

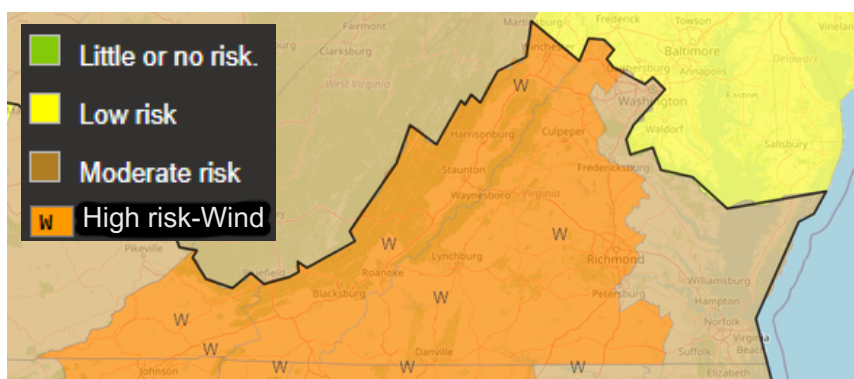
April 10, 2026

Key Takeaways

- Respiratory disease is minimal in Virginia, but gastrointestinal illness remains elevated.
- Forecasters expect a 'somewhat below-normal' Atlantic hurricane season in 2026.
- Supply chain disruptions from the Mideast conflict are beginning to impact the US.
- El Niño conditions are likely to emerge over the summer, increasing the risk of heat waves over the US South.

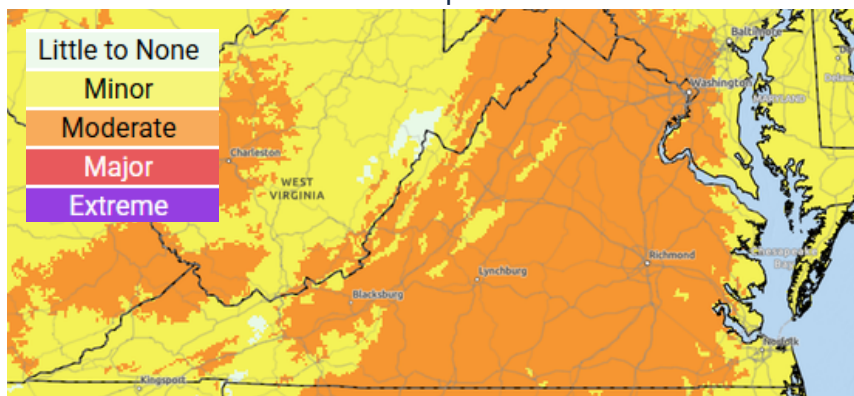
Key Figures

Significant Fire Potential
 Mon Apr 13



Virginia faces elevated fire risk over the next week, including high risk for some areas from Sun through Wed.
 Image Source: [NICC](#)

HeatRisk
 Wed Apr 15



Virginia will experience its first moderate HeatRisk of the season beginning on Tuesday. Virginia recorded over 4,000 heat-related ED and urgent care visits in 2025. Image source: [NWS](#)

Measles

43

Measles cases confirmed nationally in the week ending Apr 9.

Seasonal Illness

10.8%

The share of Virginia ED visits for Gastrointestinal Illness for the week ending Apr 4.

Tropical Activity

13, 6, 2

The number of named storms, hurricanes, and major hurricanes forecasted for the 2026 Atlantic hurricane season.

73%

Accumulated Cyclone Energy expected in the 2026 Atlantic Hurricane Season, compared to the 30-year average.

Key Dates

Apr 21

Statewide special election.

Apr 30

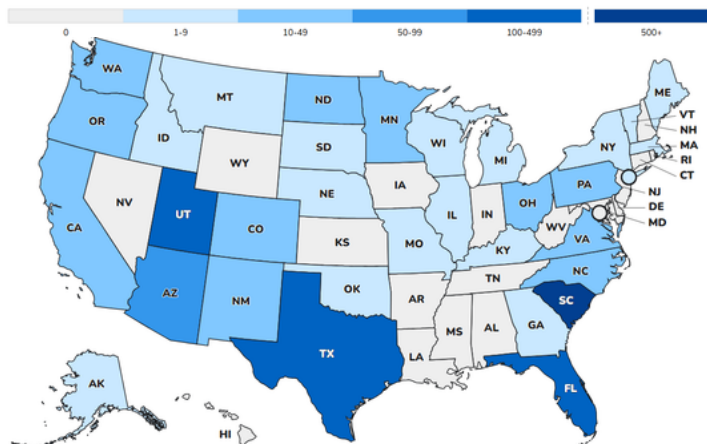
Virginia's spring fire season ends.

