

ASEAN Biological Threats Surveillance Centre

Media Monitoring for Infectious and Emerging Diseases

GLOBAL & ASEAN REGION

May 29 - 30, 2025



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.

Global Situation

COVID-19

- **Australian** health authorities are monitoring the rise of subvariant NB.1.8.1 of COVID-19 in Victoria, New South Wales, and Western Australia, with test positivity reaching 5.7% in NSW for the week ending May 17, 2025 (Yahoo News Australia, 2025). Wastewater surveillance and genomic sequencing confirm the growing prevalence of the subvariant, despite it not being currently associated with increased disease severity. Health officials are urging residents to stay up to date with boosters. Vaccines remain effective at preventing severe disease from NB. 1.8.1. [[Full article](#)]
- **India:** Maharashtra reported 76 new COVID-19 cases on May 29, 2025, bringing the total to 597 since January 1, 2025 (The Economic Time, 2025). Of those, 165 have recovered and remain active. Seven deaths have been reported with six involved individuals with comorbidities. Mumbai has reported the highest number of cases, with 379 in May. The surge in recent weeks highlights a significant uptick following minimal case counts earlier in the year. [[Full article](#)]

Uttar Pradesh reported a 40-year-old man died of COVID-19 in Chandigarh on May 28, 2025 despite receiving medical treatment in a hospital (E News Times, 2025). Meanwhile, four active cases of mildly symptomatic, confirmed cases of the virus have been identified in Haryana and are being managed under home quarantine. In response to the nationwide resurgence, regional health authorities in Punjab and Haryana have intensified surveillance and preparedness measures. [[Full article](#)]

Chikungunya

- **France** has reported 15 deaths linked to chikungunya in Réunion since the beginning of 2025, including three recent fatalities among elderly patients with comorbidities (Le Monde, 2025). The ongoing epidemic, which began in August 2024, has led to over 52,000 confirmed cases. Authorities are investigating additional suspected deaths and intensifying mosquito control efforts to curb further transmission. While no indigenous cases have been reported in mainland France, health officials remain vigilant during the active mosquito season. [[Full article](#)]



Dengue

- **Bangladesh** has reported 120 new dengue cases on May 28, 2025, with the highest number in Barishal division (69 cases), followed by Dhaka South (20 cases) and Chattogram (11 cases) (BSS, 2025). This brings the national total to 4,240 cases and 23 deaths so far in 2025. In comparison, 101,214 cases and 575 fatalities were recorded throughout 2024. [[Full article](#)]

Measles

- **Canada:** Manitoba has confirmed 72 measles cases so far this year, with 53 reported in May (CBC News, 2025). During the period, four probable cases were also reported. Efforts to monitor and contain the outbreak are ongoing. Public health authorities issued exposure warnings for two schools in southern Manitoba due to potential contact with infected individuals. [[Full article](#)]
- **Spain:** Andalucía confirmed 83 measles cases since the beginning 2025, with five new cases reported last week (Sur in English, 2025). Of those, 23% were imported, 31% affected children under 15, and 30% required hospitalization. Authorities highlight six active clusters, mainly small families. Authorities emphasize vaccination to prevent further spread and warn of expected new outbreaks due to the current epidemiological situation and ongoing transmission. [[Full article](#)]

Pertussis

- The **United States** fCenters for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) has reported a significant increase in pertussis cases, with Ohio recording 472 cases in 2025, including 22 in Cuyahoga County (Cleveland, 2025). Despite rare deaths, health authorities emphasize vaccination as the most effective prevention, recommending DTaP for young children and Tdap boosters for older individuals and pregnant women to protect newborns. [[Full article](#)]

Zika Virus

- The **United States:** The Hawai'i Department of Health confirmed a travel-related Zika virus case on O'ahu in May 2025, with two additional individuals under observation (Yahoo News, 2025). The cases involve individuals in the Waialua and Hale'iwa areas, prompting targeted monitoring by health officials. Although Zika is not established in Hawai'i and the last reported case was in 2019, authorities urge residents to take preventive measures, such as using insect repellent, eliminating standing water, and seeking medical attention if symptoms develop. [[Full article](#)]

Regional Situation

Mpox

- The **Philippines** confirmed the first mpox case in Cebu Province, involving a patient from Talisay City who died due to health complications (Manila Bulletin, 2025). The patient was quarantined following DOH-Central Visayas (DOH-7) protocols. In Mandaue City, a 39-year-old man with persistent skin lesions is under investigation as a suspected mpox case. Health officials urge the public to remain vigilant, practice good hygiene, wear masks, and avoid crowded places. [[Full article](#)]



Iloilo City reported its first laboratory-confirmed mpox case on May 28, 2025, with four additional suspected cases under observation (Philstar.com, 2025). The City Epidemiology and Surveillance Unit is conducting contact tracing and testing to prevent further transmission. Authorities emphasize frequent handwashing, use of sanitizers, avoiding crowded areas, and early medical consultation as key preventive measures. [\[Full article\]](#)

