



Regional dengue activity is variable. **Malaysia** continues to report a greater number of reported cases in 2014 compared to 2013, for the same time period, however, the recent trend has decreased. **Australia** and **Singapore**, have reported a similar number of cases in 2014 compared to 2013, for the same time period. **Lao PDR** and the **Philippines** continued to report a decrease in trend whilst **Cambodia** reported a recent increase in trend, however the number of cases was much lower than 2013, for the same time period.

Dengue virus infection in the Pacific Region

High level of dengue activity is being observed in Fiji, New Caledonia and French Polynesia.

In **Fiji**, there are over 20,000 suspected dengue cases and a total of 12 confirmed dengue deaths. Majority (70%) of the cases were from the Central division, followed by the West (20%), the North (9.5%) and few from the East (0.5%). DENV-3 has been isolated. WHO, Australian Aid program (Fiji Health Sector Support Program), Fiji Red Cross, IFRC, US CDC, QUT (WHO CC Brisbane), UNICEF and SPC have provided technical and financial support to assist in the confirmation and response to the outbreak. This includes, the provision by WHO of dengue test kits. MOH are responding to the situation and has issued a National Dengue Action Plan with focus on strengthening dengue surveillance, dengue clinical management, dengue laboratory reporting and management, strengthen public health response, coordination and logistics for outbreak and improve communication.

In **New Caledonia**, as of 8 April 2014, there have been 154 cases of dengue since September 2013: 24 cases in 2013, 16 cases in January 2014, 58 cases in February, 56 cases in March and 24 cases in April 2014. Given the high level of activity in the region and the increasing number of cases with zika virus infection, arboviral surveillance and public health response measures have been reviewed and strengthened. DENV-3 has been isolated in addition to DENV-1 (isolated in an imported case) from cases occurring in New Caledonia.

In **French Polynesia**, the dengue cases reported continue to decline each week. As of 28 Mar 2014, the total number of cases is 1,865 and there has been one death. Since the first quarter of 2014, the number is decreasing: 146 in January, 127 in February and 102 cases in March. Both dengue serotype-1 and serotype-3 were isolated.

Dengue virus serotype 3 (DENV-3), to which a large proportion of the population of the Pacific Islands is likely to be susceptible has been recently isolated in the Region and is now co-circulating with serotype 1 (DENV-1). Dengue virus serotype 3 has recently re-emerged in several countries and territories in the South Pacific after nearly 20 years.

WHO is closely monitoring the situation in the Region, especially with regard to serotype circulation.

Zika virus infection in the Pacific region

Recently, a number of islands and territories have detected zika virus including French Polynesia, New Caledonia and Cook Islands.

In **French Polynesia**, there were 8,700 suspected cases of zika virus infection reported by the health professionals sentinel network since early October 2013. All islands of French Polynesia have been affected, and in all islands, the epidemic seems to have entered a phase of decline.

In **New Caledonia**, the Department of Health and Social Affairs had detected the first indigenous case of zika virus infection on 19 Jan 2014. Since then, indigenous transmission has been on the rise in New Caledonia. As of 27 Mar, there have been 352 confirmed cases of zika virus since 25 November 2013. Of these, 320/352 (91%) were locally transmitted cases and 32/352 (9%) imported from French Polynesia. Current public health surveillance and response measures aimed at arboviruses in New Caledonia were reviewed and strengthened. Surveillance and response capacities are strong and at this stage, WHO assistance has not been requested. WHO continues to monitor the situation closely.

In **Cook Islands**, an outbreak of zika virus has been declared by health authorities. As of March 23, 2014, 49 laboratory-confirmed cases and 648 suspected cases have been reported. Health authorities are currently responding to and implementing measures to control the outbreak.

