

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, South Sumatra Province reported 687 dengue cases, including four deaths (Detik, 2026). Palembang recorded the highest number of cases (243). Although incidence has declined from 2025, authorities warn of potential increases due to extreme heat and urge continued vector control. [\[Full article\]](#)

Dengue cases in **Lamandau District**, Central Kalimantan Province, reached 51 from January to 24 March 2026, with an increase in March (20 cases) (Radar Sampit, 2026). Local hospitals treated 17 patients in the past week, indicating heightened transmission. Authorities issued alerts urging early care and symptom awareness, including mosquito-net eradication, with fogging in high-risk areas. [\[Full article\]](#)

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

- **Viet Nam:** On March 26, 2026, Ho Chi Minh City has reported 8,152 cases of HFMD, including three deaths in children since January. In epi-week 12 (March 22–26), 858 new cases were reported with Enterovirus 71 detected in 25% of samples. Authorities intensified surveillance, hygiene measures, and community education, urging strict hygiene practices. [\[Full article\]](#)

As of March 2026, Ca Mau Obstetrics and Pediatrics Hospital in **the Mekong Delta region** reported 166 hospitalized HFMD cases and 152 outpatient cases, a sharp increase from 2025 (Sài Gòn Giải Phóng, 2026). The hospital has recorded two severe cases and one death. Authorities strengthened surveillance, outbreak response, hygiene promotion, and school coordination. [\[Full article\]](#)

**Hanoi** reported 1,090 HFMD cases so far in 2026 across 124 districts, including five active clusters in schools and communities (Báo Tin Tức, 2026). Hanoi CDC urged strict hygiene, isolation of suspected cases, and close coordination between families and schools, emphasizing handwashing, clean environments, and prompting medical care for symptomatic children. [\[Full article\]](#)



## Measles

- **Indonesia:** Malang City Health Office in East Java Province reported measles transmission is under control, with 17 cases reported so far in 2026; all have recovered (Media Indonesia, 2026). Authorities attributed this to rapid Outbreak Response Immunization (ORI) and catch-up vaccination campaigns and urged maintaining MR coverage above 95% and good hygiene practices. [\[Full article\]](#)

From January to March 2026, **Palembang Municipality**, South Sumatera Province reported 649 measles cases, with a steady increase through late March (Detik, 2026). The health office strengthened case tracing, real-time reporting, and early detection across health facilities. Officials also ensured the availability and distribution of measles-rubella (MR) vaccines through community health centers to curb further spread. [\[Full article\]](#)

From January to early March 2026, **North Sumatra Province** reported 387 suspected measles cases, of which 18 were laboratory-confirmed (Tribun Medan, 2026). Cases were identified across several districts. Authorities strengthened case tracing, real-time reporting, and early detection across health facilities. Authorities emphasized the importance of completing two MR vaccine doses to achieve herd immunity. [\[Full article\]](#)

- The **Philippines:** In 2026, Palawan reported 921 dengue cases, a 47% decline from the same period last year (Radyo Palaweno, 2026). The reduction is attributed to improved vector control, community cleanup, and public awareness. Authorities urge continued vigilance, especially during the rainy season. Early care seeking, household prevention, and sustained surveillance remain essential to prevent resurgence. [\[Full article\]](#)

**Antique Province** reported 103 dengue cases from January 1 to March 23, 2026, an 88.85% decrease from 924 cases in the same period in 2025, with no deaths recorded (93.3 XFM Antique, 2026). Most cases occurred in Bugasong (17), followed by Sibalom (12), Barbaza and Valderrama (10 each). Children aged 1–5 years were the most affected. Authorities urge continued vigilance and household cleanliness to prevent further cases. [\[Full article\]](#)

As of March 23, 2026, **Capiz Province** reported 183 dengue cases since January, including one death in Tapaz (Radio Maragtas, 2026). Roxas City (35), Pontevedra (28), and Tapaz (28) had the highest counts. In epi-week 11, three new cases were recorded. All among adolescence. Authorities noted a 60.3% increase compared with 2025 and continue monitoring affected barangay clusters. [\[Full article\]](#)

