

ASEAN Biodiaspora Virtual Center

Media Monitoring for Infectious and Emerging Diseases

GLOBAL & ASEAN REGION

30– 31 July, 2024



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

Avian Influenza (H5N1)

- The **United States (US)**: Three more bird flu cases have been confirmed in the US, bringing the total to 14 (Owens, N., 2024). The cases were from a Weld County egg farm, unrelated to the previous six cases. The virus has been spreading rapidly across the Asia-Pacific region. [[Full article](#)]

Chikungunya

- **Italy**: A woman has contracted chikungunya, leading to an extraordinary disinfestation in the city (Fusaro, 2024). The Ulss 3 Serenissima Municipality has announced interventions in progress, starting from via Cici and affecting a wider area. The health office has scheduled an urgent intervention to prevent the outbreak in the city. Larvicidal interventions has been conducted from July 30 to August 1, 2024, starting at 5 am. Citizens are asked to allow access to Triveneta Multiservizi company operators for treatment and removal of larval outbreaks in private courtyard areas. [[Full article](#)]

COVID-19

- **India**: Health authorities in Chhatrapati Sambhajnagar, India, have reported seven new COVID-19 cases, raising the total to nine (TNN, 2024). Only one patient is hospitalized, while the remaining eight are under home isolation. Test samples of the new cases will be sent to the National Institute of Virology in Pune. Health authorities urge the public to follow earlier precautions, including hand hygiene and avoiding public places. [[Full article](#)]
- **Japan** is experiencing another wave of COVID-19 infections, with new cases surging nationwide (The Asahi Shimbun, 2024). The current 11th wave of infections could surpass last summer's ninth wave, potentially becoming the largest outbreak since the legal status of COVID-19 was reclassified as a Class V contagious disease along with seasonal flu. The new variant, "KP.3," is at the center of the outbreak, as it easily evades antibodies from previous infections and vaccinations. As of March, over 60% of people had antibodies indicating past infection, with Tokyo and Okinawa Prefecture exceeding 70%. New outbreaks occur in winter and summer, with increasing hospitalizations and critically ill patients treated in ICUs. [[Full article](#)]



- The **United States (US)**: A new map from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) reveals that four Southern states and one Southwestern state are experiencing the highest rates of COVID-19 infection (Cameron, 2024). Region Six, including Arkansas, Louisiana, New Mexico, Oklahoma, and Texas, saw 23.5% of COVID-19 tests positive, an increase of 7.3% points from the previous week. The overall number of new positive COVID cases in the U.S. increased by 1.3% points over the past week, rising from 13% to 14.3%. Region Nine reported the second-highest rate of new infections at 17.8%. The CDC has advised everyone aged six months and older to receive the updated 2024-2025 COVID-19 vaccine, regardless of their vaccination history. The CDC recommends everyone aged six months and older to receive the updated COVID-19 vaccine, regardless of their vaccination history, as both COVID-19 and flu vaccinations are crucial for preventing severe outcomes like hospitalization and death. [[Full article](#)]

Dengue

- **Bangladesh**: Dengue cases have reached 6,144 cases this year, with 56 deaths reported (BSS,2024). In the last 24 hours, 141 patients were discharged from hospitals. Eighteen wards under two city corporations in Dhaka are at high risk of dengue, according to a DGHS survey. The country recorded 1,705 dengue-related deaths and 321,179 cases last year. [[Full article](#)]

Pertussis

- **France** has experienced a whooping cough epidemic, resulting in 20 deaths among children and eight adults (Vorarlberg, 2024). The highly contagious viral disease can cause serious complications in babies and be fatal. The epidemic has been increasing in France, Austria, and other countries. French doctors regret that infant vaccination against whooping cough is not yet the norm, while Austria offers free child vaccinations. [[Full article](#)]
- **Taiwan**: Three new cases of whooping cough were reported in northern Taiwan last week, as the Centers for Disease Control (CDC) reported 584 new COVID-19 hospitalizations and 90 deaths (Lee, I., 2024). The cases are from the same family, who began experiencing respiratory symptoms early last month. [[Full article](#)]
- The **United States (US)**: Pertussis cases in Wisconsin have more than doubled since the start of the year, with over 200 confirmed cases since the start of the year (Fechner, J., 2024). Although not considered an "outbreak," the steady increase is concerning. Public Health Madison & Dane County has previously called the increase an "outbreak." The Wisconsin Department of Health Services immunization program director advises reviewing vaccination records and getting vaccinated if possible. [[Full article](#)]

Regional Situation

Dengue

- **Indonesia**: Balikpapan City, East Kalimantan Province, has seen a 141.9 Incidence Rate per 100,000 population, with a Case Fatality Rate of 0.11% (Heri & Rosadi, 2024). Central Balikpapan District as the highest cases in the 30th week. Gunung Sari Ilir Sub-district has the highest increase in cases, with six cases. [[Full article](#)]



- The **Philippines:** The Iloilo Provincial Health Office (IPHO) is urging the public to help in the campaign against dengue as cases in the province continue to rise (Lena, P., 2024). From Jan 1 to July 20 this year, Iloilo had 2,493 cases, including six deaths, an increase of 161% compared to the 956 cases with no deaths in the same period in 2023. The province recorded 440 cases during the 29th monitoring week, compared to over 300 in the 28th week. The IPHO urged the public to observe the 5S strategy: search and destroy mosquito breeding places, secure self-protection, seek early consultation when signs and symptoms occur, say yes to fogging, and stay hydrated. [[Full article](#)]

Pertussis

- **Viet Nam:** The Center for Tropical Diseases in Viet Nam is treating nearly 40 children with whooping cough, including a critically ill child who requires a ventilator (Baodautu, 2024). The most recent case is a 24-day-old baby girl in Lang Son City who experienced frequent coughing spells, purple face, and vomiting. After five days of treatment, the child's condition improved, and she is expected to be discharged soon. The number of whooping cough patients has been increasing, with Hanoi recording 200 cases since 2024 in 29 districts, towns, and cities. [[Full article](#)]

Rabies

- **Indonesia:** Rabies-transmitting animal bite cases in Ende District, East Nusa Tenggara Province, have increased, with 1200 recorded between January and July 2024 (Wula & Dalima, 2024). Most residents suffered minor injuries, but none died. Three deaths occurred in April and July due to victims not receiving anti-rabies vaccination. The Ende District Health Office is providing appeals and socialization to the community about rabies dangers through existing health centers. [[Full article](#)]
- **Viet Nam:** Rabies in Viet Nam has caused 56 human deaths across 29 provinces and cities from January to July, a 45% year-on-year increase (Tuoi Tre News, 2024). The main cause of rabies deaths is the failure to get vaccinated immediately after being bitten, scratched, or having an open wound licked by a cat or dog. Epidemiological investigations show most cases do not receive vaccination, and some children do not tell their parents about their dog bites, missing out on preventive treatment and succumbing to rabies. The Department of Animal Health reports 58% vaccination coverage in dogs, but many provinces have below 30%. The health ministry plans to impose sanctions for dog and cat owners who fail to vaccinate their pets or allow them to roam freely. [[Full article](#)]

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