

Yale Campus Health Surveillance Report

ALLERGIES

TREE POLLEN	RAGWEED	MOLD	GRASS	DUST AND DANDER
HIGH	LOW	LOW	LOW	LOW

WEEKLY AQI: **FAIR - EXCELLENT**

NEW HAVEN, CT

Potential Heat Risks:

Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat	Sun	Mon
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NWS Forecast:



NEW HAVEN COUNTY

Respiratory illness
causing people to seek healthcare is

VERY LOW

WASTEWATER VIRAL ACTIVITY LEVEL IN CONNECTICUT

COVID-19

Very Low
Decreasing ↘

Flu

Low
Decreasing ↘

RSV

Very Low
Decreasing ↘

EMERGENCY DEPARTMENT VISITS IN NEW HAVEN COUNTY

COVID-19

Very Low
Decreasing ↘

Flu

Low
Decreasing ↘

RSV

Very Low
Decreasing ↘

Current Health Risks

Yale Health Respiratory Surveillance Data

CT COVID-19

US COVID-19

CT - Influenza

US - Influenza

CT - RSV

H5N1

US Measles Cases

Southwest Measles Outbreak

News and Updates



20 May 2025

As of 1600 Hours EDT

YNHH

COVID

- 3 COVID+ INPATIENTS
 - 0 IN THE ICU
 - 0 IN THE ED

RSV

- 4 INPATIENTS
 - 1 IN THE ICU

INFLUENZA

- 1 INPATIENTS
 - 0 IN THE ICU

Respiratory virus conditions are **LOW**

based on local/regional public health indicators



Masking is **optional** for all staff and patients.

Masking is **required** for those with respiratory symptoms.

Yale HEALTH

LINKS

US FEDERAL GOVERNMENT CDC

- [CDC – COVID-19](#)
- [CDC A\(H5N1\) BIRD FLU RESPONSE UPDATE](#)
- [CDC- TICKS](#)
- [CDC HEALTH RISKS](#)
- [CDC HEAT AND HEALTH TRACKER](#)
- [CDC MEASLES](#)
- [CDC MPOX](#)
- [CDC STACKS REPORTS](#)
- [CDC RESPIRATORY ILLNESSES DATA CHANNEL](#)

USDA AVIAN INFLUENZAS

FEMA – FEMA

NWS – HEATRISK HEAT.GOV

JOURNALS AND ONLINE LIBRARIES

- [JAMA NETWORK](#)
- [THE LANCET COVID -19 RESOURCE CENTRE](#)
- [NEW ENGLAND JOURNAL OF MEDICINE](#)

PORTALS, BLOGS, AND RESOURCES

- [CIDRAP](#)
- [FORCE OF INFECTION](#)
- [KHN](#)
- [MEDPAGE TODAY](#)
- [OUTBREAK](#)
- [GCHS](#)
- [CENTER FOR THE STUDY OF TRAUMATIC STRESS](#)
- [YLE](#)
- [NYS GLOBAL HEALTH UPDATE REPORT](#)

NEWS SOURCES

- [NEW YORK TIMES](#)
- [WASHINGTON POST](#)
- [REUTERS](#)
- [CNN](#)
- [NBC CT](#)
- [INSIDE HIGHER ED](#)
- [OUTBREAK NEWS TODAY](#)

Current Health Risks

- COVID

- **Nationally**, COVID-19 activity continues to decline. Wastewater levels are low, emergency department visits are also low, and laboratory percent positivity remains stable.
- **Connecticut**: Wastewater levels for COVID-19 are **Low**. Over the past five weeks. There have been:
 - **273** reported cases. This is a slight increase.
 - **103** reported cases required hospitalization. Hospitalization numbers show a decrease in hospitalizations.
 - **5** deaths during the month of May. (**337** for the season)
- **YNHH**: On May 20, there were **3** hospitalized cases, with **0** in the ICU

