



## COMMUNICABLE DISEASE THREATS REPORT

# CDTR Week 25, 20-26 June 2021

All users

This weekly bulletin provides updates on threats monitored by ECDC.

## I. Executive summary EU Threats

## COVID-19 associated with SARS-CoV-2 – Multi-country (World) – 2019 - 2021

Opening date: 7 January 2020 Latest update: 24 June 2021

On 31 December 2019, the Wuhan Municipal Health and Health Commission reported a cluster of pneumonia cases of unknown aetiology with a common source of exposure at Wuhan's 'South China Seafood City' market. Further investigations identified a novel coronavirus as the causative agent of respiratory symptoms for these cases. The outbreak rapidly evolved, affecting other parts of China and other countries worldwide. On 30 January 2020, WHO declared that the outbreak of coronavirus disease (COVID-19) constituted a Public Health Emergency of International Concern (PHEIC), accepting the Committee's advice and issuing temporary recommendations under the International Health Regulations (IHR). On 11 March 2020, the Director-General of WHO declared the COVID-19 outbreak a pandemic.

#### →Update of the week

Since week 2021-23 and as of week 2021-24, 2 505 508 new cases of COVID-19 (in accordance with the applied case definitions and testing strategies in the affected countries) and 63 511 new deaths have been reported.

Since 31 December 2019 and as of week 2021-24, 179 076 697 cases of COVID-19 (in accordance with the applied case definitions and testing strategies in the affected countries) have been reported, including 3 876 667 deaths.

In the EU/EEA, 33 034 232 cases have been reported, including 736 545 deaths.

More details are available here. The latest daily situation update for the EU/EEA is available here.

## Mass gathering monitoring- Multi-country- UEFA European Football Championship 2020 (2021)

Opening date: 3 June 2021

Latest update: 24 June 2021

The UEFA European Football Championship (UEFA EURO 2020), which was postponed in March 2020 due to the COVID-19 pandemic, takes place between 11 June and 11 July 2021. Eleven cities are hosting the matches, of which seven are in EU countries: Denmark, Germany, Hungary, Italy, the Netherlands, Romania, and Spain. Other cities are in Azerbaijan, Russia, England, and Scotland. Twenty-four teams will be playing with an estimated 460 000 spectators - a reduced capacity in hosting stadiums due to COVID-19 restrictions.

ECDC enhanced epidemic intelligence activities are intensified during the period 4 June and 16 July 2021, using a targeted and systematic screening approach on a daily basis and tailored tools.

→Update of the week

No significant events have been detected during the active daily monitoring from 18 to 23 June 2021. Updates for COVID-19 are provided.

## West Nile virus - Multi-country (World) - Monitoring season 2021

Opening date: 4 June 2021

Latest update: 24 June 2021

During the transmission season for West Nile virus (WNV), which usually runs from June to November, ECDC monitors the occurrence of infections in European Union (EU) and European Economic Area (EEA) and EU-neighbouring countries. ECDC publishes weekly epidemiological updates to inform blood safety authorities. Data reported through The European Surveillance System (TESSy) are presented at the NUTS 3 (nomenclature of territorial units for statistics 3) level for EU/EEA Member States and at the GAUL 1 (global administrative unit layers 1) level for EU-neighbouring countries.

→Update of the week

Between 18 and 23 June 2021, no European Union (EU) or European Economic Area (EEA) countries reported any human cases of West Nile virus (WNV) infection, and no EU-neighbouring countries reported any human cases of WNV infection.

#### Dengue outbreak - France, Réunion - 2021

Opening date: 29 April 2021

Latest update: 24 June 2021

A dengue epidemic is ongoing in France, Réunion.

→Update of the week

In Réunion, <u>French authorities</u> have reported 24 836 confirmed dengue cases for 2021, including 2 056 confirmed cases in week 22 and 1 474 cases in week 23, with the whole territory affected. Among the hospitalised dengue cases, 22% had severe dengue, which is a higher proportion than in 2019 (17%) and 2020 (16%). Fourteen deaths are considered to be directly related to dengue. This represents an increase of 4 036 cases since the last CDTR report with data as of 09 June 2021.

