

HIGH PATHOGENICITY AVIAN INFLUENZA (HPAI)

Situation Report 64

Period covered:

October 2024

This report provides an update of the high pathogenicity avian influenza (HPAI) situation, according to the information submitted to the World Organisation for Animal Health.

Key messages and Recommendations

The new HPAI season started in October 2024 with 88 outbreaks being reported in poultry and 166 in non-poultry birds and mammals in the Americas, Asia, and Europe. About 1.7 million poultry birds died or were culled during the month, mostly in the Americas and Europe.

The number of outbreaks in birds notified to WOA is currently increasing. This is consistent with the familiar seasonality of the disease. We can expect the new seasonal wave to have an even greater increase in the number of outbreaks in the coming months.

In addition to the impact on poultry, it is important to recall the impact of HPAI on wildlife. For example, in October 2024 the death of 300 Gentoo penguins (*Pygoscelis papua*) caused by the disease was reported in the Falkland Islands, in the context of a single outbreak.

Cases in mammals including cattle continued to be reported in October 2024. On 30 October 2024, a case of HPAI in a pig has been [notified](#) by the United States of America to WOA. Eurasian lineage H5 goose/Guangdong clade 2.3.4.4b has been confirmed in a domestic backyard pig with close contact to HPAI infected backyard birds in Oregon. The national authorities [announced](#) that the reference laboratory had carried out genomic sequencing of the virus from the poultry infected on this farm, and that this sequencing had not revealed any changes in the H5N1 virus that could increase its transmissibility to humans, indicating that the current risk to the public remained low. Also, during this reporting period, Vietnam notified 47 cases of HPAI to WOA concerning captive felines in a zoo and an eco-tourism zone (lions, leopards, tigers). Because of the time lag between the outbreaks and the publication of the corresponding reports, these reported cases in pigs and felines are not included in the 'Recent Updates' section below.

WOAH recommends that Members maintain their surveillance efforts, implement biosecurity and preventive measures at farm level, and continue timely reporting of avian influenza outbreaks in both poultry and non-poultry species.

Considering the situation in mammals, WOAH also recommends including avian influenza as a differential diagnosis in mammals with high risk of exposure to the viruses, reporting to WOAH outbreaks of avian influenza in all animal species including unusual hosts, sharing genetic sequences of avian influenza viruses and associated metadata in publicly available databases and protecting humans in close contact with sick livestock and their products, while avoiding implementing unjustified trade restrictions.

High quality of information is key to support prevention and rapid response to HPAI.

Objective of the report & limitations

Based on Chapter 1.3 of the [Terrestrial Animal Health Code \(2024\)](#), three categories of avian influenza are listed by WOAH: 1) infection with high pathogenicity avian influenza viruses (HPAI) (in poultry, as defined in the disease-specific chapter), 2) infection of birds other than poultry, including wild birds, with HPAI, and 3) infection of domestic and captive wild birds with low pathogenicity avian influenza (LPAI) viruses having proven natural transmission to humans, associated with severe consequences.

This report provides an update of the situation, according to the information submitted to WOAH (for October 2024) and aims to contribute to awareness of the global situation. Although all the information used in this report is already publicly accessible via the WOAH website, the report aims to intelligently combine these various sources of information to present Members with the most accurate information possible, while recognising the limitations of the data available on a global scale.

This month's report covers the HPAI situation only, as WOAH has not been informed of any exceptional event of infection of domestic and captive wild birds with LPAI viruses having proven natural transmission to humans, associated with severe consequences.

Contextual information

Since its identification in China (People's Rep. of) in 1996, there have been multiple waves of intercontinental transmission of the H5Nx Gs/GD lineage virus. HPAI has led to the death and mass slaughter of over 547 million poultry worldwide between 2005 and 2023, with an unprecedented peak of 146 million in 2022. During this peak in 2022, 84 countries and territories in the world were affected with HPAI. This number continued to rise in 2023, reaching 88 countries and territories. In addition, up to now, humans have been occasionally infected with several subtypes of avian influenza (mainly H5N1, H7N9, H5N6, H9N2 with more than 2500 cases since 2003)^{1,2}.

