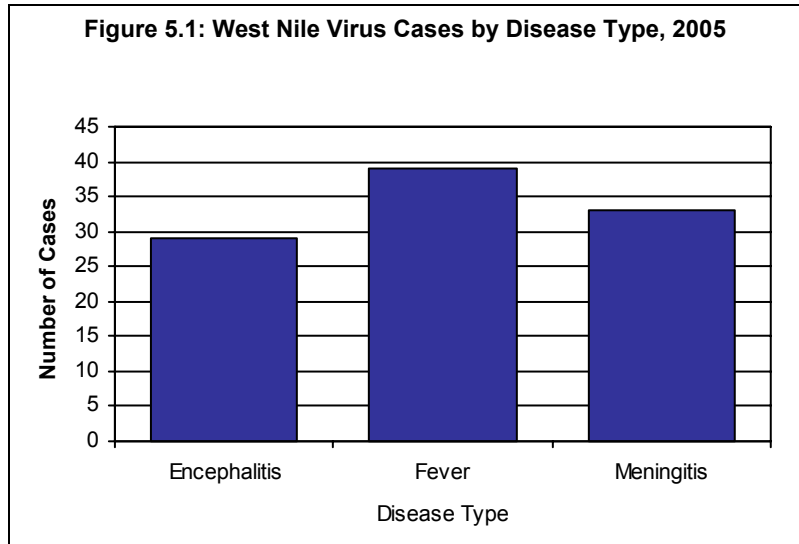


WEST NILE VIRUS

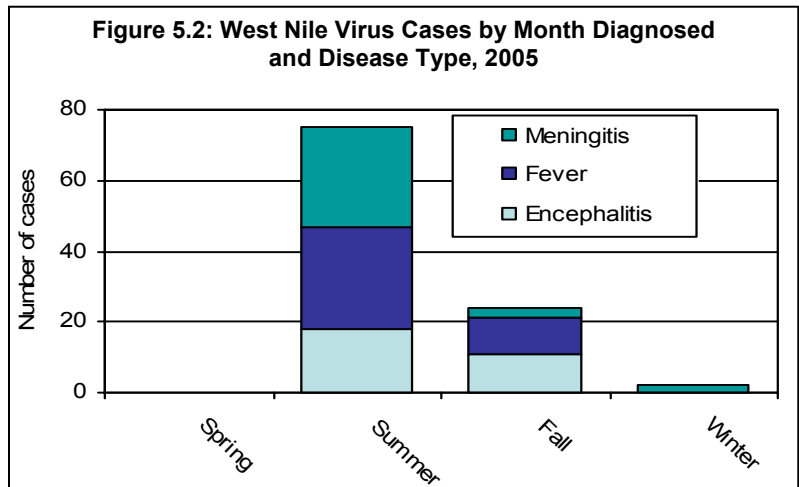
DISEASE ABSTRACT

- West Nile Virus (WNV) was first detected in Riverside County in 2003. Two human cases were reported that year. In 2005, 103 cases were reported with 5 deaths.
- West Nile fever was the most common clinical presentation of infection.
- WNV is transmitted through the bite of an infected mosquito, with humans as an incidental host.
- According to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), approximately 80 percent of infected persons are asymptomatic.



TRENDS

The most common clinical presentation of WNV infection in 2005 was WN fever, with 39 cases reported, for an incidence rate of 2.1 cases per 100,000 population. Cases of West Nile meningitis and encephalitis were lower with 33 and 29 cases, respectively.

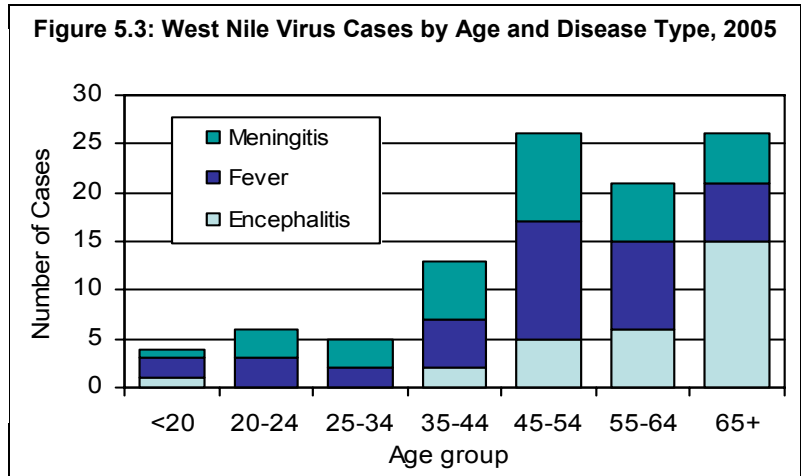


SEASONALITY

WNV season typically coincides with the increased mosquito activity in the warmer months of summer and fall. In 2005, the first human case of WNV infection was diagnosed in June and cases peaked in August with 48 cases.

AGE

West Nile Virus predominantly affects the older population; 72 percent of all cases occurred in those 45 years and older. The highest incidence of disease was observed in individuals 55-64 years old, with 13.1 cases per 100,000 population.



GEOGRAPHIC DISTRIBUTION

Human cases of WNV were reported throughout Riverside County, but predominantly in the Mid County Region. In 2005, there was a total of 73 reported cases of West Nile infection in the Mid County Region, accounting for 71 percent of all cases.