

# Pennsylvania Department of Health State Immunization Update

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# Immunizations and Vaccines for Children (VFC) Program

# VFC Overview

- The PA VFC Program provides vaccines to children who do not have health insurance. It also covers children who are insured but whose insurance does not cover their vaccine needs.
- The goal of this federally funded program is to improve vaccine availability nationwide by providing vaccines at no cost to VFC-eligible children.

# Other immunizations covered

- The Immunization program covers other groups, such as adolescents, adults, and birth doses for non-VFC situations.
- Vaccines are available both during routine vaccination and also emergency preparedness situations.

# Vaccine Storage and Handling

# Proper Vaccine Storage

- Proper vaccine storage and handling is an important factor in preventing and eradicating vaccine-preventable diseases.
- Improper storage and handling can result in non-viable vaccines, patient revaccination, damage to public confidence in vaccines, and significant financial loss. Patients refusing revaccination may not be protected from disease.

# Vaccine Cold Chain

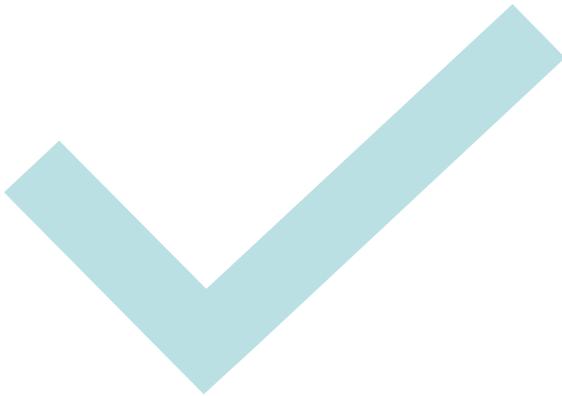


# Vaccine Storage and Handling

- An effective cold chain relies on three main elements:
  - Well-trained staff
  - Reliable storage and temperature monitoring equipment
  - Accurate vaccine inventory management

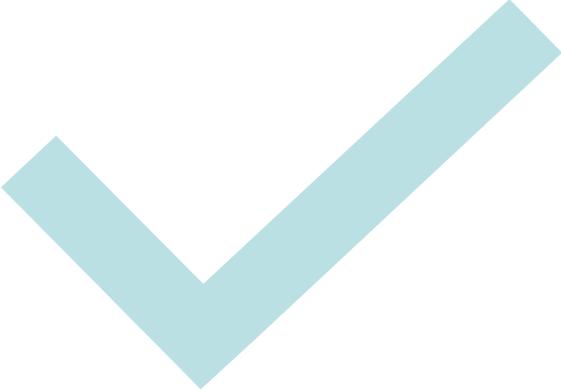
# Best Practices

- Designate a primary and a back-up contact at the facility
- Oversee proper receipt and storage of vaccine deliveries
- Organize vaccines within storage units
- Set up temperature monitoring devices
- Check and record minimum/maximum temperatures at least once daily
- Respond to temperature excursions
- Remove expired vaccine from storage units
- Properly ordering vaccines
- Maintain all required documentation
- Monitor operation of storage equipment





# Vaccine Storage

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- Vaccine should always be stored in the original packaging, as light causes loss of vaccine potency.
  - Food and beverages should never be stored in a unit with vaccine.
  - Place water bottles on the top shelf, floor and in the door racks.
  - When possible, store diluent with the corresponding refrigerated vaccines.
  - Store each vaccine in a labeled container.

# Vaccine Storage and Handling Power Supply

Post “DO NOT UNPLUG” warning signs at outlets and on storage units to alert staff not to unplug units.



