



Republic of Palau

Ministry of Health

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Situation Update: Dengue Outbreak

Summary

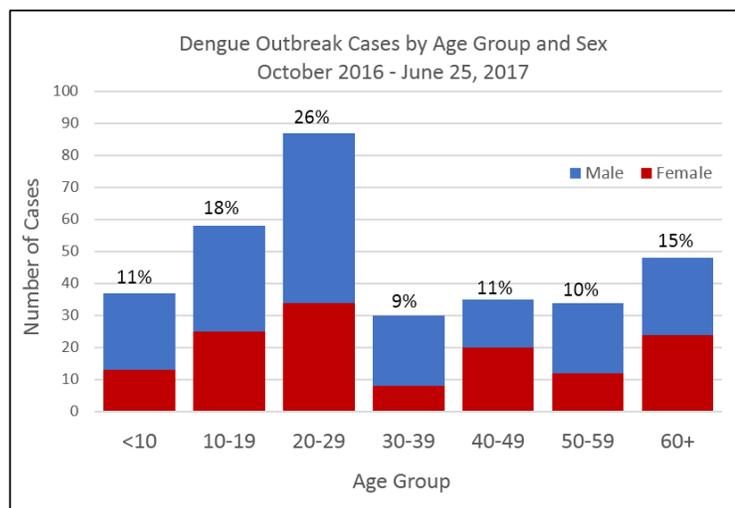
A steep rise in dengue cases was recognized starting November of 2016. In Epi Week 48, the number of cases of dengue fever exceeded the threshold for an outbreak of 10 cases in a month. An outbreak of dengue fever was subsequently declared. Surveillance for Zika virus was already in place following WHO’s declaration of Zika as a Public Health Threat of International Concern in February of 2016. Enhanced surveillance, public awareness campaigns, and increased scope of lab testing capability for dengue and Zika continue. This summary provides an overview of the dengue outbreak from October 2016 to June 25, 2017.

