

# ASEAN Biodiaspora Virtual Center

## Media Monitoring for Infectious and Emerging Diseases

### ASEAN REGION

February 08 – 09, 2024



This report is the result of media monitoring of infectious and emerging diseases happening around the world and among the ASEAN Member States. 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

- **Bangladesh** has reported 33 more COVID-19 cases in the last 24 hours, with 475 samples tested, a positivity rate of 6.95% (EM, 2024). The country's total fatalities remained at 29,483, with 2,047,440 cases and 2,014,649 recoveries. [\[Full article\]](#)

### Dengue

- **Bangladesh:** Over the past day, 25 more people have been admitted to hospitals due to dengue, with no deaths reported (Shafiq, 2014). The Department of Health reported that six patients were admitted in Dhaka and 19 in other districts. Currently, 106 patients are receiving treatment. [\[Full article\]](#)

### Measles

- **Austria:** Tyrol has reported 23 people infected with measles, with 13 still sick on Tuesday (Buchacher P, 2024). A person who was unaware of their illness was present at a children's indoor soccer tournament in Wörgl on February 3rd and 4th during the infectious period. [\[Full article\]](#)
- **Iran:** A young child in Mashkhan, Astara district, died of measles after a high fever (1news.az, 2024). The Astara District Prosecutor's Office is investigating the incident, which has resulted in over 10 deaths in Azerbaijan in recent months. [\[Full article\]](#)
- **Russia:** The Saratov region has seen a rise in measles cases, with 38 identified in 2024, including 22 sick children (Badikov, E., 2024). The cases were found in Saratov, Ekaterinovsky, Pugachevsky, and Engelssky districts. The Ministry of Health confirmed that the vaccine is still being delivered. [\[Full article\]](#)
- **United Kingdom (UK):** The UK has seen a significant rise in measles cases, with over 100 reported within a week, primarily in England (Mills & Bates, 2024). The West Midlands has seen a significant increase, with many reports from Birmingham. The recent dip in measles, mumps, and rubella (MMR) vaccine uptake, exacerbated by COVID-19, school closures, and general vaccination skepticism, raises concerns about children's health. [\[Full article\]](#)



## Regional Situation

### Dengue

- **Indonesia:** Dengue hemorrhagic fever (DHF) has increased significantly in Baubau District, Southeast Sulawesi since early 2024, with 40 cases reported by February 2024 (Nurliyani W.O, 2024). The majority of cases are children and those of productive age, with the highest distribution in densely populated urban areas. The peak in cases is expected from January to March, with a decline in mid-year and a resurgence in November. [\[Full article\]](#)
- **Malaysia:** Malaysia's Ministry of Public Health reported a 65.6% increase in dengue fever cases in the first five weeks of 2024, with 11,127 people affected. The number of deaths has risen to nine (Paibulsin, 2024). The World Health Organization (WHO) reported over five million confirmed cases and 5,000 deaths since 2023, primarily in the Americas, Southeast Asia, and the Western Pacific. [\[Full article\]](#)
- **Singapore:** More than 2,000 dengue cases have been reported since the start of 2024 (Khalik S, 2024). This is the highest number recorded in at least five years for the corresponding period. The National Environment Agency (NEA) told The Straits Times that the continued rise in cases – numbers have gone up over nine consecutive weeks – is “a big concern”. But it is still too early to say if it will result in a major outbreak in 2024. There were 494 infections in the week ending Feb 3. Since then, another 185 cases have been reported as of Feb 6. [\[Full article\]](#)
- **Thailand:** The Disease Control Department (DCD) has reported a significant increase in dengue fever cases, with over 8,000 infected and 13 deaths in 2024 (TST, 2024). The virus, transmitted by Aedes mosquitoes, is primarily infecting children aged five to 14, with most cases in the southern and central provinces. The oldest patient was 65 years old. [\[Full article\]](#)

### Measles

- **Malaysia:** As of the 5th epidemiological week, 30 measles cases have been detected in Penampang district, with 87% of cases involving Malaysian citizens (Doksil M, 2024). 17% of cases received at least one dose of the measles vaccine, while 27% did not. The Sabah Health Department has conducted supplementary immunization activities, achieving a 95% measles immunization rate for Penampang. However, challenges remain in identifying vaccination status among residents, particularly foreigners. [\[Full article\]](#)

### Mpox

- **Cambodia** has confirmed another case of mpox, raising the total number of infections to six since December (Huaxia ed, 2024). The Ministry of Health urges caution as the virus can be transmitted through sexual contact, direct contact with wounds, body fluids, saliva, and equipment. It also warns that mpox can be passed from mother to child through an umbilical cord during or after birth. Symptoms include rash, fever, headache, muscle aches, low back pain, and fatigue. [\[Full article\]](#)



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