

EWARS Weekly Epidemiological Bulletin: Syrian Arab Republic Epi week 11 (8th to 14th March 2020)

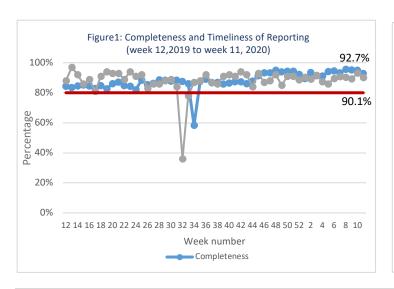


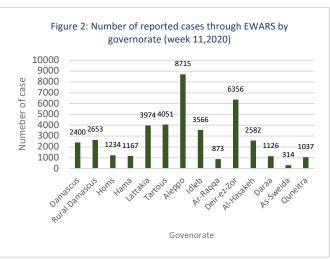
Highlights

- A total of 275 080 consultations were recorded in all the 14 governorates in week 11.
- The leading causes of morbidity among all age groups were influenza-like illnesses (64.6%) and acute diarrhea (21.6%).
- A total of 644 SARI cases were reported and the trend remain stable. Three SARI cases admitted in ICU were tested for influenza and two cases are negative for influenza and the result of the rest of the case is pending.
- 32 suspected measles cases were reported during week 11, and all are negative.
- No confirmed case of COVID-19 was reported by the end of week 11.

Performance Indicators

• A total of 1197 out of 1291 active reporting sites (92.7%) in all 14 governorates of Syria reported through EWARS, with 90.1% timeliness among those sites providing data during week 11 (Figure 1).



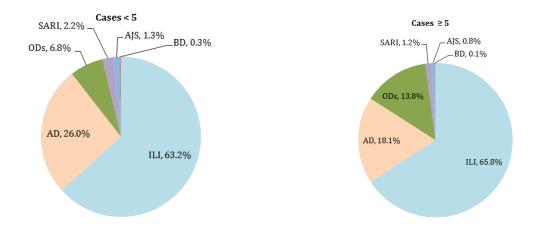


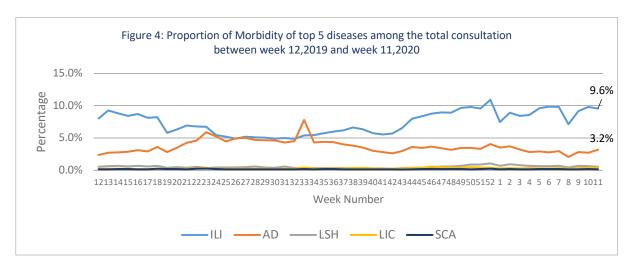
Morbidity

1. Proportional Morbidity

- A total of 275 080 consultations were recorded in 1197 health facilities in 14 governorates in week 11, 2020. Among them, 40 048 cases were EWARS notifiable health conditions (Figure 2).
- Among all age groups, the leading causes of morbidity influenza-like illnesses (ILI) (64.6%), and acute diarrhea (AD) (21.6%).
- Of the 40 048 total reported cases, 50.4% (20 201) were female, and 43.4% (17 371) were children under 5 years old.
- Among children under 5 years of age, 63.2% of cases are ILI, and ILI representing 26.0% of the cases during this reporting period (Figure 3).
- The proportional morbidity of ILI is 9.6% and the trend remain stable (Figure 4).

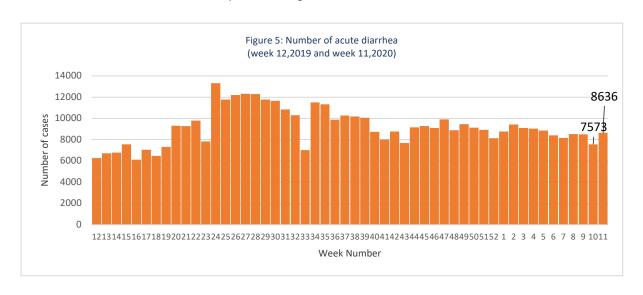
Figure 3: Proportional morbidity by age group in week 11, 2020





