

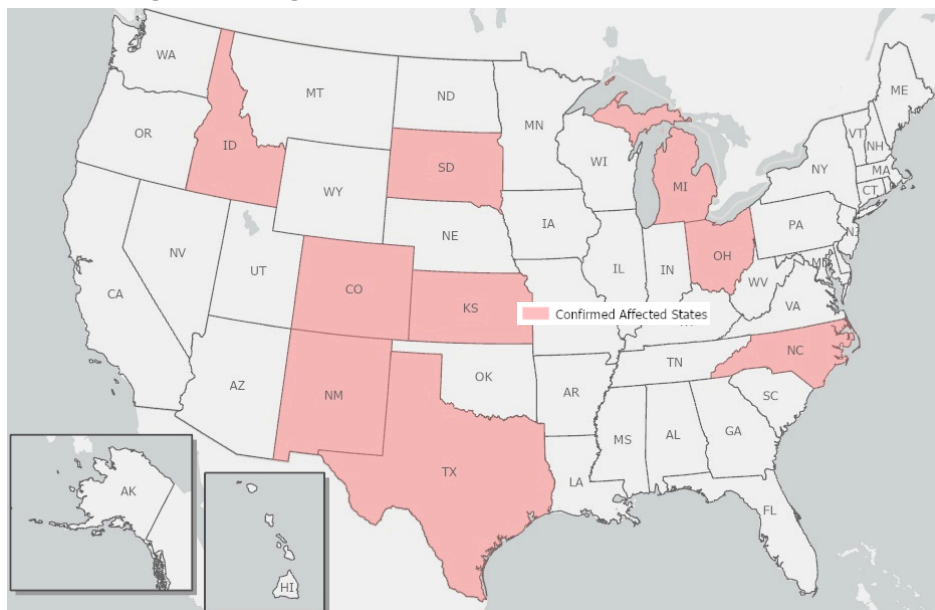
May 10, 2024

## Key Takeaways

- Seasonal respiratory illness activity continues to decrease, although indicators for human metapneumovirus remain elevated. Seasonal gastrointestinal disease activity remains elevated.
- HPAI A(H5N1) has been identified in six additional dairy herds in the past week, in Colorado, Michigan, and Idaho, each of which had previous detections.
- New York City issued a health alert due to an increase in mpox cases. Pride month begins June 1. The Commonwealth has not reported a new mpox case since the week of April 14. Virginia is holding three mpox town halls in June.
- Long Beach, California declared a local public health emergency following an outbreak of tuberculosis.
- West Virginia reports a measles exposure event that may have affected 150 people.

## Key Figures

### Highly Pathogenic Avian Influenza in Domestic Livestock



Source: [USDA](#) as of 2024-05-09.

## Mpox

**20**

The number of mpox cases reported in Virginia in 2024 as of May 7.

## Measles

**132**

The number of new measles cases in the US detected since the start of 2024, as of May 10.

## HPAI A(H5N1)

**42**

The number of dairy herds with detected Highly Pathogenic Avian Influenza A (HPAI) detections.

## Infrastructure

**167 million**

The daily number of crossings on US bridges rated in poor condition.

