World Health Organization

Afghanistan

AFGHANISTAN

INFECTIOUS DISEASE OUTBREAKS SITUATION REPORT | Epidemiological week #40

No. 61/ (02 - 08 Oct 2022)

Disease Outbreaks	AWD (May-Oct 2022)	COVID-19 Me (Feb 20-Oct 2022) (Jan-0			CCHF (Jan-Oct 2022)	Pertussis (Jan-Oct 2022)	Dengue fever (Jun-Oct 2022)	Malaria (Jun-Oct 2022)		
Cumulative Cases (Data from 519 surveillance sentinel sites)	191,401	200,412	70,07	'1	355	757	199	1,816		
Deaths "CFR (%)"	67 (0.03)	7,806 (3.89)	378 (0.	54)	15 (4.22)	15 (1.98)	0 (0.00)	0 (0.00)		
Acute Watery Diarrhea (AWD) with Dehydration Outbreak (01 May to 08 Oct 2022)										
Current Week Cumulative Figures										
6,426 new cases (54.1% under 5)				191,401 cases (<5 years, 54.8%)						
1 new death				67 deaths (73.1% < 5 years), CFR=0.03%						
3 new districts (Takhar and Kapisa) reported new alerts				149 districts in all 34 provinces						
109 samples collected				2,280 samples collected						
• During week 40-2022, a total of 6,426 new AWD cases with dehydration and 1 new death were reported which indicates					(6,893, 3.6%) are the most affected provinces (Figure 1).Out of the total 191,401 cases, 104,844 (54.8 %) were children					

- 7.4% and 66.7% decrease in the number of cases and deaths, respectively, compared to previous week (Figure 2).
- The highest number of new AWD cases were reported from Kabul (1,505, 23.4%), followed by Helmand (986, 13.9%), Baghlan (619, 9.6%) and Nangarhar (406, 6.3%) provinces.
- Cumulatively, Kabul (41,423, 21.6%), Helmand (32,947, 17.2%), Baghlan (12,225, 6.4%), Kandahar (10,844, 5.6%), Nangarhar (10,644, 5.5%), Jawzjan (8,045, 4.2%) and Paktya

• The first few cases of AWD were reported to the National Disease Surveillance and Response System (NDSR), MoPH and WHO on 04 May 2022 from Kandahar city of Kandahar province and spread to 149 districts in 34 provinces.

below 5 years and 96,143 (50.2%) were females (Figure 3).

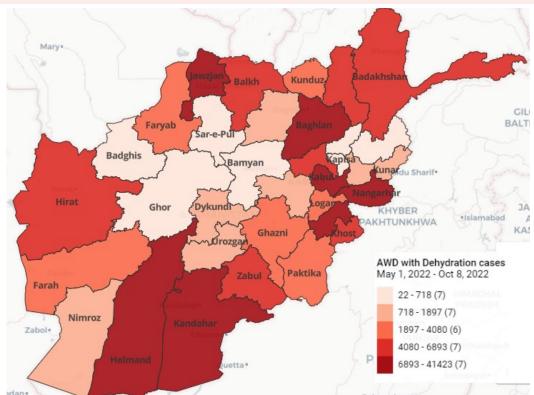
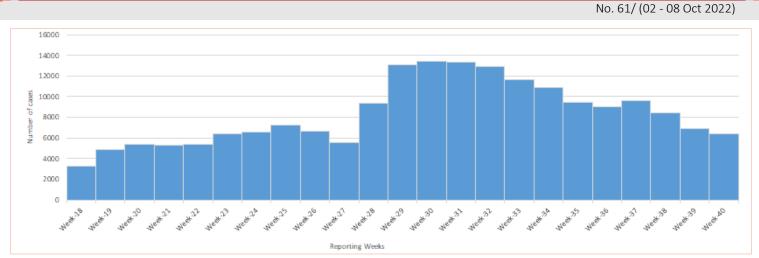
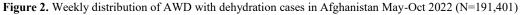


Figure 1. Hotspot areas of AWD with dehydration cases in Afghanistan, May-Oct 2022 (N=191,401)





