



COMMUNICABLE DISEASE THREATS REPORT

CDTR Week 39, 20-26 September 2020

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) – 2020

Opening date: 7 January 2020

Latest update: 25 September 2020

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 the 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 18 September 2020 and as of 25 September 2020, 2 080 866 new cases of coronavirus disease (COVID-19) (in accordance with the applied case definition in the countries) have been reported, including 37 375 new deaths.

Globally, the number of cases has increased from 30 214 496 to 32 295 362, and the number of deaths has risen from 946 665 to 984 040.

In the EU/EEA and the United Kingdom (UK), the number of cases has increased from 2 759 394 to 3 067 987 (+308 593 cases), and the number of deaths has risen from 185 533 to 187 876 (+2 343 deaths).

More details are available [here](#).

West Nile virus - Multi-country (World) - Monitoring season 2020

Opening date: 20 May 2020

Latest update: 25 September 2020

During the transmission season for West Nile virus, which usually runs from June to November, ECDC monitors the occurrence of infections in the EU/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 24 September 2020, EU Member States reported 34 human cases of WNV infection: Greece (14), Italy (9), Spain (6) and Germany (5). Three regions in Germany reported locally-acquired human cases of WNV infection for the first time (regions of Barnim, Ostprignitz-Ruppin and Saalekreis). All other cases were reported from areas that have been affected during previous transmission seasons. This week, seven deaths were reported by Greece (3), Italy (3) and Spain (1). No human cases of WNV infection or deaths were reported from EU neighbouring countries.

On 24 September 2020, [Spanish public health authorities](#) reported the first locally-acquired human WNV infection in the province of Badajoz. This case has not yet been reported through TESSy and is therefore not currently represented on the maps and in the Surveillance Atlas.

ECDC links: [West Nile virus infection atlas](#)

Sources: TESSy

Non EU Threats

Ebola virus disease - eleventh outbreak - Democratic Republic of the Congo - 2020

Opening date: 4 June 2020

Latest update: 25 September 2020

On 1 June 2020, the Ministry of Health of the Democratic Republic of the Congo (DRC) [declared](#) the 11th outbreak of Ebola virus disease (EVD) in the country. The outbreak is located in Equateur Province in the north-west of the country, close to the border with Congo.

→Update of the week

Since the last update and as of 22 September 2020, one additional case and no new deaths have been reported from Equateur Province in the DRC.

The new case was reported on 18 September 2020 in Lotumbe health zone.

Due to the risk of spread of Ebola between the DRC and the Republic of Congo, the two countries are strengthening the mechanisms of [cross-border collaboration](#).

Chikungunya and dengue – Multi-country (World) – Monitoring global outbreaks

Opening date: 27 January 2017

Latest update: 25 September 2020

Chikungunya virus disease and dengue are vector-borne diseases that affect 50–100 million people per year. In the past decade, an increasing number of countries have detected cases of dengue and chikungunya virus disease. Chikungunya virus disease has been circulating in Africa, Asia, the Americas, the Caribbean and the Pacific since 2013–2014. Dengue is also present in Africa, the Americas, Asia, the Caribbean and the Pacific. In 2020, France and Italy reported autochthonous dengue cases.

→ Update of the week

Chikungunya virus disease: The virus is widespread in the Americas region, with several countries reporting cases in 2020. Chikungunya virus disease cases have also been reported in Asia and Africa during this period. Since the previous CDTR update in August 2020, Brazil, Chad and Thailand have reported the majority of new cases.

Dengue: Since the beginning of the year, the countries reporting most cases are Brazil, Paraguay and Bolivia.

II. Detailed reports

COVID-19 associated with SARS-CoV-2 – Multi-country (World) – 2020

Opening date: 7 January 2020

Latest update: 25 September 2020

Epidemiological summary

Since 31 December 2019 and as of 25 September 2020, 32 295 362 cases of COVID-19 (in accordance with the applied case definitions and testing strategies in the affected countries) have been reported, including 984 040 deaths.

Cases have been reported from:

Africa: 1 438 186 cases; the five countries reporting most cases are South Africa (667 049), Morocco (110 099), Egypt (102 513), Ethiopia (71 687) and Nigeria (57 849).

Asia: 9 896 570 cases; the five countries reporting most cases are India (5 818 570), Iran (436 319), Bangladesh (355 384), Iraq (337 106) and Saudi Arabia (331 857).

America: 16 153 691 cases; the five countries reporting most cases are United States (6 978 417), Brazil (4 657 702), Colombia (790 823), Peru (788 930) and Mexico (715 457).

Europe: 4 773 538 cases; the five countries reporting most cases are Russia (1 128 836), Spain (704 209), France (497 237), United Kingdom (416 363) and Italy (304 323).

Oceania: 32 681 cases; the five countries reporting most cases are Australia (26 983), Guam (2 235), New Zealand (1 473), French Polynesia (1 332) and Papua New Guinea (531).

Other: 696 cases have been reported from an international conveyance in Japan.

Deaths have been reported from:

Africa: 34 703 deaths; the five countries reporting most deaths are South Africa (16 283), Egypt (5 835), Morocco (1 956), Algeria (1 703) and Ethiopia (1 148).

