

ASEAN Biodiaspora Virtual Center

Media Monitoring for Infectious and Emerging Diseases

GLOBAL & ASEAN REGION

August 17 – 19, 2024



With Support by:

  

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 January 2024.

Global Situation

COVID-19

- The **United States (US)**: Over 1,100 COVID-19 deaths were reported in the U.S. this week, the highest since March, as the summer wave continued with nearly 170,000 new cases (BNO News, 2024). At least 169,217 new cases were reported between August 12 and August 18, slightly up from the previous week. The CDC states that many areas are experiencing increased COVID-19 activity, while others are experiencing declines. COVID-19 cases are rising in at least 25 states, declining or likely declining in 5 states, and stable or uncertain in 17 states. Only 33.6% of hospitals submitted COVID-19 data this week, revealing that at least 5,256 Americans are currently hospitalized with COVID-19. More than 4.6 million COVID cases have been reported in the U.S. this year, causing at least 332,398 hospitalizations and 36,226 deaths. [\[Full article\]](#)

Dengue

- **Bangladesh**: 50 people have been hospitalized with dengue fever in 24 hours, with 14 in Dhaka (UNB, 2024). A total of 8,980 cases and 74 deaths have been reported since January 1, 2024, making 2024 the deadliest year on record. [\[Full article\]](#)

Mpox

- **Africa**: The African Union health agency reported 18,737 suspected and confirmed cases of mpox since the start of the year, including 1,200 cases in one week (Malay Mail, 2024). The number of cases, caused by all strains of the virus not just the new more deadly clade 1b strain, prompted the World Health Organization to declare an international health emergency. To date, 3,101 confirmed and 15,636 suspected cases have been reported from 12 African Union member states, resulting in 541 deaths. [\[Full article\]](#)
- **Pakistan**: Three cases of mpox were identified in Pakistan upon arrival from the United Arab Emirates, with the variant being unclear (TOI, 2024). All three have been quarantined. Since April 2023, 11 cases have been reported in Pakistan, one resulting in death. [\[Full article\]](#)



- **Spain** has recorded 8,104 mpox cases since the outbreak in 2022, marking a record number among European countries (Novosti, 2024). The majority of cases are from Madrid and Catalonia, with 2,770 cases reported in Madrid and 2,452 in Catalonia. [\[Full article\]](#)
- The **United States (US)**: The World Health Organization has declared a global health emergency due to mpox, with two local cases reported in Oneida County (WKTV, 2024). The New York State Health Department has not reported any new cases in the last seven days. [\[Full article\]](#)

Poliomyelitis

- **India**: After three years without a new case of polio, the highly infectious virus has been detected again in Meghalaya's Garo Hills district (ProMED, 2024). A child from Tikrikilla, a village where vaccination faces strong opposition, has been diagnosed with poliomyelitis. The virus is classified into three wild types: WPV-1, WPV-2, and WPV-3. The spread of the disease is driven by factors such as poor sanitation, limited access to clean drinking water, inadequate hand hygiene, and high population density. [\[Full article\]](#)
- **Palestine**: Gaza has recorded its first confirmed case of polio in 25 years, with an unvaccinated 10-month-old baby in Deir al-Balah showing symptoms (McPhedran, C. and Zwartz, H., 2024). Tests conducted in Amman, Jordan, confirmed the presence of the highly infectious virus. The World Health Organization detected the virus in wastewater in central and southern Gaza, indicating it may have been introduced from Egypt as early as September 2023. [\[Full article\]](#)

Zika

- **India**: Pune district has reported seven new confirmed Zika virus cases, making it the highest number of Zika cases in any Maharashtra district (TNN, 2024). The state has reported 113 confirmed Zika cases in 2024, with 100 from Pune district, 10 from Ahmednagar district, and one each from Kolhapur, Miraj, and Solapur districts. Of the 100 cases from Pune, 86 are from Pune city, nine from Pune rural, and five from under Pimpri Chinchwad Municipal Corporation (PCMC) area. The six new cases include a 36-year-old woman from Karvenagar, a 30-year-old woman from Bavdhan, and a 47-year-old man from Lohegaon. Additionally, three pregnant women—aged 22 and 28 from Pashan and a 25-year-old from Lohegaon—have also been diagnosed with the virus. [\[Full article\]](#)

Regional Situation

Dengue

- **Indonesia**: The North Sumatra Provincial Health Office has sent a team to South Nias District to handle an outbreak of dengue in the area (Lukman, 2024). From January to August 17, 2024, the number of dengue cases reached 248, with an additional 20 cases in Batu Islands. [\[Full article\]](#)



- **Malaysia** experienced a higher dengue caseload and deaths in the first eight months of 2024, with a spike in cases attributed to the weather (The Straits Times, 2024). As of August 17, a total of 92,420 dengue cases had been reported, with Selangor reporting the highest number of cases at 47,398, followed by Johor with 9,983 cases, and Kuala Lumpur with 8,392 cases. [[Full article](#)]
- The **Philippines**: Dengue cases in Negros Occidental increased by 94.21% from January to August compared to the same period in 2023, reaching 1,777 cases (Ellera, 2024). Sipalay City had the highest number of cases with 185. As of August 17, six deaths have occurred. Health authorities urge public cleanliness and destruction of breeding containers. [[Full article](#)]

Malaria

- **Indonesia**: The North Sumatra Provincial Health Office has sent a team to South Nias District to deal with an outbreak of malaria in the area (Lukman, 2024). From January to August 17, the regency recorded 730 cases of malaria. [[Full article](#)]

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