

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 13, 2026, Palembang Municipality, South Sumatera Province reported 286 dengue cases across multiple districts, with Seberang Ulu II recording the highest (44 cases) (Detik, 2026). Children aged 5–14 years were most affected (155 cases), and males slightly outnumbered females (153 cases). The District Health Office conducted epidemiological investigations and applied larvicide at case sites to curb mosquito breeding and transmission. [\[Full article\]](#)
- The **Philippines:** As of March 23, 2026, Kapalong, Davao del Norte, reported a rapid rise in dengue cases, with Barangay Gabuyan recording 30 cases, followed by Maniki (12 cases) and Sampao (6 cases) identified as hotspot areas (93.1 Brigada News FM, 2026). The Municipal Health Office placed the city on alert and urged residents to clean surroundings and destroy mosquito breeding sites to prevent further spread of dengue. [\[Full article\]](#)
- **Viet Nam:** As of March 2026, the Ministry of Health reported 31,927 dengue cases nationwide with four deaths, a 220% increase from the same period in 2025 (Báo Điện Tử Chính Phủ, 2026). Ho Chi Minh City recorded the highest burden (13,730 cases), followed by Tay Ninh, Dong Nai, and Dong Thap. Authorities warned of peak transmission from May to November and directed provinces to strengthen surveillance, environmental sanitation, and timely patient care. [\[Full article\]](#)

Hand, Foot and Mouth Disease (HFMD)

- **Viet Nam:** As of March 27, 2026, the Ministry of Health reported 25,100 HFMD cases nationwide, including four deaths, a five-fold increase compared to the same period in 2025 (Ngay Nay, 2026). The southern region accounted for 18,031 cases (71.9%), with 99% occurring in children aged <10 years. Authorities urged strengthened surveillance, hygiene campaigns, school coordination, and early detection to prevent widespread transmission and reduce severe outcomes. [\[Full article\]](#)



On March 29, 2026, the Ministry of Health intensified surveillance in **Ho Chi Minh City** following a surge in severe HFMD cases, with EV71 as the dominant strain (Saigon Giai Phong News, 2026). The city reported nearly 8,200 cases and four deaths, a 209% increase from 2025, while Children's Hospital 2 treated 330 cases, including 52 severe. Can Tho reported 954 cases and one death, up 125%. Authorities urge strengthened surveillance, early detection, and infection control. [\[Full article\]](#)

Leptospirosis

- The **Philippines**: From January 1 to March 26, 2026, Quezon City recorded 31 leptospirosis cases, up from 18 cases in the same period in 2025 (Tribune.net.ph, 2026). Four deaths were reported, with most cases occurring in males aged ≥ 31 years. The Quezon City Epidemiology and Surveillance Division urged residents to use protective gear during floods and seek medical care after exposure to contaminated water to prevent severe outcomes such as Weil's syndrome. [\[Full article\]](#)

Measles

- **Indonesia**: As of March 26, 2026, the Ministry of Health reported a sharp decline in measles cases, with suspected cases dropping from 2,740 in week 1 to 177 in week 11, and confirmed cases from 2,268 to 121, a 94–95% reduction (Kalsel Daily, 2026). Authorities continue strengthening immunization programs, including Outbreak Response Immunization (ORI) and MR catch-up campaigns. [\[Full article\]](#)

In March 2026, the **Klaten District** Health Office (DHO) in Central Java Province reported four confirmed measles cases, including two in Prambanan sub-District (Tribun News, 2026). The DHO launched Outbreak Response Immunization (ORI) targeting approximately 53,000 children aged 9–59 months across the district. Vaccination is scheduled over one to two months using sweeping strategies to reach unvaccinated children. [\[Full article\]](#)

The **Subang District** Health Office (DHO), West Java Province, reported 140 suspected measles cases during the past 11 days, prompting heightened alert (Suara Subang, 2026). A catch-up immunization campaign was launched, targeting 4,183 children aged 9–59 months and achieving 95% coverage. Authorities stress timely MR vaccination, good nutrition, and immunity to prevent severe complications. [\[Full article\]](#)

