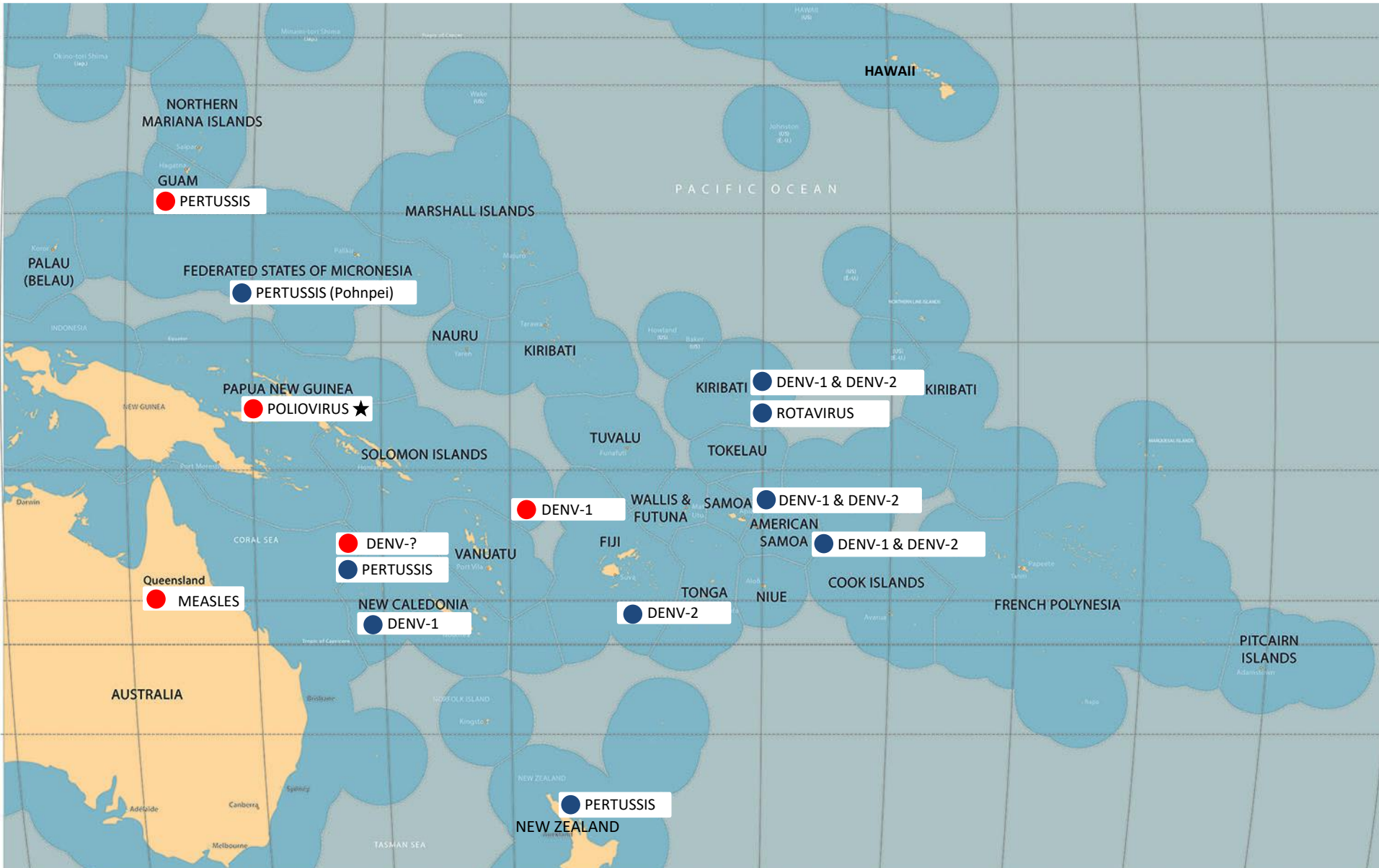


# Epidemic and emerging disease alerts in the Pacific as of 23 June 2026



## Legend

- Cases reported are increasing or peaking
- Cases reported are decreasing or circulation is ongoing.
- Awaiting confirmation of aetiology.
- ★ No update for more than 2 weeks

