

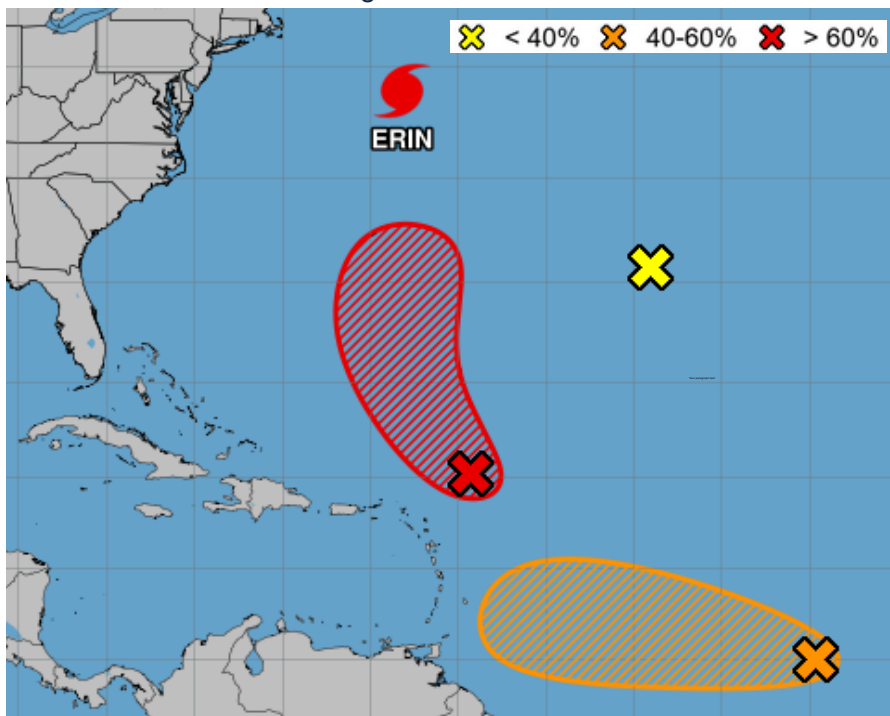
August 22, 2025

### Key Takeaways

- Hurricane Erin rapidly intensified before brushing Virginia's east coast, where it caused tidal flooding, high wind gusts and heavy surf.
- Moisture from Erin caused flash flooding in the Roanoke Valley, leading to at least a dozen swift-water rescues.
- COVID-19 activity continues to increase nationally and in Virginia. Confusion around fall vaccine guidance continues.
- VDH reported a potential measles exposure at Dulles airport on Aug 12.
- Texas declared its measles outbreak over. New weekly measles cases in both Canada and Mexico were below 100.

### Key Figure

7-day Tropical Weather Outlook  
Aug 22, 10:39 AM



Additional tropical cyclone development in the Atlantic is likely over the next seven days, including one disturbance with an 80% chance of tropical cyclone formation over the next two days. Tropical activity has picked up over the past couple of weeks; however, only one disturbance developed into a tropical cyclone - Hurricane Erin.

Image Source: [NWS](#)

### Measles

1,375

Measles cases identified in 2025 across 42 US states as of Aug 19.

### Wildfires

591

The number of wildfires in Canada as of Aug 22. 372 fires are out of control.

50

The number of large wildfires in the US as of Aug 22. Only 1 is contained.

### COVID-19

1.4%

The share of emergency and urgent care facility visits for COVID-19 in Virginia for the week ending Aug 16.

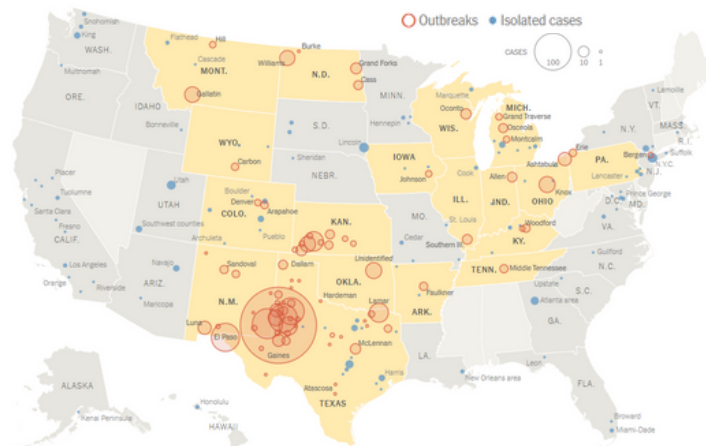
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## Ongoing Monitored Situations

