

Reporting period: 15 to 21 March 2009 (Week 12)

Summary

1. The most recent case of avian influenza H5N1 in humans occurred in Egypt (confirmed by WHO on March 11).
2. A chicken carcass found in Tung Ping Chau was confirmed H5N1 positive after a series of laboratory tests (March 12, AFCD).
3. In the past few years, about 100 cases of human AI infection were confirmed by the WHO annually, except 2008 where there were only 44 cases confirmed.
4. Cases occurred in the Western Pacific, South-East Asia and Eastern Mediterranean WHO regions. More cases were reported around January to March each year.

This week's update

(as of 21 Mar 2009)		Confirmed human cases (deaths)	Wild birds/ poultry reports
		Source: WHO	Source: OIE
This week	Hong Kong	0	0
	Outside HK	0 (0)	1
	Affected countries	-	India
	Details	-	India • Rural backyard poultry in West Bengal affected by H5N1. (Mar 16, OIE)
Cumulative since Nov. 2003	Hong Kong	0	2009: 15 dead birds confirmed H5N1 positive⁰
	Outside HK	411 (256)	
	Affected countries	15 *	62 [#]

⁰ For further information, please visit the web site of AFCD :

(http://www.afcd.gov.hk/english/quarantine/qua_vetlab/qua_vetlab_ndr/h5n1_health_advice.html)

* The 15 affected countries included Azerbaijan, Bangladesh, Cambodia, 17 provinces in China (*Anhui, Beijing, Fujian, Guangdong, Guangxi, Guizhou, Hubei, Hunan, Jiangsu, Jiangxi, Liaoning, Shandong, Shanghai, Shanxi, 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

[^] Source: The Agriculture, Fisheries & Conservation Department, Hong Kong (AFCD)

Table 1.

WHO confirmed human cases of avian influenza A (H5N1) since 2003 by onset date of the cases (as of 21 March 2009)[§]

	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	Overall
Cases	4	46	98	115	88	44	16	411
Deaths	4	32	43	79	59	33	6	256
Case Fatality Rate (CFR)	100.0%	69.6%	43.9%	68.7%	67.0%	75%	37.5%	62.3%

[§] 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 past 6 months
(as of 21 March 2009)**

WHO Region	Date of last report by WHO / OIE	Countries	In the past 6 months, H5N1 has affected
Western Pacific	2009-03-12 [#]	China (Hong Kong SAR)	Poultry, Wild bird
	2009-03-06	Vietnam	Human, Poultry
	2009-02-26	Laos	Poultry
	2009-02-10	China (Xinjiang)	Human, Poultry
	2009-02-02	China (Hunan)	Human
	2009-01-27	China (Guangxi)	Human
	2009-01-27	China (Guizhou)	Human
	2009-01-19	China (Shandong)	Human
	2009-01-19 [^]	China (Shanxi)	Human
	2009-01-07	China (Beijing)	Human
	2008-12-25	Cambodia	Human, Poultry
	2008-12-19	China (Jiangsu)	Poultry
South-East Asia	2009-03-16	India	Poultry
	2009-03-12	Bangladesh	Poultry
	2009-02-20	Nepal	Poultry
	2009-01-22	Indonesia	Human, Poultry
	2008-11-17	Thailand	Poultry
Eastern Mediterranean	2009-03-11	Egypt	Human
Europe	2009-03-10	Germany	Poultry, Wild bird
Africa	2008-09-18	Togo	Poultry
The Americas	--	--	--

[^] This case developed symptoms in Hunan province and was brought to Shanxi province for medical treatment.

[#] A chicken carcass found in Tung Ping Chau was confirmed to be H5N1 positive. Source: The Agriculture, Fisheries & Conservation Department, Hong Kong.

Table 3.

WHO confirmed human cases of H5N1 since 2003 (as of 21 March 2009)

Country	Cumulative no. of cases (December 2008 to March 2009)	No. of recent cases (December 2008 to March 2009)
Azerbaijan	8	0
Bangladesh	1	0
Cambodia	8	1
China	38	8
Djibouti	1	0
Egypt	58	8
Indonesia	141	4
Iraq	3	0
Laos	2	0
Myanmar	1	0
Nigeria	1	0
Pakistan	3	0
Thailand	25	0

Turkey	12	0
Vietnam	109	3
Overall	411	24

Table 4.

Details of the recent WHO confirmed human cases of H5N1 (Dec 08 to Mar 09)

(as of 21 March 2009)

Date of report by WHO	Country	District	Province	Sex	Age	Outcome
11/03/09	Egypt	Menofia	Menofia	F	1	Alive
10/03/09	Egypt	Amaria	Alexandria	M	2	Alive
02/03/09	Egypt	Yousef el seddik	Fayoum Governorate	M	2	Alive
18/02/09	Vietnam	Kim Son	Ninh Binh	M	32	Fatal
11/02/09	Vietnam	Dam Ha	Quang Ninh	F	23	Fatal
09/02/09	Egypt	Maghagha	Menia	M	1	Alive
05/02/09	Egypt	Ganain	Suez	M	2	Alive
02/02/09	China	Xupu	Hunan	F	21	Alive
27/01/09	China	Beiliu	Guangxi	M	18	Fatal
27/01/09	China	Guiyang	Guizhou	M	29	Alive
27/01/09	China	Urumqi	Xinjiang	F	31	Fatal
26/01/09	Egypt	Shebin Elkom	Manofia	F	2	Alive
22/01/09	Indonesia	Bekasi City	West Java	F	5	Fatal
22/01/09	Indonesia	Tangerang	Banten	F	29	Fatal
19/01/09	China	Huaihua City / Guizhou	Hunan / Guizhou	M	16	Fatal
19/01/09	China	Jinan	Shandong	F	27	Fatal
19/01/09	China	Shanxi / Hunan	Shanxi / Hunan	F	2	Alive
14/01/09	Egypt	Kerdasa	Kerdasa	F	1	Alive
07/01/09	Vietnam	Ba Thuoc	Thanh Hoa	F	8	Alive
07/01/09	China	Chaoyang	Beijing	F	19	Fatal
16/12/08	Egypt	Upper Egypt	Assuit Governorate	F	16	Fatal
12/12/08	Cambodia	Kandal	Kandal	M	19	Alive
09/12/08	Indonesia	Riau	Riau	F	9	Alive
09/12/08	Indonesia	East Jakarta	Jakarta	F	2	Fatal

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

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