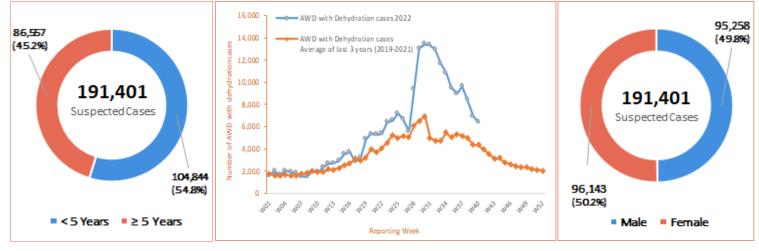


Figure 3. Distribution of AWD with dehydration cases by age groups in Afghanistan, May-Oct 2022

Figure 3.a. National trend of AWD with dehydration cases (NDSR data, 519 sentinel sites) in Afghanistan, (2019-2021 and 2022)

Figure 3.b. Distribution of AWD with dehydration cases by sex in Afghanistan, May-Oct 2022

Response to the AWD outbreak



Figure 4. Field supervision from surveillance support teams, Parwan province, Afghanistan, Oct 2022



Figure 5. AWD RCCE session at Helmand province, Afghanistan, Oct 2022

Leadership and Coordination

- Emergency and Preparedness Response Committees (EPR) are active at provincial level.
- Coordination meetings are conducted with Health-WASH partners on biweekly basis to strengthen AWD preparedness and response activities.

Surveillance

- Surveillance support teams (SSTs) are deployed in all 34 provinces to conduct active case finding and sample collection.
- Surveillance supportive supervisions are conduct at different provinces to strengthen early detection and timely response to AWD outbreaks.

Case Management

- 57 healthcare workers (HCWs) were trained on AWD case management last week. The total number of HCWs trained on AWD case management are 1,198 in 20 provinces.
- Training of 471 HCWs are planned in the coming weeks at South and remaining part of East and West Regions.

Laboratory and Supplies

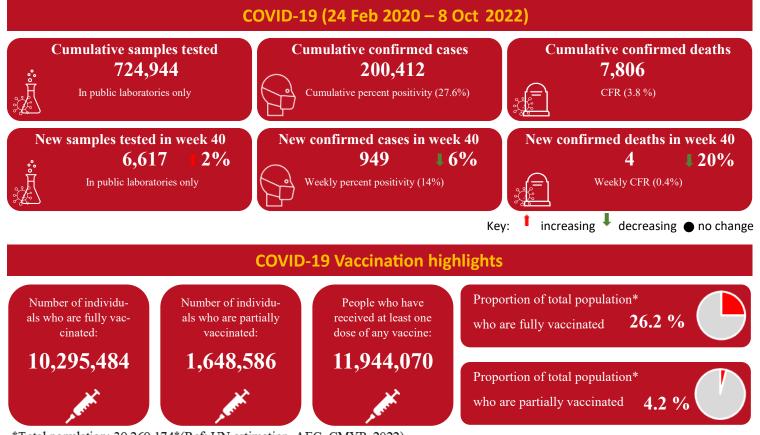
- A total of 370 Cary Blairs were distributed to eight regions for safe transportation of the samples to reference labs.
- In total, 396 different kits (37 central kits, 314 community kits, 45 ORP kits), 600 RDTs and 600 Cary Blairs have been distributed to all outbreak affected areas.
- A technical meeting was conducted with WHO regional office (EMRO) regarding the mapping of the microbiological agents causing AWD. EMRO will provide necessary technical and logistical supports for the for diagnosis of pathogens causing AWD.

WASH and RCCE

- WASH cluster is providing safe drinking water to the households in outbreak affected districts.
- Hygiene kits and other WASH supplies were distributed in AWD affected areas.
- Hygiene promotion focusing on hand-washing and behavioral changes were conducted in AWD affected districts.



