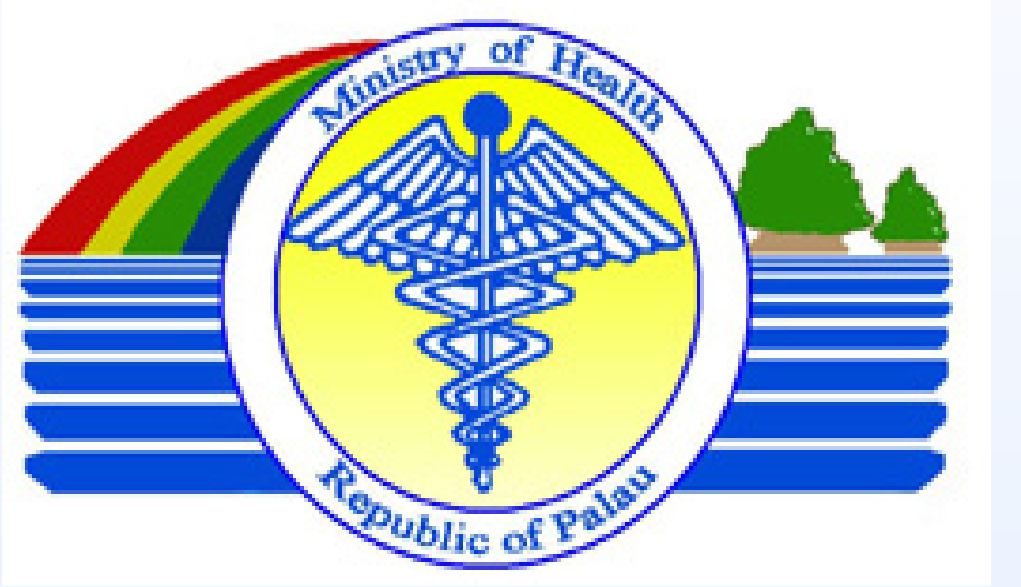


Dengue 3 Outbreak, Palau, December 2018 – May 2019

Report Date: May 21, 2019



Outbreak Overview

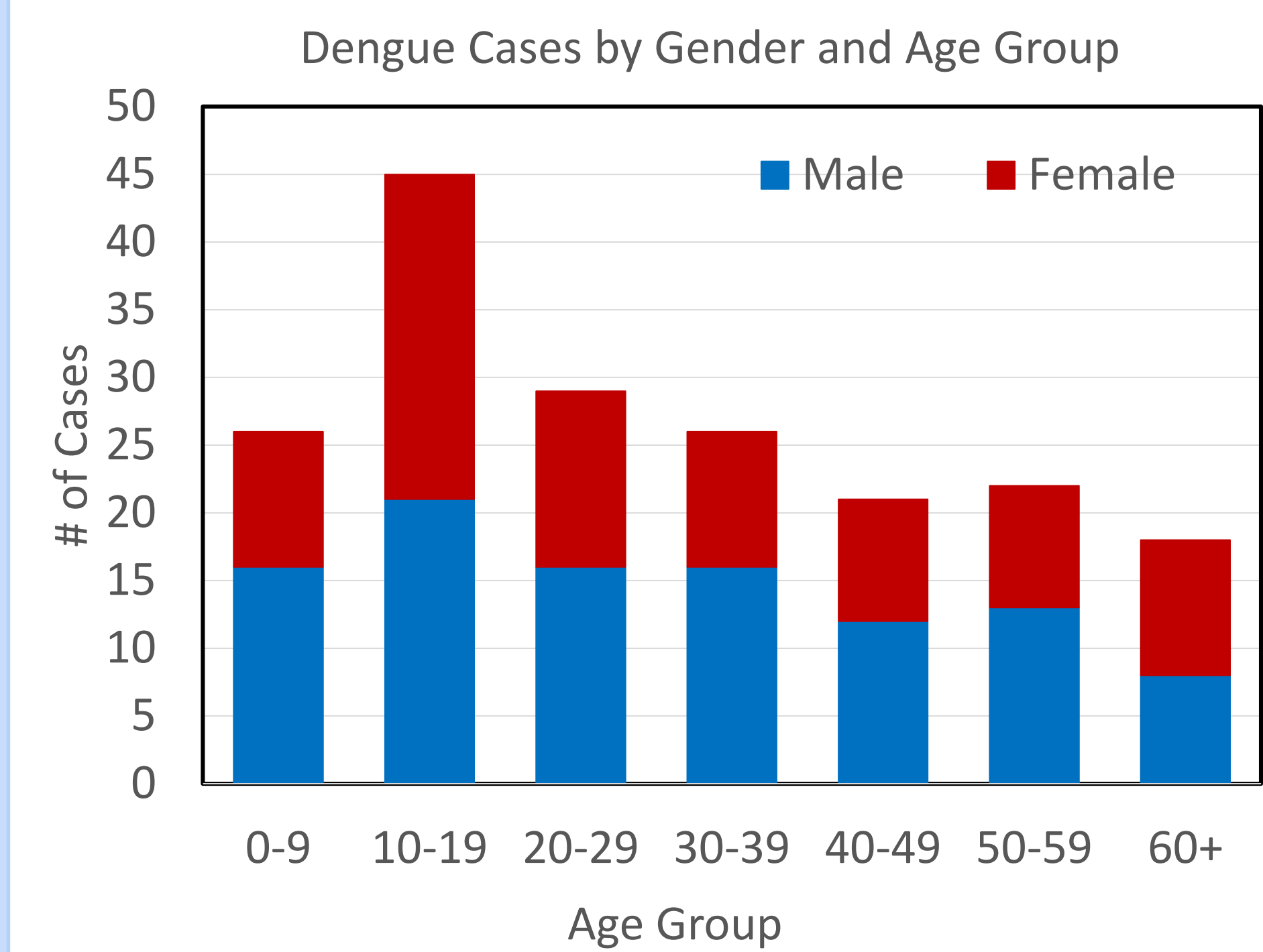
On Friday, December 7, 2018, the Palau Ministry of Health alerted the public of an outbreak of dengue fever following the first ever laboratory confirmation of two cases with dengue serotype-3. This poses a significant concern for public health as the whole population is potentially vulnerable to infection.

