

# ASEAN Biological Threats Surveillance Centre

## Media Monitoring for Infectious and Emerging Diseases

### GLOBAL & ASEAN REGION

December 30 - 31, 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

- **The United States:** The Jefferson County Health Department reported two COVID-related deaths during the week of December 7, marking the first fatalities of the 2025–2026 respiratory season (Leader Publications, 2025). Since the season began on September 28, the county has recorded 587 cases of COVID-19. While COVID-19 activity remains significant, flu levels are currently low, with only 15 cases reported in the most recent week. [[Full article](#)]

### Dengue

- **Bangladesh** reported a total of 102,673 dengue cases with 412 deaths in 2025, as of December 29 (The Daily Star, 2025). Despite a seasonal decline due to cold weather, experts are calling for a unified national mosquito-control authority and an integrated management system to begin in January 2026. They cited critical gaps in the 2025 response, including outdated fogging, nursing shortages, and delayed hospital admissions. [[Full article](#)]

### Malaria

- **Greece:** Health authorities in Chania, Crete, have confirmed one malaria case involving a 22-year-old immigrant, who is currently being treated at Chania Hospital (Patras Events, 2025). Experts have reassured the public that there is no risk of direct transmission to other individuals, as malaria is spread only through specific mosquito vectors. The patient will remain hospitalized until fully recovered, while authorities continue routine monitoring and preventive measures. [[Full article](#)]

### Measles

- **Australia:** Western Australia Health issued a measles alert on December 30, 2025, after a returned traveler visited multiple locations in Perth's south while infectious (PerthNow, 2025). This case brings Western Australia's total for the year to 60 confirmed measles cases. Authorities are urging the public to monitor symptoms and emphasize the importance of up-to-date vaccinations for international travelers. [[Full article](#)]



- **Canada:** The Northwestern Health Unit confirmed a measles case in Kenora, Ontario, on December 30, 2025 (CBCnews, 2025). Potential exposure sites include the Lake of the Woods District Hospital emergency department (Dec 22, 26, and 27) and the Kenora Public Library (Dec 23). This case follows a severe year for Canada, with over 5,000 cases nationwide since the fall of 2024. [[Full article](#)]
- **The United States:** South Carolina has reported 20 new measles cases, bringing the total to 179 cases statewide in 2025, with three hospitalizations due to complications and no deaths reported (Foxcarolina.com, 2025). Most cases occurred among children and adolescents, with the majority linked to household, school, and church exposures, while some sources remain under investigation. Authorities have placed 287 people in quarantine and two in isolation, with quarantine extending until January 21. [[Full article](#)]

### *Mpox*

- **Hong Kong (SAR)** has confirmed one imported mpox case involving an unvaccinated male who developed symptoms overseas and is currently in stable condition (The Standard, 2025). The patient returned to Hong Kong on December 25 and was hospitalized, with authorities finding no epidemiological link to previous local cases. Health authorities are investigating the case, reporting it to the WHO, and have urged high-risk groups to receive vaccination, offering walk-in services at designated clinics. Since 2022, Hong Kong has recorded 84 mpox cases in total, including 17 imported cases. [[Full article](#)]

### *Pertussis*

- **The United States** has reported nearly 28,000 cases of pertussis (whooping cough) this year, marking the second consecutive year exceeding 25,000 cases, with the highest burden among infants and young children (Mezha Net, 2025). Health authorities link the surge to declining vaccination coverage and reduced herd immunity following the COVID-19 pandemic. The CDC and PAHO are urging up-to-date vaccination, including Tdap during pregnancy (27–36 weeks), completion of the DTaP series in children, and booster doses every 10 years for adults and adolescents. [[Full article](#)]

The Arkansas Department of Health reported a 15-year high of pertussis cases with over 600 cases recorded across the state by the end of 2025, a sharp increase from previous years (Fox 16.com, 2025). Health officials noted the disease significantly impacts school-aged children and infants who are not fully vaccinated. Authorities are urging parents to ensure children receive Tdap vaccines or boosters to curb the spread of the disease. [[Full article](#)]

## **Regional Situation**

### *Dengue*

- **Indonesia:** Batang Hari District, Jambi Province, recorded 112 dengue hemorrhagic fever (DHF) cases up to December 2025 and no deaths reported, with the highest number occurring in January (34 cases) (Imcnews.id, 2025). The most affected areas are Muara Bulian, Jembatan Emas Health Center, and Muara Tembesi, particularly in densely populated zones with standing water. Despite the rainy season, cases in December declined to three. [[Full article](#)]



- **Viet Nam:** In the week from December 19 to December 26, the Hanoi CDC reported 100 new dengue cases across 49 wards, a decrease of 17 cases from the previous week, with no deaths (Báo Tri thức và Cuộc sống, 2025). Since the beginning of 2025, Hanoi has had a total of 6,516 dengue cases, down 29% from 2024, with 308 hotspots recorded this year, all of which have now concluded. [[Full article](#)]

### **Hand, Foot, and Mouth Disease**

- **Viet Nam:** In the week reported by the Hanoi Center for Disease Control (CDC), there were 68 cases of hand, foot and mouth disease across 46 wards and communes, reflecting a slight decline from the previous week (Báo Tri thức và Cuộc sống, 2025). However, since early 2025, the total cases have surged to 6,182, significantly higher than the same period last year, with no new outbreaks recorded during the week. [[Full article](#)]

### **Leptospirosis**

- **Indonesia:** Klaten District, Central Java Province, reported a rise in leptospirosis cases with 155 cases and 27 deaths reported this year, compared to 37 cases and nine deaths in 2024 (Jogja Tribun News, 2025). Health authorities reported that the high fatality rate is largely due to patients mistaking early symptoms for a common cold, resulting in late presentation to healthcare facilities. [[Full article](#)]

### **Tuberculosis**

- **Indonesia:** The Pontianak Health Office reported 2,415 tuberculosis cases as of early December 2025 (rri.co.id, 2025). Officials attribute the rise in detected cases to a proactive screening strategy, shifting from passive clinical waiting to community-based outreach. In response, the city established five TBC alert villages to ensure patients complete their mandatory six-month treatment and to break the chain of transmission. [[Full article](#)]

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