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Morbidity and Mortality Weekly Report in the ASEAN Region

_____ Infectious Diseases

August 14, 2023 | MMWR 2023-32
Epidemiological Week 32



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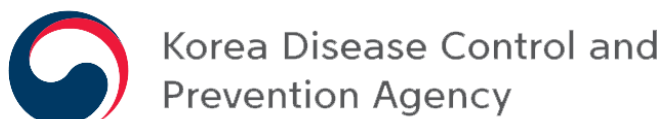


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Weekly Issue





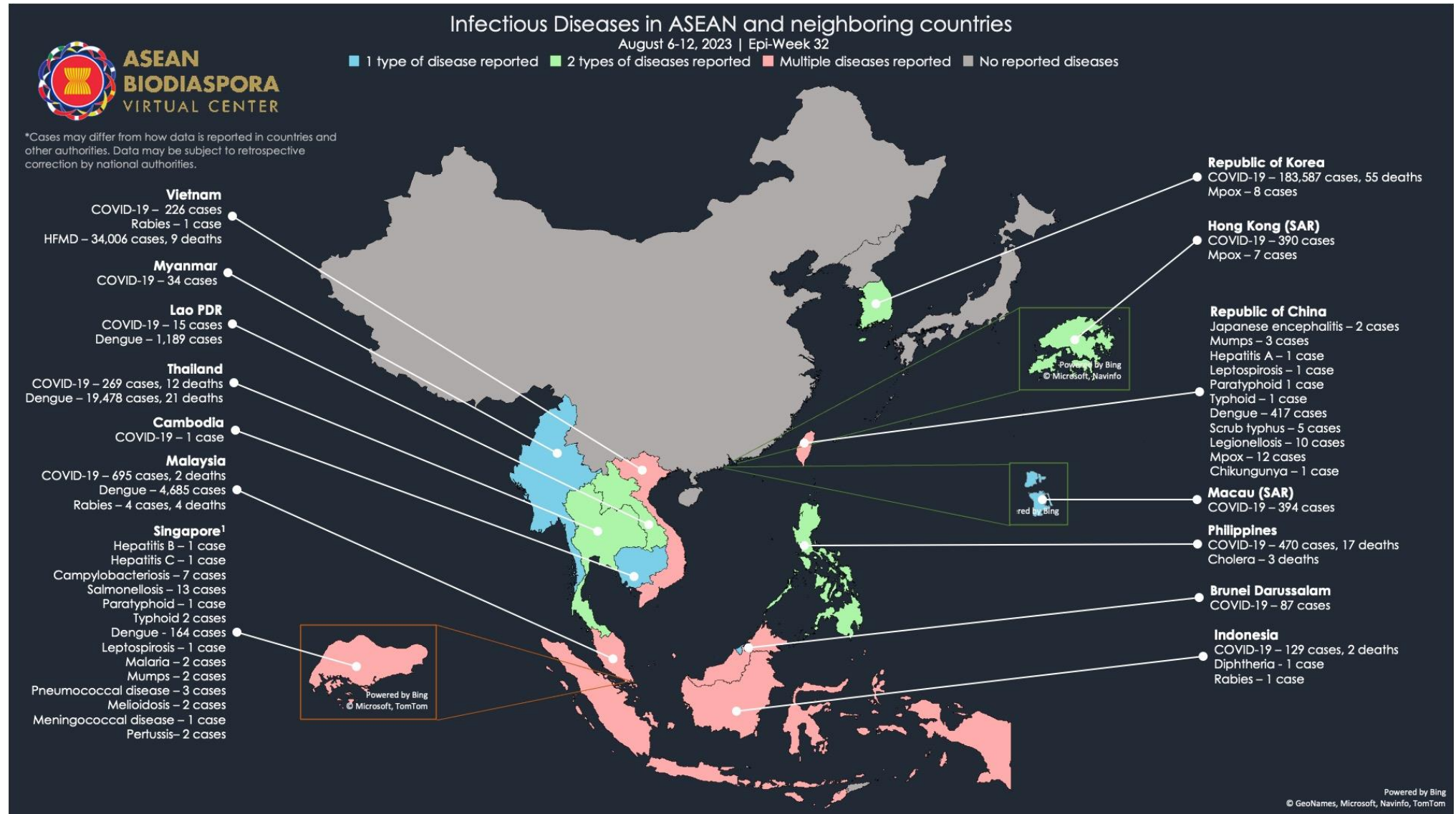
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Reported Infectious Diseases in the ASEAN Region and Neighboring Countries

Epidemiological Week 32 | August 6-12, 2023



1. Ministry of Health Singapore, "Weekly Infectious Diseases Bulletin," Ministry of Health, July 26, 2023, <https://www.moh.gov.sg/resources-statistics/infectious-disease-statistics/2023/weekly-infectious-diseases-bulletin>.



