

# *Avian Influenza Report*

*Avian Influenza Report* is a weekly report produced by the Surveillance Division of the Communicable Disease Branch of the Centre for Health Protection. This report highlights global avian influenza activity in humans and birds.

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## Summary

1. Since the previous issue of Avian Influenza Report (AIR), there were no new human cases of avian influenza A(H7N9). Since March 2013 (as of Feb 27, 2021), there were a total of 1568 human cases of avian influenza A(H7N9) reported globally (all were reported in the past seven waves between 2013 and September 2019). The latest case was reported on April 5, 2019.
2. Since the previous issue of AIR, there were no new human cases of avian influenza A(H5N6). Since 2014 (as of Feb 27, 2021), there were 29 human cases of avian influenza A(H5N6) reported globally and all occurred in Mainland China. The latest case was reported on February 4, 2021.
3. Since the previous issue of AIR, there were no new human cases of avian influenza A(H5N1). From 2011 to 2020, 0 to 145 confirmed human cases of avian influenza A(H5N1) were reported to WHO annually (according to onset date).\* The latest case was reported on November 6, 2020.

\* Since November 21, 2012, WHO only publishes information on human cases with avian influenza A(H5N1) infection in “[Influenza at human - animal interface: Monthly Risk Assessment Summary](#)”. Only cases of human infection with H5N1 involved in events that are unusual or associated with potential increased risks will be reported in Disease Outbreak News. The latest [report](#) was published in December, 2020.

## This week's highlights

(Sources: WHO, NHC, Mainland health authorities, Ministry of Agriculture of the People's Republic of China, Centre for Health Protection (CHP) and World Organisation for Animal Health (OIE))

**Table 1. Hong Kong: Confirmed human cases of avian influenza A(H5N1 / H5N6 / H7N9) since previous issue of AIR**

	No. of H5 cases (No. of deaths)	No. of H7N9 cases (No. of deaths)	Details
<b>In this reporting period</b>	0(0)	0(0)	-

**Table 2. Outside Hong Kong: Confirmed human cases of avian influenza A(H5N1 / H5N6 / H7N9) since previous issue of AIR**

Date of report	Country	Province / Region	District / City	Sex	Age	Condition at time of reporting	Subtype of virus
-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-

**Table 3. Confirmed human cases of avian influenza A(H5N1) reported to WHO / NHC since 2003 (by onset date) §**

Year	Cases	Deaths	Case fatality rate
2003	4	4	100%
2004	46	32	69.6%
2005	98	43	43.9%
2006	115	79	68.7%
2007	88	59	67.0%
2008	44	33	75.0%
2009	73	32	43.8%
2010	48	24	50.0%
2011	62	34	54.8%
2012	32	20	62.5%
2013	39	25	64.1%
2014	52	22	42.3%
2015	145	42	29.0%
2016	10	3	30.0%
2017	4	2	50.0%
2018	0	0	0%
2019	1	1	100%
2020	1	0	0%
2021	0	0	0%
Overall	862	455	52.8%

§ Further breakdown by countries is available at [WHO](https://www.who.int/) website

**Table 4. Confirmed human cases of avian influenza A(H5N1) reported to WHO / NHC since 2003 (by date of reporting)**

<b>Countries /Areas</b>	<b>Cumulative no. of cases (December 2003 to February 2021)</b>	<b>No. of recent cases (October 2020 to February 2021)</b>
Azerbaijan	8	0
Bangladesh	8	0
Cambodia	56	0
Canada	1	0
Mainland China	53 <sup>#</sup>	0
Djibouti	1	0
Egypt	359	0
Indonesia	200	0
Iraq	3	0
Lao People's Democratic Republic	3	1
Myanmar	1	0
Nepal	1	0
Nigeria	1	0
Pakistan	3	0
Thailand	25	0
Turkey	12	0
Vietnam	127	0
Overall	862	1