## Non EU Threats

## Ebola virus disease in Nzérékoré – Guinea – 2021

Opening date: 19 February 2021

Latest update: 24 June 2021

On 14 February 2021, an Ebola virus disease (EVD) outbreak was declared in the rural area of Gouécké in the N'zérékoré region, Guinea, by national health authorities. Just over four months later, on 19 June 2021, the outbreak was declared over. This outbreak resulted in 23 EVD cases (16 confirmed and seven probable), including 12 deaths.

→Update of the week

On 19 June 2021, the outbreak in Guinea was officially declared over, just over four months after the outbreak was declared

WHO will continue to support Guinea in its efforts to remain vigilant, maintain surveillance, and build capacity to respond rapidly to any possible resurgence of the virus.

# **II. Detailed reports**

## COVID-19 associated with SARS-CoV-2 – Multi-country (World) – 2019 - 2021

Opening date: 7 January 2020 Latest update: 24 June 2021

## Epidemiological summary

**Summary:** Since 31 December 2019 and as of week 2021-24, 179 076 697 cases of COVID-19 (in accordance with the applied case definitions and testing strategies in the affected countries) have been reported, including 3 876 667 deaths.

#### Cases have been reported from:

**Africa:** 5 212 918 cases; the five countries reporting most cases are South Africa (1 823 319), Morocco (526 651), Tunisia (382 950), Egypt (277 797) and Ethiopia (275 194).

**Asia:** 48 223 384 cases; the five countries reporting most cases are India (29 935 221), Iran (3 095 135), Indonesia (1 989 909), Philippines (1 359 015) and Iraq (1 292 700).

America: 71 244 692 cases; the five countries reporting most cases are United States (33 542 378), Brazil (17 921 728),

Argentina (4 277 332), Colombia (3 968 405) and Mexico (2 478 551).

**Europe:** 54 314 804 cases; the five countries reporting most cases are France (5 757 311), Turkey (5 370 299), Russia (5 316 826), United Kingdom (4 630 040) and Italy (4 252 976).

**Oceania:** 80 194 cases; the five countries reporting most cases are Australia (30 331), French Polynesia (18 963), Papua New Guinea (17 013), Guam (8 284) and New Zealand (2 720).

Other: 705 cases have been reported from an international conveyance in Japan.

#### Deaths have been reported from:

Africa: 137 518 deaths; the five countries reporting most deaths are South Africa (58 702), Egypt (15 898), Tunisia (14 038), Morocco (9 238) and Ethiopia (4 283).

**Asia:** 707 100 deaths; the five countries reporting most deaths are India (388 135), Iran (82 965), Indonesia (54 662), Philippines (23 621) and Pakistan (22 007).

America: 1 872 111 deaths; the five countries reporting most deaths are United States (601 825), Brazil (502 825), Mexico (231 244), Peru (190 425) and Colombia (100 582).

**Europe:** 1 158 526 deaths; the five countries reporting most deaths are Russia (129 800), United Kingdom (127 976), Italy (127 270), France (110 767) and Germany (90 395).

**Oceania:** 1 406 deaths; the five countries reporting most deaths are Australia (910), Papua New Guinea (173), French Polynesia (142), Guam (139) and New Zealand (26).

**Other:** 6 deaths have been reported from an international conveyance in Japan.

#### EU/EEA:

As of week 2021-24, 33 034 232 cases have been reported in the EU/EEA: France (5 757 311), Italy (4 252 976), Spain (3 764 651), Germany (3 722 327), Poland (2 878 840), Netherlands (1 677 380), Czechia (1 666 082), Sweden (1 087 353), Romania (1 080 282), Belgium (1 079 701), Portugal (865 806), Hungary (807 630), Slovakia (777 837), Austria (645 532), Bulgaria (421 032), Greece (418 342), Croatia (359 184), Denmark (291 801), Lithuania (278 466), Ireland (268 932), Slovenia (257 066), Latvia (136 810), Estonia (130 818), Norway (129 332), Finland (94 334), Cyprus (73 643), Luxembourg (70 516), Malta (30 590), Iceland (6 630) and Liechtenstein (3 028).