- The **Philippines**: From January 1 to March 26, 2026, Quezon City reported 116 measles cases, with 78% in children < 10 years (Quezon City Epidemiology & Surveillance Division, 2026). District 2 had the highest number (52), followed by Districts 4 (26), 6 (22), 3 (7), 1 (5), and 5 (4) (Quezon City Epidemiology & Surveillance Division, 2026). No deaths were reported. Authorities continue surveillance, outbreak response immunization, and health education, urging timely vaccination and medical care. [\[Full article\]](#)



Global Situation

Anthrax

- **Bangladesh:** A suspected anthrax outbreak occurred in Gurudaspur, Natore, after 12 people fell ill from consuming meat of a diseased cow (Glive24, 2026). Three were hospitalized at Rajshahi Medical College Hospital. Authorities buried remaining meat, intensified cattle vaccination (2,000 animals in Cholonali village), and urged prompt reporting of sick livestock and safe handling practices. [\[Full article\]](#)

Chikungunya

- **France:** In early 2026, 21 chikungunya cases were reported in Réunion, including locally acquired infections, indicating ongoing transmission (Zinfos 974, 2026). Favorable rainy and warm conditions support mosquito proliferation, increasing spread risk. Regional outbreaks also heighten the risk of further importation. Authorities urge vigilance, use of PCR testing to differentiate similar infections, and strengthened vector control measures. [\[Full article\]](#)
- **Mauritius:** On March 26, 2026, over 50 new chikungunya cases were reported in a single day, raising concern over accelerating transmission (Defimedia.info, 2026). Cumulative cases reached 682, with hotspots in Stanley, Camp-Levieux, and Plaisance (Rose-Hill). Authorities urge strengthened vector control and elimination of breeding sites to curb further escalation. [\[Full article\]](#)

Dengue

- **Bangladesh:** On March 29, 2026, the Directorate General of Health Services reported 41 new dengue admissions in the past 24 hours, with no deaths (BSS News, 2026). Year-to-date, 1,793 cases, including four fatalities, have been recorded; 62.7% are male. So far, 1,715 patients have been discharged. [\[Full article\]](#)
- **France:** As of late March 2026, Réunion reported 39 dengue, all locally acquired, with clusters in Saint-Leu and Saint-Paul (Zinfos 974, 2026). Twelve new cases were confirmed in the past week across eight municipalities. Authorities emphasized rapid diagnosis due to overlapping symptoms with chikungunya and leptospirosis and urged strengthened surveillance and outbreak response. [\[Full article\]](#)
- **Italy:** In March 2026, Tuscany reported two imported dengue cases in Livorno Province in a man and woman in their early 30s returning from Southeast Asia (Iltirreno.it, 2026). Both were hospitalized in Cecina with compatible symptoms and no complications. Authorities confirmed there was no risk of human-to-human transmission and implemented mosquito control near the hospital to prevent potential local spread. [\[Full article\]](#)
- **Taiwan (Province of China):** In late March 2026, Tainan strengthened dengue preparedness amid El Niño–related risks of higher temperatures and rainfall (UDN, 2026). As of March 26, Taiwan has recorded 28 imported cases, mostly from Southeast Asia. Authorities emphasize early detection through TOCC screening and NS1 testing, alongside community source reduction. Residents are urged to eliminate standing water and seek care promptly if symptomatic after travel. [\[Full article\]](#)



Leptospirosis

- **France:** Réunion reported total of 102 leptospirosis cases so far in 2026, with 21 in January, 42 in February, and 39 in March (Zinfos 974, 2026). Most occurred in southern areas (Le Tampon, Saint-Louis, Saint-Joseph). Nearly two-thirds required hospitalization, with one death reported. Authorities attributed the increase to summer climate conditions and urged vigilance and rapid diagnosis. [[Full article](#)]
- **Mauritius:** As of late March, 13 leptospirosis cases were confirmed, including a new case in a construction worker from Flacq (Le Mauricien, 2026). Authorities advised manual laborers to use protective gear (gloves, boots) and emphasized preventive measures to reduce exposure and limit further infections in affected communities. [[Full article](#)]

