

Reporting period: 7 to 13 December 2008 (Week 50)

Summary

1. As of 13 Dec 2008, the most recent cases of human AI infection occurred in Cambodia (Dec 12) and Indonesia (Dec 9).
2. H5N1 infected poultry was detected in Hong Kong (Dec 9) and poultry within a 3km-radius were culled. Serious Response Level was activated.
3. In the past three years, about 100 cases of human avian influenza infection were confirmed by the WHO annually.
4. The cases occurred in the Western Pacific, South-East Asia and Eastern Mediterranean WHO regions. More cases were reported around January to March each year.
5. In 2008, there were 39 cases so far and the majority occurred in Indonesia, Egypt and Vietnam.

This week's update

<i>(as of 13 Dec 2008)</i>		WHO	OIE	Details of H5N1 cases/outbreaks
		Confirmed human cases (deaths)	Wild birds/poultry reports	
This week	Hong Kong	0	1	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Cambodia: A 19-year-old male confirmed hospitalised with H5N1. (Dec 12, WHO) • Indonesia: H5N1 infection confirmed in two humans. No epidemiological linkage between the two. (Dec 9, WHO) • Hong Kong: Poultry on a farm in Yuen Long tested positive for H5N1 avian influenza. (Dec 9, AFCD) • India: Backyard poultry confirmed H5N1 in different villages of the Assam region. (Dec 11, OIE)
	Outside HK	3 (1)	1	
	Affected countries	Cambodia (1 case), Indonesia (2 cases)	India	
Cumulative since November 2003	Hong Kong	0	46 wild birds ⁰	
	Outside HK	390 (246)		
	Affected countries	15 *	61 [#]	

^o Includes only wild birds detected since 2006. Details of 2008 available at AFCD website: (http://www.afcd.gov.hk/tc_chi/whatsnew/what_qua/files/common/h5n1_2008.pdf)

* The 15 affected countries included Azerbaijan, Bangladesh, Cambodia, 14 provinces in China (Anhui, Beijing, Fujian, Guangdong, Guangxi, Hubei, Hunan, Jiangsu, Jiangxi, Liaoning, Shanghai, Sichuan, Xinjiang, Zhejiang), Djibouti, Egypt, Indonesia, Iraq, Laos, Myanmar, Nigeria, Pakistan, Thailand, Turkey and Vietnam.

Details of the OIE reported cases in poultry/wild birds: (http://www.oie.int/eng/info_ev/en_AI_factoids_2.htm)

Table 1.

WHO confirmed human cases of avian influenza (H5N1) by the year since 2003 (as of 13 December 2008)[§]

	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	Overall
Cases	4	46	98	115	88	39	390
Deaths	4	32	43	79	59	29	246
Case Fatality Rate (CFR)	100.0%	69.6%	43.9%	68.7%	67.0%	74.4%	63.1%

[§] Further breakdown by countries is available at the government website "Prevention of Avian Influenza" (<http://www.info.gov.hk/info/flu/eng/global.htm>)

Table 2.

Countries/areas affected by avian influenza (H5N1) in the last 6 months (as of 13 December 2008)

WHO Region	Countries	Affected by H5N1 in	Date of last report
Western Pacific	Cambodia	Human	2008-12-12
	China (Hong Kong SAR)	Poultry, Wild bird	2008-12-09 [#]
	Laos	Poultry	2008-12-01
	Vietnam	Poultry	2008-11-27
	China (Guangdong)	Poultry	2008-06-20
	Japan	Wild bird	2008-06-01
South-East Asia	Indonesia	Human, Poultry	2008-12-09
	India	Poultry	2008-12-11
	Bangladesh	Poultry	2008-11-20
	Thailand	Poultry	2008-11-17
Eastern Mediterranean	Egypt	Poultry	2008-07-07
	Pakistan	Poultry	2008-06-22
Europe	Germany	Poultry	2008-10-10
Africa	Togo	Poultry	2008-09-18
	Benin	Poultry	2008-08-25
	Nigeria	Poultry	2008-07-25
The Americas	--	--	--

[#] Source: Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation Department, Hong Kong.

Table 3.

WHO confirmed human cases of H5N1 since 2003 (as of 13 December 2008)

Country	Cumulative no. of cases (November 2003 to December 2008)	No. of recent cases (September to December 2008)
Azerbaijan	8	0
Bangladesh	1	0
Cambodia	8	1
China	30	0
Djibouti	1	0
Egypt	50	0
Indonesia	139	4
Iraq	3	0
Laos	2	0
Myanmar	1	0
Nigeria	1	0
Pakistan	3	0
Thailand	25	0
Turkey	12	0
Vietnam	106	0
Overall	390	5

Table 4.

Details of the recent WHO confirmed human cases of H5N1 (September to December 2008)

Date of report	Country	Province	Region	Sex	Age	Outcome
12 Dec 08	Cambodia	Kandal	Kandal	M	19	Alive
9 Dec 08	Indonesia	Riau	Riau	F	9	Alive
9 Dec 08	Indonesia	East Jakarta	Jakarta	F	2	Fatal
10 Sep 08	Indonesia	Tangerang	Banten	M	38	Fatal
10 Sep 08	Indonesia	Tangerang	Banten	M	20	Fatal

Avian Influenza Report is a weekly report produced by Respiratory Disease Office of Centre for Health Protection during the alert level of Government's Preparedness Plan for Influenza Pandemic in Hong Kong. This report aims to highlight any important international development of avian influenza preparedness and control and to monitor global avian influenza activity in humans and birds.

Sources: World Health Organization (WHO); World Organisation for Animal Health (OIE)