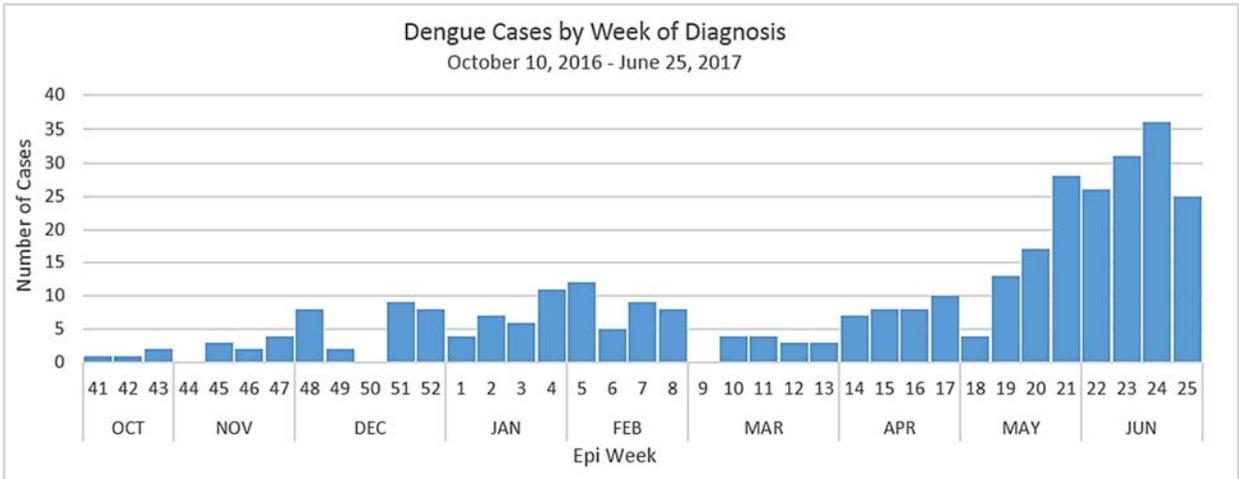
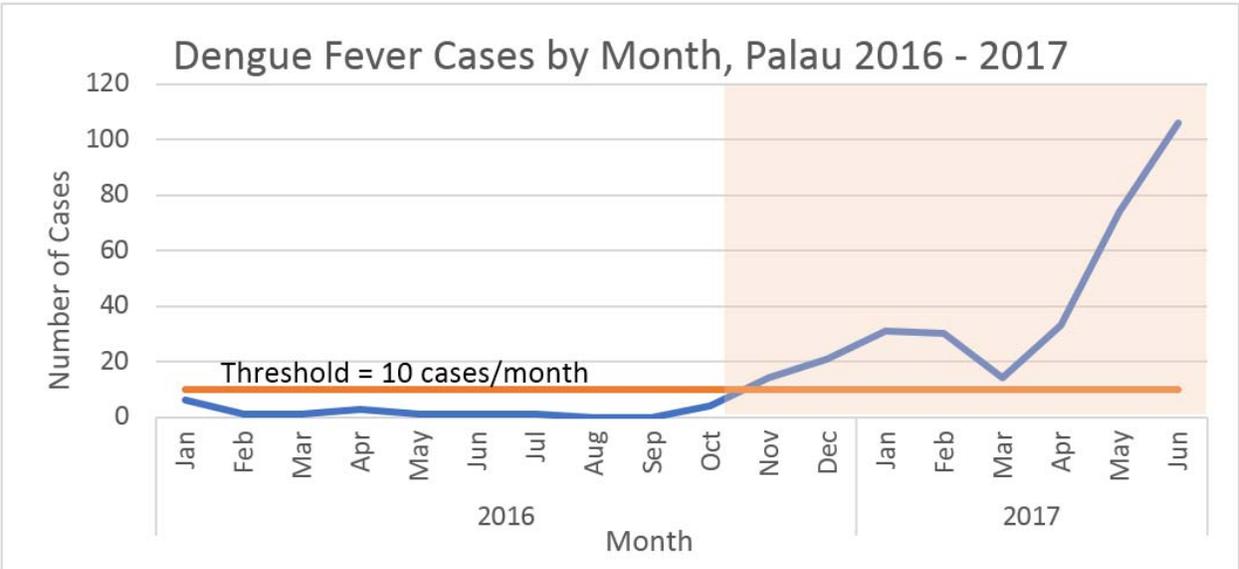
	Month	Number of Cases
2016	January	6
	February	1
	March	1
	April	3
	May	1
	June	1
	July	1
	August	0
	September	0
	October	4
	November	14
	December	21
2016 Total		53
2017	January	31
	February	32
	March	14
	April	33
	May	74
	June	106
2017 Total		290
Outbreak Total:		329

Demographics

Although the number of cases exceeded the threshold in November, cases identified in October were found to be linked to the outbreak. Between October 10, 2016 and June 25, 2017 there have been 329 cases of dengue fever identified primarily through lab surveillance. Nearly half of all cases were between 10 – 29 years of age and there were more males (59%) than females (41%).

Age range: 9 months – 88 years; Mean age: 33 years; Median age: 27 years.





Symptoms/Deaths

Based on available data, the most common symptoms were:

- Fever
- Headache
- Chills
- Body pain
- Loss of appetite
- Diarrhea
- Vomiting
- Arthralgia

In April and May 2017, there were three (3) deaths as a result of dengue virus infection in patients with preexisting medical conditions and who sought medical attention too late. This highlights the importance of protecting the vulnerable populations – those with NCDs, infants and young children, the elderly and anyone with a weakened immune system – and strengthening community awareness efforts to encourage infected persons to seek medical attention as soon as possible, in order to avert future deaths.

OCTOBER 2016 - JUNE 25 2017

Population	State	Number	% of total
11444	Koror	254	77.2%
2455	Airai	30	9.1%
316	Ngarchelong	10	3.0%
334	Aimeliik	8	2.4%
484	Peleliu	7	2.1%
282	Ngatpang	7	2.1%
413	Ngaraard	5	1.5%
282	Ngiwal	3	0.9%
185	Ngardmau	2	0.6%
119	Angaur	2	0.6%
277	Melekeok	1	0.3%