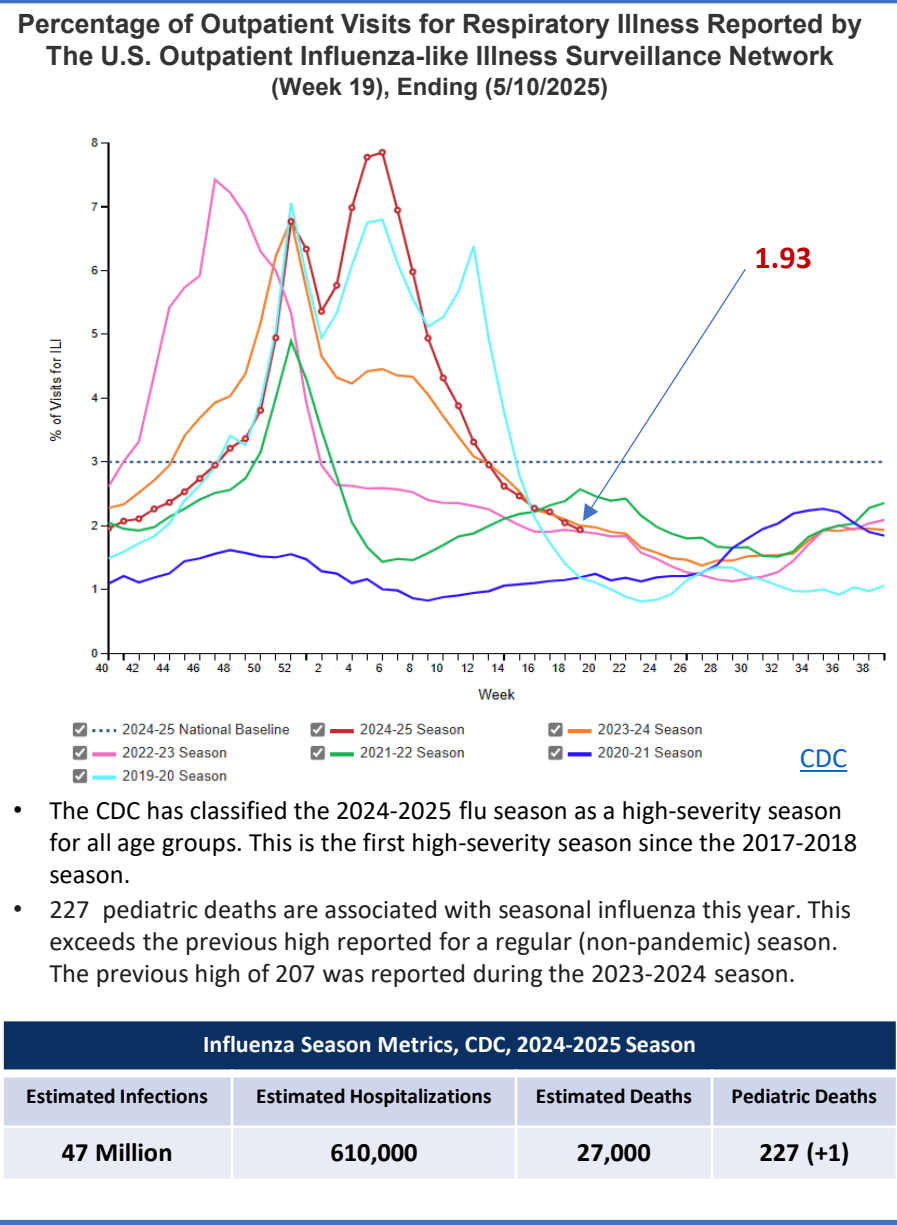
- INFLUENZA

- **Nationally**: Seasonal influenza activity is low and continues to decline.
- **Connecticut**: Levels of influenza in wastewater are **very low** and decreasing. Over the past two weeks, there have been:
 - **153** reported cases
 - **2** hospitalizations
 - **1** death in May (**204** for the season)
- **YNHH**: On May 20, there was **1** hospitalized case, with **0** in the ICU

- RSV

- **Nationally**: RSV activity is declining in most areas of the country
- **Connecticut**: Wastewater levels for RSV are **very low** and declining. Over the past two weeks, there have been:
 - **30** reported cases
 - **2** hospitalizations
 - No deaths
- **YNHH**: On May 20, there were **4** hospitalized cases, with **1** in the ICU

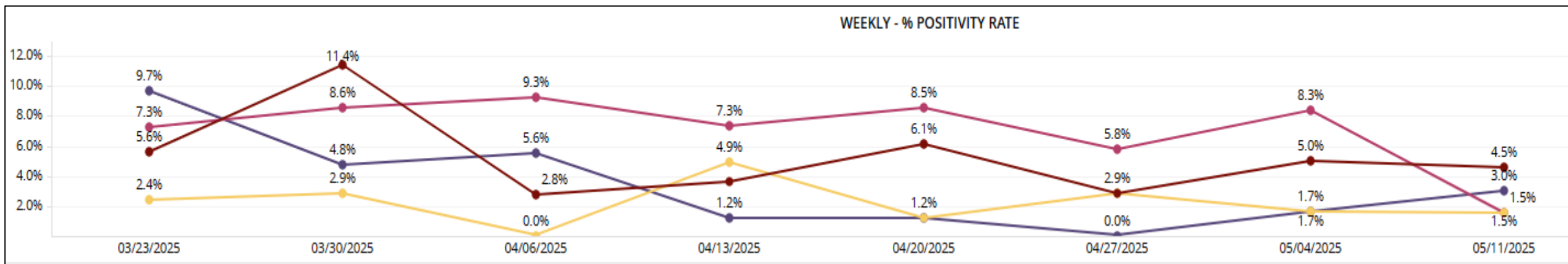
- NOROVIRUS**: [Norovirus](#) saw a rise in cases this week from 10.65% to 11.5%.



Yale Health Respiratory Surveillance Data

Yale Health Surveillance Data – March 23, 2025, through May 17, 2025

The following test positivity data represents trends for patients seen at Yale Health in the past 8 weeks and may not reflect trends and positivity rates of the general population outside of Yale Health. Data for the current week are incomplete and subject to change.



POC CHPHEID Components: ■ SARS COV-1 (Covid-19) | ■ RSV | ■ Influenza A | ■ Influenza B

What to Know for the Spring Virus Season

Respiratory viruses like flu, COVID-19, and respiratory syncytial virus (RSV), remain important public health threats. CDC estimates that there have been at least 40 million illnesses, 520,000 hospitalizations, and 22,000 deaths from flu so far this season. Additionally, RSV is a leading cause of infant hospitalization in the United States.

Vaccination is a core strategy for lowering your risk of hospitalization, long-term health impacts, and death from these viruses. The good news is that you can get these vaccines at the same time.

Home tests for both COVID-19 and flu are available, including some that can test for both flu and COVID-19. Treatments for flu and for COVID-19 can lessen symptoms and shorten the time you are sick.

Contact your primary health care provider to ask about available vaccinations or treatment options.

Yale Health

Respiratory Virus Conditions

Based on local/regional public health indicators

LOW

Recommendations

Masking is optional for all staff and patients. Individuals with respiratory symptoms must still wear a mask and may be asked to do so.

Employees in all departments are still required to wear masks when interacting directly with patients who have respiratory symptoms or a chief complaint. Masking is recommended but not required for other patient-facing interactions. Staff should also consider wearing masks if the patient wears one, regardless of their chief complaint.