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

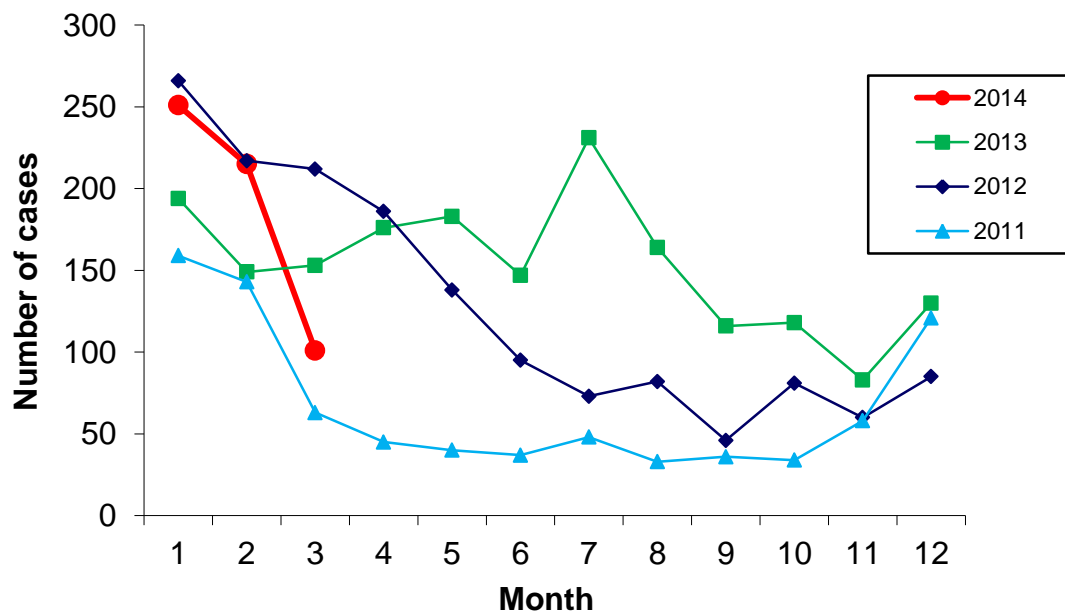
	Recent trend**	No. reported cases per latest reporting period (week (w) or month (m))	Reporting Period	No. reported cases per same reporting period in 2013 (week (w) or month (m))	Cumulative No. reported cases (deaths)		2014 /2013 ratio
					2014	2013	
Australia***	↓	101/m	March	153/m	567 (NA)	496 (NA)	1.1
Cambodia	↑	21/w	1 – 25 Mar	120/w	192 (1)	1393 (6)	0.1
Lao PDR	↓	34/w	21 – 28 Mar	206/w	336 (0)	1861 (5)	0.2
Malaysia	↓	1666/w	16 – 22 Mar	495/w	23633 (58)	5 716 (14)	4.1
Philippines	↓	95/w	up to 29 Mar	1 757/w	15374 (62)	31407(125)	0.5
Singapore	↑	225/w	23 - 29 Mar	314/w	3782 (NA)	3 431 (NA)	1.1
Viet Nam	↓	2373/m	January	4962/m	2373 (1)	4 962 (7)	0.5
New Caledonia	↑	31/w	up to 8 Apr	525/w	154 (NA)	6 481 (NA)	0.02

*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.

