



Dengue Fever Outbreak Situation Report in Samoa

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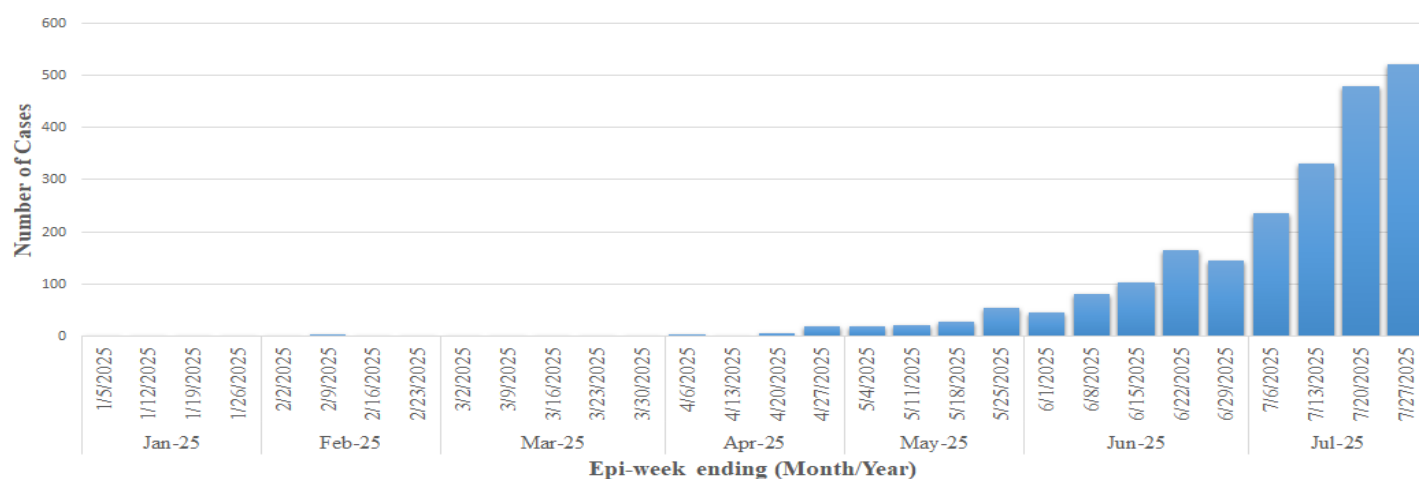
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Highlights

- ◆ Since January 2025, a total of **2277 dengue lab-confirmed cases** have been recorded.
- ◆ In this epi-week, there were **521 new dengue lab-confirmed cases** recorded
- ◆ 20 cases have confirmed dengue virus serotypes; 85% are DENV-1 and 15% are DENV-2
- ◆ A cumulative total of 2277 cases were notified; reflecting an incidence rate of 1108 cases per 100,000.
- ◆ Those most affected are aged below 15 years old (71%)
- ◆ Sadly, there have been two dengue-related deaths recorded to date
- ◆ 91% of cases were reported from Upolu island; 55% male and 45% female
- ◆ 12% of all cases were hospitalized at TTMH. Of those admitted, 88% have been discharged.
- ◆ Majority of dengue cases are distributed across the Apia Urban Area (AUA) and North West of Upolu (NWU) regions; particularly in the Faleata districts where 31% of all cases reside.

Figure 1. Number of dengue lab-confirmed cases by epi-week, January 2025 to date



Case definition

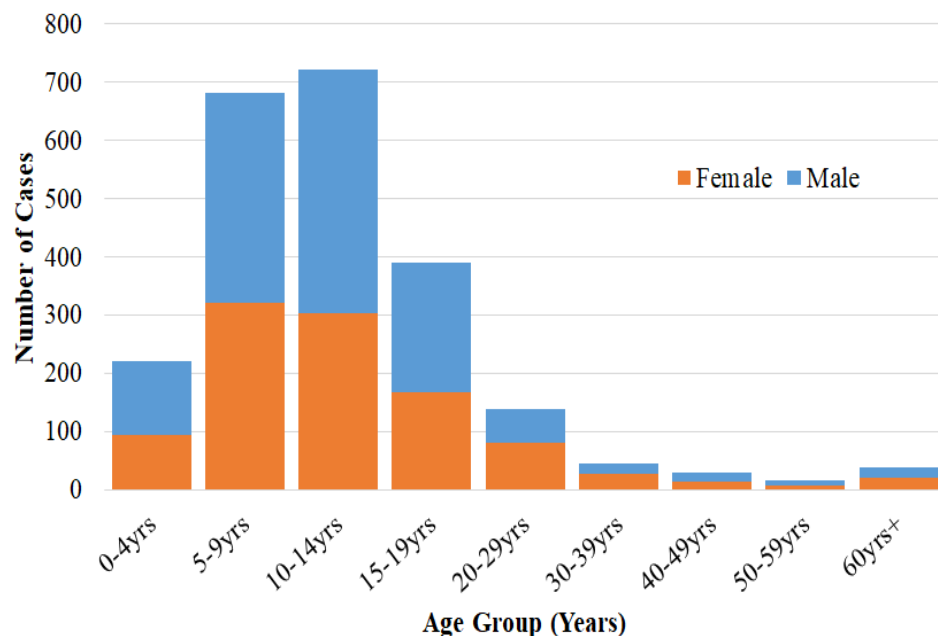
Suspected case (clinical)

