

Government of Samoa

Ministry of Health



A HEALTHY

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Dengue Fever Outbreak Situation Report in Samoa

Epi-week 38: 15th Sept— 21st Sept 2025

Issue No.23

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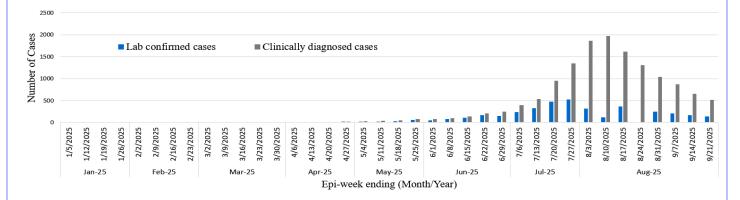
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Highlights

- Since January 2025, a total of **14,057 clinically diagnosed cases*** have been recorded, **of which 4,146 are dengue lab-confirmed cases**
- ◆ In this epi-week, dengue cases decreased by 21% compared to the previous epi-week with **514** clinically diagnosed dengue cases** reported from all health facilities in Upolu and Savai'i including TTM Hospital (138 cases). Of these, **142** 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 (73%)
- For this Epi Week 38, there was one reported confirmed death.
- There have been 7 confirmed dengue-related deaths, recorded to date
- ◆ 71% of all cases were reported from Upolu island; 54% male and 46% female
- In this epi-week, new dengue admissions decreased by 21% compared to the previous epiweek, with 58 new admissions reported from all health facilities in Upolu and Savai'i. Of those admitted, 44 were discharged, 18 are still in hospital with 1 case admitted to ICU.
- In this epi-week, the districts with the most reported cases were Anoamaa 1 (55 cases) in Upolu and Palauli 2 (17 cases) district in Savai'i

*Total cases reflect additional cases that were not included in previous Sitreps due to changes in reporting deadlines, which have since been included in the count of total cases.

^{**}Not all clinically diagnosed cases had samples collected for testing



Case definition

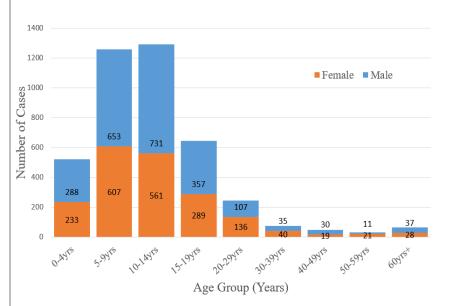
⇒ Clinical case

Acute fever ≥38oC 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 >2cm below costal margin, Clinical evidence of fluid accumulation, Lethargy, restlessness, Laboratory: increase in hematocrit, rapid decrease in platelet count

⇒ Lab-Confirmed case

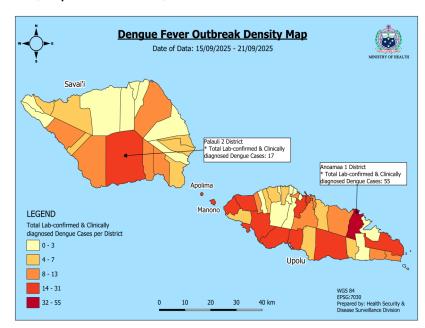
Isolation of dengue virus or detection of dengue-specific antigen or antibodies in tissue, blood, CSF or other body fluid by an advanced laboratory test

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



Since January 2025, there have been 4,146 dengue lab-confirmed cases, most of whom are below 15 years old (73%).

Figure 3. Map of lab-confirmed and clinically diagnosed dengue cases by district, September 15^{th} – 21^{st} , 2025



In epi-week 38, the districts with the most reported cases were Anoamaa 1 (55) in Upolu and Palauli 2 (17)in Savai'i

Control Measures

- 1. Community engagement were done for 27 villages across 6 districts in Savaii, coordinated through NEOC with MNRE, MOH, and MWCSD. Activities were guided by the Dengue Communication Toolkit and delivered under the Aiga ma Nu'u Program to strengthen family and community-based health promotion.
- 2. New social media reels launched featuring WHO technical adviser on dengue case management in children.
- 3. Awareness session conducted with the Salvation Army on the 18th September 2025. .
- 4. UNICEF-supported poster and photography competition held on 18 September 2025 for children aged 6–15 years.

Recommendation for the public

- 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: <u>www.health.gov.ws</u>