COVID-19

- **Brunei Darussalam** reported 594 COVID-19 cases between January and May 17, 2025, a significant decrease from 10,085 in the same period last year (Ministry of Health Brunei, 2025). Hospital admissions also decreased to 36 cases, with no reported deaths. The Ministry of Health emphasized preventive measures and booster doses for high-risk groups. While the situation remains under control, authorities continue close surveillance. [\[Full article\]](#)
- **Cambodia's** Ministry of Health reported 23 new COVID-19 cases on May 28, 2025, bringing the total to 139,421 since the pandemic began (Khmer Times, 2025). The cumulative death toll remains at 3,056, and 136,299 recovered. The Kingdom has identified cases involving Omicron sub-variants BA.4, BA.5, and JN.1. In response, authorities are intensifying efforts to administer a sixth vaccine dose to bolster population immunity. [\[Full article\]](#)
- **Thailand's** Department of Disease Control reported 18,062 new COVID-19 infections in a single day on May 27, 2025, bringing the total to 240,606 cases and 53 deaths in 2025 (The Nation Thailand, 2025). Since the Songkran holiday, 14 clusters of the disease have emerged; six clusters in prisons, five in schools, two military bases and one in a hospital. The DDC has urged strict preventive measures, particularly for vulnerable populations, and ongoing surveillance and public awareness campaigns. [\[Full article\]](#)

Dengue

- **Cambodia:** Preah Vihear province reported over 300 dengue cases and one death in 2025, with daily notifications from all seven districts (The Phnom Penh Post, 2025). In response, the provincial health department has intensified control efforts, including staff training, larvicide application, insecticide spraying, and widespread public education. Authorities also urge community vigilance during the rainy season to prevent further transmission. Among reported cases, an 8-year-old boy from Koulen district, Preah Vihear province, recovered after receiving intensive care at Jayavarman VII Hospital in Siem Reap on May 25–29, 2025. [\[Full article\]](#)



- **Indonesia:** The Yogyakarta City Health Office, Yogyakarta Province, reported 161 dengue fever cases as of May 26, 2025 (Radar Jogja, 2025). The wet conditions are accelerating the breeding of mosquitoes, increasing the risk of disease transmission. Residents are urged to enhance mosquito control efforts and the "One House, One Larvae Monitor" program, while limiting fogging due to its potential health risks. [\[Full article\]](#)
- **Malaysia:** Selangor reported 519 dengue cases in Epidemiological Week 21 (May 24, 2025), an 8.3% decrease from the previous week and a 66% drop compared to the same period in 2024 (Bernama, 2025). The decline is attributed to collaborative efforts by the Selangor Health Department, local authorities, and community engagement. The cumulative cases reached 11,003 cases, with two dengue-related deaths. Authorities urge continued public vigilance, especially during the rainy season. [\[Full article\]](#)

Melaka reported 530 dengue cases between January and May 24, 2025, primarily in Melaka Tengah, Jasin, and Alor Gajah, prompting authorities to take action (Bernama, 2025). The state government has intensified preventive measures through community mobilization, including monthly mass cleanups and the "One Hour Every Saturday" campaign to eliminate mosquito breeding sites. The Ministry of Health emphasizes the need for collective responsibility among communities and local authorities to make Melaka a clean, dengue-free state. [\[Full article\]](#)

- The **Philippines** reported 742 dengue cases with three deaths in Zamboanga City from January 1 to May 28, 2025, a 42% increase compared to 524 cases in the same period in 2024 (SunStar Zamboanga, 2025). Most cases were children aged ten years and younger. Kasanyangan, San Roque, and Talon-Talon, reported the highest case counts. Due to the cyclical nature of dengue outbreaks every two to three years, the City Health Officers are closely monitoring cases and urging the public to follow control measures to prevent further transmission. [\[Full article\]](#)

Hand, Foot and Mouth Disease (HFMD)

- **Philippines:** The Department of Health Center for Health Development Region 1 reported 1,231 suspected cases of HFMD from January 1 to April 26, 2025, a 1,120% increase from the previous year (GMA Regional TV, 2025). Most cases affected students aged 6-18 years-old, with La Union and Pangasinan reporting the highest numbers. In preparation for school reopening on June 16, campuses are implementing hygiene measures and urging early medical consultation to limit further spread. [\[Full article\]](#)

Leptospirosis

- **Indonesia:** Pacitan District, East Java Province reported 151 leptospirosis cases as of mid-May 2025, a 20% increase due to increased exposure during rice harvest season (TIMES Indonesia, 2025). The Bubakan Community Health Center in Tulakan Sub District has the most cases, with 49 cases. The Pacitan Health Office has allocated Rp263.2 million for response measures, including medical preparedness, community education, and early case detection. Authorities emphasize the use of protective footwear and media campaigns. [\[Full article\]](#)



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