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Measles outbreak in Texas raises concerns CBSMornings, Youtube; summarize

**The US is having its worst year for measles[[1]](#footnote-1) in more than three decades**

By [The Associated Press](https://www.25newsnow.com/authors/associated-press/) Jul. 10, 2025 https://www.25newsnow.com/

The U.S. **is** hav**ing** its worst year for [measles spread](https://apnews.com/article/measles-outbreaks-us-mmr-vaccine-rfk-jr-518e1059923135d79a2127a02e31bac2) in more than three decades, and the year is only half over.

The national case count reach**ed** 1,288 **on Wednesday**, according to the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), though public health experts say the true figure may be higher.

The CDC’s count is 14 more than **2019**, when America almost **lost** its status of having eliminated the [vaccine-preventable illness](https://apnews.com/article/vaccines-measles-polio-whooping-cough-rubella-af4cd1aef8f408a960601df6372f9c32) — something that could happen this year if the virus spreads [without stopping for 12 months](https://apnews.com/article/measles-texas-new-mexico-outbreak-mmr-vaccine-6cfda9a944084c390bc70f0e7a37a426). But the U.S. is far from **1991**, when there **were** 9,643 confirmed cases.

In a statement, the federal government said the CDC “continues to recommend (measles, mumps and rubella) vaccines as the best way to protect against measles.” It also said it is “supporting community efforts” to tamp down ongoing outbreaks as requested, among taking other measures. CDC teams deployed for an on-the-ground outbreak response twice in Texas, and also helped New Mexico and Kansas with their outbreaks.

Fourteen states have active outbreaks; four other states’ outbreaks **have** end**ed**. The [largest outbreak start**ed** five months **ago**](https://apnews.com/article/measles-outbreak-texas-rfk-vaccines-8cf4641b04731c713edb524ca943490c) in undervaccinated communities in West Texas. Three people **have died** — two children in Texas and an adult in New Mexico — and dozens of people **have been** hospitalized across the U.S.

But there are signs that transmission **is** slow**ing**, especially in Texas. Lubbock County’s hospitals treated most of the sickest patients in the region, but the county **has**n’t **seen** a new case **in 50 days**, public health director Katherine Wells said.

“What concerned me early on in this outbreak was is it spreading to other parts of the United States, and that’s definitely what’s happening now,” she said.

**In 2000**, the World Health Organization and CDC **said** measles **had been** eliminated from the U.S. *The closer a disease gets to eradication, the harder it can seem to stamp it out*, said Dr. Jonathan Temte, a family physician in Wisconsin who helped certify that distinction 25 years ago.

It’s hard to see measles cases break records despite the widespread availability of a vaccine, he added. The measles, mumps and rubella vaccine is safe and is 97% effective at preventing measles after two doses.

“When we have tools that can be really helpful and see that they’re discarded for no good reason, it’s met with a little bit of melancholy on our part,” Temte said of public health officials and primary care providers.

Wells said she is concerned about continuing vaccine hesitancy. A recent study found childhood vaccination rates against measles **fell after the COVID-19 pandemic**[in nearly 80% of the more than 2,000 U.S. counties](https://apnews.com/article/measles-vaccine-mmr-covid-exemptions-87cbfe44d8599b68408861f9b62421ed) with available data, including in states that **are** [battl**ing** outbreaks](https://apnews.com/article/measles-texas-vaccination-us-rfk-mmr-8fb86f56b0892408680daae4a52047e6) this year. And CDC data showed that only [92.7%](https://apnews.com/article/vaccinations-kindergarten-exemptions-cdc-1c0f9a196a70491fccf48b9125090de0) of kindergarteners in the U.S. **had** the measles, mumps and rubella vaccine **in the 2023-2024 school year**, below the 95% needed to prevent outbreaks.

State and federal leaders **have** **for years kept** funding [stagnant](https://apnews.com/article/measles-texas-vaccines-funding-cuts-5785985d6b74024b0502f6a2fc1576e2) for local public health departments’ vaccination programs that are tasked with reversing the trend. Wells said she talks with local public health leaders nationwide about how to prepare for an outbreak, but also says the system needs more investment.

Currently, [North America](https://apnews.com/article/measles-texas-new-mexico-outbreak-mmr-vaccine-6cfda9a944084c390bc70f0e7a37a426) has three other major measles outbreaks: 2,966 cases in Chihuahua state, Mexico, 2,223 cases in Ontario, Canada and 1,246 in Alberta, Canada. The Ontario, Chihuahua and Texas outbreaks stem from large Mennonite communities in the regions. Mennonite churches do not formally discourage vaccination, though [more conservative Mennonite communities](https://apnews.com/article/measles-outbreak-texas-rfk-vaccines-8cf4641b04731c713edb524ca943490c) historically have low vaccination rates and a distrust of government.