Asia: 183 063 deaths; the five countries reporting most deaths are India (92 290), Iran (25 015), Indonesia (10 105), Iraq (8 799) and Turkey (7 785).

America: 544 801 deaths; the five countries reporting most deaths are United States (202 810), Brazil (139 808), Mexico (75 439), Peru (31 938) and Colombia (24 924).

Europe: 220 526 deaths; the five countries reporting most deaths are United Kingdom (41 902), Italy (35 781), France (31 511), Spain (31 118) and Russia (19 948).

Oceania: 940 deaths; the five countries reporting most deaths are Australia (861), Guam (38), New Zealand (25), Papua New Guinea (7) and French Polynesia (5).

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

EU/EEA and the UK:

As of 25 September 2020, 3 067 987 cases have been reported in the EU/EEA and the UK: Spain (704 209), France (497 237), United Kingdom (416 363), Italy (304 323), Germany (280 223), Romania (118 054), Belgium (108 674), Netherlands (103 034), Sweden (90 289), Poland (82 809), Portugal (71 156), Czechia (58 374), Austria (41 246), Ireland (33 994), Denmark (24 916), Hungary (22 127), Bulgaria (19 573), Greece (16 627), Croatia (15 572), Norway (13 275), Finland (9 379), Luxembourg (8 158), Slovakia (7 629), Slovenia (4 816), Lithuania (4 070), Estonia (3 076), Malta (2 898), Iceland (2 512), Cyprus (1 663), Latvia (1 594) and Liechtenstein (117).

As of 25 September 2020, 187 876 deaths have been reported in the EU/EEA and the UK: United Kingdom (41 902), Italy (35 781), France (31 511), Spain (31 118), Belgium (9 965), Germany (9 443), Netherlands (6 303), Sweden (5 878), Romania (4 591), Poland (2 369), Portugal (1 931), Ireland (1 797), Bulgaria (785), Austria (783), Hungary (718), Denmark (645), Czechia (567), Greece (366), Finland (343), Norway (270), Croatia (261), Slovenia (135), Luxembourg (124), Lithuania (89), Estonia (64), Slovakia (41), Latvia (36), Malta (27), Cyprus (22), Iceland (10) and Liechtenstein (1).

EU:

As of 25 September 2020, 2 635 720 cases and 145 693 deaths have been reported in the EU.

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 the WHO](#) declared the COVID-19 outbreak a pandemic. The [third](#) and [fourth](#) International Health Regulations (IHR) Emergency Committee meeting for COVID-19 were held in Geneva on 30 April and 31 July 2020, respectively. The committee concluded during both meetings that the COVID-19 pandemic continues to constitute a PHEIC.

Sources: [Wuhan Municipal Health Commission](#) | [China CDC](#) | [WHO statement](#) | [WHO coronavirus website](#) | [ECDC 2019-nCoV](#)

[website](#) | [RAGIDA](#) | [WHO](#)

ECDC assessment

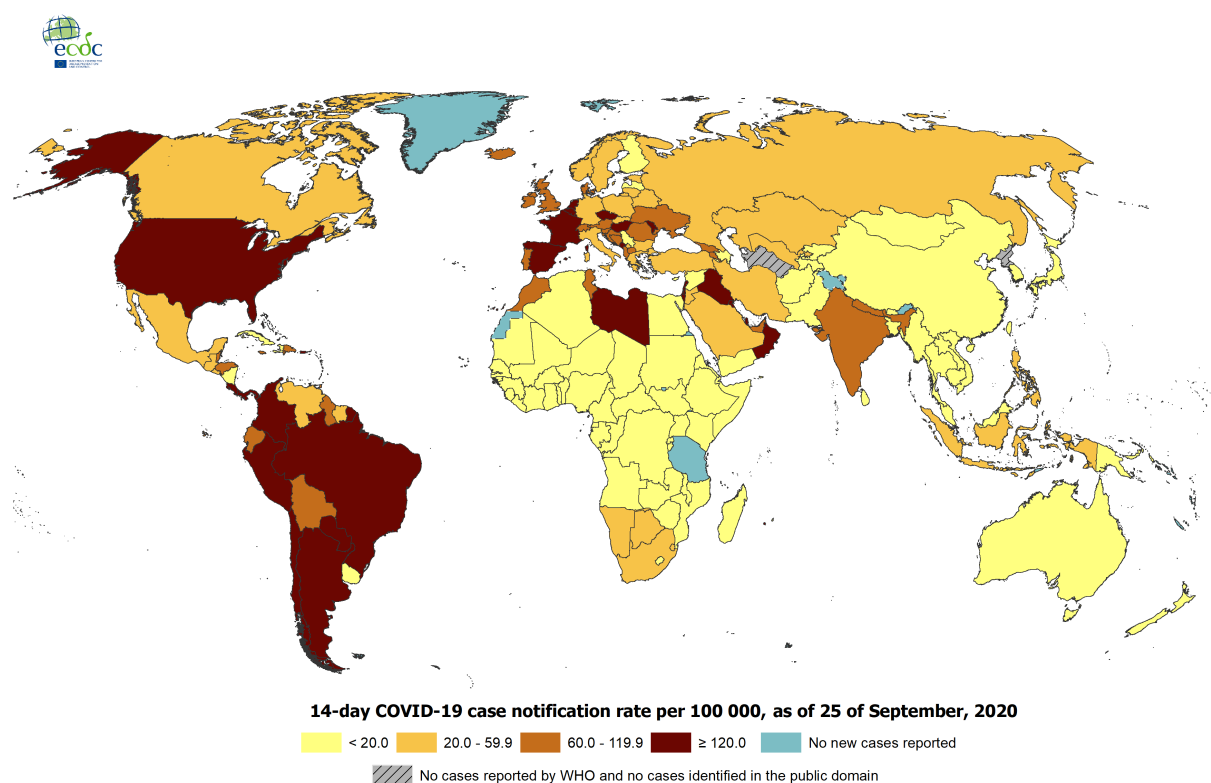
Information on the COVID-19 situation and a risk assessment can be found on [ECDC's website](#).

