

This report aims to provide the current situation on infectious and emerging diseases in the ASEAN Region. We collate various information from multiple official sources and publicly available sources and is published every week on Wednesday. For feedback and/or suggestions, please write to support@biodiaspora.org

Editorial

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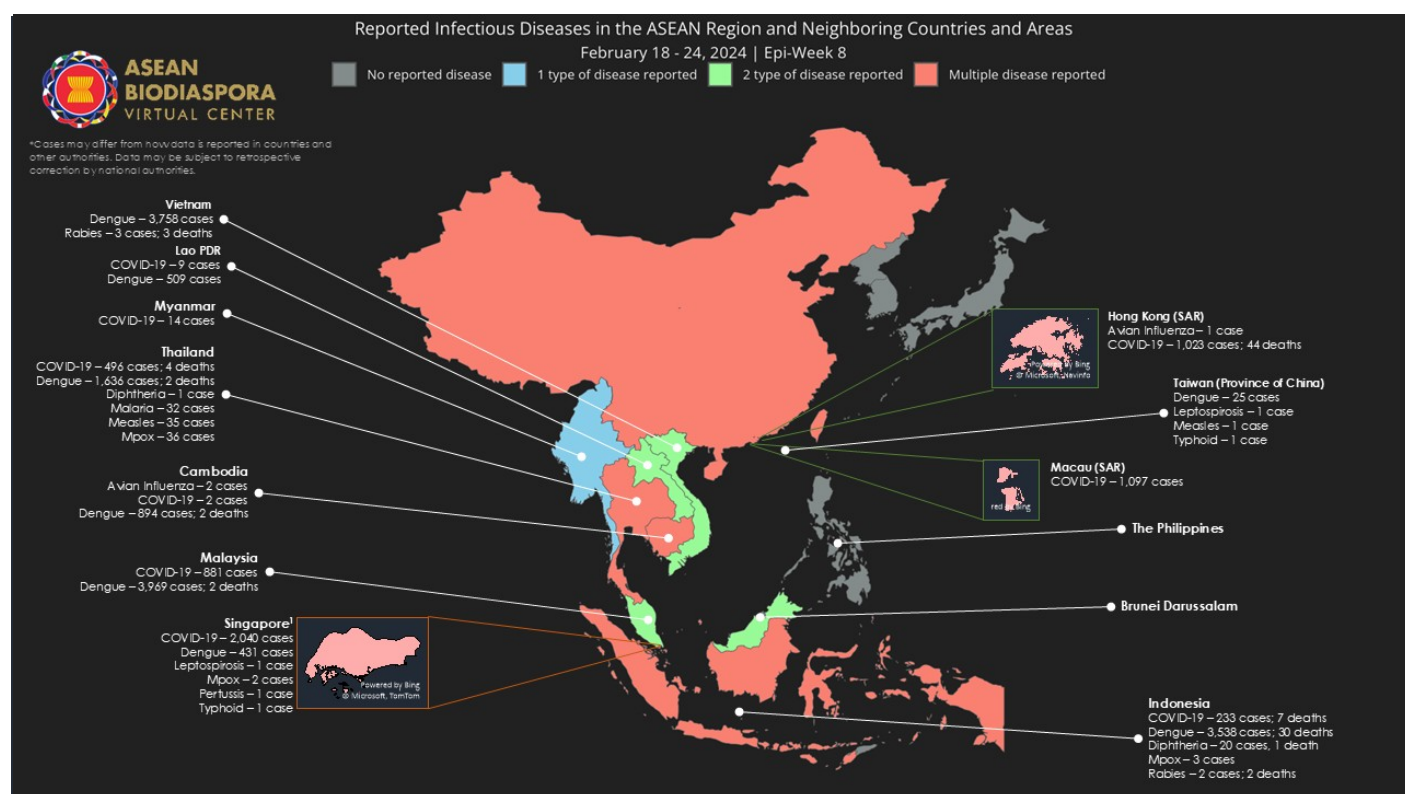
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Key Findings

- In recent months, trends of COVID-19 cases and deaths in the ASEAN region have gradually decreased.
- The **JN.1**, which is subtypes of **BA.2.86**, remains a dominant variant of interest spreading in the ASEAN region until the end of February 2024.
- There are **41** new mpox cases in the ASEAN region since the last report.
- The region also reported **five** new rabies cases since the last report.
- Dengue cases has increased by **5,605** since the last report. Meanwhile, **32** new malaria cases have been found since the last report for vector-borne diseases in the ASEAN region.
- There have been **21** new diphtheria cases and **58** new measles cases since the last report of vaccine-preventable diseases in the ASEAN region.

Reported Infectious Diseases in the ASEAN Region and Neighboring Countries

Epidemiological Week 8 | February 18 – 24, 2024



Source: AMS Official Sources, [Worldometer](#), [WHO](#), [Our World in Data](#), and [BlueDot Platform](#), accessed on February 27, 2024

EMERGING DISEASES

COVID-19: Highlights and Situation Overview

- As of 24 February 2024 (5PM, GMT+7), there were **703,674,166** confirmed cases **worldwide**, including **6,986,107 deaths**. Globally, Case Fatality Rate (CFR) was **0.99%**.
- 36,982,063 total confirmed cases** of COVID-19 have been reported in the **ASEAN Region**.
- The CFR in the **ASEAN Region** was **1.00%**.

COVID-19 cases in the ASEAN region since 2020

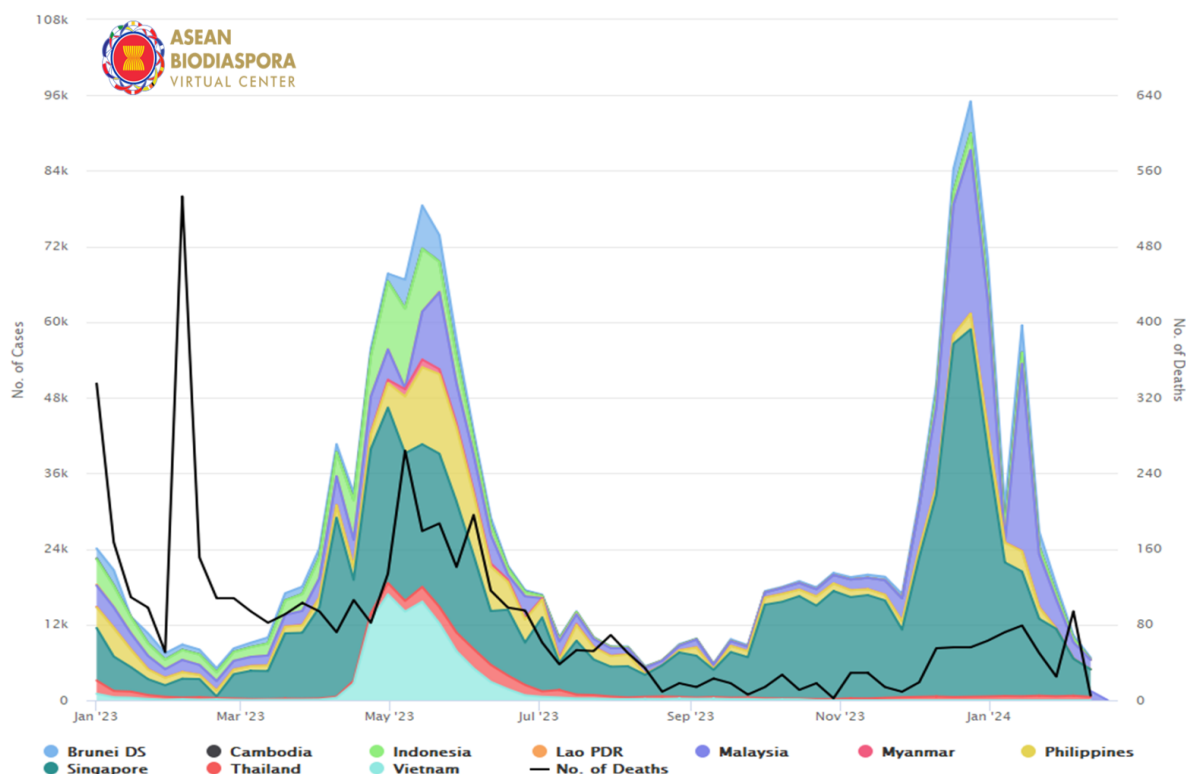
ASEAN MEMBER STATES	FIRST CONFIRMED CASES	LATEST REPORT ON CONFIRMED	CUMULATIVE CASES	CUMULATIVE CASES IN 2023	NEW CASES SINCE LAST REPORT	CUMULATIVE DEATHS	NEW DEATHS SINCE LAST REPORT	CUMULATIVE CASES/ 100,000
Brunei Darussalam	10-Mar-20	4-Feb-24	342,802	81,362	0	225	0	76,960
Cambodia	27-Jan-20	22-Feb-24	139,093	655	2	3,056	0	810
Indonesia	02-Mar-20	24-Feb-24	6,828,838	117,135	233	162,061	7	2,446
Lao PDR	24-Mar-20	20-Feb-24	218,940	1,354	9	758	0	2,927
Malaysia	25-Jan-20	18-Feb-24	5,275,667	256,267	881	37,347	0	15,900
Myanmar	23-Mar-20	19-Feb-24	641,770	8,195	14	19,495	0	1,162
Philippines	30-Jan-20	12-Jan-24	4,140,383	141,371	0	66,864	0	3,680
Singapore	23-Jan-20	19-Feb-24	3,003,705	817,031	2,040	1,933	0	50,537
Thailand	13-Jan-20	19-Feb-24	4,766,751	47,843	496	34,564	4	6,802
Vietnam	23-Jan-20	31-Oct-23	11,624,114	100,747	0	43,206	0	11,747
ASEAN REGION			36,982,063	1,571,960	3,675	369,509	11	5,437