DENV – Dengue Virus

An interactive version of the map is available online at:  
[www.spc.int/phd/epidemics/](http://www.spc.int/phd/epidemics/)



## Highlights/updates since the last map was posted on PacNet on 16 June 2026:

### Dengue

- **Kiribati:** Dengue transmission continues in Kiribati, with the outbreak ongoing since April 2025. As of 16 June 2026, a cumulative total of 2,165 dengue cases have been reported nationwide, including 547 laboratory-confirmed and 1,618 suspected cases, with three new confirmed cases recorded between 2 and 9 June 2026. Transmission remains concentrated in South Tarawa, which accounts for the majority of cases, with both DENV-1 and DENV-2 circulating. Most cases continue to be reported as mild, and one death and 68 hospitalisations (67 since discharged) have been recorded to date. Cases span all age groups, with a median age of 15 years, and response activities continue to include case investigation, house-to-house inspection in high-risk areas, elimination of mosquito breeding sites, mass clean-up campaigns, health promotion and laboratory testing. **The blue alert for DENV-1 and DENV-2 remains in effect.** – Source: [Dengue Fever Situational Report 35 shared with PPHSN Coordinating Body Focal point on 23 June 2026.](#)
- **New Caledonia:** As of 18 June 2026, a cumulative total of 2,109 dengue cases have been reported in New Caledonia since 1<sup>st</sup> January 2026, with the most recent case dated 18 June 2026. DENV-1 remains the only circulating serotype. The number of newly confirmed cases has continued to decline week on week since EpiWeek 20. Transmission remains comparatively low in Greater Nouméa, where the protective effect of Wolbachia mosquitoes supported by the World Mosquito Program continues to limit spread. **The blue alert for DENV-1 remains in effect.** – Source: [La dengue | Direction des Affaires Sanitaires et Sociales de Nouvelle-Calédonie](#) accessed on 23 June 2026.
- **Samoa:** As of EpiWeek 24 (8–14 June 2026), dengue transmission continues in Samoa, with 150 new cases reported, representing a 17% increase compared with the previous EpiWeek, and two new hospital admissions with no new ICU admissions or deaths. DENV-1 (54%) and DENV-2 (46%) continue to co-circulate, with most cases reported from Upolu (92%), followed by Savai'i (7%) and the Manono and Apolima Islands (1%). Children under 15 years account for the majority of cases (73%). Since 1<sup>st</sup> January 2025, a cumulative total of 19,764 clinically diagnosed cases and 5,496 laboratory-confirmed cases have been reported, with nine dengue-related deaths to date, while public health measures continue to focus on community awareness, vector control and early healthcare seeking. **The blue alert for DENV-1 and DENV-2 remains in effect.** – Source: [Dengue Fever Outbreak Situation Report in Samoa, Issue No. 61](#) accessed on 23 June 2026.
- **Vanuatu:** As of EpiWeek 24, a dengue outbreak has been officially declared on South Efate Island, Shefa Province, following a sustained increase in cases. A cumulative total of 17 confirmed cases have been reported, including five new cases in EpiWeek 24, exceeding the alert threshold of four cases per week. One case has been hospitalised (in EpiWeek 22) and no deaths have been recorded to date. Cases are concentrated in the Pango Area Council (59%), with the remainder in Erakor (23%), Port Vila (12%) and Eratap (6%). Of the total cases 59% are female and the majority (59%) are aged over 26 years. Epidemiological investigations indicate local transmission with links between several cases, while some individuals reported recent travel within the region. Samples have been sent for serotyping and the circulating serotype is not yet confirmed. Given the declaration of a dengue outbreak with evidence of local transmission, **a red alert for dengue (serotype to be determined, DENV-?) is raised.** – Sources: [Dengue Fever Alert - Shefa Province](#) and [Dengue Outbreak Declared - Health Promotions Vanuatu](#) accessed on 23 June 2026 and Dengue Outbreak on South Efate Island, Shefa Province Vanuatu (Situation Report #4) shared on PacNet on 22 June 2026.

