

Reporting period: 14 to 20 December 2008 (Week 51)

Summary

1. As of 20 Dec 2008, the most recent cases of human AI infection occurred in Egypt (Dec 16) and Cambodia (Dec 12).
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 40 cases so far and the majority occurred in Indonesia, Egypt and Vietnam.

This week's update

<i>(as of 20 Dec 2008)</i>		WHO	OIE
		Confirmed human cases (deaths)	Wild birds/ poultry reports
This week	Hong Kong	0	0
	Outside HK	1 (1)	4
	Affected countries	Egypt	Bangladesh, China (Jiangsu), India
	Details / Media Reports	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Egypt: A 16-year-old female from Assuit Governorate, Upper Egypt, died from H5N1 infection. She had contact with sick and dead poultry. (Dec 16, <i>WHO</i>) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Bangladesh: Poultry on two farms tested positive for H5N1. (Dec 17, <i>OIE</i>) • China (Jiangsu): Specimens from birds on two farms tested positive for H5N1. (Dec 19, <i>OIE</i>) • India: Rural backyard poultry in West Bengal tested positive for H5N1. (Dec 17, <i>OIE</i>) • India: Rural backyard poultry in Assam tested positive for H5N1. (Dec 19, <i>OIE</i>)
Cumulative since Nov. 2003	Hong Kong	0	46 wild birds ^θ
	Outside HK	391 (247)	
	Affected countries	15 *	61 [#]

^θ Details of 2008 is 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.

Table 1.

WHO confirmed human cases of avian influenza (H5N1) by the year since 2003 (as of 20 December 2008)[§]

	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	Overall
Cases	4	46	98	115	88	40	391
Deaths	4	32	43	79	59	30	247
Case Fatality Rate (CFR)	100.0%	69.6%	43.9%	68.7%	67.0%	75.0%	63.2%

[§] 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 20 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 [#]
	China (Jiangsu)	Poultry	2008-12-19
	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	2008-12-19
	Bangladesh	Poultry	2008-12-17
	Thailand	Poultry	2008-11-17
Eastern Mediterranean	Egypt	Human, Poultry	2008-12-16
	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 20 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	51	1
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	391	6

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
16 Dec 08	Egypt	Upper Egypt	Assuit Governorate	F	16	Fatal
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)