Reported Infectious Diseases

Epidemiological Week 32 | August 6-12, 2023

Infectious Disease Global Updates

Malaria

- World Health Organization:** A new malaria vaccine, called "RTS,S," has been approved by the World Health Organization and offers partial protection against the disease (Breaking Latest News, 2023). A Phase Ib study in Tanzania found that targeting the RH5 protein, which the malaria parasite uses to invade red blood cells, can generate a promising immune response in African newborns. The researchers found that participants who received the experimental malaria vaccine developed antibodies to RH5, which inhibited the growth of the parasite at high levels associated with protection. The strongest immune responses were observed in infants under 11 months, followed by children aged 1 to 6 years, and adults. The vaccine's potential for preventing malaria is promising, as it could provide a second line of defense once the parasite enters the bloodstream. [\[Full article\]](#)
- Bangladesh:** Malaria prevalence has increased rapidly in remote areas of upazilas in Bangladesh, particularly in Khagrachari, Rangamati, and Bandarban districts (Dhaka Tribune, 2023). Jurachhari, Baghaichhari, Barkal, and Bilaichhari have received twice as many patients as last year. The prolonged monsoon and reduced use of mosquito nets are some of the reasons for the increase in malaria prevalence. The district civil surgeon office reported 404 malaria cases in June 2021, but it increased to 725 in July. Jurachhari has the highest number of active cases, with a total of 263 active cases. The number of infected people has also increased, with a total of 49 in June last year, 47 in July, and 132 in June this year and 136 in July. The civil surgeon office of Rangamati district reported that 17,045 people were infected with malaria in 2014, 2,993 in 2018, 6,003 in 2019, 1,377 in 2020, and 1,600 in 2021. The NGO BRAC conducted blood tests to provide treatment to patients, and the union has proposed 13 more clinics to ensure healthcare for people in remote areas. [\[Full article\]](#)
- Angola:** The Ministry of Health confirmed 22 new cases of malaria in the 30th week of 2023, with a cumulative number of 6,459 cases (The Goa Spotlight, 2023). The majority of the cases occur in the Guna Yala region, Ngabe-Bugli, and regional stations of the Darien and Panama Metro. Malaria, caused by Plasmodium, is transmitted through mosquito bites. The Pan American Health Organization (PAHO) reported 520,000 cases in 2021 and 120 deaths. Minsa is strengthening malaria mitigation, promotion, and prevention strategies by distributing chemical mosquito nets and enhancing operational capacity and drug supply. The first death from malaria was confirmed in December 2022, with 5,710 cases reported in the Guna Yala region, Darien, and Eastern Panama. [\[Full article\]](#)

Measles

- EU:** In June 2023, six EU/EEA countries reported 41 confirmed cases of measles to The European Surveillance System (TESSy). Detailed data are available in ECDC's Surveillance Atlas of Infectious Diseases. The most recent cases were reported in Belgium (15), Austria (11), France (7), Poland (6), in 14 EU/EEA countries between January and June 2023. Complementary epidemic intelligence surveillance data collected between 4 August and 8 August 2023 from official public and media sources detected 52 new suspected and/or confirmed cases of measles. These were reported in five EU/EEA countries over the past months: Austria (22), Finland (1), Germany (19), Hungary (1), and Poland (9). No other countries reported new cases or provided updates for previous periods. To date in 2023, no measles-related deaths have been reported in the EU/EEA. ECDC Week 32 Communicable Disease Threats Report



- Finland and Sweden:** On 9 August 2023, public health authorities in Finland and Sweden reported a confirmed case of measles onboard the Viking Glory cruise ship from Turku (Finland) to Stockholm (Sweden) on 6 August 2023 (the ship departed from Turku at 8:45 and arrived in Stockholm at 18:55, on the same day). According to the authorities, the case stayed in the cabin during the trip and did not go around the ship, apart from entering and exiting the vessel. Travelers on the ship in question – a total of approximately 3,500 people, of which approximately 2,000 from Sweden – have been contacted via email by the Public Health Authority and Viking Line regarding the possible exposure. ECDC assessment: The risk of spread is considered to be low for travelers and staff on the cruise, as the case stayed in the cabin during the whole trip. However, sporadic additional cases among unvaccinated individuals who shared close contact with the index case during embarking and disembarking, cannot be ruled out. The public health authorities and the cruise company have already emailed all the passengers of the ship to raise awareness about the incident and invited them to contact their healthcare providers immediately upon the onset of symptoms. ECDC Week 32 Communicable Disease Threats Report

Dengue

- Bangladesh:** Dengue, a mosquito-borne viral illness, has become a perilous issue in Bangladesh, with a record number of 352 fatalities as of August 9, 2023 (Reza, 2023). The Directorate General of Health Services (DGHS) reported a surge in dengue cases in July, reaching over 43,800 cases, compared to 5,900 cases in June. Dengue is now a year-round disease, with up to 2.4 million annual cases documented in recent years. The virus spreads through female mosquito bites, and patients typically experience mild symptoms or asymptomatic symptoms. Controlling the spread can be achieved by removing breeding sites and practicing personal precautions, such as mosquito repellents and mosquito nets. [\[Full article\]](#)
- France.** On 4 August 2023, the French public health agency (Santé publique France) reported two autochthonous cases of dengue virus infection in patients residing in Gardanne, the Bouche -du-Rhône department, and the Provence Alpes-Côte d'Azur region. Both the cases had not travelled abroad recently. Vector control measures were implemented around the house of these two cases on 4 August and were planned to be repeated a week after. Healthcare professionals have been informed, including general practitioners, public and private laboratories, and pharmacists and hospitals. The general population has been informed through local and national media. Active case finding will be implemented by a door-to-door survey in an area of 200 meters around the residences of the new cases. In Europe, the dengue virus is transmitted via the mosquito vector *Aedes albopictus*, which is established in a large part of Europe. (*Aedes aegypti* is the main vector of the dengue virus worldwide, but its distribution in the EU/EEA is limited to Madeira and Cyprus). In 2022, France reported nine outbreaks with a total of 65 locally-acquired cases of dengue, which was the highest number of autochthonous cases and outbreaks in the EU/EEA in this century so far. The actual weather conditions in most of the areas in the EU/EEA, where *Aedes albopictus* is established, are favourable for vector propagation, dengue virus propagation in vectors, and vectoral transmission of dengue. The recent intense precipitations and floods can create additional breeding sites for mosquitoes. Therefore, further cases connected to this transmission event or autochthonous secondary transmission from imported cases of dengue in other areas cannot be excluded. ECDC Week 32 Communicable Disease Threats Report