REGIONS	TOTAL CONFIRMED CASES	NEW CASES	TOTAL DEATHS	NEW DEATHS
AFRICA	12,860,158	388	258,884	0
AMERICAS	201,329,832	132,670	3,041,117	946
ASEAN	36,982,063	7,571	369,509	11
ASIA & OCEANIA	199,308,939	20,485	1,216,267	136
EUROPE	253,193,174	37,559	2,100,330	409
GLOBAL TOTAL	703,674,166	198,673	6,986,107	1,502

Source: [Worldometer](#), [WHO](#), and [Our World in Data](#)

ASEAN Weekly COVID-19 Cases and Deaths

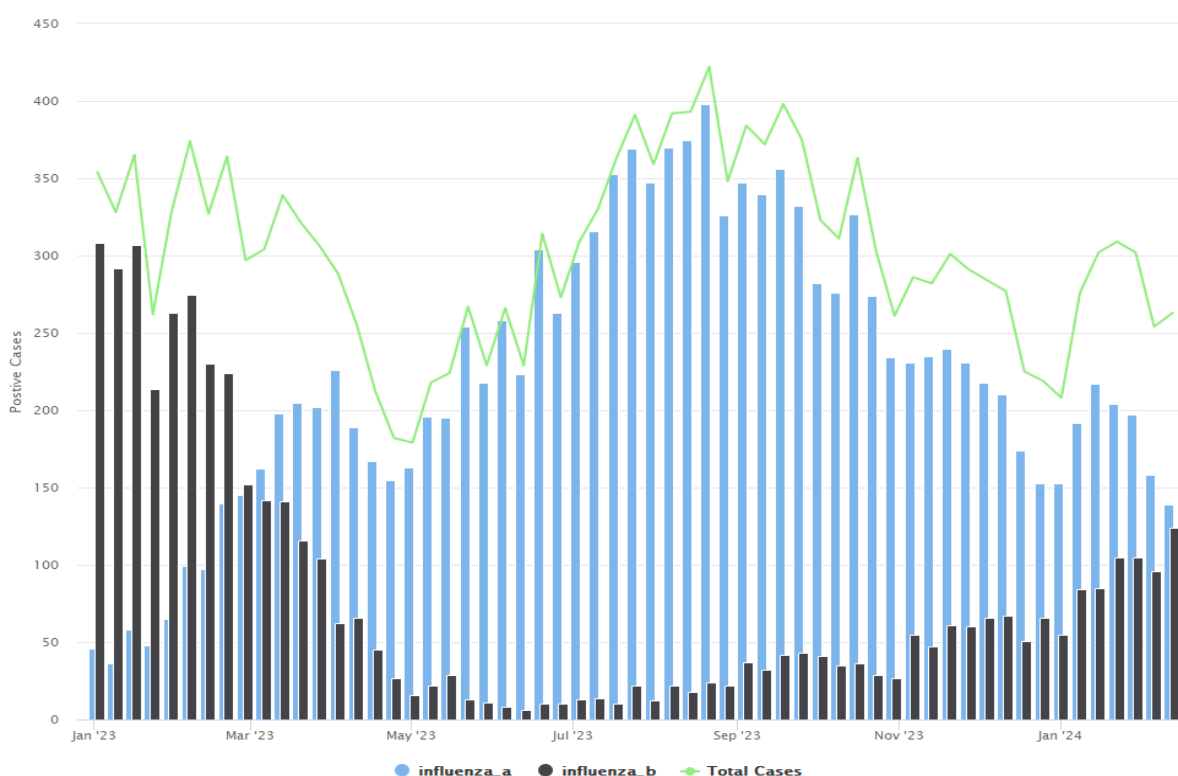
From January 1, 2023 to February 24, 2024



Source: [Worldometer](#), [WHO](#), and [Our World in Data](#)

Trends of Influenza Confirmed Cases in the ASEAN region

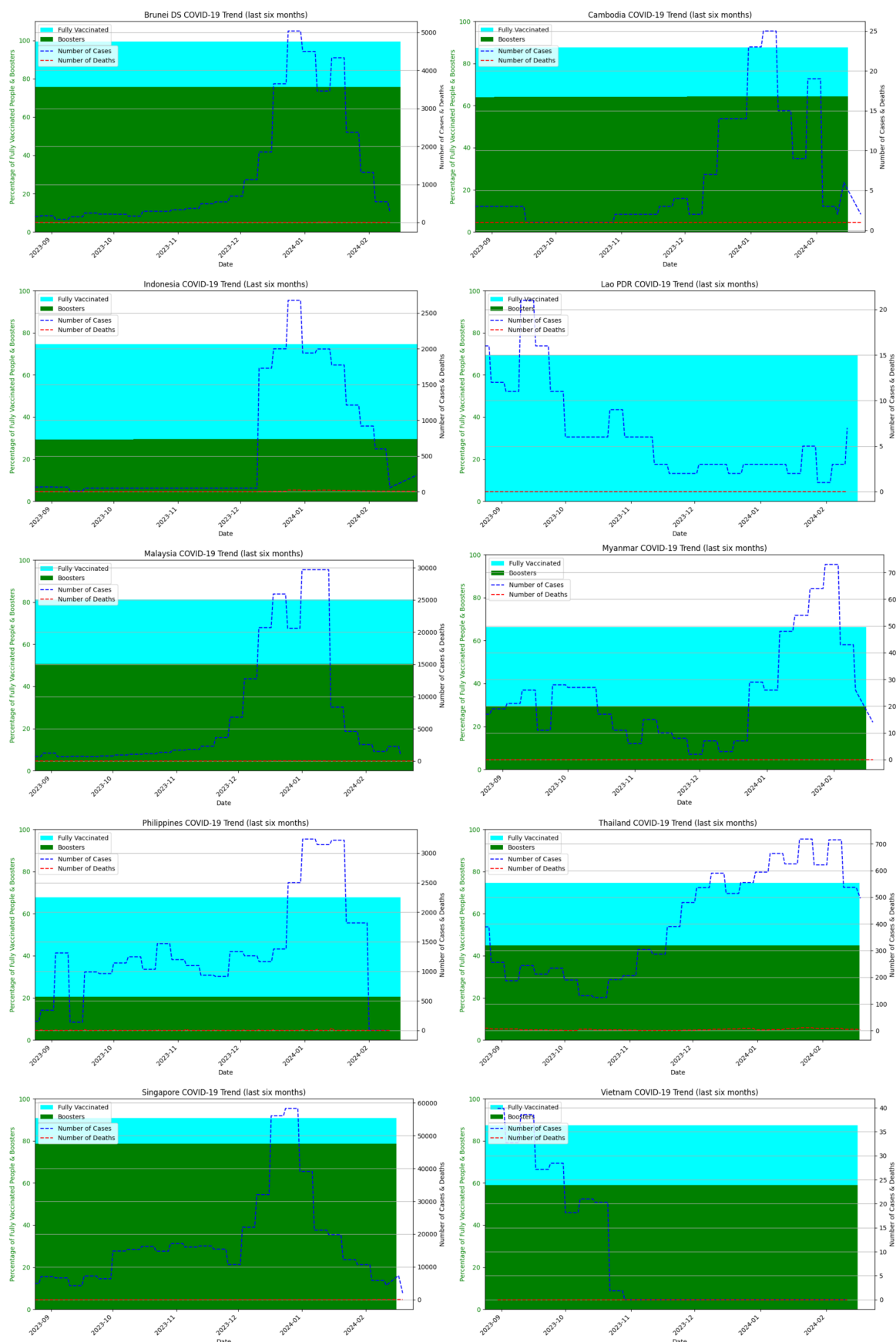
From January 1, 2023 to February 24, 2024



Source: FluNet, accessed on February 27, 2024 (<https://www.who.int/tools/fluNet>)

Trends of COVID-19 Cases, Deaths, and Vaccine Coverage among AMS

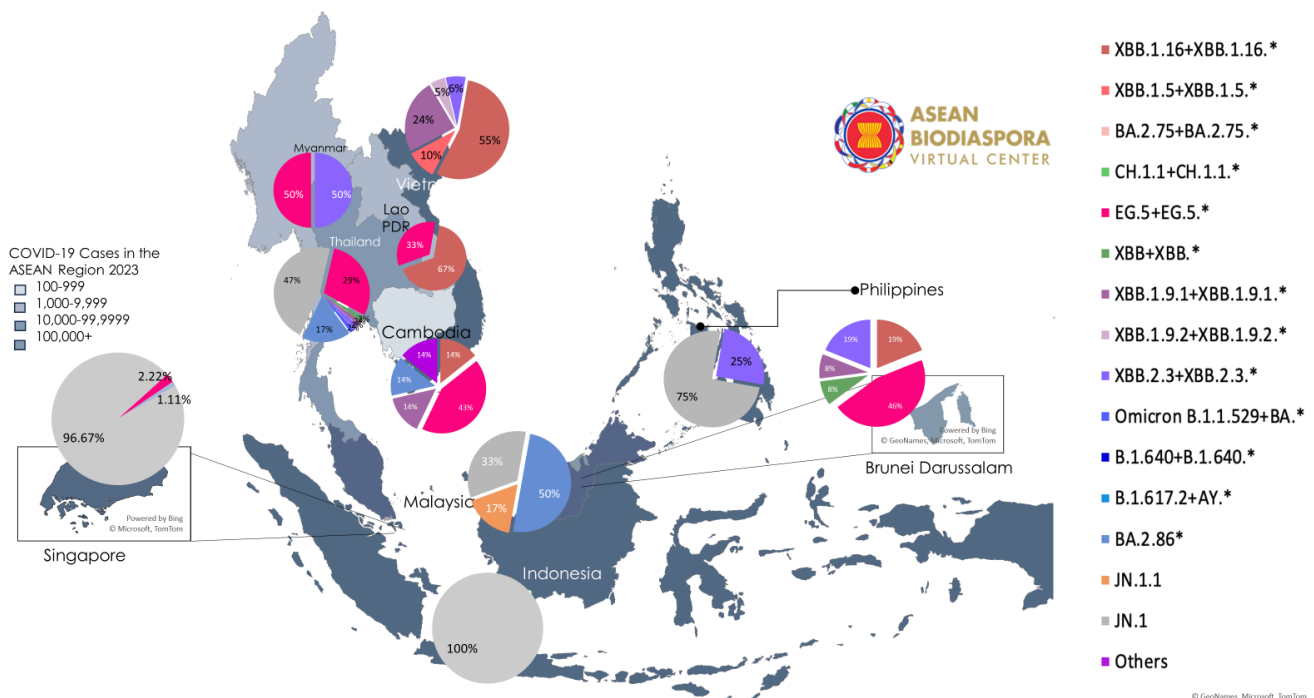
From July 1, 2023 to February 24, 2024



Source: [Worldometer](#), [Our World In Data](#), and [WHO](#)

