



“Measles deaths are not a statistic from history books anymore. They are happening now — and they are preventable.”

GEROLD DELGADO DERMID, MBA, PhD(c) · EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR, NPHI & NVPHTC

The Nevada Public Health Institute (NPHI) and Nevada Public Health Training Center (NVPHTC) join the American College of Preventive Medicine in mourning the first recorded measles deaths in Pennsylvania in 35 years. The MMR vaccine undergoes rigorous testing for safety and efficacy — and it works. These deaths did not have to happen.

For Nevada — where rural and frontier families already travel hours for routine care and underserved communities face the steepest barriers — falling vaccination rates carry real consequences. When measles returns, it reaches the families with the least access to emergency care first.

MEASLES IS BACK — BY THE NUMBERS

2,777

confirmed U.S. cases in 2026 — the most since **1991**, already surpassing last year's 30-year high of 2,289.

97%

effectiveness against measles with two doses of MMR vaccine; one dose is 93% effective.

KINDERGARTEN MMR COVERAGE



THIRD STRAIGHT YEAR OF DECLINE · CDC



“In Nevada, protection can't depend on your ZIP code.”

“A family in a frontier county shouldn't face more measles risk because the nearest provider is two hours away. Two doses of MMR are 97% effective — the science is settled. Our work is making sure every Nevada family, in every community, can act on it: with access, with clear answers, and with clinicians they trust.”

WHAT NEVADA FAMILIES CAN DO

Check your child's records

Two MMR doses: the first at 12–15 months, the second at 4–6 years.

Ask your questions

Bring concerns to a trusted pediatrician or clinician — open conversation is how confidence is built.

Don't wait on distance

Rural and frontier families: local health authorities and community clinics can help you find the nearest vaccination option.

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