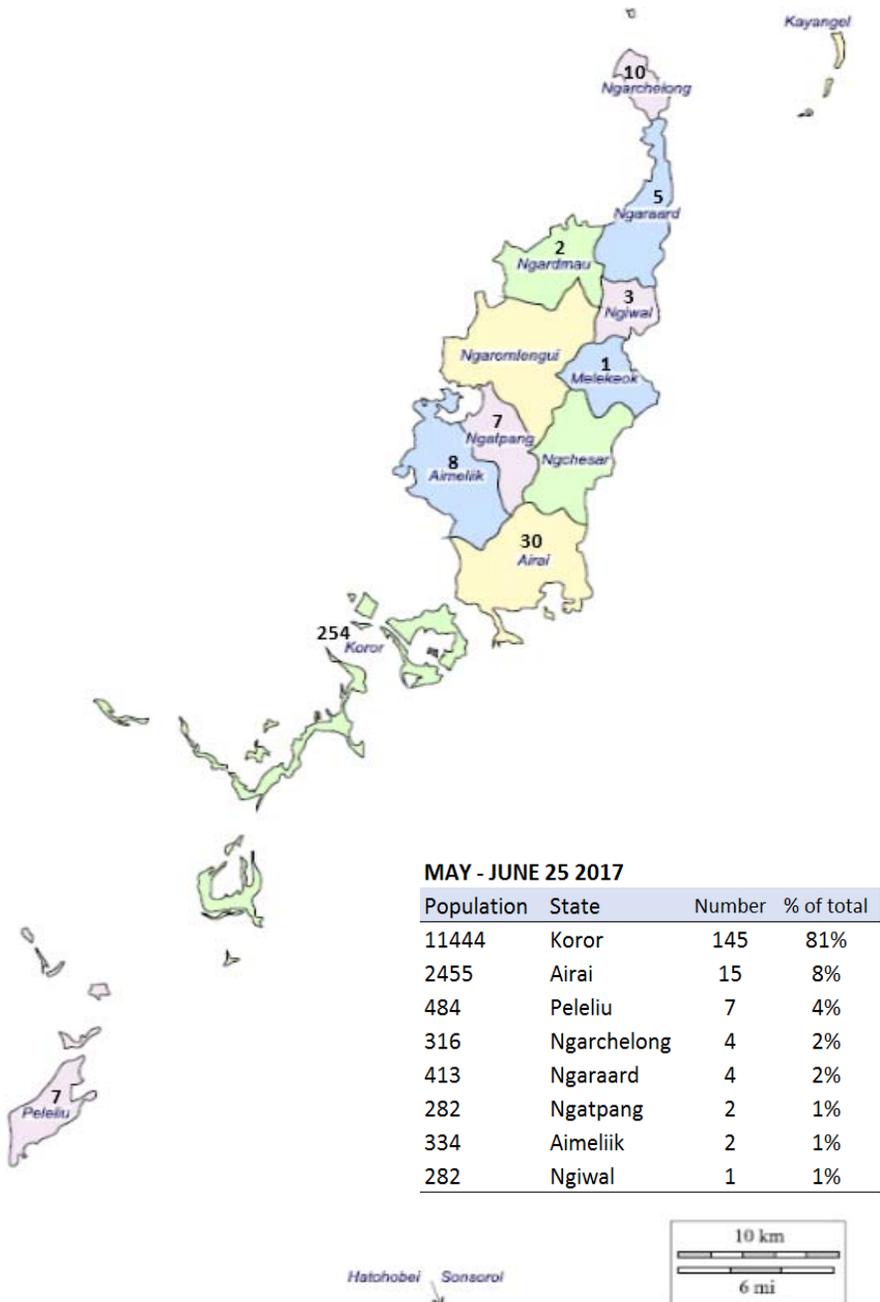
As the table on the left shows, 77% of dengue cases identified reside in Koror state. All hamlets in Koror have been affected. Overall, the dengue cases identified from the Koror hamlets of Madalalii, Ngermid, Ngerbeched, Meyuns, Dngeronger, Ngerchemai account for more than half of all cases during the whole outbreak. In the last two months, 80% of cases have been from Koror. We have seen a decrease in new cases from Ngermid and Ngerchemai and an increase in Madalalii, Ngerbeched, Dngeronger and Meyuns.

