



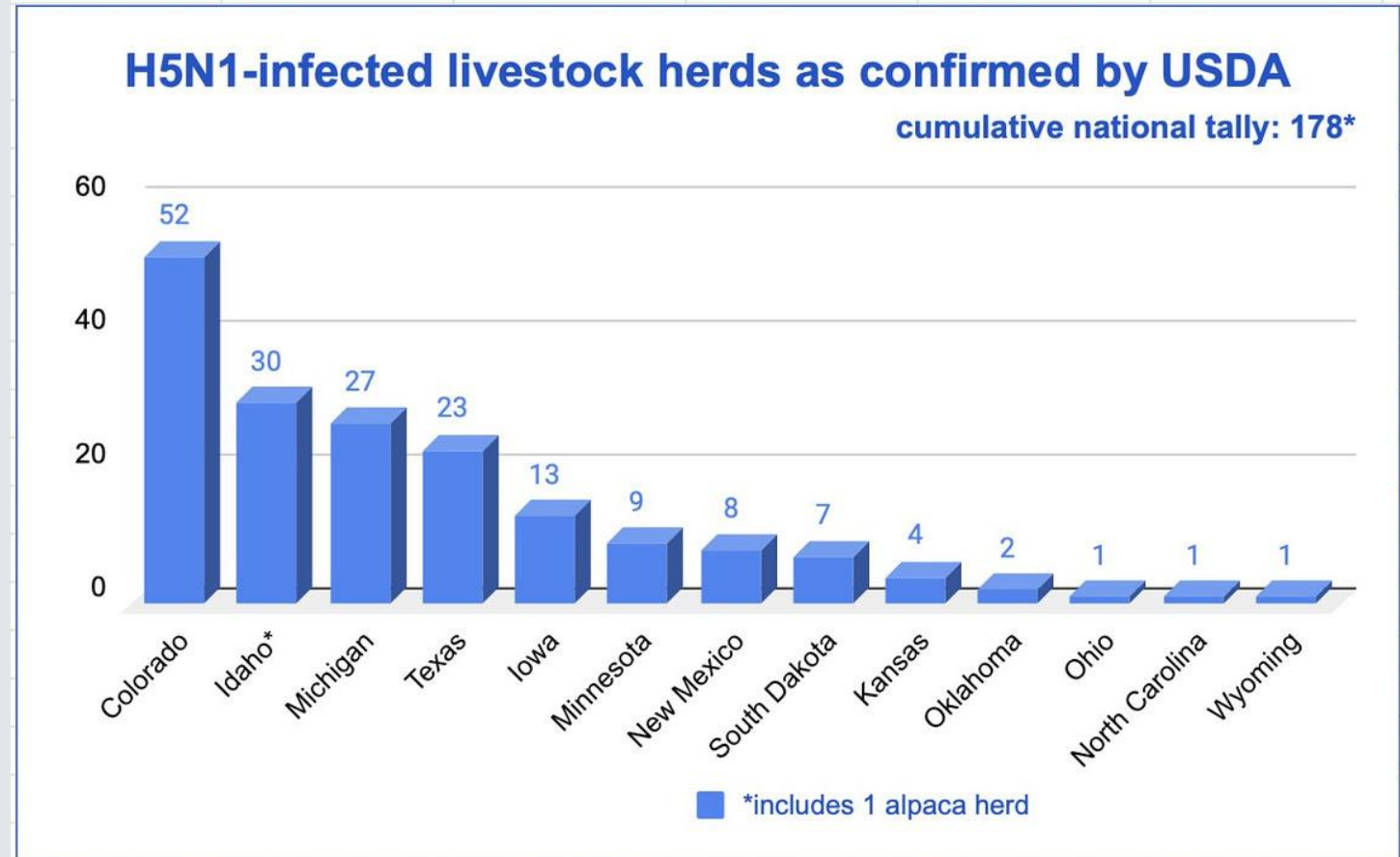
**Fargo Cass**  
**Public Health**  
Prevent. Promote. Protect.

