



# 2020 Summary of Eastern Equine Encephalitis Cases in the United States

January 1 – December 31, 2020

This report is a descriptive summary of U.S. Eastern equine encephalitis (EEE) cases reported to the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) in 2020. The USDA Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service (APHIS) Veterinary Services (VS) branch collaborates with the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) and State veterinary and public health officials to facilitate communication about arbovirus disease cases in horses and confirm equine cases in each State. CDC collects arbovirus case information using its ArboNET reporting system, an electronic surveillance and reporting system for tracking and reporting arboviral activity in humans and animals. During the transmission season, VS disseminates the equine arbovirus case information to State animal health officials for confirmation and posts the number of confirmed cases to the USDA equine information Web site <https://www.aphis.usda.gov/aphis/ourfocus/animalhealth/animal-disease-information/equine>. This site also provides specific case definitions. In this document, ‘reported cases’ of EEE may include presumptive positive and confirmed positive cases.

In 2020, **142** equine cases of EEE were reported from **13** States. Figure 1 shows the annual number of equine EEE cases reported in the United States from 2007 through 2020. Figure 2 shows the number of equine EEE cases in each State in 2020, and Table 1 provides the number of cases per county or parish in those States in 2020.

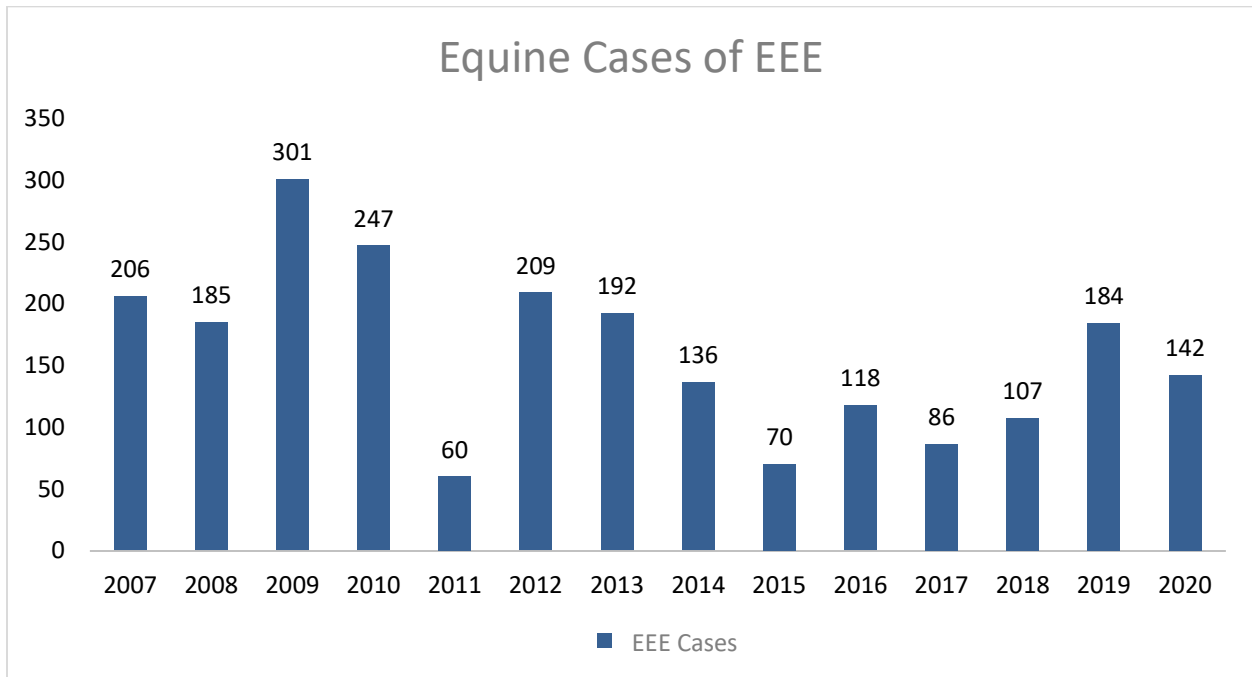


Figure 1. Reported U.S. equine cases of Eastern equine encephalitis, 2007-2020

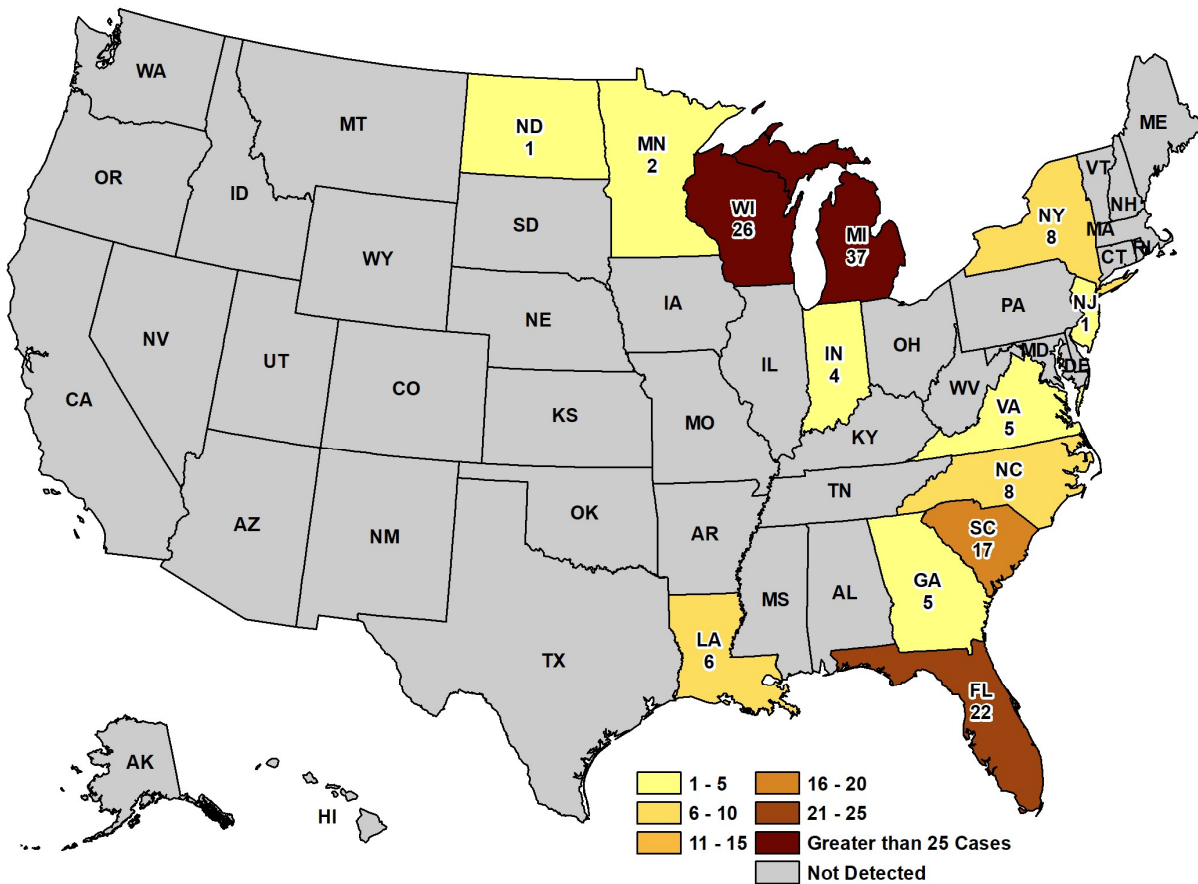


Figure 2. Distribution of reported equine EEE cases in 2020 (142 total cases)

Table 1. Number of reported equine EEE cases by State and county, 2020

State	County	Eastern Equine Encephalitis Reported Cases
Florida	Baker County	2
	Bradford County	2
	Clay County	1
	Gilchrist County	1
	Hendry County	2
	Holmes County	4
	Jackson County	2
	Lake County	1
	Marion County	1
	Orange County	2
	Polk County	1
	Putnam County	1

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State	County	Eastern Equine Encephalitis Reported Cases
	Santa Rosa County	1
	Volusia County	1
<b>Total Cases for Florida</b>		<b>22</b>
Georgia	Irwin County	1
	Long County	1
	Lowndes County	1
	Thomas County	1
	Tift County	1
<b>Total Cases for Georgia</b>		<b>5</b>
