

WAJD NEWS WATCH

Ebola Outbreak Expands in Central & East Africa

Separate health-alert newsletter | Detailed update for readers | May 28, 2026



What is happening now

Health officials are responding to a fast-moving Ebola Bundibugyo outbreak centered in the Democratic Republic of the Congo, with linked cases reported in Uganda. The outbreak is serious because the virus spread before it was fully recognized, affected multiple health zones, and has reached areas near important border and travel corridors.

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| Disease involved | Ebola disease caused by Bundibugyo virus. |
| Main affected areas | DRC provinces reported by CDC: Ituri, Nord-Kivu, and Sud-Kivu. |
| Uganda update | 7 confirmed cases and 1 confirmed death as of May 27, 2026. |
| DRC update | 1,077 suspected cases, 121 confirmed cases, 246 suspected deaths, and 17 confirmed deaths. |
| United States | CDC says no cases connected to this outbreak have been confirmed in the United States, and the overall risk to the American public remains low. |

Prepared from CDC situation update dated May 27, 2026.

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Response, Symptoms & U.S. Precautions



Why officials are concerned

CDC says a new confirmed case in Sud-Kivu shows that the outbreak is spreading beyond the first known provinces. Related cases have also been reported in Uganda, including in Kampala, raising concern because of cross-border movement and busy travel routes. Officials are working to strengthen contact tracing, infection control, and local border screening.

How Ebola spreads

- Direct contact with blood or body fluids of a sick or deceased person
- Contact with contaminated objects such as needles or medical equipment
- Exposure during caregiving or unsafe burial practices

Common symptoms

Symptoms can include fever, headache, severe weakness, vomiting, abdominal pain, diarrhea, and in some cases bleeding. Early isolation and supportive care are critical.

Medical challenge

CDC notes that there is no vaccine for Bundibugyo virus. Treatment mainly consists of supportive care, making early detection and strong infection-prevention measures especially important.

U.S. response

On May 18, CDC and the Department of Homeland Security announced enhanced public-health measures to prevent Ebola from entering the United States. Travelers from affected areas are subject to additional screening and monitoring, and affected flights are being routed through Washington-Dulles and Atlanta. CDC says no U.S. cases linked to this outbreak have been confirmed, and the public risk remains low.

Outbreak figures can change quickly as ministries of health continue investigations.