Update on the Dengue situation in the Western Pacific Region

Northern Hemisphere

Cambodia (No update)

As of epidemiological week 11, 2021, a total of 431 dengue cases, including one death, have been reported in Cambodia. This cumulative number of cases represents a decrease of 74.6% compared to the number of cases reported during the same period in 2020 (n=1,638). The number of cases reported weekly remains within the normal range of cases reported from 2015 to 2020, excluding 2019 (Figure 1). The reported number of dengue cases is lower in all provinces compared to trends observed in 2020.

![Figure 1: Dengue cases reported weekly in 2021 vs 2020 Mean and Mean+2SD during 2015-2020, *excluding 2019](Source: Ministry of Health, Cambodia)

China

In March 2021, there were no dengue cases or deaths reported in China. The number of cases reported in March 2021 is lower in comparison to 16 cases reported in March 2020 and other recent years. It follows an expected seasonal trend (Figure 2).

![Figure 2: Dengue cases reported monthly in 2013-2021](Source: National Health Commission, China)
**Lao People’s Democratic Republic**
During epidemiological week 17 of 2021, seven dengue cases and no deaths were reported in Lao People’s Democratic Republic (Figure 3). The number of cases reported as of epidemiological week 17, 2021 is 208; this is 3.6 times lower compared to the same period in 2020 when 754 cases were reported. The trend is within seasonally expected levels.

**Malaysia**
During epidemiological week 17, 2021, a total of 461 dengue cases with no deaths were reported. As of 1 May 2021, the cumulative number of reported cases is 9,270. This is a significant decrease compared to 39,002 cases reported during the same period in 2020. As of epidemiological week 17, a total of five deaths due to dengue have been reported in 2021, compared to 64 deaths during the same period in 2020.
Philippines
For Morbidity Week 12, from 21 March to 27 March 2021, a total of one hundred fourteen (114) dengue cases with one (1) reported mortality. This is 87% lower compared to the same period in 2020 (n=899). From 1 January to 27 March 2021, there has been a total of 17,630 dengue cases with 63 deaths (CFR 0.4%) reported, this is 63% lower compared to the 47,249 cases reported in the same period in 2020.

Figure 5: Dengue cases reported weekly in 2021
Source: Department of Health, the Philippines

Singapore
In epidemiological week 16 of 2021, 131 dengue cases were reported in Singapore and a total of 2,217 cases have been reported since epidemiological week 1 of 2021 (Figure 6). Weekly trends are within expected seasonal levels.

Figure 6: Dengue cases reported weekly in 2015-2021
Source: Communicable Diseases Division, Ministry of Health, Singapore
Viet Nam

During week 16 of 2021, there were 788 cases and no deaths reported from 39 out of 63 provinces. The number of cases decreased by 22.3% compared to the previous week (1,014 cases, no deaths). As of 18 April 2021, a total of 21,075 cases of dengue, including five deaths, have been reported in Viet Nam. Compared to the same period in 2020 (23,242 cases including three deaths), the cumulative number of cases decreased by 9.3%, with two more deaths reported.

![Graph showing dengue cases and deaths reported weekly in 2020-2021](image1)

**Figure 7:** Dengue cases and deaths reported weekly in 2020-2021  
*Source: General Department of Preventive Medicine, Ministry of Health, Viet Nam*

Southern Hemisphere

Australia

As of 4 May 2021, three dengue cases have been reported in Australia (Figure 8). In contrast, there were 219 dengue cases reported in Australia in January to May 2020 indicating a marked reduction in the number of cases.

![Graph showing laboratory-confirmed dengue cases reported monthly in 2015-2021](image2)

**Figure 8:** Laboratory-confirmed dengue cases reported monthly in 2015-2021  
*Source: Department of Health, Australia*
Pacific Islands Countries

Cook Islands
Between 1 January and 5 May 2021, a total of 180 dengue cases with no deaths were reported in the Cook Islands where a dengue type-2 (DENV-2) outbreak has been ongoing since February 2021 (Figure 9). Among the reported cases, there are 133 probable cases who are positive for the NS1 antigen (NS1 Ag+) and 47 cases confirmed to have DENV-2 infection based on PCR testing.

Figure 9: Dengue cases reported monthly in 2021
Source: Ministry of Health, Cook Islands

French Polynesia (No update)
During epidemiological weeks 11 and 12 of 2021, one probable case was detected out of 64 who were tested for dengue-specific IgM (Figure 10). In 2021, the proportion of dengue like illness (DLI) cases among consultations at sentinel sites has remained below 2%.

Figure 10: Samples and confirmed cases of dengue reported weekly in 2020-2021
Source: Centre for Occupational Health and Public Safety, French Polynesia

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New Caledonia
During epidemiological weeks 1 to 17 of 2021, a total of 81 dengue cases were reported in New Caledonia, including 64 confirmed cases, 16 probable cases, and one suspected case (Figure 11). This is an increase compared to the same period in 2020 when a total of 29 cases were reported. DENV-2 was detected in 58 out of the 64 confirmed cases as of 30 April 2021.

Wallis and Futuna
During epidemiological weeks 8 to 13 of 2021, 26 confirmed cases of dengue were reported in Wallis and Futuna (Figure 12). All are local cases with 23 cases reported in Futuna and three cases reported in Wallis. In 2020, there were 124 cases (confirmed and probable).
Pacific Island Countries and Areas (PICs) – Dengue-like illness (DLI) Surveillance

In the Pacific Island Countries and Areas, during epidemiological week 16 of 2021, there was an increase in DLI cases reported in New Caledonia, Wallis and Futuna. The number of DLI cases reported in Fiji continues to decrease but remains at a high level (Figure 13). Other Pacific Island Countries and Areas with available surveillance data are reporting no or very low numbers of DLI cases.

* Caution should be taken in interpreting these data as there may be changes in the number of sentinel sites reporting to the Pacific Syndromic Surveillance System.

Figure 13. Reported cases of dengue-like illness in Pacific Islands Countries and Areas

Source: PacNet Bulletin