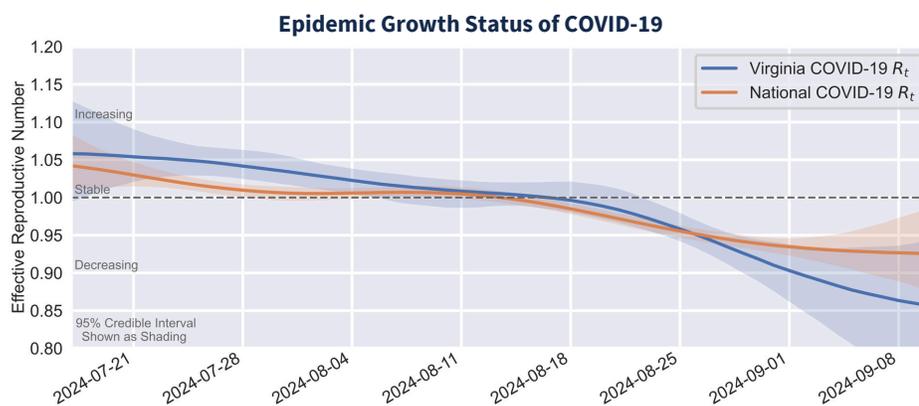


September 13, 2024

Key Takeaways

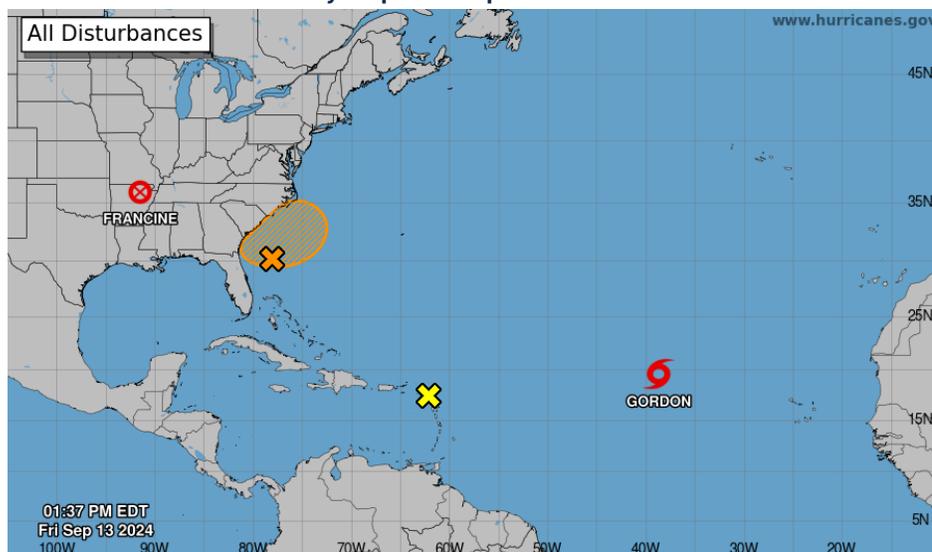
- A human case of H5 flu was detected in Missouri. The exact strain and route of exposure are still undetermined.
- COVID-19 activity is decreasing, but still 'very high' in Virginia.
- Clade 1b mpox was detected in Kinshasa, the capital of the Democratic Republic of the Congo.
- North Carolina reports a measles case near Charlotte.
- Longshoremen may strike at east coast ports that handle over 40% of U.S. imports when their contract expires Sept. 30.

Key Figures



Modeling suggests COVID-19 activity is decreasing in Virginia. Data Source: [CFA](#).

Seven-Day Graphical Tropical Weather Outlook



Per the NWS "there is a 40% probability that low pressure off the SE coast will develop tropical or subtropical characteristics early next week as it drifts north or northwest." There are no forecasts indicating a direct impact to Virginia. Image source: [NWS](#).

Mpox

24,873 / 643

The number of suspected mpox cases / deaths reported in the 14 African Union Member States from Jan 1 to Sept 10, 2024.

2

The number of clade 1b mpox cases reported outside of Africa as of Sept. 13, 2024.

COVID-19

<1%

The likelihood that COVID-19 activity is growing in Virginia, according to CDC models as of Sept. 10, 2024.

