

ASEAN Biological Threats Surveillance Centre

Media Monitoring for Infectious and Emerging Diseases

GLOBAL & ASEAN REGION

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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.

Global Situation

Mpox

- **Germany** reported 232 mpox cases as of May 12, 2025, nearing the 2024's total (275 cases) but far below the 2022 peak (3,672 cases) (Queer.de, 2025). Authorities continue to promote vaccination as a preventive measure and monitor potential risks related to social events and the upcoming festival season. [[Full article](#)]
- **Togo's** Ministry of Health confirmed the first case of mpox on May 16, 2025, involving a 22-year-old woman in Lomé (Xinhua, 2025). The patient is currently receiving treatment at an infectious disease unit. Health authorities have strengthened epidemiological surveillance, case confirmation, management, and public awareness campaigns to prevent further spread. [[Full article](#)]

COVID-19

- **Hong Kong (SAR)** is experiencing its highest COVID-19 surveillance levels in a year as of mid-May 2025, with peak viral load in sewage and test positivity rates (Hong Kong Government, 2025). The Centre for Health Protection (CHP) reported 81 severe cases and 30 deaths, primarily among vulnerable elderly individuals. Residents, especially high-risk groups, are urged to get vaccinated/boosted and practice personal hygiene and mask use. [[Full article](#)]

Avian Influenza

- **The American Region** has reported 75 human avian influenza cases across five countries since 2022, with four cases in 2025, three in the United States (US) and one in Mexico (PAHO/WHO, 2025). In response, PAHO/WHO urges member states to enhance intersectoral surveillance, implement infection prevention and control (IPC) measures, and ensure early detection, notification, and coordinated responses. Current evidence indicates limited human-to-human transmission, but the risk remains for those with direct animal exposure. [[Full article](#)]



Measles

- **Canada:** Ontario has confirmed 1,622 cases of measles in 2025, the most in over 30 years, with 182 new cases reported in the past week (Ottawa Citizen, 2025). Most of the infections are among unvaccinated infants, children, and adolescents, primarily in southwestern Ontario. To date, 119 patients have been hospitalized, nine of whom required intensive care; however, there have been no reported deaths. Public health officials are warning of ongoing transmission and emphasizing the need for increased vaccination efforts to control the outbreak. [[Full article](#)]

Southern Alberta reported 29 new measles cases on May 16, 2025, raising the province's total to 438 (Calgary Herald, 2025). The majority of infections are concentrated in the Central Zone, affecting primarily children aged five to 17. Alberta health authorities are expanding their response efforts and urging families to promptly vaccinate their children. [[Full article](#)]

- **Mongolia** reported 112 new measles infections in the past 24 hours, raising the total to 2,076, according to the National Center for Communicable Diseases. Of those infected, 1,459 have recovered. Most of the new infections occurred among school-age children who received only one dose of the measles vaccine. Health authorities are urging parents to ensure that their children receive the full two-dose vaccination. [[Full article](#)]
- The **United States (US)** has confirmed 1,024 measles cases across 30 states this year, as of May 15, 2025, surpassing the total for the same period in 2024 (CNN, 2025). A major outbreak occurred in West Texas (733 cases), particularly in Gaines County, with 406 cases. Of the infections, approximately 96% occurred in individuals who were unvaccinated or whose vaccination status was unknown, and 68% affected people under 20 years old. The CDC attributes this increase to declining vaccination rates and increased travel. They warn that prolonged outbreaks could threaten the nation's measles elimination status. [[Full article](#)]

Melioidosis

- **Hong Kong (SAR)** reported its fifth case of melioidosis this year, involving a 75-year-old man from Sham Shui Po with underlying health conditions tested positive last week (Hong Kong Government, 2025). Last year, 23 cases were recorded. The Center for Health Protection (CHP) is conducting an epidemiological investigation and advising the public to avoid contact with contaminated soil and water. [[Full article](#)]

Pertussis

- **Australia:** Queensland has recorded a threefold increase in pertussis cases compared to the annual seasonal average, with Cairns Hospital and Health Service reporting 73 cases, seven times higher than usual (4CA, 2025). The Australian Medical Association (AMA) attributes this rise to vaccine complacency and urges the public to get immunized ahead of the flu season. Authorities continue to promote immunization as the most effective preventive measure. [[Full article](#)]