Actions

ECDC activities related to COVID-19 can be found on [ECDC's website](#).

Geographic distribution of 14-day cumulative number of reported COVID-19 cases per 100 000 population, worldwide, as of 25 September 2020

ECDC



The boundaries and names shown on this map do not imply official endorsement or acceptance by the European Union.

Date of production: 25/09/2020

West Nile virus - Multi-country (World) - Monitoring season 2020

Opening date: 20 May 2020

Latest update: 25 September 2020

Epidemiological summary

Between 18 and 24 September 2020, EU Member States reported 34 human cases of WNV infection: Greece (14), Italy (9), Spain (6) and Germany (5). Three regions in Germany reported locally-acquired human cases of WNV infection for the first time (regions of Barnim, Ostprignitz-Ruppin and Saalekreis). All other cases were reported from areas that have been affected during previous transmission seasons. This week, seven deaths were reported by Greece (3), Italy (3) and Spain (1). No human cases of WNV infection or deaths were reported from EU neighbouring countries.

On 24 September 2020, [Spanish public health authorities](#) reported the first locally-acquired human WNV infection in the province of Badajoz. This case has not yet been reported through TESSy and is therefore not currently represented on the maps and in the Surveillance Atlas.

Since the start of the 2020 transmission season and as of 24 September 2020, EU Member States have reported 243 human cases of WNV infection and 28 deaths through TESSy: Greece (123, including 19 deaths), Spain (67, including 6 deaths), Italy (41, including three deaths), Germany (5), Romania (4) and Hungary (3). Three regions in Germany reported autochthonous human cases of WNV infection for the first time (regions of Barnim, Ostprignitz-Ruppin and Saalekreis). All other cases were reported from areas that have been affected during previous transmission seasons. No cases have been reported from EU-neighbouring countries.

Since the beginning of the 2020 transmission season, 127 outbreaks among equids have been reported. These outbreaks have been reported by Spain (99), Germany (12), Italy (11), France (3), Hungary (1) and Portugal (1) through ADNS. No outbreaks among birds have been reported through ADNS.

ECDC links: [West Nile virus infection atlas](#)

Sources: TESSy | Animal Disease Notification System

ECDC assessment

Human WNV infections have been reported in six EU Member States (Greece, Spain, Italy, Germany, Romania and Hungary) in which WNV enzootic transmission between mosquitoes and birds has previously been described.

Between 2010 and 2019, Spain only reported five locally-acquired WNV infections: two cases in 2010 in the province of Cádiz and three cases in 2016 in the province of Seville. This week, Spain reported the first human case of WNV infection from the province of Badajoz ever detected. This is not unexpected as WNV infections among equids had already been reported in this province during the current transmission season.

