HIGH PATHOGENICITY AVIAN INFLUENZA (HPAI) Situation Report 73

Period covered: July 2025

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 which started in October 2024 continued in July 2025 with 10 outbreaks being reported in poultry and 38 outbreaks in non-poultry birds and mammals in Africa, the Americas, Asia and Europe for the reporting month. A total of 12,410 poultry birds died or were culled during the month.

The number of new outbreaks notified in birds worldwide is relatively low, which is consistent with the known seasonality of HPAI in poultry. In the United States of America, the situation of HPAI in cattle is still ongoing. In July 2025, a recurrence of HPAI in poultry was reported in Botswana, where the last outbreak had occurred in September 2021. WOAH continues to pay close attention to the situation of HPAI in all species across the world.

On 28 July 2025, WOAH, together with the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO) and the World Health Organization (WHO) published an updated joint assessment of recent influenza A(H5) virus events in animals and people. FAO-WHO-WOAH assessed the global public health risk of influenza A(H5N1) viruses to be low, while the risk of infection for occupationally exposed persons is low to moderate depending on the risk mitigation measures in place. Although additional human infections associated with exposure to infected animals or contaminated environments are likely to continue to occur, the overall public health impact of such infections at a global level is minor.

Given the spread of HPAI across the globe, continued surveillance in wild and domestic species is warranted. As this pathogen is impacting wildlife, livestock, and public health, a One Health approach to management would be beneficial. 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;
- 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* (2025), 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. Based on Chapter 3.3.4 of the *Terrestrial Animal Health Manual* (2025), infection of bovines (*Bos taurus*) with influenza A viruses of high pathogenicity in poultry is defined as an emerging disease by WOAH.

This report provides an update of the situation as of 31 July 2025, according to the information submitted to WOAH through the World Animal Health Information System (WAHIS) 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 WOAH 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 633 million poultry worldwide between 2005 and 2024, with an unprecedented peak of 146 million in 2022. During the peak in 2022, 84 countries and territories in the world were affected with HPAI, a number comparable to the 82 affected in 2024. 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].

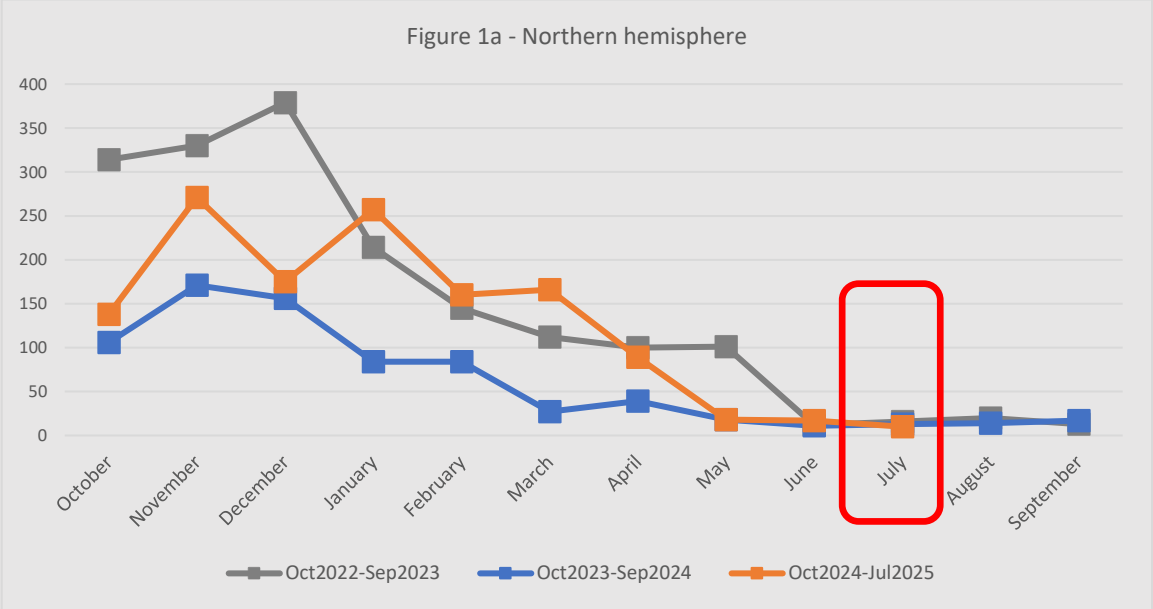
As described in the Animal Health Situation Worldwide and The State of the World's Animal Health reports presented by WOAH during its 92nd General Session of the World Assembly of Delegates in May 2025, HPAI has been a global concern, particularly since October 2020, due to an unprecedented situation marked by:

- its global spread and the increase in the number of countries and territories affected worldwide, including an unprecedented spread to Antarctica in 2024;
- 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 has started in October 2024 (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.