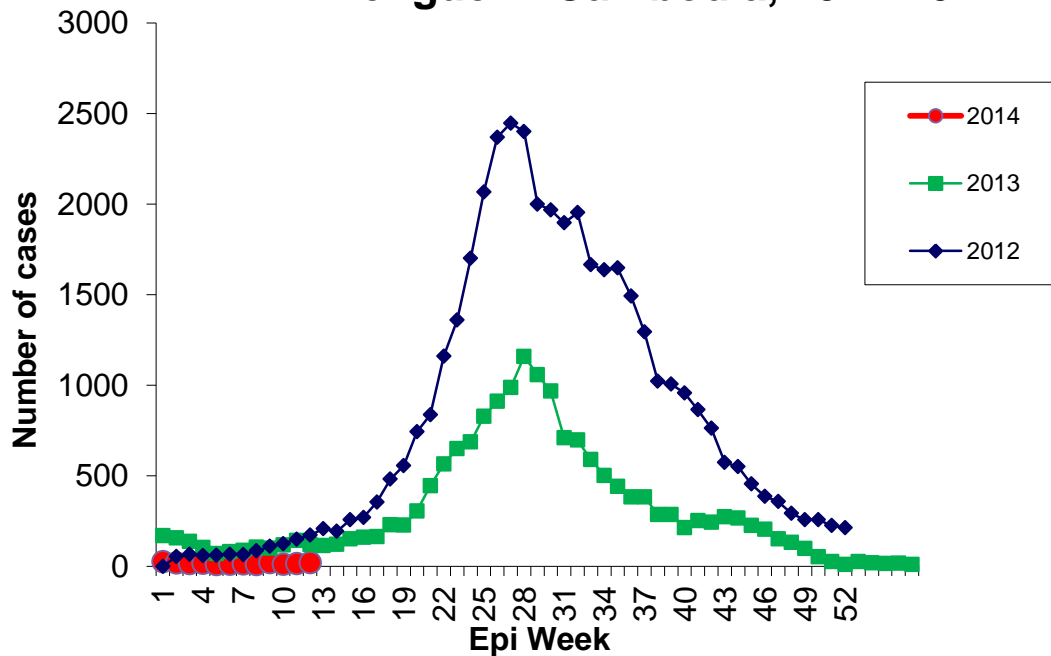
***Australia: *Aedes aegypti* and *Aedes albopictus* are present only in Northern Queensland and Torres Strait Islands.

Dengue in Australia, 2011-14



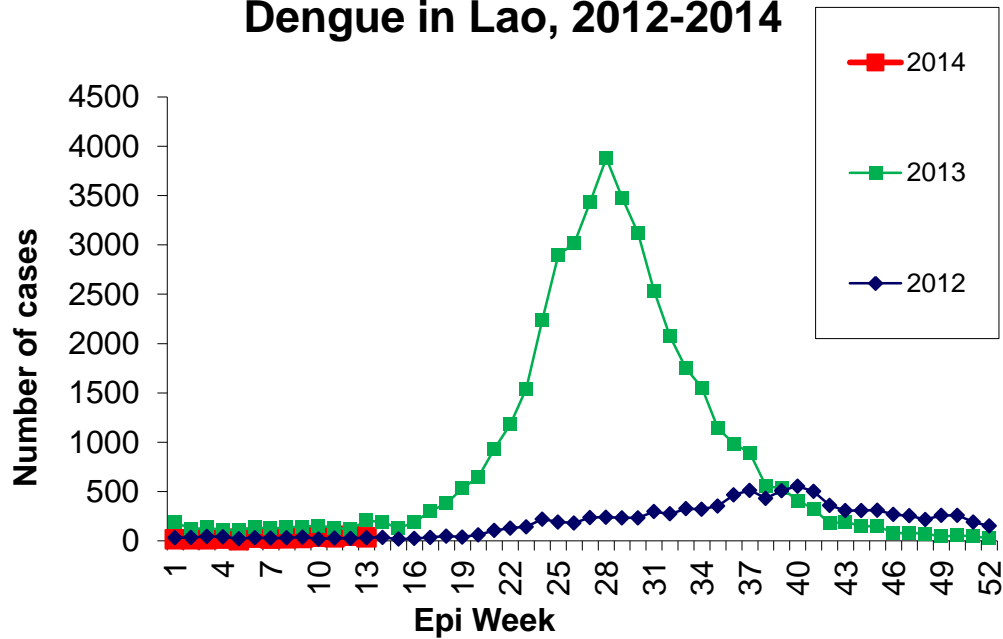
Australia up to March 2014 (Source: Dept of Health)

