



Board of Health

April 24, 2025



SRHD Board of Health

Health Officer's Report

Thursday, April 24, 2025
12:30 p.m.

Francisco R. Velázquez, MD, SM, FCAP
Health Officer
Spokane Regional Health District

I. Communicable Disease Update

- a. Pertussis
- b. Shigella
- c. Respiratory Illnesses

II. Public Health Update

- a. Measles Outbreak U.S. and Canada
- b. MMR Vaccine Review

III. Community Collaborations

- a. Measles Update for Region 9 Partners



Communicable Disease Update



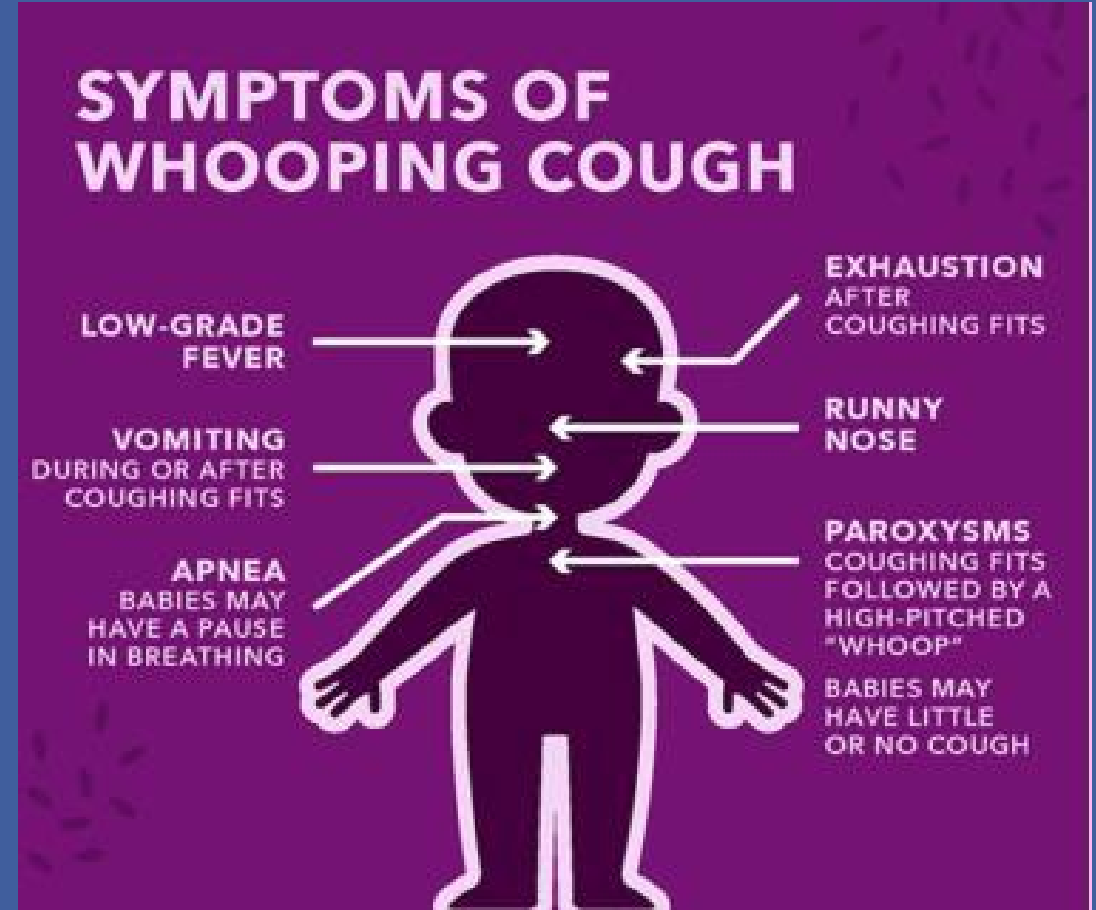
Pertussis

Current Situation in Washington State

There have been a total of 888 confirmed and probable cases reported statewide during 2025 as of 4/12/2025, compared to 159 cases during the same period in 2024 (State Average 85 cases/Year). Multiple jurisdictions have reported increases.

Persons at high risk for pertussis:

- Infants <1 year old (who are at greatest risk for severe disease and death)
- Pregnant women in the last trimester (who may expose infants)
- Healthcare workers with direct patient contact (who may expose infants, pregnant women, or others who have contact with infants or pregnant women)
- Anyone who may expose infants < 1 year old or pregnant women (e.g., childbirth educators, childcare workers, members of a household with infants).