[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



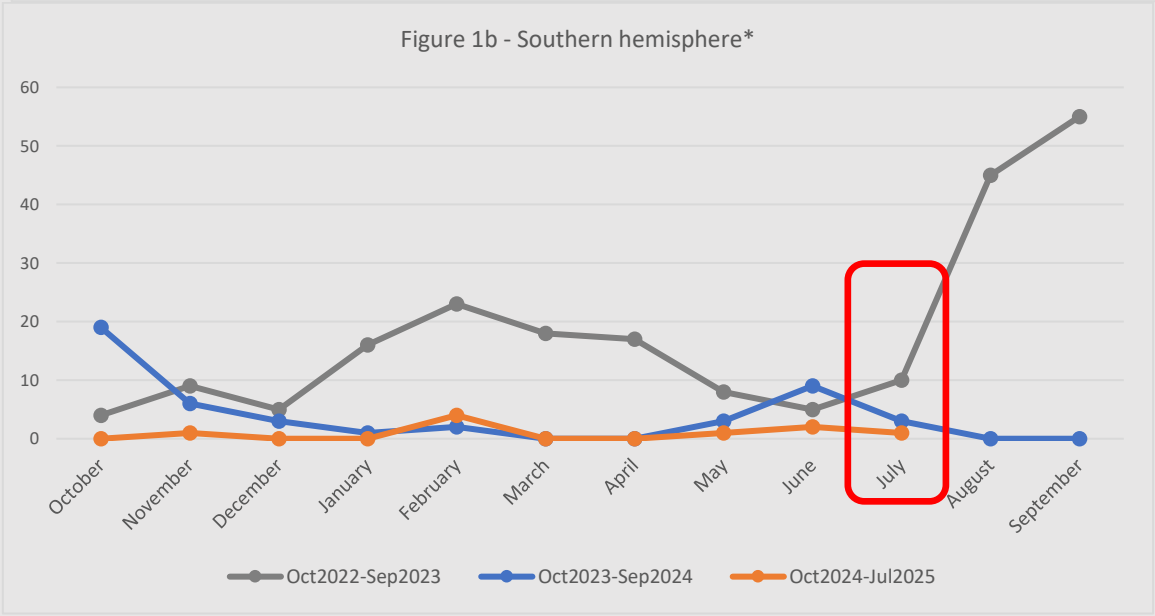


Figure 1. HPAI outbreaks of July in poultry reported to WOAH the seasonal wave which started in October (October 2024 to September 2025), as well as the two previous waves for comparison. Data is presented by month and by hemisphere.
***** For the southern hemisphere (Figure 1b), it is important to highlight that the seasonality analysis does not take into account Indonesia, which has declared a sufficiently stable situation to WOAH 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 July)
Countries and territories reporting HPAI in poultry	**50**	**40**	**49** *(of which two reported stable situations through six monthly reports and are not covered in the "recent updates" section below)*
No. of HPAI outbreaks in poultry	**1971**	**786**	**1310**
Countries and territories reporting HPAI in wild birds	**63**	**52**	**49** *(of which one reported stable situation through six monthly reports and are not covered in the "recent updates" section below)*
No. of HPAI outbreaks in wild birds	**3975**	**1062**	**1672**
Countries and territories reporting HPAI in mammals	**21**	**12**	**14**