### Measles

- The CDC reports **19 new measles cases** in the US in the past two weeks after pausing reporting last week. Canada reported 94 new cases in the past week, and Mexico reported 95.
- A potential **measles exposure event** occurred at **Dulles airport on Aug 12** from a confirmed case who is a resident of another state. Airports in Denver, CO and Bozeman, MT also had exposure events this week.
- **Texas** declared its measles outbreak over after 42 days passed since the last new case was confirmed. The outbreak sickened 762 people in 37 Texas counties. Two children died and 100 people were hospitalized there as well. The outbreak spread to multiple US states, Canada and Mexico.
- There have been **10,139 confirmed measles cases in the Americas** this year through **Aug 8**, a 34-fold increase over the same period last year. 10 countries have been impacted, but 97% of cases occurred in 3 countries: Canada (4,548), Mexico (3,911) and the US (1,356). PAHO linked the outbreaks to low vaccination coverage, noting that MMR coverage reached 89% across the Americas in 2024, below the 95% level recommended to prevent outbreaks.

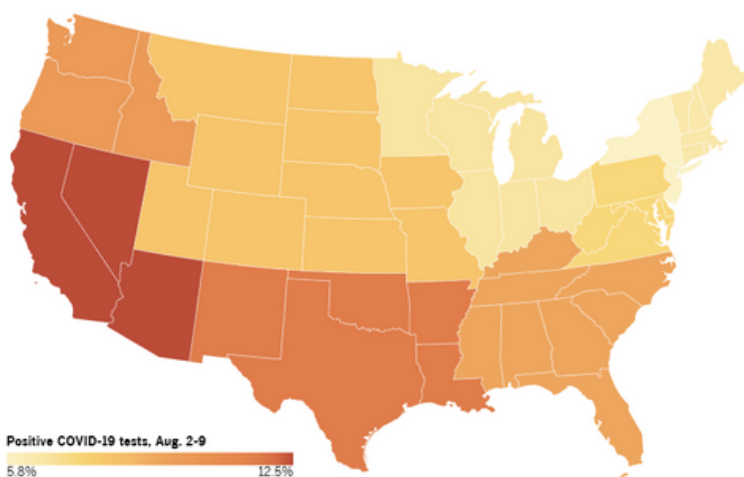
Measles Cases by County in 2025



Texas accounts for over half of US measles cases in 2025. Outbreaks in several other states have been linked to the outbreak there. Image source: [NYT](#)

### Seasonal Illness

COVID-19 Test Positivity by HHS Region



COVID-19 test positivity has increased in the Southwest in recent weeks, though emergency department visits for COVID-19 are highest in the South. Image source: [LAT](#)

- Though still low, the CDC estimates that **COVID-19** is growing or likely growing in **36 states**. In Virginia, COVID-19 is trending up, accounting for 1.4% of ED visits, up from 1.1% reported last week. Overall respiratory illness activity in Virginia is minimal and stable.
- Home delivery for a **nasal flu vaccine** is available in **34 states**, including Virginia. The nasal vaccine was previously available for administration by health providers. Experts hope home delivery will increase uptake.

### Avian Flu

Birds in Flight, Virginia

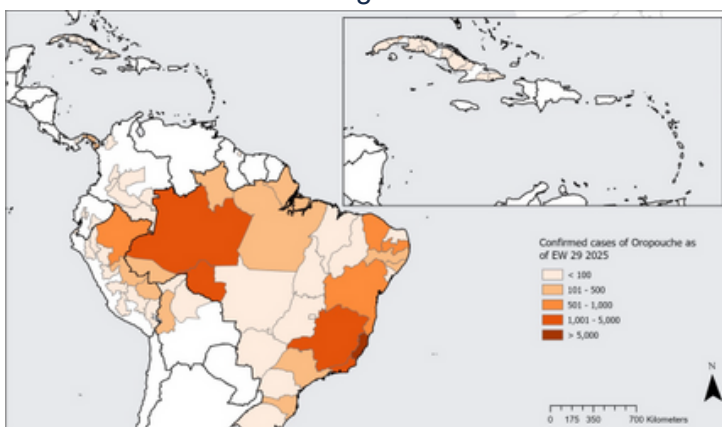


Fall migration season is ramping up in Virginia, and will peak in October. Wild bird migration likely contributes to the local and long-distance spread of HPAI viruses. Image source: [BC](#)

