

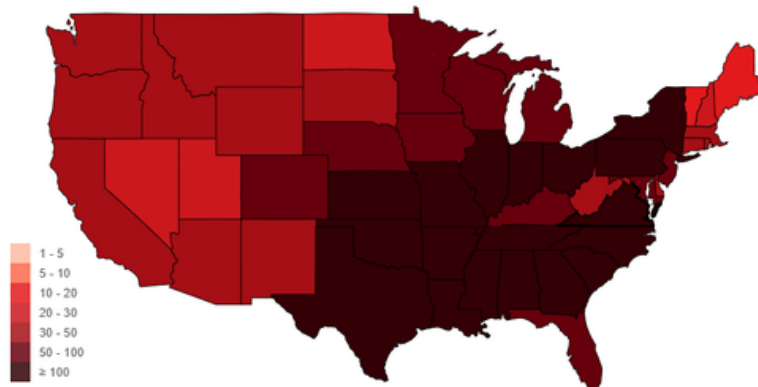
May 1, 2026

Key Takeaways

- Gastrointestinal illness remains above threshold in Virginia. Nationally, rotavirus and common cold viruses are increasing.
- Virginia reported 4 new measles cases over the past two weeks. The CDC warned of increased measles risk during the summer travel season.
- The Health and Public Health sector is the top target for cyber threats.
- Virginia was affected by 8 'Billion Dollar Disasters' in 2025, and 2 so far in 2026.

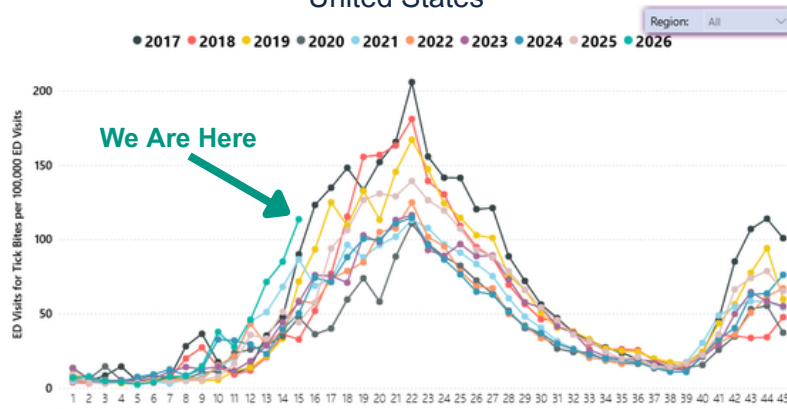
Key Figures

Billion Dollar Disaster Frequency
1980 to 2026



Virginia has been impacted by 126 disasters costing \$1 Billion or more since 1980. Only 8 states have been impacted by more 'Billion Dollar Disasters'. Image Source: [CC](#)

ED Visits for Tick Bites by Epi Week
United States



Tick season is off to a historic start, accounting for 115 of every 100K ED visits nationally during the week ending Apr 18. This exceeds rates in this time of year since at least 2017. Image source: [CDC](#)

Measles

22

Measles cases confirmed nationally in the week ending Apr 30.

Federal Gov't

80%

Share of the CDC's highest positions which are vacant.

53%

Share of survey respondents stating they 'tend to trust federal statistics.'

Severe Weather

3

The average number of May tornadoes that hit Virginia over the past 25 years.

28%

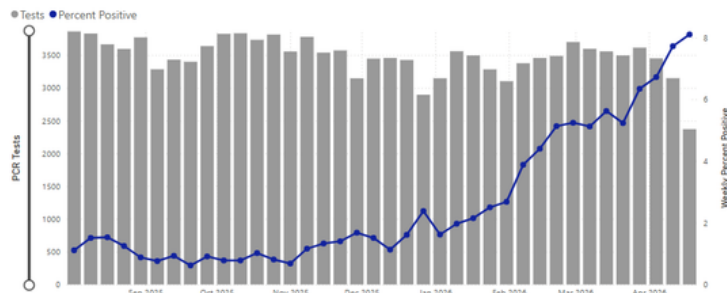
The chance of one or more Billion Dollar Disasters impacting Virginia each May, most likely severe weather or drought.