¹ <https://www.who.int/teams/global-influenza-programme/avian-influenza/monthly-risk-assessment-summary>

² [Cumulative number of confirmed human cases for avian influenza A\(H5N1\) reported to WHO, 2003-2023, 21 December 2023](#)

As described in the [Animal Health Situation Worldwide](#) report presented by WOAHA during its 91st General Session of the World Assembly of Delegates in May 2024, HPAI has been a global concern, particularly since October 2020, due to an unprecedented situation marked by:

- its global spread and the increase in the number of countries and territories affected worldwide, including an unprecedented spread to Latin America and the Antarctic region;
- the increase in the number of outbreaks and losses in poultry, with a peak during the seasonal wave October 2021-September 2022;
- the increased impact on wildlife and biodiversity;
- the increase in the number of cases detected in domestic and wild mammals.

Seasonality of HPAI outbreaks in poultry

Figure 1 focuses on poultry outbreaks and shows the seasonality of HPAI separately for the northern and southern hemispheres. It covers the seasonal wave which is now starting (October 2024 to September 2025), as well as the two previous waves for comparison. The red rectangle indicates where we currently are in the 2024/2025 cycle based on the period covered in “recent updates” below.

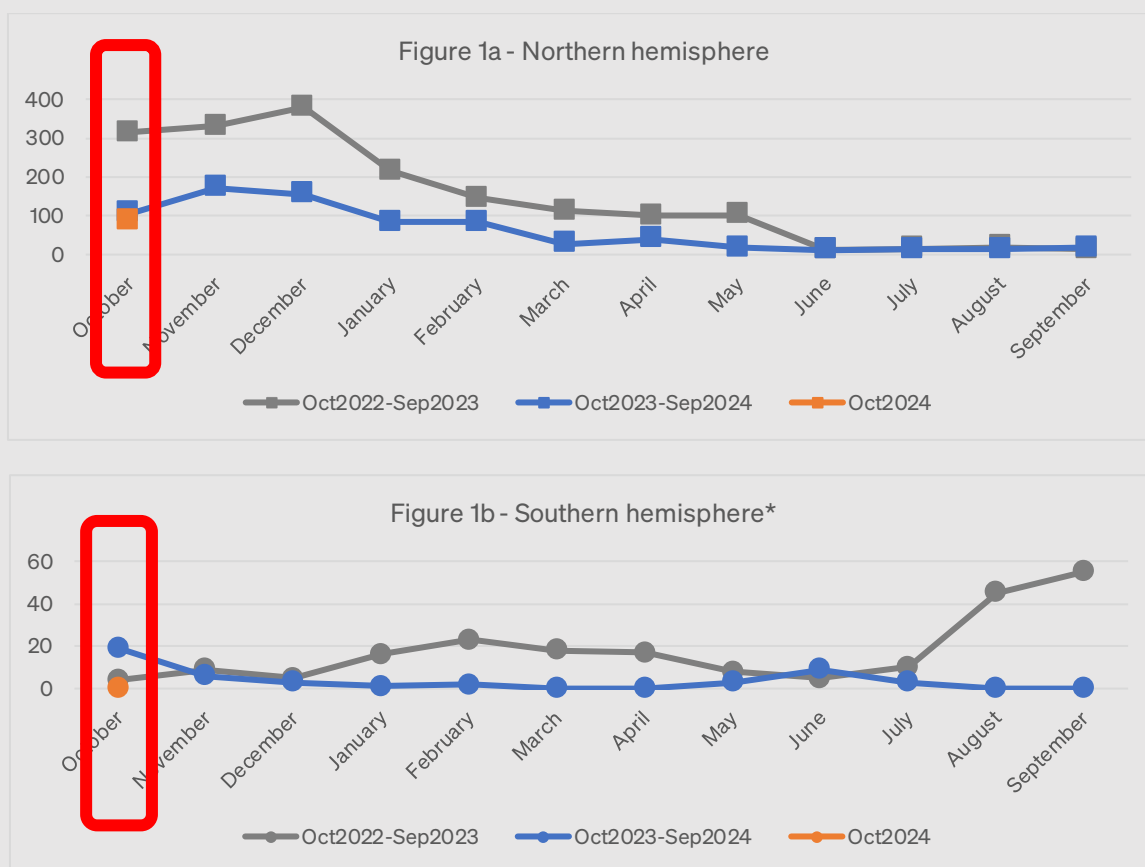


Figure 1. Number of HPAI outbreaks in poultry reported to WOAHA the seasonal wave which is now starting (October 2024 to September 2025), as well as the two previous waves for comparison. Data is presented by month and by hemisphere.