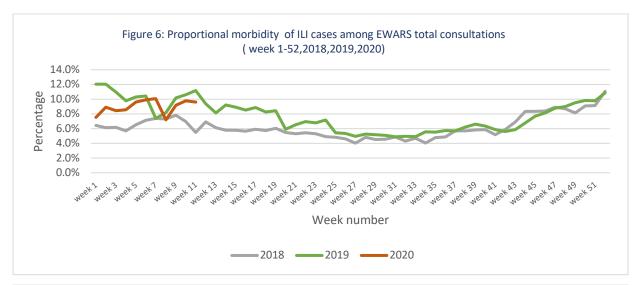
2. Waterborne Diseases

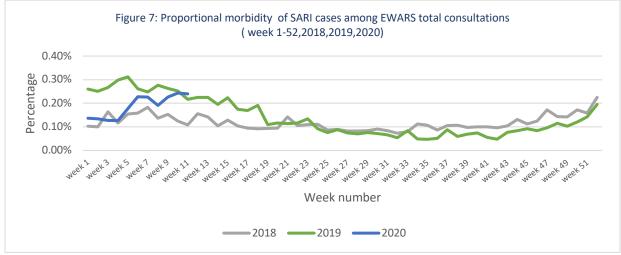
- There no case of acute watery diarrhea (AWD) in week 11.
- A total of 8 636 AD cases were reported during week 11, and the trend remain stable.

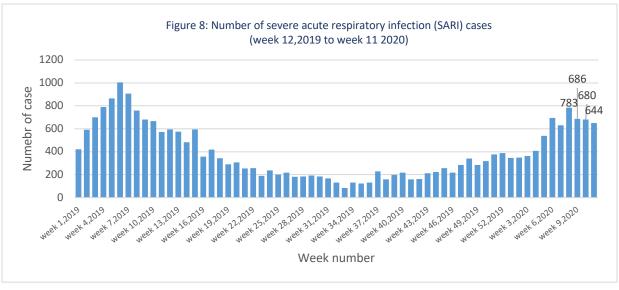


3. Respiratory Diseases

- In total, 25 889 ILI cases were reported during week. The trend remains stable. The proportional morbidity of ILI is 8.4% which is lower than the proportional morbidity of the previous year (Figure 6).
- In total, 644 SARI cases were reported, and the proportional morbidity was 0.24% and the trend remain stable (increased by 0.02% compared to the average of previous 4 weeks) (Figure 7).

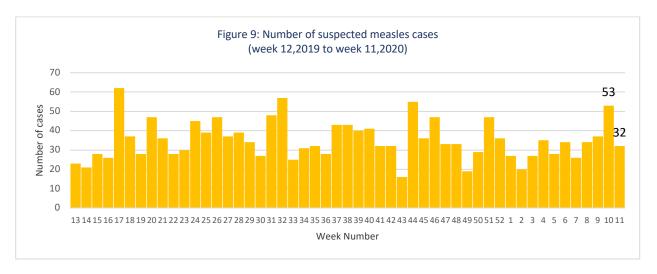






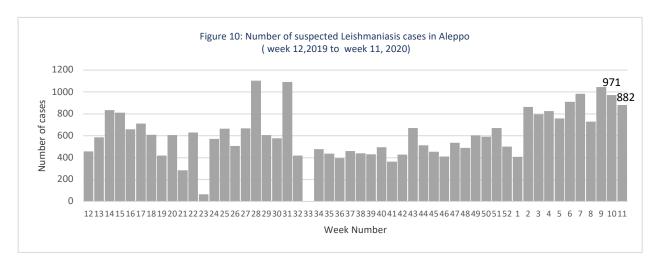
4. Vaccine Preventable Diseases

- Three cases of acute flaccid paralysis (AFP) were reported in week 11, from Homs, Tartous, and Ar-Raqqa.
- A total of 32 suspected measles cases were reported, and most cases were reported from Most cases were reported from Ar-Raqqa (11), Idleb (10), and Damascus (4). There is a downward trend with 14% of decrease compared to the average of the previous four weeks.



5. Other Diseases

- 4314 cases were reported as "other diseases" through EWARS. The health conditions with the highest incidents were leishmaniasis (1418), lice (1106), and scabies (337).
- During week 11, most of suspected leishmaniasis cases were reported from Aleppo (62.2%), Deir-ez-Zor (13.3%), and Idleb (9.0%). A total of 882 suspected leishmaniasis cases were reported from Aleppo during week 11 and the trend remain stable (Figure 10).



Public Health Response Actions

Suspected measles

A total of 32 suspected measles cases was reported during week 11. All the cases were investigated by
rapid response teams of the health directorates except for the cases reported from Idleb governorate (10
cases) where the access is limited. The blood specimens from 21 suspected cases were collected and
tested for IgM ELISA at the reference laboratory in Damascus. All cases tested negative for measles.

Severe acute respiratory infection (SARI)

• From week 1 to week 11 in 2020, a total of 258 SARI case admitted in ICU including 42 deaths were tested for influenza. Among them, 92 cases were influenza type A (not subtyped), 2 cases were H1N1, and 6 cases were influenza type B. Among 42 death cases, 22 cases were positive for influenza (21 cases were type A, one case was type B). Most of the cases reported from Lattakia (50, 19.4%), Rural Damascus (43, 16.7%), and Damascus (37, 14.3%).

