



Editorial

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Mpox Global Situation

From 1 May 2022 through August 30, 2024, a cumulative total of 103,446 laboratory-confirmed cases of mpox with 225 deaths were reported to WHO from 123 countries in all six WHO Regions (Figure 1).

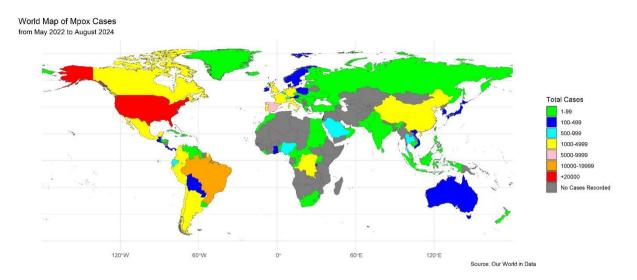


Figure 1. Global Distribution of Mpox Cases

Source: Our World in Data (https://raw.githubusercontent.com/owid/monkeypox/main/owid-monkeypox-data.csv)

Several outbreaks of different clades of mpox have occurred worldwide. The map shows that most countries are affected by the clade IIb variant, while in Africa the variation is more diverse, with the clades of Ia, Ib and II.

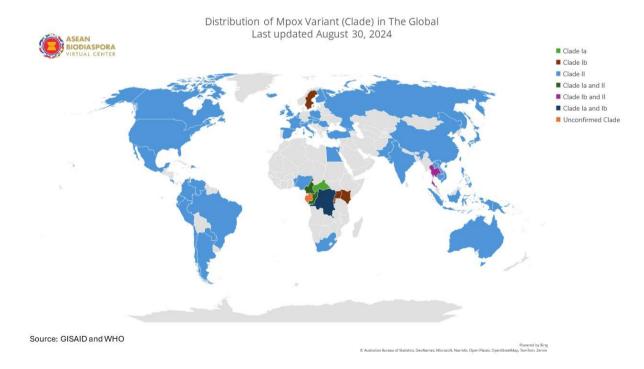


Figure 2. Global variant distribution of mpox cases

Source: Our World in Data (https://raw.githubusercontent.com/owid/monkeypox/main/owid-monkeypox-data.csv)

Figure 3 shows epidemic curves of weekly aggregated laboratory-confirmed cases of mpox from **June 1, 2022, to August 30, 2024**, across six WHO regions:

- 1. In the African Region, the cases fluctuate with noticeable peaks and troughs throughout the period. A significant rise in cases occurs since mid-2022 towards the end.
- 2. In the Asian Region, case fluctuations have occurred since 2022, with the peaks in September to October 2023, and gradually decreased.
- 3. In the European Region, cases rose since June 2022, peaks in July to August in the same year, then gradually declined.
- 4. In the North American Region, cases increased from June 2022 to August in the same year, then gradually declined.
- 5. In the Region of Oceania, mpox cases fluctuated, with sharp increases in some periods since June 2024.
- 6. In the South American region, the cases increased from June 2022 to August in the same year, then gradually declined.

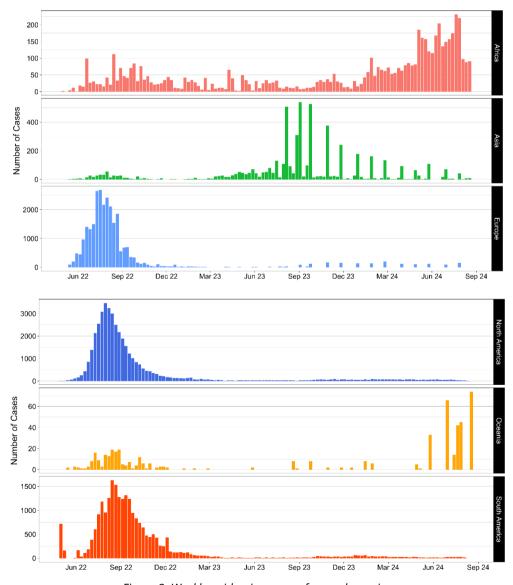


Figure 3. Weekly epidemic curves of mpox by region

Source: Our World in Data (https://raw.githubusercontent.com/owid/monkeypox/main/owid-monkeypox-data.csv)

Mpox Situation in Africa

As of August 30, 2024, mpox cases have been reported in several African countries, with the DRC leading with over 4,000 reported cases. Neighboring countries like Burundi, Central African Republic and Congo have also seen hundreds of cases. Cameroon, Nigeria, and South Africa are experiencing dozens of cases, while Côte d'Ivoire, Kenya, Liberia, Rwanda, and Uganda have reported a smaller number of cases (Figure. 4).