Figure 6. AWD case management training to healthcare workers in Herat province, Afghanistan, Oct 2022



Total population: 39,269,174(Ref: UN estimation, AFG CMYP 2022)

Table 1: Summary of COVID-19 indicators in the last 8 weeks in Afghanistan (14 Aug - 08 Oct 2022)

Indicators	W33-22	W34-22	W35-22	W36-22	W37-22	W38-22	W39-22	W40-22	Epi-curve
Samples tested (in public Lab	7,313	8,495	7,457	8,250	7,422	7,398	6,505	6,617	
Confirmed cases	1,629	1,848	1,626	1,771	1,321	1,125	1,005	949	*****
Percent positivity (%)	22	22	22	21	18	15	15	14	****
Confirmed deaths	5	13	5	5	9	1	5	4	++++++
CFR (%)	0.3	0.7	0.3	0.3	0.7	0.1	0.5	0.4	****

Highlights of the week

- Since the beginning of the pandemic in Feb 2020, a total of 724,944 samples have been tested for COVID-19 through the public laboratories in the country.
- In week 40-2022, 6,617 samples were tested in public labs, of which 949 samples tested positive for COVID-19 (percent positivity 14) and 4 new deaths were reported. This represents 6% and 20% decrease in the number of newly reported cases and deaths, respectively, compared to week 39-2022 (Table 1).
- Cumulatively, 200,412 confirmed cases (overall percent positivity 27.6) of COVID-19 with 7,806 associated deaths (case fatality ratio = 3.8%) have been reported in Afghanistan since Feb 2020.
- As of 8 Oct 2022, 89.2 %, of cases have recovered.
- In week 40-2022, 4 out of 8 regions reported decrease in the number of newly reported cases compared to week 39. At the provincial level the highest number of weekly new cases were reported from Nangarhar (100 cases), Hirat (69 cases), Kunar (68 cases), Wardak (55 cases), and Laghman (53 cases).

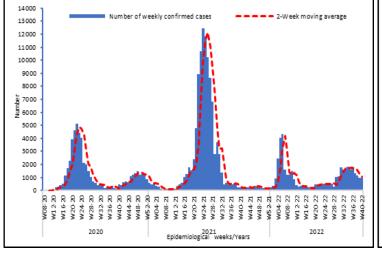


Figure 7: Weekly distribution of confirmed COVID-19 cases in Afghanistan (24 Feb 2020 - 8 Oct 2022)

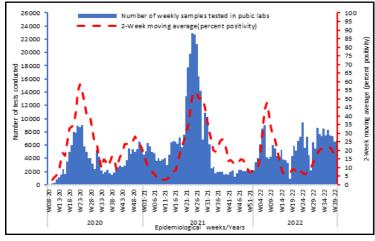


Figure 9: Number of weekly PCR tests conducted and 2-week moving average of percent positivity in Afghanistan (24 Feb 2020 – 8 Oct 2022)

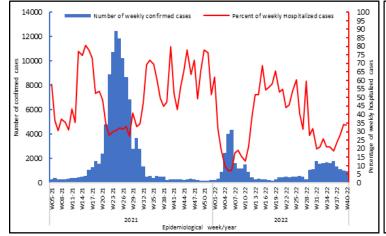


Figure 11: Weekly proportion of hospitalized cases out of new COVID-19 confirmed cases in Afghanistan as of (24 Feb - 08 Oct 2022)

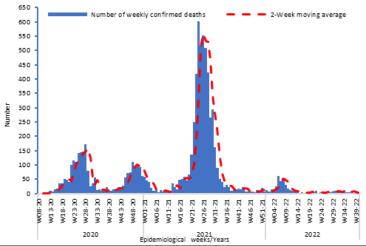


Figure 8: Weekly distribution of COVID-19 associated deaths in Afghanistan (24 Feb 2020 - 8 Oct 2022)

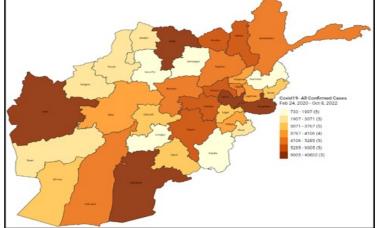


Figure 10: Geographic distribution of COVID-19 confirmed cases in Afghanistan (24 Feb 2020 - 8 Oct 2022)