As of week 2021-24, 736 545 deaths have been reported in the EU/EEA: Italy (127 270), France (110 767), Germany (90 395), Spain (80 689), Poland (74 829), Romania (32 391), Czechia (30 280), Hungary (29 959), Belgium (25 140), Bulgaria (17 990), Netherlands (17 705), Portugal (17 068), Sweden (14 608), Greece (12 548), Slovakia (12 496), Austria (10 417), Croatia (8 182), Ireland (4 941), Slovenia (4 741), Lithuania (4 371), Denmark (2 531), Latvia (2 496), Estonia (1 268), Finland (972), Luxembourg (818), Norway (790), Malta (420), Cyprus (374), Liechtenstein (59) and Iceland (30).

The latest daily situation update for the EU/EEA is available <u>here</u>.

#### Public Health Emergency of International Concern (PHEIC):

On 30 January 2020, the World Health Organization declared that the outbreak of COVID-19 constitutes a PHEIC. On 11 March 2020, the Director-General of <u>WHO</u> declared the COVID-19 outbreak a pandemic. The <u>third</u>, <u>fourth</u>, <u>fifth</u>, <u>sixth</u> and <u>seventh</u> International Health Regulations (IHR) Emergency Committee meeting for COVID-19 were held in Geneva on 30 April 2020, 31 July 2020, 29 October 2020, 14 January 2021 and 15 April 2021, respectively. The Committee concluded during these meetings that the COVID-19 pandemic continues to constitute a PHEIC.

DISCLAIMER: Notification rates for Sweden may be underestimated due to a database closure during week 24.

Source: ECDC

#### ECDC assessment

For the most recent risk assessment, please visit ECDC's dedicated webpage.

#### Actions

**Actions:** ECDC published the 15th update of its <u>rapid risk assessment</u> on 10 June 2021 and a <u>Threat Assessment Brief</u> on the implications of the circulation of SARS-CoV-2 Delta on 23 June 2021. A <u>dashboard</u> with the latest updates is available on ECDC's <u>website</u>.

Geographic distribution of 14-day cumulative number of reported COVID-19 cases per 100 000 population, worldwide, 2021-w23 to 2021-w24

<figure>

Administrative boundaries: © EuroGeographics © UN-FAO © Turkstat. The boundaries and names shown on this map do not imply official endorsement or acceptance by the European Union. Date of production: 24/06/2021

## Mass gathering monitoring- Multi-country- UEFA European Football Championship 2020 (2021)

Opening date: 3 June 2021

Latest update: 24 June 2021

## Epidemiological summary

No significant events have been detected during the active daily monitoring from 18 to 23 June 2021.

The list below refers to signals detected with potential risks to the UEFA EURO 2020 host and participating countries:

#### **COVID-19** related news

The <u>UK government</u> has confirmed on 22 June 2021 to increase the capacity in Wembley stadium, London, to 60 000 spectators (75% stadium capacity) for the semi-finals and final of the tournament (three games). Originally, it was intended to limit the crowd to 40 000 (50% capacity). All ticket holders will need to follow a number of strict entry requirements including having a negative COVID-19 test or proof of full vaccination with two doses received at least 14 days before the fixture.

An increase of COVID-19 has been recently observed in the  $\underline{UK}$  coinciding with the SARS-CoV-2 Delta variant becoming the dominating variant circulation in the country.

<u>Denmark</u> and <u>Finland</u> have reported 29 and 65 cases, respectively, linked to attendance at EURO 2020 games. Cases in Finland were detected at the crossing of the Russian border.

According to media and <u>WHO EURO 2020 explorer</u>, in the monitoring period SARS-CoV-2 infection was detected in several players of the following national teams: Scotland.

#### ECDC assessment

In the countries where mass gathering events such as the UEFA European Football Championship take place, in the absence of sufficient mitigation measures the risk of local and pan-European transmission risk of COVID-19, including the spread of variants of concern, is expected to increase. Options for COVID-19 response are described in ECDC's <u>latest COVID-19 rapid risk</u> assessment, published on 10 June 2021.

