



ASEAN BIOLOGICAL THREATS SURVEILLANCE CENTRE

DISEASE ALERT



Korea Disease Control and
Prevention Agency



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July 13, 2026 | Issue No. 18

First alert : February 16, 2026

Fifth alert : July 13, 2026 | **Avian Influenza A(H5N1) in Cambodia**

Sub-Locations Affected

Pnom Penh (Khan Mean Chey District)

Event Description

On July 9, 2026, the National Institute of Public Health confirmed a human case of avian influenza A(H5N1) in a 9-month-old female infant from Pnom Penh. This represents Cambodia's fifth reported human infection with Avian Influenza A (H5N1) in 2026. The Ministry of Health subsequently issued a statement noting that the patient is receiving intensive medical care while in isolation.

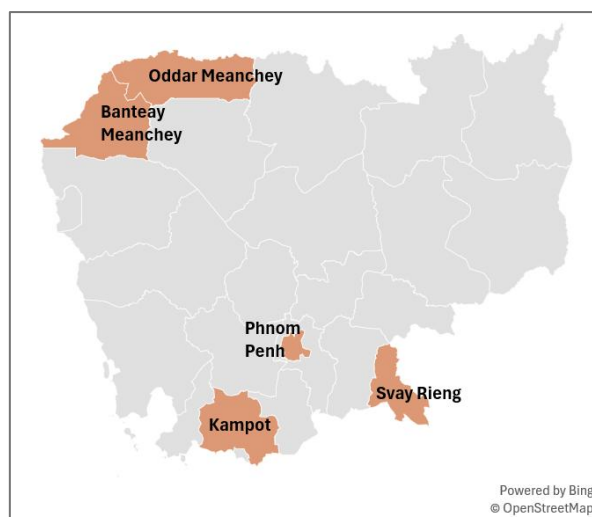


Figure 1. Cases of Avian Influenza A(H5N1) in 2026 as of July 13

Epidemiological Information

- On July 12, 2026, the Ministry of Health announced a case of avian influenza A(H5N1) in a 9-month-old female infant from Khan Mean Chey district, Pnom Penh Province. The case was confirmed on July 9 by the National Institute of Public Health. The patient has been isolated at the hospital and is receiving intensive care from medical professionals.
- An epidemiological investigation is ongoing to determine the source of infection and identify potential exposures. No additional demographic, clinical, or epidemiological details have been reported by the cited sources at this time.
- In Cambodia, 18 human infections and nine deaths were reported in 2025, corresponding to a case fatality rate of 50%.
- As of 2026, five confirmed** human cases of avian influenza A(H5N1) have been identified, with **no fatalities** reported to date.

Response Measures

- The Ministry of Health's emergency response teams at national and sub-national levels are working jointly with provincial agriculture departments and local authorities to investigate the outbreak in accordance with established technical protocols. Efforts are focused on identifying the source of transmission in both animals and humans, as well as tracing suspected cases and contacts to limit further community spread.
- Antiviral prophylaxis is administered to close contacts to reduce infection risk. In parallel, health education campaigns are being implemented in affected areas to strengthen community awareness and prevention.
- The Ministry of Health advises the public to remain vigilant and adhere to preventive measures against avian influenza A(H5N1). Individuals presenting with fever, cough, runny nose, or respiratory symptoms following exposure to sick or dead poultry within the previous 14 days are advised to avoid crowded settings and seek prompt medical attention to reduce the risk of severe outcomes.
- Regular updates are disseminated through the Department of Communicable Disease Control's official website and Facebook page.

Recommendations

- The World Health Organization advises both travelers and residents in countries experiencing avian influenza outbreaks to avoid exposure to poultry farms, live bird markets, slaughtering areas, and any surfaces potentially contaminated with poultry or animal feces. Individuals returning from affected areas who develop respiratory symptoms and suspect zoonotic influenza infection are encouraged to promptly report to local health authorities.
- The Ministry of Health of Cambodia underscored the following key preventive measures to reduce the risk of H5N1 infection:
 - a) Avoid contact with sick or dead poultry,
 - b) Use protective measures (gloves and a mask) when handling poultry for food,
 - c) Wash hands frequently, especially before handling food and after contact with poultry or potentially contaminated surfaces,
 - d) Ensure thorough cooking before consumption, and
 - e) Seek medical attention promptly.

Sources:

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3. WHO (2026, January 21). *Influenza (avian and other zoonotic)*. WHO. Retrieved July 13, 2026, from [https://www.who.int/news-room/fact-sheets/detail/influenza-\(avian-and-other-zoonotic\)](https://www.who.int/news-room/fact-sheets/detail/influenza-(avian-and-other-zoonotic))

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