West Virginia Vectorborne Disease Surveillance Report

JANUARY 1 – SEPTEMBER 10, 2026

The purpose of this report is to share descriptive surveillance data related to vectorborne disease activity with public health partners in West Virginia. All information in this report is considered provisional. For questions or comments, contact either Michael Abshire or Eric Dotseth at the Zoonotic Disease Program in the Division of Infectious Disease Prevention and Response at 304-558-5358.

HUMAN SURVEILLANCE – MOSQUITOBORNE DISEASE

During the period of January 1 to September 10, 2026, there has been one human case of mosquito-borne disease reported, a travel associated Dengue case that traveled to Kenya (Table 1). The only county reporting mosquito borne disease is Berkeley (Dengue).

Table 1. Summary of human cases of mosquito-borne diseases for the current reporting period in West Virginia.

Mosquito-borne Disease	# Confirmed and Probable Human Cases[a] (Total through September 10, 2026)	Comments
Dengue	1	Travel associated – Kenya
Total	**1**	

[a]Table includes confirmed and probable cases meeting case definition.

BIRD AND HORSE SURVEILLANCE – MOSQUITOBORNE DISEASE

During the period of January 1 to September 10, 2026, there have been no animal specimens tested for arboviral infection (Table 2).

Table 2. Summary of surveillance specimens submitted for dead birds and horses (serum) through September 10, 2026.

Type of Specimen	Total through September 10th, 2026				Comments
	# specimens submitted	Arbovirus-positive[a]			
		WNV	SLE	EEE	
-	-	-	-	-	

[a]Note: Horse specimens are tested for WNV and EEE only.

HUMAN SURVEILLANCE – TICKBORNE DISEASE

Through September 10, 2026, 2950 confirmed and probable cases of tickborne diseases (TBDs) were reported in West Virginia (Table 3). The majority of cases (89.5%) were Lyme disease cases (n=2640) (Figure 1). Several other tickborne diseases (TBD) were also reported (Figure 2). All of West Virginia's 55 counties have reported human TBD activity. The Alpha-gal Syndrome numbers here only reflect Confirmed and Probable cases while the OEPS Dashboard numbers include Confirmed, Probable and Suspect for Alpha-gal Syndrome.

Table 3. Summary of human cases of tickborne diseases through September 10, 2026.

Tickborne Disease	# Confirmed and Probable Cases through September 10, 2026	# of Counties Where Disease Reported
Alpha-Gal Syndrome	95	17
Anaplasmosis	96	32
Babesiosis	3	3
Ehrlichiosis	81	20
Lyme disease	2640	55
Spotted fever group rickettsiosis[b]	35	9
Total	**2950**	**--**

[a]Table includes only confirmed or probable cases that have been reviewed and closed by the Vectorborne Disease Epidemiologist.

[b]Includes Rocky Mountain spotted fever.

