

# Climate Change and West Nile Virus Spread in New York and Connecticut

## Background

- West Nile Virus (WNV) is a germ spread to humans through the bite of an infected mosquito
- You are more likely to be bitten by a mosquito when temperatures are warm



In the United States in 2018...



2,647 human WNV cases

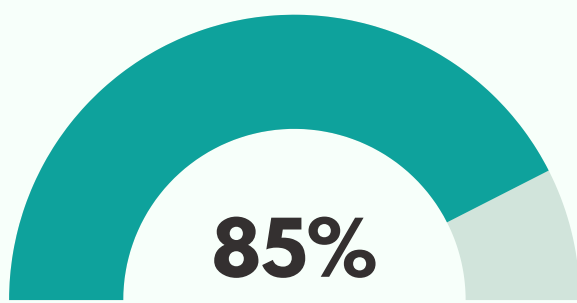


167 human WNV deaths

## Study Purpose

Use mathematical models to see how WNV might spread under climate change across New York (NY) and Connecticut (CT) in the next 50-70 years

## Main Takeaways

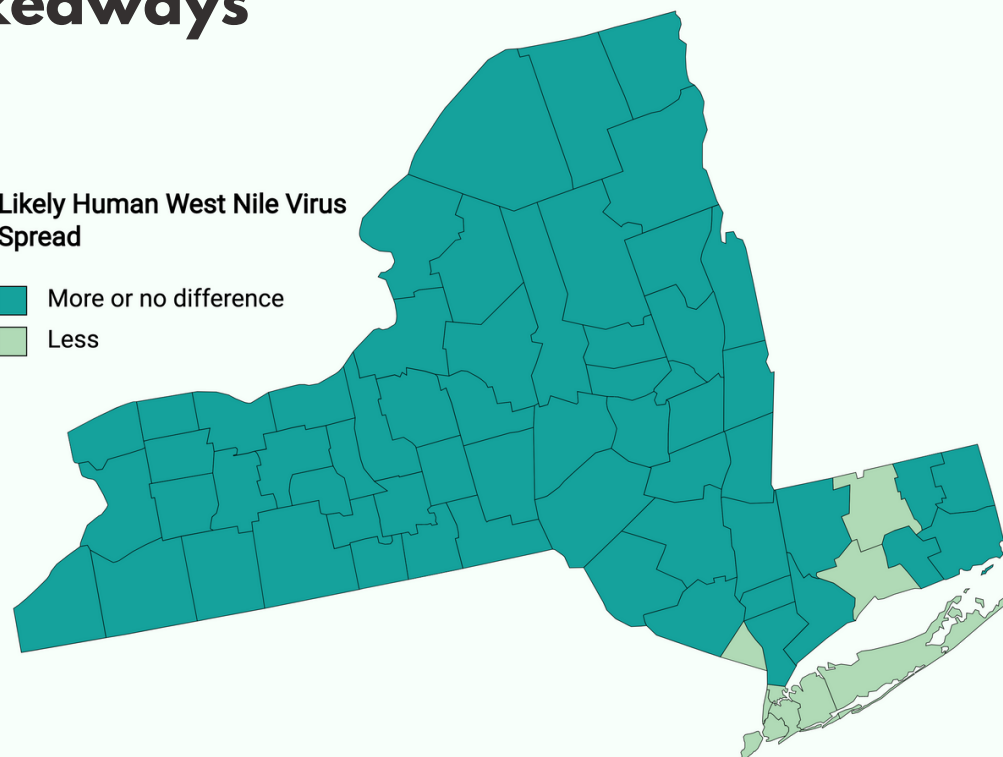


85%

of counties in NY and CT will most likely **have more or the same amount of WNV** spread in the next 50-70 years

Likely Human West Nile Virus Spread

- More or no difference
- Less



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- Many counties near New York City are already at the “best temperature” for mosquito breeding and WNV spread
- Many of these counties will see less WNV spread under future climate change conditions because it will become too warm

## Why does this matter?

People who live in regions with little to no WNV right now will have a higher chance of becoming sick with WNV in the next 50-70 years

## Challenges

It is very difficult to know exactly what future climate temperatures and conditions will be. Studies like this one can help us prepare.

## Additional Information

For more information about West Nile Virus, visit the [CDC Website](#)

Keyel et al. (2021). <https://doi.org/10.1111/gcb.15842>

