# Montana Health Alert Network DPHHS HAN UPDATE Cover Sheet

### DATE

May 14, 2025

### SUBJECT

Alberta, Canada reports community transmission of measles in communities bordering Montana

### INSTRUCTIONS

**DISTRIBUTE** to your local HAN contacts. This HAN is intended for general sharing of information.

- Time for Forwarding: As Soon As Possible
- Remove this cover sheet before redistributing and replace it with your own



For LOCAL HEALTH DEPARTMENT reference only DPHHS Subject Matter Resource for more information regarding this HAN, contact:

**DPHHS PHSD** 

Epidemiology Section 1-406-444-0273

Immunization Section 1-406-444-5580

For technical issues related to the HAN message contact the Emergency Preparedness Section at 1-406-444-0919

DPHHS HAN Website: https://dphhs.mt.gov/publichealth/phep/han

# REMOVE THIS COVER SHEET BEFORE REDISTRIBUTING AND REPLACE IT WITH YOUR OWN

Please ensure that DPHHS is included on your HAN distribution list. <u>hhshan@mt.gov</u>

### **Categories of Health Alert Messages:**

**Health Alert:** conveys the highest level of importance; warrants immediate action or attention. **Health Advisory**: provides important information for a specific incident or situation; may not require immediate action.

**<u>Health Update</u>**: provides updated information regarding an incident or situation; unlikely to require immediate action.

**Information Service:** passes along low level priority messages that do not fit other HAN categories and are for informational purposes only.

### Please update your HAN contact information on the Montana Public Health Directory

# Montana Health Alert Network **DPHHS HAN**Information Sheet



### DATE

May 14, 2025

# SUBJECT

Alberta, Canada reports community transmission of measles in communities bordering Montana

# BACKGROUND

On May 13, 2025, the Montana Department of Public Health and Human Services (DPHHS) was alerted to community transmission of measles in several areas of Alberta, Canada, including in the cities of Lethbridge and Calgary. <u>Alberta Health Services</u> shared the following information, "There is ongoing transmission of measles across Alberta, with numerous babies, children and adults being impacted. Cases have been reported across all Zones [geographic regions of Alberta], and in clusters of high numbers, particularly in Southern and Central Alberta."

# INFORMATION

In Montana, 8 total cases of measles have been reported among Gallatin County residents in two households from April 17 through May 6, 2025. All eight cases have recovered and been released from isolation. Presently, there is no evidence of community transmission of measles in Montana.

### RECOMMENDATIONS

Providers should continue to educate patients and health care staff that vaccination is the best protection against measles. Montana public health officials recommend that health care providers consider an expanded vaccination schedule for people traveling to areas of outbreak with sustained, community-wide transmission of measles, including Alberta. Of note, all doses of MMR must be separated by at least 28 days. View complete CDC guidance on measles vaccination <u>here</u>. Please refer to previous measles-related HANs from DPHHS for complete recommendations to Clinicians and Local and Tribal Public Health Departments.

Providers should also be aware that individuals returning from travel to Canada may have been exposed to measles during their visit. Individuals can monitor public measles exposure locations and dates in the provinces that border Montana: <u>Alberta</u>, <u>British Columbia</u>, and <u>Saskatchewan</u>. Continue to monitor the <u>DPHHS website</u> for updates on locations with measles activity in Montana as well as regional measles activity (e.g., Alberta, North Dakota, etc.)