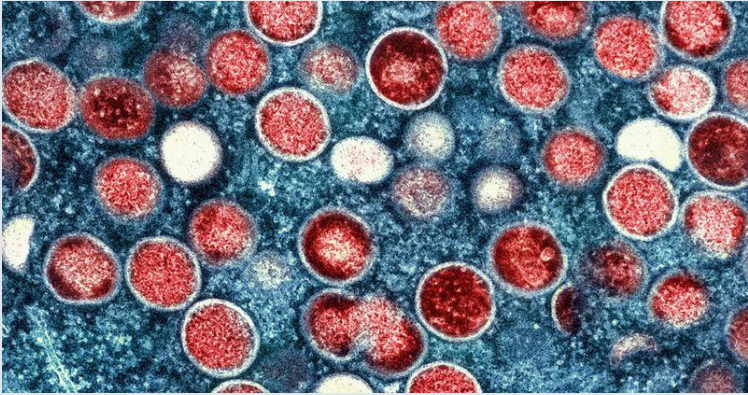
HEALTH OFFICER  
REPORT  
08.13.24

Tracie Newman, MD, MPH, FAAP

# H5N1 (BIRD FLU) CONTINUES TO SPREAD IN U.S.

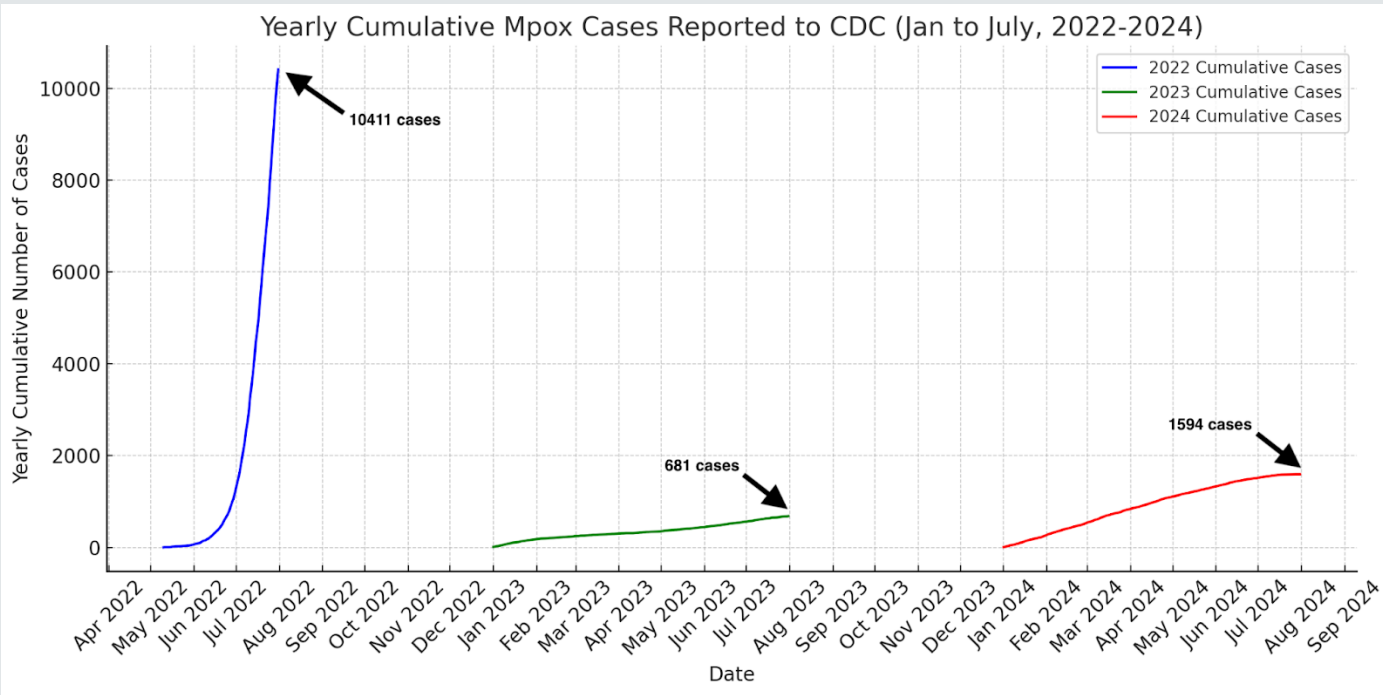
- Animal spread
  - 171 confirmed infections in dairy cow herds in 13 states
- Human cases but no spread
  - 13 total (4 from dairy cows; 9 from poultry)
  - 1 case in 2023; 0 in 2022
  - Cases likely being missed
- Animal spread anticipated to continue
- Pandemic potential “moderate” → CDC will continue to monitor
- *Annual flu vaccines more important than ever*