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Ongoing Monitored Situations

Measles

Measles Cases, 2026



Four states have had over 100 measles cases in 2026: South Carolina (667), Utah (408), Texas (176) and Florida (129). Image Source: [CDC](#)

- The CDC reported **43 new measles cases in the US over the past week**, bringing the 2026 total to 1,714 cases across 32 US states. [Canada](#) reported 83 new cases last week. [Mexico](#) reported 541.
- [Utah](#) reported **30 new cases this week**. No other state reported more than 3. South Carolina has not reported any additional cases. The outbreak there is set to end officially on Apr 26.
- **A measles outbreak has killed over 100 people in [Bangladesh](#)**. Since Mar 15, 7,500 suspected cases have been reported, with 900 confirmed. Bangladesh reported 125 cases in all of 2025. Vaccination campaigns there have been disrupted since 2020 due to the pandemic, political upheaval and procurement issues. Infants and young children have been especially hard hit.

- [Congo](#) declared its **mpox outbreak over**. The 2-year+ outbreak generated 161,000 suspected cases (37,000 confirmed) and 2,200 suspected deaths (137 confirmed). Despite declines, cases were reported there as recently as the week ending Mar 22. 200+ cases were reported in the six weeks prior. Mpox continues to spread widely in [Africa](#).

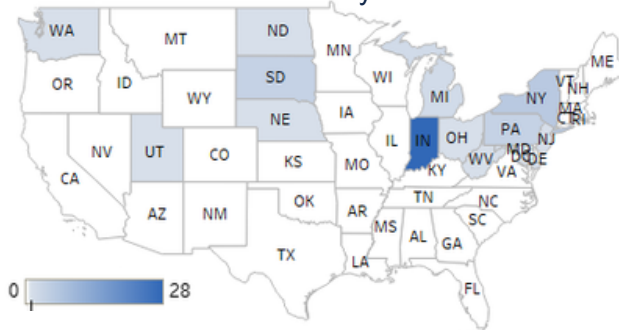
Seasonal Illness

- In [Virginia](#), overall respiratory activity is **minimal and trending down**, accounting for 11.1% of ED visits. Flu activity declined to 1.3% of ED visits from 1.5% a week ago. Both COVID-19 and RSV activity are low and stable.
- **Nationally, [RSV activity](#) remains elevated**, prompting most US states to extend their [RSV immunization season](#). [Virginia](#), which has low and stable RSV rates, did not extend its season but will consider orders from providers on a case-by-case basis.
- **[Gastrointestinal illness](#) is above threshold in Virginia**, accounting for 10.8% of ED visits, down from 11.0% last week. GI illness is above threshold in all Virginia regions except Southwest Virginia.
- **During the 2024-25 season, 76.3% of US health care providers were vaccinated for flu**, while just 40.2% were vaccinated for COVID-19. Flu vaccination rates were higher in hospital settings (88.3%), while COVID-19 vaccination was higher in long-term care and home health (44.5%).

Other Monitored Situations

- **[HPAI outbreaks](#) are causing mass die-offs of wild birds**. In some cases, die-offs have led to jurisdictional confusion about which agency, if any, is responsible for bird disposal and safety.

