Texas Border Infectious Diseases Data Overview

June 11, 2025

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TEXAS Health and Human Services | Texas Department of State Health Services

Objective

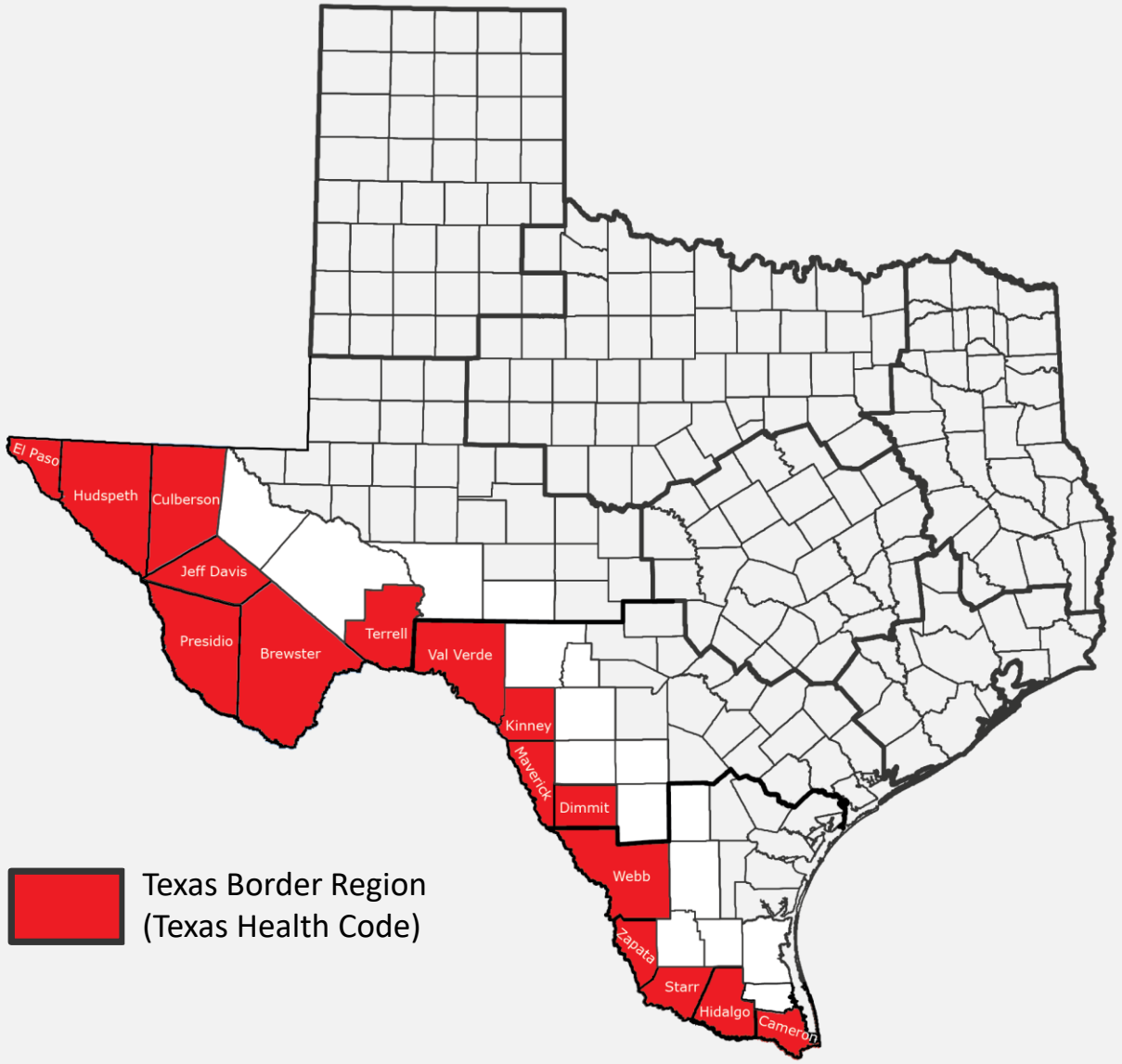
Review selected infectious diseases Texas border data:

1. Sexual Transmitted Infections
2. Tuberculosis
3. Vaccine Preventable Diseases
4. Vector-borne Diseases
5. Influenza-like Illnesses
6. Emerging Infectious Disease Threats at the Border

