

Dengue 3 Outbreak, Palau, December 2018 – January 2020

2020 Epi Week 1: December 30, 2019 – January 5, 2020



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 30, 2019 and January 5, 2020, there were sixteen (16) new cases reported, all of whom are residents of Koror state from following hamlets: Ngerkebesang (10), Meyuns (2), Meketii (2), Madalaih (1) and Ngerkesoal (1) hamlets.

There were a total of fifty-eight (58) cases reported in the month of December, a 61% increase from November. Of these cases, forty-five (45) were residents of Koror state, with more than half of those cases residing in Ngerkebesang hamlet. Seven (7) cases of dengue have been reported so far since the start of the new year.

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.



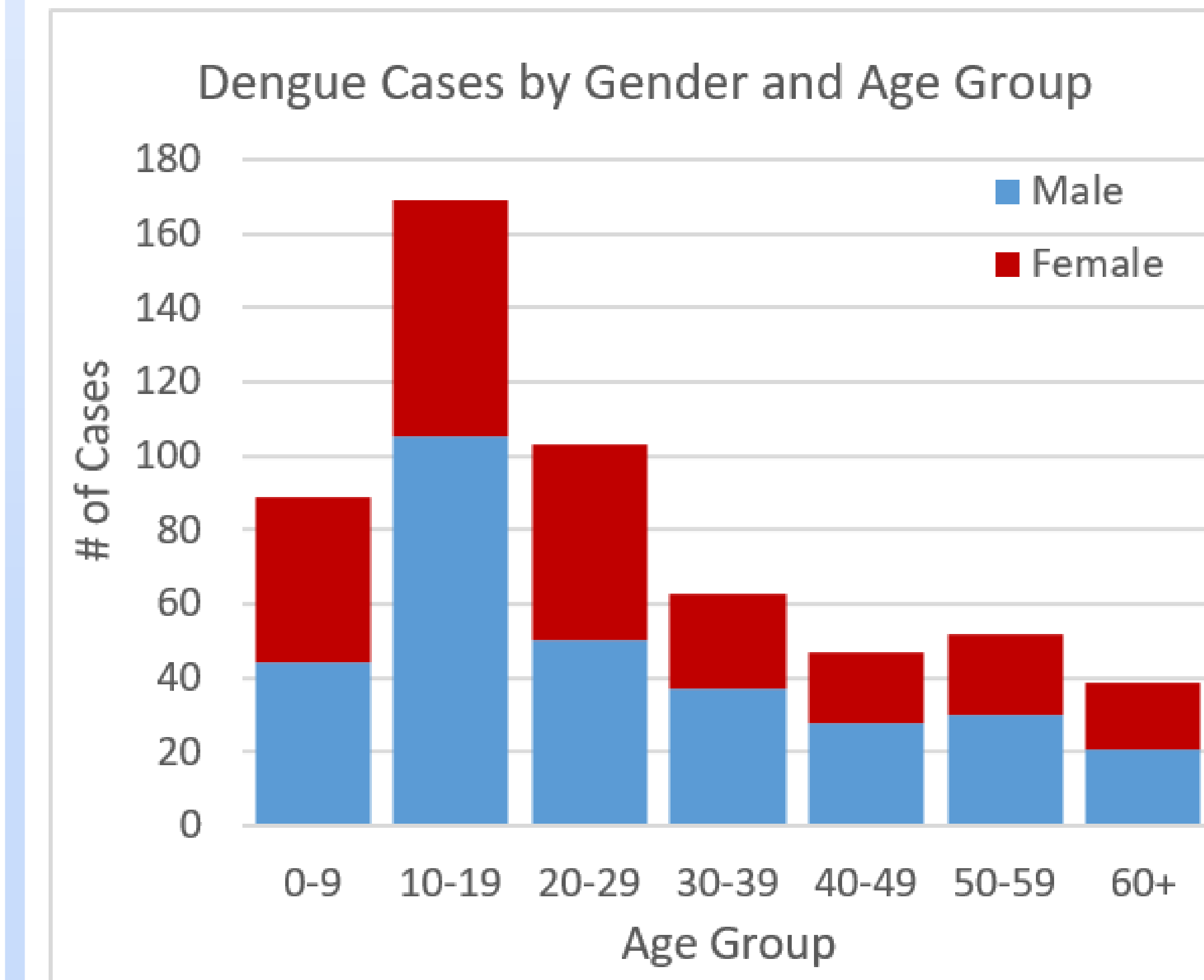
Case Summary

Hamlet	2020		Oct - Dec 2019		Total since Dec 2018	
	Jan	Dec	Nov	Oct	#	%
Ngerchemai		3	4	6	104	19%
Ngerkebesang	5	25	16	13	86	15%
Ngermid		2		3	63	11%
Ngerbeched		2	2	4	60	11%
Madalaih	1			2	58	10%
Ngerkesoal		2			44	8%
Iyebukel		2	1		33	6%
Idid					32	6%
Meyuns		6		2	30	5%
Meketii	1	1	1		24	4%
Dngeronger		2		1	19	3%
Ikelau				2	9	2%
TOTAL	7	45	24	33	562	

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.

