UPDATE ON EQUINE INFLUENZA OUTBREAKS DETECTED IN THE UK APRIL - JUNE 2026

EIDS Equine Infectious Disease Surveillance

EIDS UPDATE: 05/06/2026

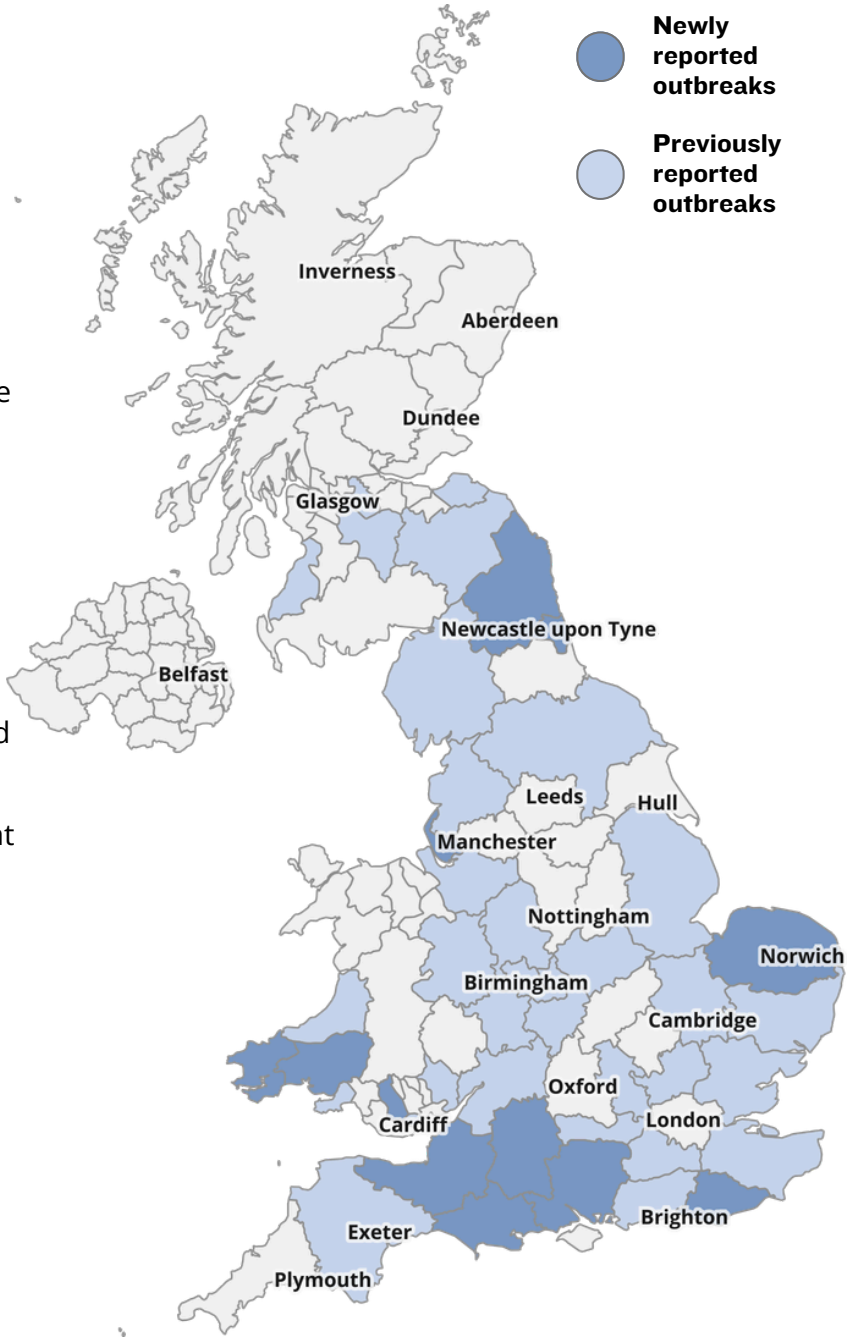
Thanks to the continued efforts of veterinary surgeons across the country, EIDS is still receiving notifications of equine influenza (EI) outbreaks.

Since the beginning of April 2026, EIDS has up to 05/06/2025 reported **a total of 88 laboratory-confirmed EI outbreaks that have been identified across 43 separate UK counties**.

Although weekly numbers of reported outbreaks based on sampling date have declined since a surge in activity in mid-late April, the epidemiological picture remains active and somewhat uncertain at the present time.

Despite the already widespread confirmation of EI across the country, **five new counties were affected** for the first time in the period since the last update - these were Dorset, East Sussex, Rhonnda Cynon Taff and Somerset in the south and west and in Tyne and Wear in the north east.