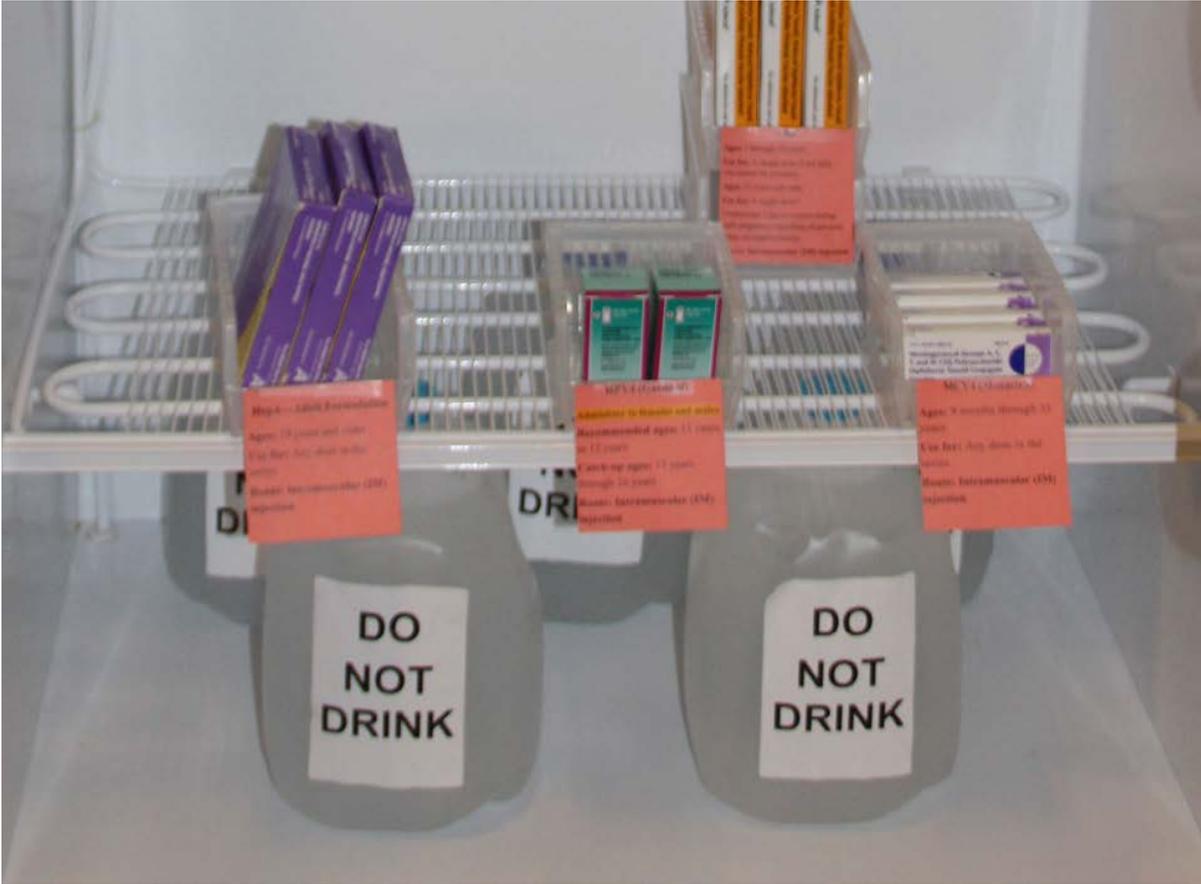
Label fuses and circuit breakers to alert staff and contractors not to turn off power supply.