* For the southern hemisphere (Figure 1b), it is important to highlight that the seasonality analysis does not take into account Indonesia, which has declared a sufficiently stable situation to WOA to provide data aggregated by semester (and not by month). This is an important limitation, as the country reported an average of 17 outbreaks per six-month period between the second half of 2022 and the second half of 2023, which is significant on a hemispheric scale.

HPAI key figures for the current seasonal wave and the two previous waves

	Oct 2022-Sep 2023	Oct 2023-Sep 2024	Oct 2024-Sep 2025, (as of 31 October)
Countries and territories reporting HPAI in poultry	50	40	16 <i>(of which two reported stable situations through six monthly reports and are not covered in the "recent updates" section below)</i>
No. of HPAI outbreaks in poultry	1971	786	88
Countries and territories reporting HPAI in wild birds	63	52	21
No. of HPAI outbreaks in wild birds	3975	1062	85
Countries and territories reporting HPAI in mammals	21	12	1

HPAI map for the current seasonal wave (Oct 2024-Sep 2025, as of October)

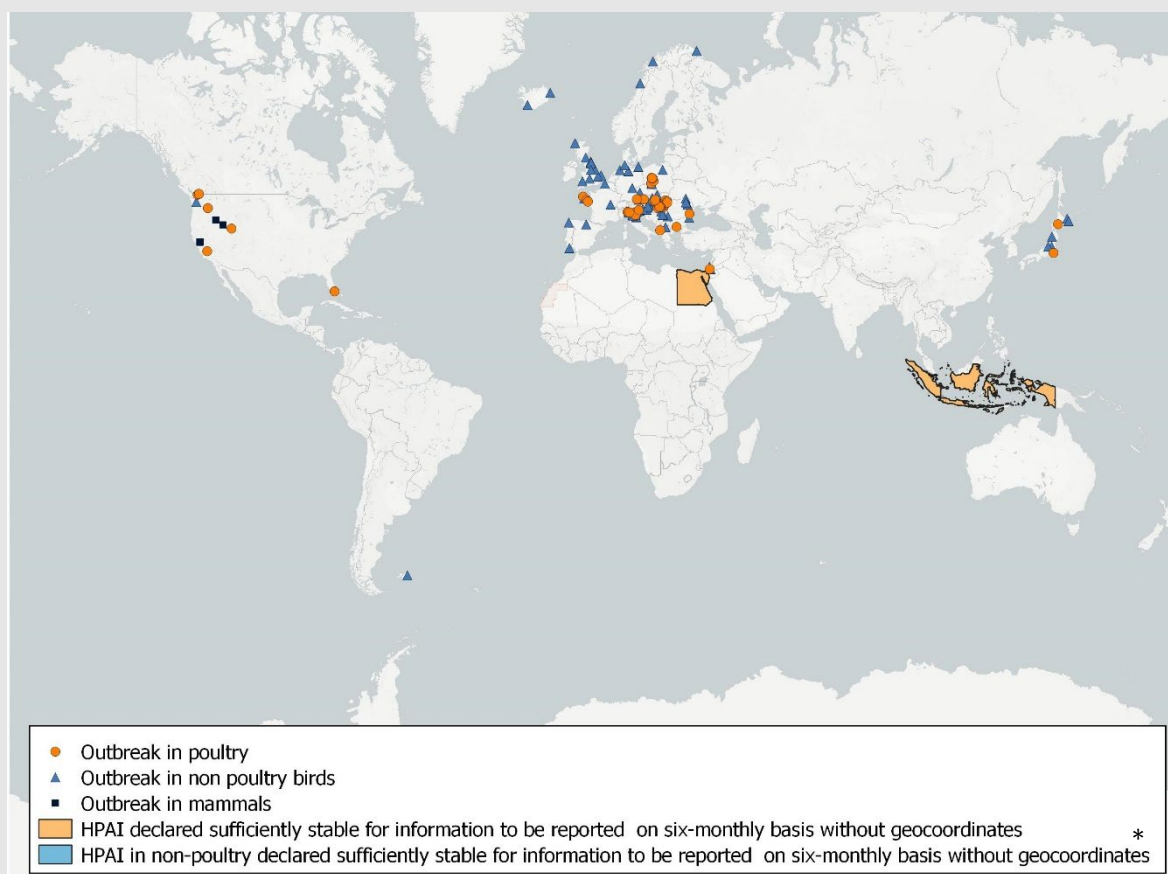


Figure 2. HPAI map for the current seasonal wave (October 2024–September 2025, as of October).

*The country in the blue category is Croatia (hidden by the outbreak dots that cover it).

