

1 IN 5



UNVACCINATED PEOPLE IN THE U.S.

WITH MEASLES WILL BE

HOSPITALIZED

DUE TO LIFE-THREATENING COMPLICATIONS

MEASLES

Measles is more than just a rash. It is a serious disease that spreads quickly through the air when an infected person coughs or sneezes. It is so contagious that if one person has it, up to 9 out of 10 people around them will also become infected if they are not protected. It can be serious or even fatal for small children. The disease kills hundreds of thousands of young children every year around the world.

Even in previously healthy people, measles can be a serious illness requiring hospitalization. According to the CDC, about 1 in 5 unvaccinated individuals who get measles are hospitalized, and measles during pregnancy can lead to babies being born too early or too small. As many as 1 out of every 20 children with measles gets pneumonia, and about 1 child in every 1,000 who get measles will develop swelling in the brain that can leave children deaf or intellectually disabled.

Vaccines have kept the number of measles cases in the U.S. to a minimum, but outbreaks continue to happen each year. These outbreaks are caused by unvaccinated individuals bringing in the virus after traveling from places where measles is more common and spreading it to unvaccinated children and adults.

SYMPTOMS

Measles signs and symptoms appear seven to fourteen days after exposure to the virus. Signs and symptoms of measles typically include:

- Cough
- Runny nose
- Sore throat
- Red eyes
- Rash of tiny, red spots that start at the head and spread to the rest of the body

PREVENTION

To prevent measles, children should be vaccinated with the combined measles, mumps, and rubella (MMR) vaccine.

For the best protection against measles, your children need to receive the two recommended doses of the vaccine. Before traveling to another country, infants 6 to 11 months should get 1 dose of the MMR shot. To see if your children are up to date on their vaccines, look at the [CDC's immunization schedule](#) and talk to your healthcare provider.



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YOUR FAMILY

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