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 mosquito control measures, and ensuring adequate resources are available to combat the outbreak.

Between May 13 – 19, 2019, there were 7 new cases and 1 old case reported. This brings the total from December 1, 2018 to May 19, 2019 to 187 cases.

There have been no reported deaths attributed to dengue infection during this outbreak.

Demographics

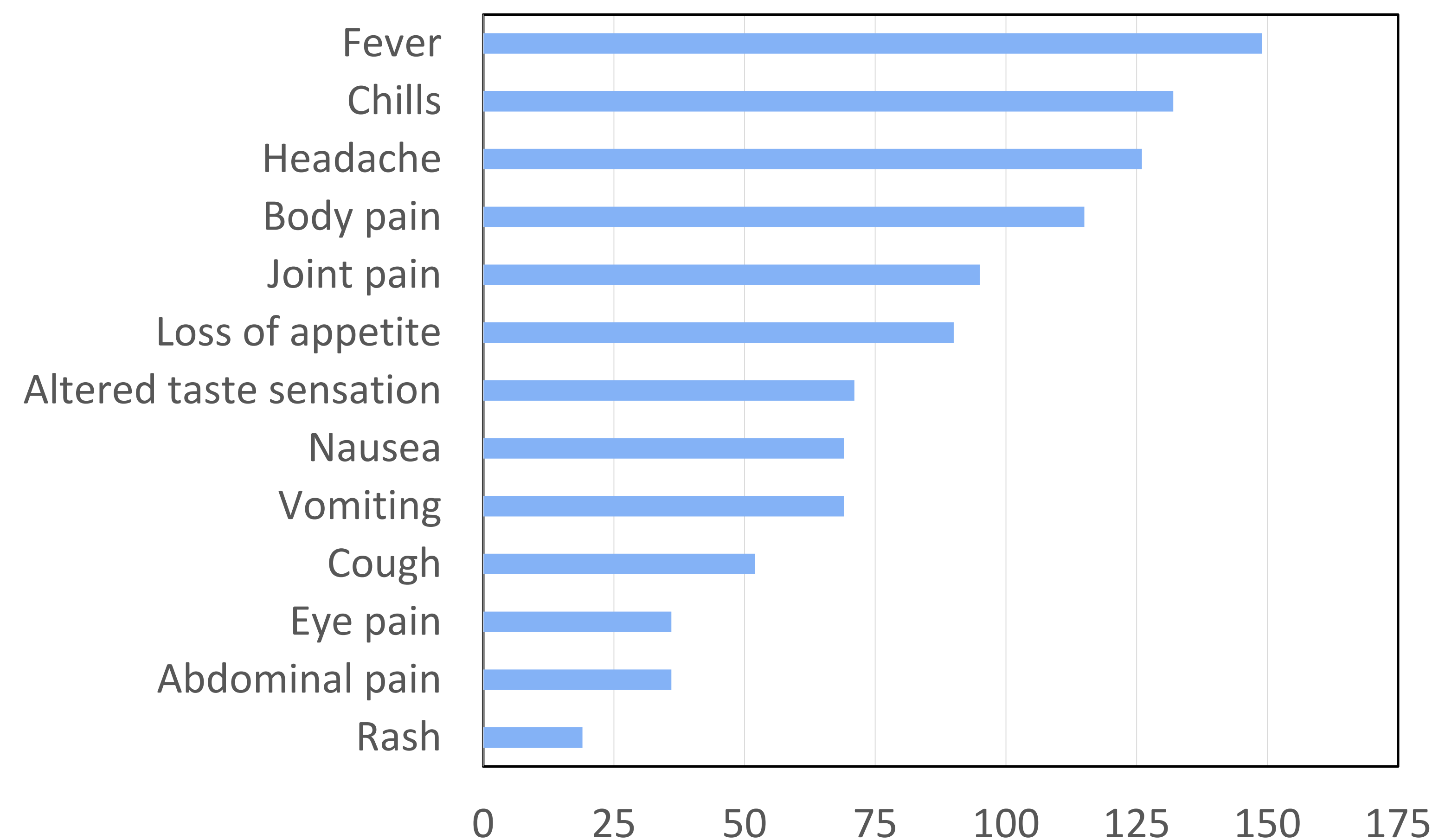


Age range = 0 – 88 years
 Mean age = 30 years
 Median age = 26 years
 Male:Female ratio= 118
 The majority of cases during this outbreak have been Palauan.

Ethnicity	Count	%
Palauan	155	83%
Bangladeshi	12	6%
Filipino	7	4%
Chinese	6	3%
Other	7	4%
TOTAL	187	

Symptom Profile of Cases

of Cases with Each Symptom (Cases with available data = 181)

