

ASEAN Biodiaspora Virtual Center

Media Monitoring for Infectious and Emerging Diseases

GLOBAL & ASEAN REGION

April 03 - 04, 2025

With Support by:

  

This report is based on media monitoring of infectious and emerging diseases globally and within ASEAN Member States. To enhance pandemic and epidemic preparedness and response in the ASEAN Region, we publish this report three times a week.

Global Situation

Mpox

- **Sierra Leone** has reported 125 cases of mpox, including 71 active cases, 52 recoveries, and two fatalities, according to the National Public Health Agency (Barron's, 2025). Authorities launched a preventive vaccination campaign targeting frontline healthcare workers, high-risk individuals, and children aged 12-years-old and above. Over 100 healthcare workers at 34 Military Hospital have been vaccinated with vaccination cards issued. [[Full article](#)]
- **Zambia** has confirmed 36 mpox cases since October 2024, with five new cases recorded in the past week, according to the Ministry of Health (Xinhua, 2025). Lusaka is the most affected area, followed by Copperbelt Province, Muchinga, Western, and Central. Of the cases, 26 have recovered, while nine remain active, including eight under home isolation, and one has died. The government is committed to identifying cases, ensuring timely treatment, and implementing isolation measures to curb further spread. [[Full article](#)]

Avian Influenza (H5N1)

- **India** has confirmed its second human death from bird flu, involving a two-year-old girl in Narasaraopet, Andhra Pradesh, on March 16 due to the H5N1 virus (South First, 2025). The child developed severe symptoms after consuming raw chicken meat at home and was hospitalized. Local fever surveys and inspections conducted by health authorities found no additional suspected cases or direct sources of infection. [[Full article](#)]

Measles

- **Canada:** Waterloo Region has confirmed 14 new measles cases as of April 2, 2025, amid a growing outbreak in Ontario, with 557 cases reported in the first three months of 2025 (CTV News, 2025). To curb transmission, public health officials aim to raise the local immunization rate to at least 90%. Families were required to update their children's vaccination records or file for an exemption under the Immunization of School Pupils Act. As a result, 1,624 elementary school students were suspended for incomplete vaccination records. [[Full article](#)]

The **Tennessee** Department of Health confirmed three new cases of measles in Middle Tennessee on April 1, 2025, bringing the state's total to four for 2025 (Tennessee Department of Health, 2025). One new case is linked to the first confirmed case on March 21, 2025. All three individuals are recovering at home, while public health officials are investigating other exposure sites and individuals at risk. [[Full article](#)]



Pertussis

- **Japan** recorded a significant increase in pertussis cases, with 4,100 cases reported as of March 23, 2025, surpassing the total of 4,054 cases in 2024 (Evrin Ağacı, 2025). Osaka Prefecture reported the highest number (336), followed by Tokyo (299) and Niigata (258). Authorities are committed to controlling the outbreak and protecting public health, including public awareness campaigns on the importance of vaccination and the dangers of pertussis. [[Full article](#)]

Regional Situation

Dengue

- **Indonesia:** Denpasar City, Bali Province, reported 246 dengue cases in March 2025, an increase compared to 122 cases in March 2024 (IDN Times Bali, 2025). The highest number of cases was reported in South Denpasar, with no fatalities recorded. Most cases affected individuals aged 15-44 years-old. Health authorities launched an ultra-low volume (ULV) fogging campaign and urged residents to maintain cleanliness and adopt healthy lifestyles to curb the spread. [[Full article](#)]
- **Malaysia** experienced a 7.1% increase in dengue cases in Sibu Division, Sarawak, from January 1 to April 3, 2025, with 30 cases reported compared to 28 in the same period in 2024 (The Borneo Post, 2025). Sibu had the highest number of cases, followed by Kanowit and Selangau. No fatalities have been reported. Health authorities advise weekly elimination of mosquito breeding sites and urge those with symptoms to seek medical care. Authorities note it is too early to determine a significant upward trend. [[Full article](#)]
- The **Philippines** reported 1,223 dengue cases in Iloilo Province from January 1 to March 29, 2025, including seven fatalities, with cases gradually declining (Philippine News Agency, 2025). The decline was attributed to the province-wide control measures. However, health officials urge continued vigilance due to potential risk factors, and residents are encouraged to conduct simultaneous cleanups every Monday at 4 p.m. to eliminate mosquito breeding sites. [[Full article](#)]

Rotavirus

- The **Philippines** reported 74 cases of rotavirus, a severe diarrhea, among children in Bacolod City in 2025 (Vax Before Travel, 2025). Poor sanitation and hygiene are the main risk factors, leading to contamination. Health officials advise frequent handwashing, safe drinking water, and boiling or chlorinating water. Vaccines are available and recommended, especially for travelers departing from the United States, and can be obtained through most travel clinics and pharmacies. [[Full article](#)]

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