

May 23, 2025

Dear New Mexico School Superintendents and Directors of Health Services,

As of Friday, May 23, 2025, there have been 78 measles cases reported in New Mexico. Measles has now been reported in 30 U.S. states, which increases the risk of exposure—particularly for persons who have not been vaccinated against measles. Outbreaks have also been reported in neighboring countries, including Mexico and Canada.

The New Mexico Department of Health urges all schools to verify and record the measles immunity status of all school employees, including teachers, administrative staff, custodians, food service workers, and other support personnel. Understanding who is immune and who is not allows public health officials and school leaders to respond quickly and properly in the event of an exposure on campus.

When a measles case is found in a school setting, having a list of individuals likely to get sick easily available is important for the following reasons:

- Offer post-exposure prophylaxis (treatment that helps prevent you from getting sick), such as the measles-mumps-rubella (MMR) vaccine within 72 hours after their first exposure to measles, and this allows individuals to return to school immediately versus isolating for 21 days after their last exposure;
- Quarantine persons who have not been vaccinated against measles or are not immune to prevent further spread;
- Apply isolation steps and decrease disruption to school functions.

Visit the NMDOH [Measles](#) webpage for [Measles Guidance for Schools and Childcare](#), [Measles Immunization Template for Identifying Susceptible Persons](#), and other resources as they become available to assist you in this effort.

Thank you for your help in keeping our school communities healthy and safe!

New Mexico Department of Health