COVID-19-related country profiles in the EU/EEA can be found <u>here</u>, and for countries outside the EU/EEA are available <u>here</u>.

The risk of becoming infected with other communicable diseases in UEFA-hosting countries varies, but is considered low if preventive measures are applied, e.g. being fully vaccinated according to the national immunisation schedule, following hand and food hygiene, respiratory etiquette, refraining from any activities and contacts if any symptoms occur, and seeking prompt testing and medical advice as needed.

#### Actions

ECDC is monitoring this event through its epidemic intelligence activities on a daily basis. ECDC published its Rapid Risk Assessment <u>Assessing SARS-CoV-2 circulation, variants of concern, non-pharmaceutical interventions and vaccine rollout in the</u> <u>EU/EEA, 15th update</u> on 10 June 2021, and its Threat Assessment Brief <u>Implications for the EU/EEA on the spread of the SARS-<u>CoV-2 Delta (B.1.617.2) variant of concern</u> on 23 June 2021.</u>

#### West Nile virus - Multi-country (World) - Monitoring season 2021

Opening date: 4 June 2021

Latest update: 24 June 2021

## Epidemiological summary

Between 18 and 23 June 2021, no European Union (EU) and European Economic Area (EEA) countries reported any human cases of West Nile virus (WNV) infection, and no EU-neighbouring countries reported any human cases of WNV infection.

Since the beginning of the 2021 transmission season and as of 23 June 2021, no EU/EEA countries have reported any human cases of WNV infection, and no EU-neighbouring countries have reported any human cases of WNV infection.

Since the beginning of the 2021 transmission season, no outbreaks among equids and no outbreaks among birds have been reported by EU/EEA countries.

**ECDC links:** <u>West Nile virus infection webpage</u> **Sources:** TESSy | Animal Disease Information System

#### **ECDC** assessment

No human cases or outbreaks among animals have been notified at this relatively early stage of the transmission season (week 25). In the previous five years, the first human WNV infections were reported to ECDC between weeks 23 and 28.

In accordance with <u>Commission Directive 2014/110/EU</u>, prospective donors should be deferred for 28 days after leaving a risk area for locally acquired WNV infection, unless the result of an individual nucleic acid test is negative.

### Actions

During transmission seasons, ECDC publishes a set of WNV transmission maps, a dashboard, and an epidemiological summary every Friday. ECDC is in contact with the Spanish authorities regarding a possible case of WNV infection in the province of Seville.

## Distribution of human West Nile virus infections by affected areas as of 23 June



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# Distribution of West Nile virus infections among humans and outbreaks among equids and/or birds in the EU as of 23 June



ECDC and ADIS

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#### Dengue outbreak - France, Réunion - 2021

Opening date: 29 April 2021

Latest update: 24 June 2021

## Epidemiological summary

Since 1 January and as of 21 June 2021, 24 836 confirmed dengue cases, including 14 deaths, have been reported for 2021, according to <u>French authorities</u>. In <u>2019</u> and <u>2020</u>, there were 18 206 and 16 050 cases, respectively. According to data submitted to The European Surveillance System, in 2019 there were 116 cases imported from Réunion to mainland EU/EEA in 2019, the majority of which were reported in mainland France.

#### ECDC assessment

Réunion is facing an outbreak of dengue of a higher magnitude than in 2019 and 2020. In those two years, the peaks of the epidemics were reached in week 16 (2019) and week 17 (2020); in 2021, the peak of the epidemic seems to have been reached between week 20 and 21, according to French authorities.

The likelihood of infection for EU/EEA citizens visiting or residing in Réunion is currently high if they do not apply protective measures, particularly in those communes where the circulation of the virus is intense. Personal protective measures against mosquito bites include the use of mosquito repellent, wearing long-sleeved shirts and long trousers, sleeping or resting in screened or air-conditioned rooms, and using mosquito nets.

