

# Measles outbreak prompts public emergency in Washington state

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(HealthDay)—An ongoing measles outbreak has led to a public health emergency being declared in Clark County, Washington.

The latest update from the county's health department said that 23 [measles cases](#) have been confirmed and two more suspected cases are under investigation, *CBS News* reported. Most cases involve children ages 1 to 10 years. Four cases are in youngsters ages 11 to 18, and one case is in a person between ages 19 and 29.

The outbreak is in an antivaccination hot spot near Portland, Oregon, according to *CBS News*.

While measles is highly contagious, it is also one of the most [preventable diseases](#), Jonathan Mou, M.D., from Adventist Health in Portland, told *CBS News*. "Once it sets into a community, the likelihood of it getting beyond that community or more widespread within that community is high, especially when vaccination rates are low."

**More information:** [CBS News Article](#)

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