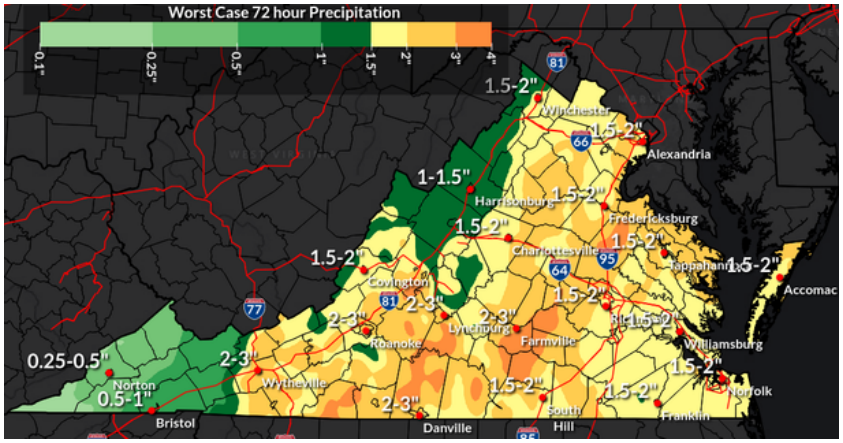
*November 20, 2026*

# Key Takeaways

- Respiratory illness activity in Virginia is low and stable.
- The US lost its measles elimination status. Virginia reported an increase in measles activity and potential exposures in Farmville and Charlottesville.
- An FAA ground stop and a series of infotech outages have affected the US.
- A potential tropical system may bring heavy rain to the mid-Atlantic this weekend.

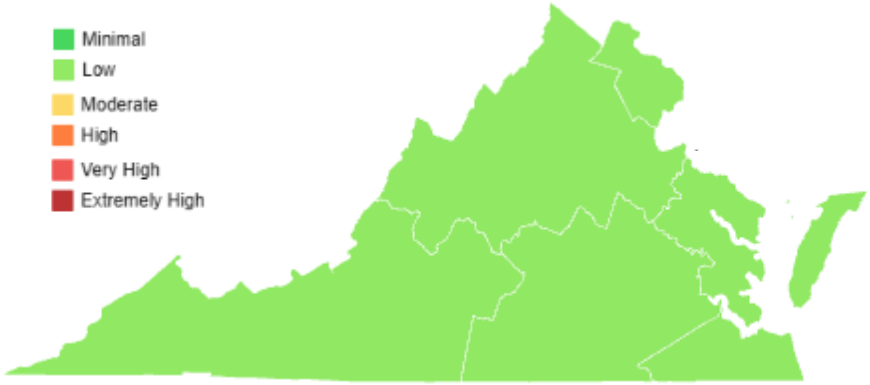
# Key Figures

**72 Hour Worst Case Precipitation**
Fri 7 AM to Mon 7 AM




*A potential tropical system may bring heavy rain over the weekend, but the forecast is uncertain. Follow local forecasts for up-to-date information. Image Source: NWS*

**Respiratory Illness Activity**




*Respiratory disease activity is low in all Virginia regions. Image Source: VDH*

## Measles

**426**
New measles cases reported nationally in the past week.

## Seasonal Illness

**Low**
Overall respiratory illness activity in Virginia.

## Travel

**72.9 Million**
Americans expected to travel by car Nov 24 to Nov 30.

## Key Date

**Nov 30**
End of Virginia's fall fire season and the Atlantic hurricane season.

**Dec 11**
The continuing resolution funding the federal government expires.

*Subscribe to receive this update in your inbox weekly*

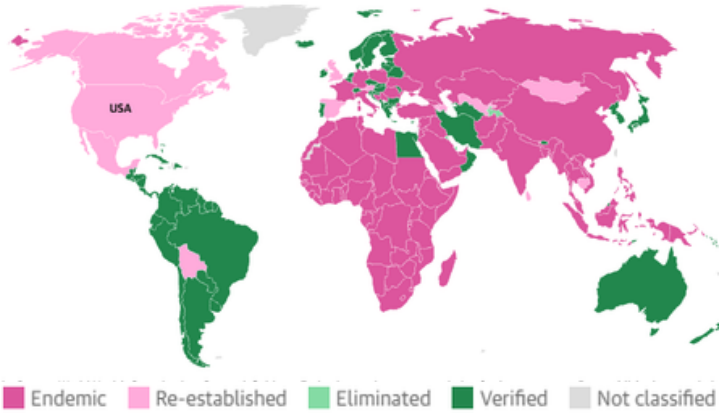
This document includes links to publicly available data and news sources. These items are included for situational awareness only and do not represent an endorsement of the source or information therein.