COVID-19 Variants Frequencies Among the ASEAN Member States

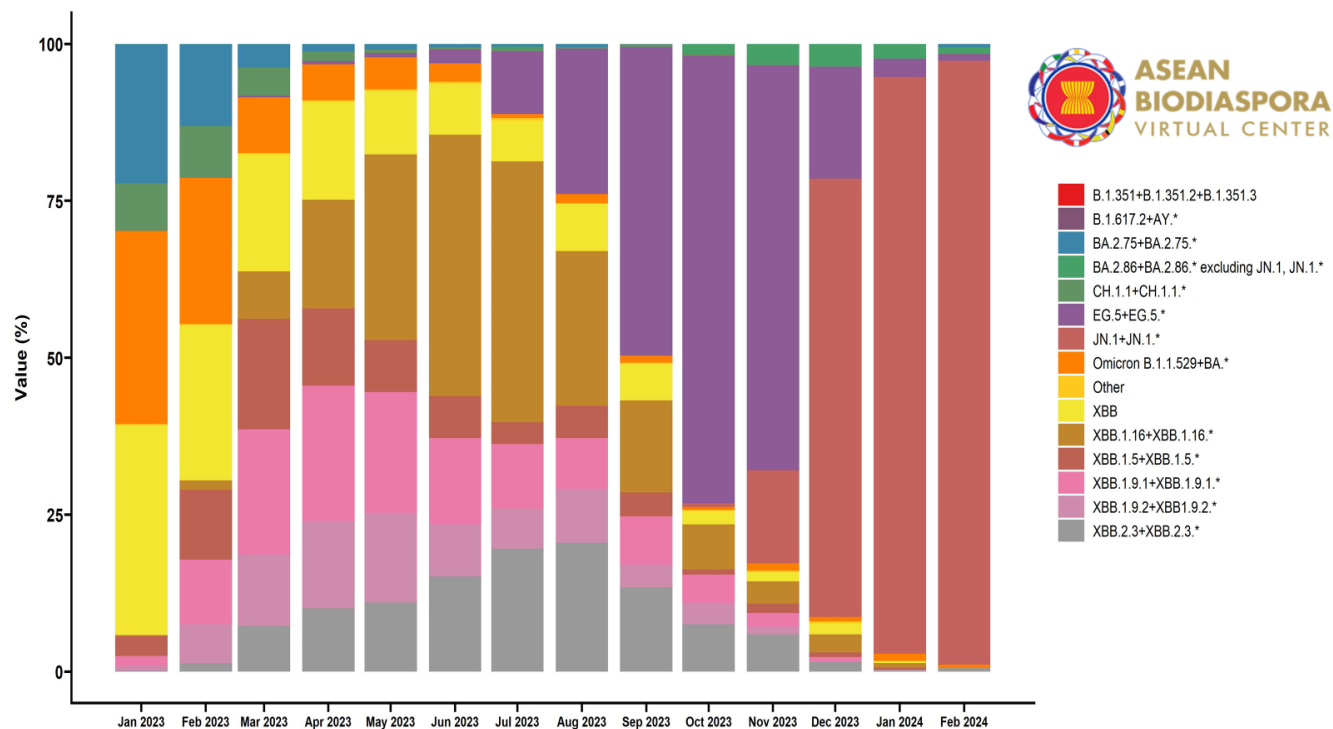
In February 2024



Source: GISAIID. "hCoV-19 Variants Dashboard," accessed on February 27, 2024 (<https://gisaid.org/hcov-19-variants-dashboard/>)

COVID-19 Variants Frequencies in the ASEAN Region

From January 2023 to February 2024

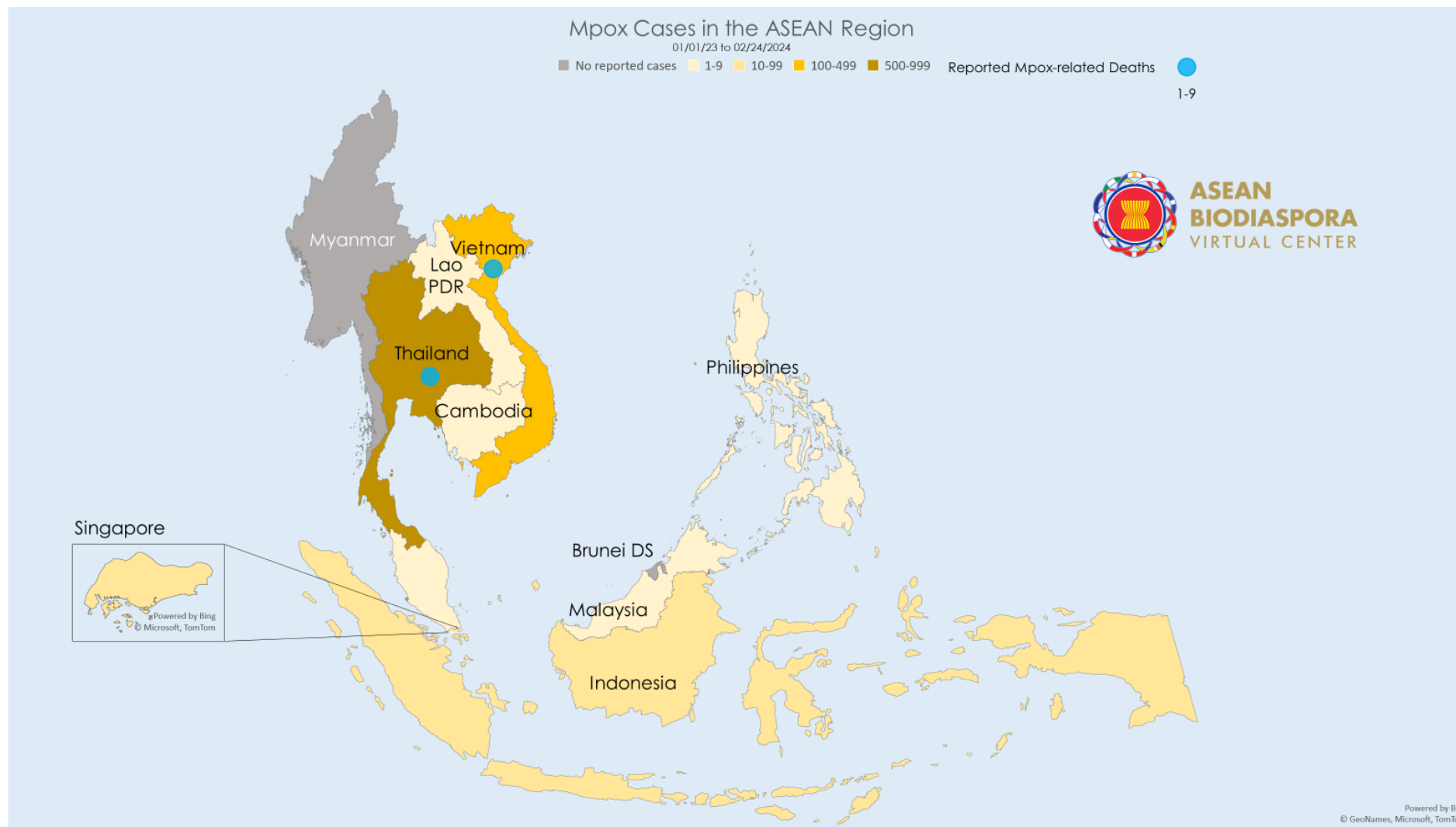


Source: GISAIID. "hCoV-19 Variants Dashboard," accessed on February 27, 2024 (<https://gisaid.org/hcov-19-variants-dashboard/>)



Mpox Cases Reported in the ASEAN Region

January 1, 2023 – February 24, 2024



Source:

1. Ministry of Health Republic of Indonesia
2. Bluedot Platform, accessed on February 27, 2024 (<https://portal.bluedot.global>)
3. Ministry of Health Singapore, accessed February 27, 2024 (<https://www.moh.gov.sg/resources-statistics/infectious-disease-statistics/2023/weekly-infectious-diseases-bulletin>)

Mpox: Highlights and Situation Overview

- From 1 January 2023 to 24 February 2024, **10,876** confirmed cases worldwide since 2023, including **117** deaths. Globally, the CFR was **1.16%**.
- 981 confirmed cases** including **seven deaths** in the **ASEAN** region, with a CFR of **0.71%**.
- 9,892 confirmed cases** of mpox have been reported in **other regions** (other than the **ASEAN** region):

Mpox cases in the ASEAN region (Jan. 1, 2023 to Feb. 24, 2024)

ASEAN Member States	Cumulative Cases 2023-2024	New Cases Since Previous Report	Cumulative Deaths 2023	CFR
Cambodia ¹	4	0	0	0.00%
Indonesia ²	84	3	0	0.00%
Lao PDR ¹	1	0	0	0.00%
Malaysia ¹	9	0	0	0.00%
Philippines ¹	5	0	0	0.00%
Singapore ³	34	2	0	0.00%
Thailand ¹	709	36	1	0.14%
Vietnam ¹	135	0	6	4.44%
ASEAN Total	981	41	7	0.71%

Source:

1. Bluedot Platform, accessed on February 27, 2024 (<https://portal.bluedot.global/>)
2. Ministry of Health Republic of Indonesia
3. Ministry of Health Singapore, accessed on February 27, 2024, (<https://www.moh.gov.sg/resources-statistics/infectious-disease-statistics/2023/weekly-infectious-diseases-bulletin>)

Top 5 countries with the most mpox cases globally (Jan. 1, 2023 to Feb. 24, 2024)

Country	Cumulative Cases 2023	New Cases Since Previous Report	Cumulative Deaths 2023	CFR
People's Republic of China	2,022	2	1	0.05%
United States of America	1,973	117	37	1.88%
Democratic Republic of Congo	1069	308	2	0.26%
Thailand	709	36	1	0.15%
Brazil	456	0	2	0.44%

Source: Our World in Data, accessed on February 27, 2024 (<https://ourworldindata.org/monkeypox>)

Mpox cases per region (Jan. 1, 2023 to Feb. 24, 2024)

REGIONS	CUMULATIVE CASES 2023	NEW CASES SINCE THE PREVIOUS REPORT	CUMULATIVE DEATHS 2023	CFR
AFRICA	1,225	308	7	0.57%
AMERICAS	4,048	165	86	2.12%
ASEAN	981	41	7	0.71%
ASIA & OCEANIA	3,494	124	16	0.46%
EUROPE	1,125	140	2	0.18%
TOTAL	10,873	778	118	1.08%

Source: Our World in Data, accessed on February 27, 2024 (<https://ourworldindata.org/monkeypox>)

Media Monitoring for Emerging Diseases

Epidemiological Week 8 | February 18 - 24, 2024

Global Situation for Emerging Diseases

COVID-19

- **Australia** has reported 1,418 new COVID-19 cases in the past week, with no new deaths notified to the Department for Health and Wellbeing. The total number of cases has been readjusted due to a reconfiguration of data. In the past week, 3,732 people received a PCR test, a nine percent increase from the previous week. South Australia Health encourages everyone to stay updated with vaccinations and to have a plan with their general practitioner for PCR testing and antiviral treatments if symptoms develop. [\[Full article\]](#)
- **Bangladesh** reported 67 more COVID-19 cases in the last 24 hours, with 792 samples tested, a positivity rate of 8.46% (The Daily Observer, 2024). The country's total deaths remained at 29,486, with 2,048,007 cases and 2,015,116 recoveries. [\[Full article\]](#)
- **Canada:** Ottawa Public Health reported 130 new confirmed cases and two new deaths during the period ending February 12, bringing the total number of cases to 98,089 since the pandemic began in 2020 (Staff Reporter, 2024). The report also showed 14 new hospitalizations for flu patients, 38 new hospitalizations for COVID-19, and two more hospitalizations for respiratory syncytial virus (RSV). The COVID-19 and RSV results were described as "moderate and decreasing from last week." Water surveillance levels for flu were very high, while COVID-19 levels were low. There were three new outbreaks of COVID-19 in long-term care facilities, eight ongoing outbreaks, one new outbreak of RSV, and no new outbreaks for flu. [\[Full article\]](#)
- **India** reported two new deaths in 16 February, 2024, with 144 COVID-19 cases and 840 active cases (Pti, 2024). [\[Full article\]](#) February 20, 875 active cases were recorded a single-day (ETHealthworld, 2024). The number of daily cases dropped to double-digits until December 5, 2023, but began to increase due to a new variant and cold weather conditions. India has experienced three waves of COVID-19, with the peak incidence during the Delta wave in April-June 2021. [\[Full article\]](#)
- **New Zealand** has reported 6,312 new COVID-19 cases and 14 deaths, with 996 probable cases and 4,077 reinfections (RNZ News, 2024). There were 205 hospital cases, with the latest intensive care. The seven-day rolling average of new cases was 901 per day, with 205 cases in the hospital. [\[Full article\]](#)
- **Taiwan (Province of China):** The Center for Disease Prevention and Control (CDC) reported 711 COVID-19 hospitalizations last week, the highest in six months, and 103,250 hospital visits for influenza-like illnesses (I-chia, L., 2024). Flu during the Lunar New Year holiday was less prevalent, but cases are expected to increase due to school openings, lantern festival events, and increased travel. [\[Full article\]](#)
- The **United States (US):** Public Health in Los Angeles County has ended its weekly COVID-19 news release, revealing a decline in indicators (Public Health LA County, 2024). The county reported 187 average daily COVID-19 cases this week, with many indicators approaching pre-surge levels. Wastewater concentrations of SARS CoV-2 were at 30% of the 2022-2023 winter peak, with 376 COVID-positive hospitalized patients and 3.6 daily average COVID-19 deaths reported for the week ending January 30, a decrease from the previous week. [\[Full article\]](#)

Middle Eastern Respiratory Syndrome Coronavirus (Mers-CoV)

- **Saudi Arabia** has reported four more MERS-CoV cases, two of which were fatal, confirmed between October 10 and November 16, 2023 in three different regions (Schnirring, L., 2024). Two were Men, and two were women. All had underlying health conditions, and none were health workers. One patient was a camel owner, while another had a history of indirect contact with camels. None of the patients had consumed raw camel milk before their symptoms began. The WHO said there are no epidemiologic links between any of the patients, and no secondary cases were found. [\[Full article\]](#)

Mpox

- The **United States (US)**: The Genesee County Health Department (GCHD) is urging at-risk individuals to get the safe and effective mpox vaccine after two new cases were reported (Tanya, 2024). Vaccination is recommended for those who have been exposed or suspect exposure, and those with risk factors such as anonymous or multiple sex partners, gay, bisexual, transgender, nonbinary, and new sexually transmitted infections. The vaccine is available for free at GCHD's Burton Branch. [\[Full article\]](#)

Regional Situation for Emerging Diseases

COVID-19

- **Cambodia** has reported no new COVID-19 cases, bringing the total to 139,091. The country has reported no deaths, with the total deaths remaining at 3,056 (Tharith, 2024). Nationally, 136,031 COVID-19 patients have recovered. Over 15.3 million doses of vaccines have been administered, with over 10 million shots for people aged 18 and above. [\[Full article\]](#)

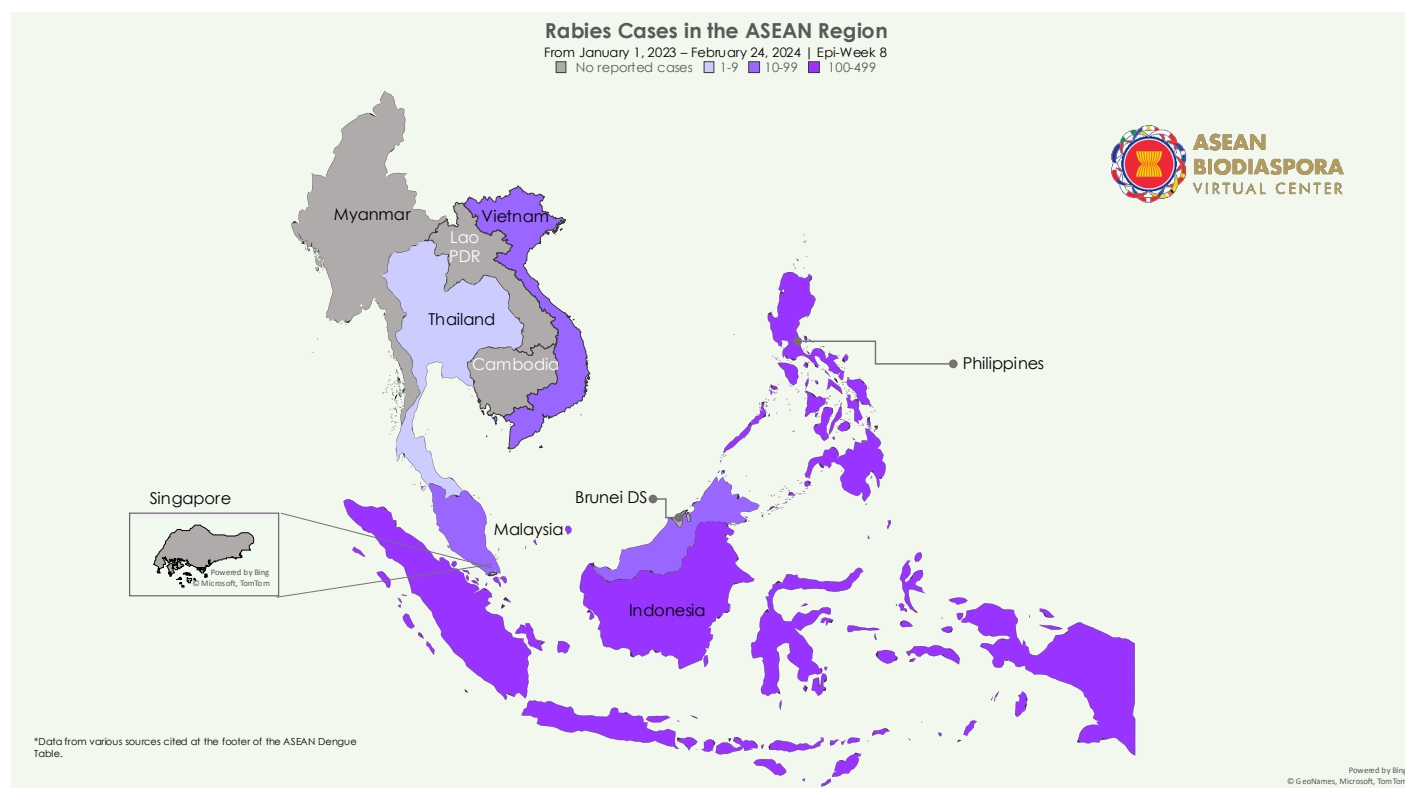
Mpox

- **Cambodia** has reported another case of mpox, raising the total number of infections to 12 (Online, T.S., 2024). The Ministry of Health reported that another man tested positive for the disease, bringing the total confirmed cases to 12 since last December. The virus is transmitted through sexual contact, direct contact with wounds, body fluids, saliva, and equipment contaminated with the virus. The ministry urges individuals with symptoms to visit a health center or hospital for consultation or test. [\[Full article\]](#)