Confirmed HPAI Detections in Poultry Flocks
Past 30 Days

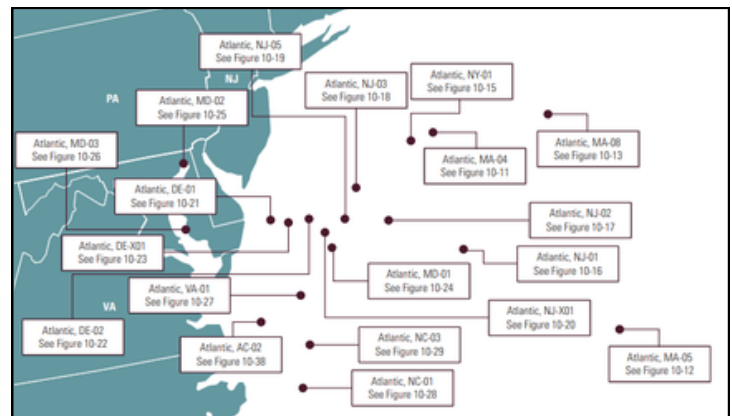


Nationally, the USDA has confirmed HPAI in 52 commercial and backyard flocks in the past 30 days, affecting almost 2 million birds. Image Source: [USDA](#)

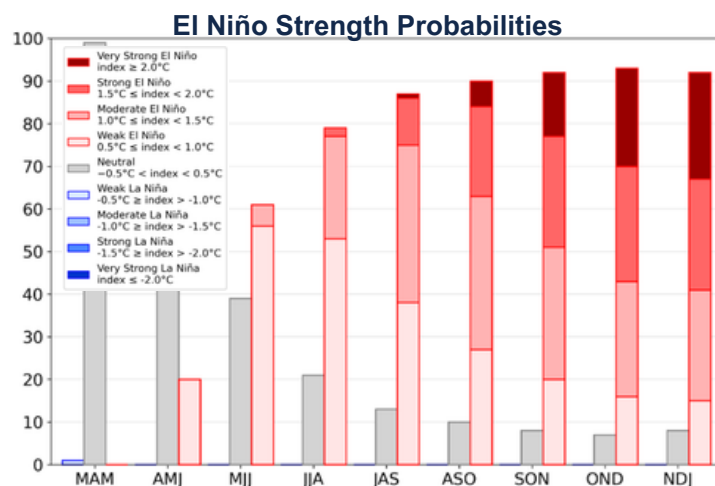
Other News

- **The Mideast conflict is creating multiple health-related supply disruptions.** A Maryland water-utility reduced fluoride levels due to supplier disruptions in Israel. Helium shipments from Qatar continue to be blocked, with potential long-term supply reductions. Pharmaceutical supply chains are also facing disruptions, due to both the conflict and a new tariff regime.
- **50 homes were evacuated following a 2,200 gallon propane spill in Albemarle.** Residents returned home by the end of the day and no environmental impact is expected.
- **Major AI chatbots repeat fake medical information from obviously fake research papers.** Researchers placed fabricated papers about a fabricated disease on blog posts and preprint servers. AI chatbots picked up the papers and treated them as real in chats.
- **A major AI company pre-released a new AI model to critical infrastructure companies to forestall cybersecurity risks.** The new model excelled at identifying and exploiting vulnerabilities, causing the company to delay a public release until risks to critical systems could be addressed.

Munitions Disposal Sites at Sea



Prior to 1970, the US military disposed of both conventional and chemical munitions at sea. Fishermen occasionally dredge these sites, resulting in exposures. Thousands of tons of explosive munitions were deposited 55 miles off Virginia's coast. Chemical munitions were disposed of off the coast of Maryland and North Carolina. Image Source: DENIX



There is a 62% chance of El Niño emerging this summer, with significant probabilities for a strong or very strong El Niño in fall and winter. El Niños are associated with reduced Atlantic Hurricane activity and increased heat wave frequency in the Southern US. Image Source: NWS

- **About 1 in 3 homeless people in Hampton Roads are age 55 and older.** Older adults are the fastest growing age-group among homeless populations, with their number expected to triple by 2030.
- **Canadian forecasters expect 2026 to be among the hottest years on record.** Forecasters also expect 2026 to 2030 to be the hottest five-year period on record.
- **Political campaigns spent \$40 million on security in the 2023-2024 campaign season,** a fivefold increase over the past decade. Campaigns in the 2026 season face an increasingly challenging security environment, highlighted by recent attacks, assassinations and attempts.
- **Los Angeles is reporting elevated typhus cases,** including a record 220 in 2025. Nearly 90% of people infected by the flea-borne disease were hospitalized.
- **A California raw dairy product farm took three weeks to recall products** linked to an E. coli outbreak. The company disputed epidemiological links discovered by public health officials.