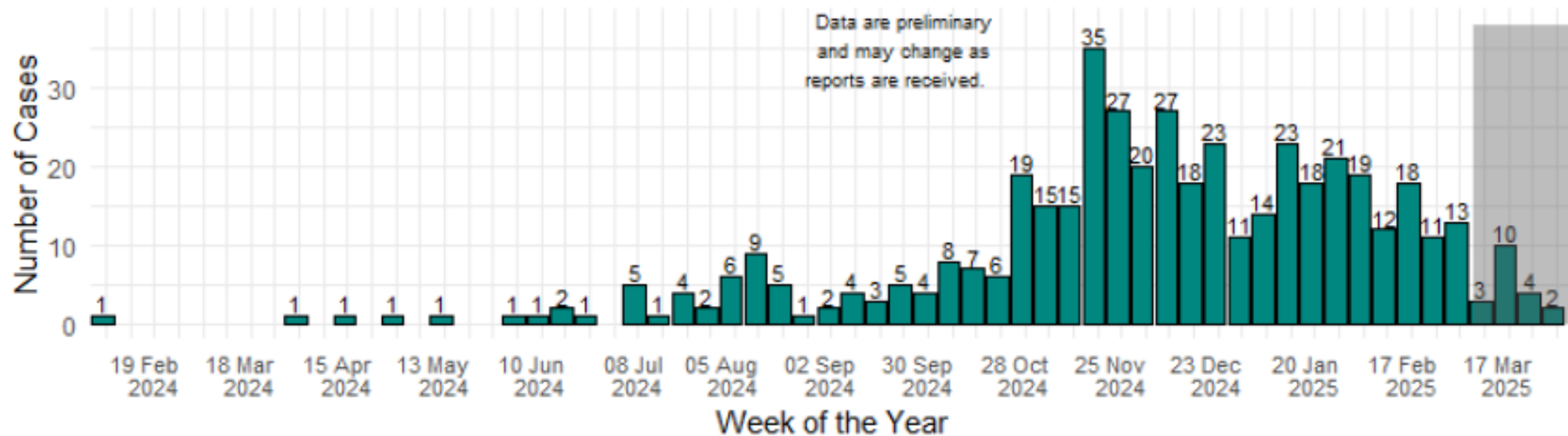
WA State Pertussis Cases by County

2025 weeks 1 - 15

County	Number of Cases	OFM 2023 Population	Rate per 100,000 persons
Spokane	179	554,598	32.3
Clark	132	527,401	25.0
King	123	2,347,795	5.2
Snohomish	117	859,802	13.6
Pierce	55	946,299	5.8
Whatcom	48	235,804	20.4
Yakima	45	261,199	17.2
Kitsap	35	283,206	12.4
Thurston	25	303,399	8.2
Cowlitz	20	113,003	17.7
Grant	13	103,298	12.6
Jefferson	12	33,425	35.9
Kittitas	12	47,300	25.4
Island	11	88,148	12.5
Lewis	9	84,076	10.7
Adams	8	21,201	37.7
Franklin	8	101,097	7.9
Skagit	8	132,000	6.1
Klickitat	6	23,257	25.8
Stevens	4	47,350	8.4
Benton	3	215,502	1.4
Chelan	3	81,502	3.7
Whitman	3	48,097	6.2
Mason	2	67,002	3.0
Skamania	2	12,002	16.7
Walla Walla	2	63,097	3.2
Asotin	1	22,655	4.4
Douglas	1	44,499	2.2
Pend Oreille	1	13,728	7.3

Epidemiological Curve for Pertussis Cases in Spokane County

Lab confirmed, suspected, and probable cases



n = 460 Pertussis Cases; Data aggregated by week based on lab collection date

Exposure Setting of Pertussis Cases

Suspected Exposure Setting	Count	Percentage
College	5	1.1%
Day care/childcare	6	1.3%
Home	163	35.4%
Hospital	1	0.2%
K-12	143	31.1%
Large public gathering	1	0.2%
Not Specified	60	13.0%
Other	43	9.3%
Out of state travel	2	0.4%
Place of worship	8	1.7%
Social event	14	3.0%
Work	14	3.0%