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

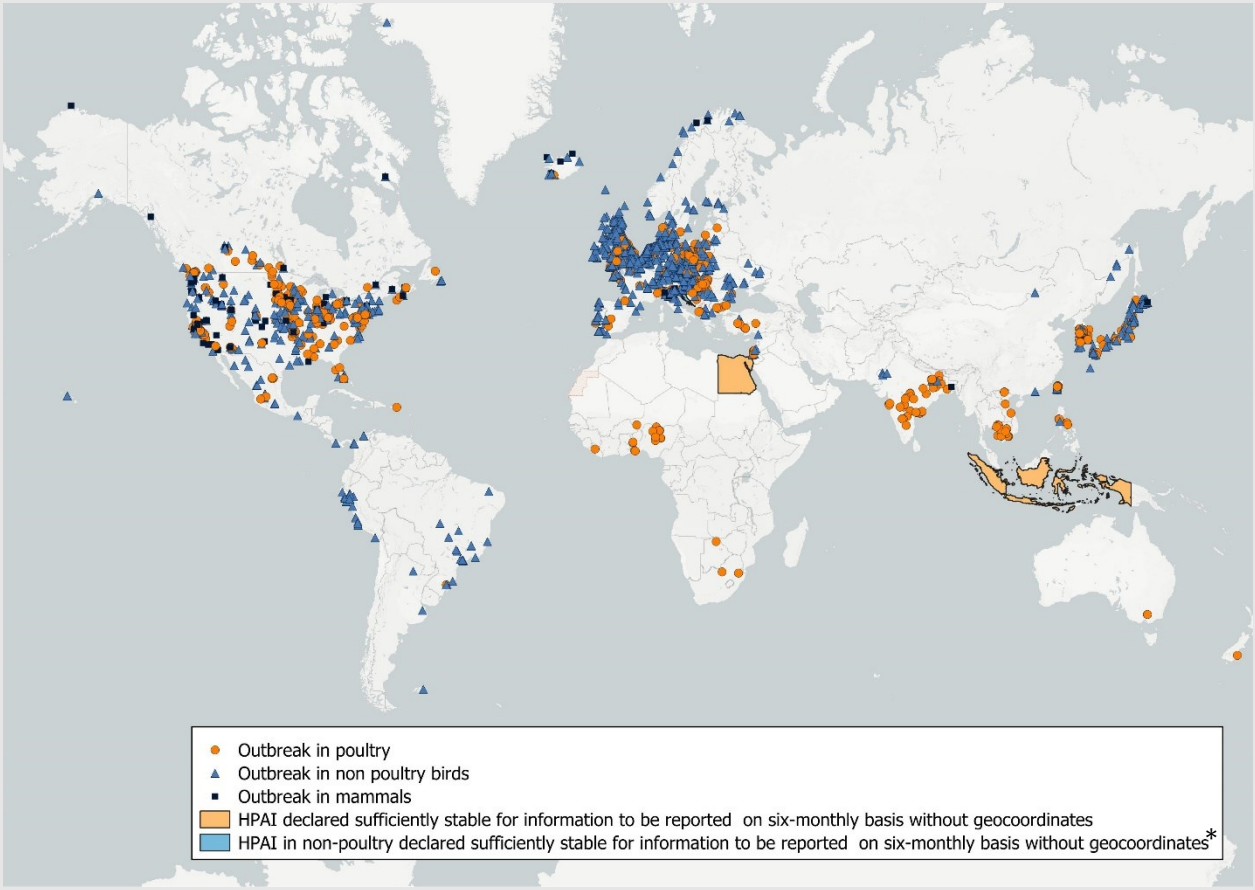


Figure 2. HPAI map for the current seasonal wave (October 2024-September 2025, as of 31 July 2025).
***The country in the blue category is Croatia (hidden by the outbreak dots that cover it).

Recent Updates (July 2025)

To describe the current disease situation of HPAI in poultry and in non-poultry birds, this section covers: (a) a list of new events[3] which started in July 2025 (reported through immediate notifications); (b) information on events that started before July 2025 but were still ongoing during that period; (c) the geographic distribution of new outbreaks[4] that started in June 2025, together with figures on numbers of outbreaks, cases, losses and animals vaccinated in response to outbreaks. The different subtypes of HPAI circulating during July 2025 are also listed below. This information is based on the immediate notifications and follow-up reports received by WOAH through the World Animal Health Information System (WAHIS).

HPAI in poultry

New events by world region (reported through immediate notifications)

Africa
H5N1: The first occurrence in zone started in Botswana (Chobe) on 25 July 2025.

Asia
H5N1: A recurrence started in Chinese Taipei (Chinese Taipei) on 10 July 2025 (Clade 2.3.4.4b; Lineage: Fully Eurasian).

Europe
H5N1: A recurrence started in Spain (Extremadura) on 16 July 2025.
A recurrence started in the United Kingdom (England) on 20 July 2025.

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):

Asia
H5N1: Cambodia

Africa, Americas, Europe and Oceania: No new outbreaks reported in on-going events, or no on-going events.

New outbreaks and associated subtypes

During the period covered by this report, 10 new outbreaks in poultry were notified by 5 countries/territories (Botswana, Cambodia, Chinese Taipei, Spain, the United Kingdom). Details are presented in Figures 3 and 4.