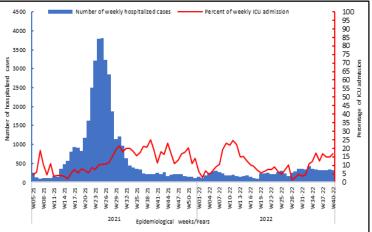
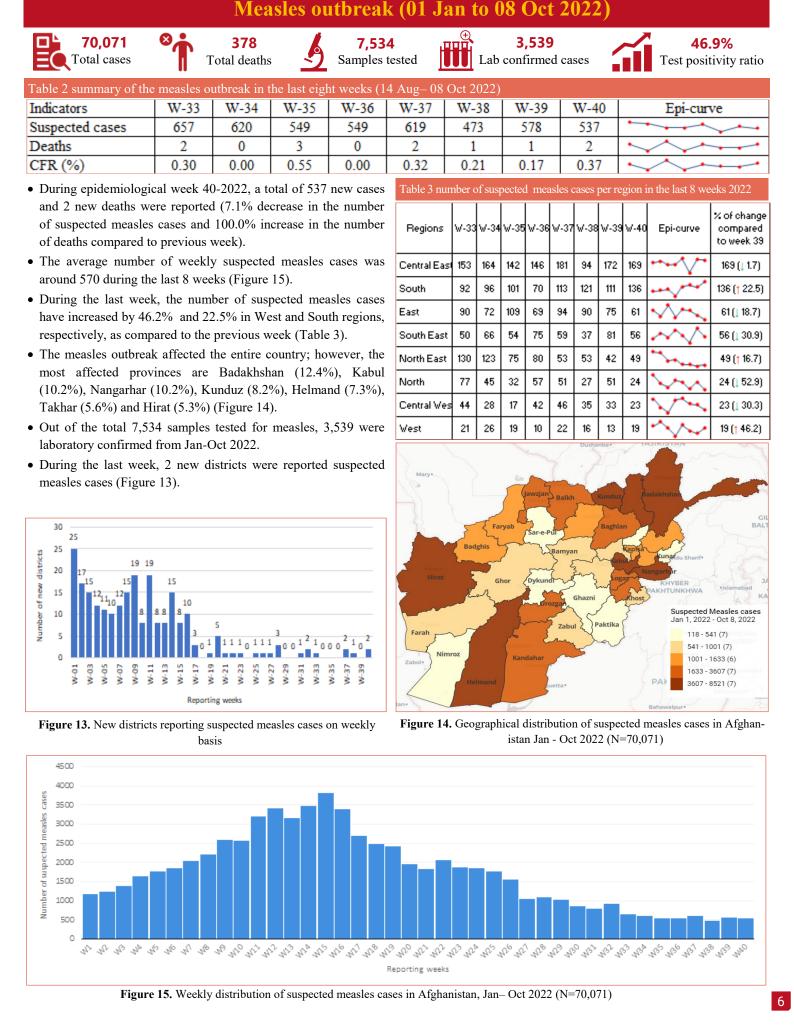
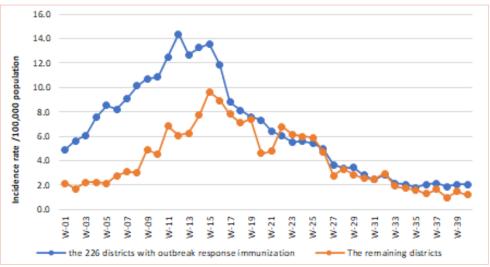


Figure 12: Weekly proportion of ICU admissions out of newly hospitalized COVID-19 cases in Afghanistan as of (24 Feb - 08 Oct 2022)





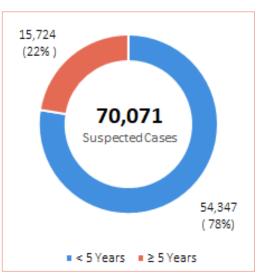


Figure 16. Weekly incidence rate/100,000 population of suspected measles cases in 226 districts where measles campaigns were conducted (since Dec 2021) and the remaining districts in Afghanistan, Jan - Oct 2022

Figure 17. Distribution of suspected measles cases by age groups in Afghanistan, Jan-Oct 2022

Response to Measles outbreak

- Since December 2021, around 4.6 million children (aged between 6 months to 14 years) have been vaccinated through 3 different measles outbreak response immunization campaigns in 29 provinces (226 districts).
- The recent measles outbreak response immunization campaign conducted during 3-8 September 2022 in 85 highrisk districts (25 provinces) around 1.4 million (94% coverage) children have been vaccinated.
- A national immunization campaign is planned to be conducted in November 2022. National TOT training was conducted to more than 100 national and provincial EPI staff during 2-5 October 2022.
- Preparation for cascading the training to district coordinators, cluster supervisors and frontline workers will take place during 21-30 October 2022 in all 34 provinces.