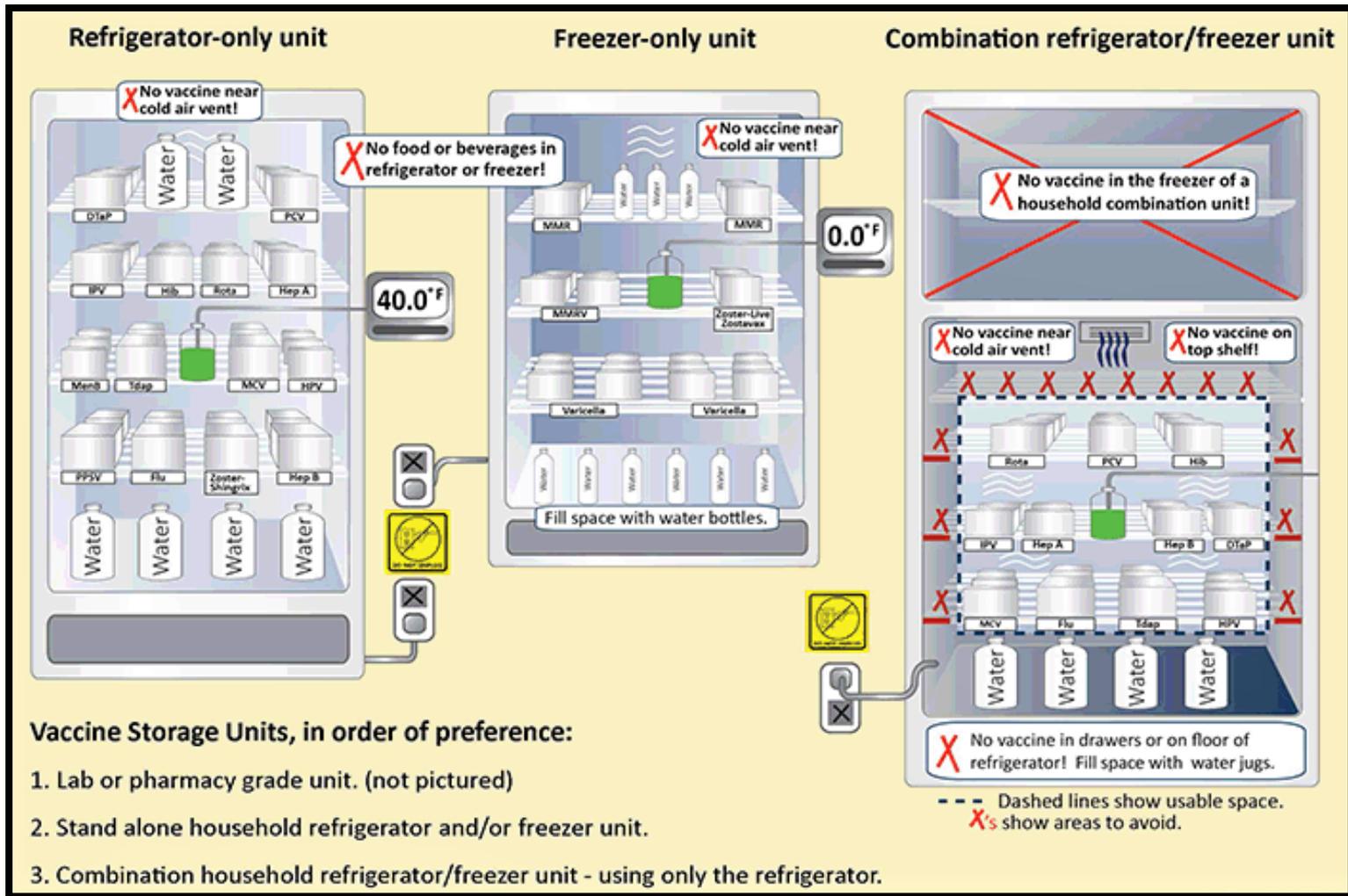
# Best Practices in Vaccine Storage

- Place vaccines in center refrigerator space, contained in original packaging, inside designated storage trays positioned 2 to 3 inches from refrigerator walls. If space is limited, label shelves for each vaccine and arrange vaccines in a neat, orderly manner without storage trays.
- To reduce errors, do NOT place similar looking vaccines next to each other in the storage unit.
- Avoid storage on top shelf near the cooling vent. This location is likely to exceed the maximum allowed temperature during power outages.

# Storage Unit Set Up



# Storage Unit Set Up: Graphic



# Vaccine Expiration



Vaccine can be used until the expiration date. This does include open multi-dose vials of vaccine, unless otherwise stated by the package insert.