Diphtheria

- EU:** From the beginning of 2023 and as of 8 August 2023, 57 cases of diphtheria have been reported in the EU/EEA through The European Surveillance System (TESSy). Cases



have been reported in Germany (35), Belgium (6), Czechia (5), the Netherlands (5), Latvia (3), Norway (1), Slovakia (1), and Sweden (1). This represents an increase of seven cases since the previous update on 10 July 2023. The new cases have been reported from Germany (3), the Netherlands (3), and Sweden (1). Among all the cases reported in 2023, 36 cases were caused by *Corynebacterium (C.) diphtheriae* and the remaining 21 cases were caused by *Corynebacterium (C.) ulcerans*. Forty-eight of the 57 cases had a cutaneous clinical presentation: Germany (33), Czechia (4), the Netherlands (4), Belgium (3), Latvia (1), Norway (1), Slovakia (1), and Sweden (1). Six cases had a respiratory presentation: Belgium (3), Latvia (2), and Czechia (1). One case had a cutaneous and respiratory presentation (the Netherlands), and two cases had a nasal presentation (Germany). In 2023, and as of 8 August, two fatal cases – Belgium (1) and Latvia (1) – have been reported in the EU/EEA. Both the fatal cases were attributable to *C. diphtheriae* infections and had a respiratory presentation. ECDC Week 32 Communicable Disease Threats Report

Avian Influenza in Fur Farms

- Finland:** Since 13 July 2023 and as of 9 August 2023, avian influenza A(H5N1) has been detected in 24 fur farms in Finland, according to updates by the Finnish Food Authority. The farms are in the areas of Evijärvi, Halsua, Kannus, Kauhava, Kaustinen, and Vöyri in Ostrobothnia and host foxes (blue, silver and mixed-breed), raccoon dogs, and minks. On 21 July 2023, the Finnish Food Authority reported that based on preliminary analysis, the lineage of the virus collected from the fur animals matches the one collected from gulls, and there are indications that it has a mutation that promotes replication in mammalian cells. Sequences of the viruses collected from minks, foxes and seagulls in Finland have been posted in the GISAID EpiFlu database. According to the Finnish Food Authority, this is the first time avian influenza has been detected in farmed fur animals in Finland. Two infections were previously detected in wild foxes in Finland. Introduction of avian influenza into fur farms is not unexpected if infected wild birds are observed in the area, and measures to prevent contact between infected birds or their droppings and the farmed animals are not in place. A previous event was observed at a mink farm in Spain. Transmission from foxes, or other infected mammals, to humans has not been observed to date. ECDC Week 32 Communicable Disease Threats Report

Infectious Disease Updates in the ASEAN Region

Cholera

- Philippines:** Negros Occidental's Provincial Health Office (PHO) reported fatalities due to waterborne disease cholera (Panay News, 2023). Cholera cases reached four, with nine confirmed and 43 suspected cases. [\[Full article\]](#)

Leptospirosis

- Philippines:** Negros Occidental's Provincial Health Office (PHO) reported fatalities due to waterborne leptospirosis (Panay News, 2023). Leptospirosis cases reached 93, 3.3 percent higher than last year. [\[Full article\]](#)

Vector-Borne Diseases



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Dengue Cases in the ASEAN Region

From January 1 to August 12, 2023 (Epi-Week 32)



Dengue cases in the ASEAN region

Country	Epi-Week Reported	Cumulative Dengue Cases	New Cases Since the Previous Report	Deaths	Case Fatality Rate (CFR)
Brunei Darussalam	-	-	-	-	-
Cambodia⁵	Week 26	6,683	0	14	0.21%
Indonesia⁶	Week 30	51,742	7,742	373	0.72%
Lao PDR⁵	Week 27	8,175	0	5	0.06%
Malaysia⁵	Week 25	56,721	0	39	0.07%
Myanmar¹	Week 28	6,685	0	30	0.45%
Philippines³	Week 27	75,230	0	282	0.37%
Singapore⁴	Week 31	5,373	103	0	0.00%
Thailand²	Week 27	27,235	0	1	0.003%
Vietnam⁵	Week 28	46,658	0	11	0.02%
Total		284,502	7,845	755	0.26%

1. BlueDot Developer Portal, accessed August 14, 2023, <https://developer-portal.bluedot.global/>.
 2. Asian Dengue Voice and Action, "Asian Dengue Dashboard," accessed August 14, 2023, <https://www.adva.asia/asian-dengue-dashboard/>.
 3. Department of Health Website, accessed August 14, 2023 "Statistics," July 8, 2023, <https://doh.gov.ph/statistics>.
 4. National Environment Agency (NEA), accessed August 14, 2023. Dengue cases, August 5, 2023, <https://www.nea.gov.sg/dengue-zika/dengue/dengue-cases>.
 5. WHO WPRO, "Dengue," World Health Organization, accessed August 14, 2023, <https://www.who.int/westpacific/emergencies/surveillance/dengue>.
 6. Ministry of Health Indonesia

*Data were updated and collected from official sources, which may have a 2-4 weeks delay in reporting. Data must be interpreted cautiously.

- The ASEAN region reported **7,845** new dengue cases in Indonesia and Singapore since the previous report. The region reported **284,502** total cases and **755** total deaths in 2023 with **0.26%** CFR.