ZOONOSIS

Rabies Cases in the ASEAN Region

From January 1, 2023 to February 24, 2024 (Epi-Week 8)



Rabies cases in the ASEAN region

Country	Epi-Week Reported	Cumulative Rabies Cases	New Cases Since Previous Report	Cumulative Deaths	CFR
Brunei Darussalam	Rabies-free country				
Cambodia	-	-	-	-	-
Indonesia ¹	Week 8	159	2	159	100%
Lao PDR	-	-	-	-	-
Malaysia ²	Week 4	25	0	25	100%
Myanmar	-	-	-	-	-
Philippines ³	Week 48 '23	368	0	368	100%
Singapore	Rabies-free country				
Thailand ⁴	Week 7	6	0	6	100%
Vietnam ²	Week 8	88	3	88	100%
Total		646	5	646	100%

1. Ministry of Health, Republic of Indonesia
2. Bluedot Platform, accessed February 27, 2024 (<https://portal.bluedot.global/>)
3. Department of Health Website, accessed February 27, 2024 "Statistics," (<https://doh.gov.ph/statistics>)
4. Bureau of Epidemiology, Department of Disease Control, Ministry of Public Health Thailand, accessed February 27, 2024 (<http://doe.moph.go.th/surdata/index.php>)

- The **ASEAN** region reported **five** new rabies cases in Indonesia and Vietnam since the previous report. The region reported **646** total cases with **100%** CFR.

Media Monitoring for Zoonosis

Epidemiological Week 8 | February 18 – 24, 2024

Global Situation for Zoonosis

Avian Influenza

- **China:** A 63-year-old farmer in Anhui province died after contracting avian influenza A(H10) subtype viruses, which are classified as "low pathogenic" in both domestic and wild species (Linden J, 2024). The virus was found in a duck meal, which tested positive for H10N5 virus. Despite being rare in humans, these infections are concerning. [\[Full article\]](#)
- **Hong Kong (SAR):** A 22-month-old girl in Hong Kong has been confirmed to have H9N2 avian influenza, according to the Hong Kong Centre for Health Protection (CHP) (Herriman, 2024). The virus, which is a mild form of avian influenza, showed no re-assortment with human influenza genes and is sensitive to antiviral medicine. The patient, who recently visited Zhongshan, has no history of direct contact with poultry or contact with patients. Since 1998, 130 laboratory-confirmed cases of human infection with avian influenza A viruses have been reported in eight countries, primarily in China. [\[Full article\]](#)

Rabies

- **Ukraine:** A 59-year-old man with rabies symptoms died in the Kharkiv Infectious Disease Hospital after being bitten by a domestic cat (Balandyukh, 2024). This is the first death from rabies in the Kharkiv region in the last nine years. Last year, one fatal case of rabies was recorded in Ukraine, followed by two in 2022, one in 2021, and none in 2020. Cats are the most common source of rabies in Ukraine, followed by dogs, and the last fatal case was recorded in Kharkiv Oblast in 2015. The rabies vaccine prevents the disease in 96-99% of cases, and treatment should begin no later than the 14th day from the bite. [\[Full article\]](#)

Regional Situation for Zoonosis

Avian Influenza H5N1

- **Cambodia** has reported two human infections with the avian influenza A (H5N1) virus, bringing the country's total cases to nine in less than 12 months (Linden J, 2024). The virus has been linked to the 2.3.2.1c clade, an older form that circulated before the current dominant clade, 2.3.4.4b. The cases have also led to the temporary closure of a live bird market in Lao PDR, following the detection of H5N1 and H9N2 viruses in chicken, duck, and environmental samples. [\[Full article\]](#)

Rabies

- **Vietnam:** A 4-year-old girl in Binh Thuan province died from rabies after being bitten by a neighbor's dog (Linh, 2024). The girl was treated using traditional methods without soap or rabies vaccine. She showed signs of lethargy and vomiting by February 13. The baby was hospitalized at La Gi Regional General Hospital and transferred to Ho Chi Minh City Tropical Diseases Hospital. She died on February 15. [\[Full article\]](#) In the first two months of 2024, three people in Dak Lak were bitten by dogs but did not get vaccinated, leading to their deaths from rabies (Thuy Diem, 2024). [\[Full article\]](#)

VECTOR-BORNE DISEASES

Dengue Cases in the ASEAN Region

From January 1, 2023 to February 24, 2024 (Epi-Week 8)



Dengue cases in the ASEAN region

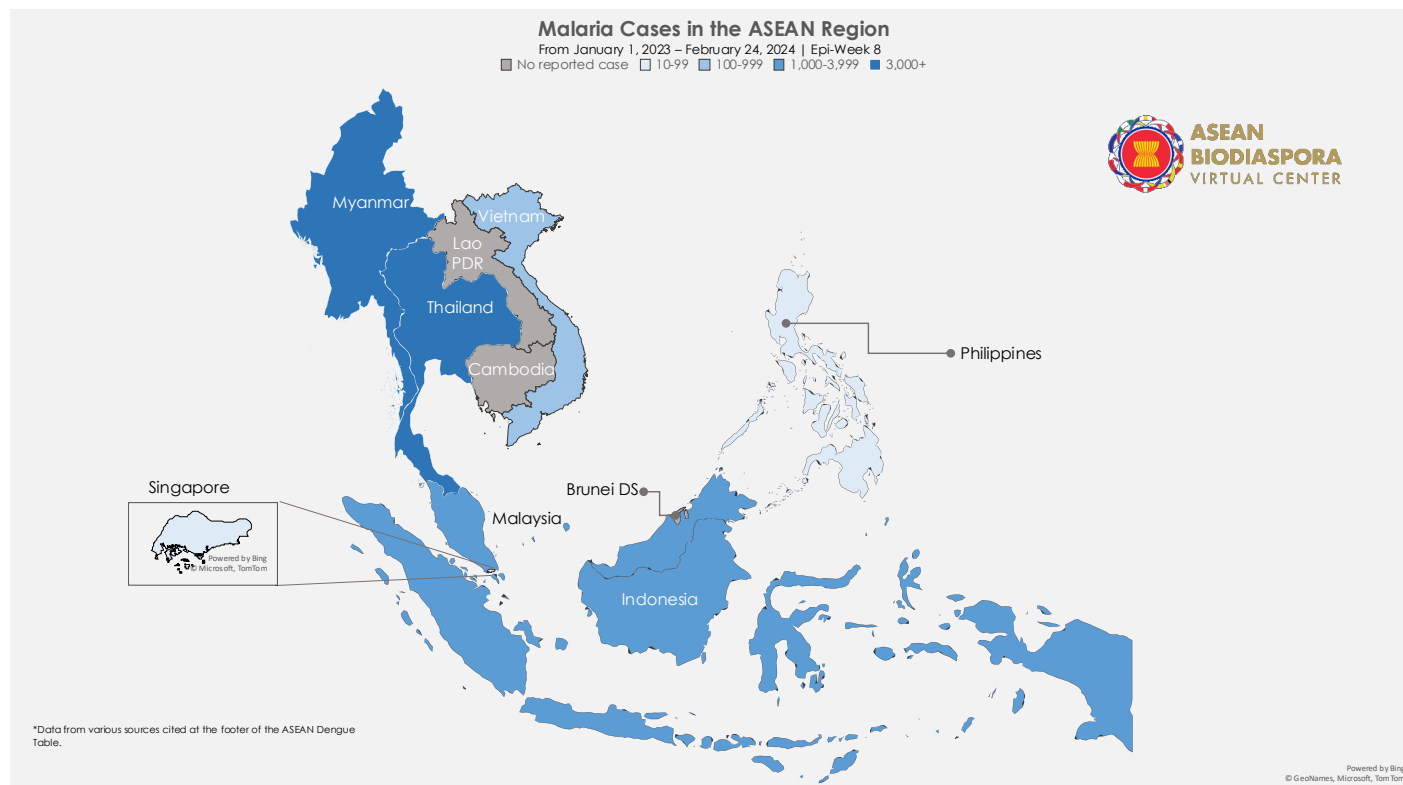
Country	Epi-Week Reported	Cumulative Dengue Cases	New Cases Since the Previous Report	Cumulative Deaths	New Deaths	CFR
Brunei Darussalam	-	-	-	-	-	-
Cambodia¹	Week 4	37,362	0	104	0	0.28%
Indonesia²	Week 8	130,412	3,538	1,018	30	0.78%
Lao PDR¹	Week 5	32,841	0	20	0	0.06%
Malaysia³	Week 5	141,560	0	109	0	0.08%
Myanmar⁴	Week 28 '23	6,685	0	30	0	0.45%
Philippines⁵	Week 48 '23	195,603	0	657	0	0.34%
Singapore⁶	Week 7	12,920	431	-	0	0.00%
Thailand⁷	Week 7	174,730	1,636	192	2	0.11%
Vietnam¹	Week 2	175,758	0	43	0	0.02%
Total		907,871	5,605	2,173	32	0.24%

1. WHO WPRO, "Dengue," World Health Organization, accessed February 27, 2024 (<https://www.who.int/westernpacific/emergencies/surveillance/dengue>).
 2. Ministry of Health, Republic of Indonesia
 3. Disease Control Division, Ministry of Health Malaysia, accessed February 27, 2024, https://www.moh.gov.my/index.php/database_stores/store_view/17
 4. Bluedot Developer Portal, accessed February 27, 2024, <https://developer-portal.bluedot.global/>.
 5. Department of Health Website, accessed February 27, 2024 "Statistics," <https://doh.gov.ph/statistics>.
 6. Ministry of Health. "Weekly Infectious Disease Bulletin", accessed February 27, 2024. <https://www.moh.gov.sg/resources-statistics/infectious-disease-statistics/2024/weekly-infectious-diseases-bulletin>
 7. Bureau of Epidemiology, Department of Disease Control, Ministry of Public Health Thailand, accessed February 27, 2024, <http://doe.moph.go.th/surdata/index.php>
- *Data were updated and collected from official sources, which may have a 2-8 weeks delay in reporting. Data must be interpreted cautiously.

