



Maricopa County Measles Outbreak

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Measles outbreak in Maricopa County

Overview of Outbreak

- Outbreak includes the entire county; not specified to one area.
- Evidence of local transmission in Maricopa County.
- MCDPH has recommended an accelerated infant MMR vaccination schedule.
- Maricopa County healthcare providers should have a low threshold for measles clinical suspicion & should immediately report suspects to local public health.

Maricopa County measles case counts

	Case Count (1/1/2026– present)
Confirmed cases	4

*Data as of 2/19/2026

Timeline of 2026 measles outbreak



1/15/26 MCDPH confirmed first case of 2026

- Associated with overseas international travel; no secondary spread.
- Enhanced measles surveillance activities for MC.



1/23/26 MCDPH confirmed 2 additional cases

- One of the cases had no epi link demonstrating local transmission in MC.
- Declared a measles outbreak & activated our response.
- Initiated recommendations for 6–11 month-old infants to get early MMR vaccination in addition to the 2 scheduled doses at 1 year and 4-6 years.

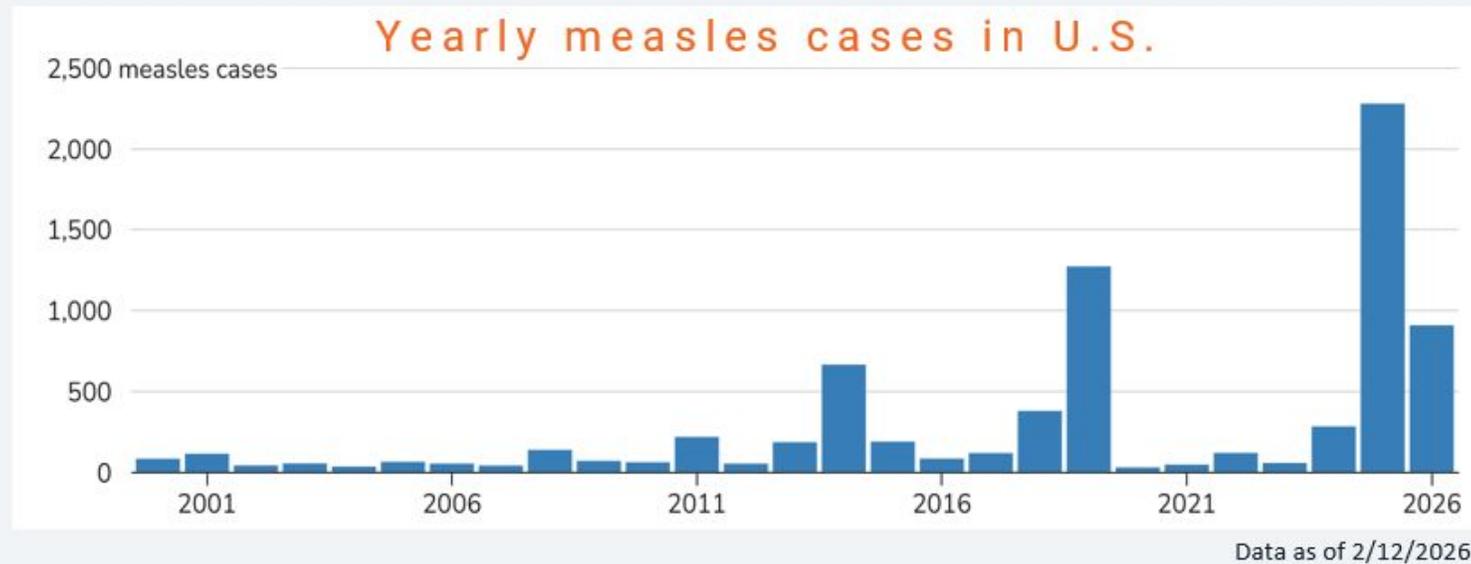


2/17/26 MCDPH confirmed an additional case

- Associated with a previously known MC case, demonstrating secondary spread.

Measles case counts surge nationally

This Maricopa County measles outbreak is occurring in the context of ongoing state and national measles outbreaks.