[3] As defined in Article 1.1.2. of the WOAH 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 WOAH Terrestrial Animal Health Code, an "outbreak" means the occurrence of one or more cases in an epidemiological unit.

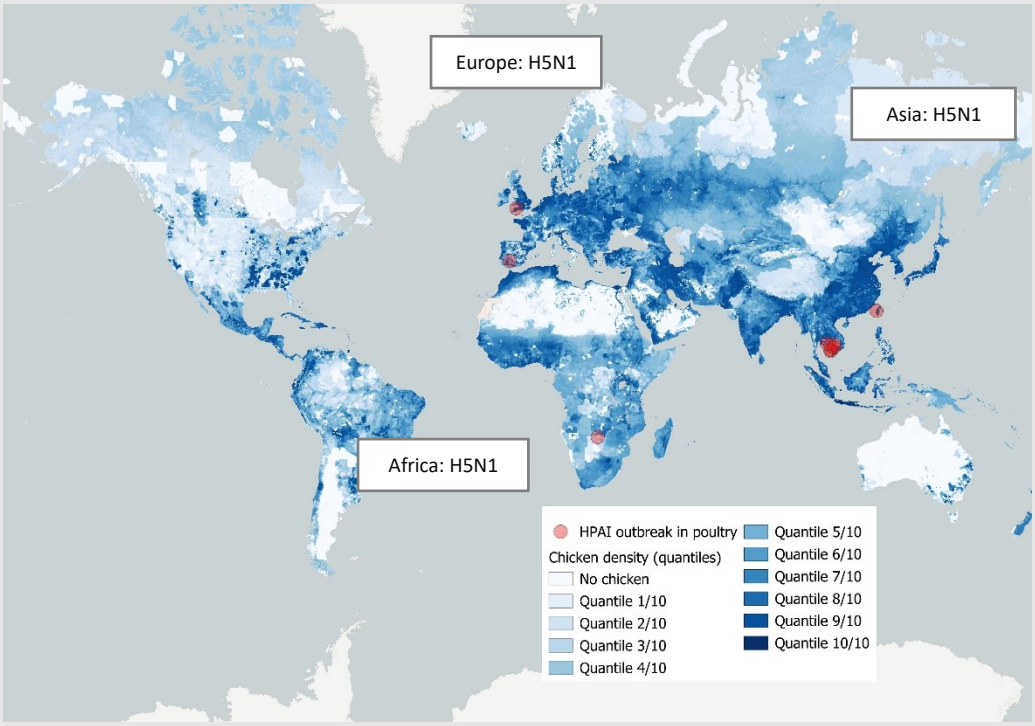


Figure 3. Distribution of HPAI new outbreaks in poultry, and corresponding subtypes. The outbreaks are presented on top of the chicken density layer[5] produced by the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO) - GLW 4: Gridded Livestock Density (Global - 2020 - 10 km)