Shigella

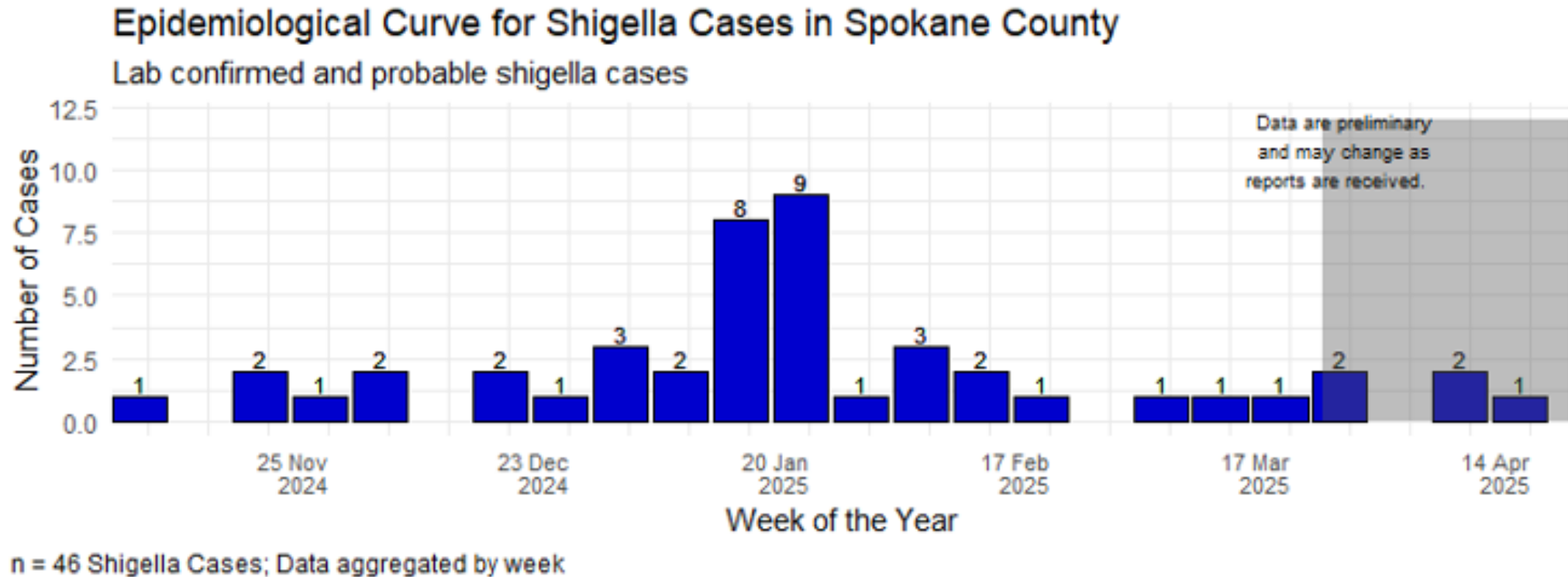
Executive Summary

Total Cases: 46

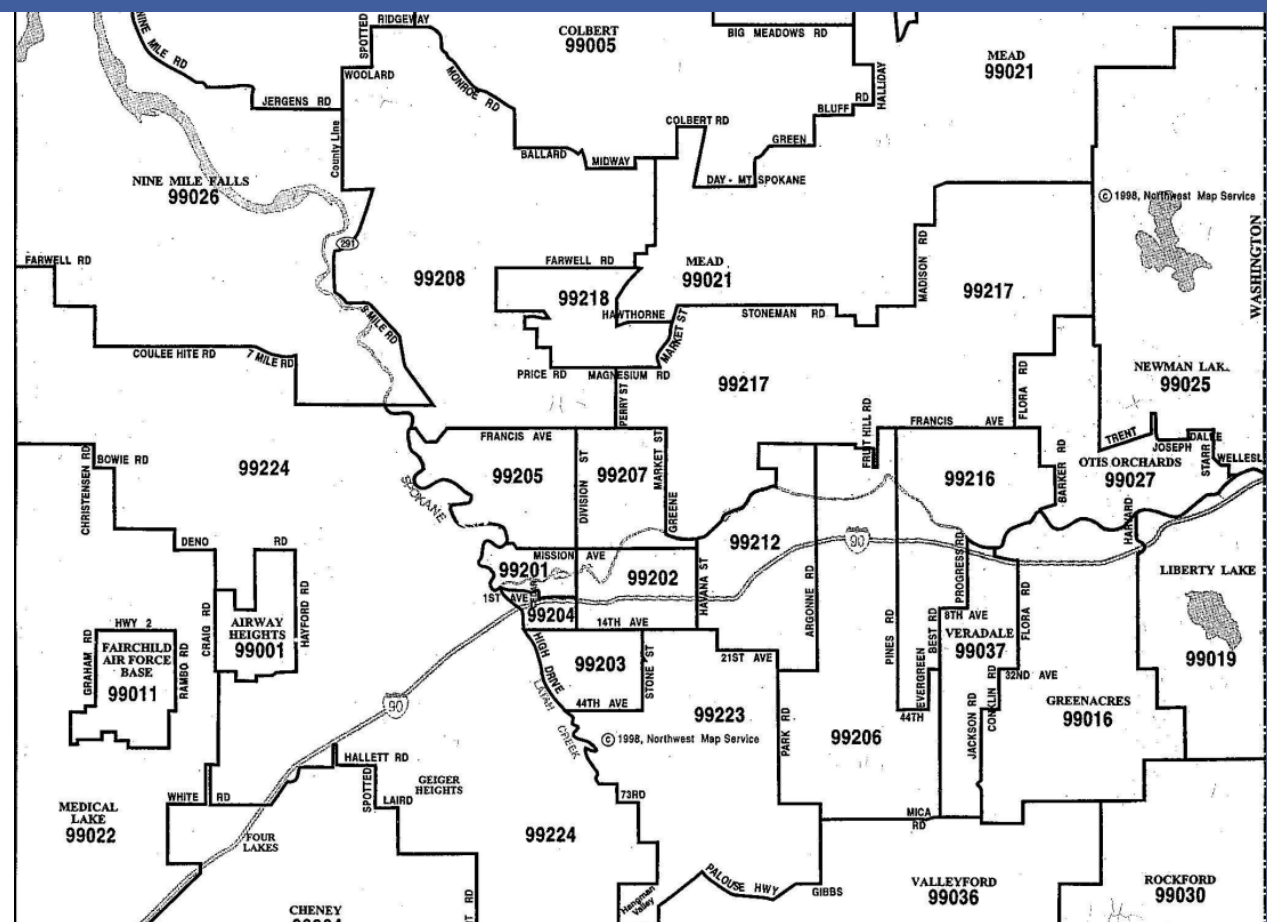
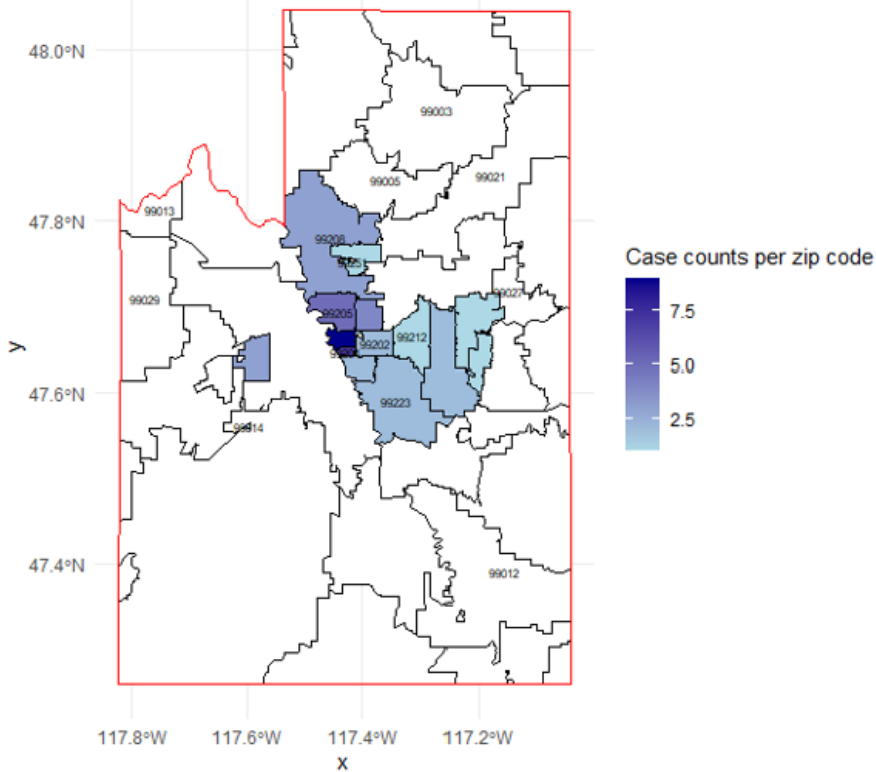
10 cases in 2024

36 cases in 2025

Week of April 21, 2025: new case reported.