Typhoid

- **Pakistan** reported a severe typhoid outbreak in Malakand district, hospitalizing over 300 children from Batkhela Tehsil and Thana Baizai areas (TNN English, 2025). Most affected children, aged one to ten, are from Amandara, Alladhand Dheri, Dheri Julagram, and Khar. In response, the District Headquarters Hospital declared an emergency and opened an isolation ward. Authorities have implemented water sanitation measures and urged public hygiene. [\[Full article\]](#)

Regional Situation

COVID-19

- The **Philippines** had recorded 1,774 cases of COVID-19 as of May 3 this year, an 87% decrease compared to 2024 (Xinhua, 2025). The current case fatality rate (CFR) is 1.13%. Despite this, the Department of Health is monitoring the regional situation and coordinating with ASEAN partners amid rising infections in Southeast Asia. Authorities have affirmed public updates and preparedness measures, but no immediate cause for alarm has been identified. [\[Full article\]](#)

Chikungunya

- **Indonesia:** The Majalengka District Health Office reported a significant decrease in chikungunya cases in 2025, with suspected cases dropping from 90 to 32 and confirmed Rapid Diagnostic Test (RDT) cases decreasing from 26 to 21 (Kabar Majalengka, 2025). This success is attributed to coordinated mosquito control efforts and public health education, including the weekly cleanup initiative. Health officials urge continued vigilance and community involvement to sustain the downward trend. [\[Full article\]](#)

Dengue

- **Indonesia:** Karawang District reported 500 cases of Dengue Hemorrhagic Fever (DHF) with some fatalities due to complications this year as of mid-May (Karawang Post, 2025). The surge is linked to extreme weather, creating puddles that facilitate *Aedes aegypti* mosquito breeding. Local authorities have launched public education campaigns, encouraged community-level mosquito control efforts, and allocated regional funds for fogging operations in high-risk areas. Residents are urged to practice prevention and seek immediate medical attention if symptoms develop. [\[Full article\]](#)
- **Viet Nam:** Ho Chi Minh City reported 7,398 dengue fever cases from January to May 11, 2025, a 136% increase compared to the same period in 2024 (Desh Sewak, 2025). This increase coincides with the start of the rainy season in southern Vietnam, a time when mosquito-borne infections tend to spike. In the first four months of 2025, Vietnam recorded 24,900 cases and three deaths. Health authorities are urging the public to prevent dengue transmission by eliminating mosquito breeding sites, using mosquito nets, and draining standing water. [\[Full article\]](#)



Hand, Foot and Mouth Disease (HFMD)

- **Malaysia:** Kelantan recorded 8,801 HFMD cases as of the 19th epidemiological week in 2025, over a threefold increase from 2,348 cases in the same period in 2024 (The Star, 2025). There was a weekly average of 895 cases, with 12 active hotspots reported across several districts. Notably, Kota Baru had 3,060 cases. The majority of infections affect children aged six and under and present with mild symptoms such as fever and rashes. Health authorities recommend preventive measures such as regular handwashing, sanitizing shared items, and health screenings. [[Full article](#)]

Penang recorded 8,811 cases of HFMD so far this year, a 676.3% increase compared to 1,135 cases during the same period in 2024 (Sinar Harian, 2025). In Epidemiological Week 19, 1,152 new cases and 24 clusters were reported. In response, authorities activated a special HFMD operations room, conducted town hall sessions, and enforced temporary closures for sanitation. Parents are advised to maintain hygiene and avoid unnecessary travel. [[Full article](#)]

- **Singapore** has seen a recent surge in HFMD cases, with an average of 61 daily cases reported from April 27 to May 3, exceeding figures from 2023 and 2024 (CNA, 2025). In response, authorities have implemented daily health checks, installed air purifiers, and intensified cleaning protocols. Health authorities and pediatricians are urging parents to maintain strict hygiene practices, especially ahead of the June school holidays. There have been no reported HFMD-related deaths, and symptom management remains the primary treatment approach. [[Full article](#)]

Measles

- **Viet Nam** reported 76,312 suspected measles cases, including 8,614 confirmed and five deaths in early 2025, primarily affecting young children (Travel And Tour World , 2025). The National Children's Hospital in Hanoi recorded nearly 1,900 cases in the first quarter. Authorities are now recommending the MMR vaccine for travelers and promoting hygiene practices to prevent the disease from spreading further. [[Full article](#)]

Tuberculosis (TB)

- **Malaysia:** Terengganu has reported 11 TB-related deaths in adults as of May 2025 (The Star, 2025). A total of 210 new TB cases have been reported this year, slightly lower than the same period in 2024. Health authorities emphasize that early screening is crucial due to the increased risk of TB linked to the entry of undocumented foreign nationals. [[Full article](#)]

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