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Ongoing Monitored Situations

Seasonal Illness

Rotavirus Weekly Test and Percent Positivity
CDC NREVSS - National



Nationally, norovirus and rotavirus test positivity remains elevated. Rotavirus positivity had a distinct upward trend over the past several weeks.

Image Source: [CDC](#)

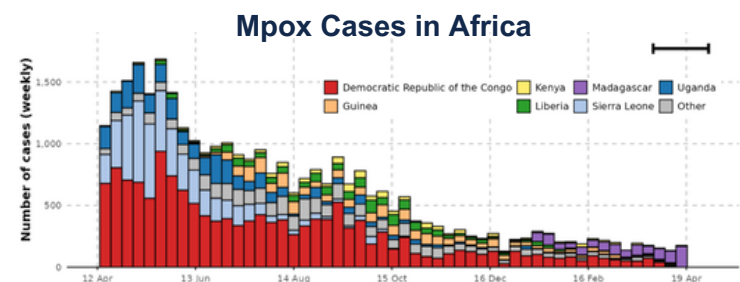
- In Virginia, overall respiratory activity is minimal and trending down, accounting for 9.3% of ED visits. Flu, COVID-19 and RSV activity are all low and stable. Nationally, respiratory illness activity is very low. However, test positivity for common cold viruses (RV/EV and HMPV) is increasing.
- Flu vaccine coverage in nursing homes was 61% among residents, and 42% among health care personnel during the 2024-25 season. By comparison, coverage in the general population age 75+ was 76%. For the 2023-24 season, it was 81% among health care personnel in acute care hospitals.
- Gastrointestinal illness is above threshold in Virginia, accounting for 10.6% of ED visits, down from 10.7% last week. GI illness is above threshold in Central, Northern, and Southwest Virginia.

Other Monitored Situations

- HPAI A(H5N1) was detected in five Idaho dairy herds on Apr 13, the first detections in livestock since Dec 2025, and the first in Idaho since Oct 2025. Nationally, there have been 17 detections in commercial and backyard poultry flocks in the past 30 days.
- The WHO reports 13 human infections of zoonotic influenza from Jan 23 to Mar 31, 2026. 5 were influenza A(H9N2) and 4 were influenza A(H5N1). 2 were swine flu. 11 of the cases occurred in Asia, 1 in Brazil, and 1 in Italy linked to travel in Senegal.

Measles

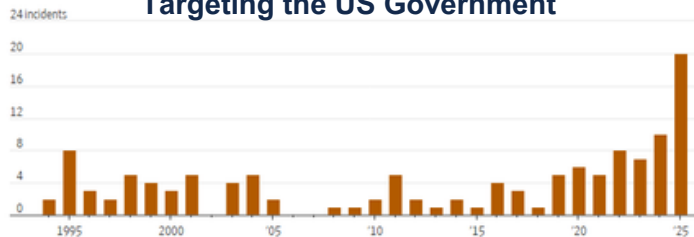
- The CDC reported **22 new measles cases** in the US over the past week, bringing the 2026 total to 1,814 cases across 36 US states. Canada reported 36 new cases last week. Mexico reported 488.
- Virginia reported 2 new measles cases this week, bringing the 2026 total to 21 cases. 2 cases were reported in Northwest Virginia on Apr 12 with exposure sites in Stafford and Fredericksburg.
- Utah added 6 new cases last week. No other state added more than 3 cases.
- South Carolina's upstate outbreak officially ended on Sunday. 997 cases were recorded from Oct 2025 to Mar 2026, including 21 hospitalizations. 95% of cases were in unvaccinated individuals or those with unknown status. 91% of cases were in children. The public health response lasted for 30 consecutive weeks and cost an estimated \$2.1 million.
- The CDC anticipates additional measles cases during the summer travel season, citing ongoing transmission across North America. In a notice sent to public health partners, the CDC provided resources and pledged to support health departments on request.