TEXAS Health and Human Services

Texas Department of State Health Services

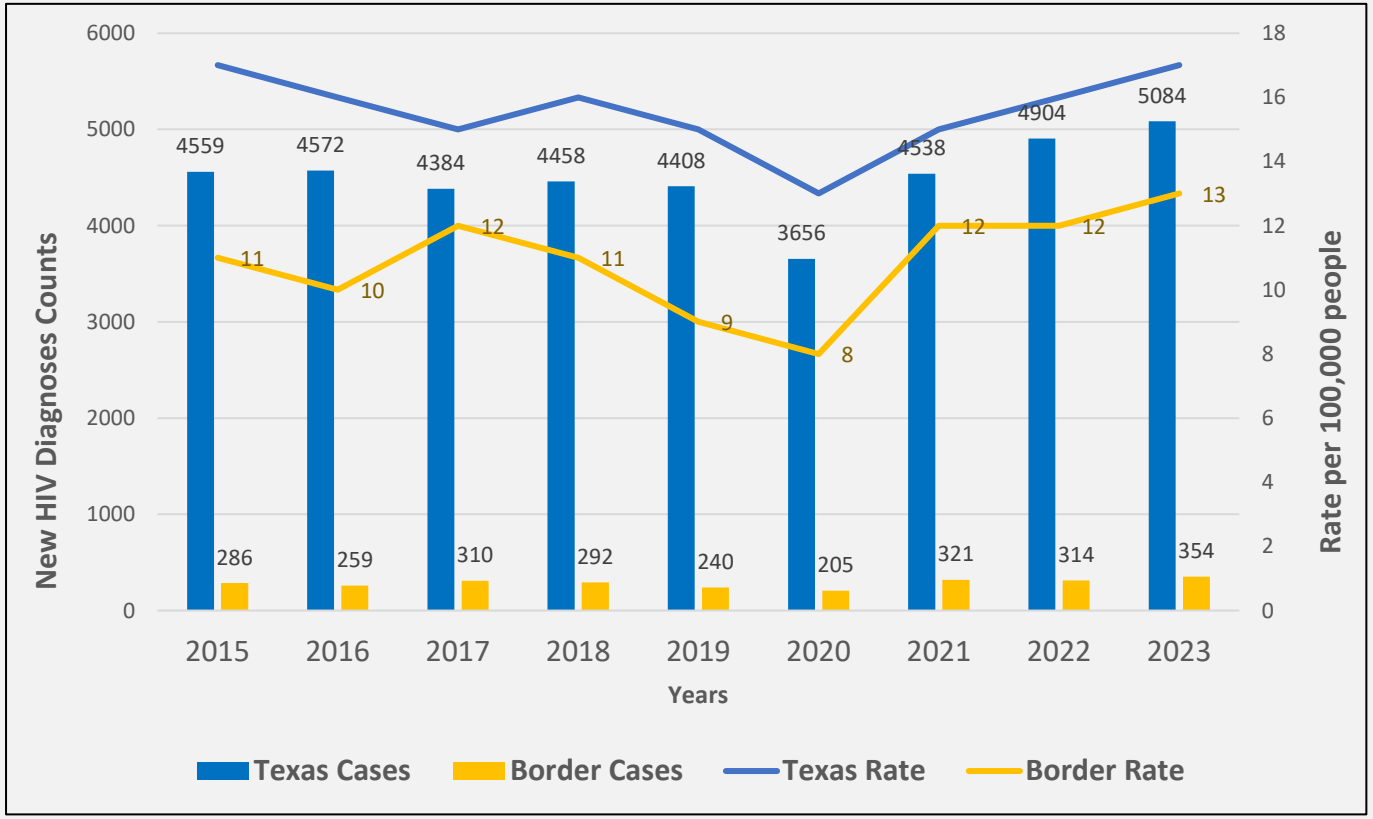
Scope of the Texas Border Region

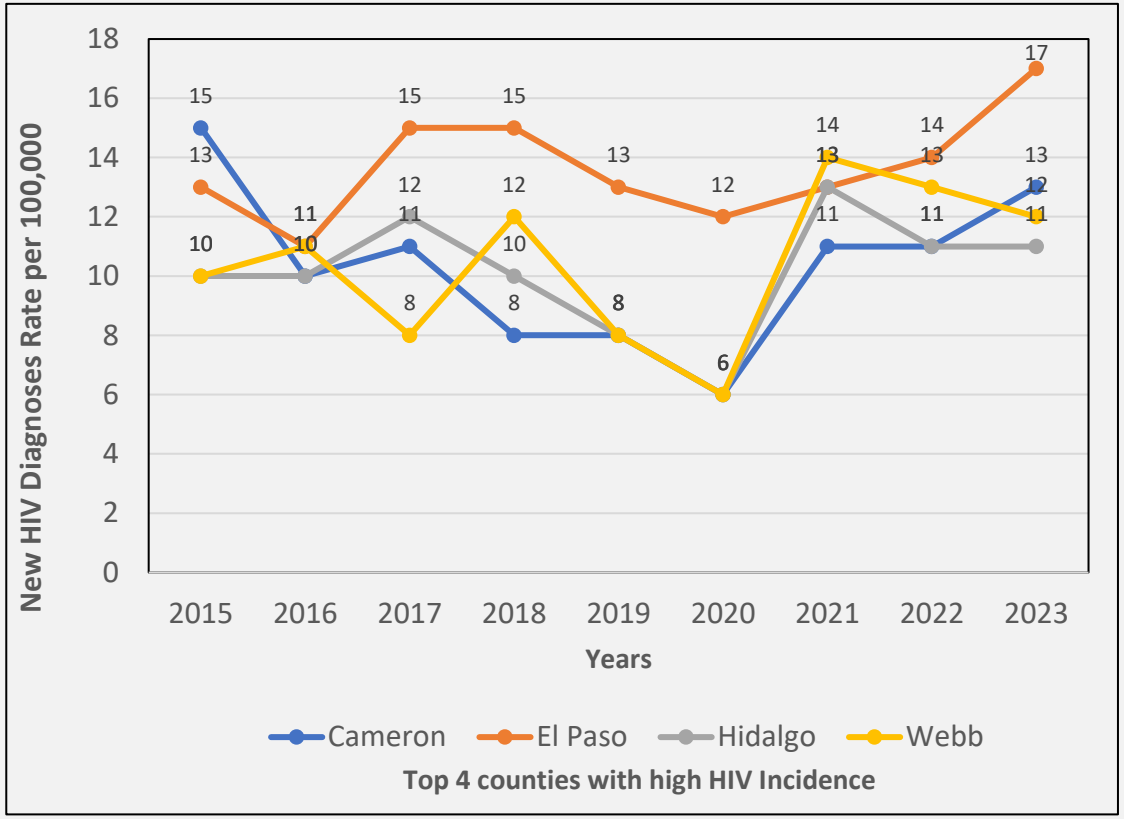


As stated in the Texas Health Code, the Texas border region means the area consisting of the counties immediately adjacent to the international boundary between the United States and Mexico.

