

# State of Indiana Response to Highly Pathogenic Avian Influenza **2024**

(23 January 2024)

*The information reported here reflects the ongoing HPAI incident that began in February 2022 through the date of this report. New information is highlighted in **BOLD ITALIC** type.*

## CURRENT SITUATION

***A commercial turkey farm in Daviess County has tested positive for highly pathogenic avian influenza (HPAI). The flock of 13,071 birds is under quarantine and marks the first positive commercial flock in Indiana in more than a year.***

***A 10km control area has been established around the flock known as “Daviess 02” and includes 45 commercial flocks and 48 hobby/backyard flocks. The entire control area is within Daviess County.***

***A 20km surveillance zone, which encompasses 56 commercial flocks, has been established and includes portions of Daviess, Martin and Greene counties.***

## SUMMARY

***County & Flock #: Daviess 02***

***Flock Size: 13,071***

***Type of Operation: Commercial Turkey***

***Status: Quarantined***

***10km Control Area: Active (Daviess Co only)***

***20km Surveillance Zone: Active (Portions of Daviess, Martin and Greene counties)***

## BACKGROUND

Until today’s announcement, Indiana’s last case of HPAI was May 5, 2023 in a non-commercial flock in Posey County. Prior to that, the last case in a commercial flock was on a Daviess County turkey farm in December 2022.

Since February 2022, Indiana has had **11 commercial poultry flocks** (ducks and turkeys) and six small/hobby flocks (mixed species) test positive for HPAI in seven counties. (One

additional commercial turkey flock was depopulated as a “dangerous contact” to diagnosed flock.)

The influenza virus has continued to be active throughout parts of the United States. HPAI has been identified on more than 1000 premises in 47 states since February 2022. Wild birds infected with HPAI have been found from coast to coast in various species, including waterfowl (ducks, swans, geese, gulls, etc.), raptors (hawks and eagles), as well as other common species (American robin, common raven, wild turkey).

The current, ongoing HPAI event is the United States’ largest animal health emergency in history.

## RESPONSE

As part of existing avian influenza response plans, federal and state partners are working jointly on additional surveillance and testing in areas around the affected flocks. The United States has the strongest avian influenza surveillance program in the world, and USDA is actively working with its partners to look for the disease in commercial poultry operations, live bird markets and in migratory wild bird populations.

**NON-COMMERCIAL FLOCK SURVEILLANCE:** Testing of nearby flocks is important to verify the virus has not spread in the area. BOAH staff will be reaching out to flock owners within the control area to offer testing.

**WILD BIRD SURVEILLANCE:** USDA Wildlife Services and Indiana Department of Natural Resources are assisting with surveillance of wild birds in and near the control areas. Detections of highly pathogenic avian influenza in wild birds can be found online [HERE](#).

## ABOUT HPAI

**Health & Food Safety:** Avian influenza *does not present a food safety risk*; poultry and eggs are safe to eat. The Centers for Disease Control (CDC) considers the risk to human health to be very low. Human health agencies will be monitoring workers and others in contact with birds to monitor for influenza-like illness.

**Reporting Sick Poultry:** Hobby poultry owners are encouraged to be aware of the signs of avian influenza and report illness and/or death to the **USDA Healthy Birds Hotline: 866-536-7593**. Callers will be routed to a state or federal veterinarian in Indiana for a case assessment. Dead birds should be double-bagged and refrigerated for possible testing. Signs include: sudden death without clinical signs; lack of energy or appetite; decreased egg production; soft-shelled or misshapen eggs; swelling or purple discoloration of head, eyelids, comb, hocks; nasal discharge; coughing; sneezing; lack of coordination; and diarrhea. A great resource for backyard bird health information is [online here](#).

**Reporting Sick Wild Birds:** Report sick or dead wild birds through DNR’s [online sick and dead wildlife reporting system](#).

## ABOUT INDIANA POULTRY PRODUCTION

Indiana is a leading producer of poultry, eggs and poultry products. Nationally, Indiana ranks number 1 in production of ducks, second in layer chickens and table eggs, and third in turkeys, as well as a major producer of broilers.

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### **Important Note:**

*Details disclosed here will be updated on BOAH's website after test results are confirmed at the USDA National Veterinary Services Laboratory. This policy will keep BOAH's website consistent with USDA's reporting and avoid impacting international trade.*

### **Ongoing/Latest Updates:**

Updates are available online at: <https://www.in.gov/boah/species-information/avianbirds/highly-pathogenic-avian-influenza/> Visit that webpage to subscribe for updates delivered via text and/or email by clicking the red "subscribe" icon at the top.

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