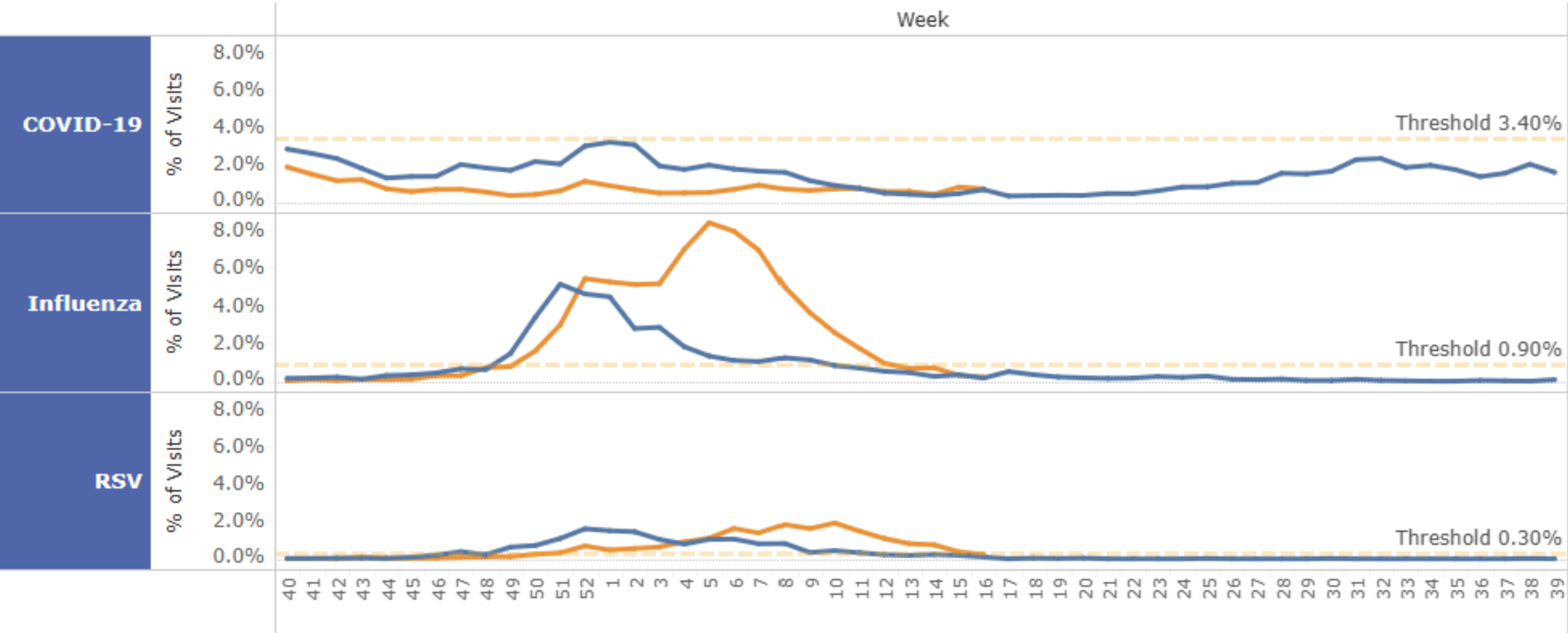
Shigella Case Count by Zip Code in Spokane, WA





Respiratory Illness Dashboard

Percent of Weekly ED Visits With Diagnosed Respiratory Illness



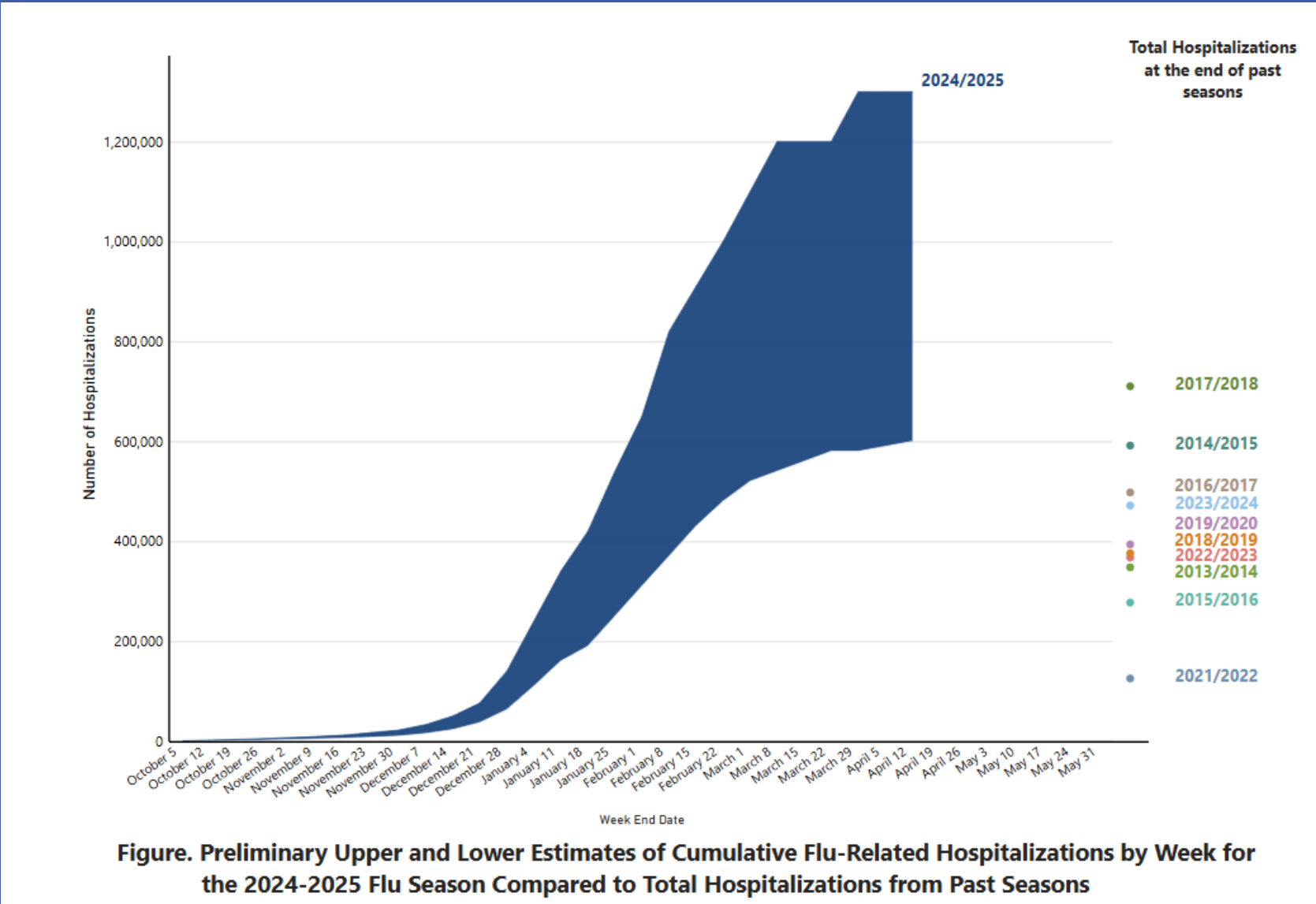
Select Season(s)

(Multiple values) ▼

Selected Season(s)

■ 2023-2024 ■ 2024-2025

This season is classified as a high severity season overall and for all age groups (children, adults, older adults) and is the first high severity season since 2017-2018.



