

# Measles Misinformation Gets an Immigration Twist | FactCheck

By Saranac Hale Spencer

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The [outbreak](#) of measles in the U.S. and around the world is due largely to inadequate vaccination rates in some communities, not illegal immigration, as one popular meme on Facebook claims.

The [meme](#) shows a picture of a baby who appears to be infected with measles and says: “Thanks to a highly effective vaccination program the Measles virus was eliminated from the U.S. in 2000. Thanks to the immigrants who illegally cross the U.S. Mexican border, and the Democrats who refuse to stop them, the Measles virus has been declared a public health emergency in 2019.”

The first part of that claim is correct. Measles was [eliminated](#) in the United States in 2000 and it was [eliminated](#) across both North and South America in 2016.

[Elimination means](#) cases can still occur, but the disease isn’t being continuously spread for a year or more in a specific area.

The second part of the claim, however, is incorrect.

[...]

Source: [Measles Misinformation Gets an Immigration Twist – FactCheck.org](#)