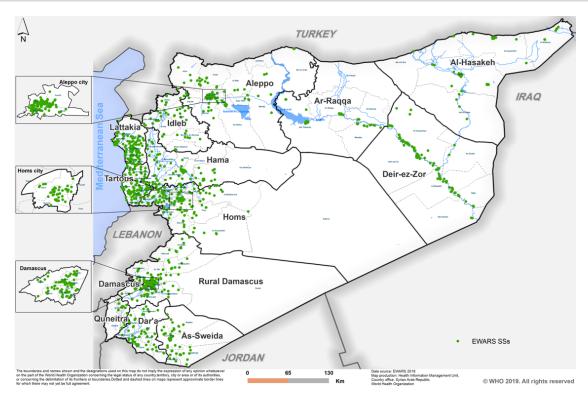
COVID-19

- By week 11, there was no confirmed case of COVID-19 was reported in Syria.
- WHO is supporting the MOH's implementation of an emergency preparedness/response plan, including strengthening surveillance to rapidly identify, diagnose and treat cases; identification and follow-up of contacts; infection prevention/control in healthcare settings; implementation of health measures for travelers; and public awareness raising though risk communication.
- The MOH central public health laboratory (CPHL) is the only designated laboratory for testing COVID-19 in the country. WHO/MOH enabled CPHL to test COVID-19 countrywide by conducting a training workshop on laboratory diagnosis, as well as providing testing kits. To date, WHO has delivered 42 screening kits (4032 reactions), 4 confirmatory testing kits (384 reactions), 4000 lab swabs, 30 extraction kits (1500 reactions), 5 PCR machines, and PPE. More lab equipment and testing kits are in the pipeline. Plus, to expand lab diagnosis capacity, WHO supports rehabilitation of CPHL to establish a designated laboratory for COVID-19 on an entire floor in CPHL, with two fixed air-conditioners and four laboratory refrigerators.

ANNEX 1: Comparison with Previous Week by Health Condition

| Disease | Week 10 | Week 11 |
|---|---------|---------|
| Acute diarrhea (AD) | 7 573 | 8 636 |
| Bloody diarrhea (BD) | 58 | 66 |
| Acute watery diarrhea (AWD) | 0 | 0 |
| Acute jaundice syndrome (AJS) | 409 | 415 |
| Influenza like illness (ILI) | 27 418 | 25 889 |
| Acute flaccid paralysis (AFP) | 2 | 3 |
| Suspected measles (SM) | 53 | 32 |
| Suspected meningitis (SMN) | 37 | 40 |
| Typhoid fever (TYF) | 245 | 237 |
| Brucellosis (BRU) | 220 | 156 |
| Suspected tuberculosis (TB) | 21 | 29 |
| Severe acute respiratory infection (SARI) | 673 | 644 |
| Suspected pertussis (PER) | 96 | 120 |
| suspected leishmaniasis (LSH) | 1721 | 1418 |
| Suspected chickenpox (CHP) | 224 | 245 |
| Scabies (SCA) | 512 | 337 |
| Lice (LIC) | 1028 | 1106 |
| Suspected mumps (MUM) | 124 | 135 |
| Others | 371 | 531 |
| Total | 40 792 | 40 048 |