Preliminary 2024–2025 U.S. Flu In-Season Disease Burden Estimates

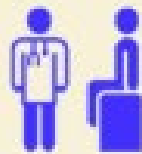
Since October 1, 2024, CDC estimates there have been between:

46 Million -
81 Million



**Flu
Illnesses**

21 Million -
36 Million



**Flu
Medical Visits**

600,000 -
1.3 Million



**Flu
Hospitalizations**

26,000 -
130,000



**Flu
Deaths**

Based on data from October 1, 2024, through April 12, 2025

Because influenza surveillance does not capture all cases of flu, CDC provides these estimated ranges to better reflect the full burden of flu in the United States. These estimates are calculated using a mathematical model based on CDC's weekly influenza surveillance data and are preliminary and are updated weekly throughout the season.

FluVIEW





Public Health Update

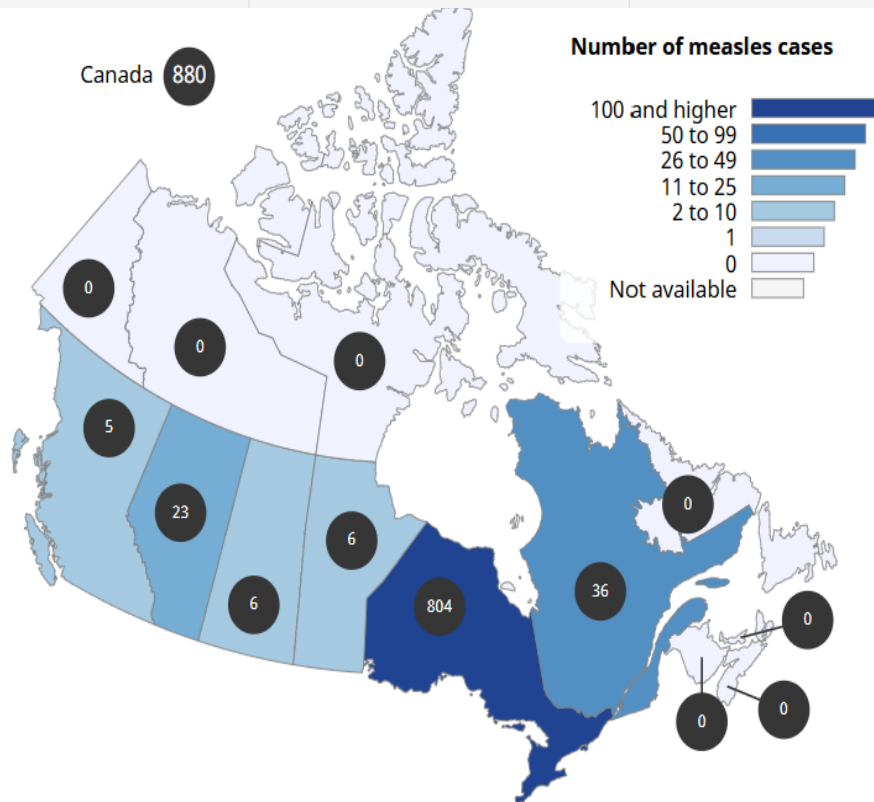


Measles Outbreak U.S and Canada

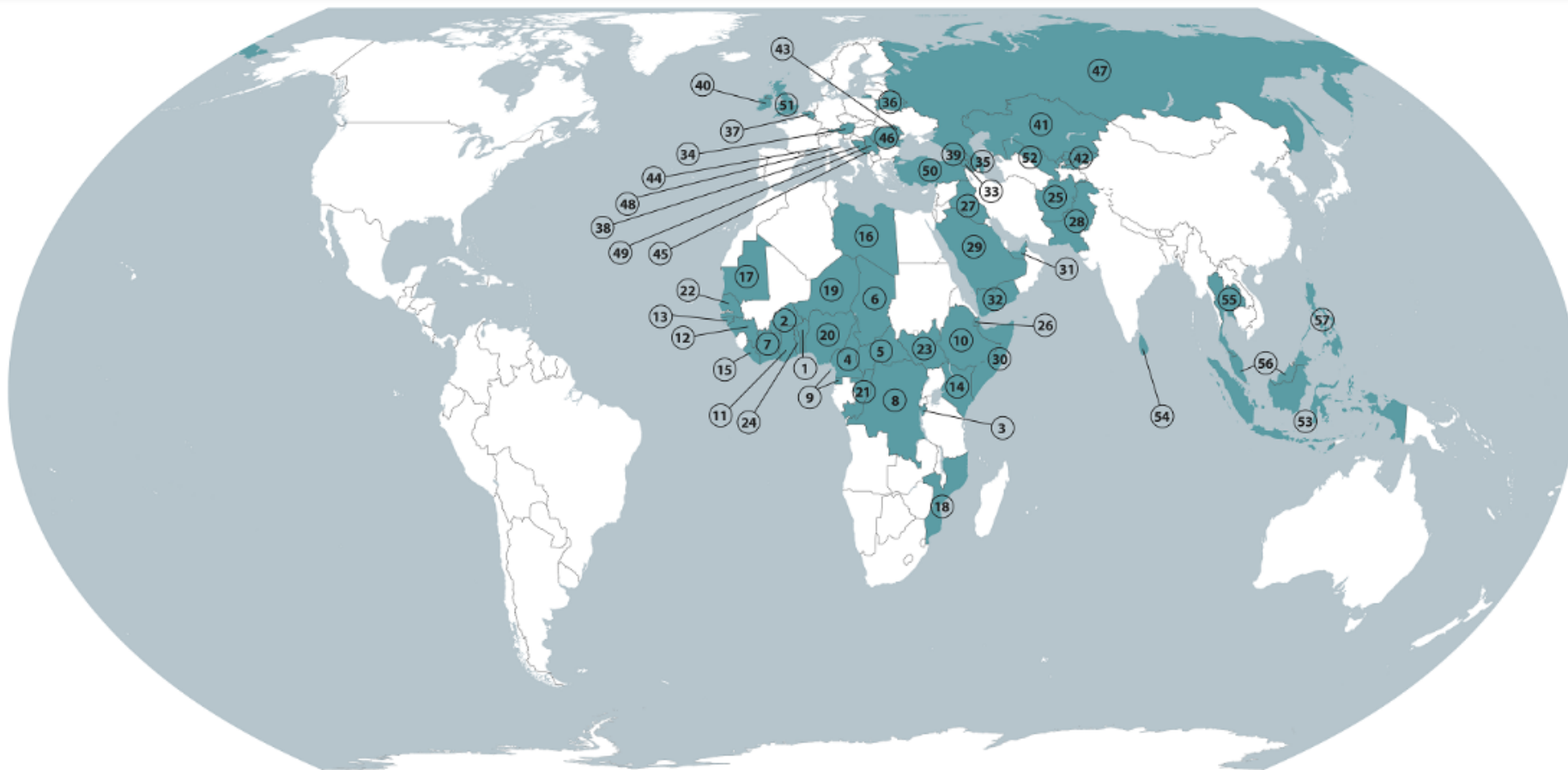
Measles Cases in 2025

- As of April 17, 2025, a total of 800 confirmed* measles cases were reported by 25 jurisdictions:
- Alaska, Arkansas, California, Colorado, Florida, Georgia, Hawaii, Indiana, Kansas, Kentucky, Maryland, Michigan, Minnesota, New Jersey, New Mexico, New York City, New York State, Ohio, Oklahoma, Pennsylvania, Rhode Island, Tennessee, Texas, Vermont, and Washington.
- 11% of cases hospitalized.
- 19% Under 5 years of age.
- 7% 5-19 years of age
- 6% 20+ years of age
- 13% age unknown
- 2 confirmed deaths, 1 under investigation

Region	Total cases	Description
New Brunswick	50 cases (46 confirmed and 4 probable)	Outbreak declared over in January 2025. No cases reported in 2025.
Ontario	802 cases (645 confirmed and 157 probable)	Cases continue to be reported.
Alberta	6 confirmed cases	Cases continue to be reported.
Manitoba	5 confirmed cases	No secondary cases reported in province.
Quebec	1 confirmed case	No secondary cases reported in province.



There were **0** cases of measles in **Nunavut** in 2025, as of **April 5, 2025**.



Measles THN

AFRICA

- | | |
|-----------------------------|-----------------------|
| 1. Benin | 12. Guinea |
| 2. Burkina Faso | 13. Guinea-Bissau |
| 3. Burundi | 14. Kenya |
| 4. Cameroon | 15. Liberia |
| 5. Central African Republic | 16. Libya |
| 6. Chad | 17. Mauritania |
| 7. Cote d'Ivoire | 18. Mozambique |
| 8. Dem. Rep. of the Congo | 19. Niger |
| 9. Equatorial Guinea | 20. Nigeria |
| 10. Ethiopia | 21. Rep. of the Congo |
| 11. Ghana | 22. Senegal |
| | 23. South Sudan |
| | 24. Togo |

EASTERN MEDITERRANEAN

25. Afghanistan
26. Djibouti
27. Iraq
28. Pakistan
29. Saudi Arabia
30. Somalia
31. United Arab Emirates
32. Yemen

EUROPE

33. Armenia
34. Austria
35. Azerbaijan
36. Belarus
37. Belgium
38. Bosnia and Herzegovina
39. Georgia