US Cases: COVID-19

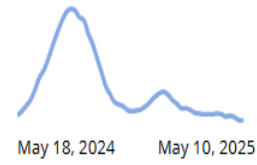
For Week Ending 5/10/2025

Test Positivity >

% Test Positivity

2.9%

Week ending May 10, 2025
Previous week 2.9%

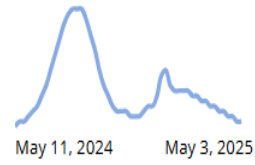


Emergency Department Visits >

% Diagnosed as COVID-19

0.4%

Week ending May 3, 2025
Previous week 0.4%

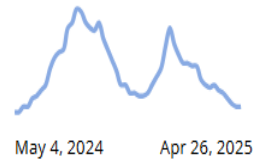


Hospitalizations >

Rate per 100,000 population

1.3

Week ending April 26, 2025
Previous week 1.3

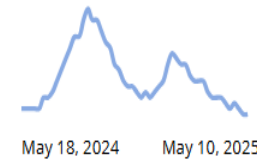


Deaths >

% of All Deaths in U.S. Due to COVID-19

0.5%

Week ending May 10, 2025
Previous week 0.5%



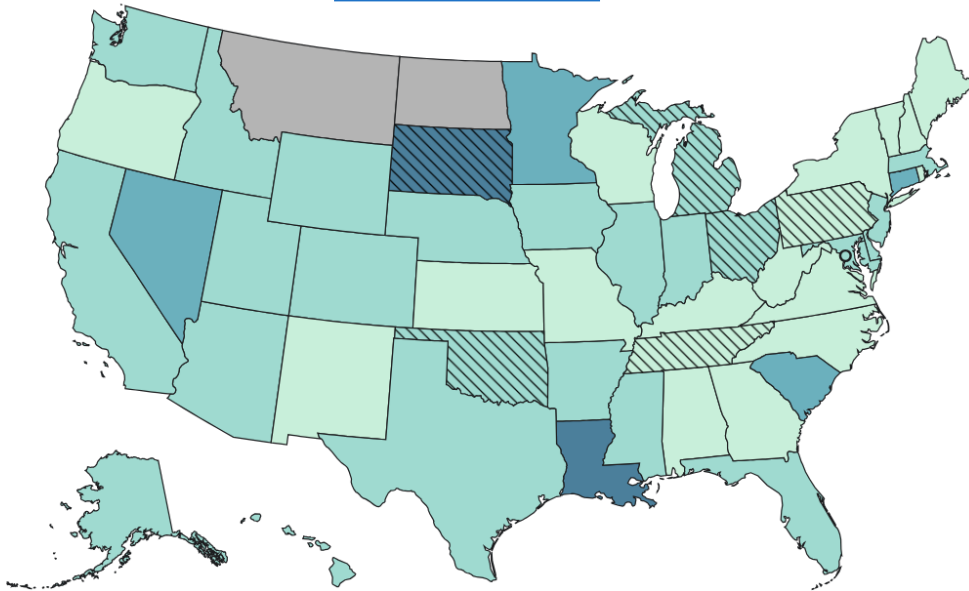
VARIANTS

USA

WHO label	Lineage #	%Total	95%PI	
Omicron	LP.8.1	70%	64–75%	
	XFC	9%	4–19%	
	XEC	6%	4–8%	
	LF.7.7.2	3%	0–16%	
	LF.7	2%	1–3%	
	MC.10.1	2%	1–3%	

[CDC](#)

COVID-19 CURRENT WASTEWATER VIRAL ACTIVITY LEVELS MAP MAY 4 – 10, 2025

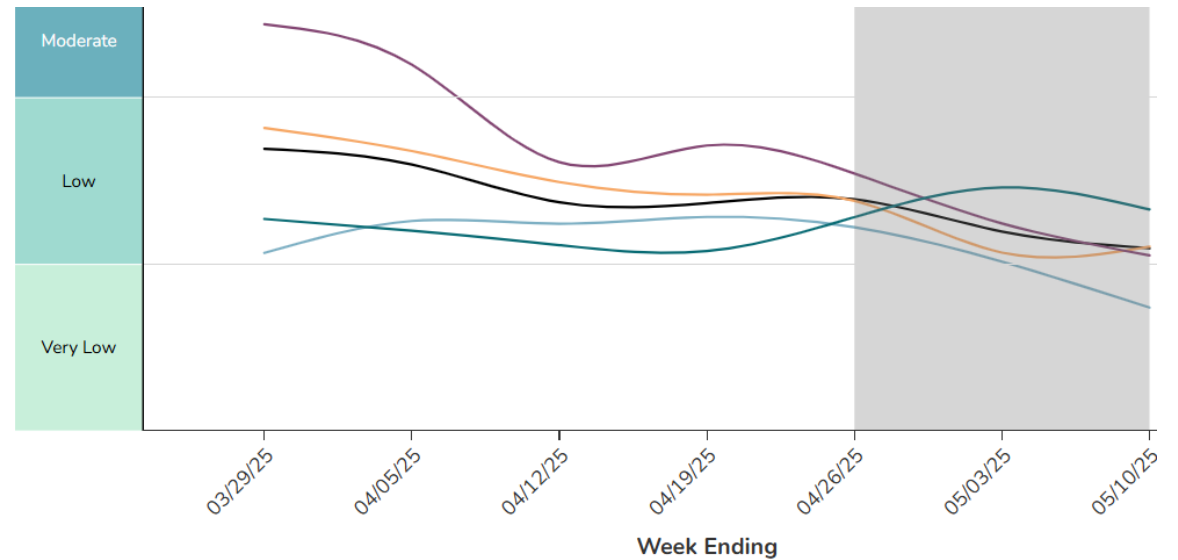


SARS-CoV-2 Wastewater Viral Activity Levels

Select a level to add or remove from map.

● Very High ● High ● Moderate ● Low ● Minimal ● No Data ● *Limited Coverage

NATIONAL AND REGIONAL TRENDS OF WASTEWATER VIRAL ACTIVITY LEVELS OF SARS-COV-2 (THE VIRUS THAT CAUSES COVID-19)



Select a geography to add or remove it from the visualization.

● National ● Midwest ● South ● Northeast ● West

Connecticut Cases: Influenza

For the Week Ending 5/17/2025

Flu Current Week Case Count (Incomplete)

22

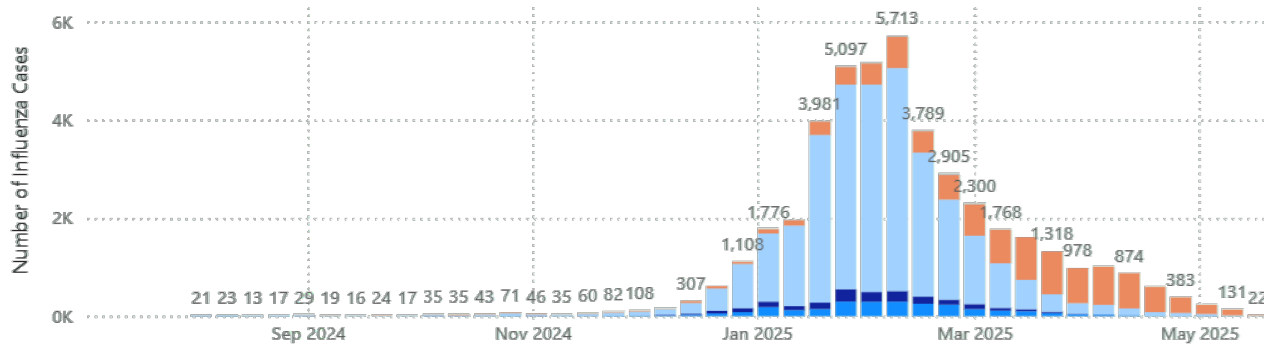
Flu Previous Week Case Count

131

Number of Influenza Cases by Virus Type by Week

Current Week is Incomplete

● A H1N1 ● A H3N2 ● A Unspecified ● B Seasonal ● Unknown



Influenza Hospitalizations

Current Week (Incomplete)

0

Previous Week

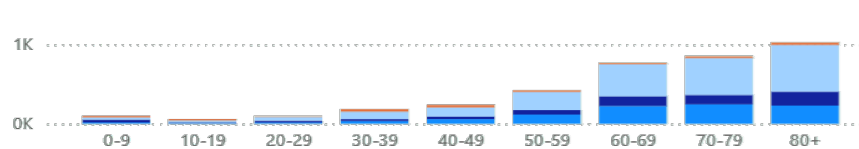
2

Season Total

3,715

Number of Patients Hospitalized with Laboratory-Confirmed Influenza by Age Group and Virus Type

