

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

- **New Zealand** has reported 5,230 new COVID-19 cases and 20 deaths, with 360 probable cases and 3,429 reinfections (News, 2024). The ministry reported 6,142 new cases and one death last week, following a spike in cases and warnings of a significant wave this winter. [\[Full article\]](#)

Dengue

- **Bangladesh:** Fifteen dengue patients were hospitalized in Dhaka in the last 24 hours, with seven in Dhaka and eight in other hospitals (Bss, 2024). This year, the total number of cases reached 3,118, with 39 deaths reported. In the past 24 hours, 24 patients were discharged, and 2,941 were released. A recent survey found 18 wards in Dhaka at high risk of dengue. [\[Full article\]](#)

Measles

- The **United Kingdom (UK):** Families of children with cancer and other conditions that may weaken immunity are being warned to take extra care during the measles emergency, as GPs diagnose more than 600 new suspected cases in three weeks (Ault, 2024). Since the current outbreak began in Birmingham, there have been 1,749 lab-confirmed cases, including 1,531 confirmed cases so far in 2024, more than quadruple the 362 cases seen all last year and the biggest outbreak in more than a decade. The UK Health Security Agency (UKHSA) has sent letters to clinicians around the country offering guidance for protecting patients with weakened immune systems, particularly children. [\[Full article\]](#)
- The **United States (US):** The Virgin Islands Health commissioner, has urged parents to maintain their children's vaccination schedule amid measles outbreaks across the U.S mainland and the Caribbean region (Daily News Staff, 2024). The U.S. Virgin Islands childhood vaccine rate is currently at 60%, with more parents applying for exemptions. The Virgin Islands Health commissioner highlighted the alarming number of 151 measles cases reported in 22 jurisdictions across the U.S. mainland, highlighting the importance of vaccination for children's protection. [\[Full article\]](#)
- **Pakistan:** Punjab Minister for Primary and Secondary Healthcare reported a decrease in measles cases, with Chief Minister monitoring the situation (Jamshaid, 2024). Around eight children have died in Rawalpindi, with 496 measles patients reported. The situation is expected to continue in the coming days. [\[Full article\]](#)



Pertussis

- **France:** Public Health France has reported a resurgence of whooping cough in France and Europe, with four cases reported in a Rennes school and dozens in Brittany (Veillard, 2024). The disease has been affecting children and teachers, and families have been informed and evicted for at least five days. The latest data confirms the resurgence in France, with more cases reported over the first five months of the year. The European Center for Disease Prevention and Control (ECDC) reported 25,130 cases of whooping cough in 2023 compared to 32,037 cases between January 1 and March 31, 2024. In France, 70 cases were reported in the first three months of 2024, with around twenty clusters reported. Treatment with antibiotics and a five-day avoidance are necessary. [\[Full article\]](#)
- **Kazakhstan:** A child died in Kazakhstan due to whooping cough, a disease caused by an insignificant number of unvaccinated children (akipress, 2024). Health Minister highlighted the unstable population health and the fatal case in March, with 1,353 cases registered since the start of 2023. [\[Full article\]](#)

Regional Situation

COVID-19

- **Malaysia:** The number of COVID-19 cases in Johor has been steadily increasing over the past eight weeks, according to state health and environment committee chairman Ling Tian Soon. In the 23rd epidemiological week, 263 cases were recorded, a 5.6% increase from the previous week. The trend has been increasing since the 16th epidemiological week, with 109 cases reported, a 220.6% increase from the previous week. The accumulated number of COVID-19 cases in Johor to date is 414,401. Most cases were reported in Johor Bahru, followed by Batu Pahat, Kulai, and Muar. [\[Full article\]](#)

Dengue

- **Indonesia:** The Tanjungpinang City Health Service reported 66 cases of Dengue Hemorrhagic Fever (DHF) from January to mid-June 2024, with the largest number of cases in Pinang Kencana Village at 18% (Zulfan, 2024). The increase is attributed to mosquito bites, particularly among children, and lack of cleanliness around residences and activity locations. The head of the health service urged the public to take preventive measures, such as protecting the environment, closing window ventilation, and eradicating larvae to prevent mosquito growth. [\[Full article\]](#)
- **Vietnam:** Dak Lak province is facing a severe dengue fever outbreak, with over 300 cases recorded since 2024 (Nam Trang, 2024). The local health sector is implementing prevention measures to prevent the disease from spreading into an epidemic. The CDC reports that the province is focusing on Buon Ma Thuot city, Ea Kar, and Krong Pac districts. To control the disease, the health sector is coordinating with mass media agencies, strengthening monitoring, and reviewing hot spots for timely handling. Proactive epidemic prevention efforts will be deployed in June and July. [\[Full article\]](#)



Hand, Foot, and Mouth Disease (HFMD)

- **Vietnam:** The city of Ho Chi Minh City has seen a decrease in HFMD disease cases, with 470 cases recorded in the first 23 weeks of 2024 (Son & Huong, 2024). The rate of children contracting HFMD increased in May, but is expected to increase again next month. The number of children with acute diarrhea and respiratory tract infection has also increased, with the rate expected to increase again in June. Additionally, four new measles cases have been hospitalized, with the number of infections expected to rise in the coming months. [\[Full article\]](#)

Measles

- **Vietnam:** Ho Chi Minh City's health sector is concerned about the spread of measles after 16 cases were recorded (Phóng, 2024). The Pasteur Institute of Ho Chi Minh City organized a conference to strengthen epidemic prevention in 2024, with Deputy Director of the Department of Health, highlighting the increase in vaccine-preventable diseases like whooping cough and measles. Additionally, 16 measles cases were recorded, with 15 under 5 years old and 85% not fully vaccinated. The health sector is promoting catch-up vaccination and preventive vaccination for young children. The City People's Committee is advised to promulgate a proactive plan to prevent measles, including early detection of typhus and fever, epidemiological investigation, and zoning. [\[Full article\]](#)

Rabies

- **Malaysia:** Sarawak has recorded another death due to a rabies outbreak among humans at the Sarawak General Hospital (Bernama, 2024). Four cases this year resulted in death due to complications from rabies infection. The cases were all contracted through pets, which did not receive anti-rabies vaccination. Since 2017, there have been 56,023 dog bites, 47,258 cat bites or scratches, and 1577 bites of other animals reported. [\[Full article\]](#)
- **Vietnam:** The Southern region experienced an increase in infectious disease cases in the first six months of 2024, including rabies, despite vaccines being effective (Hang, 2024). The Southern Regional Epidemic Prevention and Control Conference revealed that 41 cases of rabies have been reported since January, with 27% of the total affected, and 52% since 2023. [\[Full article\]](#)



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