Dengue Risk Assessment

Country	Vector Density (mosquitoes/house)		Cases per 100,000	Case Fatality Rate	Wolbachia Mosquito Program (WMP)	Dengue Vaccine	Environment Control Program	Risk Level*	Confidence Level*
	Urban	Rural							
Brunei ¹⁰	0-10		Unknown	Unknown	Unknown	Unknown	Unknown	Moderate to High	Low
Cambodia ¹	100-200	10-20	39.44	0.21%	No	No	Yes	High to Very High	Medium
Indonesia ²	50-100	10-20	18.64	0.72%	Yes	Yes	Yes	Moderate to High	High
Lao PDR ⁵	100-200		107.09	0.06%	No	No	Yes	High to Very High	Medium
Malaysia ⁶	100-200	10-20	165.32	0.07%	No	No	Yes	High to Very High	Medium
Myanmar ⁷	100-200	10-20	12.25	0.45%	No	No	Yes	High to Very High	Low
Philippines ³	100-200	10-20	64.11	0.37%	No	No	Yes	High to Very High	High
Singapore ⁸	0-12		89.33	0.00%	Yes	Yes	Yes	Low to Moderate	High
Thailand ⁴	50-100	10-20	37.93	0.003%	No	Yes	Yes	Low to Moderate	Medium
Vietnam ⁹	100-200	10-20	47.20	0.02%	Yes	No	Yes	Moderate to High	Medium

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- [3] Reyes, M. M., Lajara, M. B., Macatangay, D., & Garcia, M. C. (2017). Aedes aegypti mosquito density and larval indices in selected residential areas of Tagum City, Davao del Norte, Philippines. *Philippine journal of health research*, 30(1), 1-10.
- [4] Boonlert, K., Sornsilpang, V., Sipa, B., & Pitsutthum, P. (2018). Urban and rural aedes aegypti mosquito density and larval indices in three provinces of Thailand. *Southeast Asian journal of tropical medicine and public health*, 49(5), 933-939.
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- [9] Tran, H. T., Hoang, T. T., Van, T. H. H., & Nguyen, T. M. (2019). Aedes aegypti larval and adult indices in urban and rural areas of Ho Chi Minh City, Vietnam. *Southeast Asian journal of tropical medicine and public health*, 50(1), 118-125.
- [10] Mohamed, N. H., Sulaiman, A. S., & Hashim, A. (2017). Aedes aegypti larval and adult indices in Brunei Darussalam in 2016. *Southeast Asian journal of tropical medicine and public health*, 48(1), 118-126.

*Risk level and confidence level based on Rapid Risk Assessment of Acute Public Health Events of the World Health Organization (WHO), 2012.

Dengue

- **Indonesia:** The West Kalimantan Provincial Health Office (DHO) has reported an increase in dengue fever cases, with 19 deaths reported (Oxtora, 2023). The office recorded 1,306 cases in August 2023, a significant increase from the previous year. The head emphasized the need for active collaboration between the provincial health office and district/city health offices. Local health officials should increase efforts to monitor, prevent, and control DHF in their areas. The office has distributed DHF management logistics and provided equipment and materials to reduce mosquito populations. District and city health offices should be more proactive in reminding the public to apply 3M principles, such as draining bathtubs, closing water reservoirs, and burying used items. Community participation is crucial in controlling DHF, with the office encouraging public attention to their surroundings and participation in prevention efforts. [\[Full article\]](#)
- **Lao PDR:** Laos has seen a significant increase in dengue fever cases, with 18,662 cases confirmed in the last 24 hours (Pocky, 2023). The highest number was in Oudomxay province, with 3,859. Health officials are increasing public awareness of the disease's dangers and urging residents to take immediate action, including clearing potential mosquito breeding sites. The Lao Ministry of Health urges residents to remain vigilant during rainy seasons and implement preventive measures. [\[Full article\]](#)
- **Malaysia:** During Epidemiology Week (ME30) 2023, 2,427 dengue fever cases were reported, an increase of 169 cases or 7.5% compared to the previous week's 2,258 cases (Bernama, 2023). No deaths were reported due to complications related to dengue. The cumulative number of cases was 68,651 cases, with 47 fatalities due to dengue complications compared to 22 deaths throughout 2022. Hotspot localities showed a drop, with 93 reported compared to 104 for the previous week. Chikungunya surveillance recorded one case, raising the cumulative number to 145 cases. Zika surveillance collected 1,769 blood and urine samples, but test results were negative. [\[Full article\]](#)



- **Philippines:** Negros Occidental's Provincial Health Office (PHO) reported morbidities due to dengue (Panay News, 2023). Dengue cases decreased by 74.62%, with most cases affecting children aged one to 11 years old. [[Full article](#)]

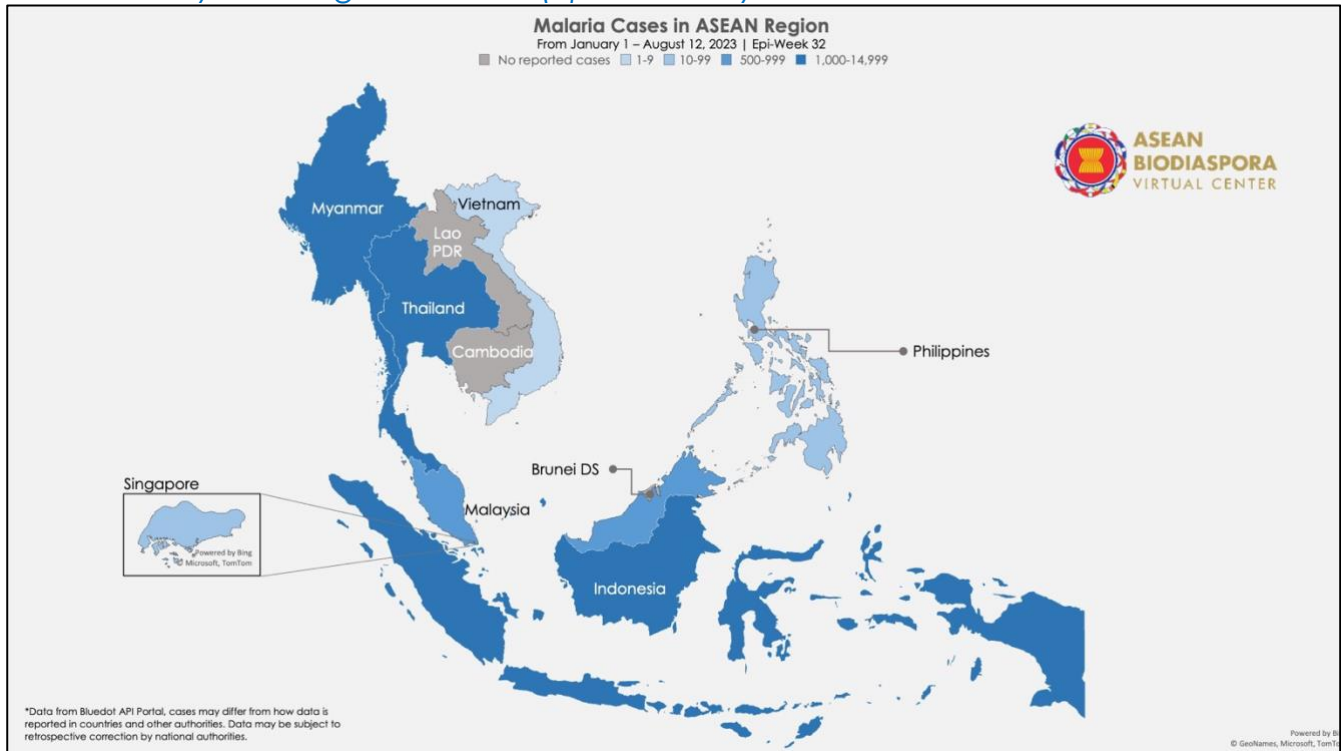
Health officials in SOUTH Cotabato have intensified their "4S" campaign because the province saw a significant increase in dengue cases during the first eight months of this year (Sumangil, 2023). A total of 2,202 cases and six fatalities have been reported since January of this year, according to Jose Barroquillo, the South Cotabato Integrated Provincial Health Office's (IPHO) program coordinator for mosquito-borne diseases. According to Barroquillo, the amount is 132% greater than the number of instances during the same time previous year. [[Full article](#)]