Measles exposures in Maricopa County

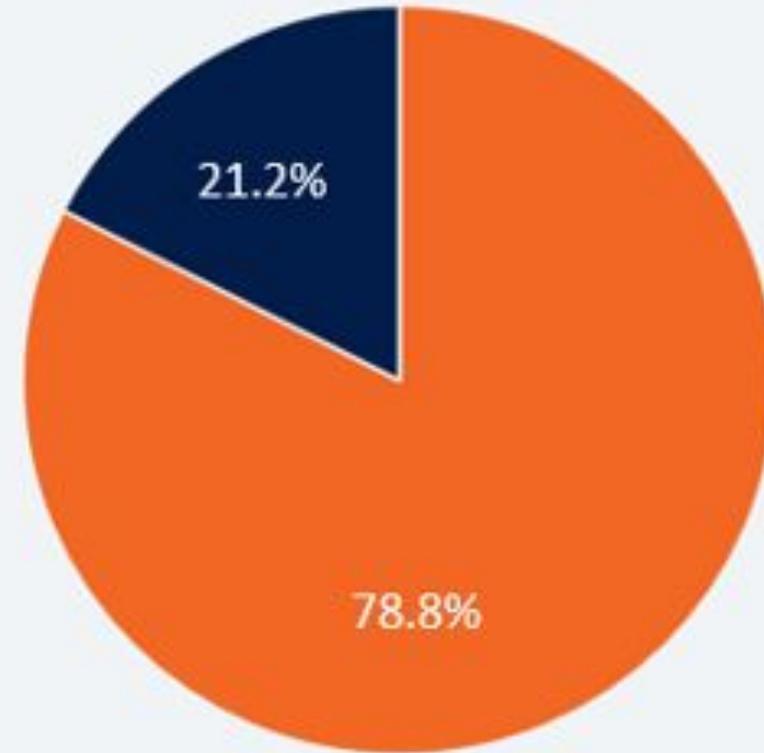
- In addition to exposures from MC cases, MCDPH receives periodic notices of exposures in MC from visitors.
- For each exposure, MCDPH works to identify & notify all measles contacts.
- When contacts cannot be identified or contacted directly, MCDPH issues public notifications.
- Public notifications are shared through the media & reflected in MCDPH's [online list of public exposure sites](#).



How protected are we in MC?

Maricopa County MMR coverage

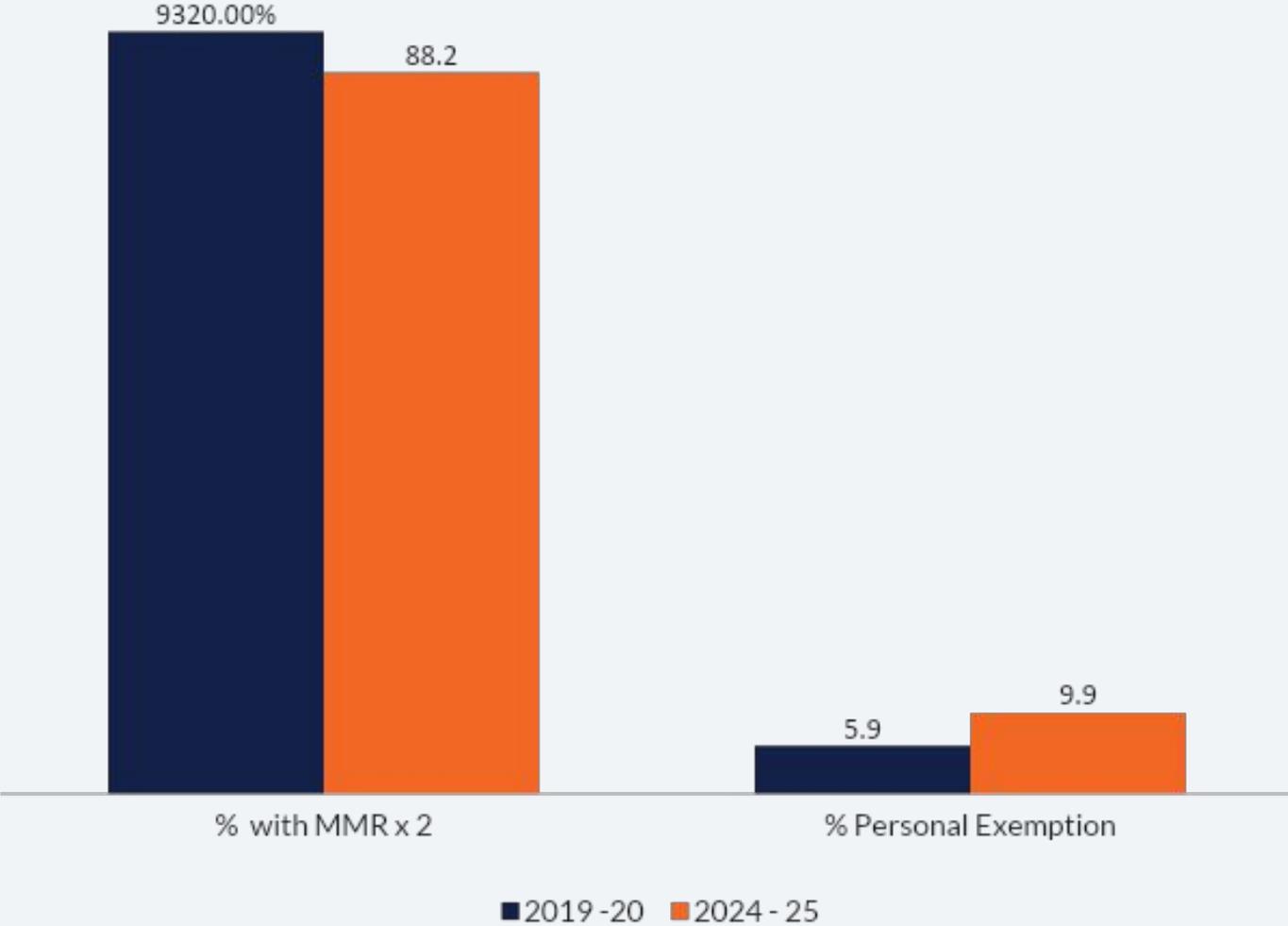
Maricopa County
kindergarten schools with
≥95% MMR coverage in
2024-25