Recent Updates (October 2024)

To describe the current disease situation of HPAI in poultry and in non-poultry birds, this section covers: (a) a list of new events³ which started during October 2024 (reported through immediate notifications); (b) information on events that started before October 2024 but were still ongoing during that period; (c) the geographic distribution of new outbreaks⁴ that started in October 2024, together with figures on numbers of outbreaks, cases, losses and animals vaccinated in response to outbreaks. The different subtypes of HPAI circulating during October 2024 are also listed below. This information is based on the immediate notifications and follow-up reports received by WOAAH.

HPAI in poultry

New events by world region (reported through immediate notifications)

Asia

H5N1:

A recurrence started in Japan (Chiba and Hokkaido) on 16 October 2024.

Europe

H5N1:

A recurrence started in Italy (Emilia-Romagna, Lombardia and Veneto) on 1 October 2024.

Five events started in Hungary:

- A recurrence in Jász-Nagykun-Szolnok on 3 October 2024.
- A recurrence in Csongrád-Csanád on 11 October 2024.
- The first occurrence in the area of Fejér on 14 October 2024.
- A recurrence in Hajdú-Bihar on 14 October 2024.
- A recurrence in Bács-Kiskun on 17 October 2024.

A recurrence started in Poland (Dolnośląskie and Wielkopolskie) on 5 October 2024.

A recurrence started in Austria (Niederösterreich and Oberösterreich) on 7 October 2024.

A recurrence started in Slovakia (Nitriansky) on 16 October 2024 (Clade 2.3.4.4b; Lineage: Fully Eurasian).

A recurrence started in Germany (Bayern) on 24 October 2024.

A recurrence started in Romania (Tulcea) on 24 October 2024.

The first occurrence in the area of Tiranë started in Albania on 28 October 2024 (Clade 2.3.4.4b; Lineage: Fully Eurasian).

Africa, Americas, and Oceania

No new events reported.

On-going events for which there were new reported outbreaks, by world region (reported through follow-up reports):

Americas

³ As defined in [Article 1.1.2](#) of the WOAAH Terrestrial Animal Health Code, an “event” means a single outbreak or a group of epidemiologically related outbreaks of a given listed disease or emerging disease that is the subject of a notification. An event is specific to a pathogenic agent and strain, when appropriate, and includes all related outbreaks reported from the time of the initial notification through to the final report. Reports of an event include susceptible species, the number and geographical distribution of affected animals and epidemiological units.

⁴ As defined in the [glossary](#) of the WOAAH Terrestrial Animal Health Code, an “outbreak” means the occurrence of one or more cases in an epidemiological unit.

H5N1: Canada (Clade: 2.3.4.4b - Lineage: Reassortment Eurasian and North American) and United States of America

Asia

H5N1: Israel (Clade 2.3.4.4b; Lineage: Fully Eurasian)

Europe

H5: France

H5N1: Bulgaria and Hungary

Africa and Oceania

No new outbreaks reported in the on-going events, or no on-going events.

New outbreaks and associated subtypes

During the period covered by this report, 88 new outbreaks in poultry were notified by 14 countries (Albania, Austria, Bulgaria, Canada, France, Germany, Hungary, Israel, Italy, Japan, Poland, Romania, Slovakia, United States of America). Details are presented in Figures 2 and 3.