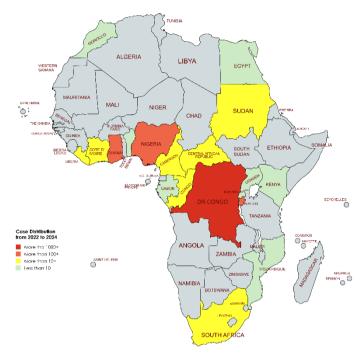


Figure 4. Distribution of Mpox cases in African Countries in 2024
Source: Our World in Data (https://raw.githubusercontent.com/owid/monkeypox/main/owid-monkeypox-data.csv)

The weekly trends of mpox cases in African countries is illustrated in Figure 5. As shown in the figure, Nigeria contributed to the most cases in the beginning of the mpox outbreak in 2022. Meanwhile, the DRC contributed the highest number of cases between 2023 and 2024.

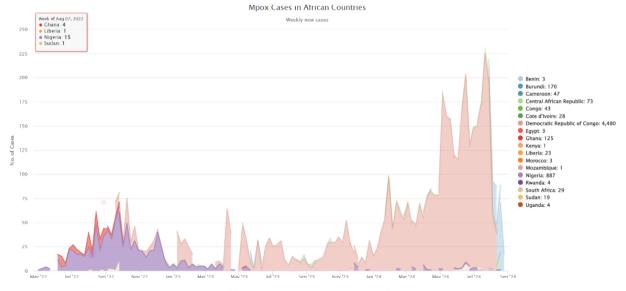


Figure 5. Weekly New Mpox Cases among African Countries
Source: Our World in Data (https://raw.githubusercontent.com/owid/monkeypox/main/owid-monkeypox-data.csv)

As shown in Figure 5, the African region experienced a significant increase in mpox cases beginning in mid-2022. While the overall trend in most countries in the region was an increase in cases, the pace of growth varied. Some countries experienced sharp increases, while others experienced more gradual increases. More detailed information of these trends is shown in Figure 6 below.

Trends of Mpox in Affected African Countries May 2022 to August 30, 2024

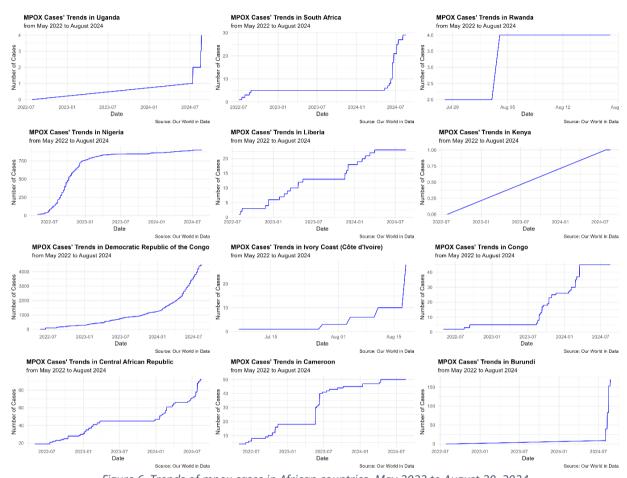


Figure 6. Trends of mpox cases in African countries, May 2022 to August 30, 2024
Source: Our World in Data (https://raw.githubusercontent.com/owid/monkeypox/main/owid-monkeypox-data.csv)

Distribution of Mpox Variants (Clade) in Africa Last updates August 30, 2024 Clade la BIODIASPORA VIRTUAL CENTER Clade Ia and II ■ Clade Ia and Ib Clade Ib ■ Clade II ■ Unconfirmed clade

Figure 7. Distribution of mpox variants in Africa
Source: GISAID (https://www.epicov.org/epi3/frontend#269cc7)

Figure 7 shows that several outbreaks of different clades of mpox have occurred in different countries. The map suggests that Africa, particularly Central and West Africa, is a major hotspot for mpox with a variety of clades.

