



ASEAN BIOLOGICAL THREATS SURVEILLANCE CENTRE

DISEASE ALERT



September 12, 2025 | Issue No. 52

First alert : September 8, 2025

Second alert : September 12, 2025 | **Ebola Outbreak in the Democratic Republic of the Congo (DRC)**

Sub-Locations Affected

Kasai Province (Boulapé, Mweka, Mushenge and Dekese); **Kwilu Province** (Kikwit)

Event Description

On September 11, 2025, the Kasai provincial government announced a lockdown of Bulape city as part of strengthened containment measures. On the same day, the Africa Centres for Disease Control and Prevention confirmed that the 16th Ebola virus disease (EVD) outbreak in the Democratic Republic of the Congo remains confined to Kasai Province, where it has spread across four health zones, while earlier alerts in Kwilu Province were ruled out following laboratory test results.

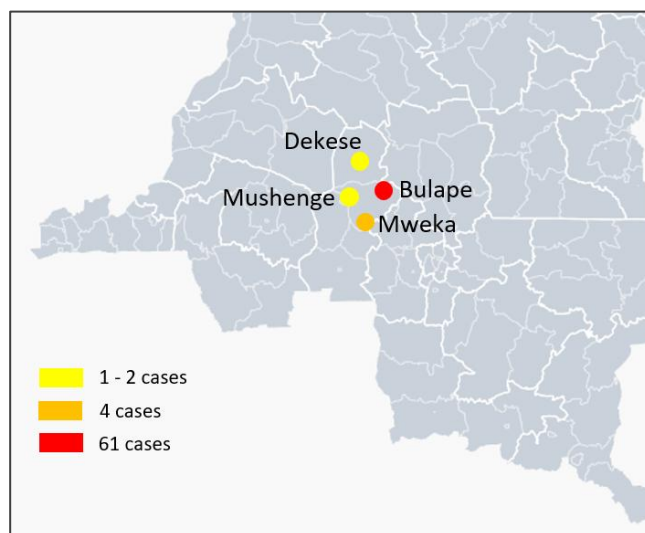


Figure 1. Map of location affected as of September 11, 2025 (source: <https://www.who.int/emergencies/disease-outbreak-news/item/2025-DON580>)

Epidemiological Information

- As of September 11, 2025, the Ebola outbreak in Kasai Province has resulted in 68 suspected cases, including 20 confirmed and 16 deaths (case fatality rate [CFR] = 23.5%). Bulape remains the epicentre with 61 cases and 15 deaths. Additional cases were recorded in Mweka (4 cases, 1 death), Mushenge (2 cases), and Dekese (1 case). Nine patients are hospitalized,

including four in critical condition. A total of 401 contacts have been identified, with 398 under active follow-up.

- On September 4, 2025, the Minister of Public Health, Hygiene, and Social Security of the Democratic Republic of the Congo announced the resurgence of Ebola virus disease (Zaire strain) in the Boulapé Health Zone, Kasai Province.
- As of September 4, 2025, official data recorded 28 suspected cases and 15 deaths (case fatality rate [CFR] = 54%), including four deaths among healthcare workers from three areas of the Bulape Health Zone (Bulape, Bulape Com, and Dikolo) and Mweka Health Zone.
- On August 20, 2025, the first known index case was reported, involving a pregnant woman who presented at Boulapé General Reference Hospital with high fever, bloody diarrhea, hemorrhage, and extreme weakness. She died on August 25, 2025, from multiple organ failure.
- Africa CDC highlighted that funeral attendance may have amplified transmission, as several suspected cases involved individuals who died before the outbreak was recognized. Attendees from other health zones may have been exposed through unsafe burial practices, such as Ebola transmission.
- The spread across four health districts has raised the risk of cross-border transmission, particularly to Angola.

Response Measures

- Authorities are implementing several public health measures, including:
 - Activating crisis committees at local and provincial levels;
 - Conducting risk communication and active surveillance;
 - Isolating all cases and applying Infection Prevention and Control (IPC) measures;
 - Administering intravenous medications to all patients;
 - Continuing contact isolation, tracing, and investigations.
- In response to the outbreak, the WHO is supporting the national authorities through:
 - Conducting risk assessment and investigation;
 - Providing operational, financial and technical assistance to the Ministry of Health to enable a rapid response;
 - Supplying essential items, including Personal Protective Equipment (PPE), medical supplies, and infrastructure support; and
 - Preparing 2,000 doses of the approved Ervebo vaccine in Kinshasa, to be shipped shortly to the affected area for vaccination of contacts of confirmed or suspected cases, as well as frontline and healthcare workers. So far, 68 frontline healthcare workers have been vaccinated

- The WHO assessed the public health risk as high nationally, moderate regionally, and low globally. It is also supporting 10 priority neighbouring countries with readiness assessments and contingency planning.
- Médecins Sans Frontières (MSF), with the DRC Ministry of Health and WHO, set up an Ebola treatment center in Bulape General Referral Hospital on September 9 and is reinforcing triage, infection control, and healthcare worker training.

Sources:

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