

Dengue 3 Outbreak, Palau, December 2018 – December 2019

Epi Week 51: December 16 – 22, 2019



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 16 – 22, 2019, there were nine (9) new cases reported, including eight (8) residents of Koror state from Ngerkebesang (5), Ngerkesoal (1), Ngermid (1), and Ngerchemai (1) hamlets.

Of the thirty-seven (37) cases of dengue reported to date in December, twenty-nine (29) were residents of Koror state, with more than half of those cases residing in Ngerkebesang hamlet.

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.

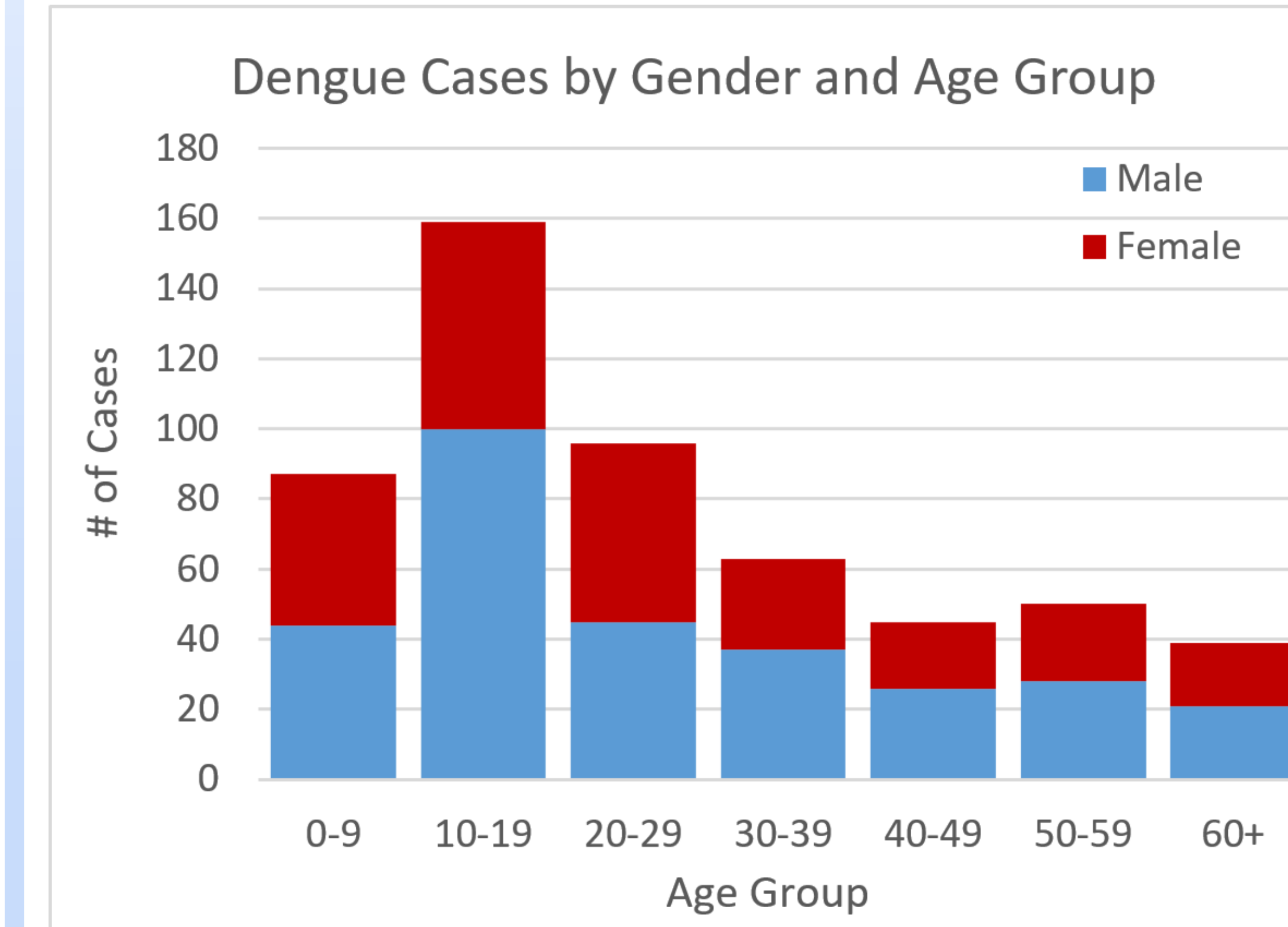


Case Summary

| Hamlet | Aug - Dec 2019 | | | | | Total since Dec 2018 | |
|--------------|----------------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|----------------------|-----|
| | Dec | Nov | Oct | Sep | Aug | # | % |
| Ngerchemai | 2 | 4 | 6 | 5 | 19 | 103 | 19% |
| Ngerkebesang | 17 | 16 | 13 | 9 | 10 | 73 | 14% |