Sexual Transmitted Infections

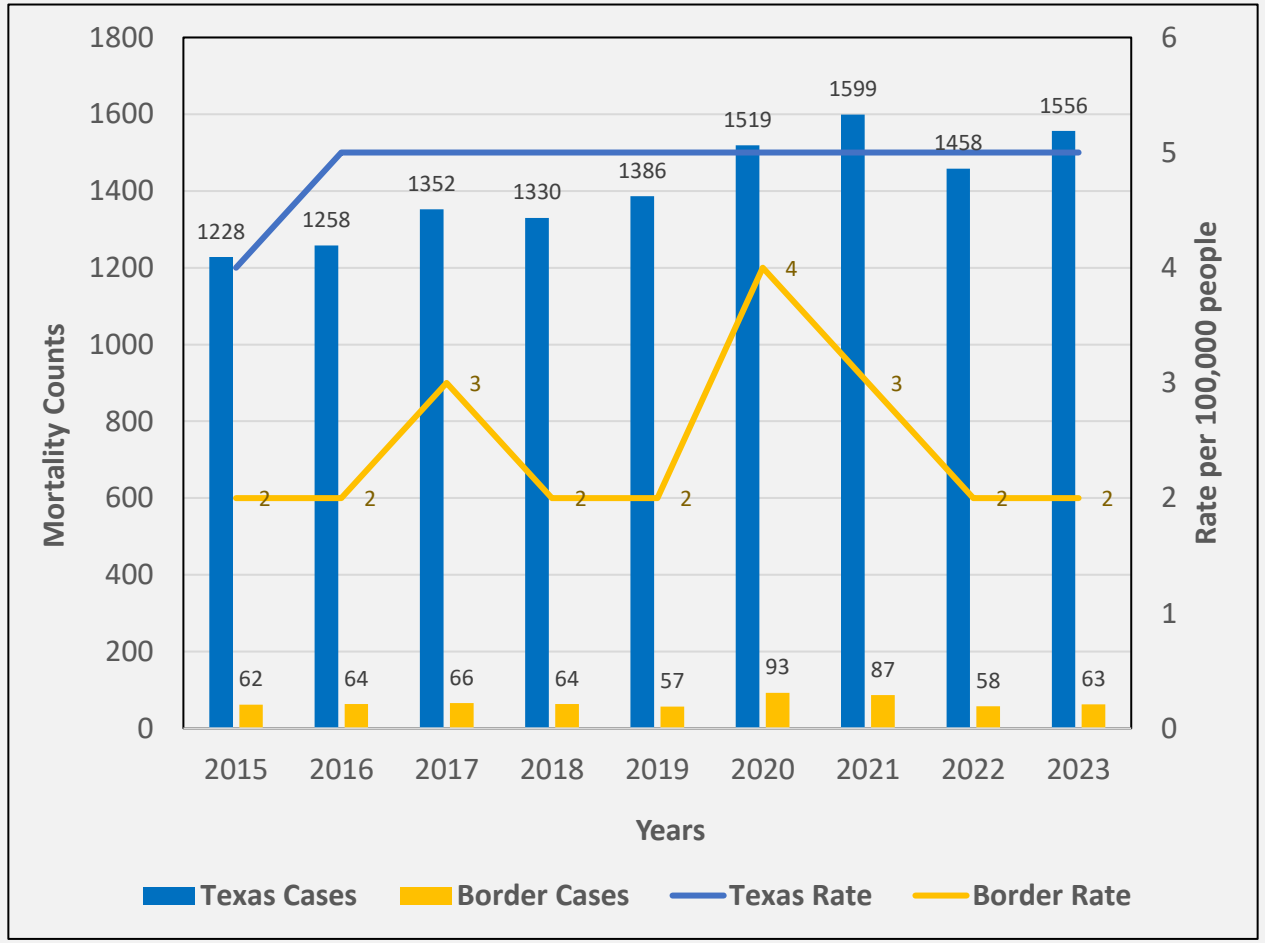
New HIV Diagnoses, 2015-2023





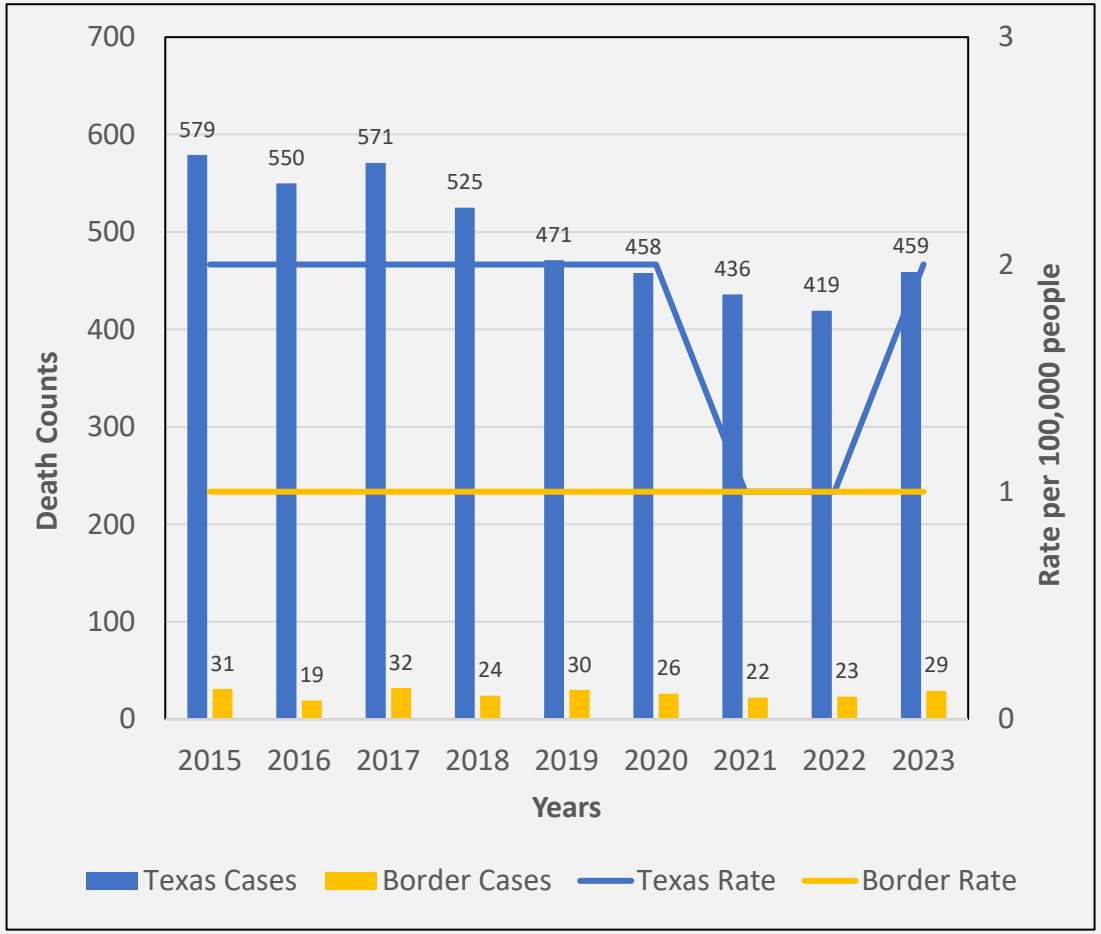
Data source: DSHS Surveillance Data, May 2025

