

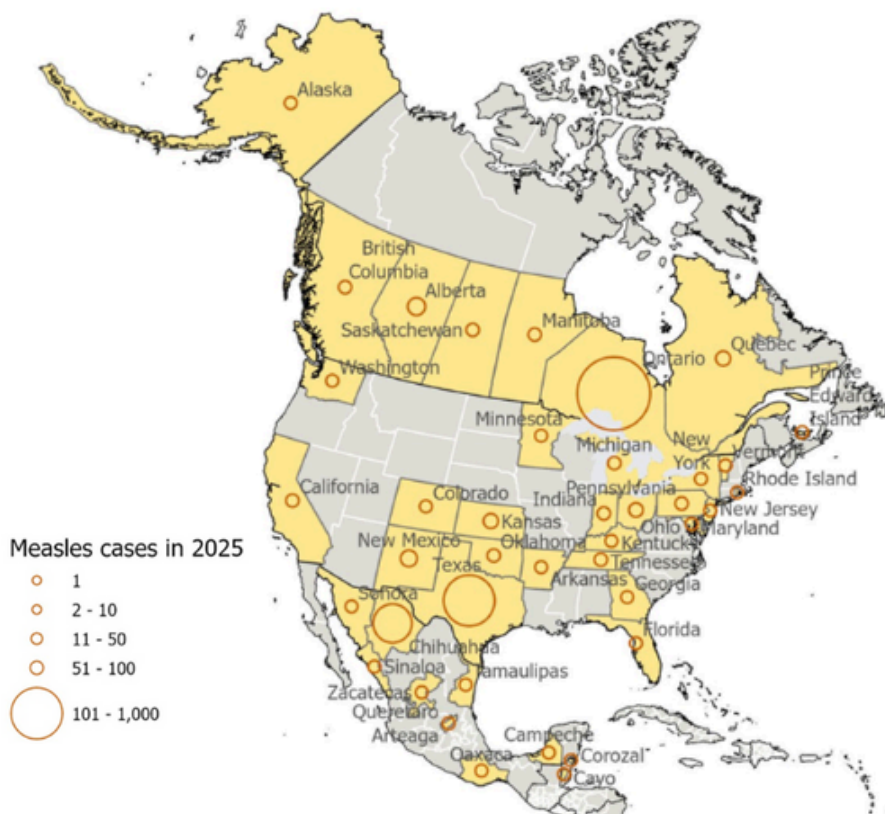
May 05, 2025

## Key Takeaways

- Hurricane Preparedness Week is next week. Colorado State University forecasts and above-normal Atlantic hurricane season.
- Virginia expanded its list of potential exposure sites related to its single measles case. The list now includes additional areas of a health clinic identified in the initial notification.
- 51 measles cases were reported nationally last week. 30 states have reported cases in 2025. Chicago and Dallas reported cases this week.
- The Global Virus Network published a ‘call-to-action’ to address the H5N1 outbreak in North America.
- Delayed reporting of another incident at the Richmond water treatment plant extends concerns.

## Key Figures

Measles Cases in 2025 through Apr 18



Canada, the United States and Mexico are all experiencing large measles outbreaks. Image source: [WHO](#).

## HPAI H5N1

**1,048**

HPAI H5N1 detections in US cattle herds as of May 2.

**Feb 17**

The date when the latest human H5N1 case was reported in the US.

## Measles

**935**

Measles cases reported in the US in 2025, across 30 states as of May 1.

## Hurricanes

**June 1**

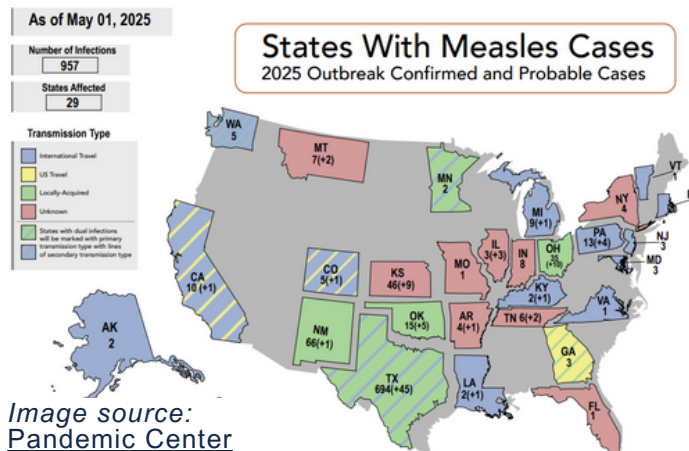
The beginning of the Atlantic Hurricane Season.