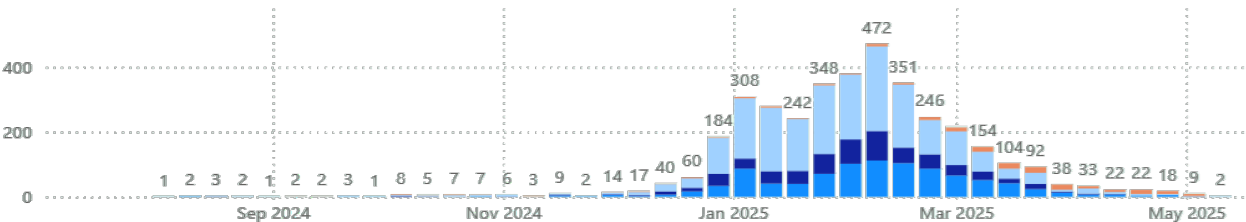
● A H1N1 ● A H3N2 ● A Unspecified ● B Seasonal ● Unknown



Number of Patients Hospitalized with Laboratory-Confirmed Influenza Virus by Type per Week

Current Week is Incomplete

● A H1N1 ● A H3N2 ● A Unspecified ● B Seasonal ● Unknown



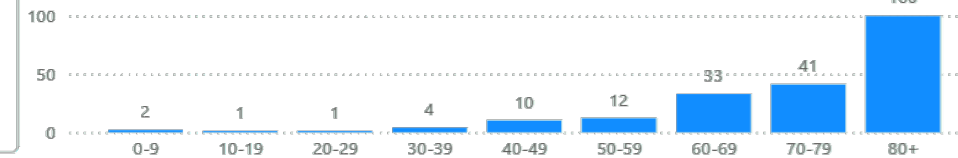
Influenza-Associated Deaths

For the 2024-2025 Viral Respiratory Disease Season

204

Number of Influenza-Associated Deaths by Age Group

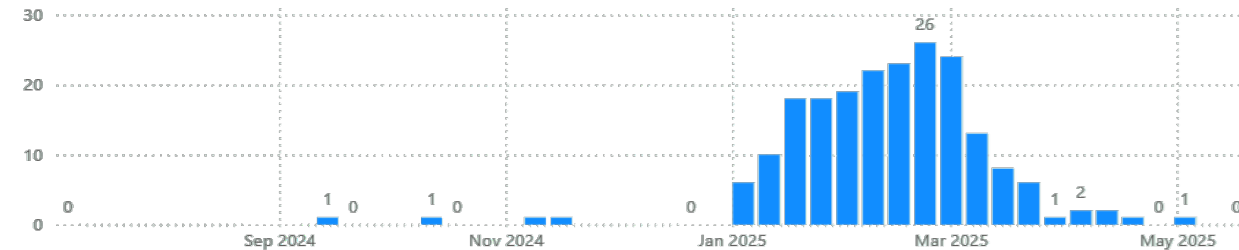
● Preliminary Report of Death



Number of Influenza-Associated Deaths per Week

Current Week is Incomplete

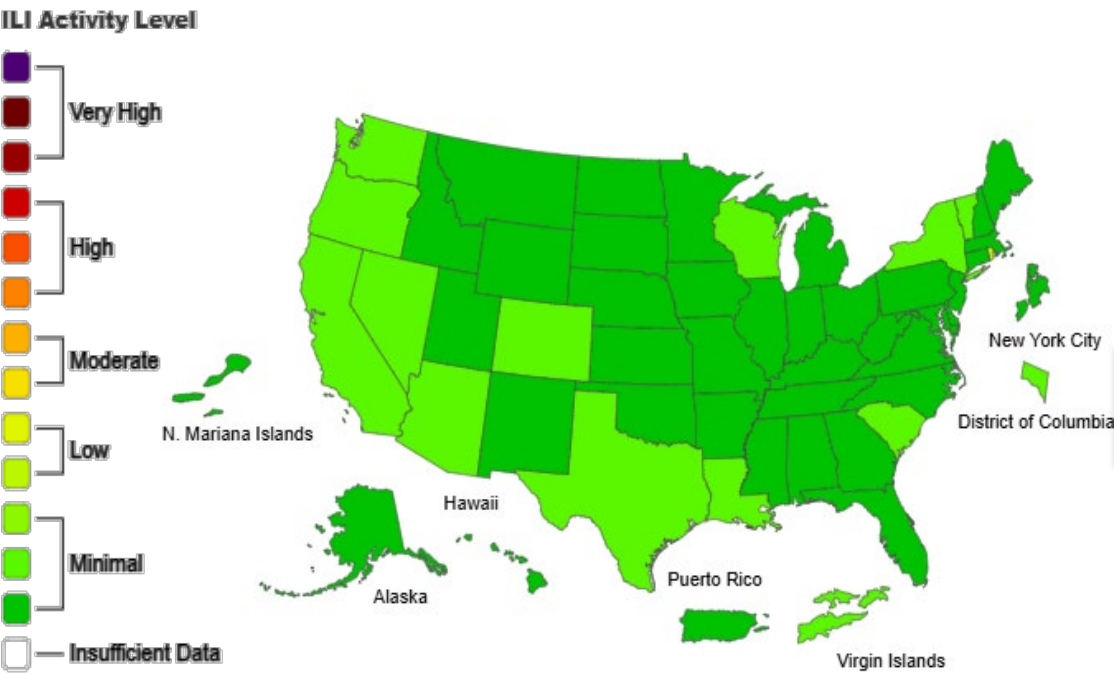
● Preliminary Report of Death



US Cases: Influenza (Week 19)

For the Week Ending 5/10/2025





2024-25 Influenza Season - Week 18 Ending 5/10/2025



[CDC](#)

