

HEALTH ADVISORY: Measles Increasing in the United States; Get Vaccinated

March 18, 2025

Dear K-12 School Districts and Childcare Providers,

Thank you for reviewing this important health advisory and for sharing the **attached** document “What You Should Know About Measles” with parents and guardians.

Measles is Spreading in the United States

The [Centers for Disease Control and Prevention \(CDC\)](#) reports an increase in measles cases across the United States. As of March 13, 2025, a total of 301 measles cases and two deaths (one death of an unvaccinated school-aged child, one death of an unvaccinated adult) were reported in 15 states. Most of the current measles cases in the United States are among children who are unvaccinated. As of this date, no measles cases have been reported in Oregon in 2025.

Measles in K-12 Schools and Childcare Settings

Just one measles case in K-12 school or childcare settings would impact our community. **In the event of a measles outbreak, students and staff who are unvaccinated and exposed to measles will need to be out of school or childcare for 21 days or more (See [OAR 333-019-0010](#)).** Getting the vaccine can help families avoid having to isolate at home for several weeks if they are exposed to measles.

Measles Symptoms & Risks

Measles typically starts with a fever, cough, runny nose, and red eyes. A rash usually follows, beginning on the face and spreading to the rest of the body. Measles is highly contagious and can cause serious complications and death.

Risk is highest for people who are unvaccinated, especially for young children and people who are pregnant. Children are most at risk for pneumonia, encephalitis (inflammation of the brain), hospitalization, and death. We encourage people to consult with healthcare providers to learn more about individual risk.

Vaccination Sites:

- Regular medical provider
- Supporting medical providers, like [SamCare Express](#)

- Local pharmacies, including pharmacy counters inside of grocery stores, can vaccinate children 7 years and older.
- School-Based Health Centers
 - Lincoln Health Center: (541) 766-3546
 - Monroe Health Center: (541) 766-6000
- Benton County Health Department: (541) 766-6835

MMR vaccine is the most important tool for preventing measles in our schools, childcare settings, and surrounding community.

More Information on Measles

- [OHA: Measles/Rubeola \(Vaccine-Preventable\)](#)
- [OHA Monthly Measles Dashboard](#)
- [CDC Measles Cases & Outbreaks](#)
- [CDC Measles Vaccination](#)

Thank you for supporting our shared goal of improved community health.

Respectfully,



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