In 2019, the CDC identified 22 outbreaks with the largest in two separate clusters in New York — 412 in New York state and 702 in New York City. These were linked because measles **was spreading** through [close-knit Orthodox Jewish communities](https://www.cdc.gov/mmwr/volumes/68/wr/mm6840e2.htm), the CDC said.

Understand and summarize (pair work)

* Find an introductory sentence, then give the date and source of the article
* Phrase the main subject and issue raised in the article.
* Find an outline to present your account clearly (here, facts, causes, consequences could be a good idea)
* Focus on a few points to analyse.

Possible exposés: - the Mennonite community in the USA

-the current trend about vaccinations under Secretary of Health Robert F. Kennedy Jr.

Language:

1° Time and tense: focus on the verbs in bold and recall the rules you learnt about using different tenses

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| Tense: when to use it? | Examples from the text (put numbers if too little room) | Expressions used with this tense |
| Simple present |  |  |
| Present be+ vb-ing |  |  |
| Simple preterit |  |  |
| Preterit be+vb-ing |  |  |
| Present perfect (have+ vb-en/ed) |  |  |
| Pluperfect (had+ vb-en/ed) |  |  |

In the following sentences extracted from the video script, which tenses were used? Complete the following logically.

1. We \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ (to look at) a measles outbreak in Texas; This has some people troubled as officials \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ (to confirm) 48 different cases, most of them in Gaines County.
2. According to the CDC, those cases \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_( be found) not only in Texas this year, but in 4 additional states, and the list of states \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ (to grow), after New Mexico’s Health Department **recently** \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_( to confirm) a case there, as well.
3. “This is what \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ (to happen) when you \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ (not+ vaccinate) .This is a measles outbreak that \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ (to begin) in a very close-knit rural community that \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ very low vaccination rates.” Says Doctor Céline Gounder.
4. Unfortunately, we \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_(to see) vaccination exemptions soar in Tx in **recent years** , so vaccination rates \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ (to decline), but only slightly nationally. Measles is the most contagious infectious disease and it \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ (to require) very high levels of vaccination to prevent an outbreak.
5. **Historically**, **before** we \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_(to have) vaccines, **in the 1960s**, between 400 and 500 people \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ (to die) every year. If people are concerned their children \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_(to be exposed), they should look for symptoms.

2° Decompose and translate.

***The*** *clos****er*** *a disease gets to eradication,* ***the*** *hard****er*** *it can seem to stamp it out*.

Que proposer comme traduction pour les exemples suivants ?

1. Plus il y a de personnes vaccinées, moins la maladie se répand dans le pays.
2. Plus le ministre exprime des doutes concernant les vaccins, moins les gens ont confiance.
3. Plus les gens vivent dans des communautés fermées, plus la maladie se répand vite.
4. Mieux on finance les campagnes de vaccination, plus on vaccine un large nombre d’enfants.
5. Plus une épidémie est prise tôt, moins elle tue de gens dans le pays.
6. Plus vous fumez longtemps, plus ça a un impact néfaste sur votre santé.

Vocabulaire à apprendre pour le \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ : ch 22 Health and Medecine PART3 : Ailments and diseases

Here is a short list of viruses one can get a vaccine shot against: chicken pox (la varicelle), influenza/flu (la grippe), measles (la rougeole), mpox ( la variole), mumps (les oreillons), rubella (la rubéole), whooping cough (la coqueluche).

Exercice de version journalistique :

While vaccines themselves come with minimal risks, measles is a highly infectious disease that can sometimes cause seizures, brain inflammation and even death. MMR (measles, mumps and rubella) vaccines are distributed free to all children on the NHS, and yet the number of children receiving them in the UK each year has been falling.

Doubts about the vaccine were initially sparked by the discredited former physician Andrew Wakefield, who published a since retracted paper suggesting a link between MMR and autism in 1998. Despite being thoroughly disproved, this theory has helped fuel a rise in measles outbreaks from the US to Europe in recent years as anti-vaxxer parents refuse to vaccinate their children. “Parents should not skip the vaccine out of fear for autism.” lead study author Dr Anders Hviid of the Statens Serum Institut told *Reuters*. “The dangers of not vaccinating include a resurgence in measles which we are seeing signs of today in the form of outbreaks.”

In their study, the team – which had previously undertaken one of the first studies to discredit Mr Wakefield’s ideas – followed up their cohort of children until some of them were 14. Around 1 per cent of the children developed autism, but there was no significant difference in rates of autism between those who had the jab and those that did not.

Tuesday 5 March 2019, *The Independent*.

1. Measles : la rougeole [↑](#footnote-ref-1)