

Dengue 3 Outbreak, Palau, December 2018 – December 2019

Epi Week 52: December 23 – 29, 2019



Outbreak Overview and Summary

On Friday, December 7, 2018, the Palau Ministry of Health alerted the public of an outbreak of dengue fever following the first ever laboratory confirmation of two cases with dengue serotype-3. In response to the outbreak, the Ministry of Health activated its emergency response team on December 7, 2018. The team has been tasked with raising community awareness of the outbreak and dengue prevention measures, conducting disease surveillance and reporting, strengthening environmental control measures, and ensuring adequate resources are available to combat the outbreak.

Between December 23 – 29, 2019, there were twelve (12) new cases reported, including seven (7) residents of Koror state from Ngerkebesang (3), Dngeronger (2), Ngerbeched (1) and Ngerchemai (1) hamlets.

Of the forty-nine (49) cases of dengue reported to date in December, thirty-six (36) were residents of Koror state, with more than half of those cases residing in Ngerkebesang hamlet.

The Communicable Disease Unit and the DEH Vector Control Program continue to investigate all reported cases of dengue fever and implement vector control measures.

The Palau Ministry of Health promotes the dengue 3S messages:

- **Search and eliminate** mosquito breeding sites.
- **Self-protect** by wearing insect repellent and ensuring a mosquito-free environment.
- **Seek early consultation** if you show severe signs or symptoms of dengue.