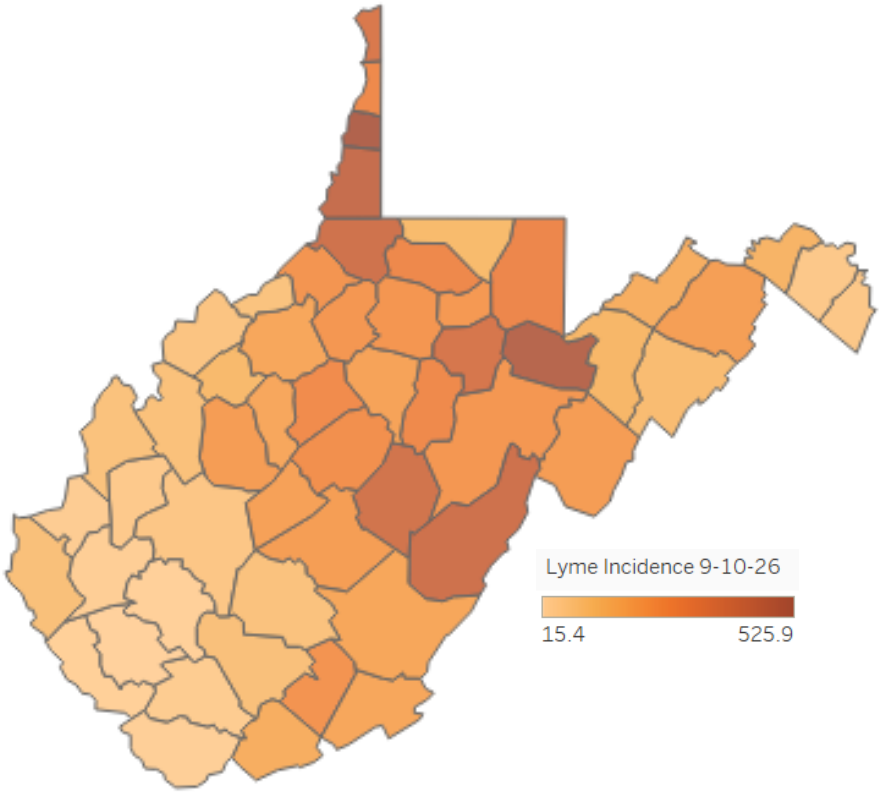

Figure 1. County incidence of probable Lyme disease cases (N=2640) through September 10, 2026, West Virginia.

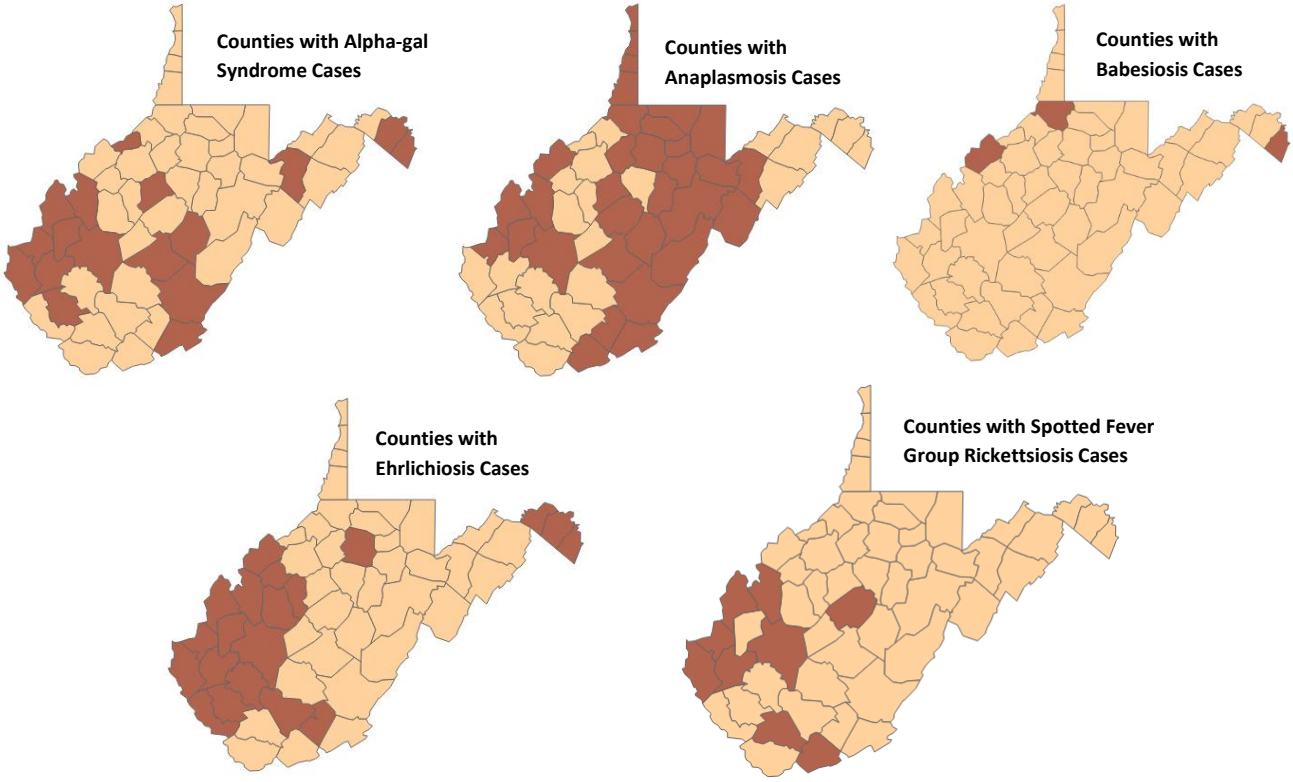

Figure 2. Counties with the following disease cases in red as of September 10, 2026: alpha-gal syndrome, anaplasmosis, babesiosis ehrlichiosis, and spotted fever group.

