

Health Trends in Early Childhood

May 2025



Measles



Trend

Measles is the most highly contagious **preventable disease**, and a resurgence in global measles has increased the risk for measles outbreaks in the U.S.

Outbreak-related cases have been reported in **12 states**, including **Pennsylvania**.



Explanation

Susceptible people can be infected **by breathing the same air as someone who is infected**—even as long as two hours after the infected person has left.

As of April 17, 2025, **800 cases have been reported in the U.S.** 771 (96%) of these were unvaccinated or had unknown vaccination status.



Impact

Measles can be dangerous, especially for infants, young children, pregnant women, and unvaccinated people. Children & caregivers may **miss childcare or school when sick** with the measles, resulting in significant disruptions in work schedules and the possibility of severe complications leading to hospitalizations and even death.



Action

Share **credible information** about the Measles, Mumps and Rubella (MMR) Vaccination with **parents and caregivers/staff**.

The MMR vaccine is safe. It is administered in two doses. **Two doses are about 97% effective at preventing measles**, providing long-term immunity.

Resources

- PA Dept of Health: Measles - [What You Need to Know](#)
- HealthyChildren.org (AAP) - [Measles: What Parents Need to Know - HealthyChildren.org](#)

Learn more at
www.pakeys.org/HealthTrends

This is the most updated information at release time. The information in Health Trends is not a Pennsylvania regulatory requirement for early childhood providers. Pennsylvania early childhood providers with questions about regulatory requirements should contact their Cert rep or the [Bureau of Certification](#).

