World Health Organization Western Pacific Region

Dengue Situation Update

3 June 2014

Regional dengue activity is variable. The recent trend for dengue is increasing in Cambodia, Lao PDR, Malaysia and Singapore. Compared to 2013, Malaysia was the only country of these four where 2014 was substantially higher compared to the same period in 2013.

Dengue virus infection in the Pacific Region

High level of dengue activity is being observed in a number of Pacific Island Countries and Areas (PICs). Dengue virus serotype 2 (DENV-2) has recently been isolated in Tuvalu in spite of DENV-3 being the current predominant strain. In 2013, DENV-3 re-emerged in several countries and territories in the South Pacific after nearly 20 years. DENV-1 is also circulating in a number of PICs. WHO is closely monitoring the situation in the Region, especially with regard to serotype circulation.

In **French Polynesia**, the dengue epidemic continues. As of 28 May 2014 the total number of positive cases of dengue reported since February 2013 is 2,188.

In the **Solomon Islands**, a DENV-3 outbreak is occurring. As of 23 May 2014, 1,513 cases have been reported since January 2014. In the past week, 124 suspected cases were reported. Dengue mosquito surveys in high transmission areas are being conducted, to determine, among other things, the effectiveness of current vector control measures as well as give an indication of the current endemic vector/disease dynamic.

In **Tuvalu**, DENV-2 has been identified in samples sent to the Institut Louis Malarde (ILM) reference laboratory, French Polynesia. Of the 46 specimens that were sent to ILM, 26 were positive (RT-PCR) for dengue virus serotype 2. Response measures have been carried out and this includes: cleaning campaigns, spraying and live radio programs.

In **Nauru**, 221 suspected dengue cases have been tested by IgM ELISA and/or rapid test with NS1/IgM; 70 have tested positive. Confirmation of circulating serotype(s) is underway and samples will be sent to ILM reference laboratory in French Polynesia. The number of cases continues to decrease.

Zika virus infection in the Pacific region

Recently, a number of islands and territories have detected zika virus.

In **Cook Islands**, the outbreak is largely over. Only 4 new cases were reported this week. The total number of suspected cases since the beginning of the outbreak (13 February, 2014) is 932.

Zika virus infection is usually a mild disease; no hospitalizations directly related to acute infection have been reported. However, recently, a more severe single case of zika

infection complicated by dengue co-infection has been reported in French Polynesia (http://www.eurosurveillance.org/ViewArticle.aspx?ArticleId=20720). Hence, disease severity and clinical presentation in zika infections need to be monitored closely; further, the results of studies examining the impact of underlying dengue infection for zika clinical disease severity need to be considered for assessing the overall public health risk of zika infection.

Table. Reported number of dengue cases in 2014 and 2013 (for the same time period), by country* NA: Not applicable

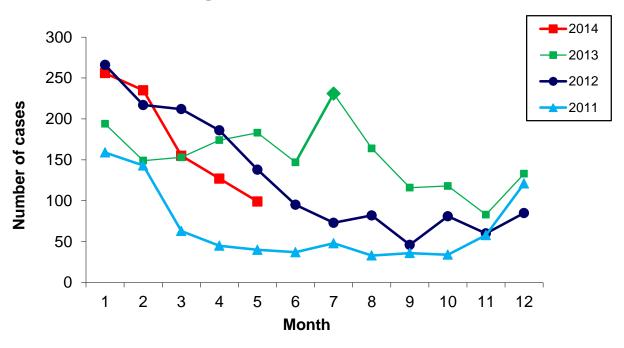
	Recent trend**	Reporting Period	No. reported cases per latest reporting period		Cumulative No. reported cases (deaths)		2014/ 2013 ratio
			2014	2013	2014	2013	
Australia***	\	May	99	183	872(NA)	853 (NA)	1.0
Cambodia	↑	14-20 May	53	306	482(1)	2,865 (15)	0.2
Lao PDR	↑	17-23 May	73	930	640 (0)	5,166 (22)	0.1
Malaysia	1	11-17 May	1,279	503	33,456(68)	9,330 (16)	3.6
Philippines	\	11-17 May	99	2,164	21,690(91)	43,518(185)	0.5
Singapore	1	18-24 May	434	641	6,024(NA)	7,731NA)	0.8
Viet Nam	\downarrow	March	1,239	2,434	3,820 (2)	9,953 (10)	0.4
New Caledonia	\	16-23 May	8	267	286(NA)	9,834(NA)	0.03

^{*}Dengue reporting systems vary by country and any change in the surveillance system over time is not reflected in the above figures. Number of reported cases listed for 2014 and 2013 are for the same time period for each year.

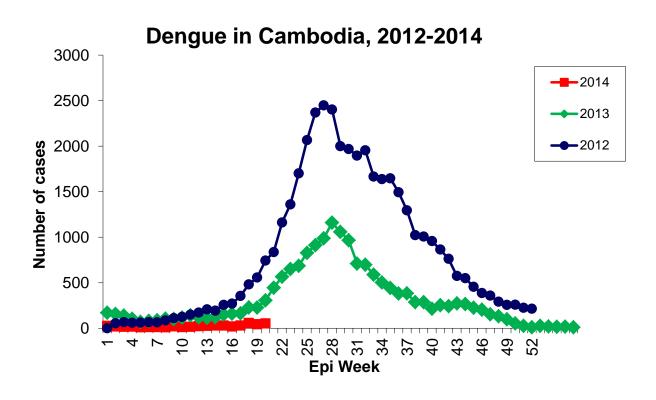
^{**}Recent trend is based on the 3 week moving average for countries reporting by week and monthly comparisons for the last complete month for countries reporting by month.

