

# DISEASE ALERT







July 24, 2025 | Issue No. 46

First alert : February 26, 2025

Ninth alert : July 24, 2025 | Human Avian Influenza A(H5N1)

in Cambodia

#### **Sub-Locations Affected**

Tbong Khmum Province (Ponhea Krek)

## **Event Description**

On July 21, 2025, the National Institute of Public Health confirmed a new human case of avian influenza A(H5N1) in Tbong Khmum Province through laboratory testing. The finding was announced on July 22 by the Ministry of Health of the Kingdom of Cambodia. This brings Cambodia's total confirmed H5N1 human infections in 2025 to 13.

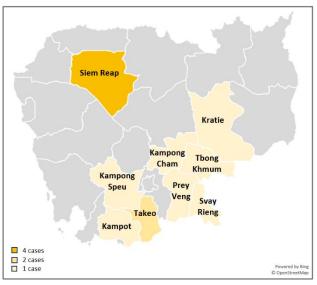


Figure 1. Provinces confirming human cases of Avian Influenza A(H5N1) in 2025 (As of July 23)

### **Epidemiological Information**

- On July 22, 2025, the Ministry of Health of the Kingdom of Cambodia announced an additional case of avian influenza A(H5N1) in a 6-year-old boy from Ponhea Krek District, Tbong Khmum Province. The patient who developed symptoms of fever, cough, shortness of breath, and difficulty breathing, is currently receiving intensive treatment. The case was confirmed by the National Institute of Public Health on July 21, 2025.
- Investigations revealed a series of sick and dying chickens in the village in July. The boy visited a relative's house, where there were nearly 100 dead chickens about 100 meters away from the child's house and handled one dead chicken to his grandmother to cook.

• Cumulatively in 2025, **Cambodia has confirmed 13 cases with six deaths,** reflecting a 46% case fatality rate.

Case Number	Age in years, sex	Region	Exposure	Date of Confirmation	Health Status
Case 1	28, male	Chamkar Leu District, Kampong Cham Province	Direct contact with chickens	January 9	Died
Case 2	2, male	Preah Sdach District, Prey Veng Province	Direct contact with chickens	February 25	Died
Case 3	3, unstated	Chitr Borei district, Kratie Province	Unknown	March 23	Died
Case 4	11, male	Samraong Tong District, Kampong Speu Province	Direct contact with chickens	May 27	Died
Case 5	65, female	Prey Kabbas District, Takeo Province.	Direct contact with chickens (no sick)	June 12	Under treatment*
Case 6	52, male	Svay Chrum District, Svay Rieng Province	Direct contact with chickens	June 20	Died
Case 7	41, female	Puok District, Siem Reap Province	Direct contact with chickens	June 23	Under treatment*
Case 8	46, female	Puok District, Siem Reap Province	Direct contact with chickens, Case 7	June 29	Under treatment*
Case 9	16, male	Puok District, Siem Reap Province	Direct contact with chickens, Case 7	June 29	Under treatment*
Case 10	36, female	Puok District, Siem Reap Province	Direct contact with chickens,	June 30	Under treatment*
Case 11	1.5, male	Takeo Province	Unknown	June 30	Died
Case 12	5, male	Angkor Chey District, Kampot Province	Direct contact with chickens	July 3	Under treatment*
Case 13	6, male	Ponhea Krek District, Tbong Khmum Province	Direct contact with chickens	July 21	Under treatment*

<sup>\*</sup>Status as of last public report. No follow-up data on recovery or outcome has been made available.

• The reassortant strain, combining surface genes from clade 2.3.2.1c and internal genes from clade 2.3.4.4b, reflects the continued evolution and genetic diversification of H5 viruses in the country.

#### **Response Measures**

- The Ministry of Health, with local partners, is investigating the avian influenza outbreak, following strict protocols: tracing sources in animals and humans, identifying cases and contacts, distributing medicines, and conducting health education in affected areas.
- The Ministry of Health urges the public to follow preventive measures and remain vigilant against avian influenza A(H5N1). Individuals with fever, cough, runny nose, or breathing

- issues, especially after contact with sick or dead poultry in the past 14 days, should avoid crowds and seek immediate medical care to prevent serious complications.
- The Ministry of Health underscored the following key preventive measures to reduce the risk of H5N1 infection:
  - a) Avoid contact with sick or dead poultry,
  - b) Use protective measures (gloves and a mask) when handling poultry for food,
  - c) Wash hands frequently, especially before handling food and after contact with poultry or potentially contaminated surfaces,
  - d) Ensure thorough cooking before consumption, and
  - e) Seek medical attention promptly.
- The Ministry of Health continuously provides updates through official social media channels, the Department of Communicable Disease Control's website (<a href="www.cdcmoh.gov.kh">www.cdcmoh.gov.kh</a>) and Facebook page.

#### **Sources:**

- 1. Avian Flu Diary. (2025, July 22). *Cambodian MOH Reports 13th H5N1 Case of 2025*. Avian Flu Diary. Retrieved July 23, 2025 from <a href="https://afludiary.blogspot.com/2025/07/cambodian-moh-reports-13th-h5n1-case-of.html">https://afludiary.blogspot.com/2025/07/cambodian-moh-reports-13th-h5n1-case-of.html</a>
- 2. BlueDot (Event Alert), issued on July 23, 2025
- 3. Ministry of Health of Cambodia. (2025, July 22). *Press release on a case of bird flu in a 6-year-old boy,* Ministry of Health of Cambodia. Retrieved July 23, 2025 from <a href="https://www.cdcmoh.gov.kh/941-h5n1-21072025">https://www.cdcmoh.gov.kh/941-h5n1-21072025</a>
- 4. Cambodianess. (2025, July 23). *Cambodian Boy Infected as Bird Flu Cases Reach 13 in 2025*, Cambodianess. Retrieved July 23, 2025 from <a href="https://cambodianess.com/article/cambodian-boy-infected-as-bird-flu-cases-reach-13-in-2025">https://cambodianess.com/article/cambodian-boy-infected-as-bird-flu-cases-reach-13-in-2025</a>

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