### Measles

- **Australia:** Measles activity continues in Australia, with cases linked to imported infections and subsequent local transmission. In New South Wales, a public health alert has been issued for Potts Point, Darlinghurst, and the Sydney CBD following a confirmed case in a returned traveller from Southeast Asia who visited several locations while unknowingly infectious. Authorities are urging anyone who attended the identified exposure sites to monitor for symptoms and to call ahead before presenting to healthcare facilities. Nationally, cases continue to occur across several jurisdictions, with New South Wales (51 cases since 1 January 2026), Victoria (29), and Queensland (17) reporting the highest numbers, predominantly among under-vaccinated individuals or those with unknown vaccination status. Authorities continue to strongly urge two doses of a measles-containing vaccine for anyone born after 1965, particularly before overseas travel. **The red alert for measles remains in effect.** – Sources: [Measles alert for Potts Point, Darlinghurst and Sydney CBD](#) and [Dashboard - NINDSS Portal](#) accessed on 16 June 2026.

### Pertussis/Whooping cough

- **New Zealand:** Pertussis activity in New Zealand continues as part of the ongoing national epidemic, with transmission persisting nationwide. As of the week ending 12 June 2026, weekly cases increased to 31, compared with 26 in the previous week ending 05 June 2026, bringing the cumulative total for 2026 to 885 cases. Notification rates remain highest among children aged 1–4 years and infants under one year. **The blue alert for pertussis remains in effect.** – Source: [Pertussis dashboard](#) accessed on 23 June 2026.

### Rotavirus

- **Kiribati:** As of 9 June 2026, the rotavirus outbreak in Kiribati remains ongoing but continues to show a declining trend, with only low-level transmission persisting. A cumulative total of 6,525 diarrhoea cases have been reported nationwide, surveillance data indicate that the outbreak peaked earlier in the year before steadily decreasing over time. Transmission remains concentrated in South Tarawa, particularly Betio, which accounts for the highest burden of cases, and children under five years of age remain the most affected group. The cumulative death toll remains unchanged, with three confirmed deaths and two suspected deaths under investigation. Enhanced surveillance, laboratory testing, contact tracing, health promotion and community-level hygiene interventions focusing on child health remain in place. **The blue alert for rotavirus remains in effect.** – Source: [Rotavirus Outbreak Situational Report 24 shared with PPHSN Coordinating Body Focal point on 23 June 2026.](#)

### Other Information:

#### Dengue

- **Hawai'i:** As of 17 June 2026, the Hawai'i Department of Health reported a new travel-related dengue case on O'ahu involving a visitor who was exposed while travelling in a dengue-endemic region. As the case involves a non-resident, it is not included in Hawai'i's official dengue case count, which remains at five cases statewide in 2026. The risk of local transmission is considered low, as the visitor has since departed and was no longer infectious at the time of departure. Vector control teams have conducted inspections, outreach and mosquito control measures in the affected area, and authorities continue to reinforce source-reduction messaging. – Source: [DOH reports travel-related dengue virus case in O'ahu visitor, Hawai'i Department of Health \(17 June 2026\)](#) accessed on 23 June 2026.
- **New Zealand:** In New Zealand, during EpiWeek 24 (13–19 June 2026), one confirmed dengue case was reported, in a person who had been to the Cook Islands during the incubation period. Given the known serological cross-reactivity between dengue and other flaviviruses, some reported dengue cases may ultimately be reclassified as other flavivirus infections as epidemiological and laboratory investigations continue. – Source: [NZ Arbovirus Notifications by Country \(24: 13/06/2026–19/06/2026\)](#) shared with PPHSN Coordinating Body Focal point on 22 June 2026.