<sup>#</sup> Including two cases from Mainland China detected in Hong Kong

**Table 5. Cumulative numbers of confirmed cases of human infection with avian influenza A(H5N6) since 2014 and since January 2021 respectively**

<b>Confirmed H5N6 human cases have been reported in the following countries / areas</b>		<b>Cumulative no. of cases since 2014 (29 cases in total) (as of Feb 27, 2021)</b>	<b>Cumulative no. of cases since January 2021 (3 cases in total) (as of Feb 27, 2021)</b>
Mainland China	Guangdong Province	8	0
	Guangxi Zhuang Autonomous Region	4	0
	Hunan Province	4	0
	Anhui Province	2	1
	Jiangsu Province	2	0
	Yunnan Province	2	0
	Beijing Municipality	1	0
	Chongqing Municipality	1	1
	Fujian Province	1	0
	Guizhou Province	1	1
	Hubei Province	1	0
	Jiangxi Province	1 <sup>*</sup>	0
Sichuan Province	1	0	

<sup>\*</sup> Imported case from Guangdong

**Table 6. Cumulative numbers of confirmed cases of human infection with avian influenza A(H7N9) since 2013 and since October 2020 respectively**

Confirmed H7N9 human cases have been reported in the following countries / areas		Cumulative no. of cases since 2013 (1568 cases in total) (as of Feb 27, 2021)	Cumulative no. of cases since October 2020 (0 case in total) (as of Feb 27, 2021)
Mainland China	Zhejiang Province	310	0
	Guangdong Province	259	0
	Jiangsu Province	252	0
	Fujian Province	108	0
	Anhui Province	99	0
	Hunan Province	95	0
	Shanghai Municipality	57	0
	Jiangxi Province	52	0
	Sichuan Province	38	0
	Beijing Municipality	35	0
	Guangxi Zhuang Autonomous Region	31	0
	Hubei Province	31	0
	Hebei Province	29	0
	Henan Province	28	0
	Shandong Province	28	0
	Guizhou Province	20	0
	Xinjiang Uygur Autonomous Region	14	0
	Chongqing Municipality	9	0
	Yunnan Province	8	0
	Shaanxi Province	7	0
	Gansu Province	6	0
	Liaoning Province	5	0
	Tianjin Municipality	5	0
	Jilin Province	3	0
	Shanxi Province	3	0
Tibet Autonomous Region	3	0	
Inner Mongolia Autonomous Region	2	0	
Hong Kong		21*	0
Taiwan		5*	0
Canada		2*	0
Macao		2 <sup>#</sup>	0
Malaysia		1*	0

\* All cases imported from Mainland China

<sup>#</sup> The latest case imported from Mainland China

**Table 7. Confirmed human cases of avian influenza A infections other than avian influenza A(H5N1 / H5N6 / H7N9) reported in the past 6 months (as of March 1, 2021)**

	Place of occurrence	No. of cases (No. of deaths)	Details
<b>In this reporting period</b>	<b>Mainland China</b>	3(0)	<p><b>Avian influenza A(H9N2):</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ <b>Sichuan Province:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▫ A 1-year-old girl with onset on November 30, 2020.</li> </ul> </li> <li>▪ <b>Anhui Province:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▫ A 5-year-old girl with onset on January 17, 2021.</li> </ul> </li> <li>▪ <b>Jiangxi Province:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▫ A 2-year-old girl with onset on January 18, 2021.</li> </ul> </li> </ul>
<b>Previously reported cases (onset/ reported in the past 6 months)</b>	<b>Mainland China</b>	9(0)	<p><b>Avian influenza A(H9N2):</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ <b>Mainland China:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▫ Six cases were retrospectively detected through Influenza-like Illness Surveillance (ILI) between July 2019 and December 2020.</li> </ul> </li> <li>▪ <b>Guangdong Province:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▫ A 3-year-old girl with onset on October 12, 2020.</li> <li>▫ A 16-month-old boy with onset on December 28, 2020.</li> </ul> </li> <li>▪ <b>Fujian Province:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▫ A 52-year-old woman with onset on January 2, 2021.</li> </ul> </li> </ul>