- **Vietnam:** Dengue cases in Vietnam have surged, with over 3,180 cases recorded in 2023, 5.7 times higher than in 2022 (Khang, 2023). The Ministry of Health warns that the epidemic season is peaking, and drastic measures are needed to prevent the spread. Localities should closely monitor dengue cases, handle outbreaks, and organize environmental sanitation campaigns. The National Institute of Hygiene and Epidemiology should set up a working group to support Hanoi in dengue prevention. Hospitals should collect and provide the best treatment to minimize dengue deaths, especially at private medical facilities. Large infirmaries should support grassroots healthcare clinics to avoid hospital overload. [[Full article](#)]



Malaria Cases in the ASEAN Region

From January 1 to August 12, 2023 (Epi-Week 32)



Malaria cases in the ASEAN region

Country	Epi-Week Reported	Cumulative Malaria Cases	New Cases Since the Previous Report	Deaths	Case Fatality Rate (CFR)
Brunei Darussalam	-	-	-	-	-
Cambodia	-	-	-	-	-
Indonesia ¹	Week 30	1,056	0	0	0.00%
Lao PDR	-	-	-	-	-
Malaysia ¹	Week 22	866	0	0	0.00%
Myanmar ¹	Week 23	4,510	0	0	0.00%
Philippines ¹	Week 28	31	0	0	0.00%
Singapore ¹	Week 30	10	2	0	0.00%
Thailand ¹	Week 27	9,300	0	3	0.03%
Vietnam ¹	Week 29	1	0	0	0.00%
Total		15,774	2	3	0.02%

1. BlueDot Developer Portal, accessed August 14, 2023, <https://developer-portal.bluedot.global/>.

- The ASEAN region reported **2** new malaria cases in Singapore since the previous report. The region reported **15,774** total cases and **3** total deaths in 2023 with **0.02%** CFR.