Mortality Among People Living with HIV (PLWH), 2015-2023



Data source: DSHS Surveillance Data, May 2025

AIDS-related deaths, 2015-2023



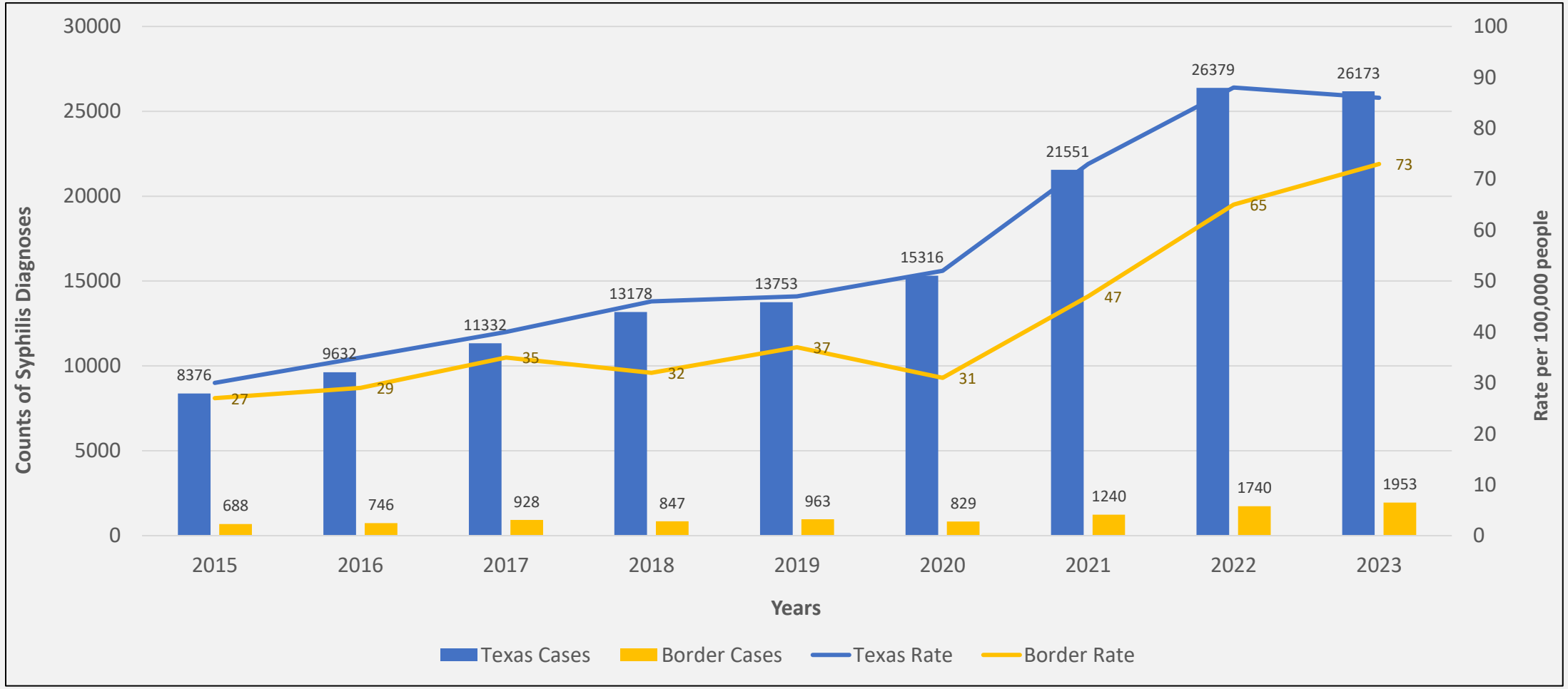
Total Death Counts, 2015-2023

Area	Total Death Counts
Texas	4,468
Border Area	236
Counties	
El Paso	97
Hidalgo	71
Cameron	31
Webb	24

