

ASEAN Biodiaspora Virtual Center

Media Monitoring for Infectious and Emerging Diseases

ASEAN REGION

April 27 – 29, 2024



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 from January 2024.

Global Situation

COVID-19

- **Bangladesh** reported ten more COVID-19 cases in the last 24 hours, with 219 samples tested, a positivity rate of 4.57% (The Daily Observer, 2024). The country's total death remained at 29,494, with 2,049,955 cases and 2,017,381 recoveries. [\[Full article\]](#)
- **New Zealand:** The Ministry of Health reported 2,343 new COVID-19 cases and 11 deaths in the past week, with Canterbury having the highest number of active cases (399 cases) (RNZ News, 2024). As of midnight, there were 159 hospitalized cases, with 1,445 reinfections. The seven-day rolling average of new cases was 335. [\[Full article\]](#)

Dengue

- **Bangladesh** has reported no new dengue cases in 24 hours, but 15 patients were hospitalized with viral fever (UNB NEWS, 2024). Since January 1, 2024, there are 2,126 cases have been reported, with September being the deadliest month with 396 deaths and 79,598 cases. The Directorate General of Health Services recorded 321,179 cases and 318,749 recoveries last year. [\[Full article\]](#)
- **France** has recorded the highest number of imported dengue cases, three months before the start of the Paris 2024 Olympic Games (May, 2024). Since January 1, 2024, there were 1,679 cases have been imported into metropolitan France, compared to 131 in 2023. The majority of these cases originate from Guadeloupe and Martinique, where an ongoing "epidemic" is observed. French Guiana has reported 7,000 confirmed dengue cases since the start of 2024. Health authorities have called on people to remain vigilant and adopt good gestures to limit the proliferation of the tiger mosquito. Climate change is blamed for the mosquitoes' ability to adapt easily to colder climates, with Normandy, the last remaining mosquito-free region in France, as infested as the rest of the country. [\[Full article\]](#)



Measles

- The **United Kingdom (UK)**: The World Health Organisation (WHO) has reported a nearly doubled global measles case increase in a year, including in the UK (ITV News, 2024). The rise is attributed to countries lacking sufficient vaccination rates. The UK Health Security Agency (UKHSA) reported 86 confirmed cases last week, with over 1,000 confirmed cases in England since the outbreak began. The virus has spread to every region of the country, with London becoming the latest hotspot. The MMR vaccine coverage in the UK is the lowest it has been for over a decade, with only 85% of children having both doses before starting school aged five. [\[Full article\]](#)

Pertussis

- The **United States (US)**: Two confirmed cases of pertussis, also known as whooping cough, have been reported in Lexington schools, with officials advising children with symptoms to stay home and seek medical care, even if vaccinated (Staff, 2024). [\[Full article\]](#)

Regional Situation

COVID-19

- **Thailand's** Department of Disease Control reported a surge in COVID-19 cases following the Songkran celebrations (Fasaisirinan, T, (2024). There s 1,004 new inpatients admitted, resulting in an average of 143 daily cases and three deaths in the week ending 20 April. [\[Full article\]](#)

Dengue

- **Indonesia**: Bogor City reported 1,803 cases of dengue fever from January to April 2024, with 11 deaths so far (Mahendra, 2024). The disease primarily affects children and teenagers aged 5-14 years, with the highest number of cases in 2022 and the highest death rate in 2023 and 2024. [\[Full article\]](#)
- **Malaysia**: Dengue cases in Kedah have surged to 1,550 in the 16th epidemiological week, a 19.1% increase from the previous year (The Star, 2024). State housing, local government and health committee said the increase was 12.4%. He said 95,307 premises have been inspected, with 6,297 found to have breeding grounds for Aedes mosquitoes. The state Health Department and the state government have introduced a self-inspection QR code for residents to monitor breeding grounds and encourage housekeeping. [\[Full article\]](#)
- **Thailand** has reported 26,527 dengue cases and 22 deaths this year, a 123% increase from 2023 (iO Foundation, 2024). The disease is primarily found in the Central, Northeast, Northern, and Southern regions. The risk of infection is high, with epidemics occurring every 2-4 years, mainly between July and August. The country has experienced a significant increase in cases due to confinement since 2019, 2013, and 2015. The highest number of cases was in the Central Region, with 19,131 cases of classic dengue, 7,195 cases of dengue hemorrhagic fever, and 201 cases of dengue shock syndrome. [\[Full article\]](#)



Pertussis

- **The Philippines:** The Department of Health (DoH) Bicol has reported 35 cases of pertussis or whooping cough in the first quarter of 2024, with two reported deaths (Barcia, 2024). The disease is highly contagious and can be fatal to babies. It is transmitted through droplets from coughing or sneezing. Symptoms include colds, fever, and cough lasting one to two weeks. The disease can be followed by vomiting, blackening, or bleaching. Those with symptoms should cover their nose and mouth when coughing or sneezing. The DoH Bicol and the Regional Epidemiology and Surveillance Unit are closely monitoring the region to contain the spread of the respiratory infection. [[Full article](#)]
- **Vietnam:** From the beginning of 2024 until now, Vietnam has recorded 127 cases of whooping cough, a 7.9-fold increase from 2023 (Herriman, 2024). Hanoi has seen 15 more cases in 11 districts, while 60 cases of pertussis have been recorded in 21 districts. The main cases are children under 2 months old, with 72% unvaccinated. The Ministry of Health and Department of Preventive Medicine have requested provinces and cities to strengthen prevention and control of whooping cough and preventable diseases with vaccines. [[Full article](#)]

Rabies

- **Indonesia:** Rabies is a growing concern in Melaya, Jembrana, Bali with cases of rabid dog bites increasing (Bali Tribune, 2024). The most recent case occurred in Melaya sub-district, where a dog tested positive for rabies attacked eight residents from three Banjars. One of the victims was a toddler. The dog attacked five residents, including an elderly from Banjar Melaya Pantai and five residents of Banjar Pangkung Dedari. The dog then attacked two residents of Banjar Pangkung Tanah Kangin and a toddler. [[Full article](#)]

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