# West Virginia Vectorborne Disease Surveillance Report

## JANUARY 1 – OCTOBER 16, 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 October 16, 2026, there has been four human cases of mosquito-borne disease reported, a travel associated Dengue case that traveled to Kenya, two locally acquired La Crosse Encephalitis from Raleigh County, and a West Nile Virus Case from Upshur County (Table 1).

**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 October 16, 2026) | Comments |
|---|---|---|
| Dengue | 1 | Travel associated – Kenya |
| La Crosse Encephalitis | 2 | Indigenous |
| West Nile | 1 | Indigenous |
| **Total** | **4** | |

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

## BIRD AND HORSE SURVEILLANCE – MOSQUITOBORNE DISEASE

During the period of January 1 to October 16, 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 October 16, 2026.

| Type of Specimen | Total through October 16th, 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 October 16, 2026, 3365 confirmed and probable cases of tickborne diseases (TBDs) were reported in West Virginia (Table 3). The majority of cases (89.9%) were Lyme disease cases (n=3026) (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 October 16, 2026.

| Tickborne Disease | # Confirmed and Probable Cases through October 16, 2026 | # of Counties Where Disease Reported |
|---|---|---|
| Alpha-Gal Syndrome | 114 | 17 |
| Anaplasmosis | 103 | 32 |
| Babesiosis | 3 | 3 |
| Ehrlichiosis | 84 | 20 |
| Lyme disease | 3026 | 55 |
| Spotted fever group rickettsiosis[b] | 35 | 9 |
| **Total** | **3365** | **--** |

[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.