40. Ireland
41. Kazakhstan
42. Kyrgyzstan
43. Moldova

SOUTH-EAST ASIA

53. Indonesia
54. Sri Lanka
55. Thailand

WESTERN PACIFIC

56. Malaysia
57. Philippines



Measles Travel Health Notice

MMR Vaccine

Previously presented by

Kayla Myers, MSHE

Program Coordinator

Spokane Regional Health District

When are you supposed to get the MMR vaccine?



Infants 6-11m

- 1 dose MMR if traveling to outbreak area

Children 12m-6y

- 2 doses of MMR at 12-15m and 4-6y

Adults

- 1 dose of MMR
- or 2 doses if traveling to outbreak area

Subject: INFO FROM SRHD - Measles Prevention: Spring Break Travel

Hello School and Child Care Partners,

As Spring Break approaches and measles cases rise in parts of the U.S. and beyond, we wanted to share helpful resources for your parent communications.

MMR Vaccine Communication to Parents

This travel health message can be included in your parent newsletters and communications ahead of Spring Break.

Spring Break Travel Alert: Protect Your Family from Measles

Planning a trip for Spring Break? Measles cases are on the rise both in the U.S. and abroad. [Recent outbreaks](#) have been reported in Texas and New Mexico, with additional cases identified in multiple states, including Florida, California, and New York. Many cases have been linked to international travel, particularly among unvaccinated individuals.

To keep your family safe, ensure everyone is fully vaccinated with the measles-mumps-rubella (MMR) vaccine at least two weeks before departure. For more travel health guidance, visit the [CDC Travelers' Health website](#).

Stay healthy and enjoy your travels!

This CDC video for the public conveys the message as well: <https://youtu.be/mv9LILA8s5M>

Measles Outbreak Simulator Tool

If you are curious to see how a measles case can grow into an outbreak at your school, feel free to play around with the [Measles School Outbreak Projections tool](#) designed to support measles risk communication in Texas schools. While the preset data applies to Texas, you can enter your school's enrollment size and vaccination rate to estimate the likelihood of an outbreak exceeding 20 cases—and how large it could become. Keep in mind that the model assumes no outbreak control measures are in place; if they were, the risk would be lower.

[More about the tool...](#)

[More about measles risk modelling and additional useful figures from CDC...](#)

Upcoming Meeting Reminder

The next Quarterly SRHD/School and Child Care Partners Meeting is April 15 from 2:00-3:00pm. If you have any specific [topics](#) you would like us to include in this meeting, feel free to reach out to vburns@srhd.org

Thank you for your continued efforts in keeping our communities informed and safe!