# Storage and Handling Resources

- CDC Storage and Handling Toolkit  
<https://www.cdc.gov/vaccines/hcp/admin/storage/toolkit/index.html>
- CDC's Vaccine Storage and Handling home page  
<https://www.cdc.gov/vaccines/hcp/admin/storage/index.html>
- CDC's Keys to Storage and Handling Video  
<https://www2.cdc.gov/vaccines/ed/shvideo/>
- Immunization Action Coalition (IAC) Vaccine Storage & Handling  
<http://www.immunize.org/clinic/storage-handling.asp>
- Pennsylvania Immunization Program  
<https://www.health.pa.gov/topics/programs/immunizations>

# Immunization Statistics Update

# Reminders of 2017-18 Changes

- Reduce 8-month provisional to five days
- Acknowledge the pertussis component of DTaP
- Clarify four doses of polio
- Add a dose of MCV for 12<sup>th</sup> grade entry
- Create a medical plan/certificate
- Identify reporting period December 1-31

## Effective Date

- Final Form Regulations effective on August 1, 2017
- Published in March of 2017 to provide at least five months of preparation time for schools, school nurses, parents and the medical community

# Kindergarten comparison, PA

	<b>PA, 2016-17</b>	<b>2017-18</b>	<b>2018-19</b>
DTaP	94.8%	97.0%	96.6%
Polio	97.3%	96.6%	96.2%
MMR	93.7%	96.8%	96.4%
HepB	96.7%	97.5%	97.1%
Var	92.9%	96.4%	95.9%

# Seventh grade comparison, PA

	<b>PA, 2016-17</b>	<b>2017-18</b>	<b>2018-19</b>
DTaP	97.0%	97.1%	97.0%
Polio	97.5%	96.6%	96.6%
MMR	97.1%	97.0%	96.9%
HepB	97.1%	97.1%	97.0%
Var	95.3%	95.9%	95.8%
Tdap	85.7%	94.8%	93.7%
MCV	85.1%	94.8%	93.5%

