

Difference Between Pandemic and Endemic

The basic difference between pandemic and endemic is that infectious disease spreads across countries, continents, and the entire world in a pandemic. On the other hand, the disease is spread only within one region and is endemic.

The following table lists the major difference between pandemic and endemic based on various parameters.

Pandemic VS Endemic		
Parameters	Pandemic	Endemic
Definition	Disease outbreaks in a country, continent or the entire world are known as pandemic.	Disease outbreaks in a specific region is known as endemic.
Permanency	The sudden outbreak spreads globally.	It is found permanently present in a region or a population.
Derivation	Derived from the Greek words pan means all and demos means people.	Derived from the Greek words en means in and demos means people.
Rate of Spread	Rapid rate and new cases appear every day.	Constant rate and spread is stable and get predictable over time.
Examples	COVID-19 outbreak New Viral Strain	Caribbean Dengue Chickenpox in the UK Malaria in Africa
Deaths	It can cause high numbers of death.	It does not cause very high numbers of death.

Consequences	Social disruption Economic Loss	Cases in communities Individual and family suffering
Contact with Wild Animals	Hunting and eating wild animals can lead to the spread of viruses from the wild animals.	No such connection is observed.
Prediction of Spread	Difficult to predict.	Spread can be predicted over time.

COVID-19 Pandemic

As our world faces one of the most detrimental pandemics of COVID-19, many people are intrigued to know the difference between pandemic and endemic. The pandemic caused by the COVID-19 virus claimed several lives around the world, and several new variants are now causing diseases at different rates.

What is a Pandemic?

There are several differences between pandemic and endemic with respect to region, extent, and number of deaths. A pandemic is a kind of epidemic where the infectious disease gets spread to a large area like a country, continent, or the entire world.

The World Health Organization (WHO) defines a pandemic as the spread of a new infectious disease in the entire world. The number of infectious disease cases exponentially grows during a pandemic.

What is an Endemic?

Endemic is the outbreak of an infectious disease in a limited region that spreads at a limited rate. An endemic disease can become a pandemic or epidemic and vice versa. For example, cholera was an illness that was caused by ingestion of food or water contaminated with the bacteria, *Vibrio cholera*. The disease originated in India, but the outbreak spread globally. In several regions, cholera is now endemic.