**Spotlight:  
Infrastructure**

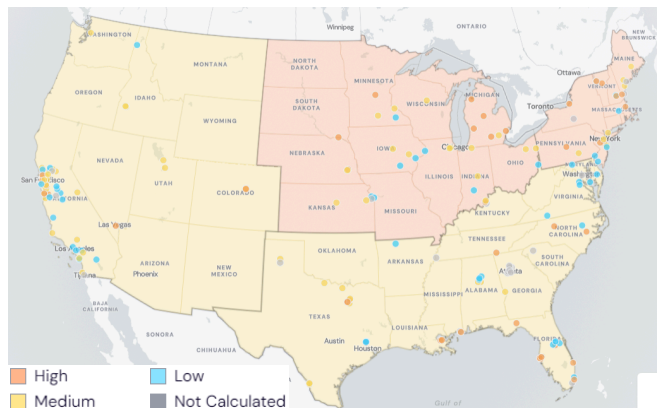
## Ongoing Monitored Situations

### Seasonal Illnesses

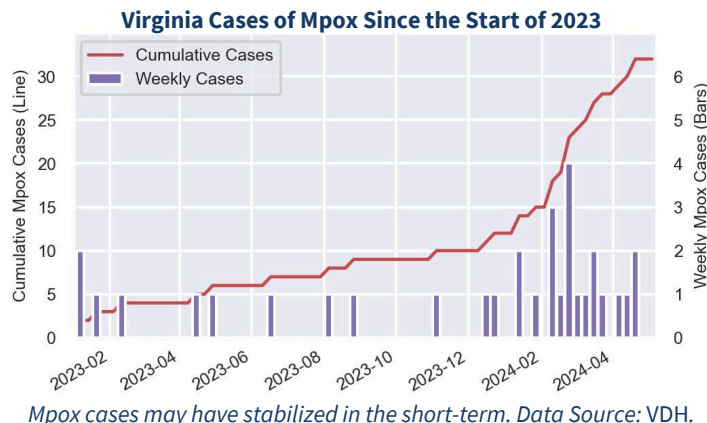
- **Seasonal respiratory illness activity continues to decrease.** Test positivity data for HHS region 3 (including Virginia) and wastewater data suggests that activity of SARS-CoV-2, influenza, and RSV are all near six-month lows. However, HMPV increased by 20% since last month.
- **Human metapneumovirus test positivity increased 20% since last month.** WastewaterSCAN data also shows high levels of HMPV in the Southeastern US.
- **Seasonal GI illness remains elevated.** Despite a national decline in norovirus activity, detection rates in the Southeastern U.S. Census Region (including Virginia) remain elevated. Data from WastewaterSCAN reports high norovirus and rotavirus activity in the Southeastern United States.

### H5N1 (HPAI A) Bird Flu

Influenza A Markers in Wastewater



- **Despite low or minimal influenza activity nationally, influenza A markers in wastewater are elevated in some areas.** Research suggests this may be related to animal waste and raw milk discharges.
- **Federal officials announced several funding measures to support surveillance and containment of HPAI A(H5N1) in dairy cattle.** Funding will support protective measures on farms, testing, and vaccinations. The USDA also announced it will compensate dairy farms for HPAI-related losses from the same fund used to compensate poultry farms.

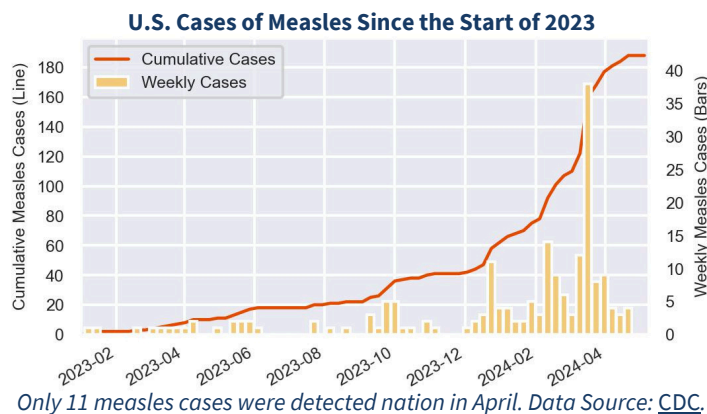


### Mpx

- **Mpx cases are stable in Virginia ahead of Pride month.** The Commonwealth has not seen a new case since the week of April 13, while CDC wastewater surveillance reports "no detections" of mpx in Virginia. Pride month begins June 1.
- **New York City issued a health alert due to a substantial increase in mpx cases.** While still low compared to previous peaks, the 256 cases between Oct and April 15 is higher than in previous months.

