



Monkeypox in Texas

How is the Texas Department of State Health Services (DSHS) responding?

DSHS and its regional offices across Texas are carefully monitoring the current monkeypox outbreak and supporting public health in identifying, treating, and preventing cases.



DSHS and its regional offices are:

- Tracking case data statewide and in local communities.
- Allocating monkeypox vaccines to local health departments throughout Texas.
- Supporting local health departments in monkeypox identification, treatment, and prevention.
- Providing public information about monkeypox cases, vaccination, treatment, prevention, and more.

What should I know about monkeypox in Texas?

- Monkeypox most often spreads through direct, close contact or direct contact with bodily fluids like saliva.
- Monkeypox starts with symptoms like fever, headache, muscle aches, chills, or exhaustion. Soon after, a rash appears that can look like pimples or blisters.
- Currently, men who have sex with men are most at risk for getting and spreading monkeypox. Anyone can get or spread monkeypox.
- If you have monkeypox symptoms, contact a health care provider and avoid direct, close contact that can spread the disease.

How is monkeypox different than COVID-19?

- The monkeypox virus, which usually spreads through direct, close contact, does not spread nearly as quickly as COVID-19 nor cause severe illness like COVID-19.
- Monkeypox vaccines and treatment are available at the beginning of the outbreak.

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