- The **ASEAN** region reported **5,605** new dengue cases in Indonesia, Singapore, and Thailand and **32** new deaths. The region reported **907,871** total cases with **0.24%** CFR.

Malaria Cases in the ASEAN Region

From January 1, 2023 to February 24, 2024 (Epi-Week 8)



Malaria cases in the ASEAN region

Country	Epi-Week Reported	Cumulative Malaria Cases	New Cases Since the Previous Report	Cumulative Deaths	CFR
Brunei Darussalam	-	-	-	-	-
Cambodia	-	-	-	-	-
Indonesia ¹	Week 6	1,995	0	0	0.00%
Lao PDR	-	-	-	-	-
Malaysia ¹	Week 45 '23	1,116	0	0	0.00%
Myanmar ¹	Week 23 '23	4,510	0	0	0.00%
Philippines ¹	Week 6	33	0	0	0.00%
Singapore ³	Week 7	27	0	0	0.00%
Thailand ²	Week 7	5,419	32	4	0.07%
Vietnam ¹	Week 42 '23	349	0	1	0.29%
Total		13,449	32	5	0.04%

1. Bluedot Platform, accessed February 27, 2024 (<https://portal.bluedot.global/>)
2. Bureau of Epidemiology, Department of Disease Control, Ministry of Public Health Thailand, accessed February 27, 2024 (<http://doe.moph.go.th/surdata/index.php>)
3. Ministry of Health Singapore, accessed February 27, 2024 (<https://www.moh.gov.sg/resources-statistics/infectious-disease-statistics/2023/weekly-infectious-diseases-bulletin>)

- The **ASEAN** region reported **32** new malaria cases in Thailand since the previous report. The region reported **13,449** total cases with **0.04%** CFR.

Media Monitoring for Vector-borne Diseases

Epidemiological Week 8 | February 18 – 24, 2024

Global Situation for Vector-borne Diseases

Dengue

- **Bangladesh** has seen a rise in dengue cases, with 16 new cases admitted daily since January, bringing the total to 1,316 (Desk N, 2024). The death toll has risen to 17, with one fatality reported. The virus's cause is believed to be rising temperatures and inadequate mosquito control measures. Experts predict dengue may continue to affect Bangladesh throughout the year. [\[Full article\]](#)
- **Italy's** Health Minister reported 48 dengue cases in 2024, all imported (ANSA R, 2024). In 2023, 362 cases were confirmed, with 84 being local transmission. The Italy Health Minister praised Italy for being the first European country to implement measures against the disease at its borders, allowing the use of two dengue vaccines. The *Aedes albopictus* mosquito also transmits the disease. [\[Full article\]](#)

Leptospirosis

- **Fiji:** The Ministry of Health and Medical Services has reported one death and 217 cases of leptospirosis this year (Shaw, 2024). Two cases were reported in Nalauwaki Village, Waya Island on Yasawa. A team was deployed to investigate and respond to the cases. The 22-year-old died, while the 41-year-old recovered and was discharged home. The ministry has conducted awareness campaigns, environmental risk assessments, and medical screening, and distributed rat baits. [\[Full article\]](#)
- **France:** Public Health France Indian Ocean reported that bronchiolitis, leptospirosis, and dengue fever are still prevalent on Reunion Island (Admin, 2024). The Regional Health Agency (ARS) called for vigilance due to the persistent bacteria in water and humid environments during the rainy season. The first case was detected after Cyclone Belal and 40 cases of leptospirosis were reported in January. Reunion Island is currently in an epidemic of bronchiolitis, with an increase in emergency room visits for children under 2 years. [\[Full article\]](#)

Regional Situation for Vector-borne Diseases

Dengue

- **Indonesia:** Since January 2024, 389 cases of dengue hemorrhagic fever (DHF) have occurred in Bogor City, with two deaths (Awaludin, 2024). The highest number of cases was recorded in mid-2022, while the highest number of deaths occurred in 2022 and 2023. [\[Full article\]](#) In Jombang District, East Java Province, dengue cases have increased significantly since October 2023, with four deaths in February 2024 (Budianto E.E, 2024). The number of patients treated at Jombang District Hospital has increased every month, with 21 patients still being treated. [\[Full article\]](#)
- **Lao PDR:** Dengue fever cases in Lao PDR have reached 1,075 since January 2024, with two deaths (VIENTIANE, 2024). Sekong province reported the highest number, followed by Vientiane and Luang Namtha provinces. Health authorities urge people to clear mosquito breeding sites and improve healthcare services while vowing to continue improving doctors' and nurses' capacity. [\[Full article\]](#)
- **Malaysia:** Dengue cases in Klang, Malaysia, primarily involve youths, with one-third of the cases involving them (Rajendra, 2024). From January to February, there were 1,597 cases with one death, with 562 cases being youths aged 15-40. [\[Full article\]](#) Dengue cases in Johor have increased by 157% in Epidemiology Week 07/2024, with 2,555 cases recorded, compared to 994 cases in 2023, and Three deaths were reported in the week (Cue, 2024). [\[Full article\]](#)

- **Philippines:** The Department of Health in Northern Mindanao has reported a surge in dengue fever cases, with 898 confirmed cases and three deaths since January (Quilinguing, U.,2024). The Philippine Health Insurance Corporation (Philhealth) has announced a 30% increase in benefit packages for dengue hospital admissions starting on Valentine's Day. [\[Full article\]](#)
- **Singapore:** The Singapore National Environment Agency (NEA) has reported 2,970 cumulative dengue fever cases from the beginning of the year to February 22, with the weekly number of cases more than double the number reported in December 2023 (Herriman, 2024). The NEA announced the expansion of Project Wolbachia to five additional sites in February 2024, covering 130,000 more households and bringing total coverage to 35% of all Singapore households. Results indicate a more than 90% reduction in the *Aedes aegypti* mosquito population and up to 77% are less likely to get dengue at release areas. This will increase Wolbachia coverage from 350,000 to 480,000 households, from 26% to 35% of all households in Singapore. [\[Full article\]](#)
- **Thailand:** Dengue fever has increased by 2.2 times this year, with 13,126 cases reported, including 12 deaths, according to the Director General of the Disease Control Department (Webfact, 2024). The majority of cases were children aged 5-14, followed by 15-24 and 25-34 age groups. Most deaths cases were over 65 years old. [\[Full article\]](#)

Leptospirosis

- **Philippines:** Bacolod City Health Office reported its first leptospirosis death this year, resulting in a 32-year-old male (Singuay M, 2024). The disease, caused by bacteria, affects humans and animals. The most common causes include contaminated water, swallowing, and exposing open wounds. In 2023, 92 leptospirosis cases were reported, with 16 deaths. The most common complications include delayed health-seeking behavior and denial of infection. [\[Full article\]](#)

Zika

- **Singapore:** The Ministry of Health (MOH) and National Environment Agency (NEA) are monitoring Zika transmission in Boon Lay Place, Singapore, following mosquito and wastewater testing (ANG QING, 2024). A single Zika case was reported in December 2023, but no cases have been detected since then. The MOH has alerted doctors to test patients with Zika-related symptoms, especially those living or working in the area. Pregnant women are advised to seek medical attention if unwell with Zika virus infection symptoms. The virus is mainly transmitted by the bite of an infected *Aedes* mosquito and can be passed from a pregnant woman to her fetus or through sex. Since November 2023, NEA has been conducting intensive mosquito-control operations in the area. Residents can prevent mosquito bites by spraying insecticides, applying insect repellent, wearing long-sleeve tops and pants, and enclosing rooms or installing mosquito screens. [\[Full article\]](#)
- **Thailand:** Dengue fever in Thailand has reached 8,197 cases in January, a 91.25% increase from last year (The Nation, 2024) and 13 deaths in 2024 (TST, 2024). The virus, transmitted by *Aedes* mosquitoes, causes symptoms like high fever, headache, muscle and joint pain, nausea, vomiting, skin rash, and swollen glands. Most cases are children aged five to 14, with most cases in southern and central provinces. Hospitals should provide anti-mosquito cream or spray to other patients. [\[Full article\]](#) [\[Full article\]](#)



