



Measles Outbreak Update

March 11, 2025

Current Situation

- 3 Possible Cases Reported in Burnet County
 - 2 negative
 - Awaiting results on 3rd
- Statewide
 - Outbreak is centered around a Mennonite community in Gaines County and has spread to other counties in that region.
 - 198 cases as reported on Friday (3/7)
 - Increase of 39 cases from Tuesday (3/4)
 - 4 cases have been reported around the state that are not connected to the outbreak (i.e. – international travel, etc.)



Current Situation (cont.)

- Other Texas Cases
- All associated with international travel
- 1 – Travis County
- 1 – Rockwall County
- 2 – Harris County

Cluster of Texas counties affected by measles outbreak

Gaines County is the epicenter of the outbreak

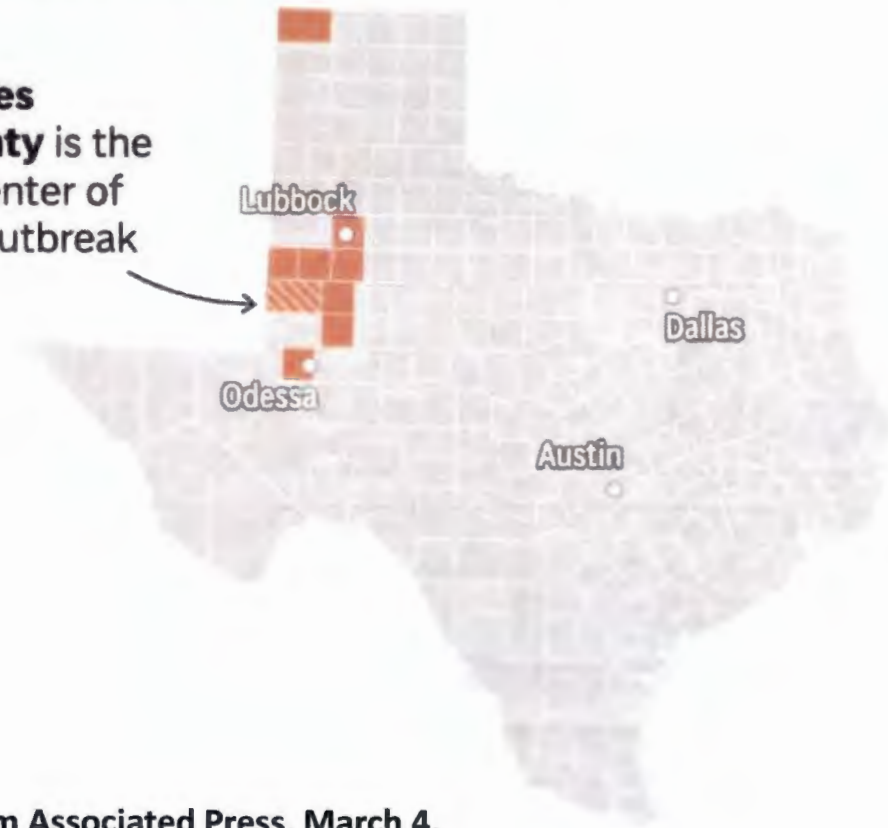


Image from Associated Press, March 4.

Source: Texas Department of State Health Services



Measles Symptoms

Early Symptoms (first few days)

- Moderate fever
- Cough
- Runny nose
- Red eyes
- Sore throat

Later Symptoms (after a few days)

- Blue-white spots inside the mouth (Koplik spots)
- Red-brown rash that starts at the hairline and spreads down the body
- High fever (can go over 104°F)



Spread and Prevention

- Spread

- **Through the air** when an infected person **coughs, sneezes, or talks** (the virus can live on surfaces or in the air for up to **two hours**).
- **By touching contaminated surfaces** and then touching the eyes, nose, or mouth.
- Incubation period is **7-21 days**.
- Individuals are contagious about 4 days before the rash appears and about 4 days after it appears.



- Prevention

- **Be vaccinated** with **two doses** of a measles-containing vaccine.
- The **MMR vaccine** protects against **measles, mumps, and rubella**.
- **Two (2) doses** prevent more than **97% of measles infections**.

Current Actions

- Tracking in Central Texas began as an infectious individual visited San Marcos, New Braunfels, and San Antonio on Feb 14-16 while visiting TSU campuses in San Marcos and San Antonio.
 - Currently passed the upper limit of incubation period (~3/9)
- DSHS has provided updates directly to Burnet County on two occasions via a release and alert of the aforementioned exposure risk and informational presentation to area Emergency Management partners.
- LHA has provided updates on current possible cases and their results.



Future/Planned Actions

- Continue working with LHA and DSHS to monitor current situation.
- Notify appropriate partners and Commissioners' Court of updates.
- Public Health Response to Measles Reports
 - Healthcare facilities implement measles precautions anytime someone is tested for measles.
 - If test is negative, facility discontinues measures.
 - During outbreaks, the basic steps are the same.
 - DSHS will increase efforts to ensure MMR vaccinations are available in affected communities
 - Increased efforts for public awareness
 - Increased efforts to identify cases quickly.