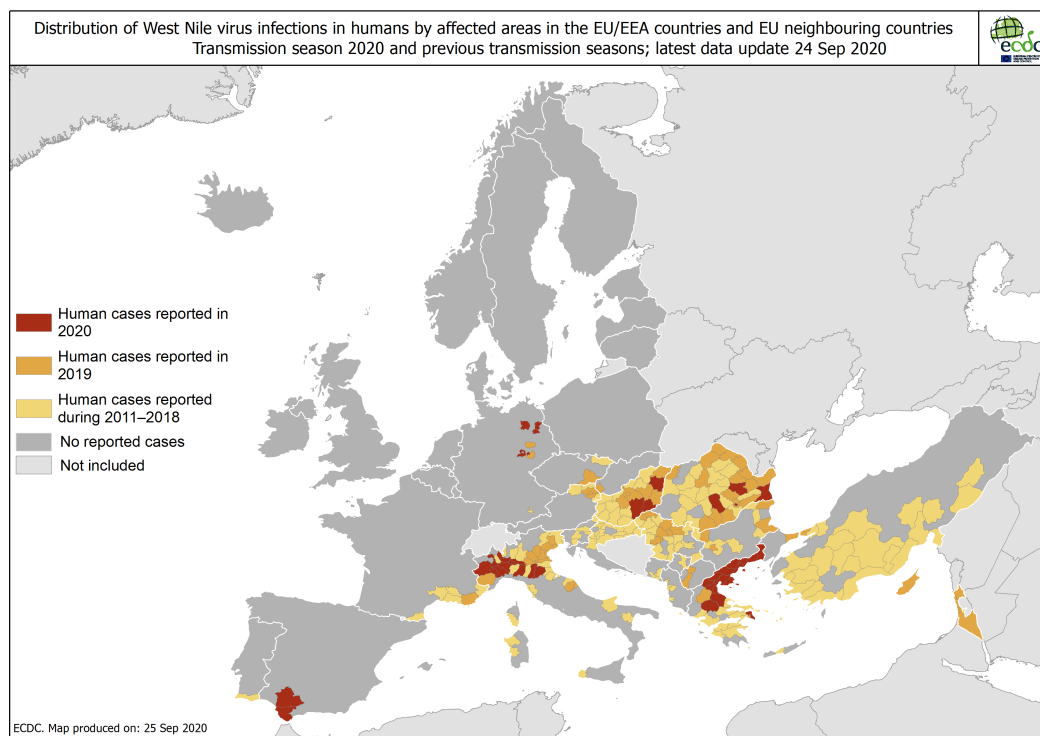
In accordance with Commission Directive 2014/110/EU, prospective donors should be deferred for 28 days after leaving a risk area for locally-acquired WNV infection, unless the result of an individual nucleic acid test is negative.

Actions

During the transmission seasons, ECDC publishes a set of WNV transmission maps and an epidemiological summary every Friday.

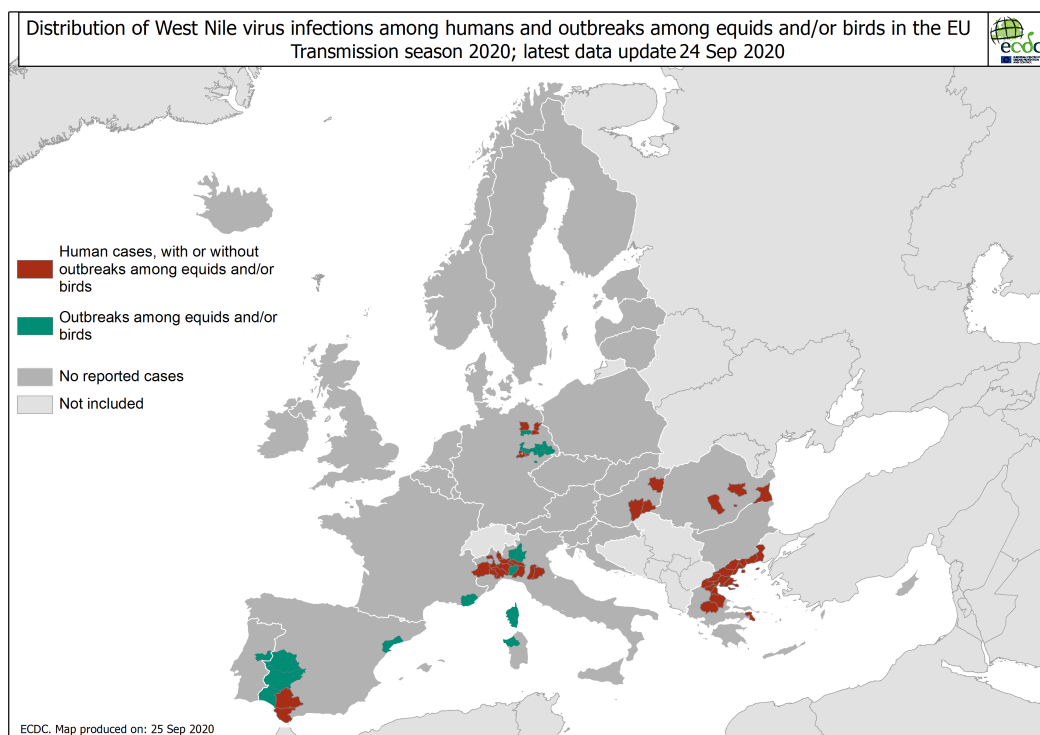
Distribution of human West Nile virus infections by affected areas as of 24 Sep

ECDC



Distribution of West Nile virus infections among humans and outbreaks among equids and/or birds in the EU as of 24 Sep

ECDC and ADNS



Ebola virus disease - eleventh outbreak - Democratic Republic of the Congo - 2020

7/15

Opening date: 4 June 2020

Latest update: 25 September 2020

Epidemiological summary

Since the start of the outbreak and as of 22 September 2020, a total of 124 cases (118 confirmed, six probable), including 50 deaths, have been reported from the Bikoro (32), Bolenge (1), Bolomba (13), Bomongo (2), Iboko (4), Ingende (13), Lilanga Bobangi (6), Lolanga Mampoko (7), Lotumbe (17), Mbandaka (25), Monieka (2) and Wangata (2) health zones in Equateur province of the DRC. Among the reported cases were three healthcare workers.

Since the beginning of the vaccination campaign with rVSV-ZEBOV-GP on 5 June 2020, 33 429 people have been vaccinated.