**Table 8. Hong Kong: Confirmed reports of avian influenza A(H5) or avian influenza A(H7N9) in poultry / wild birds / environmental samples since 2015**

	No. of reports of H5 in poultry / wild birds / environmental samples	No. of reports of H7N9 in poultry / wild birds / environmental samples	Details
<b>In this reporting period</b>	0	0	-
<b>Previously reported cases since 2015 (before this reporting period)</b>	18*	1 <sup>#</sup>	-

- \* [Carcass of a peregrine falcon found in Yuen Long on April 9, 2015 \(H5N6\)](#)
- [Carcass of an oriental magpie robin found in Sai Kung on April 29, 2015 \(H5N6\)](#)
- [Carcass of an oriental magpie robin found in Kwai Chung on November 17, 2015 \(H5N6\)](#)
- [Carcass of a great egret found in Wong Tai Sin on December 31, 2015 \(H5N6\).](#)
- [Chicken carcass found in Tuen Mun on February 14, 2016 \(H5N6\)](#)
- [Chicken carcass found in Tai O on February 18, 2016 \(H5N6\)](#)
- [Samples of faecal droppings collected at Mai Po Nature Reserve on November 25, 2016 \(H5N6\)](#)
- [A sample of faecal droppings collected at Mai Po Nature Reserve on November 30, 2016 \(H5N6\)](#)
- [A dead red-whiskered bulbul collected at Kowloon City on April 7, 2017 \(H5N6\)](#)
- [A dead oriental magpie robin found in Tseung Kwan O on December 21, 2017 \(H5N6\)](#)
- [A dead black-faced spoonbill found in the Hong Kong Wetland Park in Tin Shui Wai on December 21, 2017 \(H5N6\)](#)
- [An environmental swab of a chopping board and skin swabs of a chilled duck sample taken from a fresh provision shop in Wan Chai on 2 January & 9 January, 2018 \(H5N6\)](#)
- [An oropharyngeal swab from a batch of chilled chicken taken at a fresh provision shop in Mong Kok, reported on 23 January, 2018 \(H5N6\)](#)
- [A black-headed gull carcass found in Ngau Hom Tsuen, Lau Fau Shan on February 8, 2018 \(H5N6\)](#)
- [A dead crested myna found at Kun Lung Wai, Fanling reported on April 9, 2018 \(H5N6\)](#)
- [A swab sample taken from a bird cage housing a hill myna at a pet bird shop in Yuen Po Street Bird Garden in Mong Kok on 7 April, 2018 \(H5N6\)](#)
- [Samples of faecal droppings collected at Mai Po Nature Reserve reported on January 14, 2021 \(H5N8\)](#)
- [Carcass of a peregrine falcon found in Wu Kai Sha reported on February 1, 2021 \(H5N8\)](#)
- # [A sample of faecal droppings of live poultry taken from a poultry stall in Yan Oi Market in Tuen Mun reported on June 5, 2016 \(H7N9\)](#)

**Table 9. Outside Hong Kong: Confirmed avian influenza A(H5) or other highly pathogenic avian influenza in poultry / wild birds / environmental samples reported in this week – number of reports for various subtypes of virus**

Subtype of virus	No. of reports
H5N8	3

**Table 10. Outside Hong Kong: Confirmed avian influenza A(H5) or other highly pathogenic avian influenza in poultry / wild birds / environmental samples reported in this week – details of reports**

Places of occurrence	Details	OIE Report Date
Estonia	Samples from poultry in Lääne-Viru county and Viru-Nigula parish were tested positive for highly pathogenic avian influenza A(H5N8).	February 19, 2021
Afghanistan	Samples from poultry in Herat province were tested positive for highly pathogenic avian influenza A(H5N8).	February 24, 2021
Sweden	Samples from poultry in Linköping were tested positive for highly pathogenic avian influenza A(H5N8).	February 25, 2021

For cumulative reports of avian influenza A(H5) or other highly pathogenic avian influenza in poultry / wild birds, please refer to the [OIE](#) website.