Vaccine- Preventable Diseases

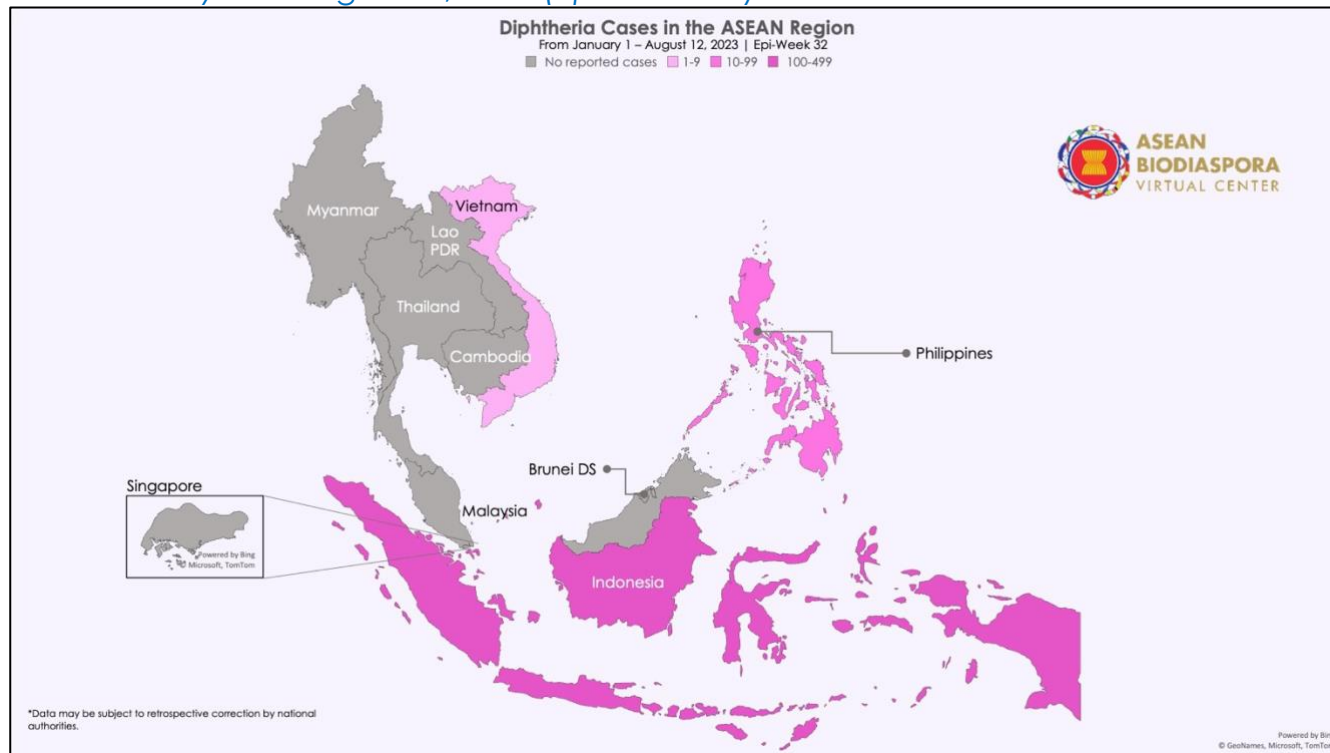


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Diphtheria Cases in the ASEAN Region

From January 1 to August 12, 2023 (Epi-Week 32)



Diphtheria cases in the ASEAN region

Country	Epi-Week Reported	Cumulative Diphtheria Cases	New Cases Since the Previous Report	Deaths	Case Fatality Rate (CFR)
Brunei Darussalam	-	-	-	-	-
Cambodia	-	-	-	-	-
Indonesia³	Week 30	394	7	29	7.36%
Lao PDR	-	-	-	-	-
Malaysia	-	-	-	-	-
Myanmar	-	-	-	-	-
Philippines²	Week 27	88	0	18	20.45%
Singapore	-	-	-	-	-
Thailand	-	-	-	-	-
Vietnam¹	Week 21	3	0	1	33.33%
Total		277	2	34	12.27%

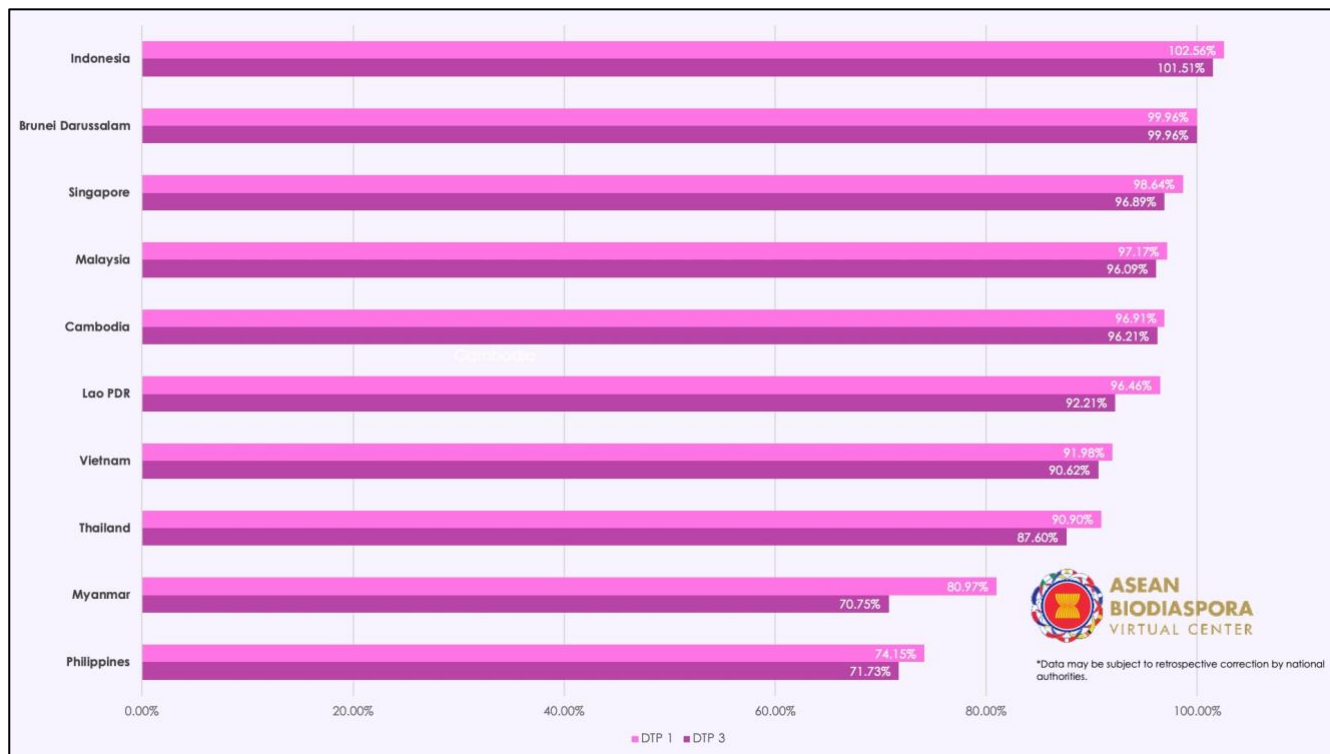
1. BlueDot Developer Portal, accessed August 14, 2023, <https://developer-portal.bluedot.global/>.
 2. Department of Health Website, accessed August 14, 2023 "Statistics," July 8, 2023, <https://doh.gov.ph/statistics>.
 3. Ministry of Health Indonesia

The ASEAN region reported **2** new diphtheria cases in Indonesia since the previous report. The region reported **277** total cases and **34** total deaths in 2023 with **12.27%** CFR.



Diphtheria, Tetanus Toxoid, and Pertussis Vaccination Coverage in the ASEAN Region

As of 2022



Reference: WHO, "Diphtheria Tetanus Toxoid and Pertussis (DTP) Vaccination Coverage," World Health Organization, 2022, <https://immunizationdata.who.int/pages/coverage/dtp.html?CODE=global>.