^{***}Australia: Aedes aegypti and Aedes albopictus are present only in Northern Queensland and Torres Strait Islands.

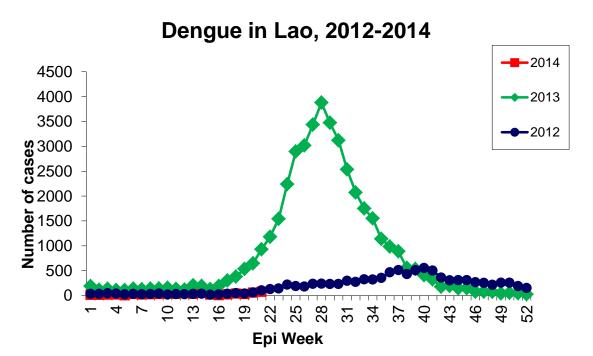
Dengue in Australia, 2011-14



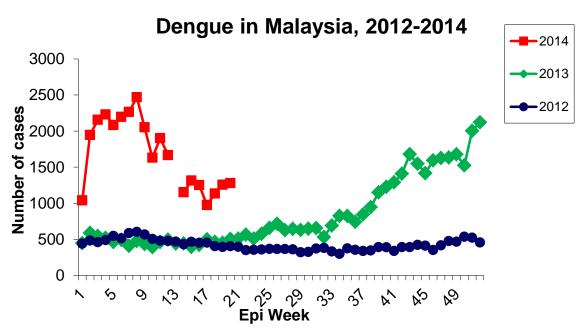
Australia up to May 2014 (Source: Department of Health)



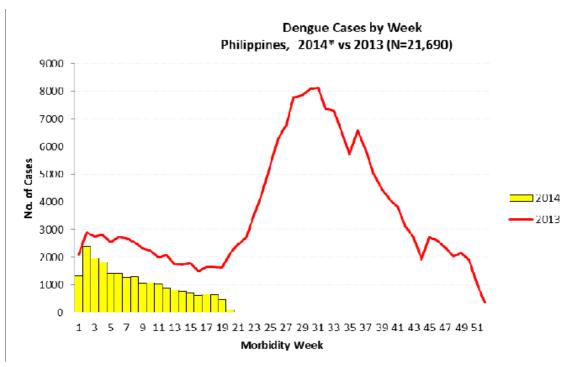
Cambodia up to 20 May 2014 (Source: Ministry of Health)



Lao PDR up to 23 May 2014 (Source: Ministry of Health)

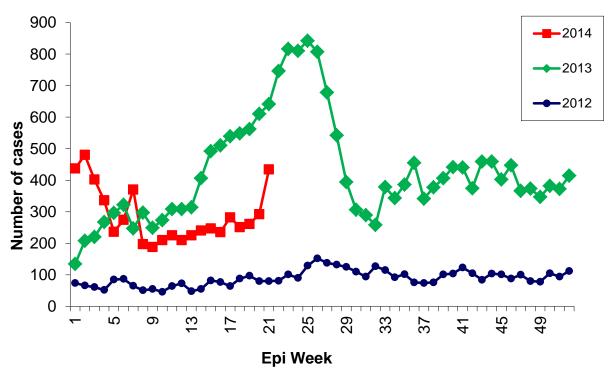


(Source: National Center for Laboratory and Epidemiology, Ministry of Health) Malaysia up to 17 May 2014 (Source: Ministry of Health)

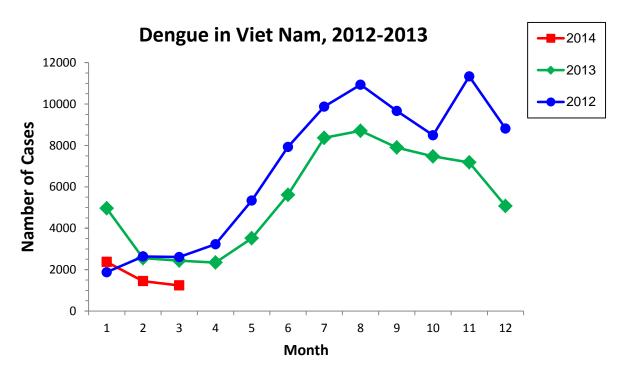


Philippines up to 17 May 2014* (Source: Department of Health National Epidemiology Center)

Dengue in Singapore, 2012-2014

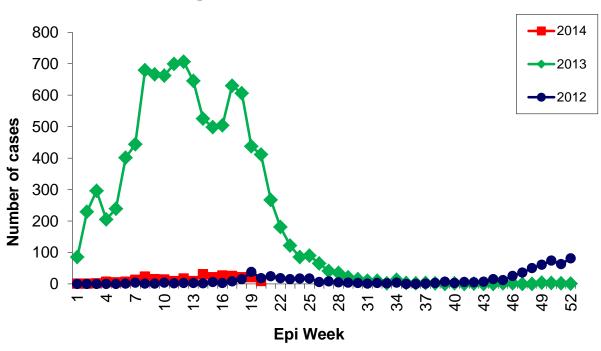


Singapore up to 24 May 2014 (Source: Ministry of Health)



Viet Nam up to March 2014 (Source: Ministry of Health)





New Caledonia up to 23 May 2014 (Source: Pacific Public Health Surveillance Network)