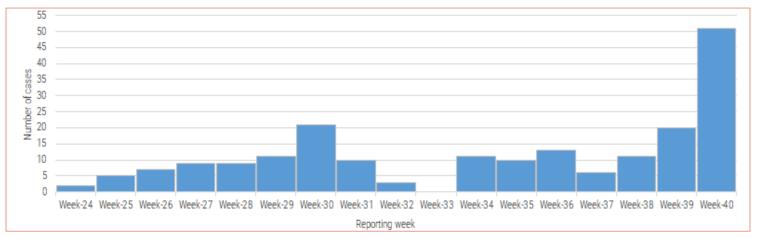


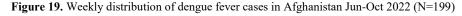
Dengue Fever Outbreak (01 Jun to 01 Oct 2022)

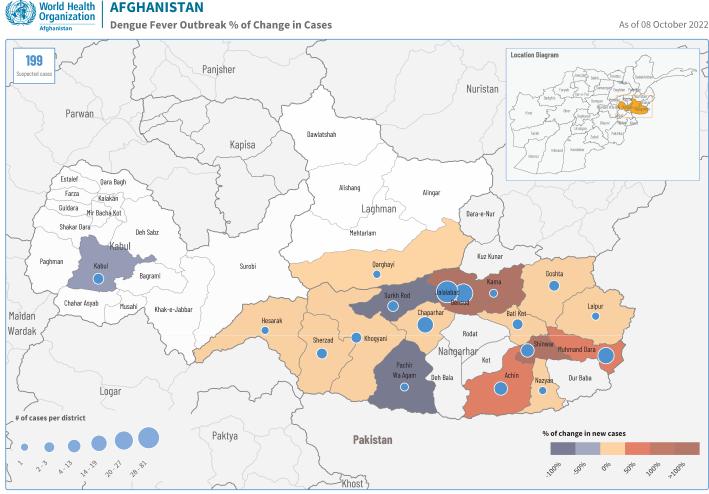
Highlight:

World Health

- A total of 51 suspected dengue fever cases have been reported during week 40-2022 from Nangarhar province (48 cases) and Kabul city (3 cases) which brings the total number of cases to 199 as of 08 Oct 2022.
- New cases from Kabul have the travel history to Pakistan (endemic area for dengue) who returned to Kabul last week.
- Out of 199 reported cases, 93 (48.2%) were females and 196 (98.5%) were over five years of age.
- Out of 199 collected blood samples, 55 cases tested positive using PCR (52 in Nangarhar and 3 in Kabul).







The boundaries and names shown and the designations used on this map do not imply official endorsement or acceptance by the World Health Organization. Creation date: 08 October 2022 Sources: MoPH, WHO, AGCHO. Feedback: nasseryr@who.int

Figure 20. Hotspot areas of dengue fever cases and percent change of new cases in Afghanistan, Jun-Oct 2022

Other infectious diseases outbreaks (Jan-Oct 2022)

Response to the dengue fever outbreak

- WHO provided needed medicines for the case management of dengue cases to Kabul infectious diseases hospital (IDH) and Nangarhar regional hospital.
- WHO is conducting regular field visits in coordination with National vector control program (MoPH) to provide necessary outbreak response in the affected districts, in Kabul and Nangarhar provinces.
- Three days on the job training was provided to 14 SST staff at Nangarhar on dengue sample collection, packing, sample transportation and use of RDTs.
- In addition, 6 laboratory technicians were trained on using PCR and ELISA tests for dengue case confirmation at Nangarhar regional reference laboratory (RRL).
- Field investigation of confirmed dengue fever cases in Kabul province is in progress by Malaria and other vector borne diseases control program (MVDP) to determine the availability of dengue vector (Aedes mosquito).

