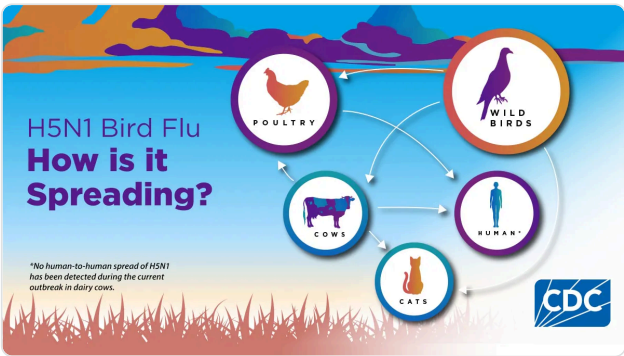




# H5 Bird Flu: Current Situation

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

### National situation summary

Person-to-person spread

NONE

There is no known person-to-person spread at this time.

Current public health risk

LOW

The current public health risk is Low.

Cases in the U.S.

70

cases

Deaths in U.S.

1

cases

### Situation summary of confirmed and probable human cases since 2024

Confirmed Cases

Probable Cases

State or territory

National

▼

#### National Total Cases: 70

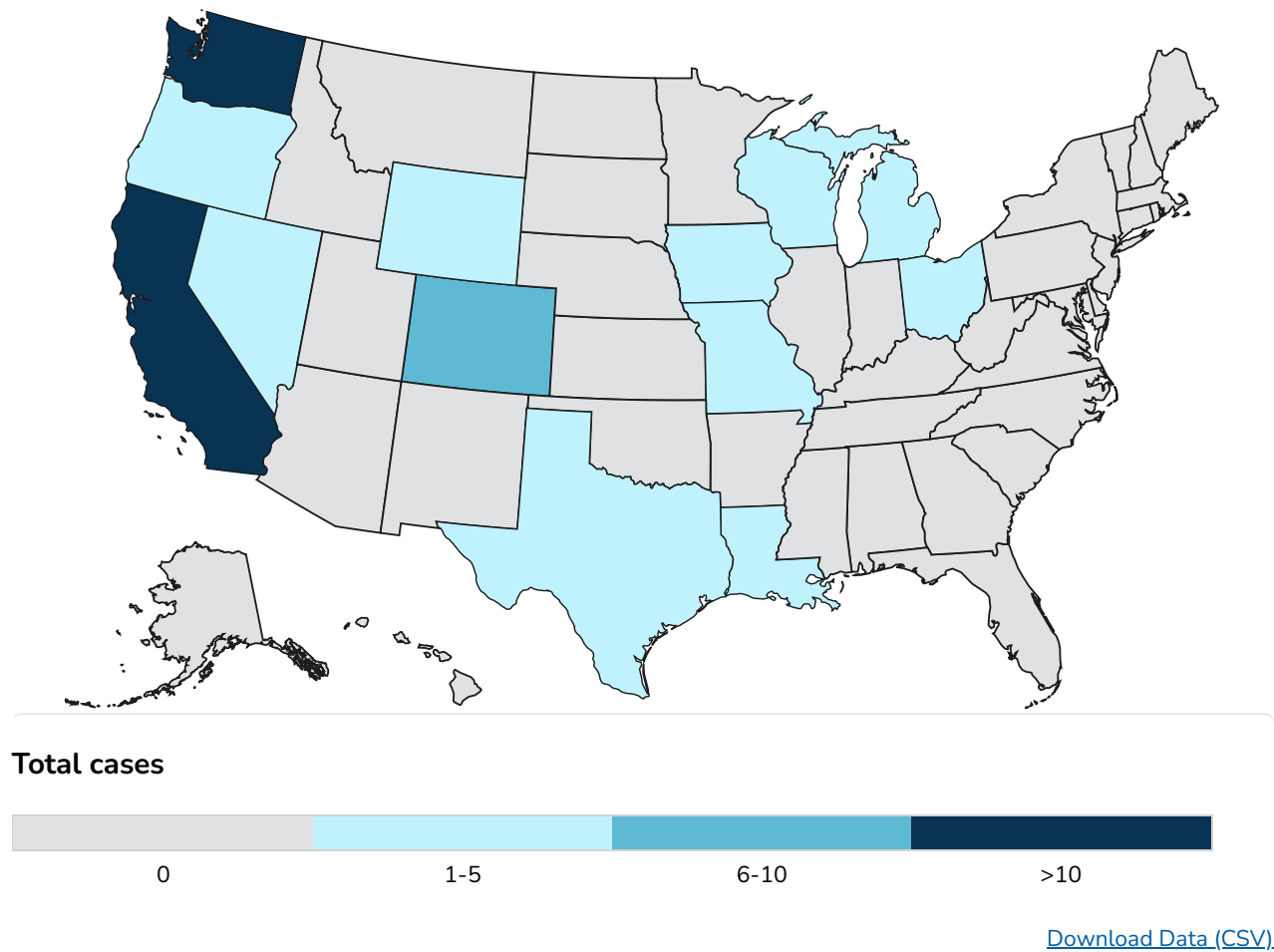
Cases	Exposure Source
41	Dairy Herds (Cattle)*
24	Poultry Farms and Culling Operations*
2	Other Animal Exposure†
3	Exposure Source Unknown‡