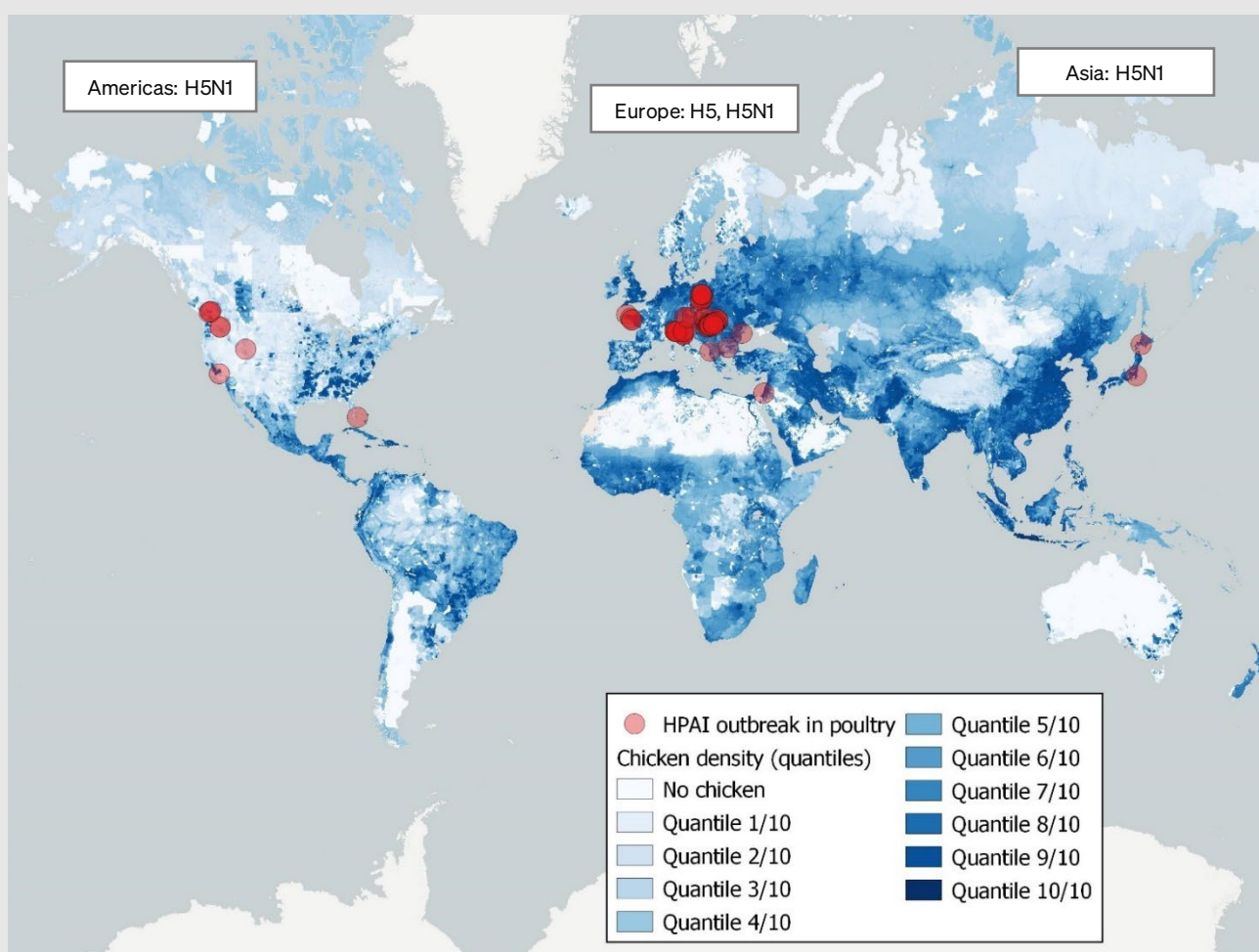


Figure 3. Distribution of HPAI new outbreaks in poultry, and corresponding subtypes. The outbreaks are presented on top of the chicken density layer⁵ produced by the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO) - [GLW 4: Gridded Livestock Density \(Global - 2020 - 10 km\)](#)

⁵ Layers for the distribution of other poultry species (such as ducks, turkeys, geese, etc.) are not currently available under FAO GLW 4: Gridded Livestock Density (Global - 2020 - 10 km).