Counties with at least 1 AIDS-related death each year from 2015-2023

Data source: DSHS Surveillance Data, May 2025

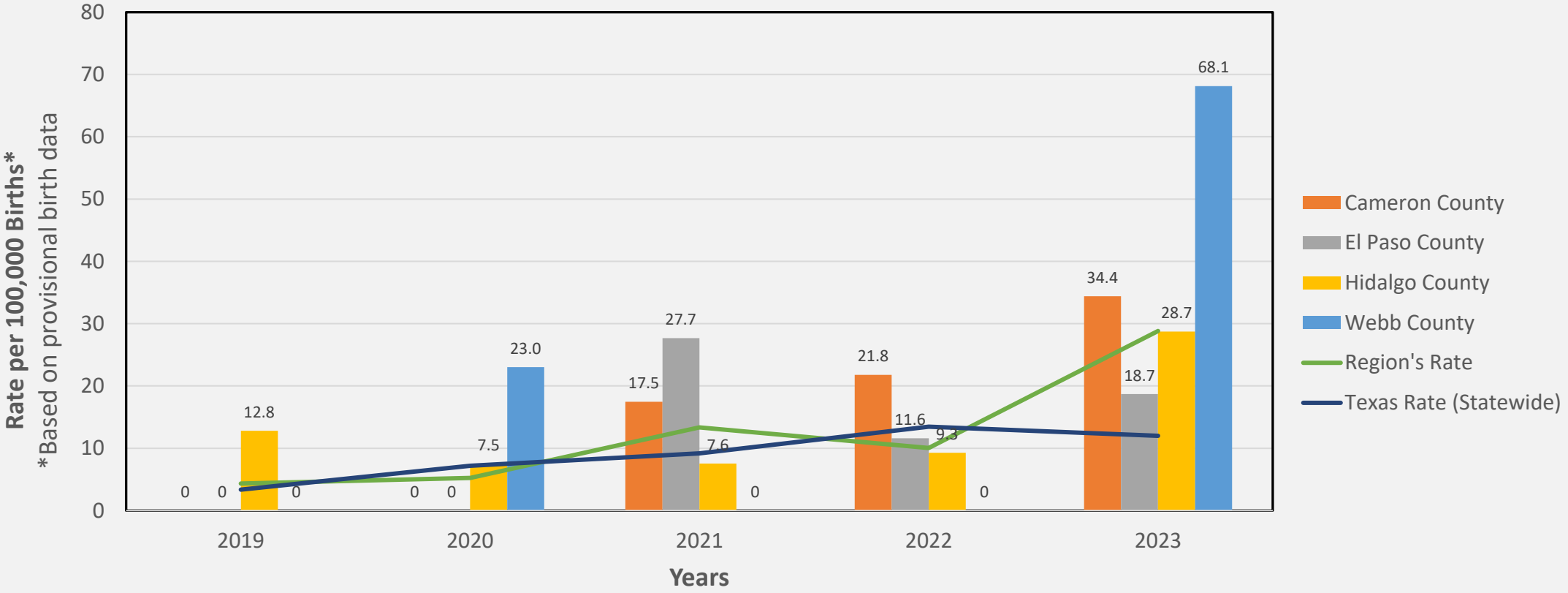
Total Syphilis Diagnoses, 2015-2023



Data source: DSHS Surveillance Data, May 2025

Congenital Syphilis Stillbirths

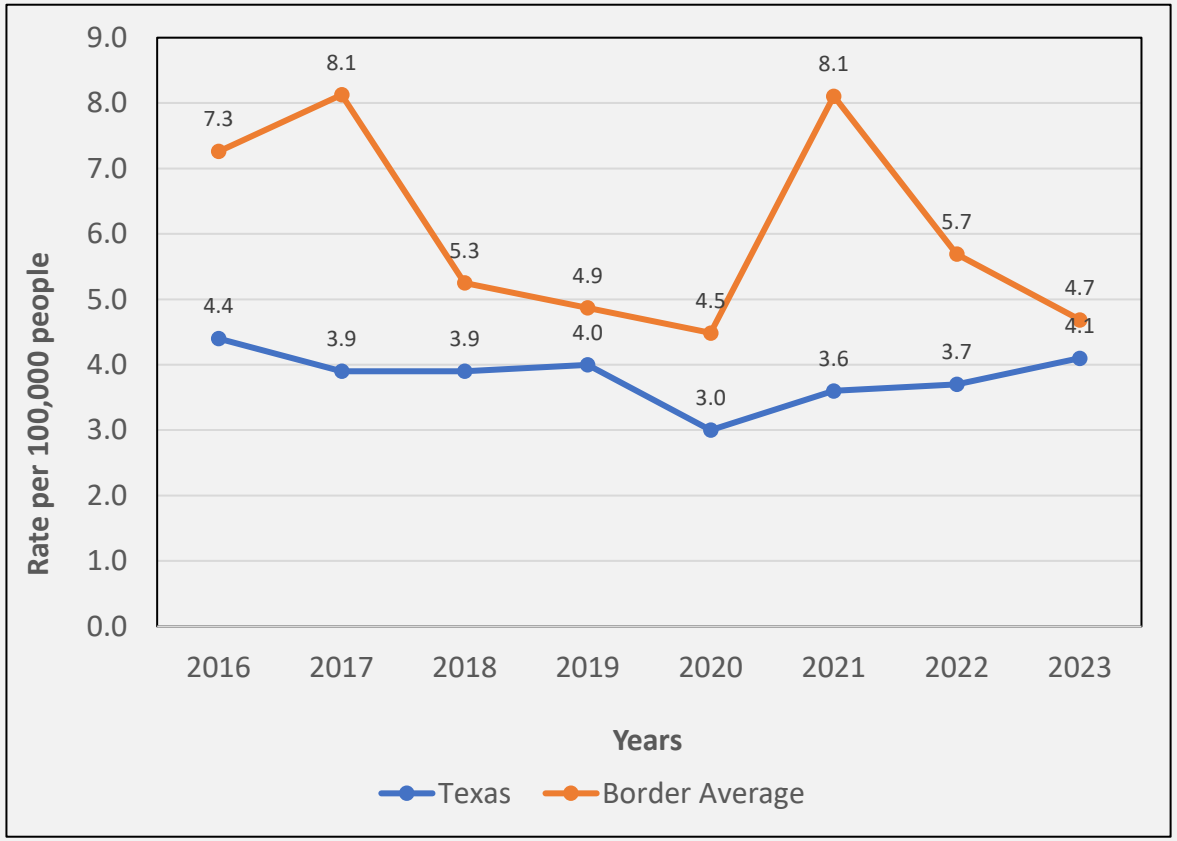
Syphilitic stillbirth: A fetal death that occurs after a 20-week gestation or in which the fetus weighs greater than 500 g and the mother had untreated or inadequately treated syphilis at delivery.



Data source: DSHS Surveillance Data, May 2025

Tuberculosis

Tuberculosis Incidence Rates, 2016-2023



Top 5 counties with high average incidence rates per 100,000 people, 2016-2023	
Val Verde	13.9
Starr	11.5
Webb	11.1
Cameron	10.6
Maverick	10.6

Incidence rate is defined as the number of new cases in a specified population in a given time.

Data source: DSHS TB and Hansen's Disease Unit

Tuberculosis Case Fatality Rate

Fatality Rate for all deaths that can be attributed to TB	MMWR Year					
	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021
Texas	2.7%	2.1%	2.5%	3.6%	3.3%	2.9%
Border Area	3.7%	4.2%	1.7%	6.2%	6.4%	3.8%

Case-fatality rate (also called case-fatality ratio) is the proportion of persons with a particular condition who die from that condition.

Data source: DSHS TB and Hansen's Disease Unit

Tuberculosis Treatment Completion

Percent of Eligible TB Cases that Completed Treatment within 12-months	MMWR Year					
	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021
Texas	83.7%	78.0%	85.6%	82.9%	78.0%	72.6%
Border Area	84.9%	85.7%	85.8%	86.8%	83.5%	76.8%

Average treatment completion percentage in counties with high average incidence, 2016-2021*	
Val Verde	74.6%
Starr	88.1%
Webb	80.2%
Cameron	78.8%
Maverick	87%

*sorted by high average incidence

Data source: DSHS TB and Hansen's Disease Unit

Vector-borne Diseases

Zoonotics, 2015-2025

Diseases	Overall counts*		Locally Acquired		Fatalities	
	Border	Statewide	Border	Statewide	Border	Statewide
Dengue	**99**	680	**17**	18	**1**	**1**
Zika	**69**	386	**11**	13	-	
West Nile Virus	**142**	1884	(all cases)		**11**	177
Chagas	**87**	641	**19**	61	-	
Spotted Fever	**73**	427	**43**	265	-	
Flea-borne Typhus	**1562**	6111	**1210**	4660	**1**	11
Malaria	**101**	1540	**1**	1	**0**	8
Human Rabies	**0**	1	-		-	
Animal Rabies	**221**	5915	-		-	

*Overall counts include both travel-related and locally acquired cases.
**This data includes provisional data for 2024 and 2025.

