



DATE: November 20, 2025

TO: Southern Nevada District Board of Health Members

FROM: Cassius Lockett, PhD, District Health Officer 

SUBJECT: District Health Officer Report

Measles Update

On November 7, the Southern Nevada Health District reported the first confirmed case of measles in Clark County since 2018. The case involves an infant who was not yet eligible to receive the measles, mumps and rubella (MMR) vaccine. The child was hospitalized and has since been discharged and is recovering.

As of November 4, 2025, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) has reported 1,681 measles cases nationwide this year, including three confirmed deaths. Current measles activity continues to be associated with exposure to the virus during international travel and subsequent spread among unvaccinated individuals.

Community members may have been exposed to measles at the following location and times:

- St. Rose Dominican Hospital, Siena Campus Pediatric Emergency Department, on October 31, from 8 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. and November 1, from 7 a.m. to 3 p.m.

The Health District's disease surveillance team worked with the facility to notify potentially exposed patients and staff, and provide appropriate follow-up information and resources. The Health District recommended anyone who visited the listed location during the exposure periods monitor for symptoms and contact their health care provider if they developed signs of illness.

Measles symptoms typically develop seven to 14 days after exposure but can take up to 21 days to develop. Early symptoms include fever, cough, runny nose, and red eyes. A red rash usually appears three to five days after the initial symptoms start. A person with measles is contagious from four days before the rash appears through four days after it begins. The virus can live in the air or on surfaces for up to two hours and can be transferred to the nose or mouth by touching contaminated surfaces. The best protection against measles is the MMR vaccine. Two doses are about 97% effective at preventing the disease. Children should receive their first dose between 12 and 15 months of age and a second dose between ages 4 and 6. Infants 6 to 11 months old who are traveling internationally should receive one early dose before travel.

People who have a potential exposure to measles should:

- Monitor for symptoms for 21 days after exposure.
- Check vaccination status.
- Contact their health care provider if symptoms develop.
- Call ahead before going to a health care facility.

There is no specific treatment for measles. Supportive care such as rest, fluids and fever-reducing medications is recommended. Complications can include ear infections, pneumonia and, in rare cases, death. Young children and adults over age 20 are at higher risk of severe illness.

Measles Reported in a Visitor

The Health District reported a confirmed case of measles in a visitor to Clark County in October. The individual traveled from out of state, and potential exposures occurred on the morning of Monday, October 13, at Harry Reid International Airport. The individual spent time in Terminal 3 at the E Gates for a flight departing at approximately 8 a.m. and reported visiting no additional locations in Clark County outside of the airport. No cases linked to this potential exposure have been reported.

For additional information about measles, visit the Health District website at <https://www.southernnevadahealthdistrict.org/Health-Topics/measles-rubeola/>. To make an appointment for vaccination at a Health District clinic, go to www.SNHD.info/immunizations or call (702) 759-0850.

Influenza Update

The Health District reported the first flu-related death in a Clark County resident, a man in his 80s, on November 6. Reports of respiratory and influenza-like illnesses locally remain minimal in the community, however, seasonal flu activity is increasing. As of November 1, 17 influenza-associated hospitalizations have been reported in Clark County.

Flu can cause serious illness, especially among older adults, children and others at higher risk. Getting vaccinated is the best way for individuals to protect themselves and their families, as well as help prevent severe complications. It's not too late to get a flu vaccination this season.

Flu season typically peaks between December and February, but activity can continue through May. The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention recommends annual vaccination for everyone 6 months and older. Adults 65 years and older, children younger than 2 years, pregnant people, and individuals with underlying medical conditions or weakened immune systems are at higher risk for severe illness. Caregivers of children who are too young to be vaccinated are strongly encouraged to get vaccinated to help protect them.

Flu vaccines are available at [Health District clinics](#) as well as doctor's offices and pharmacies throughout Southern Nevada.

The Health District encourages community members to take additional steps to help reduce the spread of flu, COVID-19, and other respiratory viruses:

- Wash hands frequently with soap and running water. Use an alcohol-based hand sanitizer if soap and water are not available.
- Stay home when sick and limit contact with others.
- Avoid close contact with people who are sick.
- Cover coughs and sneezes with a tissue. Throw tissues away after use.
- Regularly clean frequently touched surfaces.
- Take antiviral drugs if prescribed by a doctor.

The Health District Influenza Snapshot and Influenza Report by Age Group are available each week at www.southernnevadahealthdistrict.org/news-info/statistics-surveillance-reports/influenza-surveillance/.