- DRC are affected by the clades of la and lb
- Central African Republic is affected by the clade la
- Cameroon and the Republic of Congo are affected by clades of la and II
- Benin, Côte d'Ivoire, Egypt, Nigeria, and South Africa are affected by the clade II
- Burundi, Kenya, Rwanda, and Uganda are affected by clade lb
- Gabon is affected by unconfirmed clade

Source: GISAID and WHO

Mpox Situation in the Democratic Republic of the Congo

As of August 30, there are 4,480 confirmed mpox cases in the DRC with 21 deaths (as curated from our world in data (OWID), 2024). The Mpox outbreak in the DRC shows significant geographical variation, with some regions experiencing higher case concentrations. The visualizations illustrate the total number of reported cases and their relative percentages across different provinces, which is critical for understanding the epidemic's dynamics and implementing effective control measures (Figure 8).

DRC Map of Mpox Cases by Region

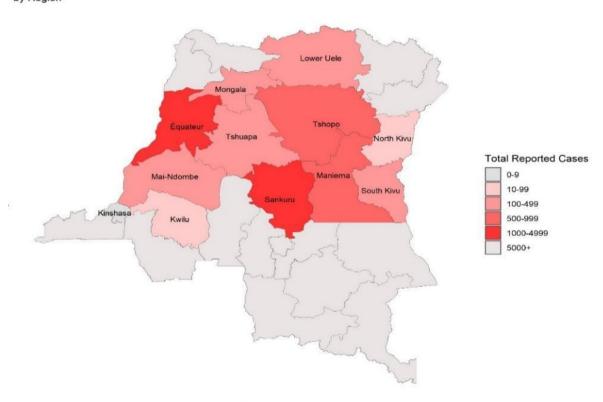


Figure 8. The distribution of Mpox Cases in DRC Source: Bluedot (https://portal.bluedot.global/)

Mpox Situation in the ASEAN Region

From January 1, 2023 to August 30, 2024, there are 1,177 confirmed cases including 18 deaths in the ASEAN region, with a CFR of 1.53%. The distribution of mpox cases in the ASEAN Region is shown in Figure 9.



Figure 9. The distribution of mpox cases in the ASEAN region

Further information on the number of cases in each ASEAN country is shown in Table 1.

Table 1. Mpox cases in the ASEAN region (Jan. 1, 2023 to Aug. 30, 2024)

ASEAN Member States	Cumulative Cases 2023-2024	New Cases Since Previous Report (August 28, 2024)	Cumulative Deaths 2023-2024	New Deaths Since Previous Report (August 28, 2024)	CFR
Brunei Darussalam	0	0	0	0	0.00%
Cambodia ¹	20	0	0	0	0.00%
Indonesia²	87	0	0	0	0.00%
Lao PDR³	1	0	0	0	0.00%
Malaysia³	9	0	0	0	0.00%
Myanmar³	-	-	-	-	-
Philippines ⁴	7	0	0	0	0.00%
Singapore⁵	45	0	0	0	0.00%
Thailand ³	808	0	10	0	1.24%
Viet Nam³	200	0	8	0	4.00%
ASEAN Total	1,177	0	18	0	1.53%

Source: ¹Ministry of Health Cambodia, ²Ministry of Health Republic of Indonesia, ³Our World in Data, ⁴Department of Health Philippines, ⁵Ministry of Health Singapore.

Since the first report of one case of clade Ib variant in Thailand, no further cases of the variant have been reported in the country.

The distribution of mpox variants in ASEAN region and neighbouring countries is shown in Figure 10.

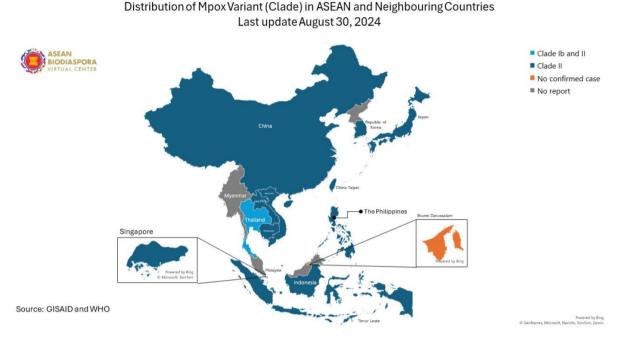


Figure 10. The distribution of mpox variants in ASEAN Region and Neighbouring Countries

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