

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

- **Australia:** South Australia (SA) reported 977 new COVID-19 cases in the past week, with 3,252 people receiving a PCR test in the past week (The National Tribune, 2024). The number of cases has been readjusted due to data reconfiguration. SA Health encourages everyone to be up-to-date with vaccinations and to have a plan with their general practitioner (GP) for PCR testing and antiviral treatments if symptoms develop. [\[Full article\]](#)
- **Bangladesh** reported 16 more COVID-19 cases in the last 24 hours, with 314 samples tested, a positivity rate of 5.10% (The Daily Observer, 2024). The country's total deaths remained at 29,493, with 2,049,465 cases and 2,016,750 recoveries. [\[Full article\]](#)
- The **United States (US):** Ohio experienced a sixth consecutive week of decreased COVID-19 cases, with 2,291 cases reported this week (Washington, 2024). The state reported a 5,000 increase in the number of people receiving the updated one-dose vaccine, representing 11.3% of the population. The total COVID-19 case count since early 2020 in Ohio reached 3,737,176. The week also saw 96 hospitalizations and 37 deaths, raising the total to 43,859. [\[Full article\]](#)

### Measles

- **Italy:** Head of Infectious Diseases at San Martino polyclinic in Genoa, reports a progressively increasing number of measles cases among adults in Liguria (Mazzeo, 2024). In Genoa, five cases in 7 days among unvaccinated individuals can lead to serious complications, and outbreaks are expected in the coming months. [\[Full article\]](#)
- The **United States (US):** Chicago has confirmed 33 cases of measles in the city, with one cluster in a shelter for migrants (Goldhamer, 2024). However, social media claims that new arrivals are refusing to get vaccinated against the highly contagious virus are false. Local officials say inoculation or proof of prior immunity is required for temporary housing, and those living in the affected facility agreed to the job when offered. The city has welcomed over 37,000 new arrivals from the US-Mexico border since August 2022. Jacob Martin, public information coordinator for the CDPH, said new arrivals did not bring measles to the city and is treating vaccination as a requirement for shelter admission. [\[Full article\]](#)



## Pertussis

- **Kazakhstan:** Whooping cough has been reported in the Karaganda region, with 66 people falling ill from January 1 to March 27 (Strokava, 2024). The disease is registered in several satellite cities and regions, with the majority of sick people being children who are not vaccinated or have not completed the full course of vaccination. Whooping cough is an infectious respiratory tract disease caused by specific bacteria transmitted by airborne droplets. Susceptibility to whooping cough remains high at any age, with 90% of those in contact with the patient having an infection probability from the first days of life. [\[Full article\]](#)
- **Spain:** Navarra is experiencing a "wide circulation" of whooping cough, with 49 confirmed cases in 2024 (Cope, 2024). The incidence of pneumonia remains high, with 537 cases per 100,000 inhabitants. The flu virus has caused hospital admissions, with influenza A(H3N2) predominating. COVID-19 and respiratory syncytial virus circulation remain low, with one hospital admission. Pneumonia incidence remains high, with pneumococcus and Mycoplasma pneumoniae confirmed. In the week of March 11-17, 119 deaths were recorded, remaining at average values. [\[Full article\]](#)

## Regional Situation

### Dengue

- **Indonesia:** Indonesia aims to achieve a target of reducing dengue cases by 2030, with the Ministry of Health aiming to create a synergy between the government and the healthcare sector (Mediatama, 2024). The strategy, known as the Dengue Strategy 2021-2025, aims to address the country's Dengue-endemic status. However, implementation and control must be carried out in a small group. As of March 2024, 35.556 cases of dengue have been reported in Indonesia, with 290 cases. [\[Full article\]](#)

**Indonesia:** Salatiga City has seen an increase in dengue fever cases over the past three months, with two deaths recorded in January 2024 (Darwati, 2024). The highest number of cases was 128 in January, with 122 cases, four cases of dengue hemorrhagic fever (DHF), and two deaths. Dengue cases decreased in February and March, but have since increased again. [\[Full article\]](#)

### HFMD

- **Indonesia:** Singapore flu, also known as Hand, Foot, and Mouth Disease (HFMD), is a growing concern in Indonesia (Rahmadania, 2024). In the 11th week of 2024, the Indonesian Ministry of Health reported over 5,000 patients infected with the disease, with 738 cases recorded in Banten province. The disease can affect both children and adults, with the most common cases occurring in children. The most common type of Singapore flu is the coxsackievirus strain, A16. The term "Singapore flu" is a general term for HFMD, not related to the influenza virus. In Depok province, 14 suspected cases were reported, with 10 being treated at one hospital. The disease is generally caused by the coxsackievirus strain, with rare cases of Enterovirus 71 or EV-A71. [\[Full article\]](#)



## Malaria

- **Indonesia:** Dozens of residents from six villages in Simuk Sub-District, South Nias District have tested positive for malaria, with two of the 34 people who tested positive dying (Waspada, 2024). The Head of South Nias District Health Office confirmed that six villages are currently affected by malaria symptoms. The malaria outbreak has been ongoing for about three weeks, but the number of people infected has been increasing day by day. [[Full article](#)]

## Measles

- **Vietnam:** The first 13 cases of the measles virus in Ha Tinh, Vietnam, were detected on March 28 (Nam, 2024). The first cluster of cases was found in Duc Tho district, with no serious cases. The 13 patients, aged 6-9 months, were hospitalized for treatment and were treated with fluids, antibiotics, fever reducers, and expectorants. The district health center has implemented epidemic prevention measures in affected areas and schools. The measles epidemic began on March 6 at Duc Tho Town Primary School and Duc Yen Primary School, and has spread rapidly. The Ha Tinh Center for Disease Control is coordinating with district authorities to promote and advise against negligence in preventing and fighting measles and other diseases. [[Full article](#)]

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