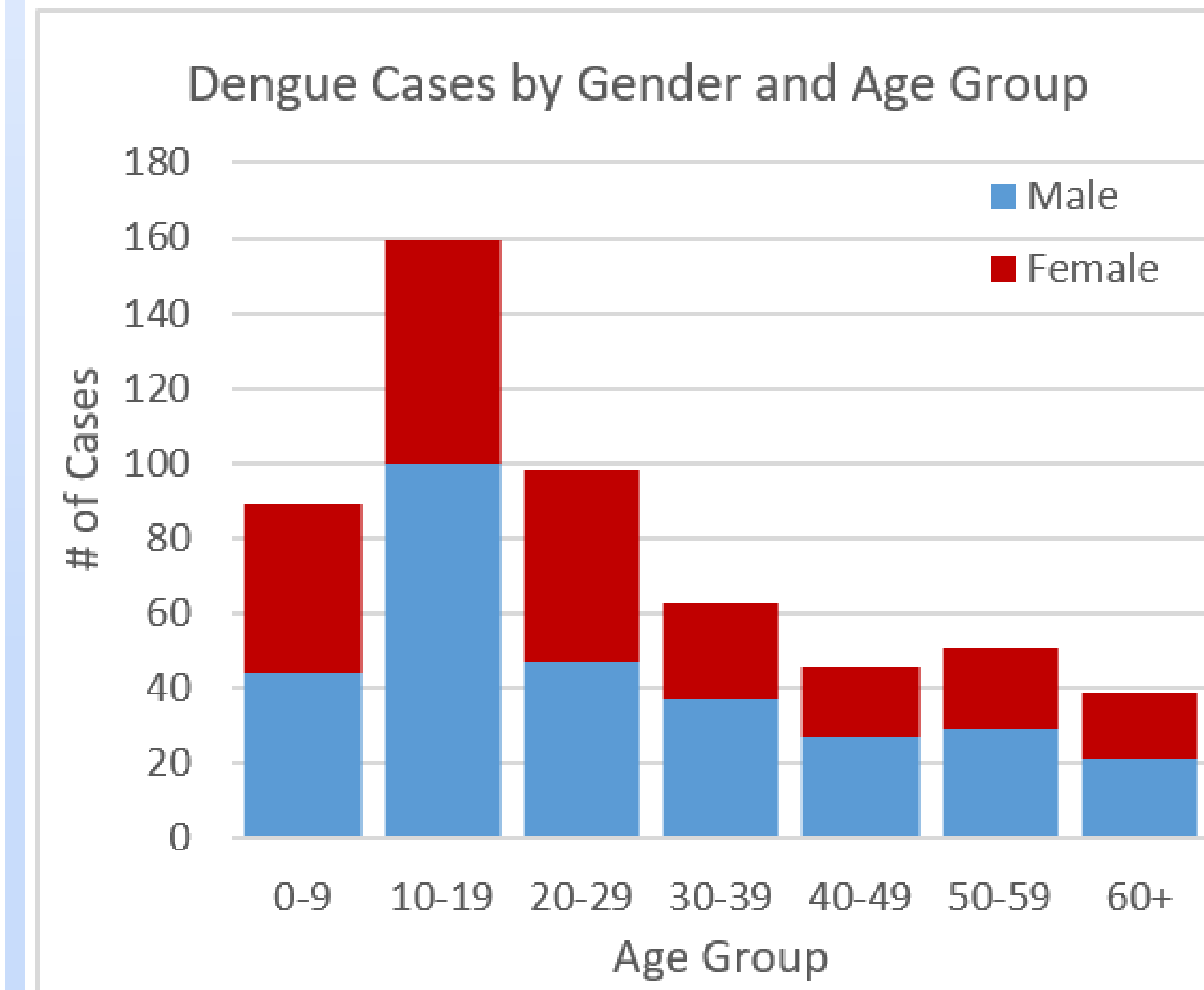


Case Summary

Hamlet	Aug - Dec 2019					Total since Dec 2018	
	Dec	Nov	Oct	Sep	Aug	#	%
Ngerchemai	3	4	6	5	19	104	19%
Ngerkebesang	20	16	13	9	10	76	14%
Ngermid	2		3		4	63	12%
Ngerbeched	2	2	4	4	13	60	11%
Madalaii			2	4	6	57	10%
Ngerkesoool	1			2	5	43	8%
Iyebukel	2	1		2	5	33	6%
Idid				1	9	32	6%
Meyuns	4		2	1	2	28	5%
Meketii		1		1	3	22	4%
Dngeronger	2		1	5	1	19	3%
Ikelau			2	1	2	9	2%
TOTAL	36	24	33	35	79	546	

Demographics

64% of cases are below the age of 30, with 10-19 year olds comprising the largest group affected (29%). More men than women have been affected.



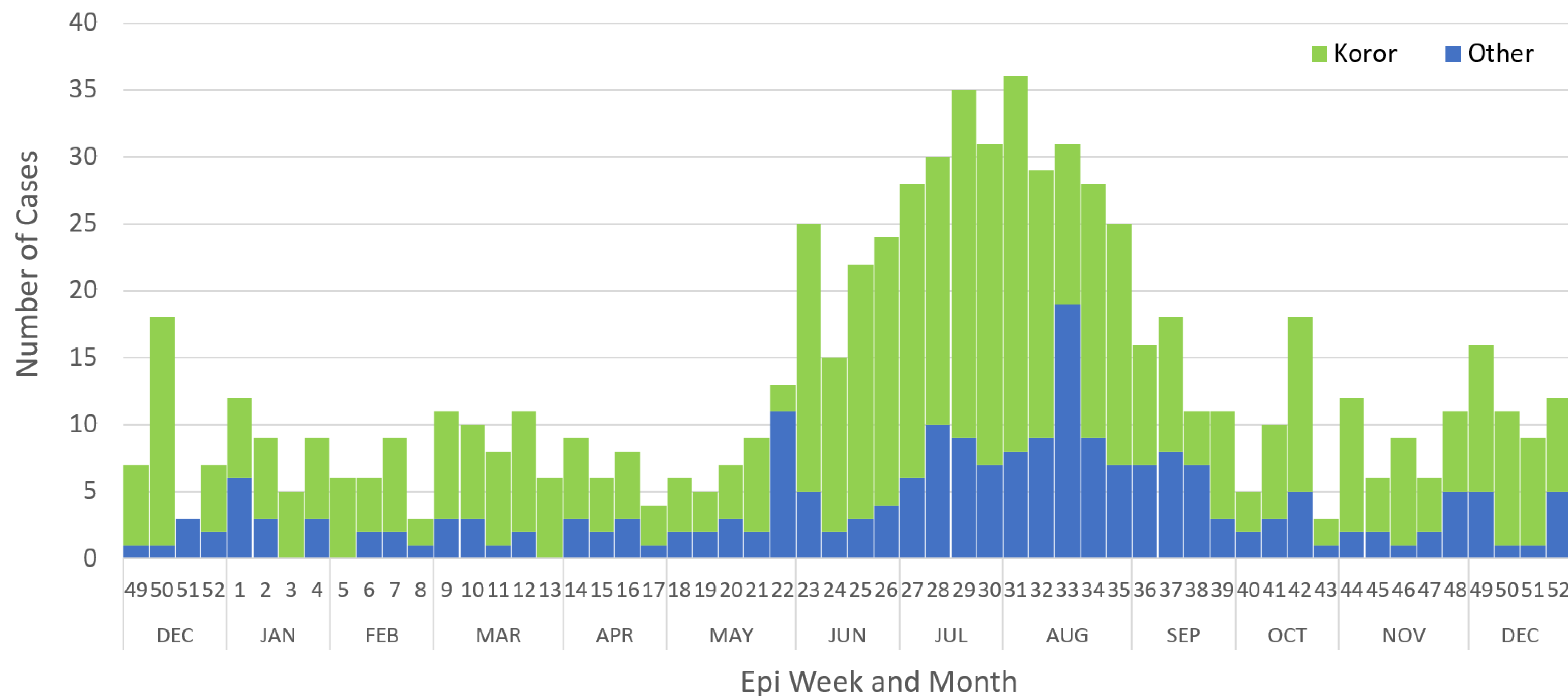
The majority of cases during this outbreak are Palauans followed by Bangladeshi, Filipino and Chinese nationals.