**Table 11. Countries / areas with documented human infection with avian influenza A(H7N9) or highly pathogenic avian influenza (including infections in humans/birds and relevant environmental samples) in the past 6 months (as of March 1, 2021)**

Countries / Areas	Human cases		Poultry cases / other related samples		Wild bird cases / other related samples	
	Subtype of virus	Date of last report / onset of last reported case (Subtype in this report)	Subtype of virus	Date of last report (Subtype in this report)	Subtype of virus	Date of last report (Subtype in this report)
Afghanistan	-	-	H5	24/02/2021 (H5N8)	-	-
Algeria	-	-	H5	08/02/2021 (H5N8)	-	-
Austria	-	-	-	-	H5	17/02/2021 (H5N5) 17/02/2021 (H5N8)
Belgium	-	-	H5	29/01/2021 (H5N5)	H5	04/12/2020 (H5N8) 29/01/2021*
Bulgaria	-	-	H5	09/02/2021*	-	-
Cambodia	-	-	H5	14/01/2021 (H5N1)	-	-
Croatia	-	-	H5	21/11/2020 (H5N8)	-	-
Czech Republic	-	-	H5	15/02/2021 (H5N8)	H5	06/02/2021 (H5N8)
Denmark	-	-	H5	26/01/2021 (H5N8)	H5	22/01/2021 (H5N5) 12/02/2021 (H5N3) 12/02/2021 (H5N8)
Egypt	-	-	Endemic (H5)	Endemic (H5N1)	-	-
Estonia	-	-	H5	19/02/2021 (H5N8)	H5	12/02/2021 (H5N8)
Finland	-	-	H5	10/02/2021 (H5N8)	H5	12/02/2021 (H5N8)
France	-	-	H5	03/02/2021 (H5N8)	H5	01/12/2020* 27/01/2021 (H5N3) 12/02/2021 (H5N8)
Germany	-	-	H5	11/11/2020 (H5N5) 18/02/2021 (H5N8)	H5	28/12/2020* 18/01/2021 (H5N1) 28/01/2021 (H5N4) 17/02/2021 (H5N3) 17/02/2021 (H5N5) 17/02/2021 (H5N8)
Hong Kong Special Administrative Region	-	-	-	-	H5	31/01/2021 (H5N8)
Hungary	-	-	H5	08/02/2021 (H5N8)	H5	11/01/2021 (H5N8)
India	-	-	H5	01/02/2021 (H5N1)	H5	24/01/2021 (H5N8)