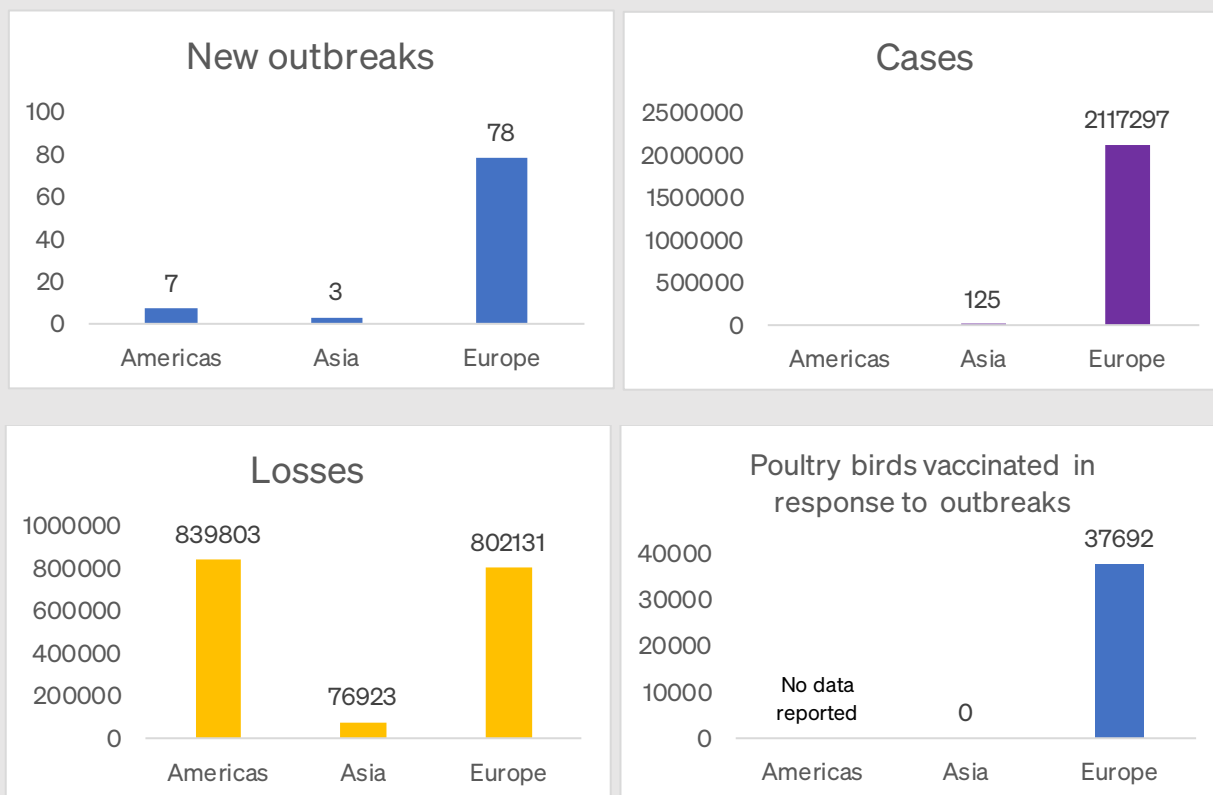


Figure 4. Number of new outbreaks, associated cases, losses, and number of poultry birds vaccinated in response to these outbreaks by geographical region (losses include animals dead and killed and disposed of within outbreaks – they do not include culling around outbreaks. It should also be noted that some countries or territories are unable to provide a precise number of cases and leave this field blank).

The number of poultry birds under preventive official vaccination programmes are reported through the six-monthly reports to WOA and this information is not yet available for the period under review.

HPAI in non-poultry

New events by world region (reported through immediate notifications)

Americas

H5N1 in non-poultry birds:

A recurrence started in Falkland Islands (Veterinary Inspection Unit East) on 24 October 2024

Europe

H5N1 in non-poultry birds:

Two recurrences started in Germany:

- One in Schleswig-Holstein on 8 October 2024.
- Another one in Thüringen on 11 October 2024.

A recurrence started in Slovenia (Osrednjeslovenska, Podravska, Pomurska, Spodnje-posavska) on 10 October 2024 (Clade 2.3.4.4b - Lineage: Fully Eurasian).

A recurrence started in Portugal (Faro) on 11 October 2024

A recurrence started in United Kingdom (England) on 12 October 2024

The first occurrence in the areas of Čučer Sandevo and Karpoš started in North Macedonia on 14 October 2024 (Clade 2.3.4.4b - Lineage: Fully Eurasian).

A recurrence started in Romania (Constanța) on 18 October 2024

H5N5 in non-poultry birds:

A recurrence started in Germany (Niedersachsen) on 1 October 2024

A recurrence started in United Kingdom (England, Scotland and Wales) on 2 October 2024

A recurrence started in Belgium (Vlaanderen) on 5 October 2024

Africa, Antarctica, Asia and Oceania

No new events reported.

On-going events for which there were new reported outbreaks, by world region (reported through follow-up reports):

Americas

H5N1 in non-poultry birds: United States of America

H5N1 in mammals: United States of America (bovine and swine)

Asia

H5N1 in non-poultry birds: Israel (Clade 2.3.4.4b - Lineage: Fully Eurasian) and Japan

Europe

H5N1 in non-poultry birds: Austria, Czech Republic, France, Germany, Hungary, Italy, Moldova, Poland, Serbia (Clade: 2.3.4.4b - Lineage: Reassortment Eurasian and North American), Slovakia, Spain

H5N5 in non-poultry birds: Iceland and Norway

Africa, Antarctica, and Oceania

No new outbreaks reported in the on-going events, or no on-going events.