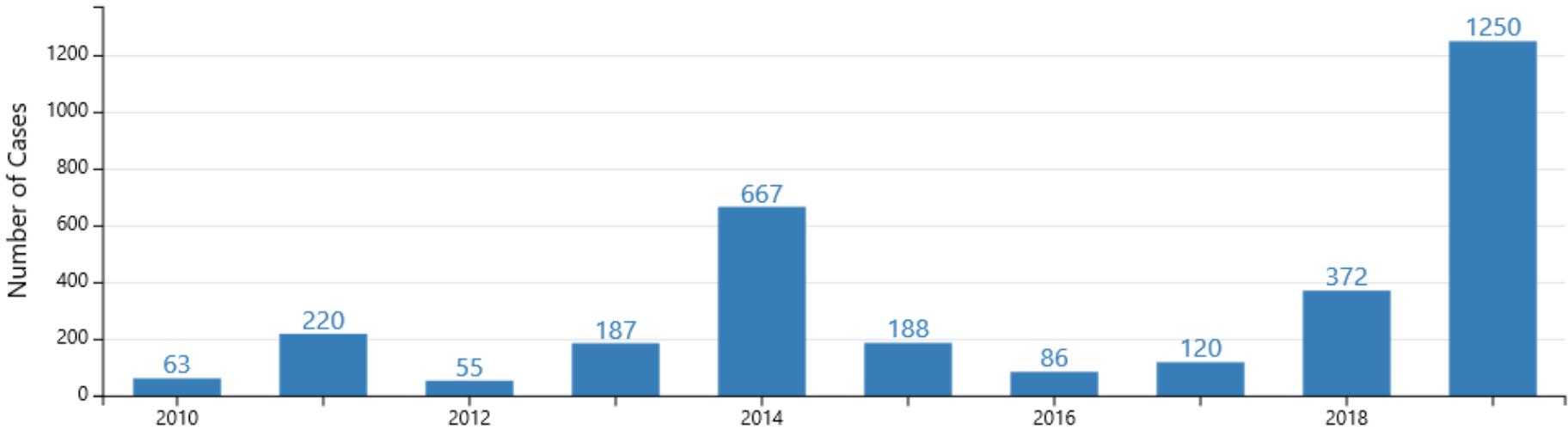
# Exemptions, PA

	<b>PA, 2016-17</b>	<b>2017-18</b>	<b>2018-19</b>
<u>Kindergarten</u>			
Medical	0.4%	0.5%	0.4%
Religious	0.9%	1.1%	1.2%
Philosophical	1.0%	1.2%	1.3%
<u>7<sup>th</sup> Grade</u>			
Medical	0.7%	0.8%	0.7%
Religious	1.1%	1.4%	1.5%
Philosophical	1.8%	2.1%	2.0%

# Measles, United States

## Number of Measles Cases Reported by Year

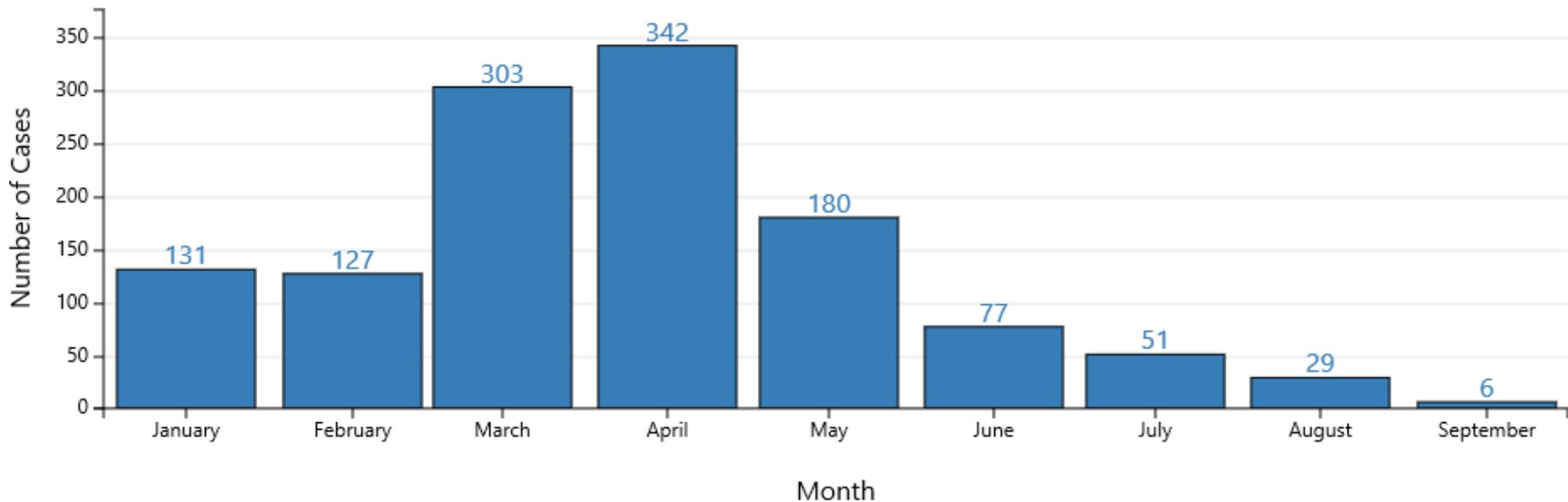
2010-2019\*\*(as of October 3, 2019)