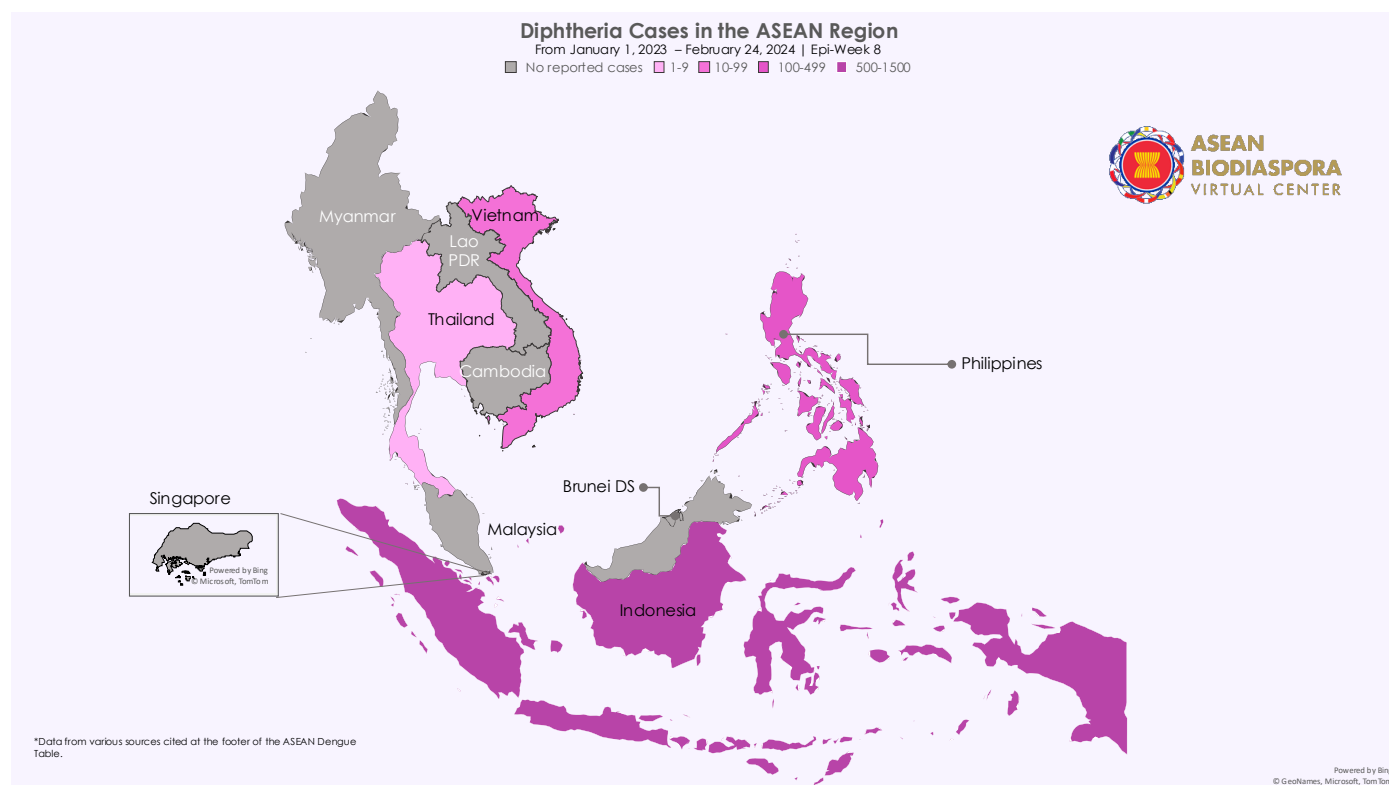
Malaria

- **Indonesia:** In 2023, there were 15,562 suspected cases examined and 333 of them were positive in 13 districts/cities in South Kalimantan (Irwanto D, 2024). The highest number of malaria attack cases occurred in Tabalong District with 5,009 suspected cases, followed by Balangan District with 2,566 cases, Banjar District with 2,349 cases, Tanah Bumbu District 1,183 cases, Tanah Laut District 1,025 cases and Banjarbaru City 1,667 suspected cases. Monitoring in Banjarmasin City, the City Health Office is intensively carrying out fogging (spraying) activities to eradicate mosquitoes. [[Full article](#)]

VACCINE-PREVENTABLE DISEASES

Diphtheria Cases in the ASEAN Region

From January 1, 2023 to February 24, 2024 (Epi-Week 8)



Diphtheria cases in the ASEAN region

Country	Epi-Week Reported	Cumulative Diphtheria Cases	New Cases Since the Previous Report	Cumulative Deaths	CFR
Brunei Darussalam	-	-	-	-	-
Cambodia	-	-	-	-	-
Indonesia ¹	Week 7	1,016	20	70	6.89%
Lao PDR	-	-	-	-	-
Malaysia	-	-	-	-	-
Myanmar	-	-	-	-	-
Philippines ²	Week 48 '23	198	0	50	25.25%
Singapore ³	Week 7	0	0	0	0.00%
Thailand ⁴	Week 7	7	1	0	0.00%
Vietnam ⁵	Week 52 '23	55	0	5	9.09%
Total		1,276	21	125	9.80%

1. Ministry of Health, Republic of Indonesia.

2. Department of Health Website, accessed February 27, 2024 "Statistics" (<https://doh.gov.ph/statistics>)

3. Ministry of Health Singapore, accessed February 27, 2024 (<https://www.moh.gov.sg/resources-statistics/infectious-disease-statistics/2023/weekly-infectious-diseases-bulletin>)

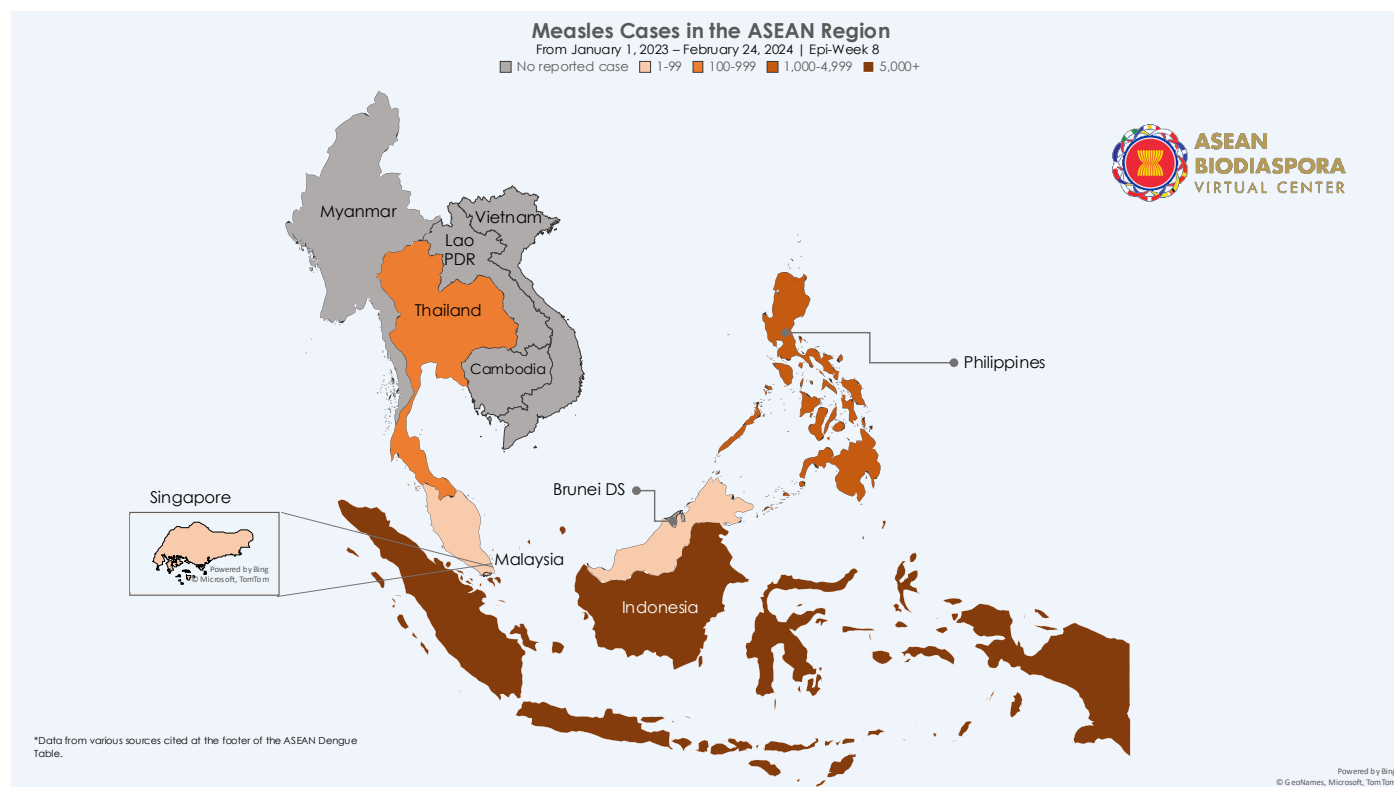
4. Bureau of Epidemiology, Department of Disease Control, Ministry of Public Health Thailand, accessed February 27, 2024 (<http://doe.moph.go.th/surdata/index.php>)

5. BlueDot Platform, accessed February 27, 2024 (<https://developer-portal.bluedot.global/>)

- The ASEAN region reported **21** new diphtheria cases in Indonesia and Thailand since the previous report. The region reported **1,276** total cases with **9.80%** CFR.

Measles Cases in the ASEAN Region

From January 1, 2023 to February 24, 2024 (Epi-Week 8)



Measles cases in the ASEAN region

Country	Epi-Week Reported	Cumulative Measles Cases	New Cases Since the Previous Report	Cumulative Deaths	CFR
Brunei Darussalam	-	-	-	-	-
Cambodia	-	-	-	-	-
Indonesia ¹	Week 7	10,465	22	12	0.11%
Lao PDR	-	-	-	-	-
Malaysia ²	Week 6	30	0	0	0.00%
Myanmar	-	-	-	-	-
Philippines ³	Week 48 '23	2,576	0	16	0.62%
Singapore ⁴	Week 7	9	0	0	0.00%
Thailand ⁵	Week 7	465	36	0	0.00%
Vietnam	-	-	-	-	-
Total		13,545	58	28	0.21%

- Ministry of Health, Republic of Indonesia
- Bluedot Platform, accessed February 27, 2024 (<https://developer-portal.bluedot.global/>)
- Department of Health Website, accessed February 27, 2024 "Statistics," (<https://doh.gov.ph/statistics>)
- Ministry of Health Singapore, accessed February 27, 2024, (<https://www.moh.gov.sg/resources-statistics/infectious-disease-statistics/2023/weekly-infectious-diseases-bulletin>)
- Bureau of Epidemiology, Department of Disease Control, Ministry of Public Health Thailand, accessed February 27, 2024 (<http://doe.moph.go.th/surdata/index.php>)

- The **ASEAN** region reported **58** new measles cases in Indonesia and Thailand since the previous report. The region reported **13,545** total cases with **0.21%** CFR.