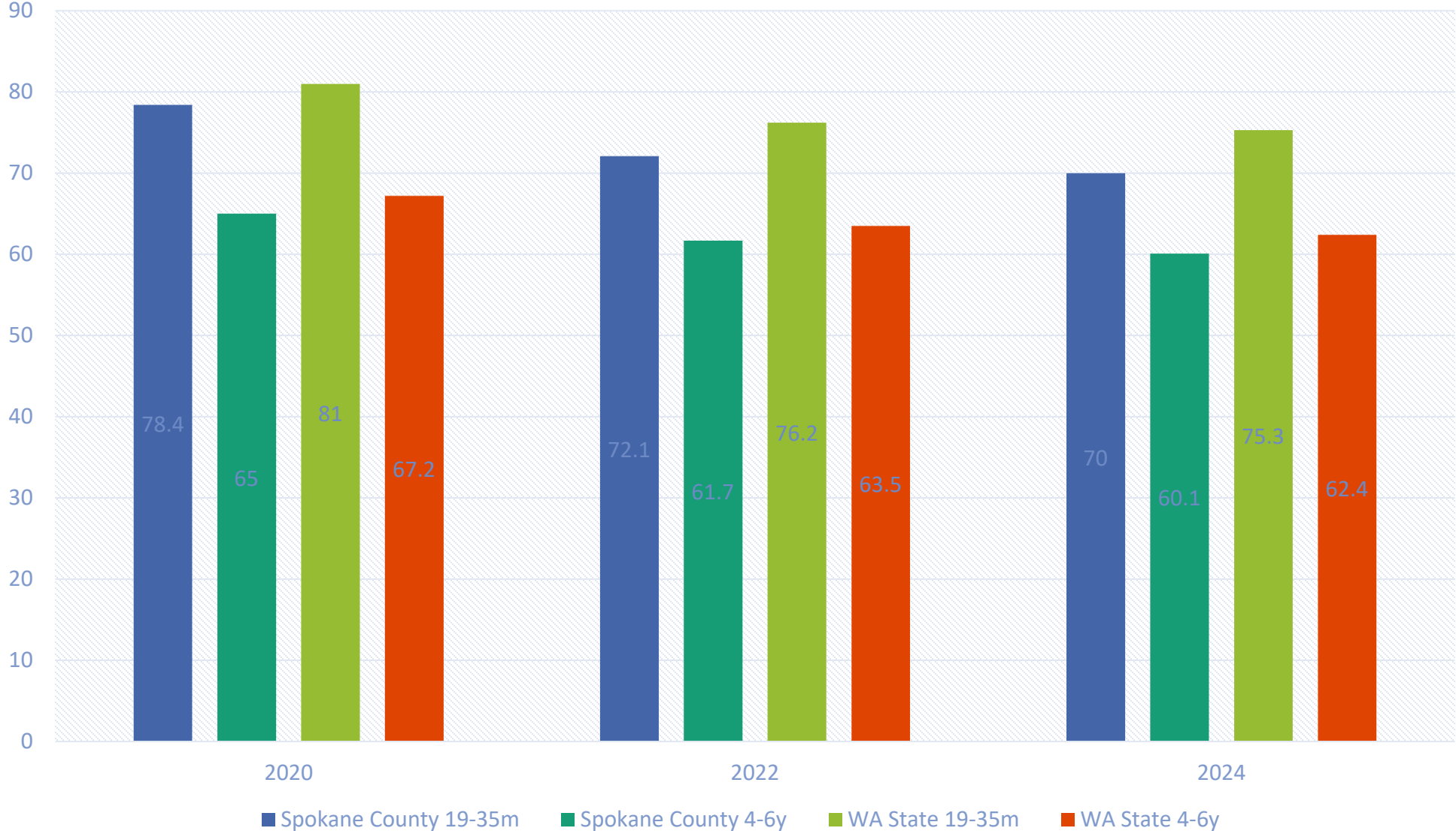


Education Team

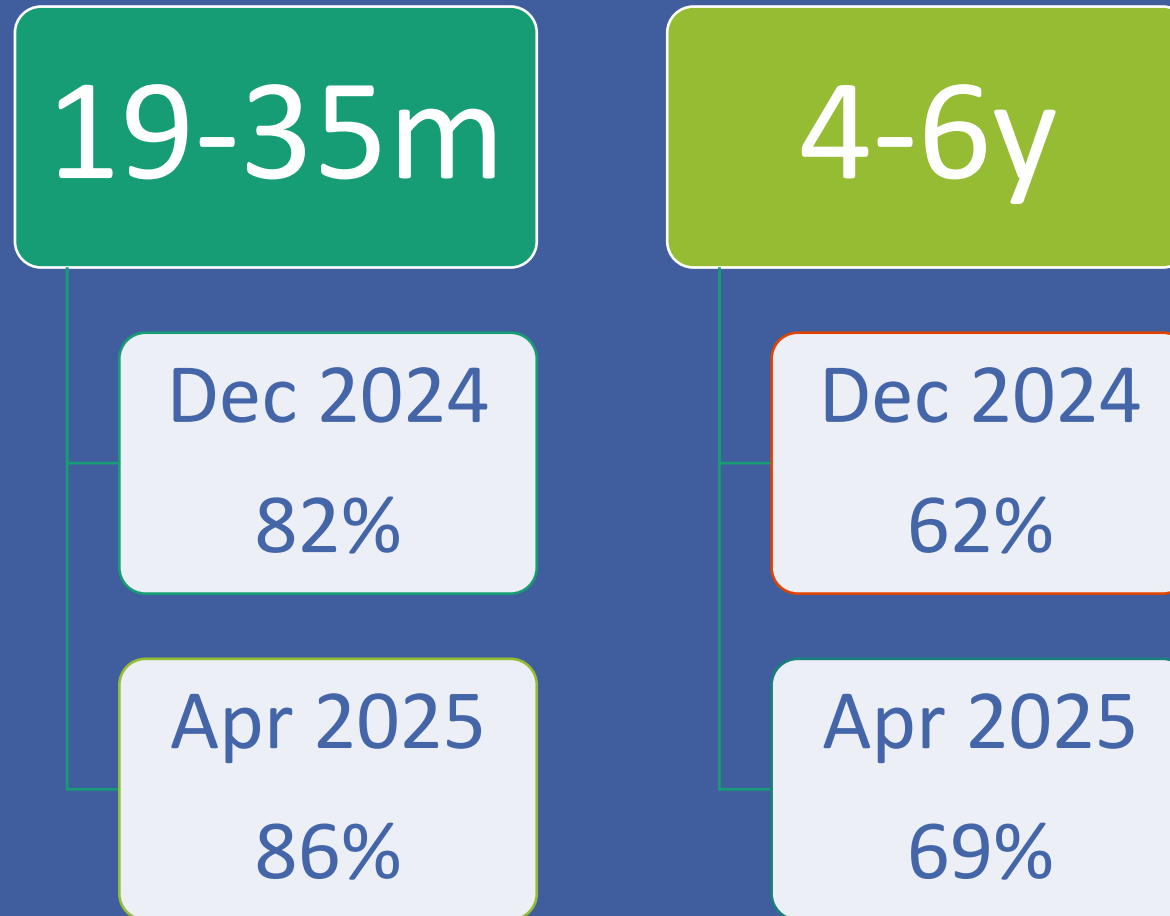
4/23/2025



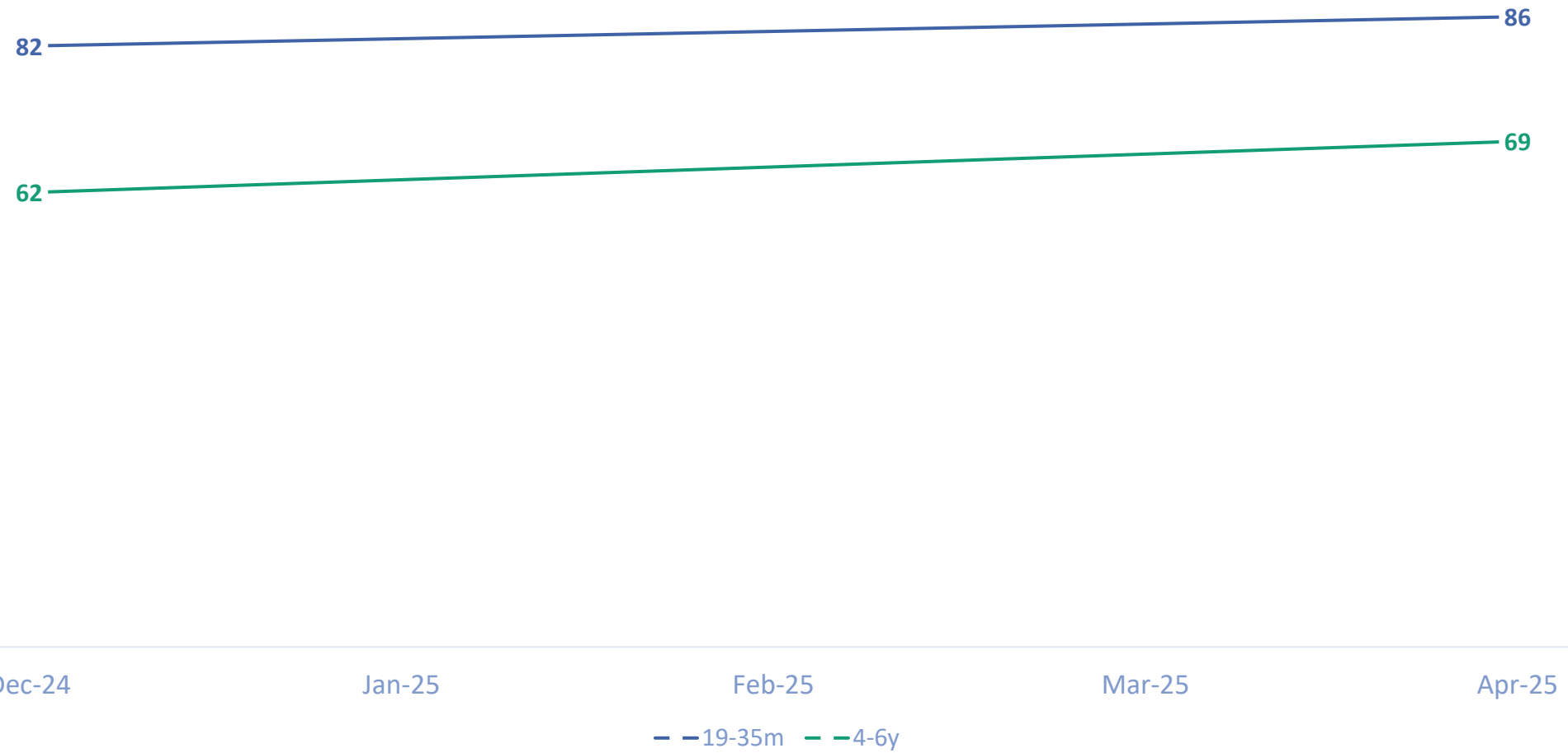
MMR Coverage Rates: State vs. County



Spokane County MMR Coverage:



SPOKANE COUNTY MMR COVERAGE RATES



Are you up-to-date on your MMR vaccine?



myirmobile.com





Community Collaborations

Measles Update for Region 9 Partners (Adams, Lincoln, Whitman, Columbia, Asotin, Ferry, Pend Oreille, Stevens, Garfield)

Agenda topics and presenters:

Kayla Myers – Immunization Coordinator, MMR Vaccine Preparedness

Kira Lewis, Public Health Nurse – Healthcare Engagement, Testing and PEP

Erin Whitehead, Epidemiologist – Case Management and Interviews

Veronica Burns, Epidemiologist – Contact Monitoring and Data Management

Robin Albrandt, Emergency Response Coordinator – Wrap up, share SRHD website and documents as resources

Wednesday, April 23 offered at two different times: 9-10:30 and 1-2:30



What happens if there's a measles case in a Spokane school?

Measles spreads very easily.

About
9 out of 10 people who aren't protected will get sick if they're exposed.*

Stay home when sick.

Children with symptoms will be asked to stay home until a doctor confirms it's not measles.



Missing school can be hard on students and families.

That's why it's a good idea for families to consider getting vaccinated before an exposure happens—

so kids can stay healthy and in class.



If a measles case is identified in school...



Students who are not up to date on vaccinations may need to stay home from school for

—even if they get vaccinated after exposure.*

This helps prevent spread!



More measles outbreaks = more risk.

Measles cases are rising in parts of the U.S. and worldwide, and the chances of an exposure are higher than in past years.

You can protect your child and your community.

Please talk with your health care provider and make sure your child is
up to date on vaccinations.

*Measles. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. May 29, 2024. Accessed April 13, 2025. <https://www.cdc.gov/measles/about/index.html>

* Measles Reporting and Surveillance Guidelines. Washington State Department of Health. DOH 420-063. Updated January 2025. Accessed April 13, 2025. <https://doh.wa.gov/sites/default/files/legacy/Documents/5100/420-063-Guideline-Measles.pdf>

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Questions



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