■ 95 - 100% coverage ■ Less than 95% coverage

Maricopa County MMR coverage

Maricopa County kindergartener MMR coverage & personal exemption trends



Maricopa County



4.7M

residents in
Maricopa County



62%

of Arizona's
population



52M

passengers per year
through our main
airport



**What can healthcare providers
& healthcare facilities do?**

Ensure appropriate infection prevention & control (IPC) protocols are in place

Align facility IPC with [CDC Interim Infection Prevention and Control Recommendations for Measles in Healthcare Settings.](#)



Immediately room suspects; Do not allow suspect measles patients to remain in the waiting area or other common areas.

Ensure airborne precautions are used & remain in place until cleared per public health investigation or per negative testing through public health.

Assess immunity of healthcare staff



Review immunity to measles for all healthcare workers; included ancillary staff – anyone that shares airspace in the facility with a patient.

Healthcare workers should have documented evidence of immunity to measles.

Healthcare workers should receive 2 doses of MMR, at least 28 days apart, regardless of year of birth, unless they have documentation of previous immunity.

Immediately report measles suspects to Public Health

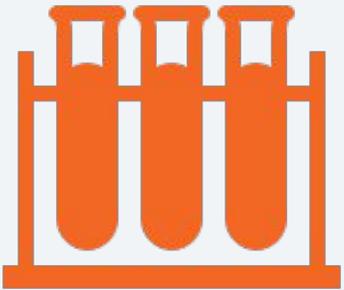
Timely provider reporting is key to preventing transmission!



In Maricopa County, providers should report all measles suspects to MCDPH by calling 602-506-6767.

Once a report is received, MCDPH will reach out to guide next steps.

Collect appropriate specimens for testing at Arizona State Public Health Laboratory (ASPHL)



Local public health will coordinate testing through ASPHL

Collect the **following two specimens** for polymerase chain reaction (PCR) testing through ASPHL:

- Urine collection
- Nasopharyngeal swab

Detection of measles RNA is most successful when specimens are collected from rash onset through 3 days post onset; may see detection as late as 10-14 days out.

Stay up to date on public health alerts



MCDPH emails priority communications to healthcare professionals through the Maricopa County Health Alert Network (MCHAN).

Ongoing updates on this outbreak will continue to be shared per MCHAN and through our [Healthcare Provider Measles website](#).

MC providers and public health partners are encouraged to [sign up for MCHAN](#).





Thank You