# MPOX UPDATE

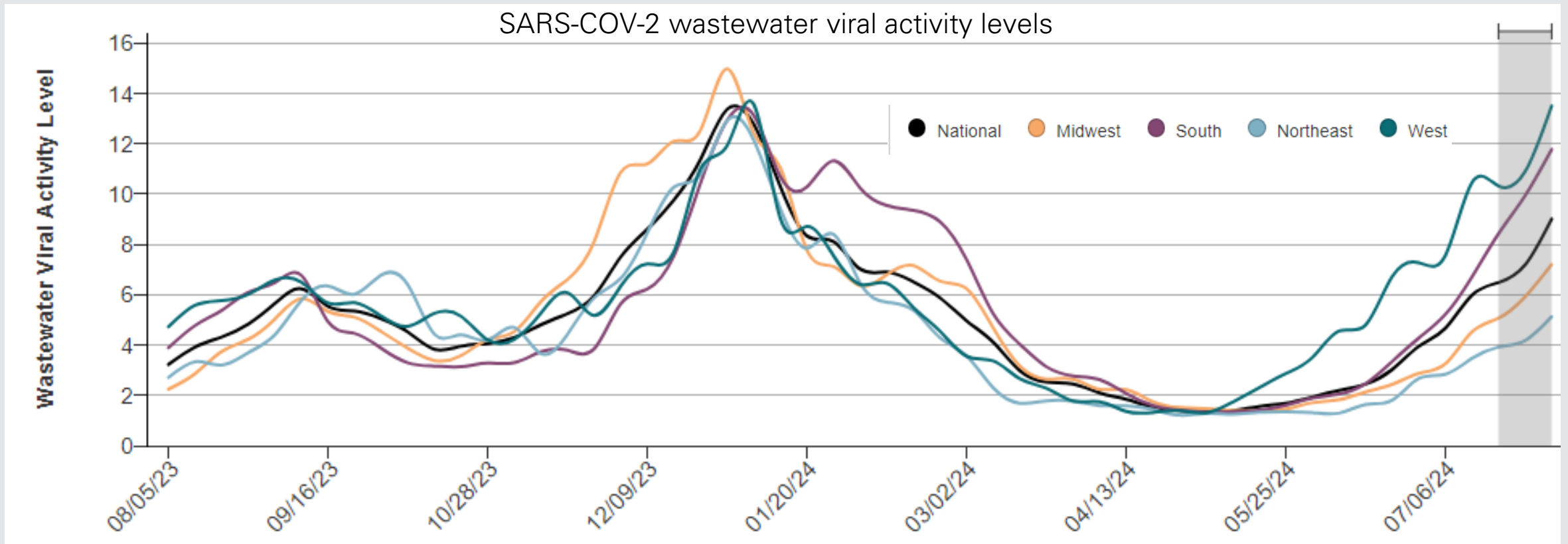
- Cases surging globally (primarily Africa)
  - > 37,000 cases and 1,400 deaths in DRC
- CDC monitoring, has declared risk “high”
- WHO considering declaring mpox a Public Health Emergency of International Concern again
- Mpox has mutated, Clade Ib more severe and transmitted human to human
- No Clade 1b cases in U.S.; only Clade II spreading (less severe strain)
- Providers should remember for patients who have travelled to DRC region



Mpox cases in the United States; Graph by YLE

# U.S. COVID UPDATE

- Wastewater levels (good indicator of community spread) are “very high” and increasing
- Region with highest viral activity: West (approaching levels seen last winter)
- New variants contributing to increased spread; existing immunity has kept hospitalizations low
- Similar pattern being seen in other countries





# National Immunization Awareness Month

#Ivax2Protect



National Immunization Awareness Month (NIAM) is an annual observance held in August to highlight the importance of vaccination for people of all ages. Together, we can help raise awareness about the importance of vaccination and encourage people to talk to a healthcare provider they trust about staying up to date on their vaccinations.

Use these resources to help you discuss vaccinations with your patients and parents during NIAM and throughout the year.

