



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

Avian Influenza

- **Hong Kong:** A 22-month-old girl in Hong Kong has been confirmed to have H9N2 avian influenza, according to the Hong Kong Centre for Health Protection (CHP) (Herriman, 2024). The virus, which is a mild form of avian influenza, showed no re-assortment with human influenza genes and is sensitive to antiviral medicine. The patient, who recently visited Zhongshan, has no history of direct contact with poultry or contact with patients. Since 1998, 130 laboratory-confirmed cases of human infection with avian influenza A viruses have been reported in eight countries, primarily in China. [\[Full article\]](#)

COVID-19

- **Bangladesh** reported one more COVID-19 linked death and 73 fresh cases in 24 hours until 25 February morning (New Age, 2024). With the new numbers, the country's total fatalities rose to 29,487 and caseload to 2,048,116 according to the Directorate General of Health Services. The daily case test positivity rate stood at 10.18% as 717 samples were tested. The recovery and death rates remained unchanged at 98.39% and 1.44%. [\[Full article\]](#)
- The **United Kingdom (UK):** The number of COVID-19 cases reported in the past week is slightly down from the previous week, with 6,084 cases reported as of midnight on 25 February (News R, 2024). 20 deaths were attributed to the virus, with 3,935 reinfections. Canterbury had the most cases, with 205 people in hospital. [\[Full article\]](#)

Dengue

- **Bangladesh:** The Directorate General of Health Services reported 11 dengue patients hospitalized in Dhaka on 24 February, with a total of 1,330 cases and 17 deaths recorded this year (Sun D, 2024). The country recorded 1,705 dengue-related deaths and 321,179 cases last year. September was the deadliest month, with 79,598 cases and 396 deaths. July, 2023 also saw a critical period with 43,854 cases and 204 deaths. [\[Full article\]](#)

Measles

- The **United States (US):** Two children have become the latest measles patients in Broward County, with the total cases increasing from six to eight (Nefzi, S. and Torres A, 2024). The disease, which was eradicated in the early 2000s, has been attributed to the effectiveness of vaccines. The Broward County Department of Health has reported six



cases since an outbreak at a Broward County Public School in Weston. The state's surgeon general has faced criticism for his handling of the outbreak at Manatee Bay Elementary School. The U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) recommends exclusion of unvaccinated children from school for three weeks. [[Full article](#)]

- The **United Kingdom (UK)**: Measles infections have spread to London, with general practitioners (GP) diagnosing almost 1,000 cases in England and Wales in the first few weeks of the year (PM News, 2024). The UK was declared to have eliminated measles due to high coverage of the measles-mumps-rubella (MMR) vaccine in 2017. However, it is now back fully with vaccine coverage at its lowest level in a decade. As of February 4, doctors identified 959 suspected infections in England and Wales this year, including 335 in London. [[Full article](#)]

Rabies

- **India**: The Bihar Economic Survey (2023-24) has revealed a significant increase in dog bite cases in the state, with 207,181 people suffering from such incidents in 2022-23 compared to 9,809 in 2021-22 (Gupta A.K, 2024). The survey identified dog bites as the most prevalent disease in Bihar, with an average of 600 people becoming victims daily. Patna, the state capital, reported 22,599 incidents of dog bites in 2022-23, the highest in Bihar. Patna Municipal Commissioner stated that they will intensify their efforts to combat the menace and engage non-government organizations. The report also highlighted the need for more information on rabies cases, which are typically transmitted by bites from infected animals, including dogs. Patna-based medical practitioner criticized the survey report for not including the number of rabies cases usually caused by bites from infected animals, including dogs. [[Full article](#)]

Regional Situation

Dengue

- **Indonesia**: Dengue hemorrhagic fever (DHF) cases in Bogor City, West Java, have increased in early 2024, with one person death in January (Fitrat I, 2024). The city Health Service's head reported 389 cases in January and 456 in February, with three deaths. [[Full article](#)]

Batu City, East Java reported 36 cases in January 2024 (Ibrahim M.B, 2024). The majority of these cases were in Batu District, with 28 cases and one toddler dying. [[Full article](#)]

In Lebak District Health Office dengue cases reached 610 cases from January to February 2024, with four deaths (Okezone, 2024). The largest distribution areas were in Rangkasbitung and Sajira sub-districts. [[Full article](#)]

- **Lao PDR**: Dengue fever cases in Lao PDR have reached 1,075 since January 2024, with two deaths (VIENTIANE, 2024). Sekong province reported the highest number, followed by Vientiane and Luang Namtha provinces. Health authorities urge people to clear mosquito breeding sites and improve healthcare services, while vowing to continue improving doctors and nurses' capacity. [[Full article](#)]

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