



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
Egypt	0 cases, 0 deaths	13 cases, 5 deaths	13 cases, 5 deaths
Indonesia	17 cases, 11 deaths	16 cases, 14 deaths	33 cases, 25 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	63 cases, 39 deaths	207 cases, 115 deaths

Source: WHO laboratory-confirmed cases as of May 8, 2006

NEWS

- New human AI case turns fatal in Indonesia: A 30-year-old man from Greater Jakarta has died from H5N1 avian influenza (AI), bringing Indonesia’s total human cases to 33 and deaths to 25. The man was hospitalized April 21 and died April 26. The source of his infection is under investigation; he is reported to have lived near pens where poultry and other animals were kept.
- New human AI death in Egypt: The World Health Organization (WHO) and Egypt’s Ministry of Health have confirmed a new AI case in a 27-year-old woman from Cairo. The woman was hospitalized May 1 with bilateral pneumonia and died May 4; this death is Egypt’s fifth since the virus was reported in birds in February. The source of the woman’s infection was reportedly linked to a household with diseased poultry in the Al Minufuyah governorate outside Cairo.
- U.S. announces national AI strategy: On May 3, the White House announced the launch of the U.S. Implementation Plan for the National Strategy for Pandemic Influenza. The plan includes more than 300 actions for federal government organizations and highlights priorities for limiting the spread and threat of pandemic influenza, including international early warning and response efforts that USAID is supporting in its AI efforts. To date, the Agency has applied \$54 million in foreign assistance for AI preparedness and response, and it will obligate another \$101 million for AI-related activities by June 1.
- Regional AI strategy in Asia: In a meeting April 26, health ministers from Bangladesh, Bhutan, India, the Maldives, Nepal, Pakistan, and Sri Lanka agreed to develop a strategy for influenza preparedness. The agreement, made through the South Asian Association for Regional Cooperation, will address both animal and human influenza preparedness. Of the seven countries, India and Pakistan have World Organization for Animal Health (OIE)-confirmed cases of AI in animals. Due to high AI risk, USAID has deployed personal protective equipment (PPE) to Bangladesh, Pakistan, and Nepal in recent weeks; since January 2006, USAID-supported technical experts have provided assistance for national preparedness in Bangladesh and have assisted with animal surveillance and response in India.
- China, Pakistan, Turkey, Nigeria report new outbreaks in birds: China, Pakistan, Turkey, and Nigeria have reported new AI outbreaks in birds in the past week. China, which has experienced ongoing outbreaks since 2004, confirmed the presence of H5N1 among wild birds in its western Qinghai province. An H5N1 outbreak in the Qinghai Lake last May killed thousands of birds; that particular strain has since been found in Europe, Africa, and the Middle East. Reports from Pakistan indicate H5N1 has now been detected in a ninth poultry farm; officials are said to be working to contain the outbreak. Turkey and Nigeria also continue to report die-offs of domestic poultry.

NEW USAID ACTIONS

- **USAID provides critical support for preparedness and response:**
 - **Personal protective equipment (PPE) snapshot:**
 - In the past two weeks, 2,300 PPE sets have been deployed to Sudan, and 2,000 sets have been sent each to Bangladesh, Nepal, and Pakistan. An additional 2,000 sets will be sent each to Kenya, Mali, Burkina Faso, Nigeria, Afghanistan, Jordan, and Russia.
 - **Asia and the Near East:**
 - With USAID support, the U.N. Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) has completed training of 188 animal health workers in **Cambodia** on AI preparedness and response.
 - In **Afghanistan**, which first reported H5N1 in birds in March, USAID has signed a grant for WHO to implement AI-related activities; the grant includes \$2.5 million for prevention and control of the virus in several provinces where AI is reported to have spread. No human infections have been reported.
 - In **Vietnam**, regional specialists from USAID's Asia Regional Development Mission have collaborated with the World Bank to assess the country's AI plan. In addition, USAID participated in last week's Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation (APEC) meeting in Da Nang. At the meeting, health and agriculture ministers from APEC agreed to an action plan to combat AI.
 - **Europe and Eurasia:**
 - In partnership with USAID, a U.S. Department of Agriculture specialist will be in **Romania** May 13–25 to assist with planning AI-related activities in the country through 2007. Specifically, the activities will focus on biotechnology needs, rural compensation, and information, education, and communications on proper handling of poultry for consumption.
 - A USAID team has been deployed to collaborate with an FAO specialist to assess the AI situation in **Azerbaijan**, which has had OIE-confirmed AI cases in birds since February and eight WHO-confirmed human cases and five fatalities in the past two months. The team will assess backyard poultry farms and areas with the highest prevalence of human AI cases; it will also meet with local veterinary and health specialists and coordinators of local AI activities to discuss AI preparedness and response.
 - In **Ukraine**, USAID assistance for AI response is moving to full implementation. A USAID-supported project to build capacity to address AI in veterinary, public health, and poultry industry systems is under way and includes community-level mobilization against the spread of AI, particularly in high-risk areas. The USAID Mission is also working with partners to produce evidence-based communications materials for target groups to limit the spread of AI in the country.
 - **Africa:**
 - A USAID veterinary epidemiologist is currently in **Sudan**, where the AI subtype H5 was detected in poultry last month, to work with USAID field staff to provide support to FAO and the Sudanese government in response to the situation. USAID has sent 2,300 PPE sets for first responders to the suspected H5N1 outbreaks in the country; samples have been sent to OIE and confirmation of the virus is pending.
 - The USAID Mission in **Nigeria** is planning \$2 million in technical assistance to provide training on culling practices for poultry potentially carrying H5N1. A request for an additional \$6 million is being reviewed for AI activities that may include building veterinary capacity and improving monitoring, outbreak containment, response, and biosecurity in the country.

UPCOMING USAID ACTIONS

- **USAID representation at FAO AI coordination meeting:** USAID will participate in a meeting this week to discuss emergency AI response capabilities with FAO, WHO, and other donors at the FAO headquarters in Rome.