



EPI WATCH

Monthly Epidemiology Newsletter

February 2019

Florida Department of Health in Pinellas County

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Division of Disease Control and Health Protection

Disease Reporting

To report diseases and clusters of illness:

Phone: (727) 824-6932

Fax: (727) 484-3865
(excluding HIV/AIDS)

To report HIV/AIDS

by mail: Surveillance Room 3-138

205 Dr. MLK Jr St. N
St. Petersburg, FL 33701



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2018-2019 Measles Outbreak in the U.S.



Measles can be dangerous, especially for babies and young children.

MEASLES SYMPTOMS TYPICALLY INCLUDE

- High fever (may spike to more than 104° F)
- Cough
- Runny nose
- Red, watery eyes
- Rash breaks out 3-5 days after symptoms begin



In 2018, there were 372 confirmed measles cases and 17 outbreaks in 26 states, including the District of Columbia. This represented the second greatest number of cases since measles was eliminated in the U.S. in 2000¹. The majority of these cases occurred among unvaccinated individuals¹. Some of these outbreaks were related to international travel. Per the CDC, around 81 people brought measles to the U.S. from other countries in 2018. As of January 31, the CDC has reported 79 individual cases in 10 states (see figure below)¹ and as of February 2019, Washington has reported [54 confirmed cases](#).

Measles is a highly contagious virus that lives in the throat and nose mucus of an infected person. It is spread through coughing and sneezing and can live in the air up to two hours². People can become infected by breathing contaminated air or touching infected areas and then

rubbing their noses, mouths or eyes. Those infected can spread the virus from four days before the rash appears and up to four days after the onset of rash².

Measles is a vaccine preventable disease. The vaccine protects against measles, mumps and rubella (MMR)^{3,4}. The CDC recommends that children get the first dose of the MMR vaccine at 12 through 15 months of age, and the second at 4 through 6 years of age. These two doses are 93 and 97 percent effective, respectively.

To learn more about measles and how to prevent transmission, please visit: <https://www.cdc.gov/measles/>

Measles Can Be Serious



About 1 out of 4 people who get measles will be hospitalized.



1 out of every 1,000 people with measles will develop brain swelling due to infection (encephalitis), which may lead to brain damage.



1 or 2 out of 1,000 people with measles will die, even with the best care.

Number of Measles Cases Reported by Year in the U.S.
2010 - 2019** (as of January 31, 2019)

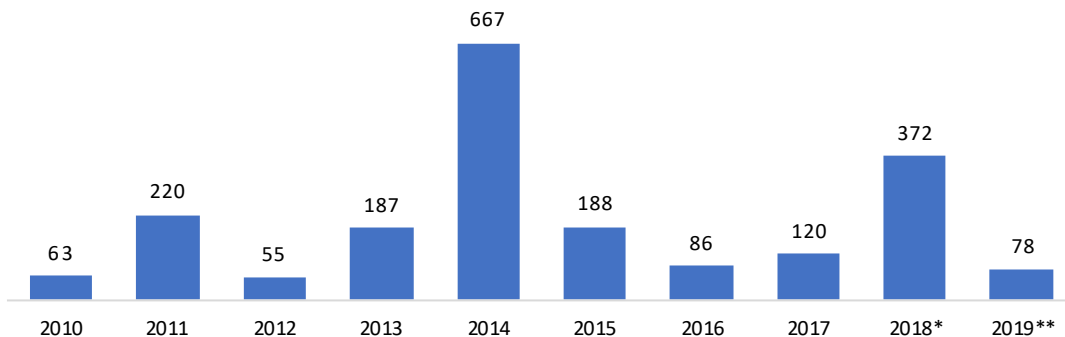


Figure recreated from CDC³

*Cases as of December 29, 2018.

**Cases as of January 31, 2019. Case count is preliminary and subject to change.

References

¹Measles Cases and Outbreaks. Centers for Diseases Control and Prevention (CDC). Webpage: <https://www.cdc.gov/measles/cases-outbreaks.html>. Accessed on February 2019.