#### Highly Pathogenic Avian Influenza

- **Australia:** On 20 June 2026, the CSIRO Australian Centre for Disease Preparedness confirmed highly pathogenic avian influenza (HPAI) H5 in a brown skua, a migratory seabird found sick in Cape Le Grand National Park near Esperance in southern Western Australia, marking the first detection of HPAI (H5) in Australia. Testing identified the strain as the globally circulating H5N1 clade 2.3.4.4b. A second seabird, a southern giant petrel from the same area, returned a suspect-positive result, with confirmatory testing ongoing. While the virus has devastated wildlife globally, its arrival in Australia was likely delayed due to a lack of duck species migrating between Australia and Asia. Experts suggest the virus was introduced by marine birds like skuas and giant petrels roaming from the Southern Ocean, and note it may not establish widely on the mainland unless the virus is transmitted to freshwater dabbling ducks via scavenging. This event highlights the ongoing risk of H5N1 introduction to the Pacific via migratory birds and underscores the need for continued vigilance. To date, no detections have been reported in poultry, and no mass mortality in other species has been observed. The Australian Centre for Disease Control and WA Health assess the public health risk to humans as low, as transmission requires close contact with infected animals and human-to-human spread is very rare. Food Standards Australia New Zealand has also confirmed there is no food safety risk from properly handled and cooked poultry products. Leading the human health response, WA Health has identified and is monitoring a small number of people who had direct contact with the affected birds, though authorities confirm there is no risk to the broader Esperance community. WA Chief Health Officer has urged the public to receive the seasonal influenza vaccine to reduce the risk of co-infection, which could potentially result in the emergence of a new influenza strain. The public is strictly advised not to touch or handle sick or dead birds. Poultry owners and farmers are also urged to follow government biosecurity guidelines and report any suspicious flock mortality immediately. – Sources: [Bird flu \(Avian influenza\) - DAFF, H5 bird flu confirmed in Australia | Ministers, Detection of bird flu in Australia | Australian Centre for Disease Control, WA Health provides public health update following avian influenza detection in wild bird, The first case of H5N1 bird flu in Australia has been confirmed, What does this mean? - Doherty Institute](#) accessed on 23 June 2026.

#### Measles

- **Bangladesh:** Bangladesh continues to experience a severe nationwide measles outbreak, among the largest in the country's recorded history. According to the official Daily Health Bulletin of the Directorate General of Health Services, since mid-March 2026 a cumulative total of 91,789 suspected and 10,949 laboratory-confirmed cases have been reported, with 677 deaths (93 confirmed and 584 suspected), the majority among children. Around 75,900 patients have been hospitalised, of whom about 71,970 have been discharged, placing sustained pressure on health services. Dhaka Division accounts for the largest burden (42,323 suspected and 7,460 confirmed cases), followed by Chattogram, Barishal and Rajshahi, with transmission sustained across all divisions and several hundred new suspected cases reported daily, indicating the outbreak has not yet peaked. Immunisation gaps, compounded by a 2024–2025 vaccine stock-out and the absence of supplementary campaigns since 2020, are considered the primary drivers. A nationwide measles–rubella campaign launched on 5 April 2026 achieved high reported coverage but began after the outbreak was already under way. – Sources: [Directorate General of Health Services, Bangladesh – Daily Health Bulletin \(Measles Situation, 20 June 2026\)](#) and [Measles outbreak in Bangladesh – BEACON](#) accessed on 23 June 2026.
- **Japan:** Measles activity in Japan has continued in 2026, despite the country having maintained measles elimination status since 2015. As of EpiWeek 23 (data reported as of 10 June 2026), a cumulative total of 525 cases have been reported, the highest for this period since 2019, although weekly case counts have continued to decline, with 11 cases in each of EpiWeeks 21 and 22 and two in EpiWeek 23. Tokyo accounts for the largest share of cases (260), with domestic transmission representing the majority of cases alongside identified importations. Cases span a wide age range, with the highest proportions among adults aged 20–39 years, and a substantial proportion occurred among unvaccinated or incompletely vaccinated individuals. Health authorities continue to strengthen risk communication, urging the public and healthcare providers to verify measles–rubella vaccination status and ensure two-dose coverage. – Sources: [IDWR 2026 No. 23 – Measles, National Institute for Health Crisis Management](#) accessed on 23 June 2026.