Ethnicity	Count	%
Palauan	464	85%
Bangladeshi	29	5%
Filipino	18	3%
Chinese	9	2%
Other	26	5%
TOTAL	546	

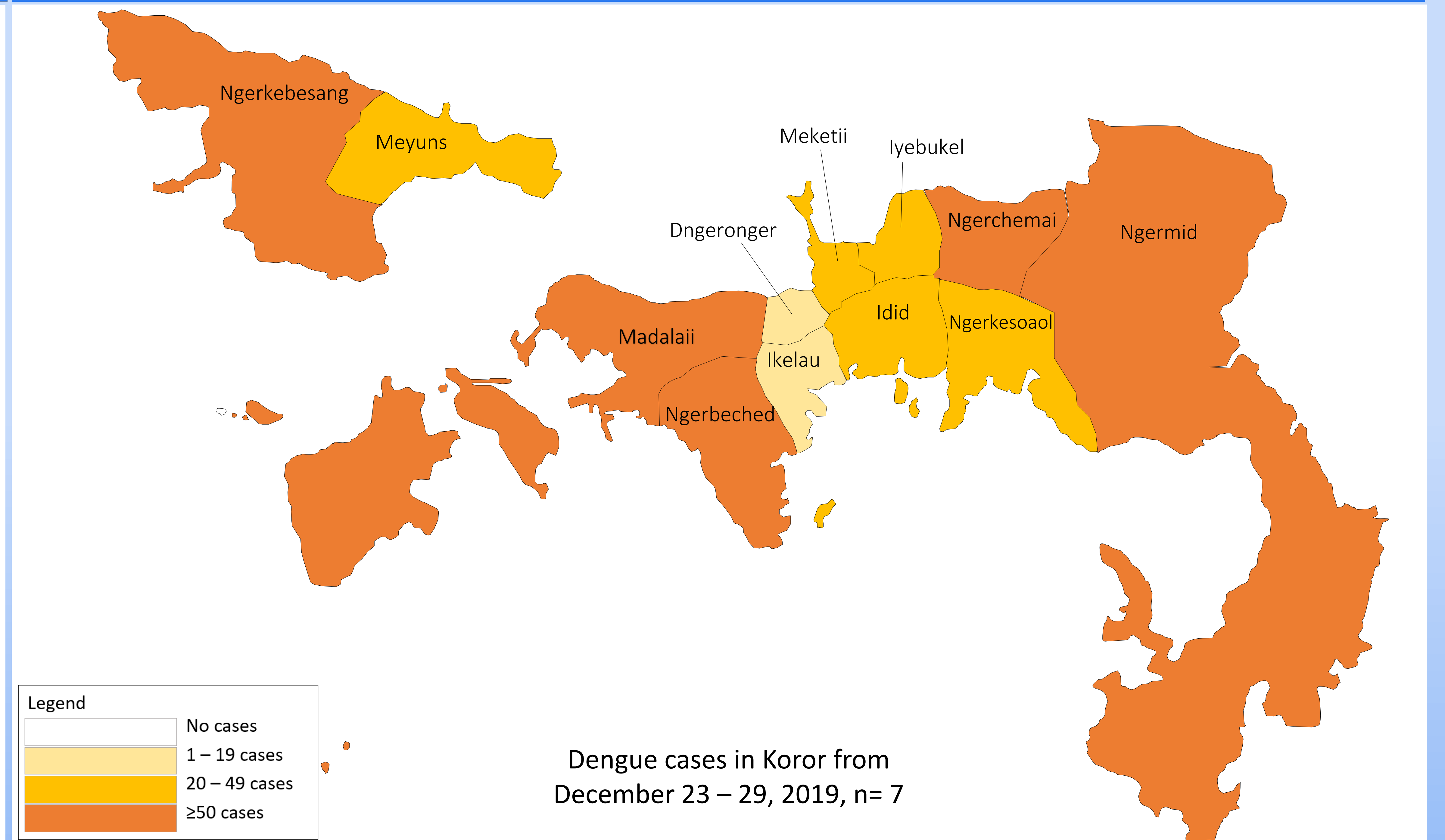
Epi Curve

Dengue Cases by Week of Diagnosis

December 3, 2018 - December 29, 2019



Cases by Hamlet



Dengue cases in Koror from December 23 – 29, 2019, n= 7