



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.

Regional Situation

COVID-19

- **Viet Nam:** From March 6–13, 2026, Hanoi reported six new COVID-19 cases, bringing the cumulative total to nine for the year, with no deaths (Thang Long, 2026). Local health stations have been instructed to strengthen community surveillance, ensure early detection, and provide comprehensive case management. Authorities are also reinforcing the prevention of respiratory diseases and promoting public communication to raise awareness and encourage proactive health measures. [\[Full article\]](#)

Dengue

- **Indonesia:** Between January and March 2026, Tasikmalaya Municipality, West Java Province, reported 44 dengue cases, including three requiring intensive care, with others treated at local health centers (Media Indonesia, 2026). Despite the decline, authorities remain cautious due to high rainfall and reduced community hygiene. The Health Office is reinforcing household larva monitoring programs and mosquito breeding eradication campaigns to prevent fatalities. [\[Full article\]](#)

Between January and March 16, 2026, **Bantul District**, Special Region of Yogyakarta Province, reported 14 dengue cases across several subdistricts, with Sedayu recording the highest (4 cases) (Radar Jogja, 2026). The District Health Office noted a decline compared to 582 cases in 2025 and 672 in 2024. Response measures include fogging, NS1 rapid testing, strengthened clinical services, cross-sectoral mosquito-breeding eradication campaigns, and community education to improve hygiene and prevention. [\[Full article\]](#)

- **Malaysia:** As of March 16, 2026, Hulu Selangor District reported 203 dengue cases, including 22 current cases and no deaths (Pejabat Kesihatan Daerah Hulu Selangor, 2026). Active clusters were noted in apartment complexes and residential areas. Serendah subdistrict recorded the highest burden with 21 ongoing cases. Health authorities continue to emphasize community participation in eliminating Aedes breeding sites and maintaining environmental cleanliness to prevent further transmission. [\[Full article\]](#)



As of epi-week 10 (March 8–14, 2026), **Pulau Pinang** reported 17 new dengue cases, bringing the total to 318 with one death (Jabatan Kesihatan Negeri Pulau Pinang, 2026). Seven active hotspots were reported across Timur Laut, Seberang Perai Tengah, and Seberang Perai Selatan as of March 17, 2026. Authorities continue control measures and urge residents to eliminate mosquito breeding sites and practice preventive behaviors. [[Full article](#)]

- **Viet Nam:** From March 6–13, 2026, Hanoi reported nine new dengue cases across seven districts, an increase of four from the previous week (Thang Long, 2026). Cumulatively, 165 cases have been recorded in 2026, lower than the same period last year. Authorities are reinforcing prevention of dengue disease and promoting public awareness to strengthen community disease control. [[Full article](#)]

During epi-week 10 (March 2–8, 2026), **Ho Chi Minh City** reported 629 dengue cases, a 20% decrease compared to the four-week average (Znews, 2026). Cumulative cases since January remain high at 11,621. Authorities caution that dengue transmission may rise in early 2026 due to seasonal weather and epidemiological cycles. [[Full article](#)]

Hand, Foot and Mouth Disease (HFMD)

- **Viet Nam:** From March 6–13, 2026, Hanoi recorded 136 new HFMD cases across 56 districts, up 30 from the previous week (Thang Long, 2026). This brings the total to 905 and no deaths. Authorities urge strengthened hygiene, daily monitoring in childcare facilities, and prompt reporting of suspected cases. [[Full article](#)]

As of mid-March 2026, **Gia Lai Province** has reported 180 HFMD cases, an increase of 114 compared to the same period in 2025 (Bao Gia Lai, 2026). The Pediatric Department of Gia Lai Central General Hospital is currently treating 12 patients and has managed about 100 cases this year, mostly mild to moderate. No severe cases requiring intensive intervention have been recorded. Health experts recommend virus classification to guide appropriate treatment and improve disease management. [[Full article](#)]

During epi-week 10 (March 2–8, 2026), **Ho Chi Minh City** reported 588 new HFMD cases, a 38.7% increase over the four-week average, bringing the total to 6,452 since January (Z-News, 2026). High-incidence areas include Nha Be, Long Huong, and Tan Hai. Authorities warned of an epidemic cycle and strengthened surveillance, school monitoring, and public communication, urging hygiene practices and early medical consultation to limit spread. [[Full article](#)]

Measles

- **Indonesia:** As of March 16, 2026, West Java Province reported 252 measles cases between January and February, following 271 cases in 2025 (Kompas Bandung, 2026). In response to the rise, the Provincial Health Office deployed 282 health posts across 27 districts and cities during the Eid al Fitr period, providing vaccination and emergency care, supported by 24-hour health personnel. [[Full article](#)]



Sukabumi Municipality, West Java Province, has confirmed 23 measles cases from an initial 32 suspected cases, with no reported deaths (Media Indonesia, 2026). Authorities urged the public to maintain clean and healthy behaviors, wear masks in crowded settings, and ensure complete childhood immunization. Health authorities has warned that Eid al Fitr homecoming travel in 2026 could increase the risk of measles transmission due to heightened mobility and crowding. [[Full article](#)]