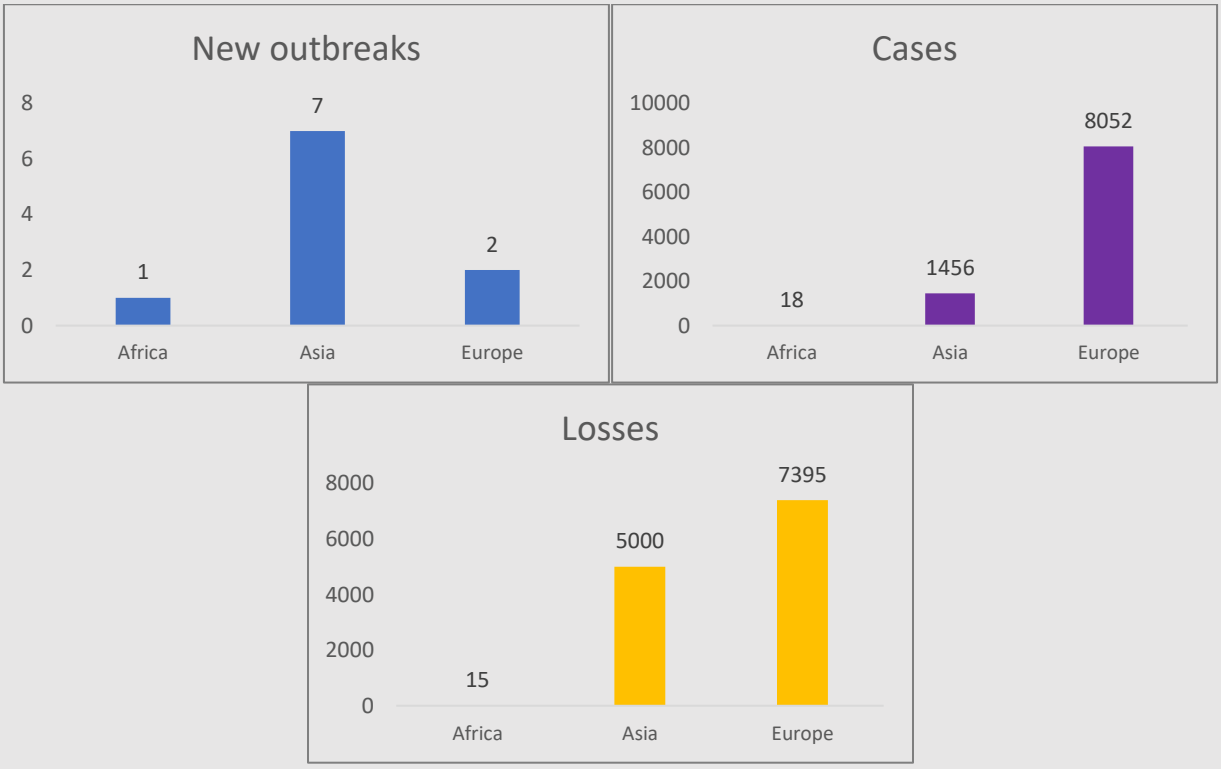


Figure 4. Number of new outbreaks, associated cases and losses (losses include animals dead and killed and disposed of within outbreaks – they do not include culling around outbreaks). It should also be noted that some countries or territories are unable to provide a precise number of cases and leave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

[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).

HPAI in non-poultry

New events by world region (reported through immediate notifications)

Americas
H5N1 in non-poultry birds:
A recurrence started in Argentina (BUENOS AIRES) on 14 July 2025.

Europe
H5 in non-poultry birds:
A recurrence started in Russia (Khabarovsk) on 7 July 2025.
A recurrence started in France (French Exclusive Economic Zone) on 16 July 2025.

H5N1 in non-poultry birds:
A recurrence started in Portugal (Leiria) on 3 July 2025.
A recurrence started in Hungary (Győr-Moson-Sopron) on 19 July 2025.

Unknown subtypes in non-poultry birds :
A recurrence started in Norway (Nordland) on 7 July 2025.

Africa, 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: Brazil
H5N1 in mammals: the United States of America (bovine and cats)

Europe

H5N1 in non-poultry birds: Czech Republic (Clade 2.3.4.4b - Lineage: Fully Eurasian), Ireland, Spain, the Netherlands, the United Kingdom

Africa, Asia and Oceania
No new outbreaks reported in the on-going events.

New outbreaks

During the period covered by this report, a total of 38 outbreaks in non-poultry birds and mammals were reported through WAHIS by 13 countries (Argentina, Brazil, Czech Republic, France, Hungary, Ireland, Norway, Portugal, Russia, Spain, the Netherlands, the United Kingdom, the United States of America)[6]. Details are presented in Figures 5 and 6.

[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.