**Spotlight:**  
**Hurricane**  
**Preparedness**  
**Week**

## Ongoing Monitored Situations

### Measles

- The CDC rated **the risk for widespread measles transmission as low** due to high population-level immunity in the US. Larger outbreaks typically occur following importation into close-knit communities with low vaccination rates. In addition to the **West Texas outbreak**, large outbreaks have previously been linked to **schools** and **shelters** among populations with low vaccination coverage.
- As of Apr 17th, **82% of cases were linked to the West Texas outbreak**. According to the **latest data**, 13% of cases were hospitalized, including 23% of cases under 5 years old. This week, Arkansas reported community spread. Kansas reported nine new cases, a 25% increase over the previous week.
- WHO reports an **11-fold increase in measles cases in the Region of the Americas** compared to 2024. As of Apr 18, there were 2,318 cases in six countries. 99% of cases were in Canada (46%), the US (35%) and Mexico (18%).



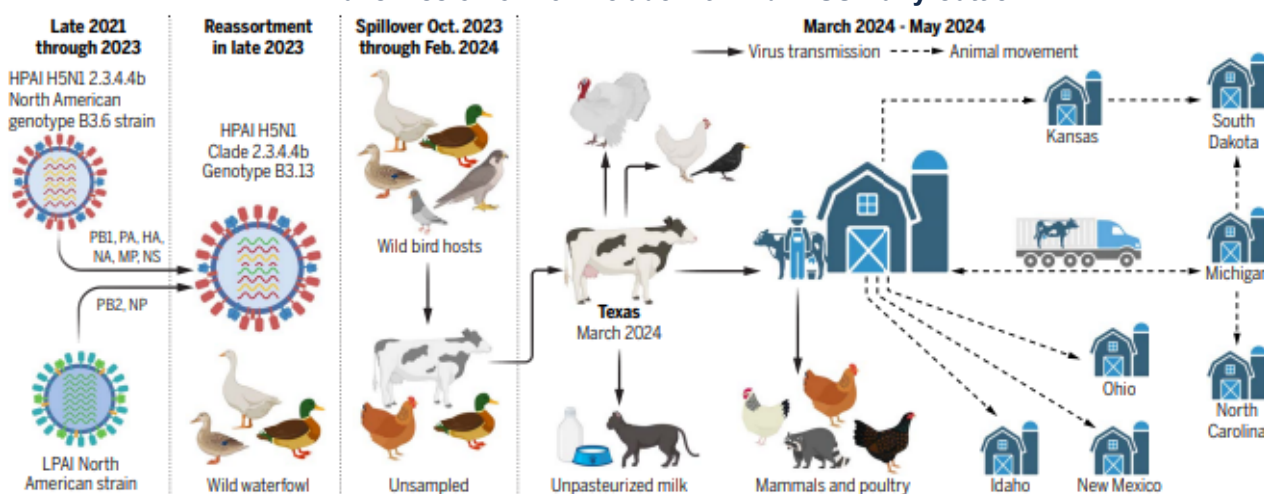
### Seasonal Illness

- Respiratory illness activity is minimal and trending downward in Virginia**, and is low or minimal in all Virginia regions. However, **test positivity** for rhinovirus/enterovirus and human metapneumovirus is increasing nationally.
- GI illness accounts for 10.56% of emergency visits in Virginia**, a touch above the threshold. GI illness activity is at or below threshold in all Virginia regions with the exception of Northern Virginia, where it is just above threshold.

### Avian Influenza

- A global network of virologists issued a **'call-to-action'** to address the pandemic potential of H5N1 in North America. Noting widespread transmission among multiple species, the **Global Virus Network called for** enhanced surveillance, improved biosecurity, and proactive measures to prevent widespread outbreaks.