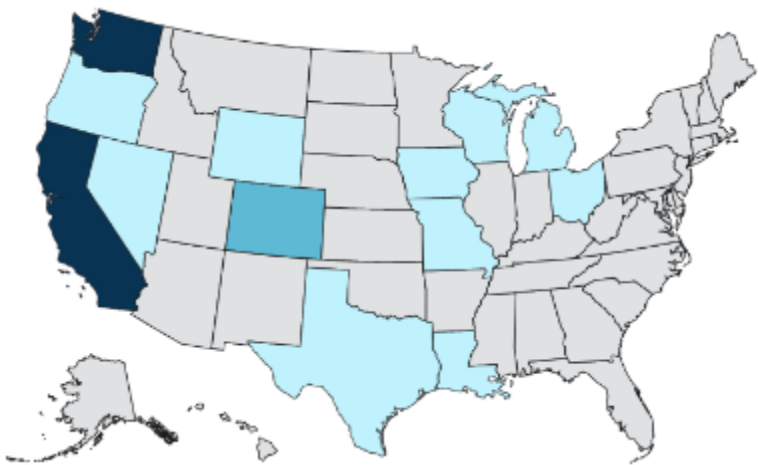
Key Points

- Seasonal influenza (flu) activity continues to decline; however, the CDC expects several more weeks of flu activity.
- This season is classified as a high-severity season overall, affecting all age groups (children, adults, and older adults), marking the first season since the 2017-2018 season.
- During Week 19, of the 501 viruses reported by public health laboratories, 334 were influenza A and 167 were influenza B. Of the 327 influenza A viruses subtyped during Week 19, 195 (59.6%) were influenza A(H1N1)pdm09, 132 (40.4%) were A(H3N2), and 0 were A(H5).
- No new influenza A(H5) cases were reported to the CDC this week. To date, human-to-human transmission of avian influenza A(H5) virus (H5 bird flu) has not been identified in the United States.
- Nationally, outpatient respiratory illness remained stable this week and is below baseline. All HHS regions are below their region-specific baselines.
- Based on data from FluSurv-NET, the cumulative hospitalization rate for this season is the highest observed since the 2010-2011 season.
- One pediatric deaths associated with seasonal influenza virus infection were reported this week, bringing the 2024-2025 season total to 227 pediatric deaths.

Clinical Labs	Public Health Labs
2.9 (Trend  Positive for influenza this week	Influenza A(H1N1)pdm09, A(H3N2), and B viruses were the predominant viruses reported this week.
Outpatient Respiratory Illness	Outpatient Respiratory Illness
1.9% (Trend  The number of visits to a healthcare provider this week for respiratory illness (<i>above baseline</i>)	0 moderate jurisdiction 0 high or very high jurisdiction
FluSurv-NET	National Healthcare Safety Network (NHSN) Hospital Respiratory Data
128 per 100,000 Cumulative hospitalization rate.	2,008 (Trend  Patients admitted to hospitals with influenza this week.
NCHS Mortality	Pediatric Deaths
0.2% (Trend  Deaths attributed to influenza this week	1 Influenza-associated deaths were reported this week, for a total of 227 deaths this season.

H5N1 Bird Flu: Current Situation Summary

As of 5/20/2025



NATIONAL HUMAN CASES
70 | 1 DEATH



[CDC](#)

State	Dairy Herds	Poultry Farms and Culling Operations	Other Animal Exposure	Exposure Source Unknown	State Total Human cases
California	36	0	0	2	38
Colorado	1	9	0	0	10
Iowa	0	1	0	0	1
Louisiana	0	0	1	0	1
Michigan	2	0	0	0	2
Missouri	0	0	0	1	1
Nevada	1	0	0	0	1
Ohio	0	1	0	0	1
Oregon	0	1	0	0	1
Texas	1	0	0	0	1
Washington	0	11	0	0	11
Wisconsin	0	1	0	0	1
Wyoming	0	0	1	0	1
TOTAL	41	24	2	3	70

Wild Birds	Poultry	Livestock Herds
Wild Birds Detected	Poultry Affected	State with Outbreaks on Cattle
13,025 as of 5/14/2025 Full Report	169,296,749 as of 5/14/2025 Full Report	17
Jurisdictions Affected	Jurisdictions/States Affected	Livestock Infected
51	51	1065 herds as of 5/16/2025 Full Report, including new cases from CA and ID.

More than 2 million hens in an Arizona flock were hit by avian flu. It is the state’s second commercial flock to be affected by the virus in 2025. The United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) [Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service](#) (APHIS) reported that the presence of the virus was confirmed in Maricopa County on May 19. The flock included 2,258,100 hens.

In April, the United States had three commercial flock infections, including a commercial laying flock in Aurora County, South Dakota; another commercial layer flock in Darke County, Ohio; and a commercial meat turkey flock in Beadle County, South Dakota.

Elsewhere in North America, [Canada](#) has had one commercial poultry flock affected by HPAI so far in May, following no commercial flock infections in April. The most recent instance of HPAI was confirmed on May 2 in Manitoba.

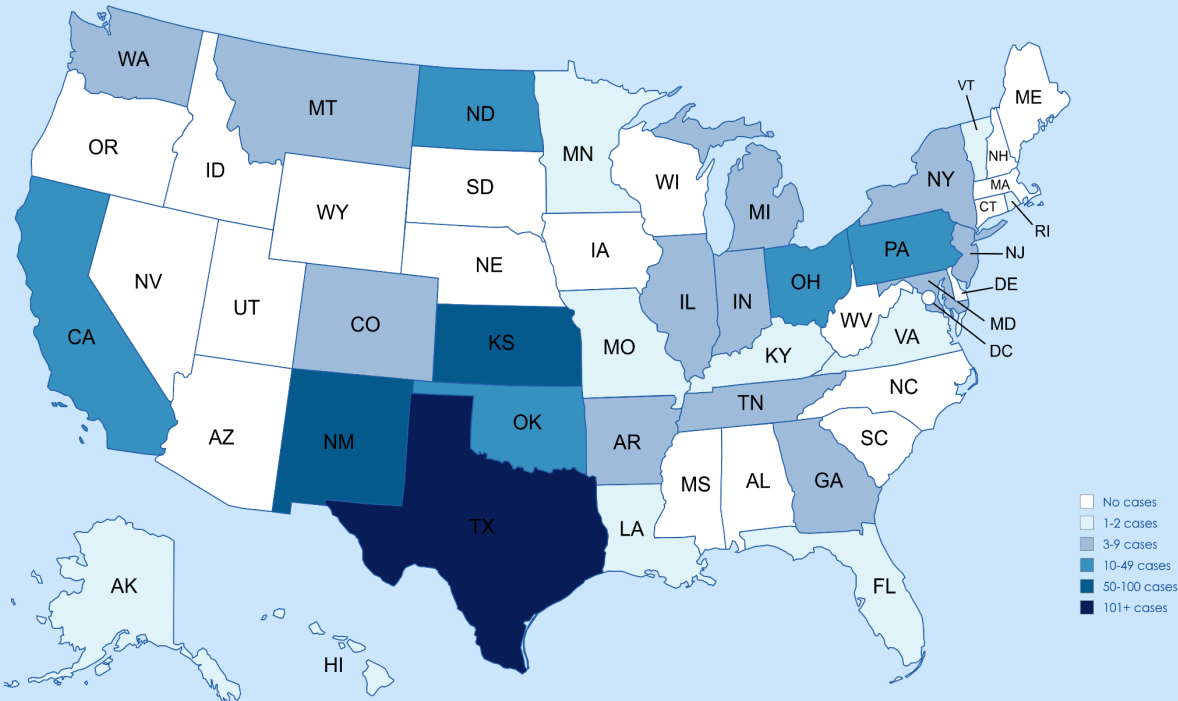
[Brazil](#), the world's largest chicken exporter, confirmed its first outbreak of bird flu on a poultry farm on Friday, triggering protocols for a country-wide trade ban from top buyer China and state-wide restrictions for other major consumers. Brazilian Agriculture Minister Carlos Favaro said on Friday that under existing protocols, countries including China, the European Union, and South Korea would ban poultry imports from Brazil for 60 days.