NOTE: One additional case was previously detected in a poultry worker in Colorado in 2022. Louisiana reported the first H5 bird flu death in the U.S.

\*Exposure Associated with Commercial Agriculture and Related Operations

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

‡Exposure source was not able to be identified



When a case tests positive for H5 at a public health laboratory but testing at CDC is not able to confirm H5 infection, per [Council of State and Territorial Epidemiologists \(CSTE\) guidance](#) [PDF](#) [↗](#), a case is reported as probable.

Confirmed and probable cases are 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.

### 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

**136,134+** specimens tested that would have detected influenza A(H5) or other novel influenza viruses

### Human cases

**6** case detected through national flu surveillance

## Targeted H5 surveillance (since March 24, 2024)

### Total people monitored

**15,200+** after exposure to infected animals

### Total people tested

**830+** after exposure to infected animals

### Human cases

**64** cases detected through targeted H5 surveillance

## Detections in Animals

- **12,215** wild birds detected as of 2/25/2025 | [Full Report](#)
- **51** jurisdictions with bird flu in wild birds
- **166,065,938** poultry affected as of 2/25/2025 | [Full Report](#)
- **51** jurisdictions with outbreaks in poultry
- **973** dairy herds affected as of 2/21/2025 | [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's New

### [CDC Activities and Accomplishments to Date in 2024—2025 H5 Bird Flu Response](#)

The current outbreak began in late March 2024 with the detection of H5N1 bird flu in dairy cows.

JAN 17, 2025

### [H5 Bird Flu Response: Focus Areas for Ongoing Public Health Risk Assessment](#)

CDC continues to assess that the current H5N1 bird flu risk to the general public remains low.

JAN 15, 2025

### [Interim Guidance for Employers to Reduce Exposure to Avian Influenza A Viruses for People Working with Animals](#)

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

JAN 10, 2025

### [Information for Employers Providing Personal Protective Equipment to Reduce Exposure to Avian Influenza A Viruses](#)

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

JAN 6, 2025

### [Information for Workers Exposed to H5N1 Bird Flu](#)

H5N1 bird flu is a virus that has recently been detected for the first time in cows.

JAN 6, 2025

### [Genetic Sequences of Highly Pathogenic Avian Influenza A\(H5N1\) Viruses Identified in a Person in Louisiana](#)

CDC has sequenced the influenza viruses in specimens collected from the patient in Louisiana who was

DEC 26, 2024

## Resources

- [Preventing Bird Flu Infections](#)

### SOURCES

**CONTENT SOURCE:**

[National Center for Immunization and Respiratory Diseases \(NCIRD\)](#)