Update on the Dengue situation in the Western Pacific Region

Northern Hemisphere

Cambodia
As of week 10, 2021, a total of 401 dengue cases including one death have been reported in Cambodia. The cumulative number of cases reported this year (weeks 1-10) is 25.9% of the 1,550 cases reported in the same period in 2020. The number of cases reported weekly remains within the normal range of cases reported from 2015 to 2020, excluding 2019 (Figure 1). 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](Ministry of Health, Cambodia)

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

![Figure 2: Dengue cases reported monthly in 2013-2021](National Health Commission, China)
Lao People’s Democratic Republic
During week 10 of 2021, 11 dengue cases and no deaths were reported in Lao People’s Democratic Republic (Figure 3). The number of cases reported as of week 10 of 2021 is 132, which is 4 times lower compared to the same period in 2020 when 520 cases were reported. The trend is within seasonally expected levels.

Malaysia
During week 11, 2021, a total of 482 dengue cases have been reported, bringing the cumulative number of reported cases to 6,560 as of 20 March 2021. This is a decrease compared to 31,077 cases reported during the same period last year. As of week 11, a total of three deaths due to dengue have been reported in 2021, compared to 46 deaths during the same period in 2020.
Philippines
In week 8 of 2021, 218 dengue cases were reported in the Philippines. This is 93% lower compared to the same period in 2020 (n=3,001). As of 27 February 2021, 12,144 dengue cases have been reported, including 43 deaths (CFR 0.4%). The number of cases in this period is 69% lower compared to the 39,488 cases reported in the same period in 2020.

Singapore
In week 10 of 2021, 145 dengue cases were reported in Singapore and a total of 1,514 cases have been reported since week 1 of 2021 (Figure 6). Weekly trends are within expected seasonal levels.
Viet Nam (No update)
During week 8 of 2021, there were 942 cases and no deaths reported from 34 out of 63 provinces. The number of cases decreased by 19.4% compared to the previous week (1,169 cases, no deaths). As of 28 February 2021, a total of 13,892 cases of dengue, including three deaths, have been reported in Viet Nam. Compared to the same period in 2020 (17,443 cases including three deaths), the cumulative number of cases decreased by 20.4%, with the same number of deaths reported.

Southern Hemisphere
Australia
In March 2021, no dengue case was reported in Australia (Figure 8). This is much lower than cases reported during the same period in years 2015 to 2020. From January to March 2020 there have been a total of 212 dengue cases reported in Australia compared to one case reported during the same period in 2021.
Pacific Islands Countries

Cook Islands
Between 1 January and 22 March 2021, a total of 82 dengue cases were reported in the Cook Islands where a dengue type-2 (DENV-2) outbreak is ongoing (Figure 9). Among the reported cases, there are 50 probable cases who are positive for the NS1 antigen (NS1 Ag+) and 32 cases confirmed to have a DENV-2 infection based on PCR testing.

French Polynesia
During weeks 7 and 8 of 2021, no new cases were detected out of 70 that were tested for dengue-specific IgM. (Figure 10).

![Figure 9: Dengue cases reported monthly in 2021, Ministry of Health, Cook Islands](image1)

![Figure 10: Samples and confirmed cases of dengue reported weekly in 2020-2021, Centre for Occupational Health and Public Safety, French Polynesia](image2)
New Caledonia
During weeks 1 to 11 of 2021, a total of 47 dengue cases were reported in New Caledonia, including 35 confirmed cases, 11 probable cases, and one suspected case (Figure 11). This is an increase compared to the same period in 2020 when a total of 21 cases were reported. DENV-2 was detected in 8 of the confirmed cases as of 17 March 2021.

![Figure 11: Dengue cases reported by week in 2021, Network of sentinel physicians, New Caledonia](image)

Wallis and Futuna (no update)
During weeks 6 to 7 of 2021, six confirmed cases of dengue were reported in Wallis and Futuna (Figure 12). This brings the total number of confirmed cases (NS1-positive) to 16 out of 56 that have been tested in 2021 (29% positivity), including 15 local cases reported in Futuna and one imported case reported in Wallis.

![Figure 12: Dengue cases reported by week in 2021, Health Agency, Wallis and Futuna](image)
Pacific Island Countries and Areas (PICs) – Dengue-like illness (DLI) Surveillance

In the Pacific Island Countries and Areas, in week 10 of 2021, there was a slight increase in DLI cases reported in Cook Islands and Vanuatu while the number of DLI cases reported in Fiji continues to increase and 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, PacNet Bulletin