US Measles Outlook

(As of 5/20/2025)

*** NOTE:** The information on this page has been gathered by reviewing data from state and local health departments, news media sources, and the Center for Outbreak Response Innovation (CORI)

1,043*



The increase in measles cases can be attributed to falling vaccination rates and increased importation of travel-related cases, which occur when unvaccinated people acquire measles abroad and bring it back to the U.S.

STATE	CASES
TEXAS **	739
NEW MEXICO	74
KANSAS	56
OHIO	34
OKLAHOMA	17
PENNSYLVANIA	13
NORTH DAKOTA	13
CALIFORNIA	11
MICHIGAN	9
ILLINOIS	8
INDIANA	8
MONTANA	7
NEW YORK	7
ARKANSAS	6
TENNESSEE	6
COLORADO	5
WASHINGTON	5
GEORGIA	3
MARYLAND	3
NEW JERSEY	3
ALASKA	2
FLORIDA	2
HAWAII	2
LOUISIANA	2
MINNESOTA	2
MISSOURI	2
KENTUCKY	1
RHODE ISLAND	1
VERMONT	1
VIRGINIA	1
TOTAL	1,043

OUTBREAKS

- SMALL OUTBREAK (3-9)**
- MEDIUM OUTBREAK (10 - 49)**
- LARGE OUTBREAK (50 OR MORE)**

An outbreak of measles is defined as three or more laboratory-confirmed cases that are temporally related and epidemiologically or virologically linked.

As of 1600 hours on May 20, 2025, EDT, there are approximately 1,038 measles cases (including confirmed and suspected cases) across 30 states.

This year, there have been **13 measles outbreaks**:

- 1. Texas**, involving [33 counties](#)
- 2. New Mexico**, [6 counties](#)
- 3. Oklahoma**, and the [Cherokee Nation](#) in Oklahoma
- 4. 8 counties** in [Kansas](#)
- Ashtabula and Knox Counties, **Ohio**
- Erie County, **Pennsylvania**
- Allen County, **Indiana**
- Bergen County, **New Jersey**
- metro Atlanta, **Georgia**
- Gallatin County, **Montana**
- Montcalm County, **Michigan** (linked to Ontario Outbreak)
- Upper Cumberland region – **Tennessee**
- Williams County – **North Dakota**

** TEXAS CASES NOT ASSOCIATED WITH OUTBREAK: 15

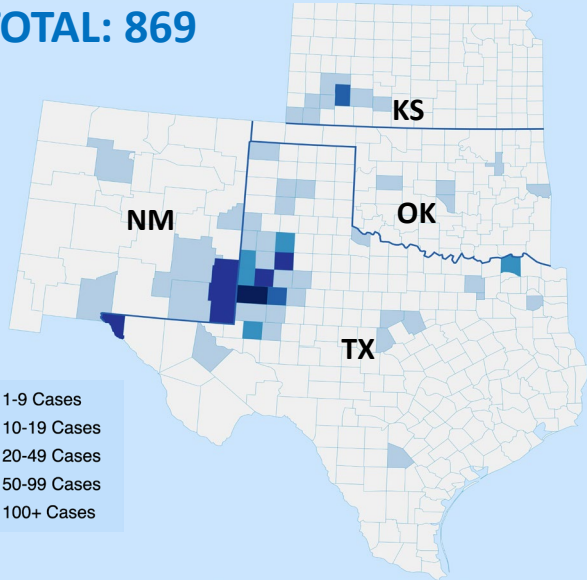
- 1 case – Atascosa County
- 1 case – Brazoria County
- 1 case – Collin County
- 1 case - Denton
- 1 case – Adult, Fort Bend (travel-related)
- 4 cases – Harris County
- 1 case – Adults, Rockwall County (travel-related)
- 1 case – Shackelford
- 2 cases - Tarrant
- 2 case – Travis County

TEXAS CASES ASSOCIATED WITH THE OUTBREAK: 720




Measles: The Southwest Outbreak

As of 5/20/2025

TOTAL: 869



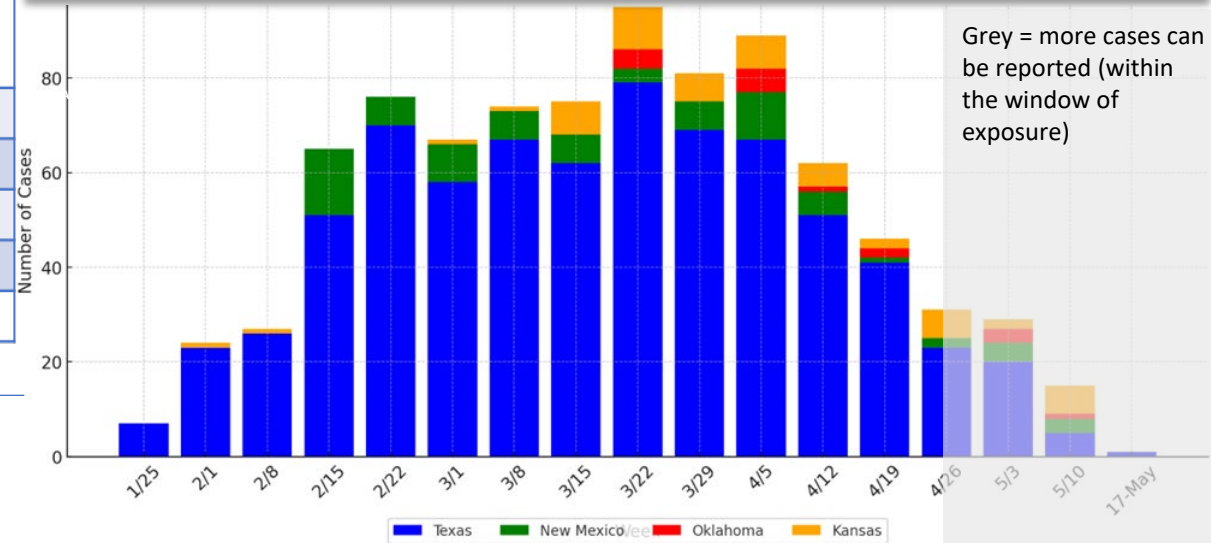
MORBIDITY AND MORTALITY

STATE	CASES 	HOSPITALIZATIONS 	DEATHS 
TX	724* (+4)	92	2
NM	74 (+3)	7	1
OK	17	0	0
KS	54	2	0
TOTAL	869 (+5)	101	3

*This includes El Paso's numbers that were posted after TX posted on Friday

The outbreak in Texas appears to be slowing down. Health officials said less than 1%, or fewer than 10, of the confirmed cases are considered "actively infectious."

