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Overview:

There are no human cases of West Nile virus reported in Iowa in 2013 thus far. One sentinel chicken have tested positive for West Nile virus in Pottawattamie County. No mosquito pools or horses have tested positive for this virus. In 2012, there were 31 human cases of West Nile Virus reported.

Human / Sentinel Chicken / Mosquito Surveillance, 2013 Positive Samples

			Mosquito Pools	
County	Human	Sentinel Chickens	Culex pipiens Complex	Culex tarsalis
Pottawattamie	0	1	0	0
Total	0	1	0	0

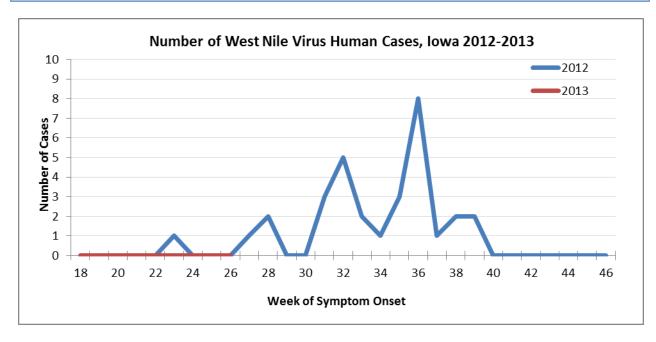


Figure 1. Number of West Nile Virus Human Cases, Iowa 2012-2013

West Nile Virus is endemic in Iowa and activity usually peaks in late summer and early fall. Local partners collect mosquitoes and maintain sentinel chicken flocks across the state. Iowa State University Medical Entomology monitors the levels of *Culex pipiens* and *Culex tarsalis* mosquitoes (the primary vectors of WNV) statewide and the State Hygienic Laboratory (SHL) tests the mosquitoes to determine whether they are infected with West Nile Virus or other arboviruses. SHL also tests the blood drawn from sentinel chickens weekly to determine whether they have been infected with West Nile virus or other arboviruses.

For additional West Nile Virus information, visit: www.idph.state.ia.us/Cade/DiseaseIndex.aspx?disease=West Nile Virus.