Indiana	Kosciusko County	1
	Lagrange County	2
	La Porte County	1
<b>Total Cases for Indiana</b>		<b>4</b>
Louisiana	Iberville Parish	1
	Lafayette Parish	1
	Lafourche Parish	3
	St. Martin Parish	1
<b>Total Cases for Louisiana</b>		<b>6</b>
Michigan	Baraga County	1
	Barry County	1
	Calhoun County	1
	Clare County	5
	Gladwin County	1
	Ionia County	2
	Isabella County	1
	Jackson County	2
	Kent County	4
	Livingston County	2
	Mecosta County	1
	Menominee County	1
	Montcalm County	8
	Newaygo County	2
	Oakland County	4
	Tuscola County	1
<b>Total Cases for Michigan</b>		<b>37</b>
Minnesota	Aitkin County	1
	Benton County	1
<b>Total Cases for Minnesota</b>		<b>2</b>

State	County	Eastern Equine Encephalitis Reported Cases
New Jersey	Atlantic County	1
<b>Total Cases for New Jersey</b>		<b>1</b>
New York	Jefferson County	7
	St. Lawrence County	1
<b>Total Cases for New York</b>		<b>8</b>
North Carolina	Bladen County	1
	Brunswick County	1
	Camden County	1
	Columbus County	2
	Durham County	1
	Johnston County	1
	Robeson County	1
<b>Total Cases for North Carolina</b>		<b>8</b>
North Dakota	McKenzie County	1
<b>Total Cases for North Dakota</b>		<b>1</b>
South Carolina	Aiken County	3
	Berkeley County	1
	Clarendon County	1
	Colleton County	2
	Florence County	1
	Horry County	4
	Jasper County	1
	Lexington County	2
	Marion County	1
	Williamsburg County	1
<b>Total Cases for South Carolina</b>		<b>17</b>
Virginia	Accomack County	1
	Chesapeake City	1
	Falls Church City	1
	Suffolk City	2
<b>Total Cases for Virginia</b>		<b>5</b>
Wisconsin	Chippewa County	4
	Clark County	1
	Dunn County	3
	Forest County	1
	Langlade County	1
	Lincoln County	1
	Oconto County	1

<b>State</b>	<b>County</b>	<b>Eastern Equine Encephalitis Reported Cases</b>
	Oneida County	3
	Pepin County	1
	Polk County	1
	Price County	2
	Rusk County	1
	Shawano County	2
	Sheboygan County	1
	Taylor County	3
<b>Total Cases for Wisconsin</b>		<b>26</b>
<b>Total Reported Eastern Equine Encephalitis Cases for the United States</b>		<b>142</b>

EEE is a deadly disease in equids, where mortality rates can approach 90 percent in unvaccinated animals. This susceptibility to the virus makes equids a recognized EEE sentinel species for the human population. The main public health purpose of confirming and reporting equine EEE cases is to inform human surveillance efforts. Because equine commercial vaccines are available and convey good protection against EEE infection, reported cases of EEE in equids tend to be in unvaccinated or under-vaccinated animals.