

ASEAN Biodiaspora Virtual Center

Media Monitoring for Infectious and Emerging Diseases

GLOBAL & ASEAN REGION

08 – 09 August, 2024



This report is the result of media monitoring on infectious and emerging diseases happening around the world and among the ASEAN Member States. In order to improve pandemic and epidemic preparedness and response in the ASEAN Region, we provide this report three times a week starting from January 2024.

Global Situation

COVID-19

- The **United States (US)**: New York City has seen a drop in weekly COVID-19 cases, following a surge in positive cases during the summer (Rahhal, 2024). The city reported an average of 813 new cases per day in August, a slight drop from the previous week but still high compared to May's 220 per day. As positive test results drop, so do hospitalizations, with an average of 46 per day. [\[Full article\]](#)

Ohio has reported a 10th consecutive week of increased COVID-19 cases, rising from 5,962 to 6,660 (Staff, 2024). The increase is more than double last year's number. Over 1.38 million Ohioans (11.8% of the population) have received the updated one-dose COVID-19 vaccine. The total COVID-19 case count since early 2020 in Ohio has reached 3,781,375. The state health department reported 11 deaths from COVID-19, raising the total to 44,073. The total reported cases, individuals with updated vaccines, deaths, hospitalizations, and ICU admissions have also increased. [\[Full article\]](#)

Dengue

- **Bangladesh** has reported two more dengue deaths in 24 hours, raising the number of deaths to 62 this year (United News of Bangladesh, 2024). During the same period, 181 more patients were hospitalized with viral fever. A total of 642 patients are being treated in different hospitals. Since January 1, 2024, there are 7,529 dengue cases reported. [\[Full article\]](#)
- **India**: The number of dengue cases in West Bengal has increased due to the monsoon, with around 500 people, mostly in rural areas, affected in the last week of July (Desk, 2024). Since January, at least 2,640 people have been diagnosed with the disease in the state, with North 24 Parganas district leading with 363 cases. [\[Full article\]](#)
- The **United States (US)**: The global Dengue fever outbreak continues to expand in August 2024, with over 11.1 million cases and 6,135 related deaths reported in 43 countries and territories (News, 2024). The U.S. CDC reported 3,290 cases in 52 jurisdictions, while only 2,343 were reported in 2023. The best way to prevent the disease is to wear protective clothing, as no dengue vaccine is available in the U.S. [\[Full article\]](#)



Melioidosis

- **Taiwan:** Eleven domestic melioidosis cases have been reported in southern Taiwan since Typhoon Gaemi hit the country in late July, with three people receiving treatment in the intensive care unit (Ocacnews.Net., 2024). The CDC reported 18 domestic melioidosis cases this year, the highest for the same period since 2019. The peak of cases usually occurs two to four weeks after a typhoon. The CDC estimates that new cases will begin to be reported next week and will begin to decline significantly by the end of August. [[Full article](#)]

Mpox

- **Spain** has had the highest number of mpox cases in Europe since April 2022, with 8,101 cases reported (Wilson, 2024). In 2024, there are 260 confirmed cases, almost half of which are in Madrid, with 90% are unvaccinated. The virus can cause painful lesions on the skin, exhaustion, and fever-like symptoms. Three out of four cases presented general symptoms, with 76.1% of rash cases located in the anogenital area. The most likely form of transmission was sexual intercourse in 80% of mpox infections, with the majority involving gay or bisexual men. The World Health Organization (WHO) is considering declaring the outbreak a public health emergency of international concern. [[Full article](#)]

Pertussis

- **South Korea** has reported an increase in pertussis cases, with 15,179 reported since January 1, with Gyeonggi being the most affected (Crisis24, 2024). Officials urge vaccination for children and prompt treatment for symptoms such as coughing for over a week or after contact with a confirmed case. [[Full article](#)]
- The **United Kingdom (UK):** The UK Health Security Agency (UKHSA) has urged pregnant women to get vaccinated after cases of whooping cough reached 10,493 in June (Thomas, 2024). Between December and June, 10 babies under three months died after contracting the virus. Since 2013, there have been 30 infant deaths, with 24 of the mothers not having been vaccinated during pregnancy. The latest data shows that whooping cough peaked in May but has remained at a high level with 2,427 cases reported in June. Pregnant women may get vaccinations midway through their pregnancy at 20 weeks, providing 92% protection from infant death. However, vaccine uptake among pregnant women, babies, and young children fell from 74.7% in December 2017 to 50.9% in March 2024. [[Full article](#)]
- The **United States (US):** Penn State University Park has reported five cases of whooping cough since mid-March, a 456% increase from the previous year (Blanarik, 2024). The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) reported 601 cases of pertussis with 108 more cases than in all of 2023. Penn State and the Pennsylvania Department of Health urge the University Park community to stay alert for symptoms and stay updated on vaccinations, including a Tetanus-Diphtheria-Pertussis (Tdap) booster every 10 years and a single dose during every pregnancy. [[Full article](#)]



Zika

- **India:** Pune, Maharashtra has reported eight new zika cases, raising the total to 81 (Chief Reporter, 2024). Six of the seven patients are pregnant women, and a 36-year-old man is in critical condition. The number of zika cases in the city has increased to 73. Six cases have been reported in rural Pune and two in Pimpri Chinchwad city. The highest number of zika virus infections have been detected in women, with 32 pregnant women affected. The health department assures that no death has been directly attributed to the virus, but will send the report of four deceased patients to the Maharashtra government for verification. [\[Full article\]](#)

Regional Situation

Dengue

- The **Philippines** has recorded 128,834 dengue cases and 337 deaths since January, a 33% increase from the same period last year (IANS, 2024). However, the number of dengue deaths from January to July was lower. The trend suggests that people should seek early consultation and better case management. The Philippine health secretary is urging the public to continue searching for and destroying mosquito breeding containers. [\[Full article\]](#)

Leptospirosis

- The **Philippines:** The Department of Health (DOH) reported 67 cases of leptospirosis from 14 to 27 July, including the period when Typhoon Carina and the southwest monsoon caused flooding in Metro Manila (Perez, 2024). The agency is cautious because of the delay in reporting and expects an increase in leptospirosis cases in the coming weeks. As of July 27, the DOH has listed 1,444 leptospirosis cases, a 42% decrease from the 2,505 cases recorded last year. A total of 162 people has died from the disease. [\[Full article\]](#)

Measles

- **Viet Nam:** Dong Nai Provincial Center for Disease Control reported two new cases of measles in the province from July 26 to August 1, bringing the total to 15 (Dung, 2024). The most recent case is an 8-month-old girl in Bien Hoa city who had no contact with anyone outside her family in the past 14 days. The girl was diagnosed with viral fever, suspected for hand, foot, and mouth disease. She was admitted to the Infectious Diseases Department for treatment. Epidemiological investigations revealed that the patient's mother had exhibited symptoms of cough, fever, and rash and had sought treatment at a local hospital. Medical staff informed the family about measles and advised them to report to the nearest health facility and to wash their hands regularly. [\[Full article\]](#)

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