Update on the Dengue situation in the Western Pacific Region

Northern Hemisphere

Cambodia

As of epidemiological week 42, 2021, a total of 1,406 dengue cases, including three deaths, have been reported in Cambodia for 2021. The number of cases reported weekly remains lower than the normal range of cases reported from 2015 to 2020 (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 from 2021 vs 2020 Mean and Mean+2SD during 2015-2020, *excluding 2019 in Cambodia](source)

China (no update)

In September 2021, four dengue cases and no deaths were reported in China. The trend in 2021 is below usual seasonal trend, as compared to previous years (Figure 2).

![Figure 2: Dengue cases reported monthly from 2013-2021 in China](source)
Lao People’s Democratic Republic
During epidemiological week 44 of 2021, 46 dengue cases and no deaths were reported in Lao People’s Democratic Republic (Figure 3). The cumulative number of cases reported as of epidemiological week 44 2021 is 1,251. This is lower compared to 7,131 cases reported during the same period in 2020 and similar to the 2015 dengue trend.

Malaysia
During epidemiological week 44 of 2021, a total of 394 dengue cases and one death was reported. As of 6 November 2021, the cumulative number of reported cases is 22,101. This is a significant decrease of 73% compared to 82,753 cases reported during the same period in 2020. As of epidemiological week 44, a total of 17 deaths due to dengue have been reported in 2021, compared to 133 deaths during the same period in 2020.
Philippines
In epidemiological week 42, from 17 to 23 October 2021, there was a total of two hundred sixty-four (264) dengue cases with two (2) reported mortality. This is 77% lower compared to the same period in 2020 (n=1,138). From 1 January to 23 October 2021, there has been a total of 61,170 dengue cases with 216 deaths (CFR 0.4%) reported, this is 21% lower compared to the 77,859 cases reported in the same period in 2020.

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

Singapore
In epidemiological week 44 of 2021, 59 dengue cases were reported in Singapore and a total of 4,779 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 from 2015-2021 in Singapore
Source: Communicable Diseases Division, Ministry of Health, Singapore
Viet Nam
During week 44 of 2021, there were 1,799 cases and no deaths reported from 46 out of 63 provinces. The number of cases increased by 3.6% compared to the previous week (1,737 cases including no deaths). As of 7 November 2021, a total of 61,304 cases of dengue, including 21 deaths, have been reported in Viet Nam. Compared to the same period in 2020 (107,789 cases including 19 deaths), the cumulative number of cases decreased by 43.1%.

Southern Hemisphere
Australia (no update)
As of 24 October 2021, four cumulative cases of dengue have been reported in Australia to-date (Figure 8). In contrast, there were 225 dengue cases reported in Australia from 1 January to 25 October 2020 indicating a marked reduction in the number of cases. The significant drop in dengue cases for 2021 in Australia as compared to previous years during the same time period may be attributed to COVID-19 related travel restrictions. Prior to COVID-19, Australia had seen increasing notifications in overseas-acquired cases from returning travellers to dengue endemic areas.
**Pacific Islands Countries**

**French Polynesia**
During epidemiological weeks 43 and 44 of 2021, out of 16 suspected dengue cases tested for dengue-specific IgM, no samples tested positive. In 2021, the proportion of dengue-like illness (DLI) cases among consultations at sentinel sites (Figure 9) started to increase between weeks 31 and 34, along with a peak in COVID-19 cases.

![Figure 9: Number of dengue consultation and proportion of DLI cases among consultations at sentinel sites by week from 2020-2021 in French Polynesia](image)

*Source: Centre for Occupational Health and Public Safety, French Polynesia*

**New Caledonia**
From epidemiological weeks 1 to 45 of 2021, a total of 116 dengue cases were reported in New Caledonia, including 92 confirmed cases, 23 probable cases, and one suspected case (Figure 10). This is an increase compared to the same period in 2020 when a total of 63 total dengue cases were reported, but the peak and majority of cases were reported at the beginning of the year and current trend is similar to last year. DENV-2 was detected in 85 out of the 92 confirmed cases as of 15 November 2021.

![Figure 10: Dengue cases reported by week from 2021 in New Caledonia](image)

*Source: Network of sentinel physicians, New Caledonia*
Wallis and Futuna
During epidemiological weeks 38 to 45 of 2021, no confirmed cases of dengue were reported in Wallis and Futuna (Figure 11). As of epidemiological week 45, 2021, there have been 68 cases reported. Among them, 63 cases were reported in Futuna and five cases reported in Wallis. In 2020, there were a cumulative of 124 confirmed dengue cases.

Figure 11: Dengue cases reported by week from 2021 in Wallis and Futuna

Source: Health Agency, Wallis and Futuna
Pacific Island Countries and Areas (PICs) – Dengue-like illness (DLI) Surveillance

During epidemiological week 44 of 2021, Solomon Islands reported increased number of DLI cases. Other Pacific Island Countries and Areas with available surveillance data are reporting no or 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 12. Reported cases of dengue-like illness in Pacific Islands Countries and Areas**

*Source: PacNet Bulletin*