#### Transmission of H5N1 clade 2.3.4.4b in US Dairy Cattle

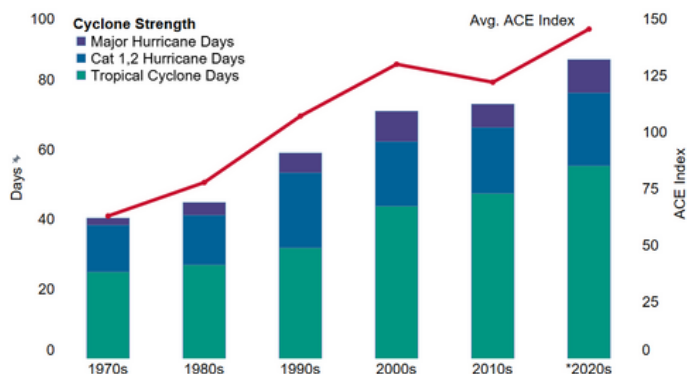


A new study shows how the initial bovine spillover of H5N1 spread among and between cattle, wild birds, poultry and humans. This spread, along with within-host variation, elevates the risk of human transmission. Two other spillover events of genotype D1.1 have been identified. Image source: Science.

## Spotlight

### Atlantic Hurricane Season Activity Indicators

Annual Averages by Decade



	Average Annual Days in each Category				Average Annual ACE Index
	Grand Total	Tropical Cyclone Days	Cat 1,2 Hurricane Days	Major Hurricane Days	
1970s	40	25	13	2	63
1980s	45	27	14	4	78
1990s	59	32	22	6	107
2000s	71	44	19	9	130
2010s	73	48	19	7	122
*2020s	86	56	21	10	146

The Accumulated Cyclone Energy (ACE) Index accounts for cyclone strength, duration and frequency. It has been increasing steadily since the 1970s, which was a relatively calm period for the Atlantic Basin. Data source: [CSU](#)

## Hurricane Preparedness Week

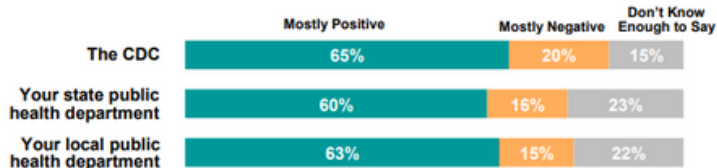
- **Hurricane Preparedness Week is May 4-10.** The Atlantic hurricane season is Jun 1 to Nov 30 and generally peaks in mid-Sep. Named storms occasionally form outside of these dates, however.
- **Colorado State University forecasts an above-normal Atlantic Hurricane Season** with 17 total named storms, 9 hurricanes, and 4 major hurricanes. The forecast calls for 50 days with a tropical storm, 26 with a Cat 1 or 2 hurricane, and 9 with a major (Cat 3+) hurricane. The season is expected to have a total Accumulated Cyclone Energy (ACE) index of 155.
- **Generally, hurricane risks are highest in coastal areas**, facing the direct threats of high winds and storm surge. However, tropical cyclones can cause damage far inland well after they weaken. Inland threats include severe weather, tornados, and flash flooding.

## Other News

- **Nationwide power outages struck Spain, Portugal, and parts of France** Monday evening. Up to 116 trains with 35,000 passengers were stranded. Authorities are investigating 7 deaths related to the outage. Health systems and hospitals were also impacted. The cause remains under investigation.
- **The federal government is denying disaster aid more often** according to some state officials. Federal officials have emphasized support for 'truly catastrophic disasters' with a larger role for states in other disasters. Meanwhile, new FEMA review processes are slowing some Helene relief distribution in Southwest Virginia.
- **A Florida ferry crash resulted in 1 death and 10 hospital transports**, including transports by air. Several people were pulled from the water. The ferry, with 45 people on board, was struck by a recreational vehicle and became stranded on a sandbar following the incident.

- **Fluoride was released into Richmond's water during a pipe installation.** Fluoride remained at safe levels but connecting counties were not informed about the error for four days.
- **The Sudan Virus Disease outbreak in Uganda is officially over** following 42 days without a new case detection.

### Public Views of Public Health Agencies



Most people have positive views and trust recommendations of public health agencies. However, small but significant minorities do not. Opinions vary by political affiliation, and new leadership may have partisan-influenced impacts on trust.  
Image source: [Harvard Chan](#).