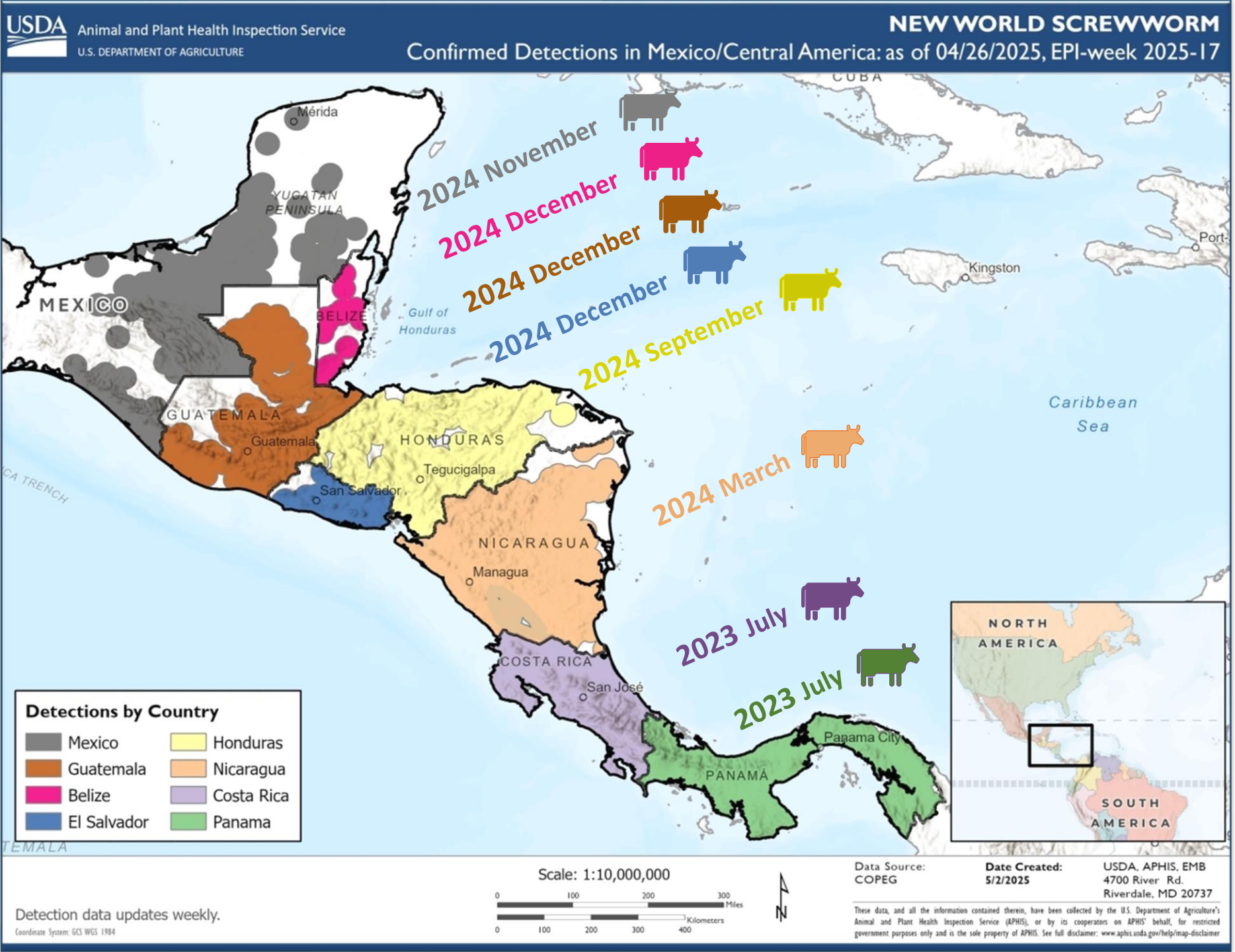
Data Source: DSHS Zoonosis Control Branch

Emerging Infectious Disease Threats at the Border

New World Screwworm (NWS) Disease

- NWS Disease: The infestation of livestock or other mammals, with fly larvae of the New World Screwworm fly
- Disease primarily affects livestock and other animals
- Humans can become infected with NWS Disease
- Eradicated in Central and North America previously using the release of sterile NWS flies

Larval primary screwworm, Cochliomyia hominivorax (Coquerel).
Photograph by Heather Stockdale Walden, University of Florida. 2016.



TIMELINE

2023

- Panama NWS detections grow from an avg of 25 to 6,500 in 1 year
- July- Costa Rica detects NWS in animals

2024

- March- Nicaragua detects NWS
- September- Honduras detects NWS
- November- Mexico detects NWS; livestock imports are suspended from Mexico to the U.S.