- ⇒ Acute fever $\geq 38.0^{\circ}\text{C}$ for at least 2 days, AND two or more of the following: Anorexia and nausea; Aches and pains; Rash; Low white blood cell count; Warning signs, including: Abdominal pain or tenderness, Persistent vomiting, Mucosal bleeding, Liver enlargement $>2\text{cm}$ below costal margin, Clinical evidence of fluid accumulation, Lethargy, restlessness, Laboratory: increase in hematocrit, rapid decrease in platelet count

⇒ Confirmed case

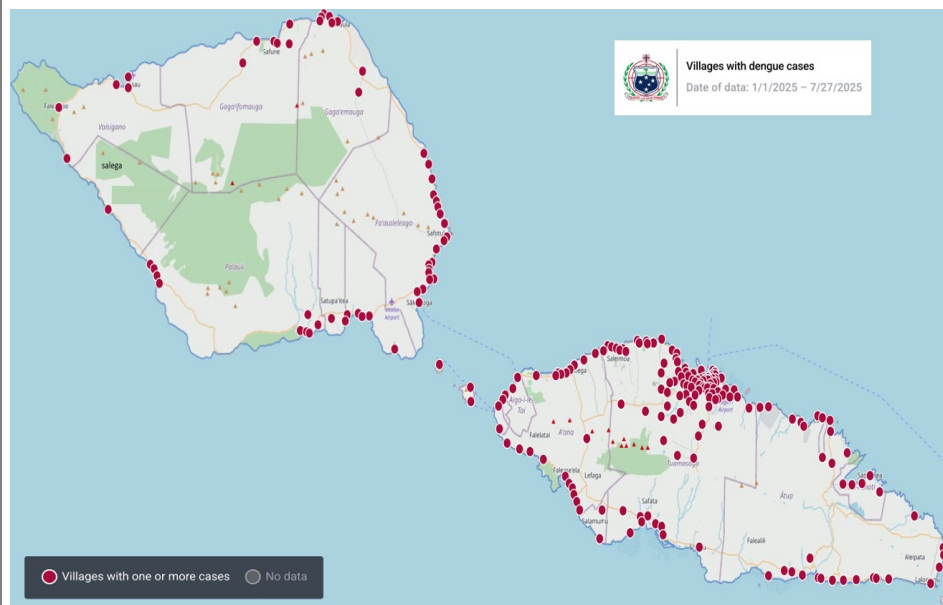
- Isolation of dengue virus or detection of dengue-specific antigen or antibodies in tissue, blood, CSF or other body fluid by an advanced laboratory test

Figure 2. Age group distribution of dengue lab-confirmed cases by sex, January 2025 to date



Since January 2025, there have been 2,277 dengue lab-confirmed cases, most of whom are below 15 years old (71%).

Figure 3. Map of lab-confirmed dengue cases by village, January 2025 to date



Notably, majority of dengue cases are distributed across the Apia Urban Area (AUA) and North West of Upolu (NWU) regions, particularly in the Faleata districts where 31% of all cases reside.

Control Measures:

1. Continuous collaboration with other sectors through a whole-of-government approach through the Integrated Vector Control Committee (IVCC)
2. Response efforts focused on source reduction and environmental sanitation measures to reduce the risk of further transmission.
3. Ongoing risk communication on dengue preventative measures and source reduction on all media outlets; promoting symptom recognition and early identification of dengue fever danger signs and when to seek medical attention
4. Tailored messaging for broader public awareness through ongoing RCCE social listening to monitor public concerns and misinformation.

Recommendation for the public:

1. Continue to promote source reduction through environmental clean ups to address mosquito breeding sites
2. Wear appropriate clothing to minimize risk of infection
3. Use mosquito nets and repellents such as lotion and spray
4. If you are affected, watch out for severe symptoms, and seek medical attention immediately. Monitor other people in the household for similar symptoms and present to the hospital for testing and health advice.

- For medical advice, please contact the Ministry of Health on +685 68100 or +685 66600, or visit the nearest hospital
- Dengue situational reports are posted on the MOH Facebook page and MOH website: www.health.gov.ws