Background: Between May and July 2018, the [ninth Ebola outbreak](#) in the DRC occurred in Mbandaka, Bikoro and in the Equateur province, leading to a total of 54 cases, including 33 deaths. According to the World Health Organization, the current event seems to be separate from the [10th Ebola outbreak](#) in the eastern part of the country, which resulted in 3 470 cases, including 2 287 deaths and was declared over on 25 June 2020. [Sequencing](#) results confirm the new outbreak as a separate spill-over event. This is the DRC's [11th outbreak](#) of Ebola virus disease since 1976, when the virus was first discovered.

In addition to Ebola outbreaks, the country is currently affected by other major outbreaks such as COVID-19, cholera, monkeypox, polio and the bubonic plague.

Sources: [WHO DRC Twitter](#) | [WHO Afro Twitter](#) | [WHO Afro Sitrep](#) | [WHO Afro bulletin](#) | [WHO DON](#) | [WHO News item](#) | [Dr Tedros](#)

ECDC assessment

Ebola outbreaks in the DRC are recurrent, as the virus is present in animal reservoirs in many parts of the country. Implementing response measures is crucial, and a high level of surveillance is essential to detect and interrupt further transmission early on. Response measures can be challenging amid the other outbreaks ongoing in the country. In the past, cases among EU/EEA citizens infected with Ebola were mostly reported among healthcare workers deployed to support Ebola outbreak responses. As the current response is mostly conducted by locals, combined with the vaccine availability, this leads to a low likelihood of having EU/EEA citizens infected. For the general public living in the EU/EEA, there is a negligible likelihood of exposure, especially with current travel limitations.

WHO assessment: As of 3 September, [WHO's assessment](#) states that the risk is high at the regional level, high at the national level and low at the global level. A lack of funding and insufficient human resources is constraining the response, which is being further hampered by strikes among locally-based response teams and the ongoing COVID-19 outbreak. In addition, response teams are currently operating in a logistically challenging environment, with many of the affected areas only accessible by boat or helicopter and with limited telecommunications capacity. Further challenges include: inadequate surveillance of deaths in communities; sub-optimal clinical care; and limited laboratory capacity.

Actions

ECDC is monitoring this event through its epidemic intelligence activities. On 25 May 2018, ECDC published a rapid risk assessment on the ninth outbreak in the DRC: [Ebola virus disease outbreak in Equateur Province, Democratic Republic of the Congo, First update](#).

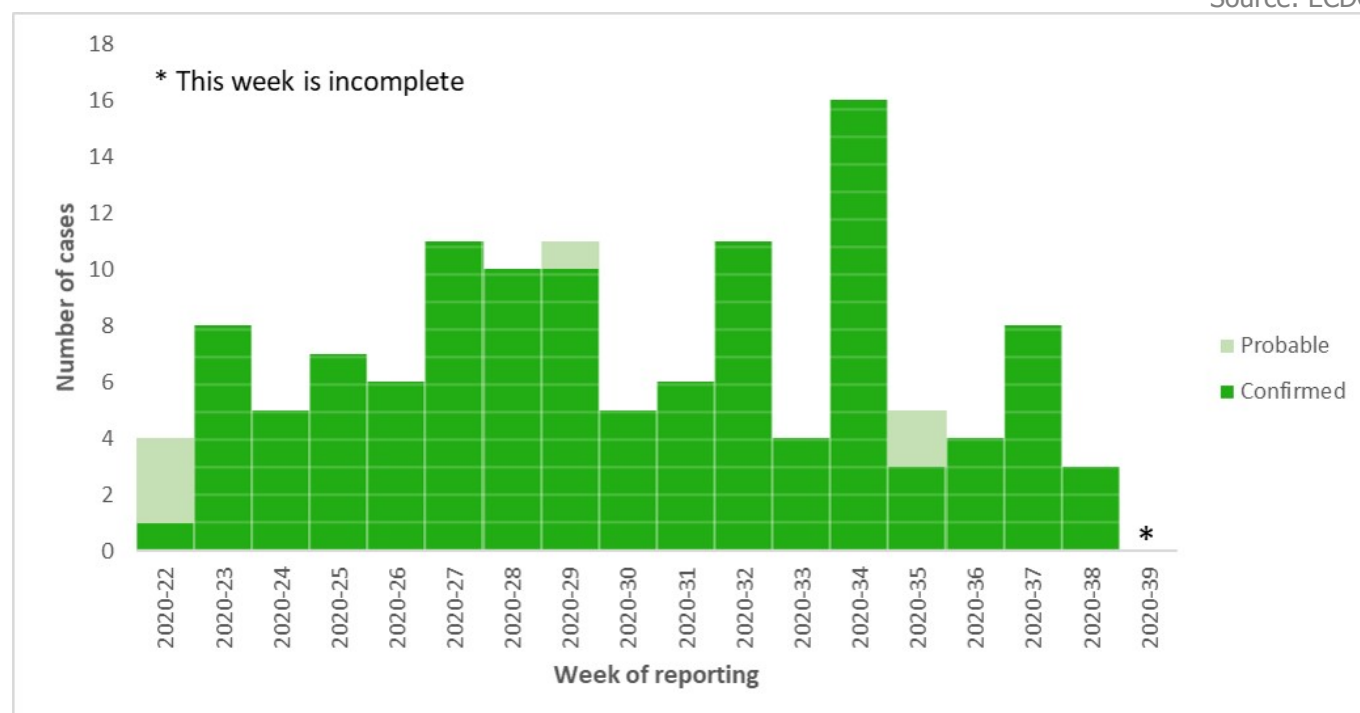
Distribution of Ebola Virus Disease cases in Equateur Province, Democratic Republic of the Congo, as of 22 September 2020

