

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

### Dengue

- **Indonesia:** As of March 2026, Mojokerto District, East Java Province, reported 73 dengue cases, predominantly among children aged 5–15 years (Radar Mojokerto, 2025). One fatality occurred in a 5-year-old child. Cases were reported in January (37), February (30), and March (6). The District Health Office intensified fogging, issued advisories, and promoted community awareness campaigns. [\[Full article\]](#)
- **Viet Nam:** Since January 2026, Dong Nai Province has reported 444 dengue cases, with high incidence in several wards (Bao Dong Nai, 2026). Authorities have strengthened inspections, hygiene promotion, vector control, and encouraged early care-seeking to prevent further spread. [\[Full article\]](#)

On March 13, 2026, a 41-year-old woman from **Dong Thap Province** died from dengue fever after delayed diagnosis and treatment (VOV, 2026). Three additional cases were identified in her household and neighborhood, including two children. Authorities launched investigations, cleaning, vector surveys, and spraying, while reinforcing surveillance, vector control, and community education to prevent further transmission. [\[Full article\]](#)

### Hand, Foot and Mouth Disease (HFMD)

- **Viet Nam:** Since January 2026, Dong Nai Province has reported 579 HFMD cases (Bao Dong Nai, 2026). The CDC has urged strengthened outbreak control, adequate supplies, and hygiene promotion, particularly in schools. Dong Nai also ranks fifth among southern provinces for dengue, prompting enhanced monitoring and prevention. [\[Full article\]](#)

### HIV/AIDS

- **Indonesia:** As of March 2026, Bengkulu City, Bengkulu Province has recorded 1,218 HIV cases, including 15 identified post-mortem (Bengkulu Today, 2026). Authorities are intensifying prevention efforts, focusing on monitoring high-risk activities such as clandestine prostitution. The government urges community participation in reporting concerns and emphasizes collaboration between health authorities and residents to reduce transmission and maintain public order. [\[Full article\]](#)



## Malaria

- **Indonesia:** The Health Office of Gorontalo Province issued a malaria alert for travelers and miners returning home for the Eid al-Fitr holidays (RRI, 2026). Through week 9 of 2026 (ending March 7), the province recorded 1,204 malaria cases and six fatalities. Health officials have urged returning residents from endemic areas to undergo screening at local health facilities to prevent further community transmission. [\[Full article\]](#)
- **Viet Nam:** Lam Dong Province reported an imported malaria case in a 32-year-old male from Song Luy Commune (A Family, 2026). He was diagnosed at Binh Thuan North General Hospital and recovered. Investigations tested 53 contacts (all negative) and found high densities of *Anopheles dirus*. Authorities implemented spraying, distributed insecticide-treated nets, strengthened surveillance, and promoted community awareness. [\[Full article\]](#)

## Meningococcal Disease

- **Thailand** reported five meningococcal disease cases, including three deaths (60% CFR) as of March 18, 2026 (Voice TV, 2026). Cases were sporadic across Nan, Yala, Nonthaburi, Nakhon Si Thammarat, and Udon Thani provinces, mostly in children 0–4 years, followed by adults 20–29 and 40–49 years. Authorities emphasize rapid surveillance, early diagnosis, contact tracing, and vaccination. [\[Full article\]](#)
- **Viet Nam:** On March 18, 2026, Phu Quoc Special Zone, An Giang Province reported a suspected meningococcal case in an 11-year-old who died shortly after admission (Tuoi Tre, 2026). Close contacts are under 7–10 days of monitoring. Authorities implemented disinfection, mask use, and hygiene measures in schools, and urged vaccination or booster doses to prevent further transmission. [\[Full article\]](#)

## Global Situation

### Measles

- **Australia:** As of mid-March 2026, Sydney reported 33 confirmed measles cases, marking the city's largest outbreak in years (Yahoo News Australia, 2026). Locally acquired infections were linked to sites in western and northern suburbs, with one case under investigation. NSW Health added healthcare facilities, eateries, and a grocery store to its exposure list and urges residents to monitor symptoms, seek testing, and contact providers promptly. [\[Full article\]](#)
- **Japan:** On March 14, 2026, a measles case was confirmed in a concert attendee, announced on March 17 (Excite Japan, 2026). Authorities advised symptomatic attendees to seek care promptly and emphasized ongoing safety measures under government guidance. [\[Full article\]](#)

On March 18, 2026, **Kagoshima City** confirmed a measles case in a man in his 40s, the eighth in the prefecture this year (373 News, 2026). He developed fever on March 14 and tested positive on March 17. He traveled by Shinkansen to Fukuoka on March 13. Contact tracing is ongoing; authorities urge vaccination and prompt care-seeking. [\[Full article\]](#)

- The **United States (US):** On March 18, 2026, Grant County, Washington, reported two confirmed measles cases in unvaccinated children from the same household, likely linked



to recent international travel (FOX28 Spokane, 2026). One child was hospitalized; both are recovering. Potential exposure occurred on March 7 to 12 at four Moses Lake healthcare facilities. Health authorities are conducting contact tracing and urge residents to verify MMR vaccination status. [[Full article](#)]

### **Meningococcal Disease**

- **Mongolia:** On March 16, 2026, two meningococcal cases were reported in Jargalant soum, Khovd aimag, including one fatality (Central Asia Media, 2026). Authorities suspended in-person primary school classes and restricted extracurricular activities from March 13 to 27. Public health measures include rapid contact tracing, prophylactic antibiotics, risk communication, and vaccination. Authorities emphasise vigilance and prompt medical consultation to prevent further spread. [[Full article](#)]
- The **United Kingdom (UK):** As of March 18, 2026, the UK Health Security Agency (UKHSA) reported six new cases of meningococcal disease in Kent, bringing the total to at least 27 confirmed or suspected cases and two fatalities confirmed (Anewz TV, 2026). In response, health officials have launched a targeted vaccination program for 5,000 students and distributed approximately 2,500 doses of antibiotics to those at risk. [[Full article](#)]

### **Pertussis**

- The **United States (US):** As of March 2026, the Department of Public Health and Social Services (DPHSS) in Guam has confirmed six pertussis cases, including two linked through direct contact (ReliefWeb, 2026). DPHSS continues monitoring trends and urges the public to stay up to date with DTaP and Tdap vaccination. [[Full article](#)]

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