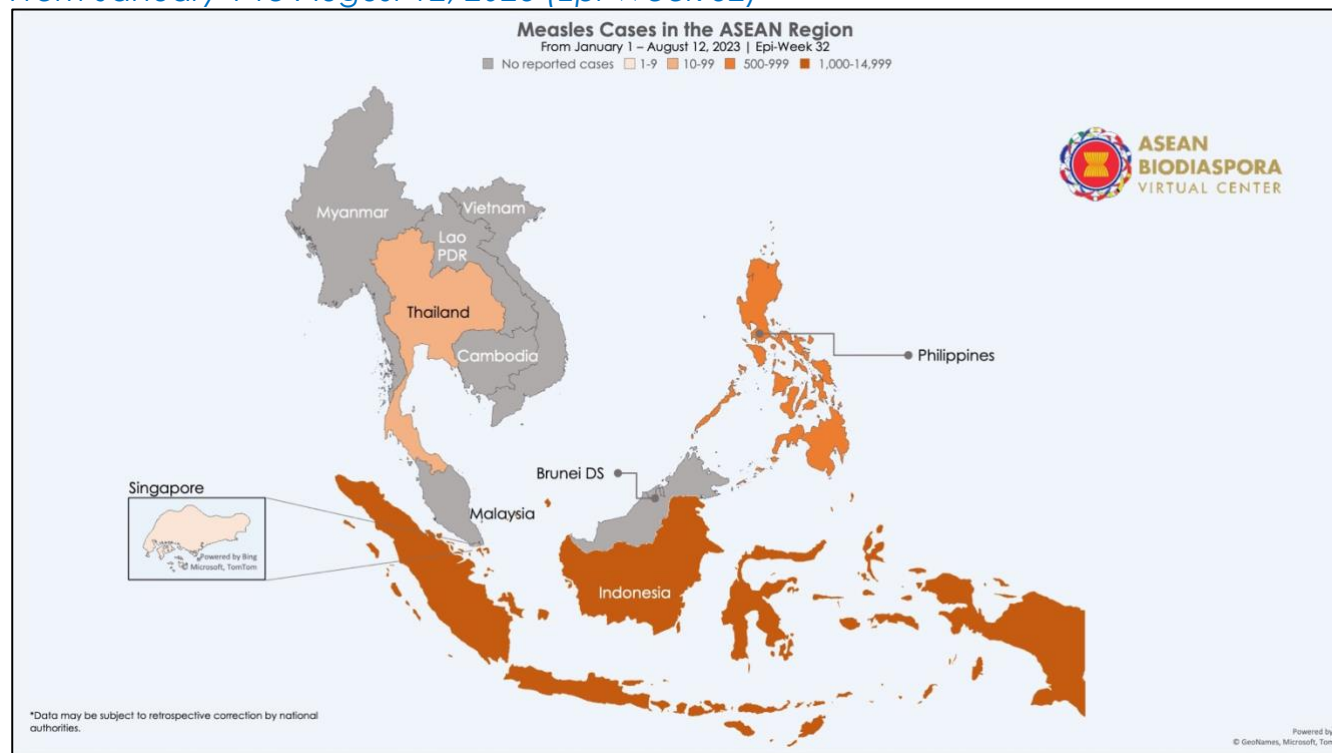
Diphtheria

- Indonesia:** A resident in Samarang District, Garut Regency, West Java, was suspected of being exposed to diphtheria (Fitrat, 2023). The Garut Regency Government took action to prevent the spread of the infectious disease. The Health Service was asked to check and treat the case, and precautions were taken to prevent the spread. This is not the first diphtheria case found in Garut Regency, with previous cases in Sukahurip Village and Tarogong Kidul. The government has implemented Outbreak Response Immunization (ORI) and has asked residents to isolate if they suspect exposure. The local government has prepared a special treatment room for diphtheria patients at Dr Slamet Garut Hospital and is working to prevent diphtheria through immunization. [[Full article](#)]



Measles Cases in the ASEAN Region

From January 1 to August 12, 2023 (Epi-Week 32)



Measles cases in the ASEAN region

Country	Epi-Week Reported	Cumulative Measles Cases	New Cases Since the Previous Report	Deaths	Case Fatality Rate (CFR)
Brunei Darussalam	-	-	-	-	-
Cambodia	-	-	-	-	-
Indonesia¹	Week 14	2,161	0	17	0.79%
Lao PDR	-	-	-	-	-
Malaysia	-	-	-	-	-
Myanmar	-	-	-	-	-
Philippines²	Week 27	830	0	3	0.36%
Singapore¹	Week 24	6	0	0	0.00%
Thailand¹	Week 16	73	0	0	0.00%
Vietnam	-	-	-	-	-
Total		3,070	0	20	0.65%

