

Highlights

- Total number of Suspected Cases-**230**
- Total number of Confirmed Cases-**1** (0.43%)
- Total contacts identified: **25**
- Total Number on Admission-**0**
- Number of mortalities - **0**
- Total number of regions reporting suspected cases – **16** (100%)
- Number of districts reporting suspected cases – **88** (33.7%)

Situation Update

On the 1st of October 2024, the National Public Health and Reference Laboratory (NPHRL) confirmed a case of Mpox following laboratory testing of a suspected case from the Western North Region. The case is a 15-year-old male who reported at a district government hospital on 25th September 2024 with a 3-day history of fever, general body pains, sore throat and rash which was initially in the palm and face but spread to the trunk and extremities. There was no history of travel over the past 21 days or history of sexual exposure to a potentially infectious person. The case was initially admitted but was later discharged and currently stable at home.

The Western North Regional Health Directorate and the Bia West district have activated public health emergency management structures and initiated response measures. A total of 15 facility and 10 community contacts have been identified and are being followed up.

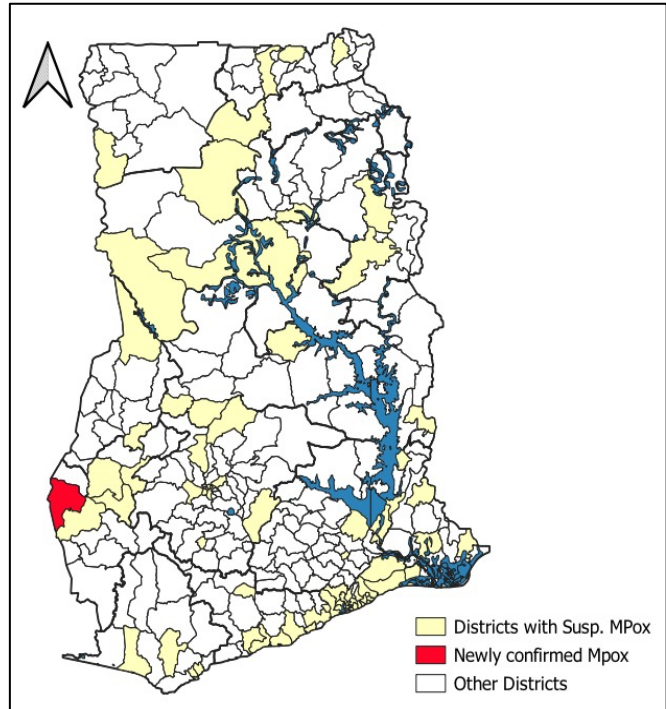


Figure 1: Districts Reporting Mpox Cases (Suspected & Confirmed), Ghana, Epi Week 1-39, 2024

Mpox Cases by Regions

From Epidemiologic Week 1 to the end of Week 39 (September 29, 2024), a total of 230 suspected cases of Monkeypox have been reported by 88 districts in all the 16 regions. The Greater Accra Region recorded the most suspected cases (87), followed by Central Region (26), Ashanti and Volta Region (20 each). Suspected and confirmed cases by region are as shown in Table 1. No death has been reported among suspected or confirmed cases

MPOX DISEASE SITREP

Sitrep No: 2
2nd October 2024

Region	Suspected (%)	Confirmed	Deaths
Ahafo	11 (4.8)	0	0
Ashanti	20 (8.7)	0	0
Bono	2 (0.9)	0	0
Bono East	5 (2.2)	0	0
Central	26 (11.3)	0	0
Eastern	13 (5.7)	0	0
Greater Accra	87 (37.8)	0	0
Northern	4 (1.7)	0	0
North East	1 (0.4)	0	0
Oti	8 (3.5)	0	0
Savannah	8 (3.5)	0	0
Upper East	4 (1.7)	0	0
Upper West	2 (0.9)	0	0
Volta	20 (8.7)	0	0
Western	12 (5.2)	0	0
Western North	7 (3.0)	1	0
Grand total	230 (100.0)	1	0

An increase in reporting was recorded from Week 33 and may be as due to recent clinician and health staff sensitisation, as well as public awareness campaigns. Figure 2 shows the trend in cases of Mpx (suspected and confirmed) in Ghana by Epi Week.