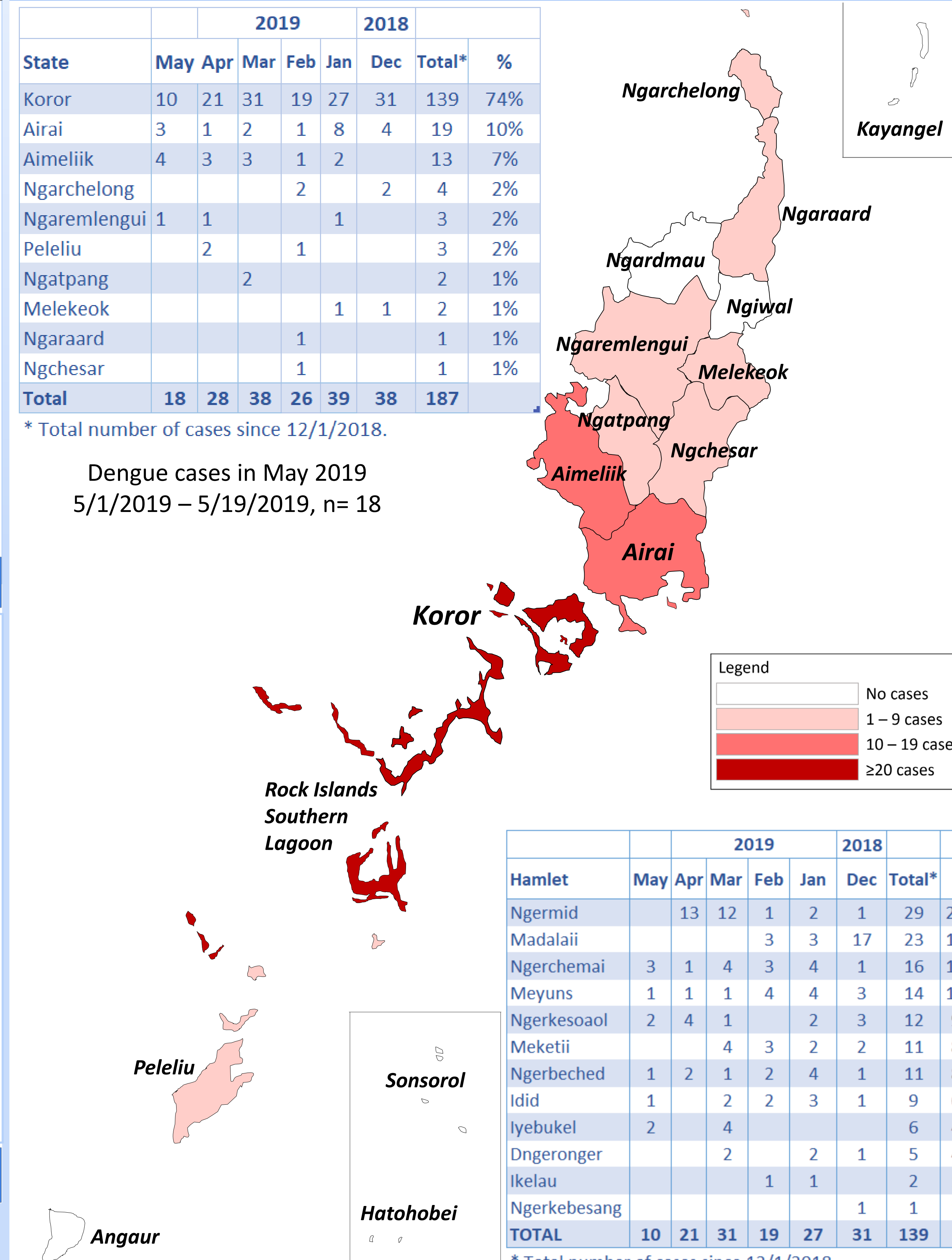


Cases by State and Koror Hamlets

State	2019					2018		Total*	%
	May	Apr	Mar	Feb	Jan	Dec	Jan		
Koror	10	21	31	19	27	31	139	74%	
Airai	3	1	2	1	8	4	19	10%	
Aimeliik	4	3	3	1	2		13	7%	
Ngarchelong				2		2	4	2%	
Ngaremlengui	1	1			1		3	2%	
Peleliu		2		1			3	2%	
Ngatpang			2				2	1%	
Melekeok					1	1	2	1%	
Ngaraard				1			1	1%	
Ngchesar							1	1%	
Total	18	28	38	26	39	38	187		