OCTOBER 10, 2016 - JUNE 25, 2017

Population	Koror Hamlet	Number	% of total
2057	Madalalii	39	15%
1060	Ngermid	32	13%
1507	Ngerbeched	29	11%
1024	Meyuns	28	11%
540	Dngeronger	28	11%
1475	Ngerchemai	24	9%
720	Iyebukel	15	6%
679	Idid	14	6%
614	Meketii	14	6%
655	Ngerkebesang	14	6%
631	Ngerkesowaol	11	4%
466	Ikelau	5	2%

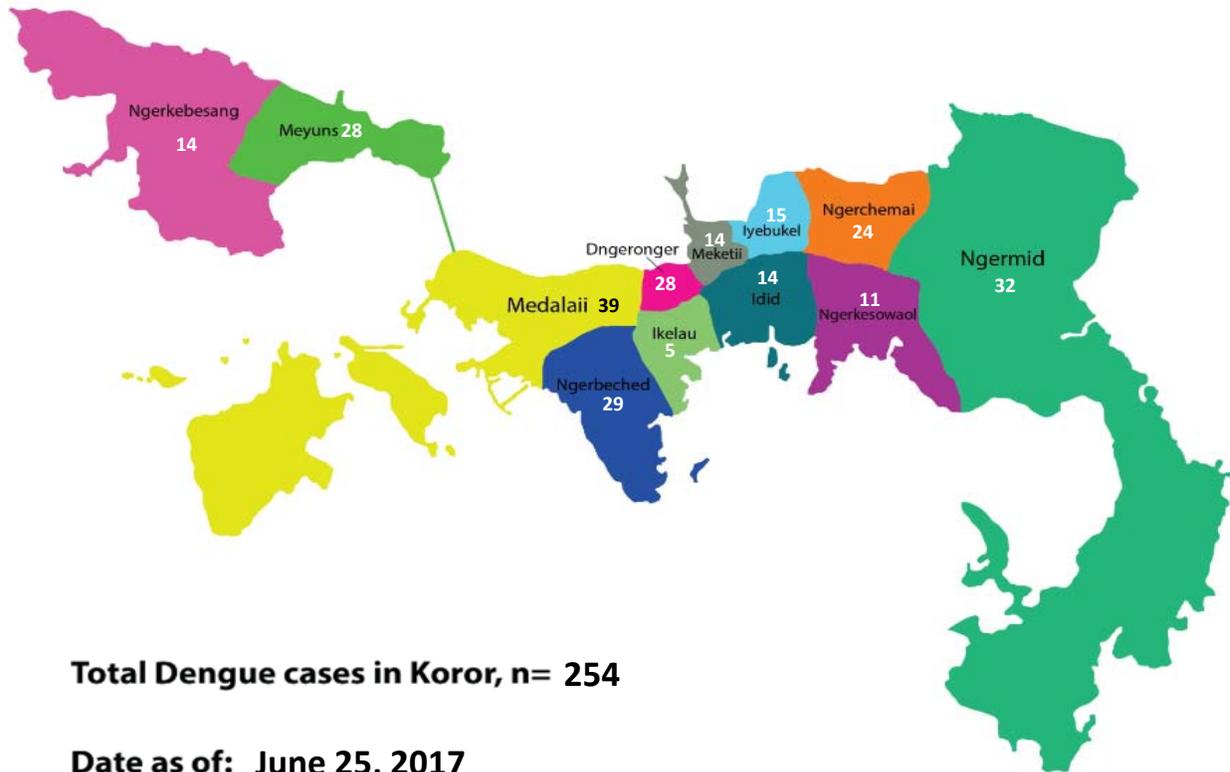
MAY - JUNE 2017

Population	Koror Hamlet	Number	% of total
2057	Madalalii	24	17%
1507	Ngerbeched	20	14%
540	Dngeronger	18	13%
1024	Meyuns	16	11%
679	Idid	12	8%
720	Iyebukel	11	8%
631	Ngerkesowaol	10	7%
1060	Ngermid	10	7%
1475	Ngerchemai	7	5%
655	Ngerkebesang	6	4%
466	Ikelau	5	3%
614	Meketii	5	3%



MAY - JUNE 25 2017

Population	State	Number	% of total
11444	Koror	145	81%
2455	Airai	15	8%
484	Peleliu	7	4%
316	Ngarchelong	4	2%
413	Ngaraard	4	2%
282	Ngatpang	2	1%
334	Aimeliik	2	1%
282	Ngiwal	1	1%



Treatment and Prevention

There are currently no licensed vaccines or anti-viral drugs for prevention or treatment of dengue virus infection. Prevention is key to stopping the spread of dengue fever. Please see attached 3S flyer.