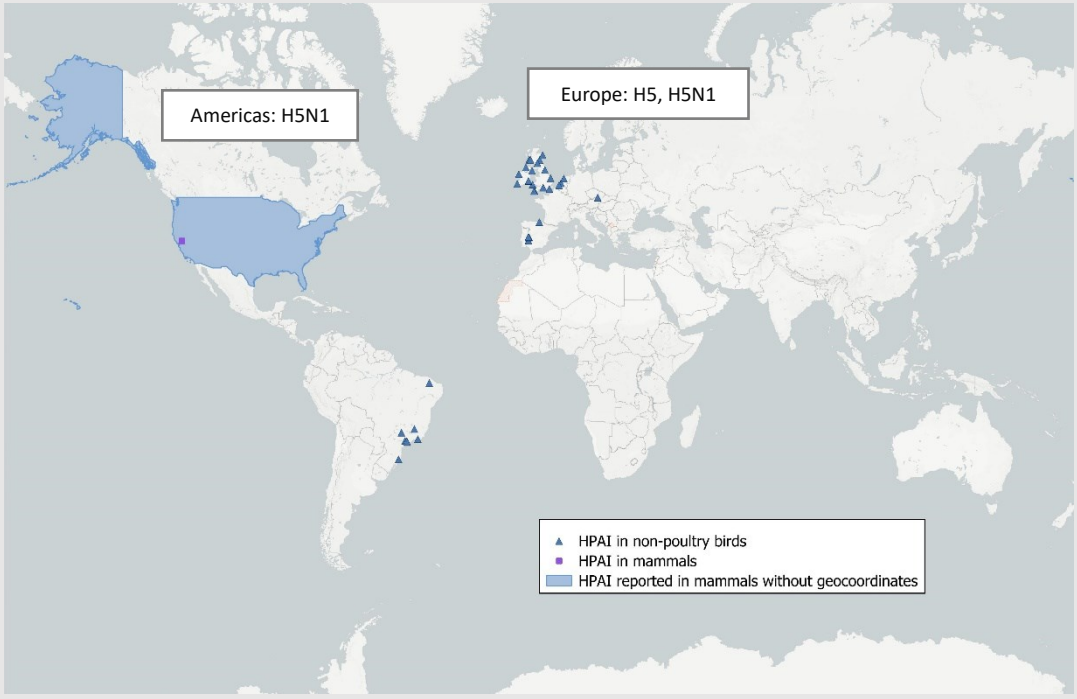


Figure 5. Distribution of HPAI new outbreaks in non-poultry birds and mammals reported through WAHIS, and corresponding subtypes.

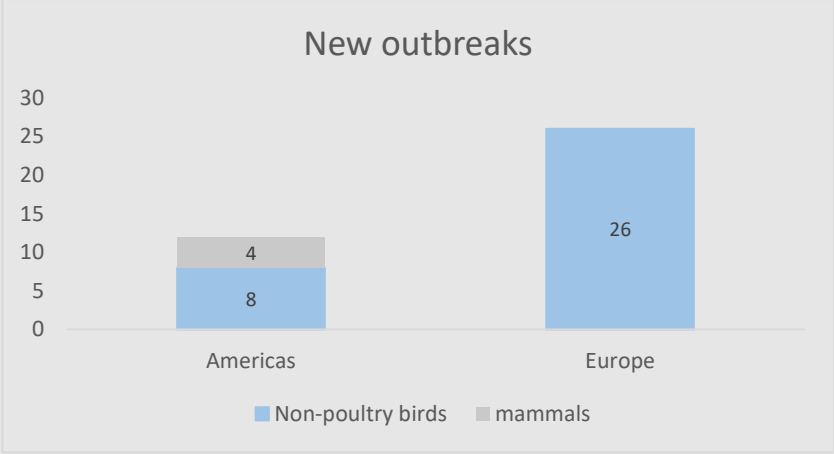


Figure 6. Number of new outbreaks reported through WAHIS by geographical region.

Self-declarations of freedom published during July 2025

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 WOAH Delegates of Australia, Hungary, Ecuador and Czech Republic declared that the country complied with the requirements for recovery of freedom from infection with high pathogenicity avian influenza viruses in poultry, as of 7 July, 18 July, 18 July and 30 July respectively, in accordance with Article 10.4.6. of the Terrestrial Code and consistent with the information provided in WAHIS.

Recent news

92GS Tech-02: Animal Health Situation Worldwide

The State of the World's Animal Health 2025

Interview: Avian influenza prevention: could vaccination support egg security?

Case definition for HPAI in cattle

Updated joint FAO/WHO/WOAH public health assessment of recent influenza A(H5) virus events in animals and people

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

Webinar of Global Strategy: Advancing Global Efforts for the Prevention and Control of High Pathogenicity Avian Influenza - WOAH - World Organisation for Animal Health

Conclusions of the Meeting on Vaccination and Surveillance for HPAI in Poultry: Current Situation and Perspectives,

WOAH HQ, Paris – France, October 22-23, 2024.

GF-TADs Meeting: Detection of HPAI in Ruminants and Humans in the USA (cont.) - Americas

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

Summary of OFFLU technical meeting at 11th International symposium on avian influenza, June 2025, Canada

OFFLU annual report 2024

OFFLU summary report from the WHO vaccine composition February 2025 meeting

OFFLU Statement on the Development of a Global Consensus H5 Influenza Genotyping Framework

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

Webinar: OFFLU avian influenza matching for poultry vaccines (July 2024)

Updated OFFLU statement on high pathogenicity avian influenza in dairy cows

OFFLU diagnostic guidance: HPAI dairy cattle

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, 2003-2025

WHO, Human infection with avian influenza A(H5) viruses

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

HPAI detections in livestock