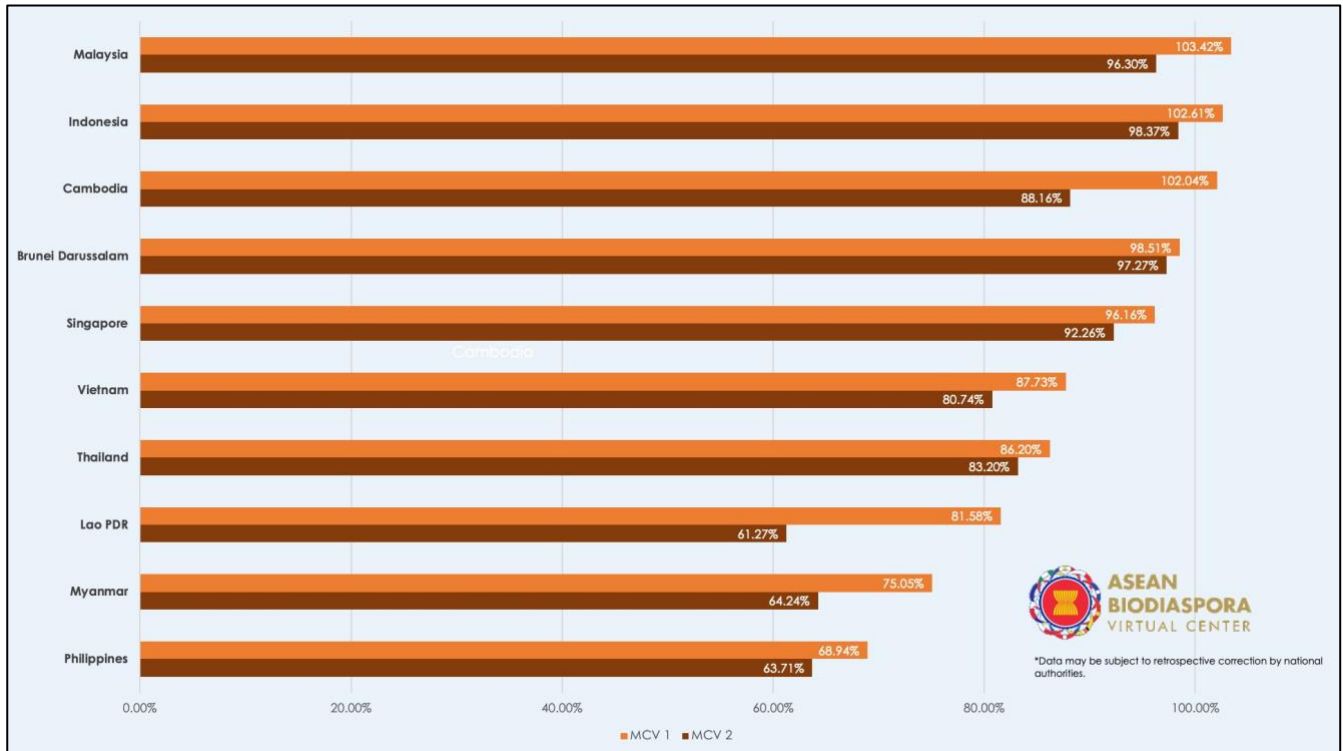
1. BlueDot Developer Portal, accessed August 14, 2023, <https://developer-portal.bluedot.global/>.
2. Department of Health Website, accessed August 14, 2023 "Statistics," July 8, 2023, <https://doh.gov.ph/statistics>.

- The ASEAN region reported **NO** new measles cases since the previous report. The region reported **3,070** total cases and **20** total deaths in 2023 with **0.65%** CFR.



Measles Vaccination Coverage in the ASEAN Region

As of 2022



Reference: WHO, "Measles Vaccination Coverage," World Health Organization, 2022, <https://immunizationdata.who.int/pages/coverage/mcv.html?CODE=global>.



Rabies Cases in the ASEAN Region

From January 1 to August 12, 2023 (Epi-Week 32)



Rabies cases in the ASEAN region

Country	Epi-Week Reported	Reported Rabies Cases	Confirmed Rabies Cases	Rabies-Related Deaths
Brunei Darussalam	-	-	-	-
Cambodia	-	-	-	-
Indonesia¹	Week 32	305	17	47
Lao PDR	-	-	-	-
Malaysia¹	Week 32	19	9	17
Myanmar	-	-	-	-
Philippines²	Week 27	191	191	191
Singapore	-	-	-	-
Thailand¹	Week 21	3	3	3
Vietnam¹	Week 31	11	10	8
Total		529	230	266

1. BlueDot Developer Portal, accessed August 14, 2023, <https://developer-portal.bluedot.global/>.
2. Department of Health Website, accessed August 14, 2023 "Statistics," July 8, 2023, <https://doh.gov.ph/statistics>.

- The ASEAN region reported **529** rabies cases, **230** confirmed rabies cases, and **266** rabies-related deaths.



Rabies

- Indonesia:** AD, a boy from Kloang Koja, Sikka Regency, died while undergoing treatment at the Regional General Hospital Tc. Hillers Maumere (Jehadu, 2023). The boy had a history of being bitten by a dog on June 1, 2023, and was not taken to the hospital for an anti-rabies vaccine. He was taken to the hospital with a fever and deteriorating condition. Theodorus, a pediatrician at Maumere Hospital, appealed to pet dog owners to be tied up and routinely vaccinated to prevent the spread of the rabies virus. The Sikka Agriculture Service head, Yohanes Emil Satriawan, said the government has tried to prevent the spread of the virus through socialization and religious institutions, but the number of dog bite cases is still increasing. He called for dog owners to be wise and be wary of stray dogs. [\[Full article\]](#)
- Malaysia:** Sarawak has recorded 15 human cases of rabies from January 1 to August 7, including 13 deaths. This is an 87.50% increase from 2022, with 70 cases since the outbreak in July 2017. The Sarawak Health Department has set up animal bite clinics in 64 public and 29 private health facilities and provides rabies immune globulin injections for high-risk cases. The public is advised to learn about cleaning measures after being bitten by an animal and contact a medical clinic immediately. The Sarawak government aims to achieve zero rabies by 2030.
- Vietnam:** A child in Quang Tan commune, Tuy Duc district, Dak Nong province, has been diagnosed with rabies after being bitten by a dog 40 days ago (Nguyen, 2023). The patient, TH, was born in 2018 and had a low-grade fever and self-treated at home. On August 1, 2023, he showed signs of fear of wind, water, and strangers. He was hospitalized and diagnosed with rabies, but doctors predicted he would not survive. The patient was discharged from the hospital and died on the same day. The family claimed they had not heard about the patient being bitten by a dog or cat before and did not take measures to prevent exposure, such as rabies serum injection and rabies vaccine. [\[Full article\]](#)



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