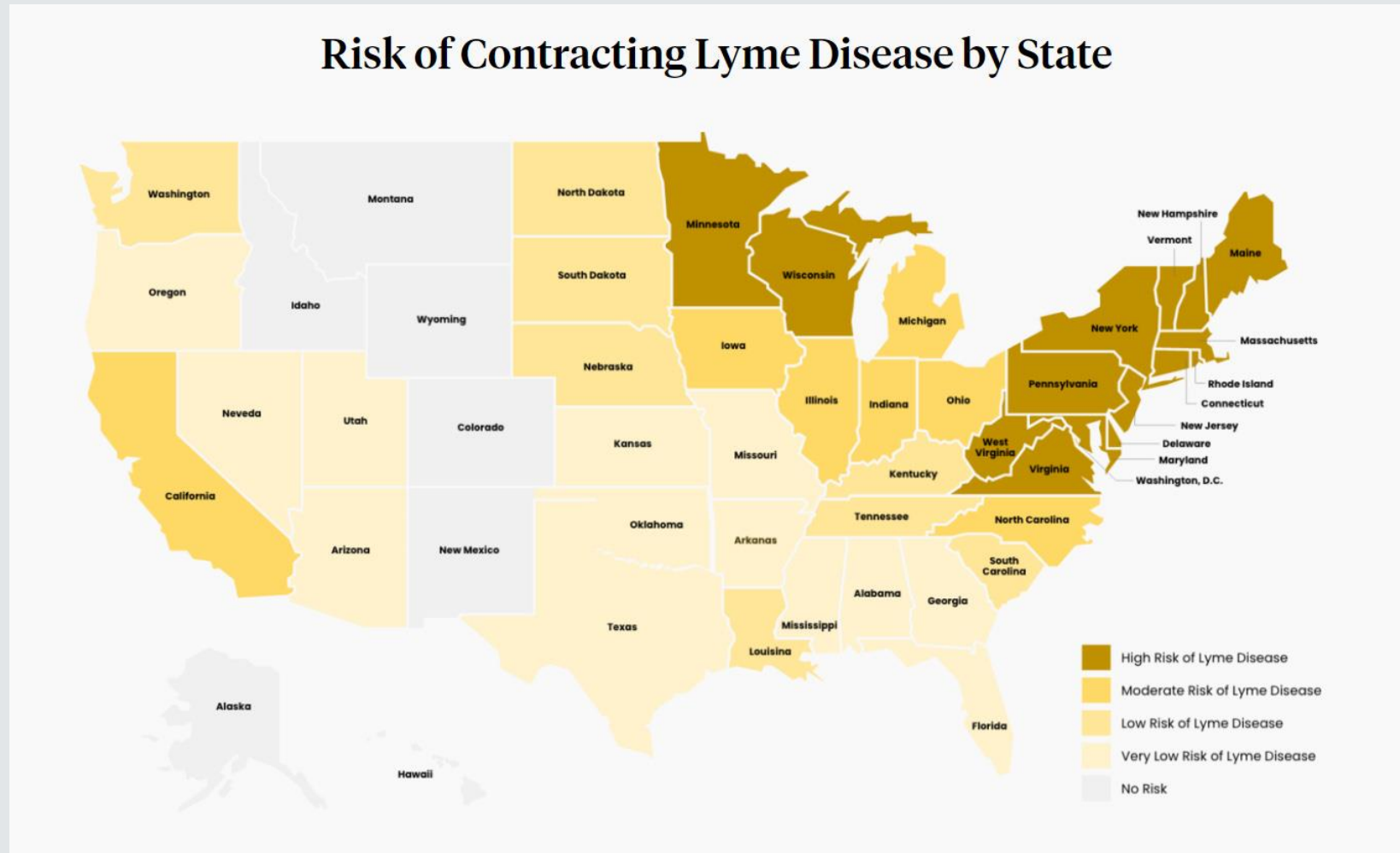


**National Immunization Awareness Month**

All staff in public health and healthcare practices, including non-clinical staff, play important roles during NIAM. CDC resources: [National Immunization Awareness Month \(NIAM\) | CDC](#)

# IT'S STILL TICK SEASON

- In the U.S., ticks transmit at least 20 diseases
- The most common is Lyme disease; most deadly is Rocky Mountain spotted fever (rare)
- 30,000-50,000 Lyme cases annually in U.S. (95% occur in 15 states)



# TICK PROTECTION

- Clothing with Insecticide / protective clothing
- Insect repellents (DEET and picaridin effective)
- Inspect for ticks and remove promptly after being outdoors
  - Remember gear and pets
- Shower within 2 hours after possible exposure
- Tumble dry clothing on high
- Lyme vaccines exist for animals; human vaccine in phase 3 clinical trials – expected 2025

Where to check for ticks