New outbreaks

During the period covered by this report, a total of 166 outbreaks in non-poultry birds and mammals were reported through WAHIS by 23 countries and territories (Austria, Belgium, Czech Republic, Falkland Islands, France, Germany, Hungary, Iceland, Israel, Italy, Japan, Moldova, North Macedonia, Norway, Poland, Portugal, Romania, Serbia, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, United Kingdom, United States of America)⁶. Details are presented in **Figures 4 and 5**.

⁶ This list corresponds to countries and territories that have notified cases in wild birds, mammals or domestic birds other than poultry. This explains why their numbers are different from those presented on page 4 in the 'HPAI key figures for the current seasonal wave and the two previous waves' table, which does not cover domestic birds other than poultry.

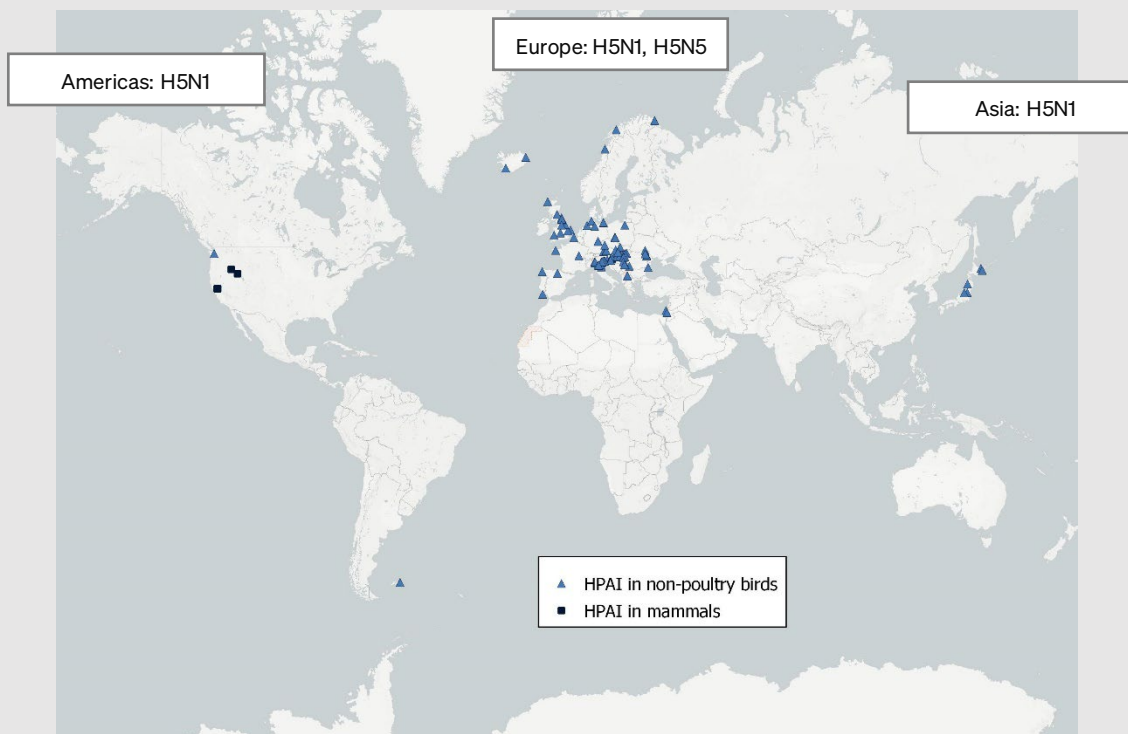


Figure 4. Distribution of HPAI new outbreaks in non-poultry animals reported through WAHIS, and corresponding subtypes.

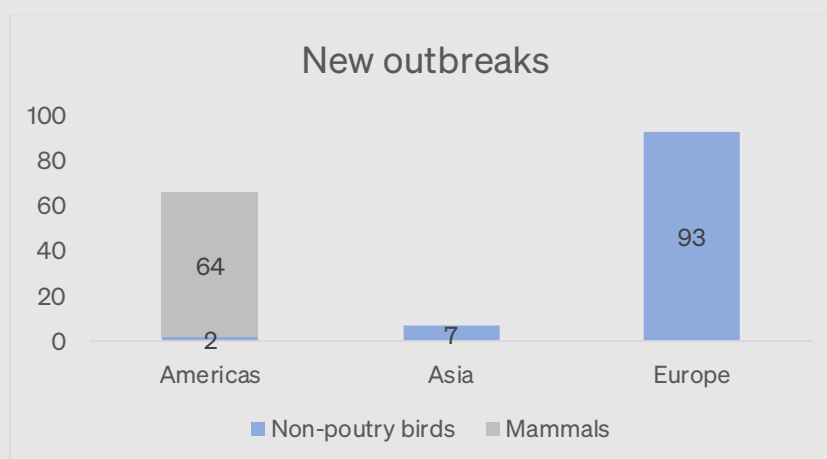


Figure 5. Number of new outbreaks reported through WAHIS by geographical region.