Source: ECDC

	Number of confirmed cases	Number of probable cases	Confirmed and probable cases	Number of deaths	Conf/Prob cases in past 7 days
Democratic Republic of the Congo	118	6	124	50	
Equateur	118	6	124	50	
Bikoro	32	0	32	19	
Bolenge	1	0	1	1	
Bolomba	13	0	13	1	
Bomongo	2	0	2	1	
Iboko	4	0	4	1	
Ingende	11	2	13	5	
Lilanga Bobangi	6	0	6	0	
Lolanga Mampoko	7	0	7	2	
Lotumbe	17	0	17	2	ACTIVE
Mbandaka	21	4	25	17	
Monieka	2	0	2	0	
Wangata	2	0	2	1	
Cumulative Total	118	6	124	50	

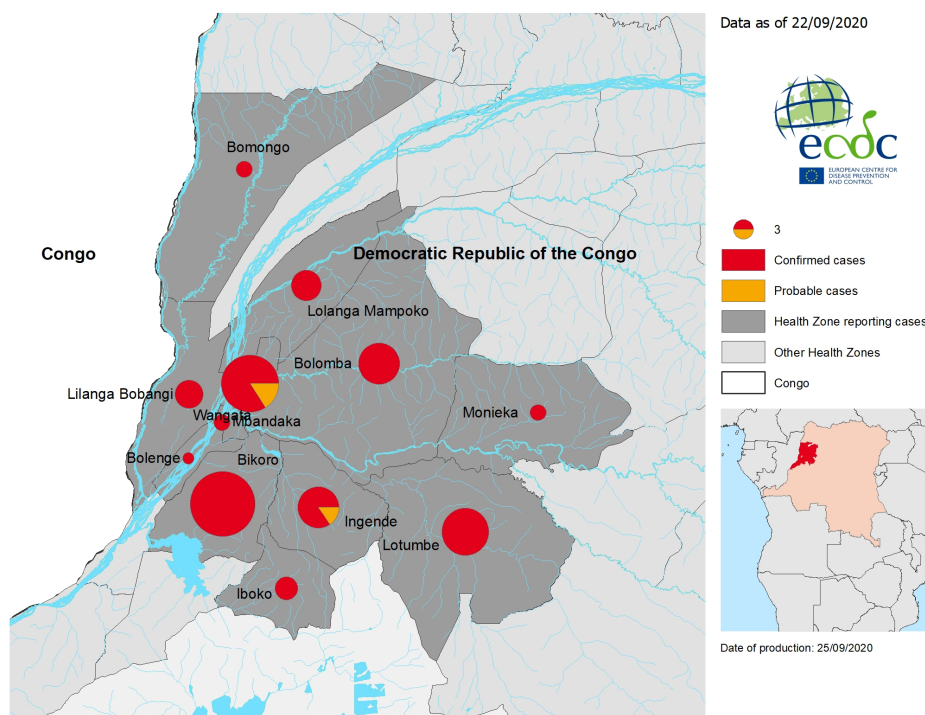
Distribution of Ebola virus disease cases in Equateur Province, Democratic Republic of the Congo, by week of reporting and as of 22 September 2020

Source: ECDC



Geographical distribution of confirmed and probable cases of Ebola virus disease, Equateur Province, Democratic Republic of the Congo, as of 22 September 2020

Source: ECDC



Chikungunya and dengue – Multi-country (World) – Monitoring global outbreaks

Opening date: 27 January 2017

Latest update: 25 September 2020

Epidemiological summary

Europe

Chikungunya virus disease:

No autochthonous cases of Chikungunya virus were detected in continental EU/EEA countries and the UK in 2019 and none have been detected to date in 2020.

Dengue:

Since the beginning of the year and as of 23 September, [France](#) has reported seven autochthonous cases of dengue: one in Hérault department, five in Alpes-Maritime department and one in Var department.

In [Italy](#), five locally acquired cases were detected in the Veneto region in August 2020.

Americas and the Caribbean

Chikungunya virus disease:

[Barbados](#): In 2020, as of 5 September, Barbados has reported nine confirmed cases.

[Bolivia](#): In 2020, as of 5 September, Bolivia has reported 1517 cases, 49 of which are laboratory-confirmed.

[Brazil](#): In 2020, as of 5 September, Brazil has reported 78746 cases, 28 288 of which are laboratory-confirmed. 14 deaths have been reported

[Costa Rica](#): In 2020, as of 29 August, Costa Rica has reported 47 cases. This represents an increase of ten cases since the last CDTR update.