²About Measles. Centers for diseases Control and Prevention (CDC). Webpage: <https://www.cdc.gov/measles/about/index.html>. Accessed on February 2019.

³Measles Resources. Centers for Diseases Control and Prevention (CDC). Webpage: <https://www.cdc.gov/measles/resources/index.html>. Accessed on February 2019.

⁴Measles Vaccination. Centers for Diseases Control and Prevention (CDC). Webpage: <https://www.cdc.gov/measles/vaccination.html>. Accessed on February 2019.

Ending the HIV Epidemic

Ending the HIV Epidemic: A Plan for America

Click [here](#) to learn more

Carbon Monoxide (CO) Poisoning

CARBON MONOXIDE (CO) POISONING



U.S. Department of Health and Human Services
Centers for Disease Control and Prevention

Carbon monoxide (CO) is a colorless and odorless gas that can result in illness and death. Common exposures take place during events such as power outages, where alternative sources of power are used for heating, cooling or cooking¹. These can include stoves, furnaces and heating/cooling units. Other potential CO exposures include working in enclosed areas with gas-powered equipment, gas leaks and fires. When exposed, the most common symptoms are headache, dizziness, weakness, nausea, vomiting, chest pain and confusion^{1,2}.

CO poisoning is preventable. Make sure your CO detector is working appropriately and have any gas, oil, or coal operated equipment serviced every year. For a full list of Dos and Don'ts to prevent CO exposure, you can visit [here](https://www.cdc.gov/co/default.htm).

For more information on how to prevent CO poisoning, please visit: <https://www.cdc.gov/co/default.htm>

References

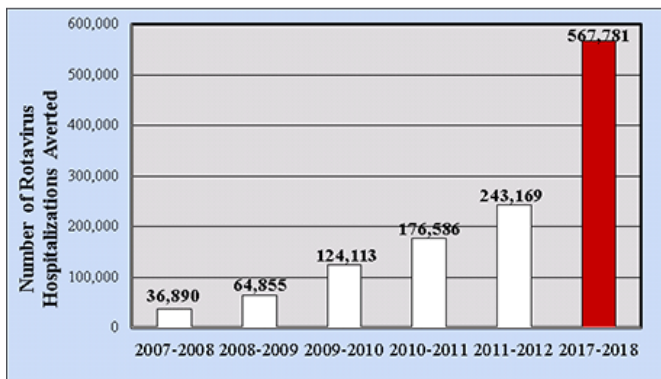
¹Carbon Monoxide (CO) Poisoning Prevention. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC). Webpage: <https://www.cdc.gov/features/copoisoning/index.html>. Accessed on February 2019.

²Carbon Monoxide (CO) General Information. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC). Webpage: <https://www.cdc.gov/co/basics.htm>. Accessed: February 2019.

Rotavirus

Rotavirus is a contagious virus that most commonly occurs in infants and young children¹. The virus is shed into the environment through stool. Individuals are most contagious when symptoms begin and during the first three days after recovery. It is also possible for asymptomatic individuals to shed the virus¹. New infections can occur when an individual touches their mouth with unwashed hands, touches contaminated objects or eats contaminated food.

Cumulative number of U.S. Rotavirus Hospitalizations Prevented from 2007-2018



Rotavirus symptoms include vomiting, diarrhea, decreased urination, dry mouth/throat, dizziness and unusual sleepiness or fussiness. Rotavirus symptoms can be treated; however, there is no specific medicine to treat rotavirus infections. The best way to protect yourself from rotavirus is to get vaccinated and practice good hand hygiene². Children, even those who are vaccinated, can get rotavirus more than once. However, children that had never been vaccinated usually show more severe symptoms the first time they get rotavirus disease^{1,2}.

Each year, vaccines prevent more than 40,000 hospitalizations among children². Moreover, vaccinated children provide indirect protection to others as they are less likely to spread the disease.

For more information on rotavirus, please visit: <https://www.cdc.gov/rotavirus/>

References:

¹About Rotavirus. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC). Webpage: <https://www.cdc.gov/rotavirus/about/index.html>. Accessed on February 2019.