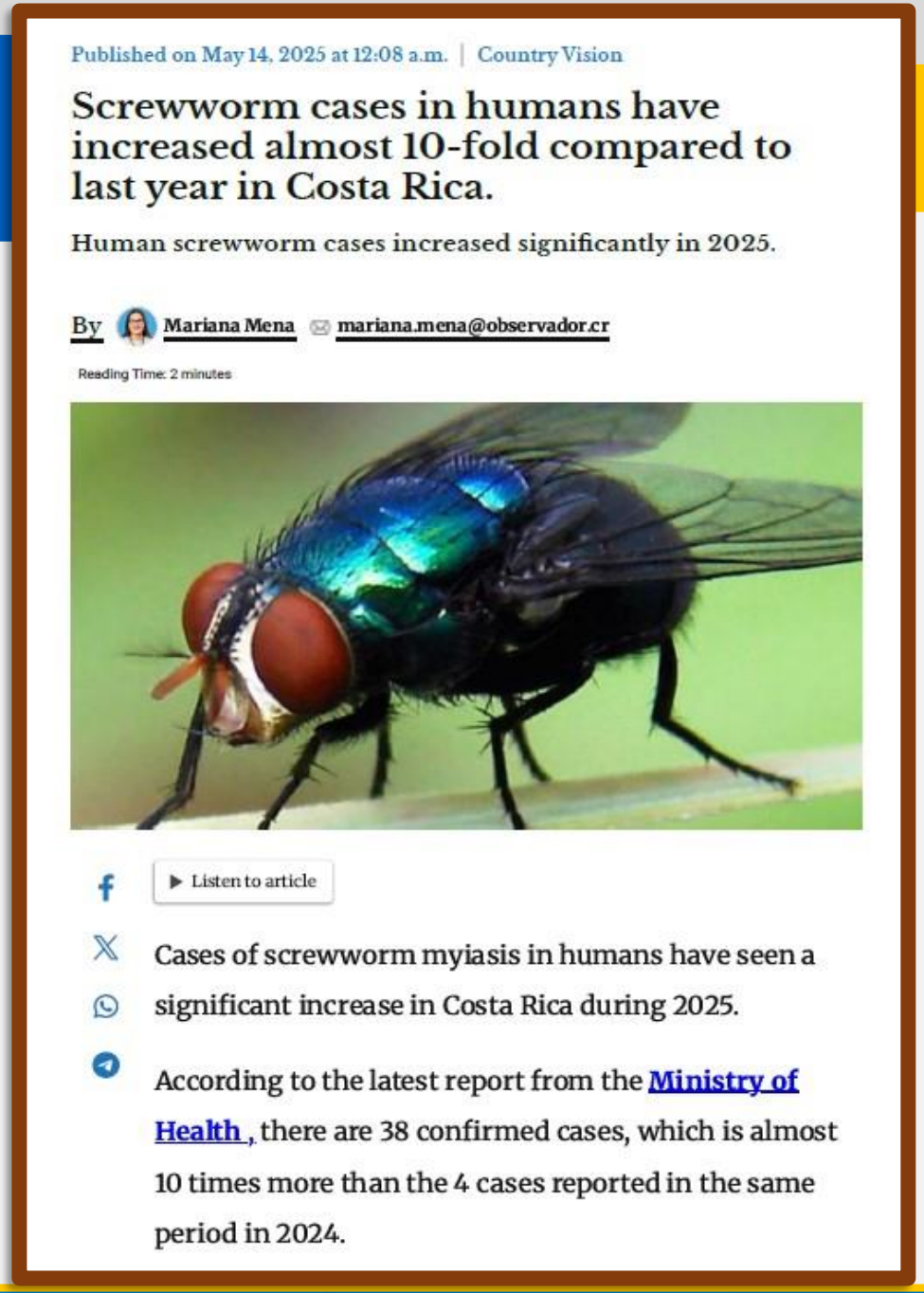
2025

- January - import suspensions reduced
- April- First human case in Mexico diagnosed
- May- Livestock imports suspended

New World Screwworm

Public Health Impact

- Infected animals can die in as little as 7 days due to secondary infection or toxicity
- Pets can become infected and bring the infection into the home
- Humans can become severely ill and even die if left untreated
- Human cases are rapidly increasing across Central America with multiple deaths now attributed to NWS disease



Published on May 14, 2025 at 12:08 a.m. | Country Vision

Screwworm cases in humans have increased almost 10-fold compared to last year in Costa Rica.

Human screwworm cases increased significantly in 2025.

By Mariana Mena mariana.mena@observador.cr

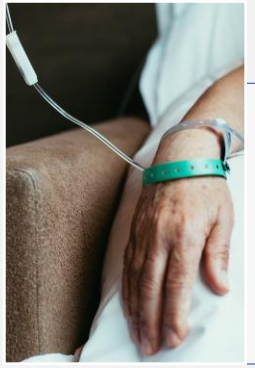
Reading Time: 2 minutes

Cases of screwworm myiasis in humans have seen a significant increase in Costa Rica during 2025.

According to the latest report from the Ministry of Health , there are 38 confirmed cases, which is almost 10 times more than the 4 cases reported in the same period in 2024.

Public Health Risk Assessment

You may be at an increased risk for NWS if you travel to areas where flies are present and:



Have a weakened immune system.

Have a medical condition that can cause bleeding or open sores.

If you live or work with (or near) livestock or other warm-blooded animals.

Have an open wound from a scratch or cut, insect bite, or a recent surgery.

Looking Ahead

Animals

New World is a reportable condition to the Texas Animal Health Commission. Call your private veterinarian or any TAHC office.

8:00 AM - 5:00 PM

Stephenville Region.....512-556-6277

Laredo Region.....956-568-5741

5:00 PM - 8:00 AM and on weekends

Veterinarian on Call.....1-800-550-8242

Humans

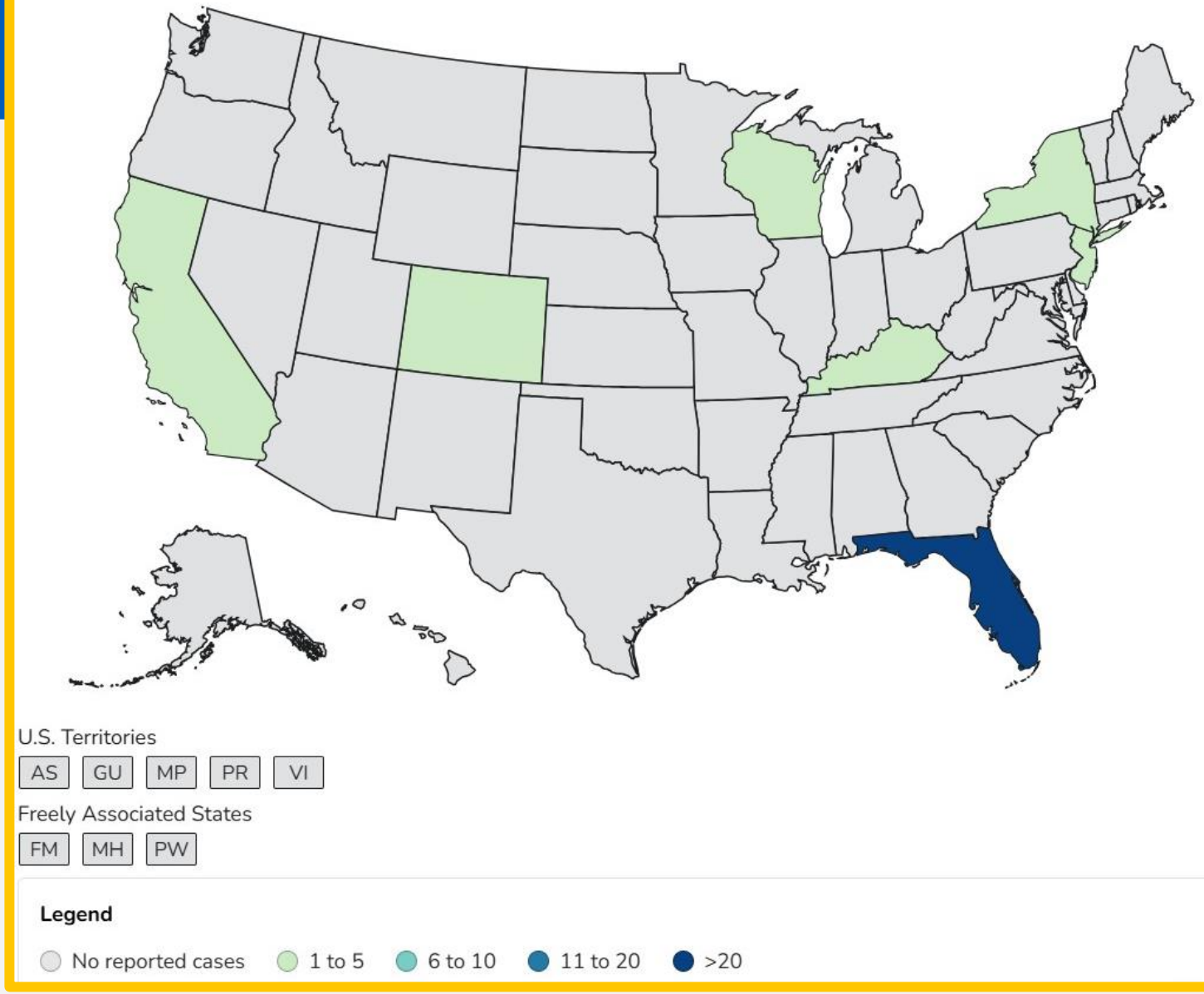
If you think you may be infected, contact your healthcare provider immediately. **Do not** try to remove or dispose of the maggots yourself.