American Diabetes Month

In recognition of American Diabetes Month, the Health District raised awareness about one of the nation's most widespread and serious chronic diseases. Diabetes is the eighth leading cause of death in the United States and the leading cause of kidney failure, lower-limb amputations, and blindness. People with diabetes are also at greater risk of serious complications from flu and COVID-19.

In 2023, 12.8% of adults in Clark County—approximately 238,000 people—had diabetes. Statewide in 2024, an estimated 13.5% of adults—or 345,700 Nevadans—were diagnosed with the disease. Nationwide, more than 41 million Americans are living with diabetes, including 11.7 million who are unaware that they have it. Each year, about 1.2 million Americans receive a new diagnosis.

The American Diabetes Association estimates that 816,000 Nevadans have prediabetes—a condition that increases the risk of developing type 2 diabetes, heart disease and stroke. Adults facing food insecurity are significantly more likely to develop type 2 diabetes. This is often due to the necessity of choosing low-cost, high-calorie, and less nutritious foods.

Who Should Get Screened

The Health District and the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention recommend that the following individuals be screened for diabetes or prediabetes:

- Adults age 35 or older.
- Adults who are overweight or have obesity.
- Anyone who has been previously diagnosed with prediabetes.

Anyone who may be at risk for diabetes should follow up with a healthcare provider. A listing of low-cost clinics that offer diabetes testing and treatment is available on the Health District website at [Low-Cost Clinics](#).

Resources and Programs

The Health District's Office of Chronic Disease Prevention and Health Promotion offers no-cost online and in-person classes on diabetes self-management. Taught by trained health educators, the classes are recognized by the American Diabetes Association. Community classes will resume in early 2026, but people are invited to complete a class interest form now in [English](#) or [Spanish](#), or call (702) 759-1270. Those who express interest will be contacted as 2026 classes are scheduled. For information on additional classes, events and programs, visit the [Get Healthy Clark County Community Calendar](#). For Spanish classes and events visit the [Viva Saludable Community Calendar](#).

Additional local diabetes resources are available at:

- [Get Healthy Clark County | Local Diabetes Resources](#)
- [Viva Saludable | Recursos locales para la diabetes](#)

To learn more about American Diabetes Month, visit the [American Diabetes Association website](#).

Pop-Up Produce Stands

The Health District and its partners are reminding the community that Pop-Up Produce Stands continue this fall at the Bonneville Transit Center (BTC), offering affordable, regionally grown fruits and vegetables. Shoppers can use SNAP/EBT, cash, debit or credit cards.

The stands are open from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m., or while supplies last, at the BTC, 101 E. Bonneville Ave., Las Vegas, NV 89101. The remaining dates for the produce market are:

- Tuesday, Dec. 2
- Tuesday, Dec. 9

As many households continue to feel the effects of higher food costs and changes to SNAP benefits, the Pop-Up Produce Stands provide a convenient and affordable way to bring home healthy foods. In addition to making it easier to stretch food budgets, the program supports local business and promotes good nutrition.

In 2024, the stands generated \$3,275 in sales and distributed 2,471 pounds of fresh produce. About 26% of sales were made using SNAP/EBT benefits, demonstrating the program's role in improving healthy food access for families who may be experiencing barriers to accessing healthy foods.

Food security remains a challenge in Southern Nevada. In 2023, 16% of Clark County residents (366,710 people) were food insecure—higher than both the state (15.1%) and national (14.3%) averages. More than one in five children in Clark County (22%) experienced food insecurity. Rates among Black residents (28%) were more than double those of White residents (13%), underscoring significant disparities. In 2019, the U.S. Department of Agriculture identified 30 census tracts in Clark County as food deserts, highlighting persistent barriers to healthy food access.

The produce stands are a partnership of the Southern Nevada Health District's Office of Chronic Disease Prevention and Health Promotion, the Regional Transportation Commission of Southern Nevada and Prevail Marketplace.

Shoppers will also receive healthy recipe cards, nutrition education and other health resources. For more information, call the Office of Chronic Disease Prevention and Health Promotion at (702) 759-1270 or visit the [Get Healthy Clark County Farmers Markets](#) page. The website also lists local farmers markets, including those that accept EBT, SNAP, and debit or credit cards.