# Ongoing Monitored Situations

## Measles

- **VDH reported an increase in measles activity**, including potential exposure sites in Farmville and Charlottesville hospitals Nov 15 to 17. Virginia has reported 41 cases since Oct 17, and 220 cases in 2026. The 2026 total is more than the 34 previous years combined and the most since 1988.
- **Nationally, the CDC reported 5,838 year-to-date cases across 47 jurisdictions.** Wisconsin (152), Pennsylvania (76), New York (63), Minnesota (43), Indiana (34), Ohio (24) and Kansas (13) each added 10+ cases last week.
- **The US lost its measles elimination status.** The US last gained elimination status in 2000. Except for imported cases, sporadic outbreaks and a large but contained outbreak in 2019, the US was measles-free for 25 years. The outbreak which sparked the loss of status began in Jan 2025. Measles is re-established when the same measles lineage circulates continuously for a year or more.
- **Current outbreaks include unvaccinated adults** who were not exposed during the multi-decade measles-free period. At least 178 pregnant women have been infected since 2025, presenting a new challenge in the post-elimination environment.

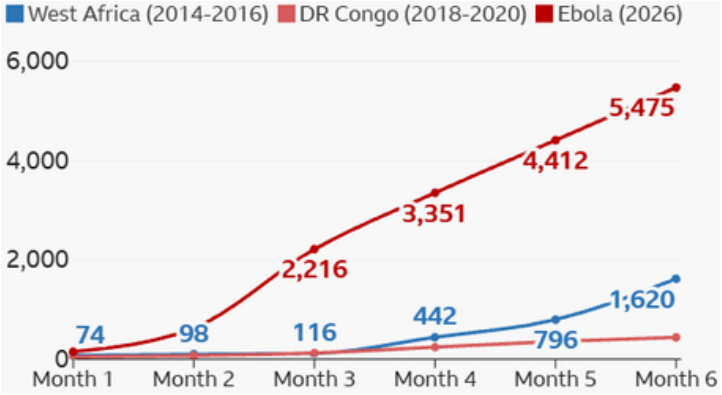
**WHO Measles Elimination Status**




*The Americas region had eliminated measles before Canada lost its status in 2025. Along with the US, Mexico and Bolivia lost their measles elimination status. More setbacks are expected as measles is resurging globally. Image Source:* Guardian

## Ebola

**Cumulative Ebola Deaths, Select Outbreaks**




*At the 6-month mark, Ebola continues to spread at a record pace in the DRC, with both cases and deaths far exceeding those seen in previous outbreaks. Image Source:* BBC

- **The WHO reports 11,645 confirmed and probable Ebola cases across 5 countries.** 5,682 people have died, resulting in a case fatality rate of 49%. No new cases were reported outside of the DRC this week. Nigeria completed its 21-day monitoring period for the 62 contacts of its sole case, with no new cases identified.
- **Conflict and corruption continue to hamper the response.** $700 million of donor funds cannot be traced, out of $962 million disbursed. Health workers continue to go unpaid, with insufficient training and supplies. Among multiple attacks, an attack on a town last week left 3 health workers dead, 3 health facilities burned, 1,000 contacts lost to follow-up and 3 confirmed cases missing.

## Seasonal Illness

- **Virginia's overall respiratory illness activity is low and stable.** Respiratory illness accounted for 14.3% of ED visits for the week ending Nov 14, up from 13.9% last week.
- **Nationally, overall respiratory illness activity is low.** However, flu, RSV and COVID-19 activity are all increasing nationally, and activity is growing or likely growing in most states.