Dengue in Cambodia, 2012-2014



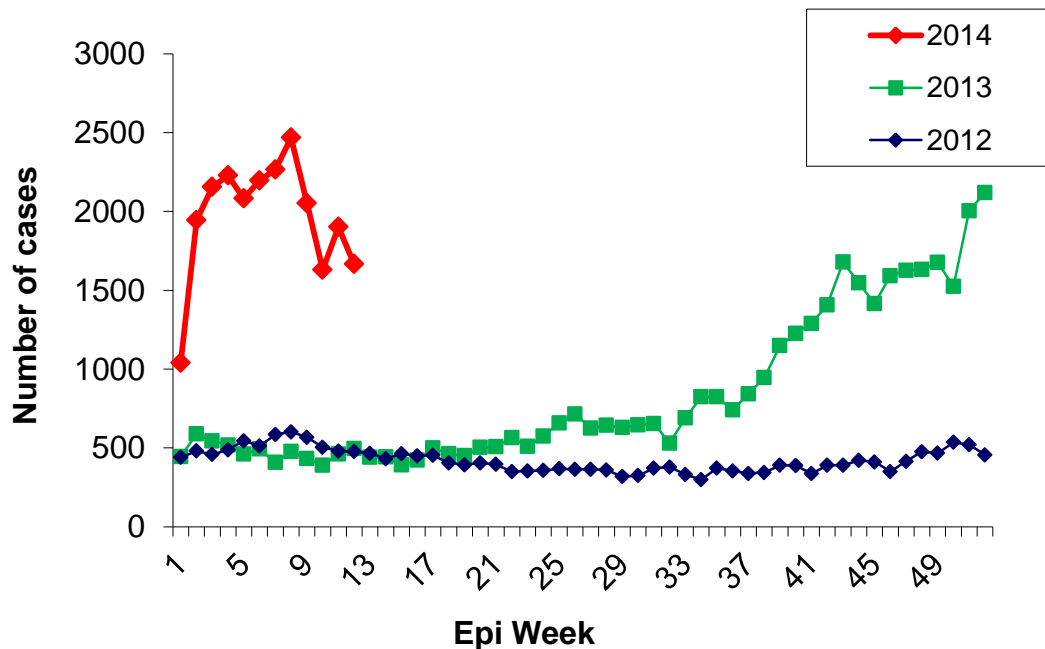
Cambodia up to 25 March 2014 (Source: Ministry of Health)

Dengue in Lao, 2012-2014



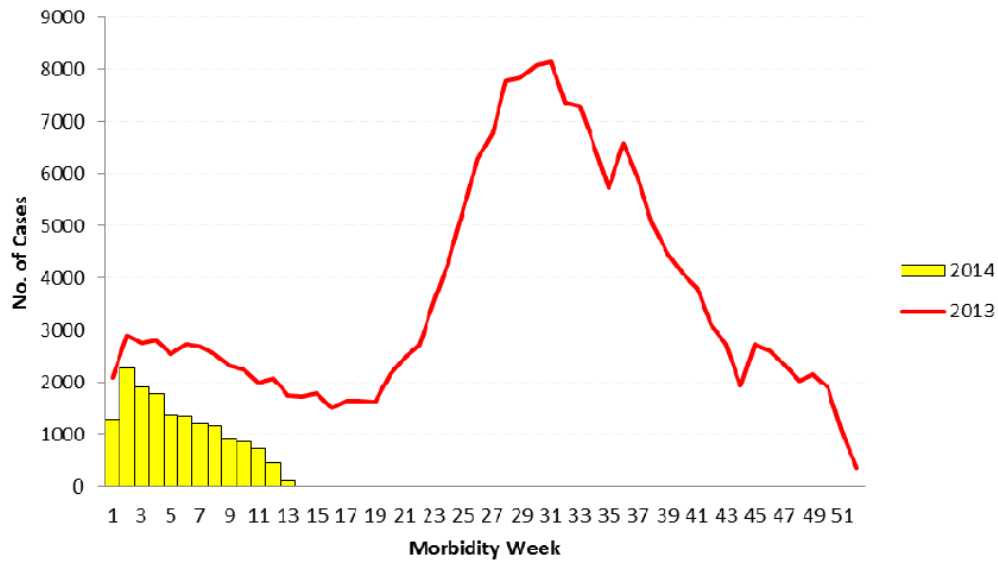
Lao PDR up to 28 March 2014 (Source: Ministry of Health)