If you are a provider, call Texas Department of State Health Services at 800-705-8868 or report to your local health department.

Oropouche Disease

- From late 2023-2024 outbreaks of Oropouche disease have been reported in areas they were not previously seen including Cuba and the DR.
- Over 90 cases were diagnosed in U.S. travelers in 2024.
- No U.S. local transmission cases have been detected.
- Spread by biting midges and sometimes mosquitos.

All Oropuche virus disease cases reported by location of residence, 2024-2025



ArboNet Surveillance System, Oropouche 2024-2025

Oropouche Symptoms

- Typical symptoms include fever and body aches which resolve without treatment
- In rare cases infection can result in meningitis or encephalitis (swelling of the brain) and even be fatal
- Infection during pregnancy has been associated with fetal death, stillbirths, and possible birth defects.
- There is no medicine to treat Oropouche

Looking Ahead

- Research in Florida is examining regional capacity to prevent and respond to Oropouche by conducting vector competence studies on local potential vectors using virus strain currently circulating in Cuba.

- New studies found evidence of the potential for sexual transmission similar to other viruses like Zika and Ebola, however no cases of sexual transmission have been reported.

Scientists are researching whether Florida insects could spread Oropouche

BY: **JACKIE LLANOS** - NOVEMBER 13, 2024 5:24 PM

Genus Culicoides, a type of midge that can spread Oropouche, or sloth fever, via Scott Bauer, U.S. Agricultural Research Service

Measles

Information on the 2025 Texas Measles Outbreak can be found online at:

https://www.dshs.texas.gov/news-alerts/measles-outbreak-2025

- Dashboard with case counts by county, age, vaccination status, and rash onset date
- Updated on a weekly basis each Tuesday (starting this week)

General measles information:

https://www.dshs.texas.gov/measles

- Symptoms
- Spread
- Prevention
- Vaccination resources

2025 Texas Measles Outbreak

6/3/2025

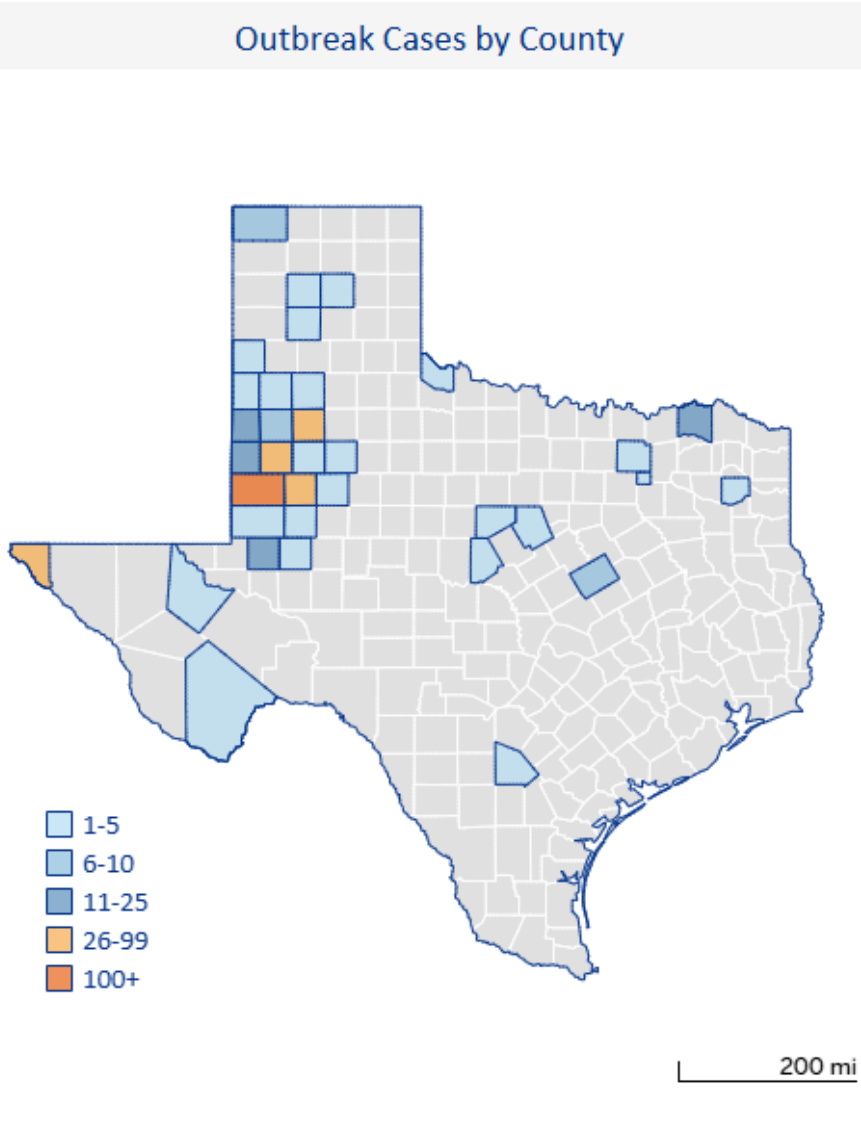
All data provisional and subject to change

Figure 1

Outbreak Cases by County

Home County	Confirmed	% of Total
Andrews	3	0.4%
Atascosa	1	0.1%
Bailey	2	0.3%
Borden	1	0.1%
Brewster	1	0.1%
Brown	1	0.1%
Carson	1	0.1%
Cochran	14	1.9%
Collin	1	0.1%
Dallam	7	0.9%
Dawson	27	3.6%
Eastland	2	0.3%
Ector	11	1.5%
El Paso	57	7.7%
Erath	1	0.1%
Gaines	411	55.4%
Garza	2	0.3%
Hale	5	0.7%
Hardeman	1	0.1%
Hockley	6	0.8%
Lamar	21	2.8%
Lamb	1	0.1%
Lubbock	53	7.1%
Lynn	2	0.3%
Martin	3	0.4%
McLennan	8	1.1%
Midland	5	0.7%
Parmer	5	0.7%
Potter	1	0.1%
Randall	1	0.1%
Reeves	1	0.1%
Rockwall	1	0.1%
Terry	60	8.1%
Upshur	5	0.7%
Yoakum	20	2.7%
Total	**742**	**100.0%**

Figure 2



Thank you!

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