[Colombia](#): In 2020, as of 5 September, Colombia has reported 149 cases, five of which are laboratory-confirmed. This represents an increase of five suspected cases since the last CDTR update.

Ecuador: In 2020, as of 29 August, Ecuador has reported one case.

El Salvador: In 2020, as of 12 September, El Salvador has reported 96 suspected cases. During the same period in 2019, El Salvador reported 535 suspected cases.

Mexico: In 2020 and as of 13 September, Mexico has reported three confirmed cases. During the same period in 2019, Mexico reported nine cases.

Nicaragua: In 2020, as of 15 August, Nicaragua has reported ten suspected cases. During the same period in 2019, 106 suspected cases were reported.

Paraguay: In 2020, as of 13 September, Paraguay has reported three probable cases and 276 additional suspected cases.

Peru: In 2020, as of 15 August, Peru has reported 67 cases of chikungunya.

Venezuela: In 2020, as of 9 September, Venezuela has reported 52 cases, two of which are laboratory-confirmed. This represents an increase of nine cases since the last CDTR update.

Dengue:

In 2020, the Pan American Health Organization (PAHO) reported 1 997 524 suspected and confirmed dengue cases and 742 deaths, in the Americas region. The countries reporting most cases are: Brazil (1 348 042 cases), Paraguay (220 279) and Bolivia (83 552).

All four dengue virus serotypes (DENV 1, DENV 2, DENV 3, and DENV 4) are currently circulating in the Region of the Americas, which increases the risk of severe cases. The figures for each country of the Americas region can be found on the [PAHO Health Information Platform](#).

According to [Santé Publique France](#), the French Caribbean islands are all in an epidemic phase:

Since the beginning of the epidemic in week 2019-42 and as of 12 September 2020, [Guadeloupe](#) has reported 11 600 suspected dengue cases. The epidemic is intensifying and the main circulating serotype is DENV-2.

Since the beginning of the epidemic in week 2020-03 and as of 12 September 2020, [Saint Martin](#) has reported 2 110 suspected dengue cases, including one death. The main circulating serotype is DENV-1.

Since the beginning of the epidemic in week 2020-17 and as of 12 September 2020, [Saint Barthélemy](#) has reported 915 suspected dengue cases. The main circulating serotype is DENV-2.

The dengue epidemic is progressing in [Martinique](#). Since the beginning of the epidemic on 4 November 2019 and as of 12 September 2020, Martinique has reported 16 560 suspected dengue cases including three deaths. Cases are spread out all over the island.

Asia

Chikungunya virus disease:

India: According to media sources, 107 cases have been reported in Ahmedabad, Gujarat state, in September 2020.

Cambodia: According to media sources, additional suspected cases are being reported in the country since last CDTR report in August. On 7 September, 49 suspected cases were reported in Banteay Meanchey province, neighbouring Thailand.

Malaysia: In 2020 and as of 22 of August, 2 029 cases have been reported across the country, with most of the cases being reported in Perak and Penang region according to Malaysia's Ministry of Health. This represents an increase of 475 cases since the last CDTR update.

Thailand: In 2020, as of 20 September, the country has reported 8 792 cases, with no associated deaths, affecting 71 provinces across the country. This represents an increase of 1 904 cases since the last CDTR update.

No update is available for the outbreak previously reported in [Yemen](#).

Dengue:

According to media sources quoting health authorities, [Bangladesh](#) has reported 439 dengue cases in 2020 and as of 13 September 2020.

[Cambodia](#) has reported 7 823 cases and nine deaths as of 30 August 2020. The number of cases reported is only 14% of the 56 617 cases reported in the same period in 2019.

[India](#) has reported 12 078 cases as of July 2020 including eight deaths.

[Lao PDR](#) has reported 5 510 dengue cases and 11 deaths in 2020 and as of 6 September 2020. The trend is within seasonally expected levels.

[Malaysia](#) has reported 72 952 cases and 118 deaths as of 5 September 2020. This is lower compared to the number of cases reported last year for the same period (93 344).

[Nepal](#) has reported 261 cases in 2020 and as of 13 September 2020.

[Pakistan](#) has reported a total of 333 cases of dengue for 2020 and as of 12 September 2020.

[The Philippines](#) have reported 60 819 dengue cases and 236 deaths in 2020 and as of 22 August. The cases are 77% lower compared to the 267 241 cases reported in the same period in 2019.

[Singapore](#) has reported 29 616 cases in 2020 and as of 22 September. The number of cases is in a downward trend; however, this year saw the [largest dengue outbreak](#) since records began in Singapore's history.

[Sri Lanka](#) has reported 27 502 cases as of 23 September 2020. This is less than last year figures when 52 147 cases were reported for the same period.

[Taiwan](#) has reported 80 cases in 2020 and as of 16 September 2020.

[Thailand](#) has reported 40 406 cases and four deaths as of 22 September 2020. This represents roughly half of the cases reported last year for the period of January till the end of September (69 609 cases).

[Vietnam](#) has reported 60 525 cases and seven deaths as of 30 August. This represents a decrease of 66% compared to 178,200 cases with 38 deaths reported during the same period in 2019.