- **Viet Nam:** Hanoi reported 10 new measles cases from March 6–13, 2026, bringing the cumulative total to 100 since January, sharply lower than the same period in 2025 (Thang Long, 2026). Authorities are reinforcing prevention and control of winter–spring respiratory diseases, including measles, while promoting public communication to raise awareness and encourage proactive community participation in prevention measures. [[Full article](#)]

Global Situation

Malaria

- **Kazakhstan:** In March 2026, Almaty reported the country's first malaria case of the year in a woman returning from Africa (Tengrinews, 2026). Epidemiological investigations are ongoing, with details of her condition undisclosed. Over the past five years, 13 imported malaria cases, mostly tropical forms, have been registered. Authorities warn of continued importation risk due to travel and migration, urging preventive measures and prompt medical consultation for fever after travel. [[Full article](#)]

Measles

- **Australia:** As of March 10, 2026, measles activity continues, with imported cases and evidence of local transmission (ReliefWeb, 2026). South Australia reported a third case in an unvaccinated infant with no travel history, prompting public exposure alerts. In New South Wales, 29 cases have been confirmed since January, including locally acquired infections without identified sources, indicating community spread in Sydney. Authorities are reinforcing detection, isolation, notifications, and vaccination to limit transmission. [[Full article](#)]
- **Canada:** During epi-week 9 (March 1–7, 2026), 93 new measles cases were reported nationwide, including 88 confirmed and 5 probable (Health Infobase Canada, 2026). Since January, a cumulative total of 504 measles cases (460 confirmed, 44 probable) has been recorded nationwide. Health authorities advise travelers to consult international health notices and emphasize vaccination and early detection to prevent further spread of measles. [[Full article](#)]
- **Japan:** The Japan Institute for Health Security reported 100 measles cases since January, including 17 confirmed between March 2 and 8, 2026, compared to 22 during the same period in 2025 (Mainichi Japan, 2026). Tokyo recorded the highest number (19), followed by Aichi (18), and Kanagawa and Niigata (10 each). Authorities stressed vaccination, with a two-dose measles–rubella schedule before primary school entry. [[Full article](#)]



On March 17, 2026, **Kagoshima City** reported three measles cases in adults in their 30s–40s, confirmed after presenting with fever and rash on March 14, bringing the prefecture’s total to seven cases in 2026 (373news, 2026). Two patients had contact with a previously confirmed case, and all may have exposed others at commercial facilities. Authorities urged residents to avoid public transport if symptomatic and to consider vaccination to prevent further transmission. [\[Full article\]](#)

Tokyo has recorded 34 measles cases from January to March 17, 2026, equaling last year’s total (The Japan News, 2026). A cluster of nine cases was confirmed among male restaurant staff in Shinjuku Ward, with one hospitalized. None had recent overseas travel, and vaccination histories were incomplete. The metropolitan government is conducting contact tracing and urges residents to undergo antibody testing or vaccination to curb community transmission. [\[Full article\]](#)

- **Kazakhstan:** As of mid-March 2026, the North Kazakhstan Region reported 19 measles cases, half the number recorded during the same period last year (Qazinform, 2026). Seven cases occurred in Petropavlovsk, five in Akzhar, two in Mamlyut and Ualikhanov, and one in Shal Akyn and Gabit Musirepov districts. Children under five accounted for 52% of cases, and 89% of patients were unvaccinated. Authorities emphasized vaccination as the key preventive measure. [\[Full article\]](#)
- **Russia:** On March 17, 2026, the Ministry of Health reported the death of a 17-year-old unvaccinated male due to measles complications (Newsru, 2026). The patient, who had comorbidities, was hospitalized for over two weeks before his condition worsened. Authorities noted that most of the 16 other recent measles deaths involved unvaccinated infants and children and reiterated the importance of timely vaccination, early care, and avoiding mass gatherings in affected areas. [\[Full article\]](#)
- The **United Kingdom (UK):** As of March 2026, Birmingham has reported over 40 measles cases, including 19 laboratory-confirmed since February, mostly in children under 10 (Birmingham Mail, 2026). The United Kingdom Health Security Agency (UKHSA) warned of re-established endemic transmission, stressing vaccination and surveillance as elimination status has been lost since 2023. [\[Full article\]](#)

Meningococcal Disease

- **France** has confirmed its first case of meningococcal meningitis linked to a major outbreak in the United Kingdom, after a student was diagnosed upon returning from the UK (Observer News, 2026). The case follows a rapidly spreading outbreak in the Canterbury region, where 15 severe cases and two deaths have been reported. British authorities have already administered around 700 preventive antibiotic doses and launched targeted vaccination for students. [\[Full article\]](#)



Rabies

- India:** A 35-year-old man in Balrampur district, Chhattisgarh, has died from rabies after being bitten by a dog about five months earlier, according to local reports (NPG News, 2026). The victim reportedly did not seek medical treatment and later developed severe symptoms before being hospitalized at Ambikapur Medical College, where he died during treatment. Doctors confirmed the cause of death as rabies infection, underscoring health officials' warnings that any animal bite requires immediate medical care and postexposure vaccination to prevent fatal outcomes. [[Full article](#)]

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