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. This poses a significant concern for public health as the whole population is potentially vulnerable to infection. 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 September 2 – 8, 2019, there were 16 new cases reported. This brings the total from December 1, 2018 - September 8, 2019 to 586 cases. There have been two deaths attributed to dengue infection during this outbreak.

### Demographics

- **Age range**: 0 – 88 years
- **Mean age**: 29 years
- **Median age**: 24 years

The majority of cases during this outbreak have been Palauan.

### Symptom Profile of Cases

- Fever
- Chills
- Headache
- Body pain
- Joint pain
- Loss of appetite
- Altered taste sensation
- Nausea
- Vomiting
- Cough
- Eye pain
- Abdominal pain
- Rash

### Response Measures

- **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.

The next report for epi week 37 will be released on Tuesday, September 17, 2019.