Community Meetings

Week ending 11/02:

Biweekly:

- Facilitated the Health Executive Council meeting
- Facilitated one-on-one meetings with Direct Reports (Anderson-Fintak, Saxton, Trujillo, Zhang)
- Attended the SNHD/Accela Executive Touchpoint call

Monthly:

- Participated in the Nevada Association of Local Health Officials (NALHO) meeting
- Participated in the Disease Surveillance & Control Division leadership meeting
- Participated in the Clark County Medical Society Board of Trustees meeting

Quarterly:

- Participated in the Community Health Division leadership meeting
- Facilitated a one-on-one meeting with Dr. Robin Carter (Medical Director/Chief Medical Officer)
- Participated in the Public Health & Preventive Care Division leadership meeting

Ad-hoc Meetings:

- Participated in a meeting regarding the parking lot at the Decatur Facility
- Participated in a meeting regarding Ryan White Part B program
- Participated in a meeting regarding Wastewater and Clinical SARS-CoV-2 Variance Analysis Project

Week ending 10/26:

Biweekly:

- Attended the CDC Response All-STLT Update call
- Facilitated one-on-one meetings with Direct Reports (Gonzales, Smith, Trujillo)

Monthly:

- Participated in the individual Southern Nevada District Board of Health Agenda Review meetings with Councilwoman Brune, Councilwoman Gallo, Commissioner Becker, Councilwoman Summers-Armstrong, Bobbette Bond, Mayor Hardy
- Participated in the NPHA Coordination Call
- Participated in the Southern Nevada Community Health Center Governing Board meeting
- Participated in the Southern Nevada District Board of Health meeting
- Participated in the Local Health Official Monthly Engagement meeting facilitated by National Association of County and City Health Officials (NACCHO)

Media/Interviews/Panelist/Presenter/Events:

- Opening Remarks at the Health District After Dark

Ad-hoc Meetings:

- Participated in a meeting regarding cannabis
- Participated in a meeting regarding the parking lot at the Decatur Facility
- Participated in a meeting regarding the Organizational Vital Signs survey
- Participated in a meeting regarding the SNHD fleet vehicles
- Participated in a BCHC meeting regarding the WIC and SNAP programs
- Participated in a meeting with Fund for Global Health

Week ending 10/19:

Biweekly:

- Facilitated the Health Executive Council meeting
- Facilitated one-on-one meetings with Direct Reports (Gonzales, Trujillo)

Monthly:

- Participated in the individual Southern Nevada District Board of Health Agenda Review meetings Mayor Pro Tem Black and Commissioner Kirkpatrick

Quarterly:

- Participated in the Public Health Advisory Board meeting

Professional Development/Conferences:

- Attended the Big Cities Health Coalition (BCHC) Member Meeting in Phoenix, AZ

Ad-hoc Meetings:

- Participated in an internal meeting regarding a remodel of the Decatur Facility front doors

Week ending 10/12:

Biweekly:

- Attended the CDC Response All-STLT Update call
- Facilitated one-on-one meetings with Direct Reports (Anderson-Fintak, Mangla, Smith, Trujillo,)

Monthly:

- Participated in the Monthly Leadership Finance meeting
- Participated in the BCHC Monthly Member meeting

Ad-hoc Meetings:

- Participated in an introductory meeting with representatives from the Dolores Huerta Resource Center
- Participated in a meeting with representatives from CCSS regarding a Mobile Medical Outreach Team
- Participated in an internal meeting regarding the Child Care Regulations
- Participated in an internal meeting regarding Ryan White Part B program
- Attended a site visit of the FQHC Decatur Clinic
- Facilitated an SNHD All Hands meeting
- Participated in a meeting with DCM Abigail Frierson
- Attended a meeting regarding Allegiant Stadium Access

Week ending 10/05:

Biweekly:

- Facilitated the Health Executive Council meeting
- Facilitated one-on-one meetings with Direct Reports (Saxton, Trujillo, Zhang)

Monthly:

- Participated in the Disease Surveillance & Control Division leadership meeting
- Participated in the Informatics Department leadership meeting
- Attended the Medical Advisory Board meeting

Ad-hoc Meetings:

- Participated in a meeting with Todd Rich and Kyle Devine regarding Healthcare Acquired Infections
- Participated in the annual meeting with representatives from Forvis Mazars regarding the audit
- Attended the Nevada Public Health Association Policy Discussion on Vaccines
- Participated in a meeting regarding the proposed septic regulations
- Participated in an internal meeting regarding the SNPHL survey responses