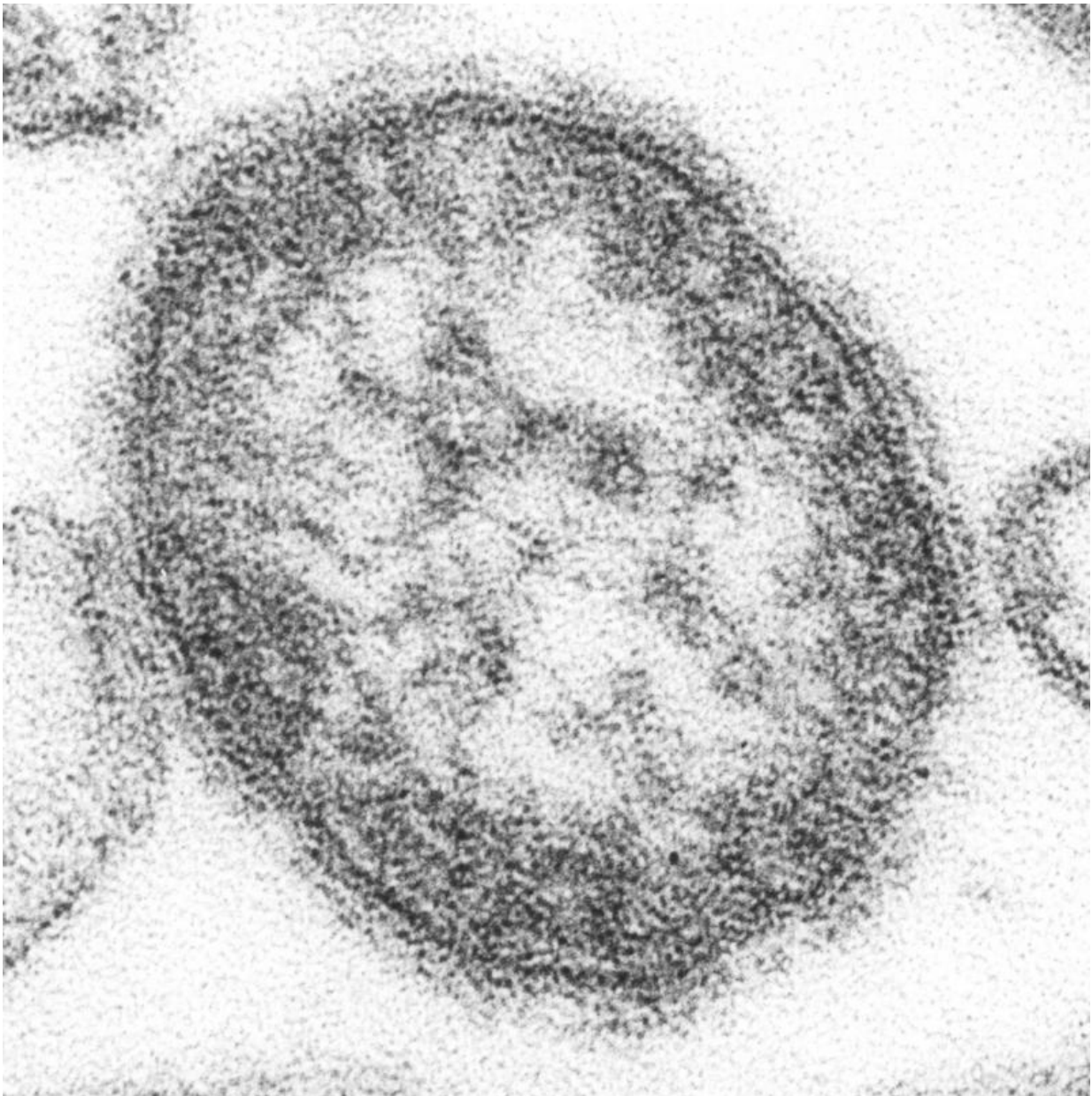


# Drop in EU/EEA measles cases between March and July 2018

September 20 2018

---



An electron micrograph of the measles virus. Credit: CDC/ Courtesy of Cynthia S. Goldsmith

During the month of July, a total of 758 cases of measles were reported across seventeen countries in the EU/EEA, which is a decrease from the 1054 cases reported during the month of June.

"Since March, the number of [measles](#) cases in the EU/EEA has dropped steadily, which is of course a positive development" says Tarik Derrough, ECDC senior expert on vaccine-preventable diseases.

"However, measles continues to spread across Europe because [vaccination coverage](#) in most European countries remains sub-optimal. Only four EU/EEA countries reported figures of at least 95% vaccination coverage, for both doses of measles-containing vaccine for 2017. If the goal of eliminating measles is to be reached, vaccination coverage for children and adults needs to increase in a number of countries."

Looking at the situation over the past year (1 August 2017 to 31 July 2018), 14 118 cases of measles were reported across 30 EU/EEA Member States. The most cases were reported by Greece (3 224), Italy (2 873), France (2 794) and United Kingdom (1 724), accounting respectively for 23%, 20%, 20% and 12% of all cases reported by EU/EEA countries.

Of 14 117 [cases](#) with known age, 4 250 (30%) were children less than five years of age, while 6 115 (50%) were aged 15 years or older.

**More information:** [ecdc.europa.eu/en/measles/surv ... a-monitoring-reports](https://ecdc.europa.eu/en/measles/surv...a-monitoring-reports)

Provided by European Centre for Disease Prevention and Control  
(ECDC)

Citation: Drop in EU/EEA measles cases between March and July 2018 (2018, September 20)  
retrieved 10 April 2024 from

<https://medicalxpress.com/news/2018-09-eueea-measles-cases-july.html>

This document is subject to copyright. Apart from any fair dealing for the purpose of private study or research, no part may be reproduced without the written permission. The content is provided for information purposes only.