Countries / Areas	Human cases		Poultry cases / other related samples		Wild bird cases / other related samples	
	Subtype of virus	Date of last report / onset of last reported case (Subtype in this report)	Subtype of virus	Date of last report (Subtype in this report)	Subtype of virus	Date of last report (Subtype in this report)
				01/02/2021 (H5N8)		01/02/2021 (H5N1)
Indonesia	-	-	Endemic (H5)	Endemic (H5N1)	-	-
Iran	-	-	H5	16/02/2021 (H5N8)	H5	14/12/2020 (H5N8)
Iraq	-	-	H5	20/01/2021 (H5N8)	-	-
Ireland	-	-	H5	11/12/2020 (H5N8)	H5	19/01/2021 (H5N3) 17/02/2021 (H5N8)
Israel	-	-	H5	27/12/2020 (H5N8)	H5	25/01/2021 (H5N8)
Italy	-	-	H5	25/01/2021 (H5N8)	H5	27/11/2020* 16/12/2020 (H5N5) 11/01/2021 (H5N1) 26/01/2021 (H5N8)
Japan	-	-	H5	18/02/2021 (H5N8)	H5	18/02/2021 (H5N8)
Kazakhstan	-	-	H5	16/11/2020*	H5	16/09/2020*
Korea	-	-	H5	18/02/2021 (H5N8)	H5	28/01/2021 (H5N8)
Kuwait	-	-	H5	21/01/2021 (H5N8)	-	-
Lao People's Democratic Republic	H5	13/10/2020 (H5N1)	H5	13/11/2020 (H5N1)	-	-
Latvia	-	-	-	-	H5	15/02/2021 (H5N8)
Lithuania	-	-	H5	08/01/2021 (H5N8)	H5	14/02/2021 (H5N8)
Mainland China						
Anhui	H5	22/12/2020 (H5N6)	-	-	-	-
Beijing	-	-	-	-	H5	02/02/2021 (H5N8)
Chongqing	H5	18/12/2020 (H5N6)	-	-	-	-
Hunan	H5	13/12/2020 (H5N6)	-	-	-	-
Guizhou	H5	21/11/2020 (H5N6)	-	-	-	-
Jiangsu	H5	16/11/2020 (H5N6)	-	-	H5	08/02/2021 (H5N8)
Shangdong	-	-	-	-	H5	22/01/2021 (H5N8)
Shanxi	-	-	-	-	H5	29/11/2020 (H5N8)
Mauritania	-	-	-	-	H5	02/02/2021 (H5N1)
Nepal	-	-	H5	30/01/2021 (H5N8)	H5	14/02/2021 (H5N8)
Netherlands	-	-	H5	16/12/2020 (H5N1) 06/01/2021 (H5N8)	H5	27/11/2020 (H5N5) 23/12/2020 (H5N1)



Countries / Areas	Human cases		Poultry cases / other related samples		Wild bird cases / other related samples	
	Subtype of virus	Date of last report / onset of last reported case (Subtype in this report)	Subtype of virus	Date of last report (Subtype in this report)	Subtype of virus	Date of last report (Subtype in this report)
						15/02/2021 (H5N8)
Nigeria	-	-	H5	15/02/2021 (H5N1)	-	-
Norway	-	-	-	-	H5	05/02/2021 (H5N8)
Philippines	-	-	H5	22/09/2020 (H5N6)	-	-
Poland	-	-	H5	10/02/2021 (H5N8)	H5	10/02/2021 (H5N8) 12/02/2021 (H5N5)
Romania	-	-	-	-	H5	22/01/2021* 25/01/2021 (H5N8) 02/02/2021 (H5N5)
Russia	H5	24/02/2021 (H5N8)	H5	28/09/2020* 03/11/2020 (H5N5) 05/02/2021 (H5N8)	H5	23/12/2020* 29/01/2021 (H5N8)
Senegal	-	-	H5	06/01/2021 (H5N1)	H5	01/02/2021 (H5N1)
Slovakia	-	-	H5	22/01/2021 (H5N5)	H5	18/01/2021 (H5N8)
Slovenia	-	-	-	-	H5	15/12/2020 (H5N8) 04/01/2021 (H5N5)
South Africa	-	-	H5	01/02/2021 (H5N8)	-	-
Spain	-	-	-	-	H5	05/02/2021 (H5N8)
Sweden	-	-	H5	20/01/2021 (H5N5) 25/02/2021 (H5N8)	H5	15/02/2021 (H5N5) 18/02/2021 (H5N8)
Switzerland	-	-	-	-	H5	15/02/2021 (H5N4)
Taiwan	-	-	H5	01/02/2021 (H5N5)	H5	31/12/2020*
Ukraine	-	-	H5	16/01/2021* 17/02/2021 (H5N8)	-	-
United Kingdom	-	-	H5	10/02/2021 (H5N8) 17/02/2021 (H5N1)	H5	08/01/2021 (H5N5) 29/01/2021 (H5N1) 05/02/2021 (H5N8)
Vietnam	-	-	H5	14/01/2021 (H5N6) 17/01/2021 (H5N1)	-	-

Sources: WHO, OIE, NHC and other official websites

\* without further subtype information