CANADIAN WILDLIFE HEALTH COOPERATIVE

CWHC NATIONAL OFFICE
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Inter-agency Wild Bird Avian Influenza Survey Update

A report of samples collected and tested as of October 22, 2026.

PLEASE NOTE: The data displayed in the following report are the most recent AIV **PRELIMINARY** test results provided to the CWHC by participating program partners unless otherwise stated. All survey numbers are displayed for the current calendar year.

DEAD BIRD SURVEY 2026

Number of birds tested and number matrix positive* since January 1, 2026

Region	October 9-22, 2026		Year to Date		
	Tested	Matrix Positive*	Tested	Matrix Positive*	H5 Positive*
British Columbia	Visit the BC dashboard for AIV numbers: https://www.arcgis.com/apps/dashboards/8c6c84718e5748179102a0be2368029a				
Alberta	0	0	377	73	72
Saskatchewan	1	0	179	76	35
Manitoba	16	15	168	25	23
Ontario	9	5	475	80	81
Quebec	2	0	68	0	0
New Brunswick	2	0	32	3	0
Nova Scotia	2	0	95	20	20
Prince Edward Island	1	0	25	4	4
Newfoundland & Labrador	0	0	2	0	0
Yukon Territory	0	0	24	1	0
Northwest Territories	0	0	0	0	0
Nunavut	0	0	27	27	27
Total	**33**	**20**	**1472**	**309**	**262**

*Matrix positive includes all birds that tested 'not negative' by PCR for one or more Influenza A viruses. The number of positive test results included both those birds that tested POSITIVE (Ct value less than 36) and those that had an INCONCLUSIVE test result (Ct value greater than or equal to 36).

Any samples found to be matrix POSITIVE or INCONCLUSIVE are then tested by PCR for H5 and H7 strains at the regional level. Any samples that are then found to be either H5 or H7 POSITIVE or INCONCLUSIVE are immediately sent to the NCFAD for confirmation and identification. Authorities from the province or region where the bird was sampled will be notified when preliminary H5 or H7 positive results are found at the regional lab. When the CFIA confirms and identifies the virus, authorities from across the country will be notified. This update reports all POSITIVE or INCONCLUSIVE **PRELIMINARY** matrix results unless otherwise stated.

For confirmed presence of High Pathogenic Avian Influenza (HPAI), subtype H5N1 and H5N5, please visit the CFIA dashboard. You can visit the dashboard here: CFIA Dashboard

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LIVE BIRD SURVEY 2026

Number of live birds tested and number matrix, H5 and H7 PCR positive* since January 1, 2026 and updated as of September 17, 2026.

Region	Tested	Matrix Positive*	H5 Positive*	HPAI**
British Columbia	8	0	0	0
Alberta	528	123	0	0
Saskatchewan	217	11	1	0
Manitoba	802	157	9	0
Ontario	666	14	1	0
Quebec	24	0	0	0
New Brunswick	25	0	0	0
Nova Scotia	91	4	1	1
Prince Edward Island	19	0	0	0
Newfoundland & Labrador	90	0	0	0
Yukon Territory	0	0	0	0
Northwest Territories	0	0	0	0
Nunavut	50	0	0	0
Total	**2520**	**309**	**12**	**1**

* Matrix positive includes all birds that tested 'not negative' by PCR for one or more Influenza A viruses. The number of positive test results included both those birds that tested POSITIVE (Ct value less than 36) and those that had an INCONCLUSIVE test result (Ct value greater than or equal to 36).
****The CFIA has confirmed the presence of High Pathogenic Avian Influenza (HPAI), subtype H5N1.**

Any samples found to be matrix POSITIVE or INCONCLUSIVE are then tested by PCR for H5 and H7 strains at the regional level. Any samples that are then found to be either H5 or H7 POSITIVE or INCONCLUSIVE are immediately sent to the NCFAD for confirmation and identification. Authorities from the province or region where the bird was sampled will be notified when preliminary H5 or H7 positive results are found at the regional lab. When the CFIA confirms and identifies the virus, authorities from across the country will be notified. This update reports all POSITIVE or INCONCLUSIVE **PRELIMINARY** matrix results unless otherwise stated.
This information as well as historical data are available on the CWHC AIV portal at: http://www.cwhc-rcsf.ca/avian_influenza_testing_results.php

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GLOSSARY OF TERMS

Tested - The number of birds that were screened for avian influenza virus by real time reverse transcriptase PCR (RRT-PCR) for the M1 gene.

Matrix positive - The number of birds that tested positive for the M1 gene by RT-PCR.

H5 positive - The number of birds that tested positive for the H5 virus subtype by RT-PCR.

H7 positive - The number of birds that tested positive for the H7 virus subtype by RT-PCR.

HPAI - Confirmed at the CFIA NCFAD laboratory to be positive for highly pathogenic avian influenza through virus isolation or sequencing.

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