



H5N1 AVIAN INFLUENZA THREAT: HUMAN CASES AT A GLANCE

Country	Human Cases 2003–2005	Human Cases 2006	TOTAL
Azerbaijan	0 cases, 0 deaths	8 cases, 5 deaths	8 cases, 5 deaths
Cambodia	4 cases, 4 deaths	2 cases, 2 deaths	6 cases, 6 deaths
China	8 cases, 5 deaths	10 cases, 7 deaths	18 cases, 12 deaths
Djibouti	0 cases, 0 deaths	1 case, 0 deaths	1 case, 0 deaths
Egypt	0 cases, 0 deaths	14 cases, 6 deaths	14 cases, 6 deaths
Indonesia	17 cases, 11 deaths	32 cases, 26 deaths	49 cases, 37 deaths
Iraq	0 cases, 0 deaths	2 cases, 2 deaths	2 cases, 2 deaths
Thailand	22 cases, 14 deaths	0 cases, 0 deaths	22 cases, 14 deaths
Turkey	0 cases, 0 deaths	12 cases, 4 deaths	12 cases, 4 deaths
Vietnam	93 cases, 42 deaths	0 cases, 0 deaths	93 cases, 42 deaths
TOTAL	144 cases, 76 deaths	81 cases, 52 deaths	225 cases, 128 deaths

Source: WHO. Laboratory-confirmed cases as of June 6, 2006

NEWS

H5N1 not spreading efficiently between humans in Indonesia: The World Health Organization (WHO) has announced four nurses who displayed flu-like symptoms after treating patients for H5N1 avian influenza (AI) have tested negative for the virus. Some of the nurses treated members of a family in North Sumatra suspected of having shared the virus directly with one another; a 32-year-old man in the family died May 22, making him the family’s seventh H5N1 case and sixth death. However, WHO says evidence that the nurses and others in contact with the family have not contracted AI suggest it has not mutated into a form efficiently transmissible between humans.

New human H5N1 cases, deaths in Indonesia not related to family cluster: On May 29, WHO reported six additional human H5N1 cases, including three fatalities, in Indonesia. WHO reported an additional fatal case in a 15-year-old boy on June 6. None of the new cases is linked to a family cluster of H5N1 infections detected last month in North Sumatra.

AI spreading through trade, wild birds; USAID boosts surveillance: The U.N. Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) has announced trade and wild birds play major roles in the spread of AI. Toward improved global surveillance of wild birds and their role in the movement of H5N1, USAID, in collaboration with the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), awarded a cooperative agreement last week for a global AI surveillance network. In addition to information on wild birds, the network will also provide information for early warning networks to convey disease threats to at-risk populations.

Bird flu cases underreported: The World Organization for Animal Health has announced China, Indonesia, and Africa have more animal outbreaks of H5N1 than are actually being reported due to lack of resources to monitor the disease. The threat of the emergence of a pandemic flu strain is greatest in underdeveloped regions where humans and livestock live in proximity and health care systems lack capacity to identify, diagnose, treat, and contain disease.

NEW USAID ACTIONS

To date, USAID has committed \$158 million to fight AI. In Asia and the Near East, Europe and Eurasia, Africa, Latin America and the Caribbean, and globally, USAID supports AI-related activities in five areas: **planning**

and preparedness, surveillance, communications, commodities (such as personal protective equipment, or PPE), and **emergency response**.

Asia and the Near East:

- On May 20, Director of U.S. Foreign Assistance and USAID Administrator Randall L. Tobias announced USAID's contribution of Real-Time Polymerase Chain Reaction (RT-PCR) equipment, which helps quickly detect AI virus strains, to **Pakistan's** National Reference Laboratory. The lab, which is funded by USAID and managed by FAO, is the only FAO-approved lab for handling AI in South Asia.
- During a joint government-donor meeting on June 2 in support of the 2006–2010 **Vietnam** Integrated Operational Program for Avian and Human Influenza, donors pledged more than \$60 million for 2006 to 2008. USAID pledged \$5 million in AI activities for Vietnam in fiscal year 2006 as part of a U.S. Government pledge.
- In **Afghanistan**, USAID, the World Bank, and FAO have fielded a joint mission to prepare a comprehensive avian and human influenza control and preparedness project based on the country's national AI preparedness and response plan.

Europe and Eurasia:

- USAID has deployed 4,000 PPE sets to **Romania** for use in the response to widespread animal outbreaks in the country. With partner John Snow Institute, Inc., and in collaboration with the United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF), USAID is also supporting training for journalists on AI. USAID has obligated funds for Romania for three necessary RT-PCRs and their reagents.
- In **Ukraine**, USAID has worked in partnership with UNICEF, International Relief and Development (IRD), HPI (the Futures Group), and the Center for Ukrainian Reform Education (CURE) to enhance coordination on USAID-supported AI communications. The overall strategy targets changing AI-related behavior through awareness raising and community mobilization. USAID has also provided IRD with technical recommendations for local veterinary services for outbreak containment.

Africa:

- USAID is working with the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) and other partners to respond to AI in **Djibouti** and has deployed 2,000 PPE sets for surveillance and culling purposes; USAID is also supporting communications and public awareness efforts in the country.
- USAID is continuing to support efforts to respond to AI in **Nigeria** as the country contends with ongoing H5N1 outbreaks in birds. USAID has contributed supplies for disease response and containment, including decontamination sprayers, rubber boots, global positioning system (GPS) devices, first aid kits, gloves, and disinfecting brushes.
- USAID has supported the reproduction of a public awareness toolkit for AI and the dissemination of more than 25,000 of these kits to countries in **sub-Saharan Africa**. The kits include key messages and educational materials for preventing the spread of H5N1 in animals and for limiting human exposure, as well as a communications guide for community workers.
- USAID will send two representatives from its **West Africa Regional Program** to attend the June 18 technical experts and ministerial meeting of the Economic Community of West African States in Abuja, Nigeria; lessons learned from the meeting will be applied toward efforts to enhance planning and preparedness for AI in the region.

Latin America and the Caribbean:

- On June 5, USAID met with the Pan American Health Organization (PAHO) and Links Media to enhance communications efforts in **Latin America and the Caribbean**; activities will include development of a regional communications strategy and promotion of behaviors and practices for risk reduction. To further improve planning and preparedness in case H5N1 is detected in the region, animal specialists from USAID, USDA, and PAHO met June 6 to discuss coordinating efforts for H5N1 sample collection and laboratory shipments if outbreaks occur.