

Diseases and conditions reported during Oct. 15- Oct. 28, 2023:

This report is a bi-monthly snapshot of communicable diseases reported in El Paso County, as well as a report of disease trends and local health alerts. El Paso County Public Health's (EPCPH) Communicable Disease Program partners with the medical community and the public to limit and reduce the spread of diseases in our community.

Reportable diseases and conditions:

- 4 Animal Bites – 3 adults, 1 pediatric; 1 adult recommended to receive rabies post-exposure prophylaxis (PEP)
- 10 Campylobacteriosis - 1 pediatric, 9 adults
- 2 Carbapenem-Resistant Enterobacterales (CRE) - adults
- 6 Giardiasis – 2 pediatric, 4 adults
- 284 COVID-19 – 57 pediatric, 227 adults
- 1 Hospitalized Influenza – adult
- 1 Cryptosporidiosis – pediatric
- 3 Giardiasis – 1 pediatric, 2 adults
- 1 Group B Strep, invasive – adult
- 1 Haemophilus influenzae – adult
- 1 Mumps – pediatric
- 2 Pertussis – adults
- 6 Salmonellosis – 2 pediatric, 4 adults
- 3 Shiga Toxin Producing E.coli - adults
- 5 Strep Pneumo Invasive – 1 pediatric, 4 adults
- 2 West Nile Virus – adults

Additional reports:

- Animals positive for rabies 2023 Year to Date: 2 (bats)
- Two outbreaks of Hand, Foot & Mouth Disease reported: one in a school, one in a day care
- Hospitalized Influenza since Oct. 1, 2023: 2 Influenza A

For a list of reportable diseases and conditions and instructions on how to report, follow this [link](#).

Health News: Measles Cases in the Midwestern United States

- In 2000, the World Health Organization declared that measles was eliminated from the United States, meaning there was an absence of continuous transmission throughout the country. However, there remained a risk of travelers importing measles into the U.S., which has the potential to cause outbreaks among unvaccinated individuals in communities where measles is introduced.
- In 2019, 1,274 cases of measles were confirmed in 31 states, the majority of which were amongst unvaccinated individuals. This is the greatest number of cases reported annually in the U.S. since 1992 (Figure 1).
- Between Oct. 10-11, 2023, Wisconsin & Illinois both reported a case of measles in their states.
- The last case of measles in Colorado was reported in Denver in 2019 and was associated with international travel.

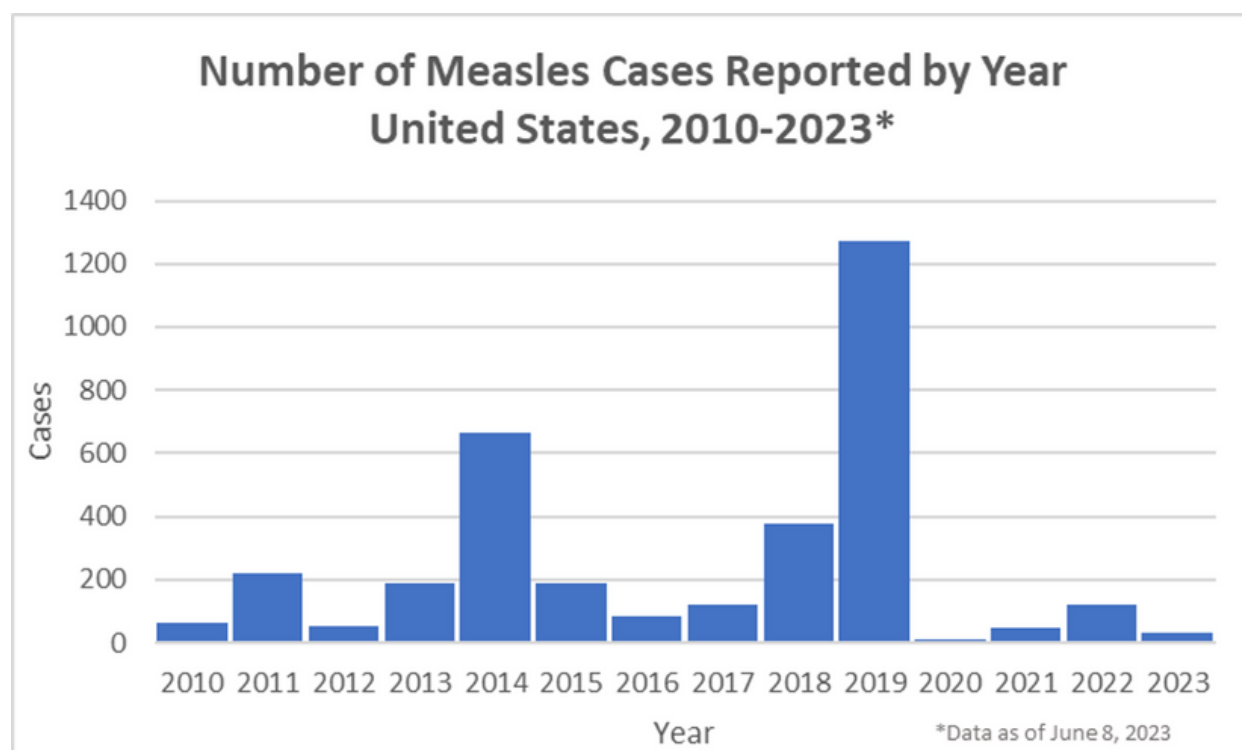
Measles Symptoms and Transmission:

- Measles symptoms typically begin with a cough, runny nose, conjunctivitis, and fever followed by an erythematous macular rash that first appears on the hairline then spreads down the torso and to the extremities.
- Complications of measles can be severe, such as pneumonia or encephalitis.
- Measles is an airborne virus that can stay in the air for up to two hours after an infected person coughs or sneezes.
- Those infected with measles can spread the virus from four days before through four days after the rash appears.
- Nine out of 10 susceptible people—defined are those who are unvaccinated or who have never had measles—who are exposed to measles will get sick, making it one of the most infectious diseases.

Routine Vaccination Recommendations:

- The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) recommends two doses of measles-containing vaccine routinely for children, starting with the first dose at age 12 through 15 months and the second dose at age 4 through 6 years before school entry. This can be administered as Measles, Mumps, and Rubella (MMR) or Measles, Mumps, Rubella, and Varicella (MMRV) vaccine.
- Adults should also be up to date on MMR vaccinations with either one or two doses (depending on risk factors) unless they have other presumptive evidence of immunity to measles, mumps, and rubella.
- According to the CDC, two doses of MMR vaccine are about 97 percent effective at preventing measles; one dose is about 93 percent effective.
- School immunization data provides insight into vaccination coverage in a community. Data from the 2022-23 school year shows that only 80.8 percent of El Paso County kindergarteners were fully immunized with their MMR vaccine. This level of immunity could place certain areas of the county at risk for an outbreak should a measles case occur.

Figure 1:



Source: CDC, Measles Cases and Outbreaks

Questions? Please Contact:

El Paso County Public Health CD/TB Program
Hours: M-F, 7:30 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.
(719) 578-3220; after-hours emergency: (719) 235-2278
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(303) 692-2700; after-hours emergency: (303) 370-9395
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Reportable Diseases and Conditions List