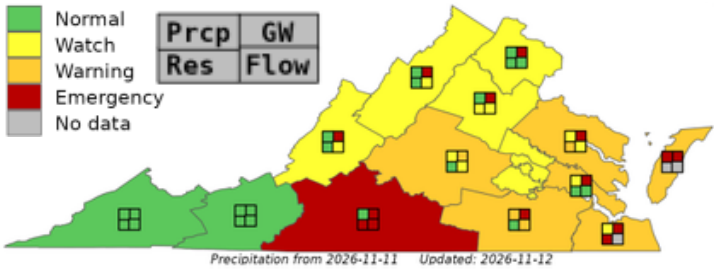
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# Other News

- **The FAA issued a rare nationwide ground stop Nov 13** due to an error in a newly installed router. Around 10,000 flights were cancelled, including in Virginia. The FAA paused router upgrades, part of comprehensive upgrades to the nation's aging air traffic infrastructure.

- **A series of infotech outages have impacted US and global infrastructure.** At least 2 major IT companies, several banks, an airline and a classified national security communications network, among other systems, suffered outages or delays. Officials state the outages are unrelated technical issues but may stem from rushed patches to address vulnerabilities discovered by AI.

### DEQ Daily Drought Summary

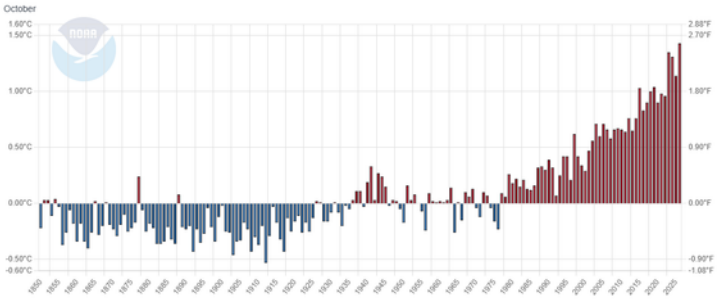



*Gloucester county declared a water emergency after Beaverdam reservoir dropped below the 38-foot threshold. The emergency bans several nonessential uses of public water. Groundwater remains in emergency status in much of the state, and reservoirs remain strained in some areas.*
*Image Source:* DEQ

- **Anthropic announced its models passed a key safety threshold,** an event a third-party reviewer warned last week could accelerate loss-of-human-control. The threshold was reached much faster than many AI experts expected, leading many to accelerate timelines for AI development, including associated catastrophic and non-catastrophic risks.

- **New World Screwworm detections continue to increase** and expand geographically in Arizona, New Mexico and Texas. There have been 151 detections so far, including 94 in the past 30 days.

### October Global Temperature Departures

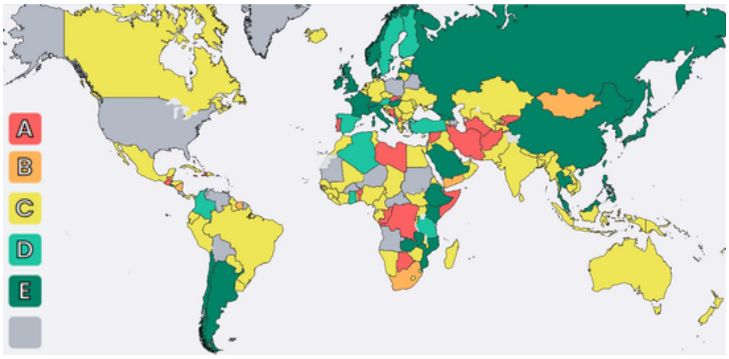



*The Oct 2026 global temperature average was 1.43°C above the 20th-century average, the largest departure for any month on record. It was the 50th consecutive October with above-average global temperatures.*
*Image Source:* NOAA NCEI

- **Florida continues to contend with El Niño-driven heavy rain and floods.** Parts of the state experienced over 15" of rain in 24 hours. Roads and airports were closed. The system currently affecting Florida may move into the mid-Atlantic over the weekend.

- **1 person was killed and 22 were hospitalized in North Carolina when an impaired driver struck a group of cyclists.** 7 people with serious injuries were taken to regional trauma centers.

### AMR Plan Progress by Country




*Just 42 of 183 countries have financed and implemented Antimicrobial Resistance plans (D&E) according to a WHO survey. However, 173 countries report having a plan (A-E), up from 79 in 2017. Separately, the ECDC reported a 5% reduction in antibiotic use in humans, far below its target of 20% by 2030. Both entities called for urgent action to address AMR. Image Source:* WHO

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