Measles

- **Australia:** In March, Gold Coast Health issued a measles alert after two imported cases (Internewscast, 2026). Potential exposure sites (7–22 March) included Hillsong Church Gold Coast, Robina Town Centre, ALDI Robina, and several medical facilities. No deaths were reported. Authorities advised visitors to monitor for symptoms up to three weeks and emphasized vaccination and vigilance to prevent further transmission. [[Full article](#)]
- **Bangladesh:** As of late March 2026, at least 38 children have died from measles amid a growing outbreak affecting Dhaka and multiple districts (The Daily Star, 2026). Most deaths occurred in March, with hospitals facing a surge in pediatric cases. The Infectious Disease Hospital in Mohakhali reported 560 suspected cases this year, including 21 deaths. Authorities warn of further increases and stress urgent strengthening of vaccination and response efforts. [[Full article](#)]

Over the past two weeks, **Mymensingh** Medical College Hospital admitted 106 measles patients, including five child deaths, two in the last 24 hours (Bdnews24, 2026). Most cases were children under five, both vaccinated and unvaccinated. Dedicated “measles corners” were set up for isolation. [[Full article](#)]

Pabna General Hospital in **Pabna District** reported 118 measles cases since January, with 27 patients currently admitted, mostly infants aged 3–12 months; no deaths occurred (Risingbd, 2026). In response, authorities established isolation centers in nine upazila health complexes and emphasized investigating vaccination gaps, as many cases involved children vaccinated at nine months. [[Full article](#)]

Rajshahi Medical College Hospital reported 12 child measles deaths this month, nine in the ICU (Views Bangladesh, 2026). Since March 1, a total of 84 children required ICU care, with additional cases in Pabna and Chapa Nawabganj. WHO testing confirmed 44 of 153 samples (29%). Isolation areas were established, though staffing shortages limit full capacity. [[Full article](#)]

- **Germany:** In late March 2026, three measles cases were confirmed in Märkischer Kreis among unvaccinated children in Kierspe, marking a resurgence after no cases the previous year (Come-On.de, 2026). Authorities warn of potential additional cases due to high transmissibility. Schools remained open, while vaccination gaps were identified as the main risk factor. Residents are urged to complete MMR immunization to prevent further spread. [[Full article](#)]



- **Japan:** Measles cases have risen nationwide, with Kagoshima reporting 24 infections as of March 27, 2026, the highest level since 2008 (373 News, 2026). The increase is linked to imported cases amid growing international travel. Authorities emphasize verifying vaccination status, noting that two doses significantly reduce severity and transmission. [[Full article](#)]
- **Ukraine:** Prykarpattia (Ivano-Frankivsk Oblast) implemented measures following a measles outbreak (PRM.UA, 2026). Of 68 suspected cases, 62 were confirmed, mostly in children linked to schools. Unvaccinated children were advised to avoid mass events, and remote learning advised when ≥ 2 cases occurred. Authorities intensified case finding, contact tracing, 21-day monitoring, and emphasized vaccination. [[Full article](#)]

Meningococcal Disease

- **Italy:** In late March 2026, two confirmed meningococcal meningitis cases were reported in an office building in Milan, with a third under investigation (TeleOne.it, 2026). The site was temporarily closed for sanitation, and employees shifted to remote work. Authorities conducted contact tracing and provided antibiotic prophylaxis to close contacts. Officials stated the situation is under control while emphasizing vigilance and rapid response. [[Full article](#)]
- The **United Kingdom (UK):** As of March 22, 2026, 20 invasive meningococcal disease cases (20 confirmed, 1 probable) were reported in Canterbury, Kent, with two deaths (UKHSA, 2026). Most confirmed cases were MenB, all requiring hospitalization. Cases were linked to University of Kent students and local schools, with a common exposure at a nightclub. Authorities implemented targeted vaccination and antibiotic prophylaxis to control transmission. [[Full article](#)]

Mpox

- **France:** Réunion reported one new mpox case, bringing the total to eight in 2026, according Santé Publique France bulletin on March 27, 2026 (Zinfos974.com. 2026). Four cases were imported, mainly from Madagascar, and four were locally acquired, including secondary transmission. Authorities urged vigilance among travelers from risk areas and emphasized rapid reporting of symptoms to strengthen outbreak monitoring and control. [[Full article](#)]

Rabies

- **Russia:** In late March 2026, a 9-year-old child in Bashkortostan died from rabies after a stray cat bite in Sterlitamak district (Lenta.ru, 2026). Authorities stress that rabies is almost always fatal after onset but preventable with timely post-exposure prophylaxis. The case highlights the need to avoid contact with stray animals and seek immediate care after any bite or scratch. [[Full article](#)]

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