

ASEAN Biodiaspora Virtual Center

Media Monitoring for Infectious and Emerging Diseases

GLOBAL & ASEAN REGION

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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 January 2024.

Global Situation

COVID-19

- **Greece** has reported a spike in COVID-19 cases related to the new FLIRT variant over the last 20 days, with 669 new COVID-19 patients admitted from July 8 to 14, 2024 (Booth, 2024). This was a 44% increase in the average weekly number of new admissions over the previous four weeks. In total, 26 deaths were recorded. The city of Thessaloniki has seen a rise in cases reported through sewage testing. Bulgaria, which shares a border with Greece, issued a warning to its residents visiting the country this summer. The Association of Hospital Doctors' Union of Athens and Piraeus (EINAP) warned that the outbreak of the coronavirus is expected to continue until the end of July. [[Full article](#)]
- The **United States (US)**: Ohio has reported a significant increase in new COVID-19 cases for the eighth consecutive week, rising from 3,896 to 4,575 cases this week (Washington, 2024). The increase is more than double the number at the end of February and is more than double the amount at the same period last year. At least 1,380,406 Ohio residents, representing 11.8% of the state's population, have received the updated one-dose COVID-19 vaccine. The total COVID-19 case count since early 2020 in Ohio has reached 3,768,753. [[Full article](#)]

Chikungunya

- **India** reported 2,639 cases of Chikungunya from January to July, state health minister said (DTNEXT, 2024). Three deaths occurred, and special measures are being taken to control disease spread during the monsoon season. A special medical camp has been inaugurated to combat these diseases. [[Full article](#)]

Dengue

- **Bangladesh**: Dengue fever has caused 263 patients hospitalized in Bangladesh, with 164 in Dhaka and 484 in other hospitals (TBP Desk, 2024). A total of 5,250 cases and 50 deaths have been reported since January 1, with 1,705 deaths in the deadliest year on record. [[Full article](#)]



- **India:** Tamil Nadu Health Minister reported 6,565 people were affected by dengue fever between January 1 to July 25 this year (DTNEXT, 2024). The deaths due to dengue have reduced in the last few years due to continuous prevention and control measures. [[Full article](#)]

Measles

- **Ukraine:** Four measles cases were recorded among children in the Odessa District due to religious beliefs (Dumskaya, 2024). The regional Center for Disease Control and Prevention reports that all children are in moderate condition, receiving treatment at the Infectious Diseases Hospital. Since the start of the year, 19 measles cases have been confirmed, including nine children. [[Full article](#)]

Mpox

- **Taiwan** has reported four new mpox cases, bringing the total to 13 (Thomson, J., 2024). The CDC reported the highest number in ten months in July. The four cases are males aged 30-40. The CDC advised high-risk individuals to get vaccinated, stating that two doses can provide up to 90% protection. [[Full article](#)]

Pertussis

- **Canada:** A whooping cough outbreak in northeastern New Brunswick has reached 36 cases since mid-June, with 48 reported across the province so far this year (Moore, N., 2024). The outbreak has been exacerbated by a rise in pertussis cases, which have been reported in other parts of the country. In May, parents and guardians of New Brunswick schoolchildren received a memo informing them of the rising cases and encouraging them to get vaccinated. [[Full article](#)]

Regional Situation

Dengue

- **Indonesia:** In July, dengue fever cases in Boyolali Regency reached 690, with 10 deaths (Faizah, 2024). The highest number of cases was recorded in March, with 157 cases and four deaths. The most cases were in Boyolali II Public Health Center, followed by Teras Public Health Center, Cepogo Public Health Center, Musuk Public Health Center, and Sambu Public Health Center. The most effective efforts to prevent dengue fever are the mosquito nest eradication movement and environmental cleaning, rather than fogging. [[Full article](#)]
- The **Philippines:** Dengue cases in Tagum City, Davao del Norte have increased to 933 cases from January to July 2024, with 53 new cases (GMA Regional, 2024). Most cases are from Visayan Village, Mankilam, and Apokon. [[Full article](#)]



- **Singapore** has reported over 10,000 cases of dengue fever in 2024, surpassing the total recorded last year (CNN, 2024). The threshold was exceeded between July 14 and 20, when 236 cases were reported. The total number of dengue cases reported this year reached 10,141, increased from 9,949 cases in 2023. The National Environment Agency (NEA) warned of a rise in dengue infections in March. There are 70 active dengue clusters in Singapore, with ten clusters considered red alert. Dengue virus serotype 2 (DENV-2) has been dominant since September 2023, with a previous dominance of DENV-1 and DENV-3. The NEA warns that the continued presence of these risk factors could lead to a spike in dengue cases in the coming months. [Full article]
- **Thailand:** The Director of the Disease Control Office 11 reported a significant increase in dengue fever cases within Health Region 11, with 5,853 cases reported from Jan 1 to July 19, with the highest infection rates among the children aged 10-14 years (The Phuket News Com, 2024). The director stressed the importance of eliminating mosquito breeding grounds. [Full article]
- **Vietnam:** The number of dengue fever cases in Hai Phong city has increased by 28.9% compared to the previous week, with 4,571 cases recorded since the beginning of the year (Le, 2024). Districts with high cases include Le Chan, Hai An, Ngo Quyen, Kien An, and Hong Bang. The city recorded 140 new outbreaks last week, bringing the total to 747. Districts with high numbers of active outbreaks include Hai An (309), Hong Bang (66), Le Chan (57), An Duong (50), and Vinh Bao (45). [Full article]

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