CCHF Highlight:

- During week 40-2022, a total of 10 new suspected CCHF cases were reported. The highest number of new CCHF cases were reported from Kabul (4, 40.0%) and Balkh (2, 20.0%) provinces. This brings the total number of suspected CCHF cases to 355 from 25 provinces.
- Out of 355 cases, (267, 75.2%) were males and all were over five years of age.
- Out of 355 cases, (61, 13.4%) were lab confirmed using PCR.
- No new deaths have been reported for the last four weeks,



Figure 21. Dengue vector investigation in Kabul province, Afghanistan Oct 2022

and the total number of CCHF associated deaths remained at 15 (Kabul (5), Herat (3), Takhar (2), Kapisa (2), Nangarhar (2) and Badghis (1).

- The CCHF cases are managed in the health facilities according to the national guidelines. Ribavirin and double bags needed for the treatment of CCHF cases were distributed to all regions.
- In the last two weeks, a total of 91 healthcare workers (HCWs) were trained on CCHF case management in 8 regions (33 provinces).



Figure 22: Training of CCHF case management to HCWs from East, North-east and South Regions in Kabul, Oct 2022

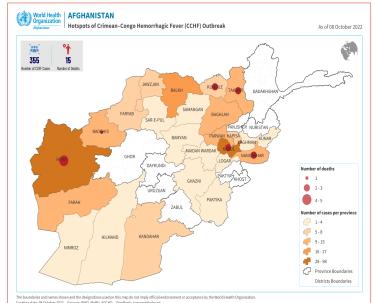


Figure 23. Hotspot areas of CCHF cases in Afghanistan, Jan-Oct 2022

AFGHANISTAN INFECTIOUS DISEASE OUTBREAKS SITUATION REPORT Epidemiological week #40

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Pertussis Highlight:

- During week 40-2022, a total of 9 new suspected pertussis cases were reported from Helmand (5) and Ghazni (4) provinces, this brings the total number of suspected cases to 757 from 16 provinces.
- Out of the total 757 cases, (472, 62.3 %) were children below 5 years and (400, 52.8%) were females .
- The highest number has been observed in Ghazni (187, 24.7%) followed by Kabul (166, 21.9%) and Kandahar (152, 20.1%) Figure 24.
- No new suspected pertussis associated deaths have been reported for the last six weeks, and the total number of suspected pertussis associated deaths remains at 15.

Note: Figures on suspected pertussis for this week onward is using the data coming from 519 sentinel sites, while that for previous weeks were used data from some sentinel sites reporting above-threshold number of cases of pertussis

Monkeypox Highlight:

- No suspected monkeypox cases have been reported during the last eleven weeks. The total number of suspected monkeypox cases remains at 15.
- The Central Public Health Laboratories have been provided with the PCR kits needed to test 400 samples.
- RCCE posters have been prepared in local language and used as part of the awareness campaigns.

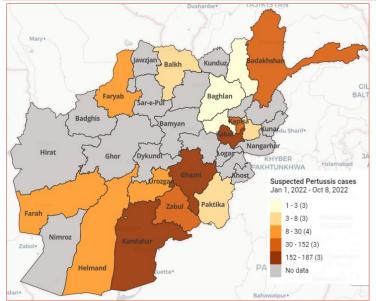


Figure 24. Geographical distribution of suspected pertussis cases in Afghanistan Jan - Oct 2022 (N=757)

Malaria Highlight:

- During week 40-2022, no new suspected malaria cases were reported.
- In Farah (Balabolok district): 39 cases (28 (71.7%) were females and 5 (12.8%) were under 5).
- In Laghman (Alishang district): 663 cases (339 (51.1%) were females, and 142 (21.4%) were under 5).
- In Kunar (Waterproof): 562 cases (314 (55.8%) are females, and 153 (27.2%) were under 5).
- In Badghis (Qale-e-naw): 552 cases.
- A joint mission of the WHO and Malaria and other Victors born Disease Control Program (MVDP) are in the affected districts to provide the needed technical and operational support.

Note: MOPH is the source of epidemiological data

Contact us for further information:

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