



## Emerging and Reemerging Infectious Diseases, Region of the Americas

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### **West Nile Virus (WNV) in the USA and Canada**

#### ***USA, 4 September 2003***

According to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention of the United States (CDC), 2,267 human infections and 43 deaths from West Nile Virus (WNV) have been reported to date, an increase of 53% over the last update (28 August 2003). The States most affected continue to be Colorado, with a 48% increase in the number of infections (940) and an 83% increase in the number of deaths (11); Nebraska, with a 71% increase in the number of infections (326) and double the number of deaths (8) as the last update; and South Dakota, with a 21% increase in the number of detected infections (250) and a 50% increase in the number of deaths (3).

To date, clinical information is available on 98% of those infected (2214): of these, 57% (1257) were reported as mildly ill (fever), 33% (723) as seriously ill (meningitis or encephalitis), and 11% (234) with non-specific symptoms. For more information, see the [CDC website](#).

*Source:* Division of Vector-Borne Infectious Diseases: West Nile Virus, Centers for Diseases Control and Prevention (CDC), USA.

#### ***Canada, 3 September 2003***

To date, a total of 131 infections from West Nile Virus has been reported. Nineteen (19) human infections has been confirmed, and studies are being continued on the other 112 possible cases. Since the last update (28 August 2003), the total number of reported infections has tripled. The Province most affected continues to be Saskatchewan, with 10 confirmed cases and 59 probable cases, followed by Alberta with 7 confirmed cases and 37 probable cases. At present, there have been no deaths. More information is available on the [Health Canada website](#).

*Source:* West Nile Virus Surveillance Information, Health Canada.