# Measles Cases in 2019

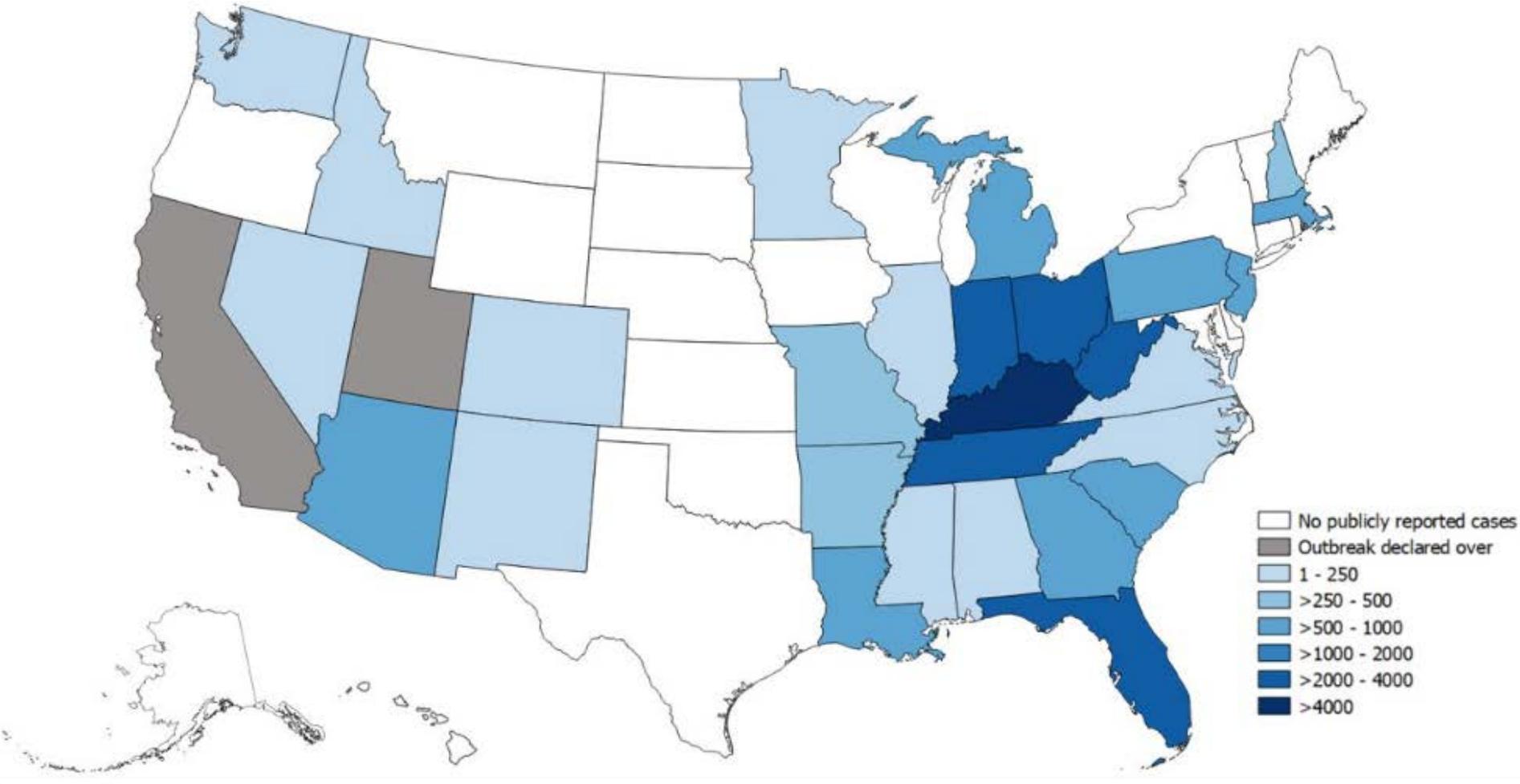
From January 1 to October 3, 2019, 1,250\* individual cases of measles have been confirmed in 31 states. CDC will now be updating these data monthly.

## Measles Cases Reported by Month in 2019\*



# ▶ Hepatitis A, United States

State-Reported Hepatitis A Outbreak Cases as of November 1, 2019





Thank you!

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