SOUTHWEST MEASLES OUTBREAK – EPI CURVE (WEEK ENDING 5/17/25)



AGE OF CASES

WEST TEXAS OUTBREAK

0-4 Years	5-17 Years	18+ Years	Pending	Total
213 (+1) (29.5%)	272 (37.57%)	235 (+4) (32.46%)	4 (0.55%)	724

NEW MEXICO OUTBREAK

0-4 Years	5-17 Years	18+ Years	Pending	Total
21 (+2)(26.8%)	20 (28.2%)	33 (+1) (45.1%)	0	74

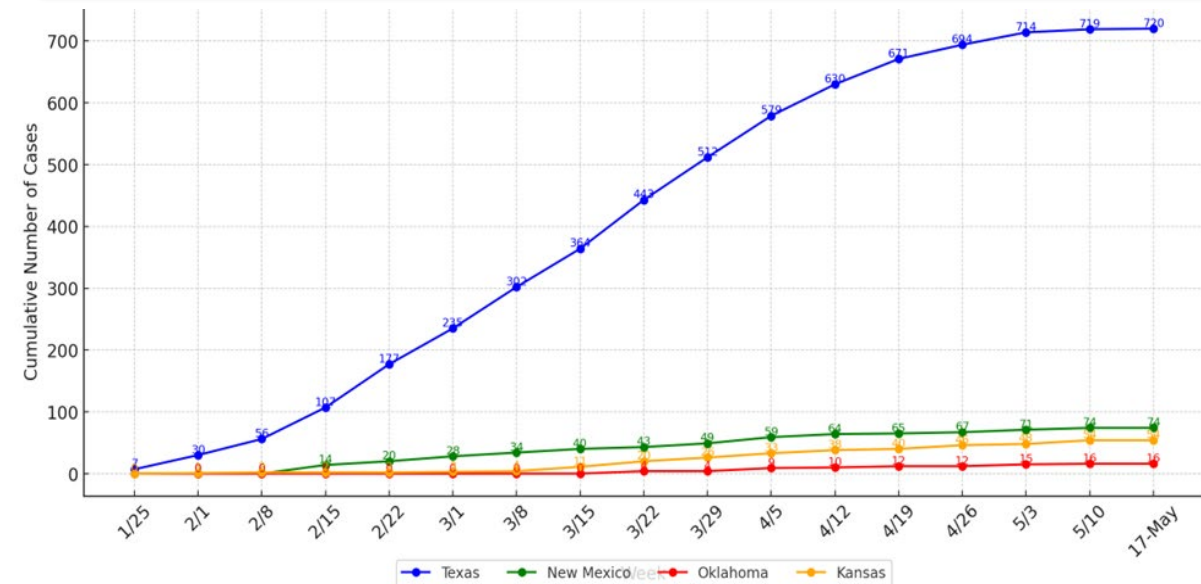
KANSAS OUTBREAK

0-4 Years	5-17 Years	18+ Years	Pending	Total
18 (+3) (33.3%)	25 (+1) (46.3%)	11 (+2) (20.4%)	0	54

OKLAHOMA OUTBREAK

0-4 Years	5-17 Years	18+ Years	Pending	Total
14 Cases Confirmed, 3 Probable – no ages provided			3	17

SOUTHWEST MEASLES OUTBREAK TOTALS OVER TIME (WEEK ENDING 5/10/2025)



News Updates

MEASLES

HOUSTON WASTEWATER FORETOLD TEXAS MEASLES OUTBREAK – USA TODAY:

Wastewater samples collected Jan. 7 contained genetic evidence of measles virus, researchers reported in the [American Journal of Public Health](#). The City of Houston Health Department confirmed and reported two cases of measles in unvaccinated adults on Jan. 17, researchers said. These people were travelers residing in the same area serviced by the sampled water treatment plants. “With lessons learned from the Houston measles detection event, we are now working with our public health partners to gather data on the current measles outbreak in West Texas,” lead researcher [Michael Tisza](#), an assistant professor of molecular virology and microbiology at Baylor College of Medicine in Houston, said in a news release. (Thompson, 5/16/2025)

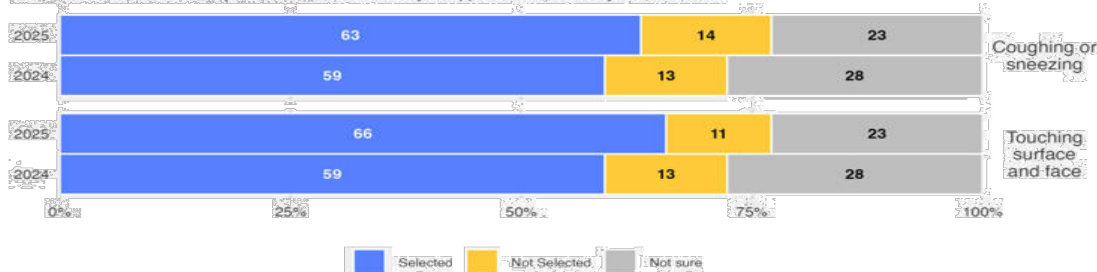
POLL: 83% OF AMERICANS SAY BENEFITS OF MMR VACCINES OUTWEIGH RISKS

- [CIDRAP](#): A new Annenberg Poll shows that 87% of Americans say the benefits of childhood measles, mumps, and rubella (MMR) vaccination outweigh the risk, and 67% say they know that MMR vaccines don't cause autism. 2025 may see the highest measles case count in the United States since the disease was officially eliminated in 2000. (Soucheray, 5/19)

Knowledge of How Measles Spreads

As far as you know, by which of the following ways can measles be spread?

a) By coughing or sneezing b) Touching a contaminated surface and then touching your nose or mouth or eyes c) Or are you not sure?
Respondents read a list of ways and could select as many as applied or indicate they were not sure.