## Other News

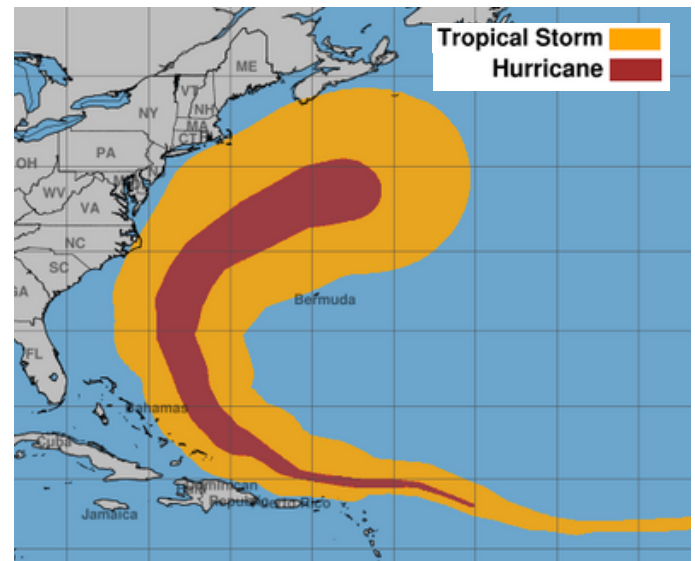
- **Hurricane Erin** brushed the East Coast from **North Carolina to Canada** after rapidly intensifying from a tropical storm to a Cat 5 hurricane in just 25 hours. In Virginia, vulnerable areas of Norfolk and Virginia Beach experienced major tidal flooding which could continue into this evening. Some Outer Bank islands in NC were evacuated ahead of the storm.
- **Virginia is entering the second peak of its tornado season.** Historically, Virginia has seen its highest average monthly tornados in both Apr and Sep - both months peak at 4. Transitioning weather and tropical cyclones drive the Sep peak.
- **A house explosion killed one and severely injured another in Albemarle county.** 12 other homes were seriously damaged. The investigation is focused on gas appliances and distribution systems.
- **Mosquito-borne chikungunya is causing outbreaks in China and France,** regions that do not usually see large outbreaks. China has had 8,000 cases, while France has had 111. Globally, there have been 240,000 cases, including 200,000 in Latin America where chikungunya is endemic.

### 2025 Oropouche Cases through Jul 26



12,768 confirmed Oropouche cases were reported in the Americas in 2025 through Jul 26. Oropouche is endemic to the Amazon basin but has spread beyond its usual range, including a recent surge in Panama. Image source: [PAHO](#)

### Hurricane Erin Wind History



Although Hurricane Erin remained well offshore, it had an unusually large wind field. Tropical storm force winds spanned an area over 600-miles wide as it passed Virginia. Image source: [NWS](#)

- **Current and former federal health agency staff denounced misinformation and politicized rhetoric,** linking it to the Aug 8 shooting at the CDC. The letter was directed to the HHS Secretary and Members of Congress, and requested actions to improve the safety of the HHS workforce.
- **The American Academy of Pediatrics published its own immunization schedule this week.** The AAP based its schedule on a review of evidence by the newly formed Vaccine Integrity Project. Meanwhile, some state health officials are encouraging pregnant women to update COVID-19 vaccines as CDC recommendations remain in flux.
- **Israel is experiencing a sustained vaccine-derived polio outbreak.** Although WHO assessed the risk as low, they noted it is circulating in under-vaccinated communities posing a risk of further spread, such as occurred in the 2022-2023 outbreak affecting the UK, US, Canada, and Israel.
- **A cargo-ship explosion closed Baltimore's main shipping channel for several hours.** There was no property damage beyond the ship, which was hauling coal.