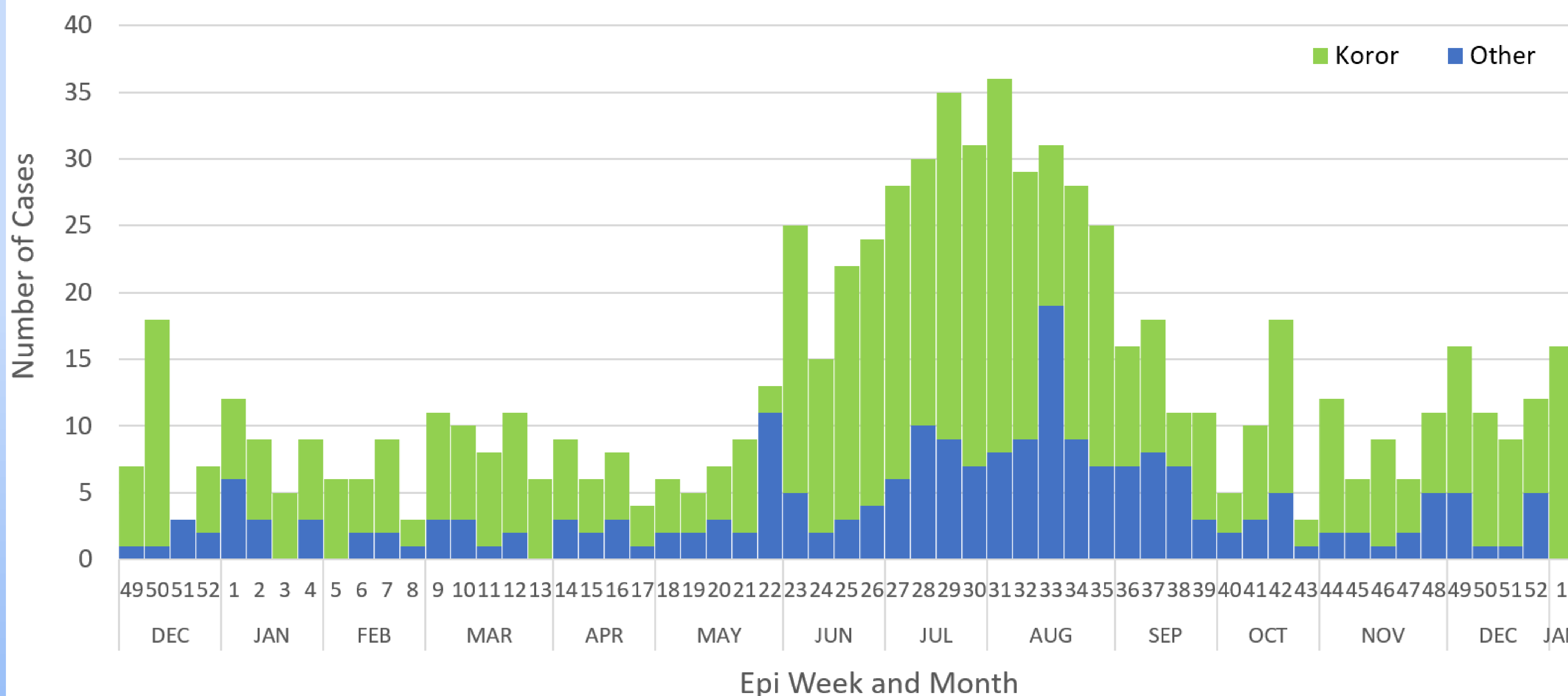


Ethnicity	Count	%
Palauan	479	85%
Bangladeshi	29	5%
Filipino	18	3%
Chinese	10	2%
Other	26	5%
TOTAL	562	

Epi Curve

Dengue Cases by Week of Diagnosis

December 3, 2018 - January 5, 2020



Cases by Hamlet