### Measles

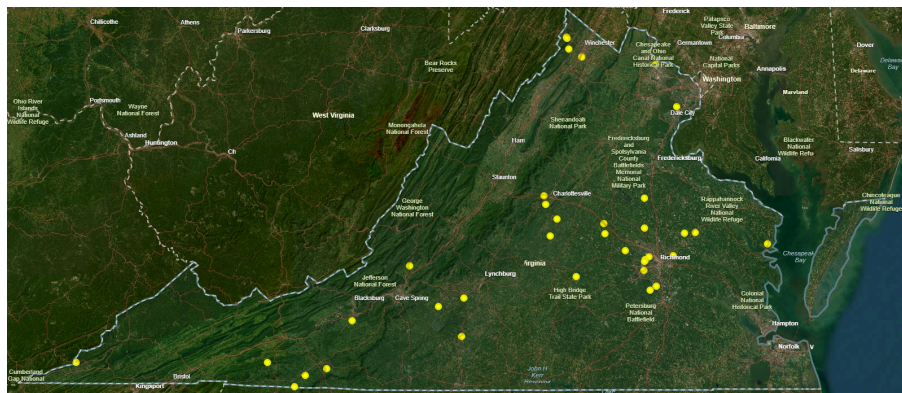
- **Officials in West Virginia suspect over 150 individuals may have been exposed** after a case was identified there April 21. That number includes 24 contacts from four neighboring states. Despite this, the CDC has detected no Measles cases nationally since the start of May.



## Spotlight

- **42,400 bridges in the US are in poor condition** according to a new [report](#) from the American Road & Transportation Builders Association. In [Virginia](#), 498 bridges, or 3.5%, are rated as in poor condition, compared to 6.8% nationally. Bridges in poor condition are considered safe, but have one or more structurally deficiencies.
- **A 2022 [Associated Press](#) review found more than 2,200 high hazard potential dams in poor condition in the US.** Just 22 of those were in Virginia; however, that may be due to underreporting. In 2022, more than 1,800 Virginia dams [did not have](#) required hazard classifications, including at least 400 anticipated to be high-hazard potential dams.

## Infrastructure



*The Association of State Dam Safety Officials notes that over 90% of Virginia's state-regulated high hazard potential dams have full Emergency Action Plan, and almost 40% of these have been exercised. The National Inventory of Dams lists 38 Virginia high-hazard potential dams without an EAP. Image Source: [NID](#)*

- **Rising groundwater due to [sea level rise](#) and [increased precipitation](#) poses a threat to coastal and inland infrastructure**, including pipe corrosion, road and building foundation degradation, and water contamination. In places as far flung as [Miami Florida](#) and [Virginia's Middle Penninsula](#), groundwater is causing septic system backups and failures. Data on risks from groundwater rise is sparse.

## Other News

- **Three human cases of Middle East Respiratory Syndrome (MERS-CoV) were [reported](#)** in Saudia Arabia between Apr 10 and 17, including 2 death. This brings the total to 4 cases and 2 deaths in 2024. The WHO's overall risk assessment at the global and regional level.
- **Heavy rains [resulted](#) in flash flooding in Harissonburg and on James Madison University's campus Monday.** Some campus basements flooded and at least one building (non-dorm) was evacuated due to a fire alarm. Campus shuttle services were also suspended.
- **Long Beach, California health officials have [declared](#) a local public health emergency** following an outbreak of 14 cases of tuberculosis. There have been nine hospitalizations and one death among the 14 cases associated with this outbreak.
- **Police forcibly [removed](#) a protest encampment at the University of Virginia.** More than 125 persons have been [arrested](#) on Virginia campuses related the protests. Some universities are [preparing](#) for potential or planned protests at graduation ceremonies, including [Virginia Tech](#) and [Virginia Commonwealth University](#).
- **The White House is tightening regulations on [gain-of-function studies](#).** The [policy](#) will be implemented beginning in May 2025 and is intended to balance the advancement of scientific research with the safety concerns associated with [studying high-risk pathogens](#).
- **The Governor and First Lady [recognized](#) Fentanyl Awareness Day on Tuesday.** [Fentanyl Awareness Day](#) draws [attention](#) to the risks of fentanyl, and to efforts to end the [public health emergency](#), resulting from opioids, including fentanyl.