

# Measles

Measles is an acute, highly communicable viral illness known for its red, blotchy rash, which starts on the face and then spreads widely over the body. The rash is preceded by a febrile prodrome that includes cough, coryza and conjunctivitis, and sometimes photophobia and “Koplik spots” in the mouth. Diagnosis is confirmed by the presence of serum IgM antibodies (in a patient who has not recently been immunized). Treatment is supportive.

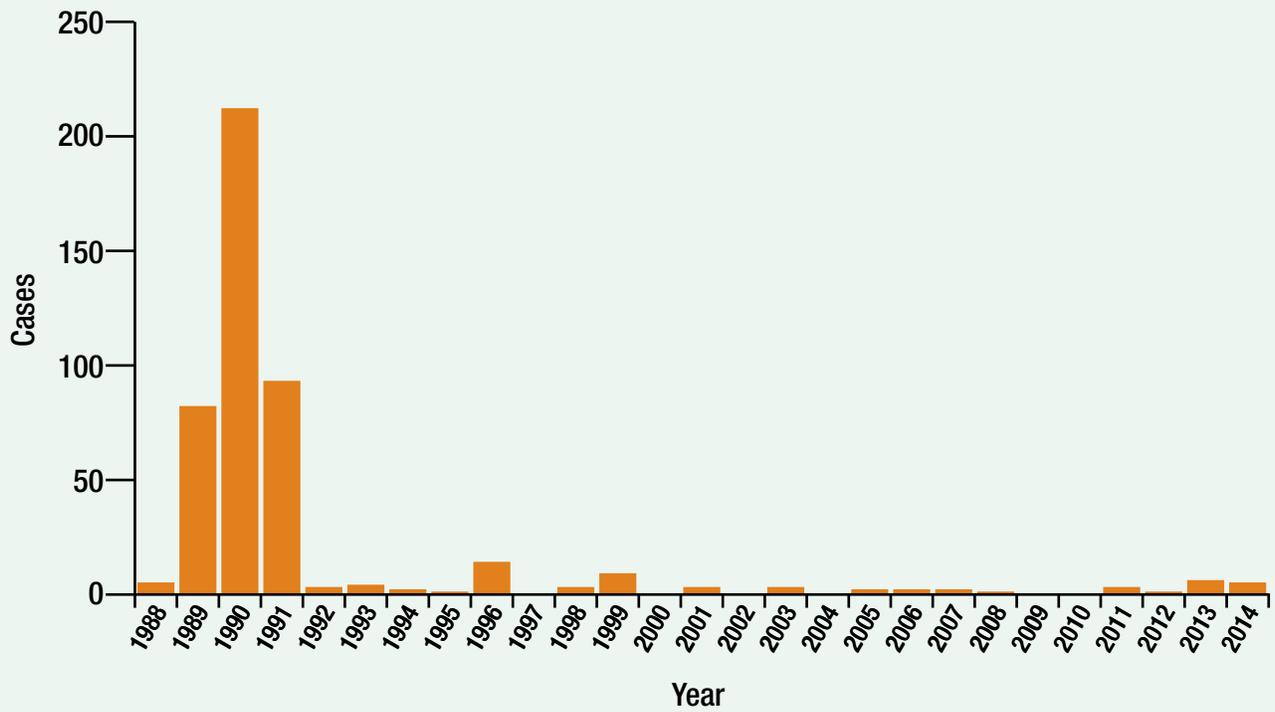
A focus on increasing vaccination among preschool children by following the 1989 recommendations for two doses of MMR vaccine resulted in a dramatic reduction in the illness. In Oregon, two doses of measles vaccination have been required for entry into kindergarten since 1998. In 2014, >93% of kindergartners had received two doses of measles-containing vaccine.

Since 2004, 22 cases were reported in Oregon; 13 of these cases were imported and nine were linked to imported cases. Most imported cases originated in Asia and Europe, and occurred both among Oregon citizens traveling abroad and in persons visiting Oregon from other countries. The median age of cases has been 6.5 years (range, 9 months–40 years). Fifteen cases were unvaccinated, five were vaccinated, the vaccination status of one could not be documented, and one was too young for vaccine.