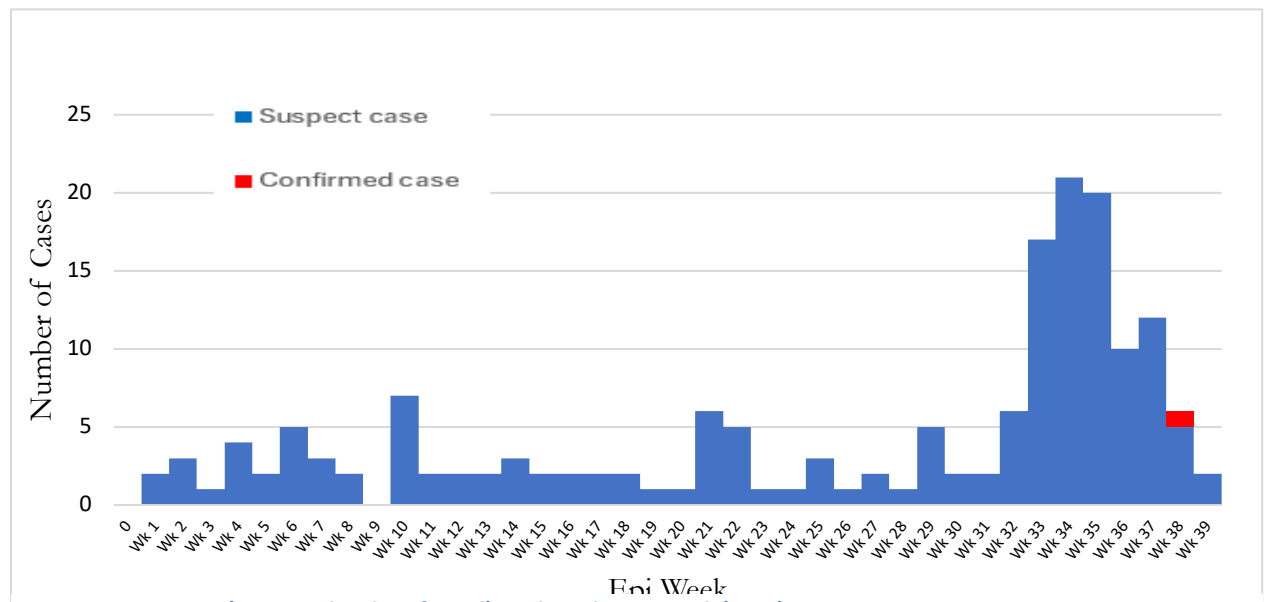


Figure 2: Mpx Cases (suspected and confirmed) in Ghana by Epi Week (2024)



MPOX DISEASE SITREP

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Response Activities

Coordination

- An alert on the confirmed Mpox to be issued by the Ministry of Health (MoH) and the Ghana Health Service.
- Activation of district, regional and national public health emergency coordination structures

Surveillance

- Initial public health investigation into the confirmed case is being carried out
- Notification to WHO as per the International Health Regulation (IHR) requirements
- Contact Identification, Listing and Tracing ongoing
- Healthcare workers sensitisation on surveillance for Mpox
- Case Definitions for Mpox made available to clinicians and other health staff

Laboratory

- NPHRL and the Noguchi Memorial Institute of Medical Research (NMIMR) are the designated laboratories for testing for Mpox in Ghana.
- Over 95% of samples from suspected cases have been tested as at the end of Epi Week 39
- Sensitisation on Mpox sample collection and management

Case Management and Infection Prevention and Control (IPC)

- Sensitization of clinicians on case management and IPC for Mpox
- Educational materials for diagnosis and differential diagnoses for Mpox disseminated to clinicians and other health staff

Risk Communication and Community Engagement

- Key messages and materials for public education on Mpox developed and disseminated
- Community and public education via community information centres (CIC) and radio stations

Gaps and Challenges

- Limited funding to support sustained laboratory testing and outbreak investigations.
- Limited funding to support sample transportation, especially from hard-to-reach areas such as the affected district.
- Need for social support for suspected/confirmed cases who need community isolation

Next Steps

- Continue coordination activities at the national, regional and district levels
- Conduct thorough outbreak investigation, involving other One Health stakeholders
- Mobilize laboratory logistics to support sample collection, packaging and transport to designated laboratories
- Continue community education and engagement activities to support prompt notification and response

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