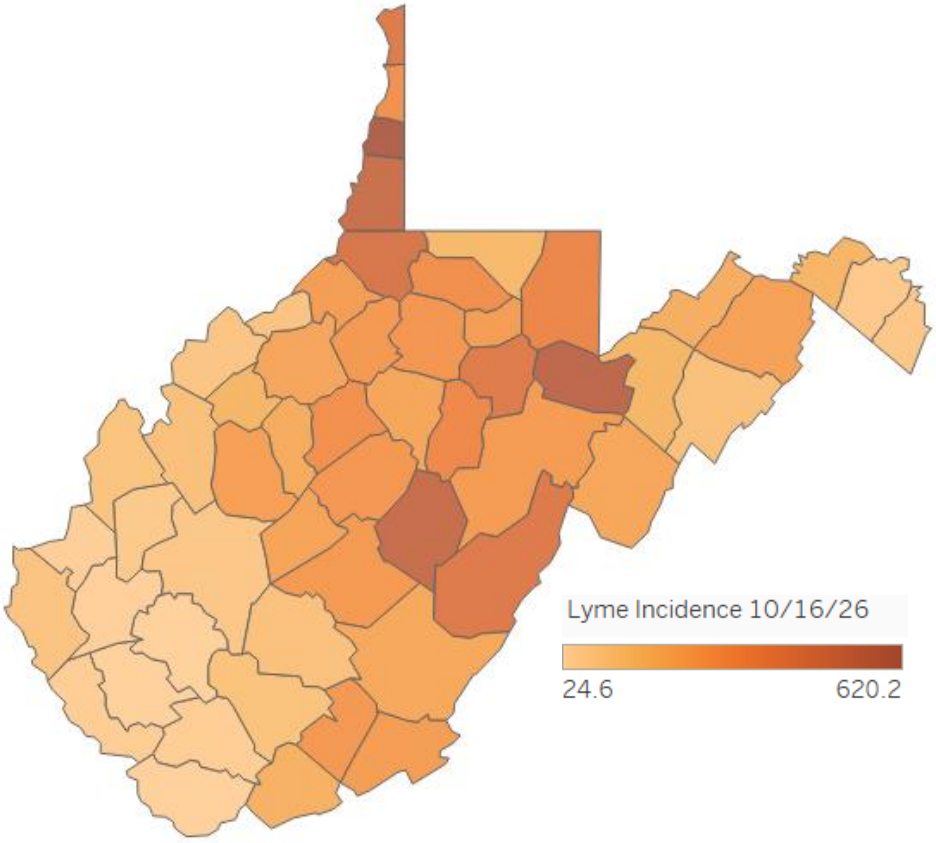



**Figure 1.** County incidence of probable Lyme disease cases (N=3026) through October 16, 2026, West Virginia.

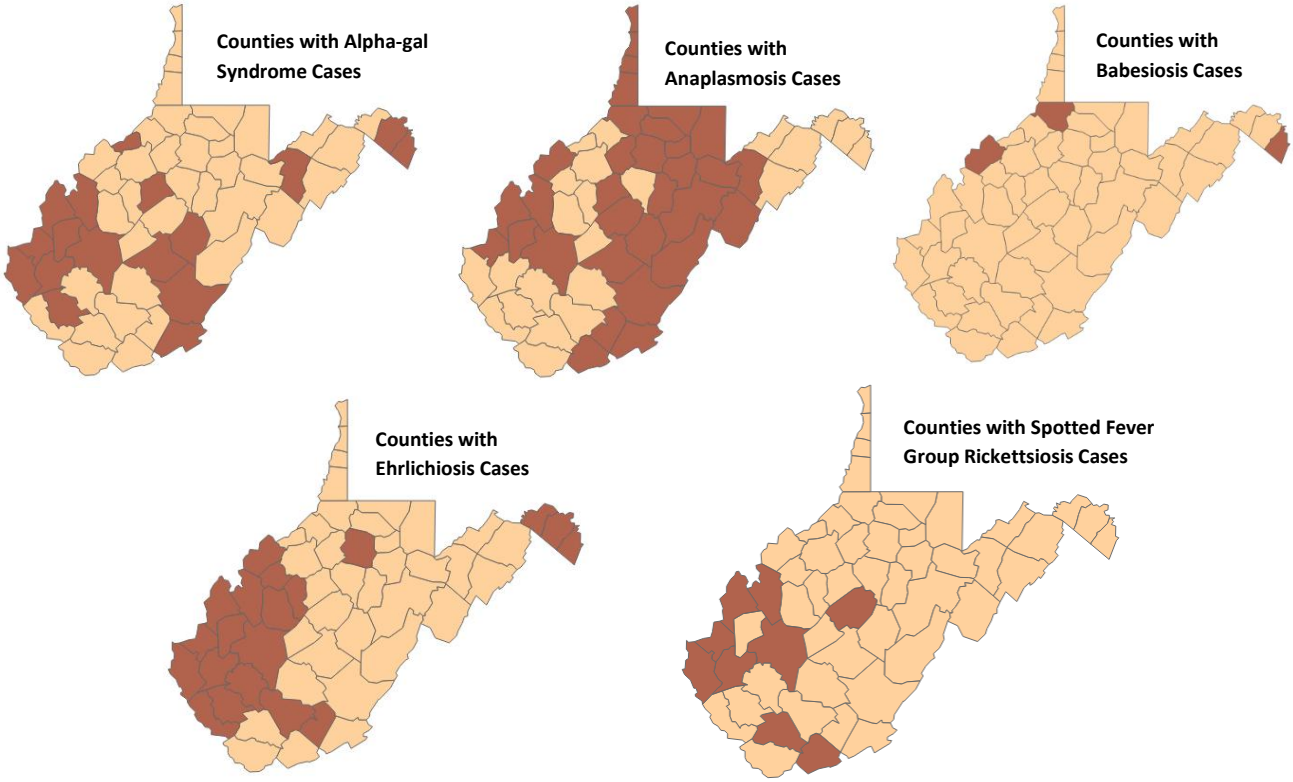



**Figure 2.** Counties with the following disease cases in red as of October 16, 2026: alpha-gal syndrome, anaplasmosis, babesiosis ehrlichiosis, and spotted fever group.

## TICK SURVEILLANCE

During the period of January 1, 2026, to October 5, 2026, 24 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, five species of tick have been collected from January 1, 2026, to October 5, 2026 (Table 4).

