DEC 18, 2024

[Technical Update: Summary Analysis of the Genetic Sequence of a Highly Pathogenic Avian Influenza A\(H5N1\) Virus Identified in a Child in California](#)

CDC provides an update on genetic sequencing of the first pediatric case of avian influenza A(H5N1) virus, or "H5N1 bird flu," in the United States.

DEC 10, 2024

[CDC confirms H5N1 Bird Flu Infection in a Child in California](#)

The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) has confirmed a human infection with avian influenza A(H5N1) (H5N1 bird flu) in a child in California.

NOV 22, 2024

[CDC A\(H5N1\) Bird Flu Response Update November 18, 2024](#)

CDC provides an update on its response activities related to the multistate outbreak of avian influenza A(H5N1) virus, or "H5N1 bird flu," in dairy cows and other animals in the United States.

NOV 18, 2024

[Interim Guidance for Employers to Reduce Exposure to Novel Influenza A \(Such as H5N1 Bird Flu\) for People Working with or Exposed to Animals](#)

This guidance identifies select occupational groups that may be at risk to novel influenza A viruses

NOV 12, 2024

[CDC Expands Guidance to Better Protect Farm Workers and Livestock Owners to Lower the Risk of Becoming Infected with Bird Flu](#)

CDC Expands H5N1 Guidance to Better Protect Farm Workers from Bird Flu

NOV 8, 2024

Protective Actions for People

- [Protective actions around wild birds](#) Avoid direct contact with wild birds and observe them only from a distance, if possible. [Learn more.](#)
- [What to do if you find a dead bird](#) Avoid contact with wild or domestic birds that appear ill or have died and call to report sick or dead birds. [Learn more.](#)
- [Protective actions around other animals with H5N1 bird flu](#) Avoid unprotected exposure to infected live or dead animals or surfaces contaminated by them. [Learn more.](#)
- [Protective actions if you work with potentially infected dairy cattle](#) Avoid unprotected direct physical contact or close exposure with cattle and materials potentially infected or confirmed to be infected with HPAI A(H5) virus. [Learn more.](#)
- [Consuming Milk](#) People should not eat or drink raw milk or products made with raw milk. Choosing pasteurized milk is the best way to keep you and your family safe. [Learn more.](#)

- [Preparing food](#) It is safe to eat properly handled and cooked poultry in the United States. There are recommendations around products from other animals with H5 virus infections, including cattle and milk. [Learn more](#).
- [Traveling to other countries](#) CDC does not currently recommend any travel restrictions related to bird flu to countries affected by bird flu in birds, other animals or people. [Learn more](#).
- [If you have contact with infected birds or other animals and become sick](#) Learn what to do if you have contact with infected birds or other animals and become sick. [Learn more](#).
- [Clinicians](#) can visit CDC's avian influenza (bird flu) information for health professionals for the latest guidance. [Learn more](#).
- [Public health professionals and laboratorians](#) can visit CDC's avian influenza (bird flu) information for public health partners for the latest guidance. [Learn more](#).
- [Get a seasonal flu vaccine](#) Seasonal flu vaccination will not prevent infection with bird flu viruses, but can reduce the risk of getting sick with human influenza viruses and thus the risk for seasonal and bird flu co-infection. [Learn more](#).

SOURCES

CONTENT SOURCE:

National Center for Immunization and Respiratory Diseases (NCIRD)