²Rotavirus in the U.S.—Surveillance. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC). Website: <https://www.cdc.gov/rotavirus/surveillance.html>. Accessed on February 2019.

Health Advisories and Travel Notices

[Yellow Fever in Nigeria](#)

[Measles in Kazakhstan](#)

[Drug-Resistant Infections in Mexico](#)

[Andes Virus \(Hantavirus\) in Argentina](#)

Select Reportable Diseases in Pinellas County

Disease	Pinellas		YTD Total*		Pinellas County Annual Totals		
	January 2019	January 2018	Pinellas 2019	Florida 2019	2018	2017	2016
A. Vaccine Preventable							
Measles	0	0	0	0	7	0	0
Mumps	0	0	0	1	2	2	0
Pertussis	3	1	3	0	32	35	18
Varicella	7	1	7	85	67	24	74
B. CNS Diseases & Bacteremias							
Creutzfeldt-Jakob Disease (CJD)	0	0	0	1	1	2	2
Meningitis (Bacterial, Cryptococcal, Mycotic)	0	1	0	4	9	7	7
Meningococcal Disease	0	0	0	1	1	0	0
C. Enteric Infections							
Campylobacteriosis	30	14	30	392	264	207	137
Cryptosporidiosis	5	2	5	52	34	40	27
Cyclosporiasis	0	0	0	1	4	6	5
<i>E. coli</i> Shiga Toxin (+)	1	1	1	53	14	9	3
Giardiasis	3	2	3	83	41	45	41
Hemolytic Uremic Syndrome (HUS)	0	0	0	1	0	0	0
Listeriosis	0	1	0	2	1	0	2
Salmonellosis	8	18	8	350	225	278	188
Shigellosis	1	3	1	139	40	26	19
D. Viral Hepatitis							
Hepatitis A	42	0	42	189	113	0	2
Hepatitis B: Pregnant Woman +HBsAg	0	2	0	29	14	25	28
Hepatitis B, Acute	7	7	7	50	51	51	68
Hepatitis C, Acute	2	7	2	11	37	30	49
E. VectorBorne/Zoonoses							
Animal Rabies	0	0	0	0	4	2	4
Rabies, possible exposure	15	14	15	344	130	140	131
Chikungunya Fever	0	0	0	1	0	0	1
Dengue	0	0	0	15	0	0	2
Eastern Equine Encephalitis	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Lyme Disease	0	0	0	5	12	17	11
Malaria	0	0	0	0	3	0	0
West Nile Virus	0	0	0	2	0	0	1
Zika Virus Disease	0	0	0	3	1	5	n/a
F. Others							
Chlamydia	335	351	335	n/a	4422	4188	4133
Gonorrhea	94	131	94	n/a	1439	1574	1566
Hansen's Disease	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Legionellosis	2	2	2	33	26	23	19
Mercury Poisoning	0	0	0	3	1	1	0
Syphilis, Total	20	34	20	n/a	438	382	400
Syphilis, Infectious (Primary and Secondary)	6	13	6	n/a	190	160	188
Syphilis, Early Latent	10	12	10	n/a	158	128	146
Syphilis, Congenital	0	0	0	n/a	2	5	2
Syphilis, Late Syphilis (Late Latent; Neurosyphilis)	4	9	4	n/a	88	89	64
Tuberculosis	1	1	1	n/a		28	31
<i>Vibrio</i> Infections	0	0	0	16	6	11	8

*YTD up to January 31, 2019 and data are provisional and current as of February 7 2019. n/a = not available at this time

Reportable diseases include confirmed and probable cases only. All case counts are provisional. Data is collected from the Merlin Reportable Disease database, surveillance systems maintained at the Florida Department of Health in Pinellas County, and Florida CHARTS <http://www.floridacharts.com/charts/default.aspx>. STD data in PRISM is continually updated. Please note, data from the previous month takes up to an additional month or more to be correctly updated.