Update on the Dengue situation in the Western Pacific Region

Northern Hemisphere

Cambodia
As of epidemiological week 18, 2021, a total of 578 dengue cases, including one death, have been reported in Cambodia. This cumulative number of cases represents a decrease of 72.4% compared to the number of cases reported during the same period in 2020 (n=2,095). 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 (No update)
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 18 of 2021, 14 dengue cases and no deaths were reported in Lao People’s Democratic Republic (Figure 3). The number of cases reported as of epidemiological week 18 2021 is 231; this is 3.7 times lower compared to the same period in 2020 when 858 cases were reported. The trend is within seasonally expected levels.

Figure 3: Dengue cases reported weekly in 2015-2021
Source: National Centre for Laboratory and Epidemiology, Ministry of Health, Lao PDR

Malaysia
During epidemiological week 18, 2021, a total of 445 dengue cases with no deaths were reported. As of 8 May 2021, the cumulative number of reported cases is 9,715. This is a significant decrease compared to 40,397 cases reported during the same period in 2020. As of epidemiological week 18, a total of five deaths due to dengue have been reported in 2021, compared to 68 deaths during the same period in 2020.

Figure 4: Dengue cases reported weekly in 2020 and 2021
Source: Department of Health, Malaysia
Philippines (No update)
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.

Singapore
In epidemiological week 18 of 2021, 117 dengue cases were reported in Singapore and a total of 2,416 cases have been reported since epidemiological week 1 of 2021 (Figure 6). Weekly trends are within expected seasonal levels.
**Viet Nam**
During week 18 of 2021, there were 885 cases and no deaths reported from 35 out of 63 provinces. The number of cases decreased by 0.7% compared to the previous week (891 cases, no deaths). As of 9 May 2021, a total of 24,000 cases of dengue, including five deaths, have been reported in Viet Nam. Compared to the same period in 2020 (25,889 cases including three deaths), the cumulative number of cases decreased by 7.3%, with two more deaths reported.

![Dengue cases and deaths reported weekly in 2020-2021](image)

**Southern Hemisphere**

**Australia**
As of 18 May 2021, one dengue case has 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.

![Laboratory-confirmed dengue cases reported monthly in 2015-2021](image)
Pacific Islands Countries

Cook Islands (No update)
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
During epidemiological weeks 15 and 16 of 2021, one probable case was detected out of 40 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
New Caledonia
During epidemiological weeks 1 to 19 of 2021, a total of 97 dengue cases were reported in New Caledonia, including 79 confirmed cases, 17 probable cases, and one suspected case (Figure 11). This is an increase compared to the same period in 2020 when a total of 34 cases were reported. DENV-2 was detected in 63 out of the 79 confirmed cases as of 18 May 2021.

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

Wallis and Futuna (No update)
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).

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

In the Pacific Island Countries and Areas, during epidemiological week 18 of 2021, there was an increase in DLI cases reported in French Polynesia, Kiribati, Solomon Islands, New Caledonia, and Wallis and Futuna. Meanwhile, the number of DLI cases reported in Fiji has continued to decrease (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