TICK SURVEILLANCE

During the period of January 1, 2026, to August 23, 2026, 23 localities in the following 12 counties have served as active tick surveillance sites: Cabell, Fayette, Jackson, Kanawha, Mason, Monongalia, Nicholas, Preston, Putnam, Roane, Upshur, and Wood counties (Figure 3, Figure 4). Through active tick surveillance and public submission to the Zoonotic Disease Program, four species of tick have been collected from January 1, 2026, to August 23, 2026 (Table 4).

Table 4. Summary of tick surveillance through August 23, 2026

Tick Species	Total through August 23rd, 2026			
	# collected	Life Stage		
		Larva	Nymph	Adult
Amblyomma americanum	3953	3346	502	105
Dermacentor variabilis	46	0	0	46
Haemaphysalis longicornis	1319	342	933	44
Ixodes scapularis	1399	1301	92	6
Total	**6717**	**4989**	**1527**	**201**

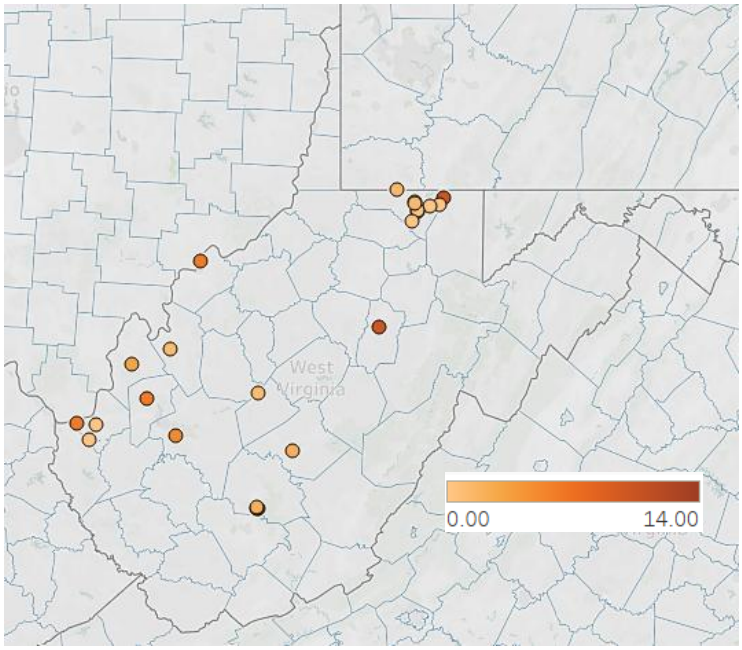

Figure 3. Tick collection sites (N = 23) in 12 counties, showcasing density of *Ixodes scapularis* per 1000m^2, or blacklegged tick nymphs. *Ixodes scapularis* transmits Anaplasmosis, Babesiosis, and Lyme Disease.

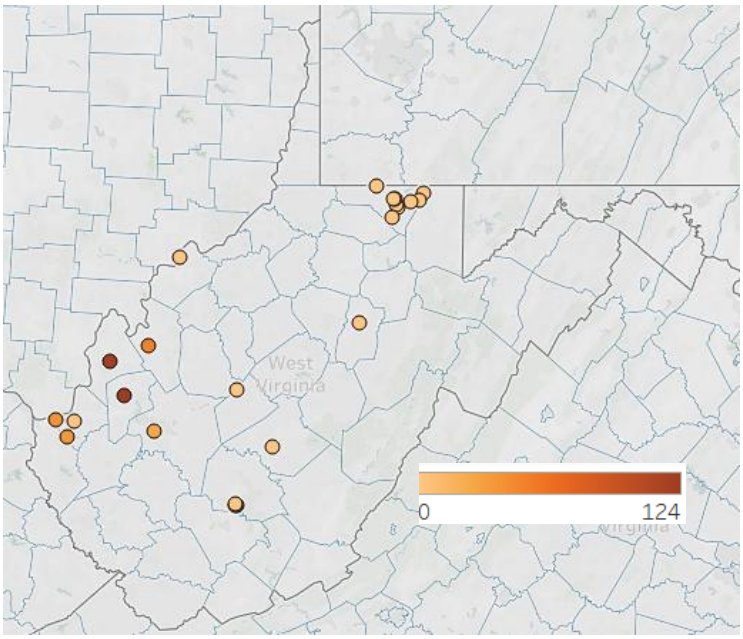

Figure 4. Tick collection sites (N = 23) in 12 counties, showcasing density of *Amblyomma americanum* per 1000m^2, or lone star tick nymphs. *Ammblyomma americanum* transmits Alpha-gal Syndrome, Ehrlichiosis, and Spotted Fever Group Rickettsiosis.