Self-declarations of freedom published during October 2024

In accordance with the provisions of the *Terrestrial Animal Health Code*, Members may wish to self-declare the freedom of their country, zone or compartment from HPAI. A Member wishing to publish its self-declaration for disease-freedom, should provide the relevant documented evidence of compliance with the provisions of the Code.

The WOA Delegate of **Denmark** declared that the country complied with the requirements for a country free from HPAI in poultry as of 12 October 2024 in compliance with the provisions of Chapter 1.6. and Article 10.4.6. of the *Terrestrial Code* and consistent with the information provided in WAHIS.

Recent news

[Meeting on Vaccination and Surveillance for HPAI in Poultry : Current Situation and Perspectives,](#)

[WOAH HQ, Paris – France, October 22-23, 2024.](#)

[Updated joint FAO/WHO/WOAH assessment of recent influenza A\(H5N1\) virus events in animals and people](#)

[Global strategy for the prevention and control of high pathogenic avian influenza \(2024–2033\)](#)

[High Pathogenicity Avian Influenza in Cattle](#)

[GF-TADs meeting: Detection of HPAI in ruminants and humans in the USA](#)

[Wildlife under threat as avian influenza reaches Antarctica](#)

[WOAH policy brief: Avian influenza vaccination: why it should not be a barrier to safe trade](#)

[WOAH's Animal Health Forum reshapes avian influenza prevention and control strategies](#)

[WOAH Statement on avian influenza and mammals](#)

WOAH resources

[Avian influenza portal](#)

[Self-declared disease status](#)

[World Animal Health Information System \(WAHIS\)](#)

[Animal Health Forum on avian influenza: policy to action: The case of avian influenza – reflections for change](#)

[Strategic challenges in the global control of high pathogenicity avian influenza](#)

[Resolution adopted in WOAH General Session 2023: Strategic challenges in the global control of HPAI](#)

[Considerations for emergency vaccination of wild birds against high pathogenicity avian influenza in specific situations](#)

[Practical guide for authorised field responders to HPAI outbreaks in marine mammals](#)

Awareness tools

[Infographic: Understanding avian influenza](#)

[Avian influenza: understanding new dynamics to better combat the disease](#)

[Avian influenza: why strong public policies are vital](#)

[Video: Avian influenza threatens wild birds across the globe](#)

For any press inquiry on HPAI, email us at media@woah.org.

OFFLU resources

[OFFLU Avian Influenza Vaccine Matching \(AIM\) for poultry vaccines: H5Nx executive summary \(October 2024\)](#)

[OFFLU summary report from the WHO Vaccine Composition Meetings \(September 2024\)](#)

[Webinar: OFFLU avian influenza matching for poultry vaccines \(July 2024\)](#)

[OFFLU statement on high pathogenicity avian influenza in dairy cows](#)

[Updated OFFLU statement on high pathogenicity avian influenza in dairy cows](#)

[OFFLU diagnostic guidance: HPAI dairy cattle](#)

[OFFLU ad-hoc group on HPAI H5 in wildlife of South America and Antarctica: Southward expansion of high pathogenicity avian influenza H5 in wildlife in South America: estimated impact on wildlife populations, and risk of incursion into Antarctica](#)

[OFFLU statement: Continued expansion of high pathogenicity avian influenza H5 in wildlife in South America and incursion into the Antarctic region](#)

Other relevant resources

[Cumulative number of confirmed human cases for avian influenza A\(H5N1\) reported to WHO, 2003-2023](#)

[WHO, Human infection with avian influenza A\(H5\) viruses](#)

[Epidemiological Alert Outbreaks of avian influenza and human infection caused by influenza A\(H5\) public health implications in the Region of the Americas](#)

[WHO, Influenza at the human-animal interface, Summary and risk assessment, from 20 July to 27 September 2024](#)

[HPAI detections in livestock](#)