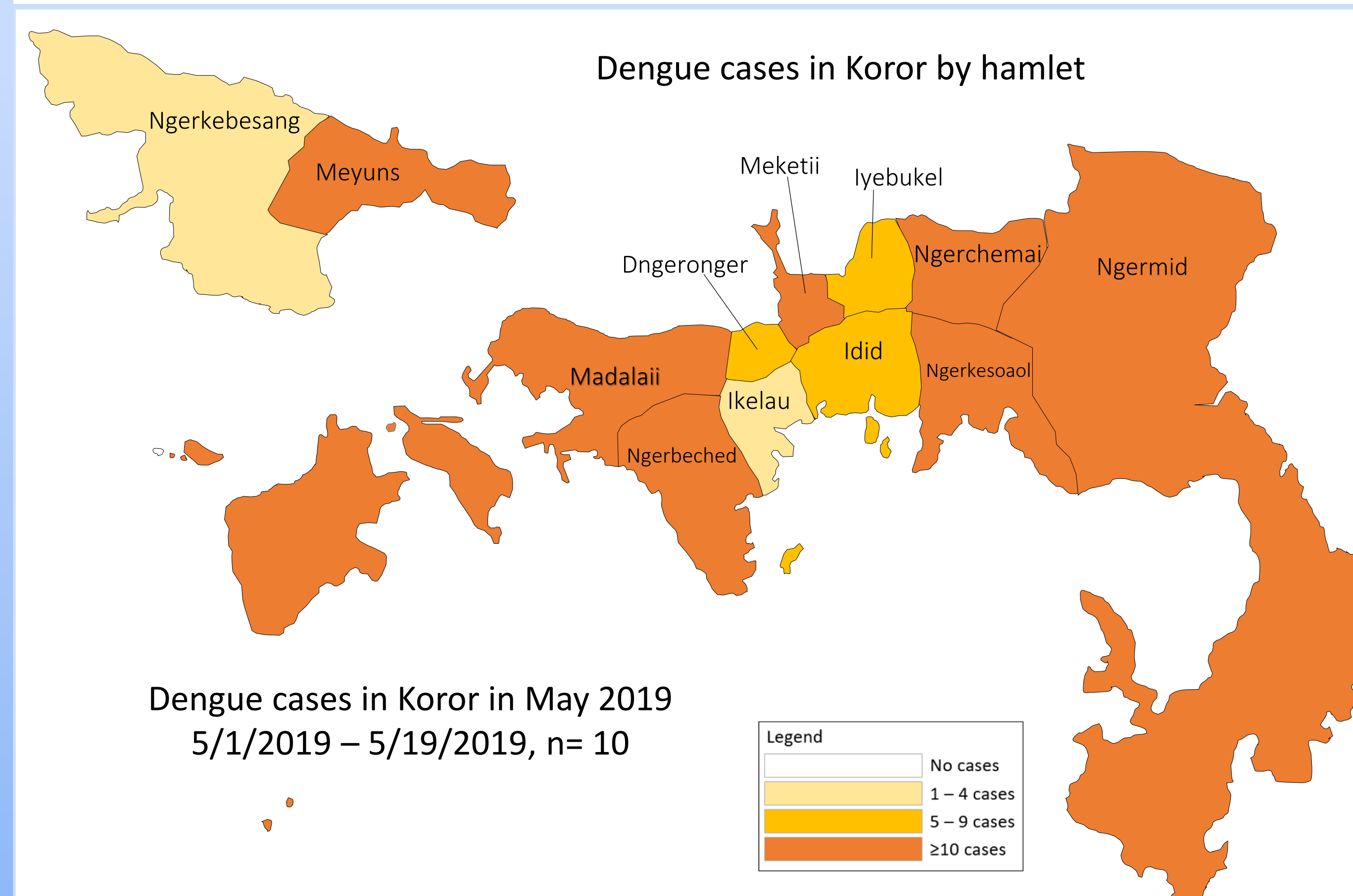
* Total number of cases since 12/1/2018.

Dengue cases in May 2019
 5/1/2019 – 5/19/2019, n= 18



Hamlet	2019					2018		Total*	%
	May	Apr	Mar	Feb	Jan	Dec	Jan		
Ngermid		13	12	1	2	1	29	21%	
Madalalai				3	3	17	23	17%	
Ngerchemai	3	1	4	3	4	1	16	12%	
Meyuns	1	1	1	4	4	3	14	10%	
Ngerkesoool	2	4	1		2	3	12	9%	
Meketii			4	3	2	2	11	8%	
Ngerbeched	1	2	1	2	4	1	11	8%	
Idid	1		2	2	3	1	9	6%	
Iyebukel	2		4				6	4%	
Dngeronger			2		2	1	5	4%	
Ikelau				1	1		2	1%	
Ngerkebesang						1	1	1%	
TOTAL	10	21	31	19	27	31	139		

* Total number of cases since 12/1/2018.