Media Monitoring for Vaccine-Preventable Diseases

Epidemiological Week 8 | February 18 - 24, 2024

Global Situation for Vaccine-Preventable Diseases

Measles

- **Austria:** Since January 2024, 129 confirmed cases of measles have been reported in Austria, with 21 cases in Lower Austria and four currently infected (Horaczek T, 2024). Measles is a highly contagious viral disease characterized by flu-like symptoms and a characteristic skin rash. The highest risk of infection is in the prodromal phase, which lasts 2-4 days and is characterized by severe coughing. Possible complications include bacterial superinfections, pneumonia, or larynx inflammation. The most infected people are in Tyrol, Vienna, and Styria. The best prevention against measles is vaccination, which is available free of charge at public vaccination centers for all age groups. Lower Austria currently ranks third in the country with 129 confirmed cases. [\[Full article\]](#)
- **Pakistan:** A measles outbreak in Talib Richo coastal village has resulted in four deaths, highlighting the inadequacies of the administration and authorities in providing essential facilities to remote communities (Khawaja K.K, 2024). The outbreak was attributed to a lack of awareness and vaccinations among children in remote areas. Medical teams are now assessing the severity of the situation and establishing anti-measles vaccination camps to combat the spread of the disease. The lack of clean water and unhygienic living conditions contribute to the outbreak. [\[Full article\]](#)
- **Russia:** The measles situation in the Karaganda region is unstable, with 979 suspected cases identified and 578 confirmed, with 75% of infected children under 14 (Agilbaeva A, 2024). Over 85% of sick people lack immunity, and 174 infectious disease hospitals are occupied. Over 58,000 people have been vaccinated to protect against severe infections. From October 2023 to February 2024, over 72 thousand cases of acute respiratory viral infection (ARVI) were registered, with 61% of cases being children under 14. Influenza cases have also increased, with 80 positive samples identified since November. All patients receive outpatient treatment and face-mask use is mandatory in medical facility. [\[Full article\]](#)
- **Taiwan (Province of China)** has reported its first locally acquired measles case in 2024, involving a 30-year-old male who developed a fever and rash (Herriman, 2024). The case is the first domestic infection case this year, and the possible source of infection is under investigation. The CDC has identified 199 contacts, including four family members, two non-family members, and 193 medical contacts. Since 2020, Taiwan has seen four measles cases, with the most recent being in September 2022. The virus is highly contagious and can live for up to two hours in an airspace after an infected person leaves an area. Measles can be severe in all age groups and lead to serious complications, including pneumonia and death. [\[Full article\]](#)
- The **United States (US):** Multiple measles cases have been confirmed at a South Florida elementary school, following a nationwide alert about an increase in cases (Golgowski N, 2024). A sixth case was confirmed at Manatee Bay Elementary School in Weston, just west of Fort Lauderdale. The outbreak follows the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention's (D) recent alert, which urged healthcare providers to be on alert for potential measles cases. Most cases involved children and adolescents who had not received a measles-containing vaccine, even if age-eligible. As of last week, there have been 20 measles cases reported in 11 states across the country so far this year, about 34% of the total cases reported during all of last year. The measles virus is highly contagious, with the first symptoms appearing seven to 14 days after infection. The measles, mumps, and rubella (MMR) vaccine is about 97% effective in preventing infection after two doses and 93% effective after just one. [\[Full article\]](#)



- The **United Kingdom**: A measles case has been confirmed in Northern Ireland, marking the first case in seven years (BBC, 2024). The case was picked up by an adult while travelling. Public health actions are being taken, and close contacts have been notified. The last confirmed case was in 2017. A vaccination catch-up program is currently underway, offering first and second doses to those aged 12-25 who missed the first dose. [\[Full article\]](#)

Pertussis

- **Belgium**: 163 cases of pertussis have been reported since January 1, 2024, in Wallonia. This respiratory infection can be very serious in young children, especially babies under 6 months of age (Desorbay, C., 2024). The figures given to us by the Walloon agency are up from 2023 when only 113 cases were reported from January to August, for an annual total of 363 cases. [\[Full article\]](#)
- **Canada**: Estrie has reported 80 cases of whooping cough since the start of the epidemic in December 2023, 28 more than the 52 recorded two weeks ago (Casandra, 2024). The annual average of whooping cough cases in Estrie is around a dozen. The cases are still limited to around ten primary and secondary schools in the Sherbrooke and Magog sectors. [\[Full article\]](#)
- **Spain**: The Health Department in Terrassa, Vallès Occidental, has confirmed 205 cases of whooping cough in educational centers (Acn, 2024). The Territorial Epidemiological Surveillance Service is making a great control effort, prioritizing addressing vulnerable people. The disease is not serious and has effective treatment. An outbreak has affected 124 people in Madrid and Guadalajara, mostly children. Control measures include isolation, treatment, antibiotic chemoprophylaxis, and vaccination of contacts. Children and teachers with suspicious symptoms should begin antibiotic treatment and avoid educational centers for five days. [\[Full article\]](#)
- The **United States (US)**: Hawaii has reported five confirmed cases of visitor whooping cough, resulting in one child being hospitalized and 150 passengers being sickened on the Cunard Line's Queen Victoria cruise ship (Beat of Hawaii, 2024). The disease is highly contagious and can linger for months. The last case was nearly a year ago, and between 2019 and 2023, the state reported 89 cases. [\[Full article\]](#)

Media Monitoring for Other Diseases

Epidemiological Week 8 | February 18 - 24, 2024

Global Situation for Other Diseases

Typhoid

- **India:** 24 people have been diagnosed with typhoid in Kunduthod of Kavilumpara Panchayat, Kozhikode (Manorama, 2024). The infection was discovered when the blood samples of those treated with similar symptoms were tested. The health department has issued a warning in Kundu and surrounding areas. [\[Full article\]](#)
- **Taiwan (Province of China):** On February 20, Taiwan reported its first locally acquired typhoid fever case this year, involving a woman in her 20s who developed symptoms of vomiting and diarrhea after visiting a fishing port in northern Taiwan (Yi-ning, Z. & Kao, E., 2024). A typhoid fever test was conducted on February 16, and the woman is still hospitalized for treatment. The woman's visit to a fishing port with two friends likely resulted in the bacteria being contracted through contaminated raw seafood consumption, according to CDC physician. [\[Full article\]](#)

Regional Situation for Other Diseases

Hand Foot and Mouth Disease

- **Philippines:** The Iloilo province has 55 cases of hand, foot, and mouth disease (HFMD), a mild viral infection common in young children (Sornito, 2024). The most cases were in Lambunao town, with 15 cases. The province experienced fast transmission, with 12 new cases recorded from January 27 to February 3. [\[Full article\]](#)
- **Vietnam:** On February 17, the Ministry of Health reported 225 cases of HFMD (QUOC, N.Q., 2024). Provincial health departments have been advised to take measures to prevent and control disease outbreaks among livestock and poultry while animal outbreaks should be promptly identified and addressed to prevent the transmission of diseases from animals and food to humans. [\[Full article\]](#)

Typhoid

- **Philippines:** Typhoid fever has claimed the lives of two people, including a nine-year-old girl, and affected 16 others in remote villages of Magcaraguit and G. Aliño Island (Barcia R.B, 2024). The disease, caused by *Salmonella typhi* bacteria, is spread through ingestion of food and water contaminated with human waste. The outbreak originated in Magcaraguit and escalated in Barangay G. Aliño, a neighboring area. Village chieftain reported the incident to the Dimasalang rural health unit. The Department of Social Welfare and Development (DSWD) Regional Director confirmed the typhoid outbreak took place in Dimasalang town early this month and is coordinating with the local government to monitor the situation and provide further interventions. The DSWD is prepared to supplement resources and encourage the public to take preventive measures, such as boiling water, chlorinating, and cooking food thoroughly to prevent contamination. [\[Full article\]](#)

Annex 1. Infectious Diseases in the ASEAN Region – Summary Table

Epidemiological Week 8 | From January 1, 2023 to February 24, 2024

Infectious Diseases	COVID-19			Mpox			Rabies			Dengue		
	Cum. Cases	Cum. Deaths	CFR	Cum. Cases	Cum. Deaths	CFR	Cum. Cases	Cum. Deaths	CFR	Cum. Cases	Cum. Deaths	CFR
Brunei Darussalam	81,362	77	0.09%	-	-	-	Rabies-free Country			-	-	-
Cambodia	655	0	0.00%	4	0	0	-	-	-	37,362	104	0.28%
Indonesia	117,135	1,449	1.24%	84	0	0	159	159	100%	130,412	1,018	0.78%
Lao PDR	1,354	87	6.54%	1	0	0	-	-	-	32,841	20	0.06%
Malaysia	256,267	490	0.19%	9	0	0	25	25	100%	141,560	109	0.08%
Myanmar	8,195	5	0.06%	-	-	-	-	-	-	6,685	30	0.45%
Philippines	141,371	1,467	1.04%	5	0	0%	368	368	100%	195,603	657	0.34%
Singapore	817,031	222	0.03%	34	0	0%	Rabies-free Country			12,920	0	0.00%
Thailand	47,843	895	1.91%	709	1	0.14%	6	6	100%	174,730	192	0.11%
Vietnam	100,747	20	0.02%	135	6	4.44%	88	88	100%	175,758	43	0.02%
ASEAN Region	1,571,960	4,712	0.30%	981	7	0.71%	646	646	100%	907,871	2,173	0.24%

Infectious Diseases	Malaria			Measles			Diphtheria		
	Cum. Cases	Cum. Deaths	CFR	Cum. Cases	Cum. Deaths	CFR	Cum. Cases	Cum. Deaths	CFR
Brunei Darussalam	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Cambodia	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Indonesia	1,995	0	0%	10,465	12	0.11%	1,016	70	6.89%
Lao PDR	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Malaysia	1,116	0	0%	-	-	-	-	-	-
Myanmar	4,510	0	0%	-	-	-	-	-	-
Philippines	33	0	0%	2,576	16	0.62%	198	50	25.25%
Singapore	27	0	0%	9	0	0%	0	0	0.00%
Thailand	5,419	4	0.07%	465	0	0%	7	0	0.00%
Vietnam	349	1	0.29%	-	-	-	55	5	9.09%
ASEAN Region	13,449	5	0.04%	13,545	28	0.21%	1,276	125	9.80%

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