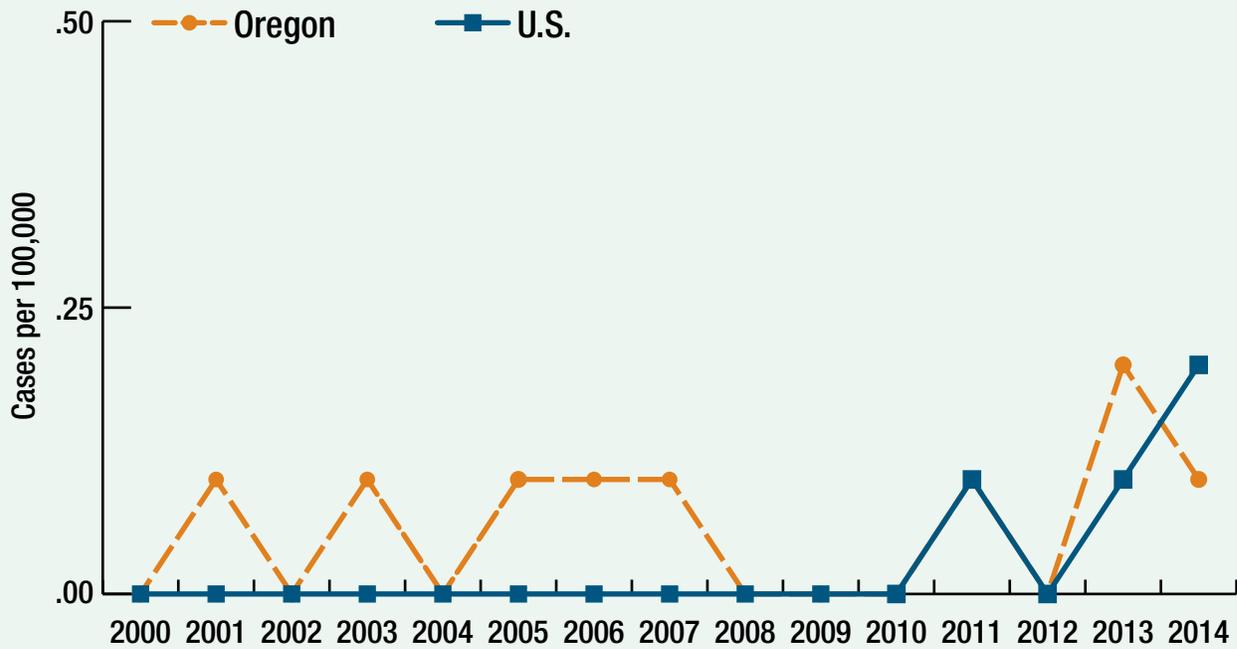
Five Oregonians caught the measles during 2014 — all were preventable. Four cases were in unvaccinated preschool or school-aged children linked to international importation. One was an internationally imported case in an unvaccinated infant. American Committee on Immunization Practices (ACIP) recommends infants 6 months through 11 months, receive one dose of measles vaccine before any international travel.

Though measles is highly infectious, the risk of exposure to measles in Oregon remains low. Sustaining high levels of vaccination is important to limit the spread of measles from imported cases and to prevent it from becoming re-established as an endemic disease in the United States.

## Measles by year: Oregon, 1988–2014

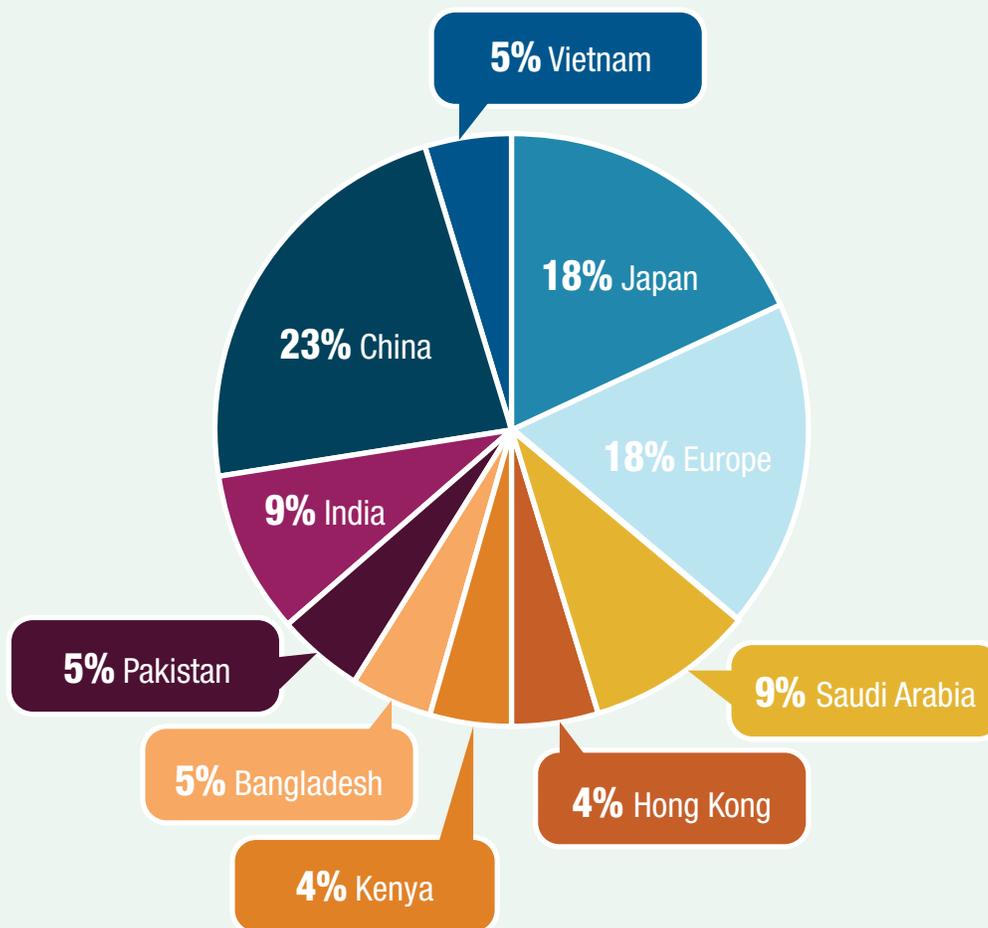


## Incidence of measles: Oregon vs. nationwide, 2000–2014



Oregon	0.0	0.1	0.0	0.1	0.0	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.1	0.0	0.2	0.1
U.S.	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.1	0.0	0.1	0.2

## Measles by country of importation: 1997–2014



## Prevention

- Vaccinate:
  - › One dose for preschool-age children >12 months of age and for persons born during or after 1957; and a second dose for school-age children and for adults at high risk of measles exposure (e.g., health care personnel, international travelers and students at post-high-school educational institutions).
  - › Post-exposure vaccination can prevent or lessen illness if given within 72 hours of exposure.