| Ngermid | 2 | | 3 | | 4 | 63 | 12% |
| Ngerbeched | 1 | 2 | 4 | 4 | 13 | 59 | 11% |
| Madalaii | | | 2 | 4 | 6 | 57 | 11% |
| Ngerkesoal | 1 | | | 2 | 5 | 43 | 8% |
| Iyebukel | 2 | 1 | | 2 | 5 | 33 | 6% |
| Idid | | | | 1 | 9 | 32 | 6% |
| Meyuns | 4 | | 2 | 1 | 2 | 28 | 5% |
| Meketii | | 1 | | 1 | 3 | 22 | 4% |
| Dngeronger | | | 1 | 5 | 1 | 17 | 3% |
| Ikelau | | | 2 | 1 | 2 | 9 | 2% |
| TOTAL | 29 | 24 | 33 | 35 | 79 | 539 | |

Demographics

The majority of cases during this outbreak are Palauans followed by Bangladeshi, Filipino and Chinese nationals. The age group that is most affected is persons between 10 and 19 years old.

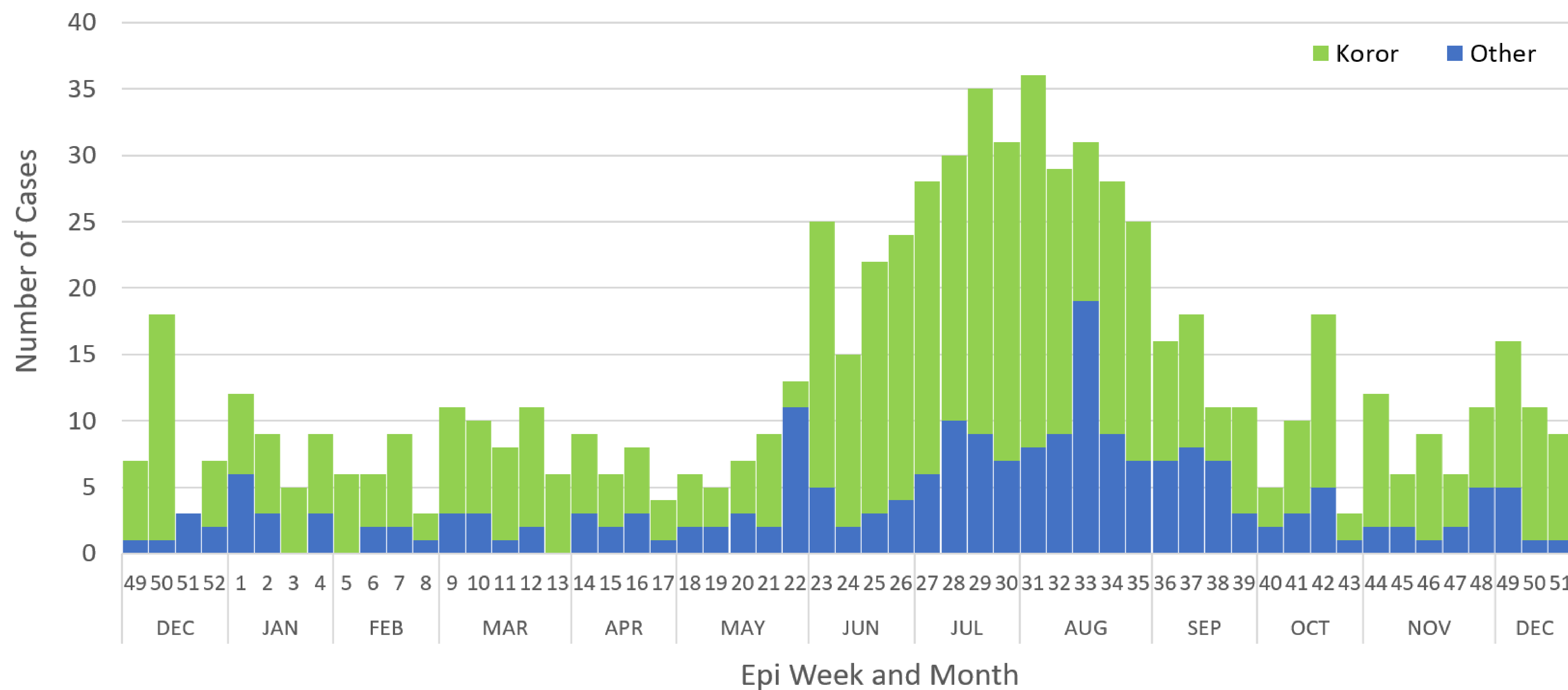


| Ethnicity | Count | % |
|--------------|------------|-----|
| Palauan | 459 | 85% |
| Bangladeshi | 27 | 5% |
| Filipino | 18 | 3% |
| Chinese | 9 | 2% |
| Other | 26 | 5% |
| TOTAL | 539 | |

Epi Curve

Dengue Cases by Week of Diagnosis

December 3, 2018 - December 22, 2019



Cases by Hamlet