Madagascar's outbreak currently accounts for all but a few mpox cases in Africa. Image Source: [WHO](#)

Other News

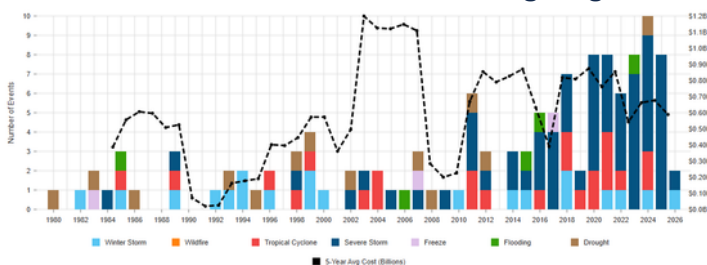
Domestic Attacks and Plots Targeting the US Government



There were 20 domestic attacks or plots targeting the US government in 2025, twice the previous record of 10 set just a year earlier. Image Source: [WSJ](#)

- A gunman attempted to storm a high-visibility event in Washington DC on Sat. The US president, Vice President, Speaker of the House and other high level elected officials attended the event, along with scores of prominent journalists. One security officer was injured and the gunman arrested.
- Heavy flooding is threatening dams in Michigan and parts of Wisconsin. Nearly half of Michigan counties are under a state of emergency, while the Governor issued a statewide emergency due to disruption of a regional fuel hub. Aging water management infrastructure may not be sufficient for climate change-enhanced weather extremes.

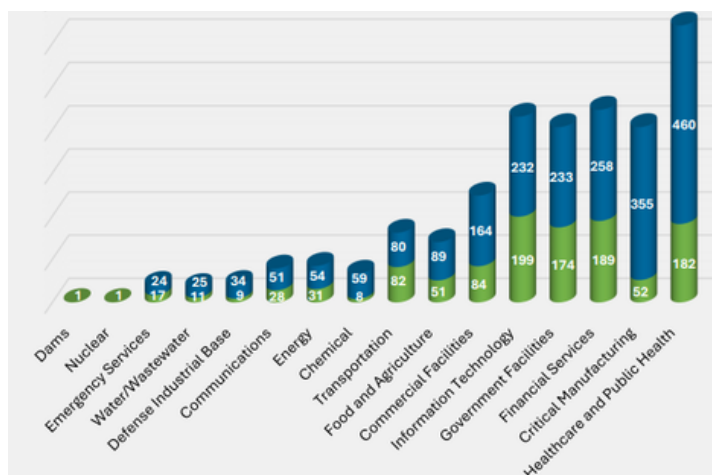
Billion Dollar Disasters Affecting Virginia



Virginia was impacted by 8 Billion Dollar Disasters in 2025, lower than the 10 experienced 2024, but tying three other years for the 2nd most BDDs to affect the state. All 8 events were severe storms, the record for billion-dollar storms affecting the state. Virginia did not absorb all of the costs associated with the storms; they are estimated to have cost Virginia between \$500 million and \$1 Billion. Image Source: [CC](#)

- Two prominent AI companies withheld their latest models from public release due to their ability to find and exploit cybersecurity flaws. Instead, the companies released the models to a limited number of organizations to prepare for public release and the diffusion of other similarly-capable models. Reports of unauthorized access have emerged, while the White House urged at least one company to slow its rollout further.

Cyber Threats to US Critical Infrastructure, 2025



Healthcare and Public Health remains the top critical sector targeted by cyber threats, including 460 ransomware and 182 data breaches reported in 2025. Image Source: [FBI](#)

- The overdose ED visit rate per 10k ED visits declined in Virginia in Q1 2026 compared to Q4 2025, but was slightly elevated year-over-year. All drug and opioid ED visit rates decreased or remained stable in all regions.
- 23 people were injured in a low-speed bus crash near the Pentagon. 18 people were taken to local hospitals.
- Assuming perfect adherence, a 2-month delay in HepB vaccination could result in 76 additional chronic infections, 29 HBV-related deaths, and \$16.4 million in costs in a single annual cohort, according to a recent study. Additional delays result in increased costs.