High

The current COVID-19 wastewater activity level in Virginia as of Sept. 5, 2024

H5N1 (HPAI A)

202

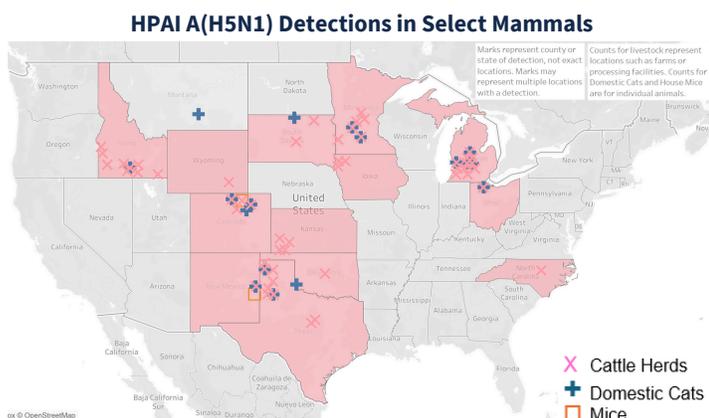
H5N1 (HPAI A) detections in dairy cattle herds in the United States as of Sept. 13.

Spotlight:
Terrorism Risk

Ongoing Monitored Situations

Avian Influenza A(H5N1)

- **Missouri reports human case of H5 flu.** The [case](#) was detected by routine flu surveillance. The patient reported no contact with infected animals or birds. The CDC has not yet identified the exact strain of the virus, though it appears [similar](#) to the one affecting dairy cattle nationally. The agency is investigating the source of exposure, which remains unknown.



HPAI A(H5N1) was [detected](#) in five new dairy herds in California and one in Michigan. Though the virus has been detected in red foxes in Missouri, the state has not reported cases among cattle or pets. Source: [USDA](#).

Seasonal Respiratory Illness

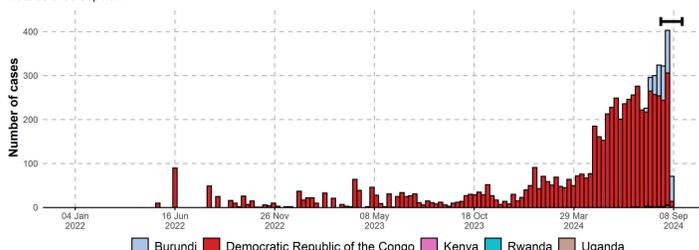
- **VDH launches respiratory disease dashboard.** The new [dashboard](#) shows COVID-19, flu, and RSV trends over time and by region. It also includes vaccine and outbreak data, and a weekly summary.
- **Though elevated, COVID-19 activity is declining.** In Virginia, emergency Department (ED) [diagnoses](#) of COVID-19 are down nearly 20% this week. Nationally, diagnoses are [down](#) 10%. Epidemic [models](#) now suggest declining trajectories for both Virginia and the nation. Despite the decline, wastewater viral activity remains 'very high' in the Commonwealth.
- **Uninsured to pay more for COVID-19 vaccines.** The Bridge Access Program that provided vaccinations for uninsured and underinsured individuals has run out of funding and been [curtailed](#). Those affected could be asked to pay up to \$200 for a COVID-19 vaccine. Officials worry this will further reduce vaccine uptake.
- **Study relates COVID-19 deaths to hospital surges.** The [study](#) which analyzed data from the Delta wave of 2021, found that caseload stress was associated with excess deaths across all hospital types.

Mpox

- **Mpox outbreak ongoing in Africa.** The Africa CDC [reports](#) 5,764 new suspected and confirmed cases in the last week. The majority of these cases were detected in DR Congo (both clades Ia and Ib) and Nigeria (clade II). Clade Ib mpox cases continue to grow in Burundi as well.

Epidemic Curve of Clade Ib Mpox in Africa

Bracket at end of curve indicates potential reporting delays in recent weeks of data. Data as of 08 Sep 2024



Despite control efforts, clade Ib mpox activity continues increasing in the Congo Basin. DR Congo and Burundi represent the majority of new cases. Most new deaths are limited to DR Congo. Data Source: [WHO](#).