## Meningococcal Meningitis

- **Viet Nam:** On March 23, 2026, Ho Chi Minh City's Hospital for Tropical Diseases reported an 11-year-old girl from Phu Quoc diagnosed with meningococcal meningitis (*Neisseria meningitidis* type B) after close contact with a classmate who had died earlier (Tuoi Tre News, 2026). The patient recovered following intensive treatment. Authorities advised prophylactic antibiotics for contacts and reinforced prevention measures. [\[Full article\]](#)



## Rabies

- The **Philippines**: In March 2026, the Stop Rabies initiative led by Boehringer Ingelheim expanded community-based rabies prevention efforts across several provinces, following 17 human cases reported in the first two months of 2026 (Manila Standard, 2026). Most infections were linked to stray animal bites. The program promotes pet vaccination, neutering, school education, and responsible ownership in collaboration with local authorities. [\[Full article\]](#)

## Global Situation

### Avian Influenza

- **Italy**: On March 25, 2026, Lombardy reported Europe's first human case of avian influenza A(H9N2) (Ministero della Salute, 2026). The hospitalized patient, with underlying conditions, acquired the infection abroad. No evidence of human-to-human transmission. Contacts were traced; surveillance, prevention, and coordination measures are ongoing. [\[Full article\]](#)

### Dengue

- The **United States (US)**: As of March 25, 2026, 496 dengue cases were reported across 19 jurisdictions, based on provisional CDC data (CDC, 2026). Cases span states and territories, with variation by location and travel status. Data remain preliminary and may be incomplete due to reporting delays and underdetection in passive surveillance. Authorities emphasize continued monitoring, timely reporting, and awareness among travelers and clinicians. [\[Full article\]](#)

### Diphtheria

- **Australia**: On March 25, 2026, the Northern Territory Department of Health declared an outbreak of diphtheria, with four confirmed cases of a deadly strain, three in Darwin and one in Alice Springs (ABC News, 2026). Contact tracing is underway, with risk to the public remains low. Health authorities emphasized vaccination, with free doses available for children and recommended boosters for adults and pregnant women. There have been 33 cutaneous diphtheria cases reported since 2025. [\[Full article\]](#)

### Leptospirosis

- **Spain**: Zaragoza reported one leptospirosis case this week, caused by *Leptospira* species (Aragón Digital, 2026). Resident were advised protective measures and avoiding contaminated water exposure. [\[Full article\]](#)

### Measles

- **Australia**: New South Wales (NSW) Health confirmed three locally acquired measles cases in Wollongong linked to an earlier imported case from Southeast Asia (Illawarra Mercury, 2026). Patients visited multiple public locations while infectious, prompting exposure alerts. Residents are advised to monitor for symptoms up to 18 days, seek testing if ill, and ensure vaccination. NSW has reported 37 cases so far in 2026, matching the total for 2025. [\[Full article\]](#)



- **Canada:** Quebec confirmed two new measles cases, one travel-related and one under investigation, with exposure sites in Montreal and the Laurentians (CBC News, 2026). Approximately 100 people may have been exposed. Health authorities advised unvaccinated contacts to isolate and all exposed individuals to monitor symptoms for 21 days, emphasizing vaccination to prevent further spread. [[Full article](#)]
- **Japan:** On March 25, 2026, Kagoshima City reported a measles cluster of 13 cases linked to a high school graduation ceremony (Asahi Shimbun, 2026). The city has recorded 22 cases this year, contributing to 23 in Kagoshima Prefecture and 139 nationally. Authorities confirmed airborne transmission, issued exposure alerts, and urged symptomatic residents to seek care, emphasizing measles' high transmissibility among unvaccinated individuals. [[Full article](#)]

**Tochigi Prefecture** reported four new measles cases since March 23, 2026, including a man in his 40s from Utsunomiya with no travel history, indicating local transmission (Shimotsuke Shimbun, 2026). The prefecture has recorded eight cases since the start of the year, the highest in over a decade. Authorities warned of rising national cases, urged vaccination for unprotected individuals, and advised prompt medical consultation for fever or rash. [[Full article](#)]

### **Melioidosis**

- **India:** In March 2026, Wockhardt Hospitals in Mumbai reported a rare melioidosis case in a 58-year-old man presenting with deep vein thrombosis and pulmonary embolism (APN News, 2026). Blood cultures confirmed *Burkholderia pseudomallei* infection, complicated by lung consolidation and septic arthritis. He underwent surgical debridement and intensive antibiotics, followed by oral eradication therapy. [[Full article](#)]

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