Dengue in Malaysia, 2012-2014



(Source: National Center for Laboratory and Epidemiology, Ministry of Health)
 Malaysia up to 22 March 2014 (Source: Ministry of Health)

Dengue in Philippines, 2012-2013

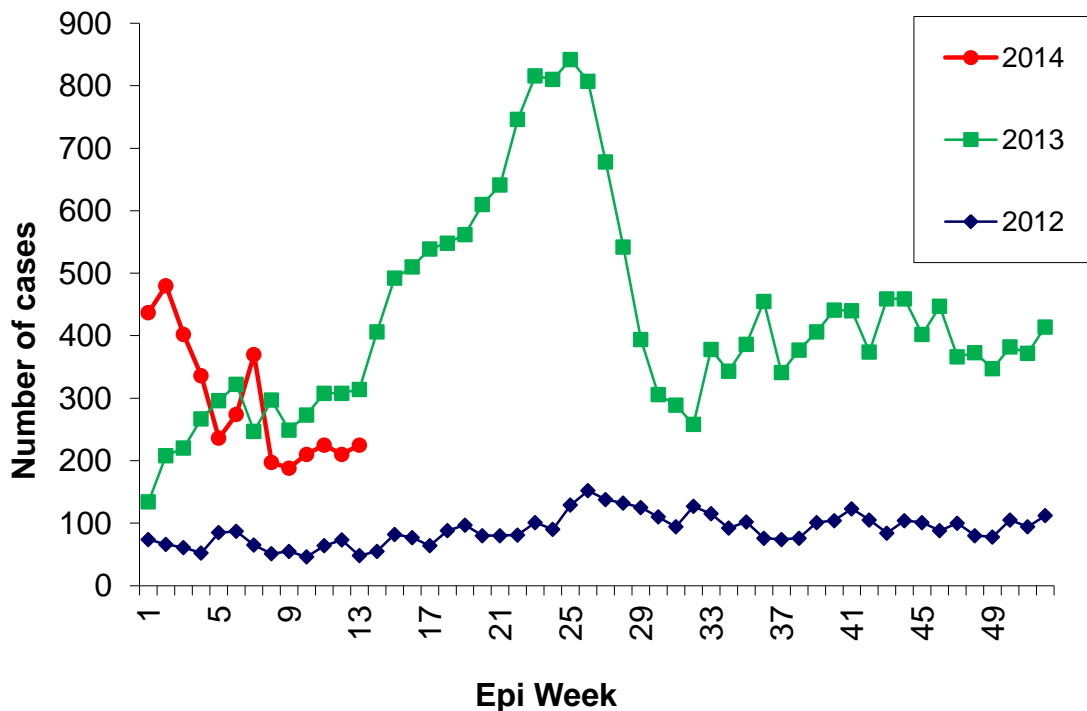


Philippines up to 29 March 2014*

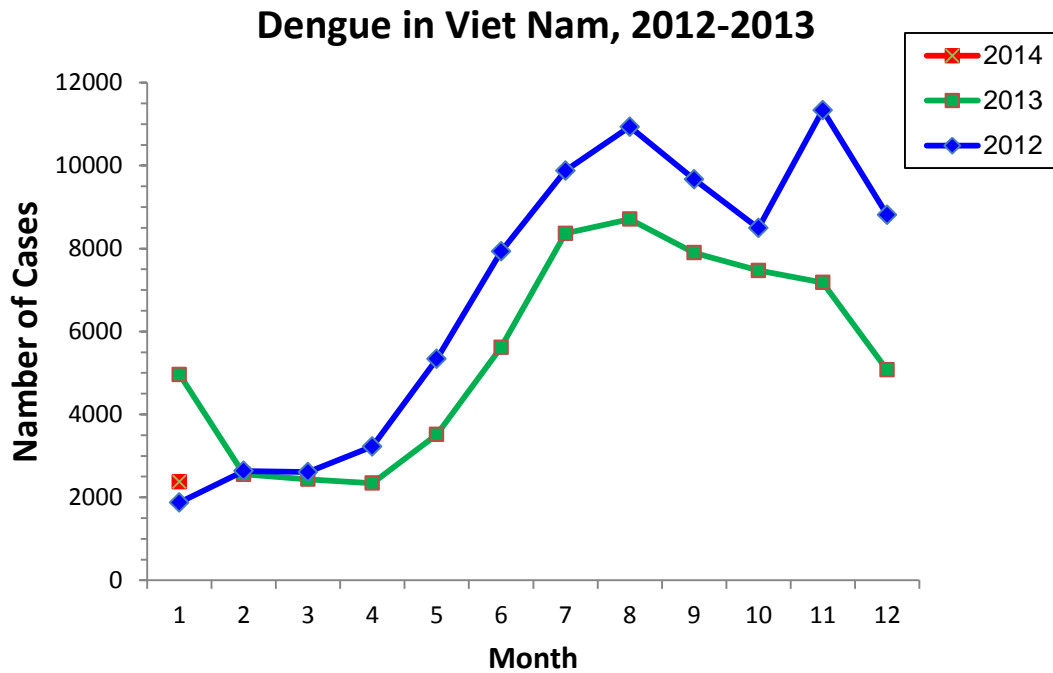