Our map reflects all outbreaks reported to EIDS that were sampled between 29/03 and 03/06. *Lighter shaded regions are previously reported outbreaks, darker regions are newly reported outbreaks in this update.*



PLEASE REPORT CASES

EIDS urges veterinary surgeons to continue to kindly **provide details of confirmed diagnoses as promptly as possible** via our online disease reporting platform:

https://equinesurveillance.org/diseasereporting

Only through providing this information more completely will it be possible to gain and share the most accurate and up to date picture of the ongoing situation with EI across the UK.

EIDS is also aware of a **further 31 confirmed outbreaks** that are not included in this report because outbreak details and/or permission for anonymous reporting have not yet been provided or granted. **In the past 11 days alone, 11 EI outbreaks have been confirmed but remain excluded from our disease alerts and updates.**

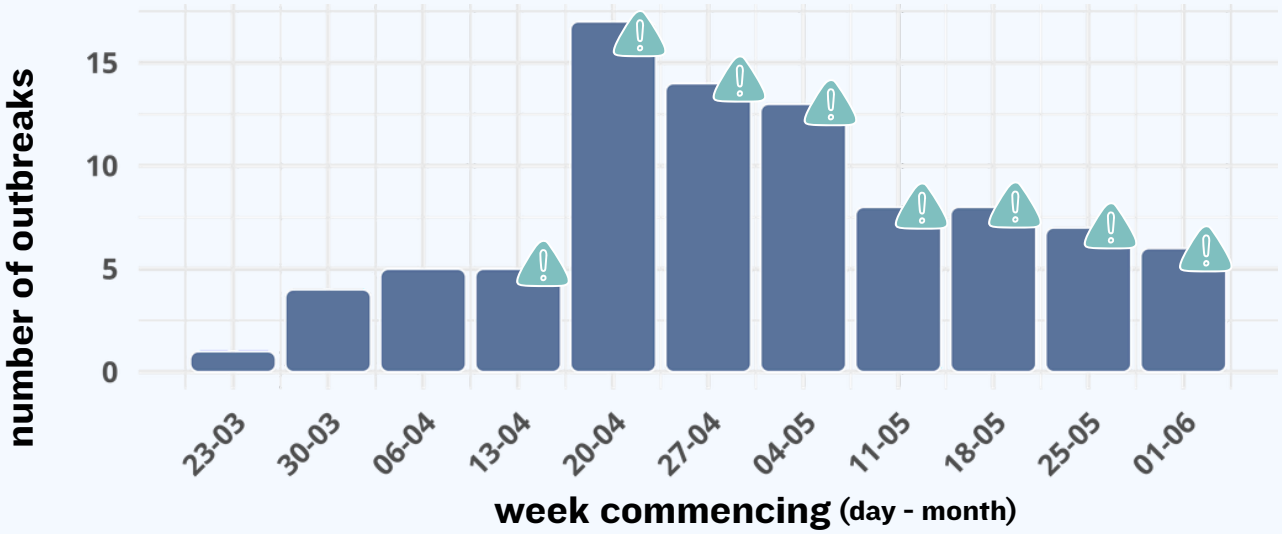
Did you know EIDS has an equine influenza information sheet summarising key information for horse owners? Please share with your clients. Available on our website or click **HERE**

UPDATE ON EQUINE INFLUENZA OUTBREAKS DETECTED IN THE UK APRIL - JUNE 2026

EIDS Equine Infectious Disease Surveillance

EIDS UPDATE: 04/06/2026

OUTBREAKS PER WEEK BY SAMPLING DATE



The sampling date reflects when horses showed clinical signs, prompting veterinary investigation and sample collection, and may therefore differ from the date the outbreak was reported to/by EIDS

EIDS is also aware of a **further 31 confirmed outbreaks** that are not included in this report because outbreak details and/or permission for anonymous reporting have not yet been provided or granted.

RECENT DEVELOPMENTS

Since the previous update issued on 28 May 2026, EIDS has received approval to report a further 14 confirmed outbreaks across 12 counties

Recent horse movement and lack of vaccination remain the two most prominent and consistent epidemiological features identified

A similar weekly outbreak count pattern was observed during the 2019 UK EI outbreak before a subsequent and larger resurgence, coinciding with summer movements and events involving unvaccinated horses

EIDS is aware of reports of an **increase in equine influenza cases in ponies in the New Forest**, which was likely exacerbated by a sale in late May. There is heightened concern for vulnerable populations in the area, including stallions that are currently mixed with mares and foals, as well as co-mingled donkeys to which the virus may poses a significant risk to.

CURRENT OVERVIEW

Movement history

- 57/88 (**65**%) involved horses with a recent history of travel
- 28/88 had no travel history available
- 3/88 involved horses which had no recent travel history

Vaccination status

- 8/88 (**9**%) were vaccinated
- 59/88 (**67**%) were unvaccinated
- 2/88 involved a mixture of vaccinated and unvaccinated horses
- 19/88 had unknown vaccination status

12/88 outbreaks were confirmed using rapid in-house point-of-care tests (including LAMP and iiPCR), reflecting the use of rapid diagnostics to support timely outbreak recognition and management