**Student Worksheet: Mapping the spread of ticks**

**Directions**: Three types of ticks may spread alpha-gal syndrome, an allergy to red meat. Researchers think the condition is caused by molecules in the saliva of certain tick species. The best way to avoid the syndrome is to prevent tick bites.

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**Graph Questions**1. According to the map above, many of the reported cases of alpha-gal syndrome, a red meat allergy that can develop in response to the bite of a lone star tick, are concentrated in the South, Midwest and Mid-Atlantic. Which of the states below shows the highest concentration of cases? Which shows the lowest?

1. Arkansas
2. Kansas
3. Kentucky
4. Missouri
5. Minnesota
6. Tennessee

2. There are many areas that have no testing performed. Why do you think that is? Please provide at least two reasons.

3. Alpha-gal syndrome cases have been reported in several parts of the U.S. but seem to be concentrated in mostly a particular area. Why do you think this is?