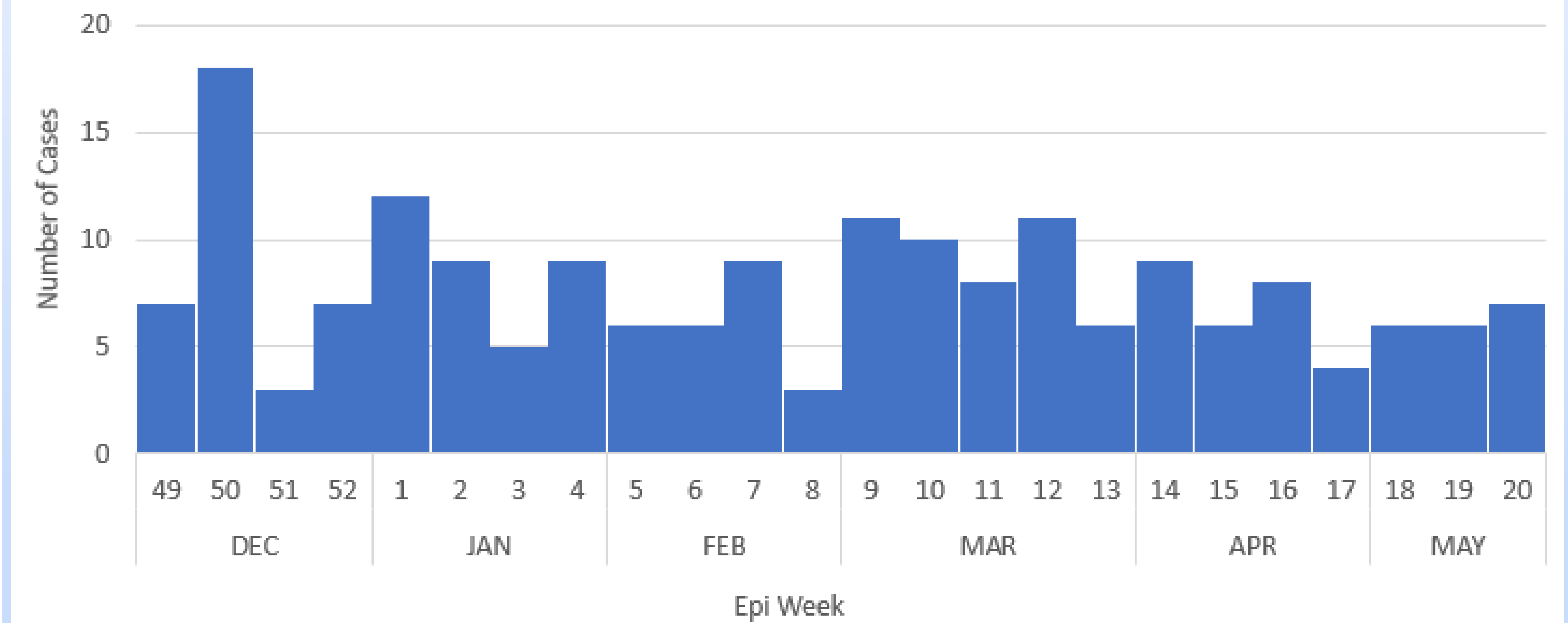


Dengue cases in Koror in May 2019
 5/1/2019 – 5/19/2019, n= 10

Epi Curve

Dengue Cases by Week of Diagnosis

December 3, 2018 - May 19, 2019



Lab Testing

- The Belau National Hospital (BNH) Laboratory and 3 private clinics on-island continue to screen symptomatic patients for dengue with a rapid diagnostic test kit.
- The BNH Lab continues to send serum specimens to Hawaii State Laboratory (HSL) for confirmation and serotyping.
- There have been 100 serotyped cases of DENV-3. The last recorded cases of DENV-2 were in November of 2018.

Response Measures

The dengue outbreak response team is continuing efforts to increase community awareness on the dengue outbreak and prevention measures through:

- Weekly radio talk shows at the national radio station
- Dissemination of print material about dengue prevention to the community
- Development of dengue prevention videos for public consumption that target young adults
- The Ministry of Health partnered with the Ministry of Education and Roll'Em Productions to host a dengue prevention contest for students to promote dengue awareness and the Year of Innovative Learning and Excellence.
 - A total of 30 students from elementary and high schools in Palau participated the contest.
 - Winning videos were submitted by students from Angaur Elementary School (1st place), Ibobang Elementary School (2nd place), Maris Stella Elementary School (3rd place) and Palau High School (1st place).
 - Contest winners will tour the Roll'Em Productions studio and learn more about video production.
 - The Palau Ministry of Health would like to recognize the generous support of donors towards prizes for this contest from Dr. Thane Hancock (\$100) and the Belau Medical Society (\$1000).

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

The Palau Ministry of Health's community dengue prevention 3S message:

- 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.

The next report will be released on Tuesday, May 28, 2019.