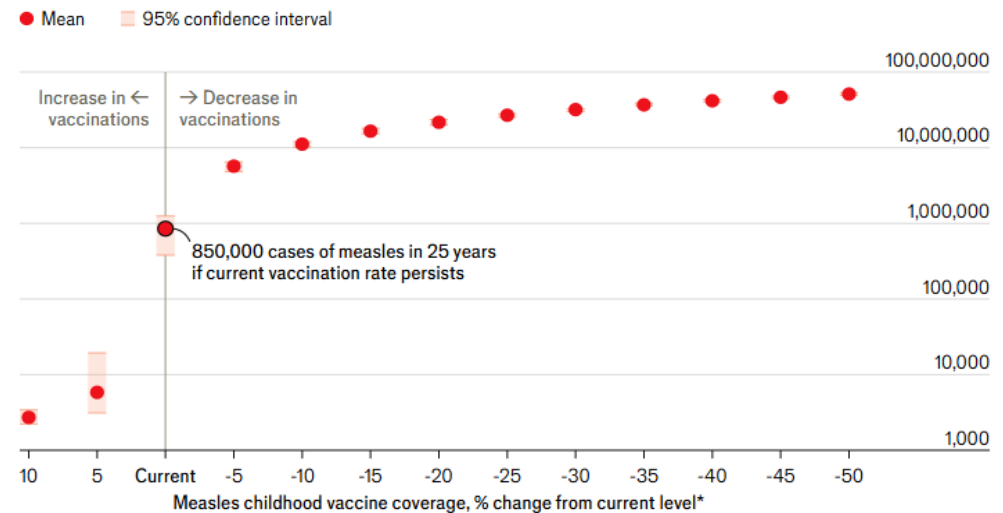
Note: CDC measles information <https://www.cdc.gov/measles/causes/index.html>
Source: Annenberg Science and Public Health (ASAPH) Surveys, Apr. 2025, N=1653, MOE=±3.4%; Apr. 2024, N=1522, MOE=±3.5%
©2025 Annenberg Public Policy Center, University of Pennsylvania

HOW MUCH WORSE COULD AMERICA'S MEASLES OUTBREAK GET? THE ECONOMIST:

America's measles outbreak is alarming for several reasons. What began as a handful of cases in Texas in January has now surpassed 800 across several states, with many more cases probably going unreported. It is the worst outbreak in 30 years and has already killed three people. Other smaller outbreaks bring the total number of cases recorded in 2025 so far to over 1,000. But above all, public-health experts worry that the situation now is a sign of worse to come. A study published in JAMA, the journal of the American Medical Association, in April estimated that, if current childhood vaccination rates remain unchanged, measles will likely become endemic in the United States again within two decades. Under these circumstances, there will be an estimated 850,000 measles cases in the next 25 years, and around 850 deaths. If, however, the MMR rate in each state falls by 10%, endemicity will arrive earlier, and there could be 11m measles cases in the next 25 years. In that scenario, there would be around 11,000 deaths from the disease, each of which could have been avoided. (5/14/2025)

Spread ahead

United States, cumulative number of measles cases after 25 years, log scale



*State-specific changes in coverage

Source: "Modelling reemergence of vaccine-eliminated infectious diseases under declining vaccination in the US", by M.V. Kiang et al., JAMA, April 2025

VACCINES

[FDA APPROVES NOVAVAX COVID-19 SHOT BUT WITH UNUSUAL RESTRICTIONS –](#)

[AP:](#) The Food and Drug Administration has issued a long-awaited approval of Novavax's COVID-19 vaccine but with unusual restrictions. Novavax makes the nation's only traditional protein-based coronavirus vaccine – and until now, it had emergency authorization from the FDA for use in anyone 12 and older. But late Friday, the FDA granted the company full approval for its vaccine for use only in adults 65 and older, or those 12 to 64 who have at least one health problem that puts them at increased risk from COVID-19. (Neergaard, 5/18)

[FDA TO ISSUE NEW VACCINE APPROVAL GUIDANCE - THE WASHINGTON POST:](#)

The head of the Food and Drug Administration said the agency will soon unveil a new framework detailing what companies must do to seek approval of vaccines, a move that comes as the Trump administration has introduced uncertainty into the annual process for green-lighting updated coronavirus shots traditionally offered in the fall. ... FDA Commissioner Marty Makary said Thursday during a conference of the Food and Drug Law Institute, a nonprofit organization. "We want to create a framework for vaccine makers that they can use so they have a predictable FDA where they don't have to worry how is this going to be received." (Rouben, 5/15)

[WHO ADVISERS SAY CURRENT STRAINS OK FOR COVID VACCINE PRODUCTION -](#)

[CIDRAP:](#) The World Health Organization (WHO) Technical Advisory Group on COVID-19 vaccine composition, after meeting earlier this month, today released its recommendations for updated vaccines, which say the current monovalent JN.1 or KP.2 strains are still appropriate, but monovalent LP.8.1 is a suitable alternative. Over the last 2 years, after examining the latest data on virus changes and response to current vaccines, the group has been weighing in on strain recommendations twice a year, once in the spring and once in December. (Schnirring, 5/15)

ALZHEIMER'S DISEASE

[FDA CLEARS 1ST BLOOD TEST TO HELP DIAGNOSE ALZHEIMER'S DISEASE](#)

[- ABC NEWS:](#) The Food and Drug Administration (FDA) cleared the first blood test on Friday to help diagnose Alzheimer's disease. The test, manufactured by Fujirebio Diagnostics, is for those aged 55 and older who are already exhibiting signs and symptoms of the disease, the agency said. (Benadjaoud, 5/16)

PANDEMIC TREATY

[WHO MEMBERS ADOPT PANDEMIC TREATY, AS U.S. SHUNS MEETING -](#)

[STAT:](#) World Health Organization members on Tuesday adopted a treaty aimed at preparing for and responding to future pandemics, what countries say is both a tangible example of how they're learning the lessons of Covid-19 and a marker for the continued importance of international collaboration. (Joseph, 5/20)

MPOX

[GENOMIC ANALYSIS SHOWS WIDESPREAD MPOX TRANSMISSION IN WEST AFRICA PRIOR TO 2022 GLOBAL OUTBREAK – MEDICAL XPRESS:](#)

Historically, most human mpox infections have resulted from zoonotic transmission—meaning from animals to humans. But during the 2022 global outbreak, mpox began spreading readily between people. A new study now shows the virus was circulating long before then. Published in [Nature](#) on May 19, 2025, the study notes that mpox was being transmitted among humans in Nigeria for eight years before sparking the international outbreak in 2022. Using genomic tracing, the researchers estimate that the virus's ancestor first emerged in southern Nigeria in August 2014 and spread to 11 states before human infections were detected in 2017. The findings underscore the need for enhanced global surveillance and access to effective medicines, given the threat of impending pandemics. (5/19/2025)