- **Clade Ib mpox detected in Kinshasa.** This marks the first detection of clade Ib mpox in the city which is already dealing with an outbreak of clade Ia mpox. With 17 million residents, the capital of DR Congo is also its largest and most traveled city.
- **Vaccines arrive in outbreak areas but may not be sufficient.** Health authorities in DR Congo reported [receiving](#) 99,100 doses of JYNNEOS vaccine this week, while Nigeria [received](#) 10,000 doses at the end of August. Another 100,000 doses are due in DR Congo next week but there are concerns that the number of doses will not be [sufficient](#) for DR Congo. Moreover, the nation [lacks](#) the cold chain needed to preserve doses beyond the normal 40-day shelf life.
- **WHO and Africa CDC launch response plan.** The six month \$600 million [plan](#) is aimed at containing the outbreak to currently affected nations, while also improving readiness in unaffected neighbors.

Measles

- **North Carolina reports case as US outbreak continues.** The CDC reported four new [cases](#) in the last week bringing the 2024 total to 251 cases. Authorities in North Carolina [confirmed](#) a case of measles in a child from Mecklenburg County. This marks the first case of measles in the state since 2018.

Spotlight

Islamic State Activity, 2024



Despite significant degradation in capacity over the past decade, the Islamic State (IS) is still active. The map above shows IS activity, including arrests (in blue) linked to support, propaganda, planning, or other ties to IS. The [Washington Institute](#) has identified nine IS-related legal cases reported in the United States in 2024. Image Source: [The Washington Institute](#).

Other News

- **Los Angeles County has confirmed its third locally acquired dengue case since 2023.** Two other locally acquired cases were reported in California last year. Florida has reported 31 locally-acquired cases across six counties this year.
- **The Dominican Republic reported 33 cases of Oropouche fever.** The cases were identified in a retrospective analysis of dengue-negative samples collected through August.
- **Over 187,000 children under ten in central Gaza have received the novel oral polio vaccine (nOPV2) during the first phase of a vaccination campaign, surpassing the initial target of around 157,000.** The campaign will target 340,000 additional children in southern Gaza and 150,000 children in northern Gaza to achieve the 90% vaccination coverage needed to stop the outbreak.
- **Wildfires continue to spread in California, Nevada, and Canada, resulting in mass evacuations.** Smoke plumes are spreading across the US, but forecasters expect air quality to be good in Virginia over the weekend.
- **Over 2,400 weapons have been intercepted at the emergency department entrances of two Sentara hospitals in October 2022.** Hampton Roads hospitals are increasing security staffing, implementing new access control protocols, and investing in advanced weapon detection technology, to combat the rising prevalence of weapons in healthcare facilities.
- **A series of looting and vandalism incidents occurred in multiple neighborhoods throughout Washington, D.C. earlier this week,** possibly in response to the release of body-camera footage showing police fatally shooting a violence interrupter. Police reported investigating several burglaries and property destruction cases, making five arrests, and increasing their presence in affected areas.
- **The International Longshoremen's Association may strike at 13 major East and Gulf Coast ports starting October 1,** potentially disrupting billions of dollars' worth of imports. The potentially affected ports handle over 40% of the country's imports and the strike could significantly disrupt supply chains across multiple sectors.

Terrorism Risk

- **High-profile attacks in Iran and Russia, along with a thwarted attack in Vienna, have highlighted the risk of international terrorism.** Experts note warning signs, while also noting sustained effort and capacity to mitigate threats. American intelligence agencies identified threats and issued warnings prior to all three major attacks.
- **Facing diminished capacity for complex attacks, terror organizations are using lone wolf attacks.** These may be carried out by operatives, or by unaffiliated individuals inspired by increasingly sophisticated propaganda. Last week Canadian law enforcement arrested an individual planning to carry out attacks in New York City.
- **Springfield, Ohio experienced a series of bomb threats.** Multiple government and media buildings were targeted. City hall, government offices, and schools were evacuated in response. The threats follow disinformation about immigrants in the city shared during a national political debate. Last month, the UK experienced violent anti-immigration riots following similar disinformation there.