**Table 4**. Summary of tick surveillance through October 5, 2026

| Tick Species | Total through October 5rd, 2026 | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| | # collected | Life Stage | | |
| | | Larva | Nymph | Adult |
| *Amblyomma americanum* | 6891 | 6246 | 540 | 105 |
| *Dermacentor albipictus* | 1 | 1 | 0 | 0 |
| *Dermacentor variabilis* | 46 | 0 | 0 | 46 |
| *Haemaphysalis longicornis* | 3274 | 2239 | 937 | 98 |
| *Ixodes scapularis* | 1424 | 1323 | 95 | 6 |
| **Total** | **11636** | **9809** | **1572** | **255** |

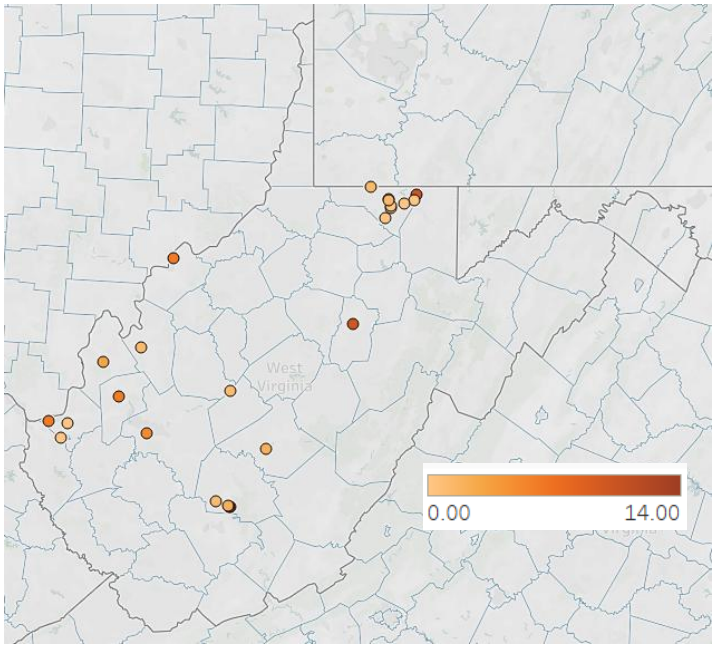



**Figure 3.** Tick collection sites (N = 24) in 12 counties, showcasing density of *Ixodes scapularis* per 1000m$^2$, or blacklegged tick nymphs. *Ixodes scapularis* transmits Anaplasmosis, Babesiosis, and Lyme Disease.

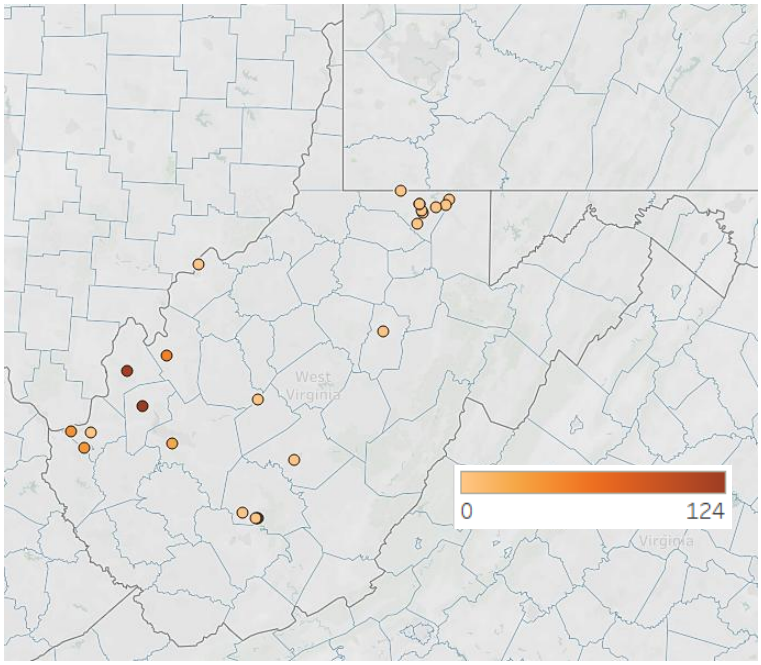



**Figure 4.** Tick collection sites (N = 24) in 12 counties, showcasing density of *Amblyomma americanum* per 1000m$^2$, or lone star tick nymphs. *Ammblyomma americanum* transmits Alpha-gal Syndrome, Ehrlichiosis, and Spotted Fever Group Rickettsiosis.