Update on the Dengue situation in the Western Pacific Region

Northern Hemisphere

Cambodia
As of epidemiological week 1 of 2023, a total of 160 dengue cases and 0 deaths (case fatality rate (CFR) 0.0%) were reported to the National Dengue Surveillance System in Cambodia. From 1 January to 31 December 2022 a cumulative total of 12,985 cases, including 21 deaths (CFR: 0.16%) were reported (Figure 1), compared to 1,903 cases and 8 deaths in 2021 over the same period.

China
There have been no new updates since the last report. In November 2022, 174 dengue cases were reported respectively in China. There has been a total of 537 dengue cases and no deaths in the country from January 2022 to November 2022. The trend for 2022 remained low (Figure 2).
Lao People’s Democratic Republic
During epidemiological week 1 of 2023, 48 dengue cases and 0 deaths were reported. This is lower compared to the 72 cases reported in the previous week (Figure 3). The cumulative number of cases reported for epidemiological weeks –52, 2022 was 29,210. This is 21 times higher compared to the 1,356 cases reported during the same period in 2021. The cumulative number of deaths in 2022 was 28 (CFR 0.1%).

Malaysia
During epidemiological week 2 of 2023, 2,520 dengue cases and 1 death were reported. This is an increase compared to the 2,219 cases reported in the previous week. From epidemiological weeks 1–52 of 2022, a total of 66,102 cases were cumulatively reported. This is an increase of 150.7% compared to 26,365 cases reported during the same period (epidemiological weeks 1–52) in 2021. Up until epidemiological week 52 of 2022, a total of 56 deaths due to dengue had been reported (CFR 0.08%), compared to 20 deaths during the same period in 2021 (CFR 0.08%).
**Philippines**

During epidemiological week 51 of 2022, a total of 327 dengue cases were reported. The number of cases is 44% lower compared to the same period in 2021 (n=760). From 1 January to 24 December 2022 (week 51), there have been 224,477 dengue cases and 729 deaths (CFR 0.3%), which is 184% higher compared to the 78,983 cases reported in the same period in 2021. Of the 224,477 reported dengue cases 584 cases were confirmed via PCR. The most prevalent dengue serotype was DEN-1 (361, 62%), followed by DEN-2 (135. 23%).

![Figure 5: Dengue cases reported weekly from 2021 and 2022 in the Philippines](source)

**(Note: there is a 3-4 week systematic delay in reporting and numbers should be interpreted with caution)**

**Singapore**

During epidemiological week 1 of 2023, 284 dengue cases were reported in Singapore. In 2022, there were a total of 32,130 cases (Figure 6). This is an increase of 512% compared to 5,248 dengue cases reported during the same period (epidemiological weeks 1–52) in 2021. Preliminary results of all positive dengue samples serotyped in December 2022 showed DEN-1 (21.3%), DEN-2 (9.8%), DEN-3 (63.1%) and DEN-4 (5.7%) respectively.

![Figure 6: Dengue cases reported weekly from 2018-2023 in Singapore](source)

*Source: Communicable Diseases Division, Ministry of Health, Singapore*
Viet Nam

During epidemiological week 2 of 2023, there were 2,472 cases and no deaths reported in Viet Nam. A reported 1,936 (78.0%) cases were hospitalized. Compared to week 1 (3,178 cases, 2,497 hospitalizations, 1 death), the number of cases decreased 22.2% and the number of hospitalizations decreased 24.5%. From epidemiological weeks 1–52 of 2022, there were 367,729 dengue cases and 140 deaths (CFR 0.04%) cumulatively reported in Viet Nam (Figure 7). Compared to the same period in 2021 (72,88 cases and 27 deaths, CFR 0.04%), the cumulative number of cases was 5 times higher.

Southern Hemisphere

Australia

There have been no new updates since the last report. There were 26 dengue cases reported in Australia during the reported fortnight (28 November to 11 December 2022). In 2022, the number of cases is remained low at 331 for the year to 11 December 2022, compared with the trend for the years before 2020 (Figure 8). This may be attributed to COVID-19 related travel restrictions in 2020-2021. Prior to COVID-19, Australia had seen notifications in overseas-acquired cases from travellers returning from dengue endemic areas.
**Pacific Islands Countries**

**New Caledonia**

There are no further updates since the previous report. From 1 January to 30 November 2022, 3 confirmed dengue cases were reported in New Caledonia (Figure 9). This is lower compared to the same period in 2021 when a total of 116 dengue cases were reported. Of the 3 confirmed dengue cases in 2022, two were imported cases. All 3 dengue cases were DENV-2.

![Figure 9: Dengue cases reported by week from 2020 to 2022 in New Caledonia](source)

**Pacific Island Countries and Areas (PICs) – Dengue-like illness (DLI) Surveillance**

During epidemiological week 1 of 2023, Pacific Island Countries and Areas with available surveillance data (12/18 PICs) are reporting no or low numbers of DLI cases. Fiji, French Polynesia, Vanuatu, and Wallis & Futuna reported a higher weekly number of cases compared with the corresponding epidemiological week of 2021.

![Cook Islands DLI Trend - 2021 -2022 (W50)](source)

![Fiji DLI Trend - 2021 -2022 (W50)](source)
Figure 10. Reported cases of dengue-like illness in Pacific Islands Countries and Areas

Source: WHO Division of Pacific Technical Support

*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.

FSM: Federated States of Micronesia