



Dengue Fever Outbreak Situation Report in Samoa

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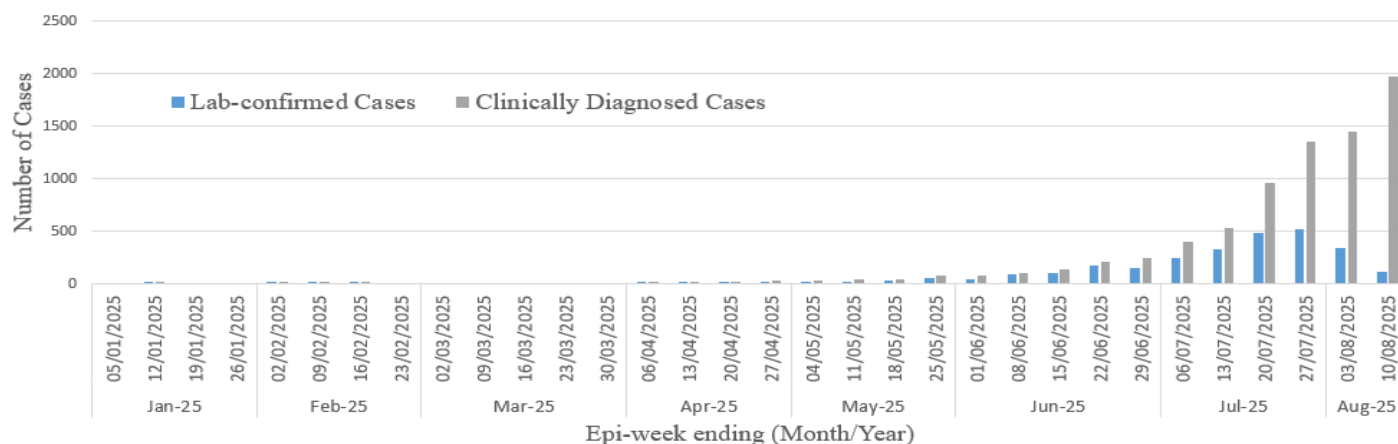
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Highlights

- ◆ Since January 2025, a total of **7970 clinically diagnosed cases** have been recorded, of which **2743 are dengue lab-confirmed cases**
- ◆ In this epi-week, there were **1974 clinically diagnosed dengue cases*** recorded from all health facilities in Upolu and Savai'i including TTM Hospital (555 cases), of which **116 are dengue lab-confirmed cases**
- ◆ Confirmed dengue virus serotypes in circulation; 91% are DENV-1 and 9% are DENV-2
- ◆ Those most affected are aged below 15 years old (72%)
- ◆ Sadly, there have been 6 confirmed dengue-related deaths, recorded to date
- ◆ 88% of all cases were reported from Upolu island; 55% male and 45% female
- ◆ In this epi-week, 223 new admissions to all health facilities in Upolu and Savai'i were recorded. Of those admitted, 147 were discharged, 75 are still in hospital with two cases admitted to ICU.
- ◆ Majority of dengue cases are distributed mainly across the Apia Urban Area (AUA) and North West of Upolu (NWU) regions

*Note: Not all clinically diagnosed cases had samples collected for testing

Figure 1. Number of Clinically diagnosed and lab-confirmed cases, January 2025 to date



Case definition

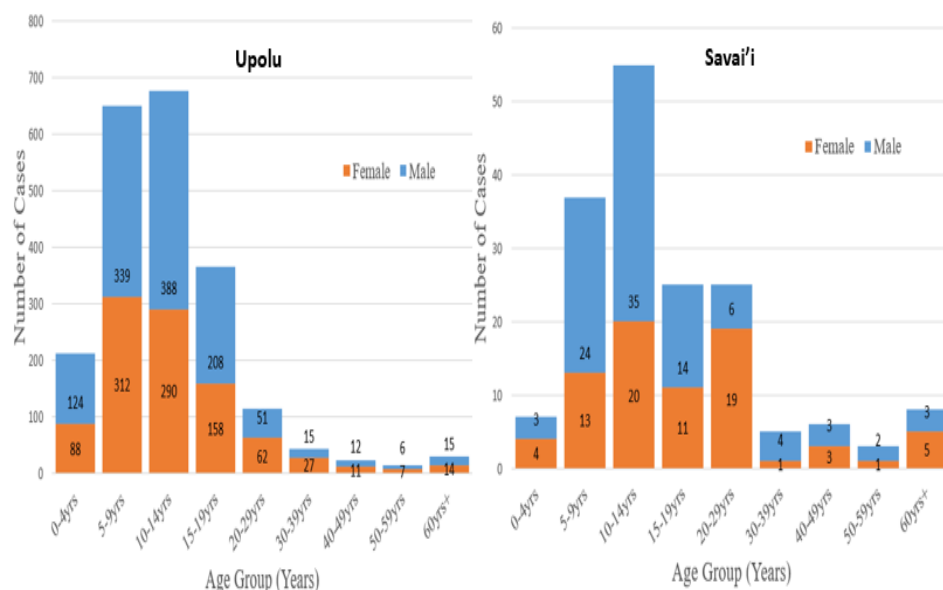
⇒ Clinical case

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

⇒ Lab-Confirmed case

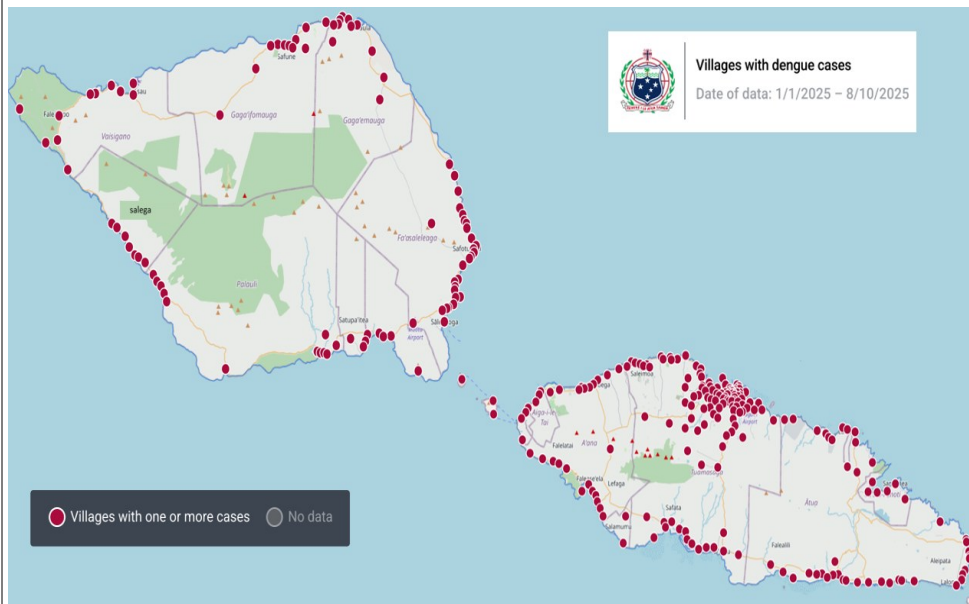
Isolation of dengue virus or detection of dengue-specific antigen or antibodies in tissue, blood, CSF or other body fluid by an advanced laboratory test

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



Since January 2025, there have been 2743 dengue lab-confirmed cases, most of whom are below 15 years old (72%).

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

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 advise, 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