There are no updates available for Myanmar and Indonesia.

Africa

Chikungunya virus disease:

[Congo](#): No suspected case of chikungunya was reported in week 31. From week 1 to week 31, 71 cases with no deaths were reported.

[Chad](#): As of 16 September 2020, there is a total of 24 858 cases. In the 24 hours prior to 16 September 2020 a total of 823 cases were reported with zero deaths. The number of cases is increasing in the Biltine health district, while fluctuating in Abéché district. Females are predominantly affected, accounting for 13 497 (54%) cases.

No updates are available for the outbreaks previously reported in [Sudan](#) and [Kenya](#).

Dengue:

[Comoros](#) has detected suspected cases of dengue fever since December 2019. In 2020 and as of 2 August, a total of 1 437 suspected dengue fever cases were reported. The majority of cases were recorded from Anjouan, followed by Mohéli islands. There have been no new cases reported since week 31.

There are no updates available for Réunion, Mayotte or Mauritania.

Australia and the Pacific

Chikungunya virus disease:

No outbreaks have been reported since the previous update.

Dengue:

[Australia](#) reported 194 autochthonous and imported dengue cases since the beginning of the year and as of 22 September 2020. Since the last update on 18 August 2020, no new cases were reported.

[The Cook Islands](#) have reported 258 probable and confirmed cases in 2020 and as of 27 July 2020.

[French Polynesia](#) reported 2 949 cases of DENV-2 since the start of the epidemic in April 2019 and as of 23 August 2020.

[The Republic of the Marshall Islands](#) reported 3 612 dengue cases (of which 1 668 have been laboratory confirmed) and two deaths since the start of the epidemic in May 2019 and as of 15 September 2020.

[New Caledonia](#) reported 52 autochthonous and imported dengue cases in 2020 and as of 27 August 2020. Dengue activity remains at a low level.

N.B: The data presented in this report originate from several sources, both official public health authorities and non-official sources such as news media. Data completeness depends on the availability of reports from surveillance systems and their accuracy, which varies between countries. All data should be interpreted with caution as there may be areas of under-reporting; reported figures may not reflect the actual epidemiological situation.

ECDC assessment

Chikungunya virus disease and dengue affect most countries in the tropics and sub-tropics. With the travel restrictions in place due to the COVID-19 pandemic, the number of travel-related chikungunya virus disease and dengue cases arriving into the EU/EEA is estimated to be relatively low. However, vector capacity of *Aedes albopictus* and environmental conditions are currently considered to be adequate to establish autochthonous transmission within the EU, as demonstrated by the recent reports of locally acquired cases of dengue in [France and Italy](#).

As a precaution, [personal protective measures against mosquito bites](#) should be taken by everyone visiting or living in affected regions, including affected regions within the EU.

Actions

ECDC monitors these threats through epidemic intelligence and reports on a monthly basis. A summary of the worldwide overview of [dengue](#) and [chikungunya](#) is available on the ECDC website.

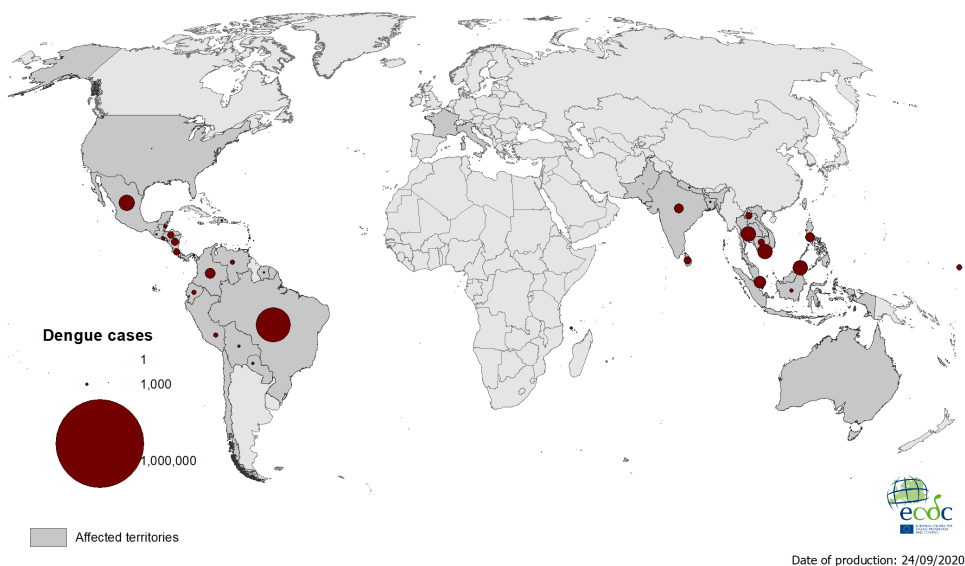
Geographical distribution of chikungunya virus disease cases reported worldwide, July to September 2020

Source: ECDC



Geographical distribution of dengue cases reported worldwide, July to September 2020

Source: ECDC



The Communicable Disease Threat Report may include unconfirmed information which may later prove to be unsubstantiated.