



# WISCONSIN DEPARTMENT *of* HEALTH SERVICES

## CDC Health Alert Network (HAN) Health Advisory: Expanding Measles Outbreak in the United States and Guidance for the Upcoming Travel Season

*This message is being sent to the health alert network, travel health network, local public health officers, Tribal health directors, local public health department nurses, local public health department staff, and infection preventionists.*

On March 7, 2025, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) issued a [Health Alert Network \(HAN\) Health Advisory](#) to notify clinicians, public health officials, and potential travelers about a measles outbreak in Texas and New Mexico and offer guidance for prevention and monitoring. As of March 7, 2025, Texas and New Mexico have reported 208 confirmed cases associated with this outbreak (198 in Texas and 10 in New Mexico). As a part of this outbreak, two deaths have been reported: one in Texas and one in New Mexico. More cases are expected as this outbreak continues to expand.

With spring and summer travel season approaching in the United States, CDC emphasizes the important role that clinicians and public health officials play in preventing the spread of measles through vaccination. They should be vigilant for cases of febrile rash illness that meet the measles case definition particularly in unvaccinated persons, and share effective measles prevention strategies, including vaccination guidance for international travelers.

The risk for widespread measles in the United States remains low due to robust U.S. immunization and surveillance programs and outbreak response capacity supported by federal, state, Tribal, local, and territorial health partners. Measles-mumps-rubella (MMR) vaccination remains the most important tool for preventing measles. To prevent measles infection and spread from imported cases, all U.S. residents should be up to date on their MMR vaccinations, especially before traveling internationally, regardless of the destination.

Please see the [Health Alert Network \(HAN\) Health Advisory](#) for further details.

As a reminder, measles is a Category 1 Reportable Disease (DHS 145.04) and health care providers are required to immediately report by telephone the suspected case to the [local or Tribal health department \(LTHD\)](#) in which the patient resides.

The Wisconsin Immunization Program can be reached Monday through Friday from 8 a.m.–4 p.m. at 608-267-9959 or after hours at 800-943-0003 option 2.

## Additional resources

For public health staff:

- [DHS: Measles \(web page\)](#)
- [CDC: Measles \(Rubeola\) For Public Health Professionals](#)
- A [GovD bulletin](#) was sent out at the end of February 2024 with information on measles infection prevention and control, testing, and reporting.

For public information:

- [DHS graphics: Put measles on the spot \(English, Hmong, Spanish\)](#)
- [DHS graphics: Measles can very easily spread from person to person \(English, Hmong, Spanish\)](#)
- [DHS fact sheet: Measles \(English, Hmong, Somali, Spanish\)](#)

Please contact the immunization program at [DHSImmProgram@dhs.wisconsin.gov](mailto:DHSImmProgram@dhs.wisconsin.gov) with any