The likelihood for onward transmission of dengue in mainland EU/EEA is linked to importation of the virus by viraemic travellers into receptive areas with established and active competent vectors (i.e. <u>Aedes albopictus</u>). Aedes albopictus is <u>established</u> in a large part of Europe. The current likelihood of the occurrence of local transmission events of dengue virus in mainland EU/EEA is medium, as the environmental conditions are becoming favourable for the growth of mosquito populations and virus replication of the vector, reaching high vector abundance in the summer and early autumn. To date, all autochthonous outbreaks of dengue in mainland EU/EEA occurred between July and November.

For a more detailed analysis about the dengue epidemiological situation in the Indian ocean region, consult ECDC's <u>monthly</u> <u>dengue reports</u>, the <u>ECDC factsheet</u> and <u>ARS Reunion</u>.

Link to ECDC CDTR web page – including related PowerPoint© slides

#### Actions

ECDC is monitoring this through its epidemic intelligence activities. ECDC produced a Threat Assessment Brief, <u>Dengue outbreak</u> <u>in Réunion, 2021</u>, which was published on 5 May 2021.

## Ebola virus disease in Nzérékoré – Guinea – 2021

Opening date: 19 February 2021 Latest update: 24 June 2021

## Epidemiological summary

During the outbreak (14 February–19 June 2021), 23 EVD cases (16 confirmed and seven probable), including 12 deaths (from five confirmed and seven probable cases) were identified. The last detected case was reported on 3 April 2021. Among the cases, five were in healthcare workers, resulting in two deaths (one confirmed and one probable case). All cases were reported from the N'zérékoré prefecture in the region of N'zérékoré. Ten patients with confirmed EVD recovered. One case from the N'zérékoré region was reported in a person who escaped, having refused to go into isolation in a healthcare facility.

According to WHO, an initial cluster of seven cases began with a patient (index case) who died on 28 January 2021, after having visited two healthcare facilities and a traditional practitioner. Five family members who attended the funeral on 1 February and the traditional practitioner showed Ebola-like symptoms. Five of the seven cases died. Two unsafe burials took place for these EVD patients.

The response was conducted by the Ministry of Health of Guinea, WHO, and Global Outbreak Alert and Response Network (GOARN) partners. WHO has supported the country in procuring an EVD vaccine, therapeutics, reagents, and personal protective equipment. A vaccination campaign began on 23 February and in total, 10 873 people were vaccinated, in the Conakry, Kindia, and N'zérékoré regions.

**Background:** Guinea was one of the three most-affected countries in the 2013-2016 West Africa EVD outbreak, which was the largest since the virus was first discovered in 1976, and during which there were over 28 000 cases, including around 11 000 deaths. The outbreak started in Guinea and then moved across land borders to Sierra Leone and Liberia.

Sources: <u>WHO regional office for Africa</u> | <u>Ministry of health of Guinea</u> | <u>Agence Nationale de Sécurité Sanitaire (ANSSrec)</u> | <u>WHO</u> <u>Disease Outbreak News</u> | <u>WHO Regional Office for Africa Twitter</u> | <u>ANSS report</u> | <u>Weekly Afro Bulletin</u>

#### ECDC assessment

The EVD cases in this outbreak were the first cases of the disease reported in Guinea since 2016. Based on <u>molecular studies</u>, the virus re-emerged from a persistently infected person after a long period of latency (five to seven years) from the 2013–2016 outbreak. Nevertheless, importation via travellers from an Ebola virus-endemic country or a spill-over event from animal reservoirs cannot be completely ruled out as potential sources of the outbreak. Some bat species are reservoir hosts for Ebola virus in Central Africa. However, the evidence for competent animal reservoirs of the virus in West Africa is inconclusive, and the role of other animals, such as non-human primates as (intermediate) hosts remains unclear (see the <u>Threat Assessment Brief</u> published on 22 February 2021 for more information).

#### Actions

ECDC will close the weekly update of this outbreak but will continue to monitor this event through its epidemic intelligence activities and report relevant news on an ad hoc basis. ECDC published a Threat Assessment Brief, <u>EVD outbreak in Guinea</u>, on 22 February 2021.

# Geographical distribution of confirmed and probable Ebola virus disease cases in Guinea, 2021 Source: ECDC



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