



Influenza (Flu)

[Influenza \(Flu\) Home](#)

H5N1 Bird Flu: Current Situation Summary

Updated May 9, 2024

- H5N1 bird flu is widespread in wild birds worldwide and is causing outbreaks in poultry and U.S. dairy cows with one recent human case in a U.S. dairy worker.
- 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 H5N1 activity](#) in people.

Monitoring for H5 in People



H5N1 Detections in USA

- Dairy cattle: [Ongoing multi-state outbreak](#) [↗](#)
- Wild Birds: [Widespread](#) [↗](#)
- Poultry Flocks: [Sporadic outbreaks](#) [↗](#)
- Mammals: [Sporadic infections](#) [↗](#)
- People: [2 cases in U.S.](#)
- Person-to-person spread: None
- Current public health risk: Low

Humans



- Total Reported Human Cases in the United States: **2** (since 2022)
 - **1** following exposure to dairy cows (reported on 4/01/2024) | [Full Report >](#)
 - **1** following exposure to poultry (reported on 4/28/2022) | [Full Report >](#)
- States with Reported Case(s): **2**



Wild Birds



Poultry



Dairy Cattle

Wild Birds Detected

9,349

as of 5/8/2024 | [Full Report >](#)

Poultry Affected

90,891,636

as of 5/7/2024 | [Full Report >](#)

States with Outbreaks in Cattle

9

as of 5/9/2024 | [Full Report >](#)

Jurisdictions with Bird Flu in Wild Birds

50

States with Poultry Outbreaks

48

Dairy Herds Affected

36

as of 5/9/2024 | [Full Report >](#)

This webpage 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.

Protective Actions for People



Protective actions around wild birds

Avoid direct contact with wild birds and observe them only from a distance, if possible. [Learn more.](#)



What to do if you find a dead bird

Avoid contact with wild or domestic birds that appear ill or have died and call to report sick or dead birds. [Learn more.](#)



Protective actions around other animals with H5N1 bird flu

Avoid unprotected exposure to infected live or dead animals or surfaces contaminated by them. [Learn more.](#)



Protective actions if you work with potentially infected dairy cattle

Avoid unprotected direct physical contact or close exposure with cattle and materials potentially infected or confirmed to be infected with HPAI A(H5N1) virus.



Preparing food

It is safe to eat properly handled and cooked poultry in the United States. There are recommendations around products from other animals with H5N1 virus infections, including cattle and milk. [Learn more.](#)



Traveling to other countries

CDC does not currently recommend any travel restrictions related to bird flu to countries affected by bird flu in birds, other animals or people. [Learn more.](#)



If you have contact with infected birds or other animals and become sick

Learn what to do if you have contact with infected birds or other animals and become sick. [Learn more.](#)



Clinician, laboratorian or public health worker

Visit CDC's avian influenza (bird flu) information for health professional and laboratorians webpage for the latest guidance. [Learn more](#)



Get a seasonal flu vaccine

Seasonal flu vaccination will not prevent infection with bird flu viruses, but can reduce the risk of getting sick with human influenza viruses and thus the risk for seasonal and bird flu co-infection. [Learn more.](#)

Spotlights

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|--------------|--|
| May 08. 2024 | CDC's Flu Surveillance Systems Can Detect Avian Influenza A(H5N1) Virus Infections |
| May 08. 2024 | New H5N1 Bird Flu Transmission Graphics |
| May 03. 2024 | CDC A(H5N1) Bird Flu Response Update |
| Apr 26. 2024 | Avian Influenza A(H5N1) U.S. Situation Update and CDC Activities |
| Apr 26. 2024 | Updated Interim Recommendations for Worker Protection and Use of Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) to Reduce Exposure to Novel Influenza A Viruses Associated with Disease in Humans Avian Influenza (Flu) |

Related Links

[Current H5N1 Bird Flu Situation in Cattle](#)

[H5N1 Bird Flu Technical Reports](#)

[Highlights in the History of Avian Influenza \(Bird Flu\) Timeline – 2020-2024](#)

[Avian Influenza Communication Resources](#)

[Avian Influenza: Information for Health Professionals and Laboratorians](#)

[USDA: Highly Pathogenic Avian Influenza \(HPAI\) Detections in Livestock | Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service](#) 

[USDA: Detections of Highly Pathogenic Avian Influenza](#) 

[USDA: Defend the Flock Program](#) 

[USDA: Distribution of Highly Pathogenic Avian Influenza in North America](#) 

Last Reviewed: May 9, 2024

Source: Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, National Center for Immunization and Respiratory Diseases (NCIRD)