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**NEWS  
RELEASE**

04/08/2025

# Public Health Officials Confirm First Case of Measles in El Paso

## Officials Urge Vaccination for Protection

**EL PASO, Texas**—The City of El Paso's Department of Public Health (DPH) has confirmed the first local case of measles within the City of El Paso.

The case involves a three-year-old unvaccinated male.

This follows a separate case reported Tuesday afternoon by William Beaumont Army Medical Center, marking the first case in the region. The case confirmed by DPH is the second in the region and the first under the City's jurisdiction.

Both confirmed cases involve children who were not vaccinated against measles.

"We cannot stress enough the importance of measles vaccination," said DPH Director Vinny Taneja. "Measles is a highly contagious respiratory illness that can lead to severe complications, especially for those who are unvaccinated. We strongly urge parents to ensure their children are protected."

Health officials have launched contact tracing efforts to identify anyone who may have been exposed and are working to mitigate the potential spread of the virus. State health officials have also been notified.

"We've been preparing for this moment—and cautioning the public that it was only a matter of time. Now, measles is circulating in our region," said City-County Health Authority Dr. Hector Ocaranza. "Diseases like measles do not respect borders. We must remain vigilant and proactive to protect our community—especially our most vulnerable residents."

### ABOUT MEASLES

Measles spreads through coughing and sneezing and can remain in the air for up to two hours after an infected person leaves an area. The disease typically begins with fever, cough, runny nose, and red eyes, followed by a rash that spreads from the head down to the hands and feet.

An infected person is contagious four days before and four days after the onset of the rash, with the rash onset date considered day 0.

### RISK FACTORS

Individuals at higher risk for contracting measles include:

- Those who are **unvaccinated**
- Those who have **recently traveled internationally** or to areas in the U.S. with ongoing measles outbreaks
- **Immunocompromised individuals**, including pregnant women, those with HIV, and those undergoing chemotherapy or immunosuppressive treatments

—more—



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The City has been working closely with area hospitals, schools, clinics, and community partners to ensure they are prepared to respond to potential exposures, provide timely information, and help prevent further spread of the disease.

**MEASLES VACCINATION CLINICS**

To make vaccinations more accessible, DPH offers walk-in immunization services Monday through Friday, from 7:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. (closed from 12 to 1 p.m. for lunch) at the following locations:

- **Lower Valley Community Clinic:** 9341 Alameda Ave.
- **Henderson Community Clinic:** 721 S. Mesa St.
- **Northeast Community Clinic:** 9566 Railroad Dr.
- **Westside Community Clinic:** 7380 Remcon Cir.

Appointments can also be scheduled by calling (915) 212-6555.

For additional information on measles symptoms, vaccination, and potential exposure, the City of El Paso has activated a Measles Hotline at (915) 212-HELP (4357). Residents can also call 2-1-1 or visit [EPHealth.com](http://EPHealth.com) under the [Immunizations tab](#).

[Measles PSA](#)

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