(Source: Department of Health National Epidemiology Center)

*more updated figure see above table

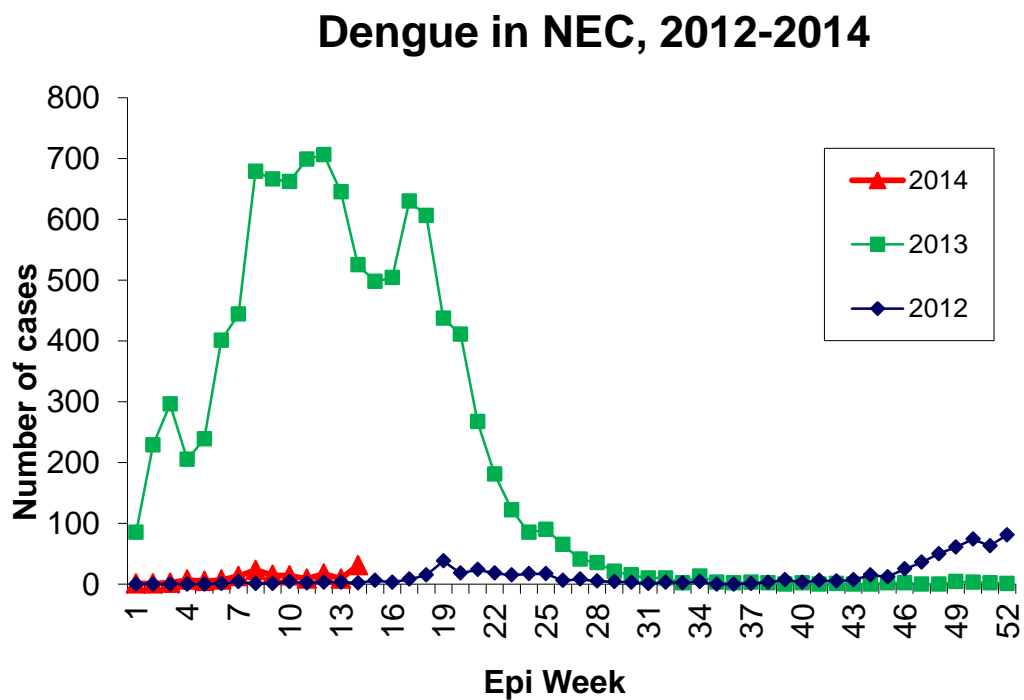
Dengue in Singapore, 2012-2014



Singapore up to 29 March 2014 (Source: Ministry of Health)



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



New Caledonia up to 8 April 2014
(Source: Pacific Public Health Surveillance Network)