Annex 2: Map of EWARS sentinel site



| | | Idleb | Al- Hasakeh | Ar-Raqqa | As- Sweida | Quneitra | Lattakia | Aleppo | Hama | Homs | Dar'a | Damascu s | Deir-ez- Zor | Rural Damascu s | Tartous | Total |
|---|------------|-------|----------------|----------|---------------|----------|----------|--------|-------|-------|-------|--------------|-----------------|-----------------------|---------|--------|
| Acute diarrhea (AD) | < 5 | 634 | 342 | 179 | 22 | 65 | 288 | 484 | 165 | 114 | 142 | 316 | 1 505 | 144 | 121 | 4 521 |
| | ≥ 5 | 622 | 233 | 129 | 27 | 82 | 380 | 581 | 147 | 164 | 152 | 338 | 914 | 190 | 156 | 4 115 |
| Bloody diarrhea (BD) | < 5 | 0 | 3 | 7 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 5 | 1 | 28 | 0 | 0 | 44 |
| | ≥ 5 | 0 | 0 | 7 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 3 | 1 | 11 | 0 | 0 | 22 |
| Acute watery diarrhea (AWD) | < 5 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| | ≥ 5 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Acute jaundice syndrome (AJS) | < 5 | 42 | 0 | 45 | 0 | 1 | 3 | 7 | 0 | 3 | 3 | 2 | 123 | 1 | 0 | 230 |
| | ≥ 5 | 25 | 8 | 31 | 4 | 0 | 3 | 18 | 16 | 8 | 20 | 9 | 32 | 9 | 2 | 185 |
| Influenza like illness (ILI) | < 5 | 742 | 816 | 224 | 71 | 329 | 1 148 | 2 873 | 288 | 308 | 342 | 569 | 1 310 | 757 | 1 197 | 10 974 |
| | ≥ 5 | 715 | 906 | 164 | 160 | 490 | 1 768 | 3 431 | 128 | 425 | 372 | 1 052 | 1 484 | 1 461 | 2 359 | 14 915 |
| Acute flaccid paralysis (AFP) | < 5 | 0 | 0 | 2 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 2 |
| | ≥5 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 1 |
| Suspected measles (SM) | < 5 | 7 | 1 | 8 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 2 | 1 | 3 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 23 |
| | ≥5 | 3 | 1 | 3 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 9 |
| Suspected meningitis (SMN) | < 5 | 8 | 0 | 1 | 3 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 5 | 0 | 0 | 3 | 0 | 1 | 1 | 22 |
| | ≥5 | 4 | 0 | 3 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 3 | 3 | 3 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 0 | 18 |
| Severe acute respiratory infection (SARI) | < 5 | 1 | 8 | 6 | 0 | 0 | 5 | 62 | 138 | 7 | 0 | 40 | 16 | 0 | 92 | 375 |
| | ≥ 5 | 0 | 2 | 5 | 14 | 0 | 21 | 44 | 32 | 7 | 0 | 27 | 9 | 0 | 108 | 269 |
| Typhoid fever (TYF) | < 5 | 28 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 0 | 18 | 1 | 0 | 49 |
| | ≥ 5 | 14 | 2 | 5 | 0 | 3 | 1 | 2 | 11 | 0 | 20 | 0 | 126 | 4 | 0 | 188 |
| Described (DDII) | < 5 | 4 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 4 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 2 | 2 | 0 | 12 |
| Brucellosis (BRU) | ≥ 5 | 7 | 5 | 1 | 0 | 1 | 0 | 12 | 14 | 2 | 18 | 2 | 70 | 12 | 0 | 144 |
| Suspected tuberculosis | < 5 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 14 | 0 | 7 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 27 |
| (TB) | ≥ 5 | 33 | 2 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 5 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 38 | 0 | 0 | 78 |
| Suspected pertussis (PER) | < 5 | 28 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 14 | 0 | 0 | 42 |
| | ≥ 5 | 62 | 13 | 2 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 182 | 5 | 12 | 0 | 3 | 78 | 0 | 0 | 358 |
| suspected leishmaniasis (LSH) | < 5 | 66 | 5 | 4 | 2 | 0 | 11 | 700 | 84 | 59 | 0 | 0 | 111 | 9 | 9 | 1 060 |
| | ≥5 | 20 | 22 | 13 | 0 | 1 | 1 | 16 | 2 | 3 | 2 | 3 | 24 | 5 | 0 | 112 |
| Suspected chickenpox (CHP) | < 5 | 31 | 22 | 8 | 0 | 2 | 0 | 22 | 11 | 1 | 3 | 7 | 14 | 10 | 2 | 133 |
| | ≥5 | 1 | 8 | 6 | 0 | 0 | 5 | 62 | 138 | 7 | 0 | 40 | 16 | 0 | 92 | 375 |
| Scabies (SCA) | < 5 ≥ 5 | 0 | 2 | 5 | 14 | 0 | 21 | 44 | 32 | 7 | 0 | 27 | 9 | 0 | 108 | 269 |
| Lice (LIC) | < 5 | 128 | 6 | 0 | 4 | 6 | 14 | 34 | 7 | 4 | 8 | 0 | 18 | 0 | 0 | 229 |
| | ≥5 | 182 | 27 | 0 | 3 | 52 | 309 | 172 | 78 | 12 | 11 | 11 | 12 | 8 | 0 | 877 |
| Suspected mumps (MUM) | < 5 | 0 | 3 | 11 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 2 | 0 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 31 | 0 | 0 | 48 |
| | ≥5 | 28 | 18 | 10 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 2 | 1 | 2 | 0 | 0 | 25 | 1 | 0 | 87 |
| Others | < 5 | 0 | 44 | 5 | 0 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 7 | 19 | 5 | 0 | 112 | 3 | 0 | 198 |
| | ≥5 | 0 | 60 | 0 | 0 | 2 | 2 | 12 | 12 | 43 | 9 | 0 | 161 | 32 | 0 | 333 |
| Total of < 5 | | 1 758 | 1 275 | 503 | 100 | 403 | 1 464 | 3 673 | 617 | 477 | 511 | 943 | 3 322 | 914 | 1 411 | 17 371 |
| Total of ≥ 5 | | 1 808 | 1 307 | 370 | 214 | 634 | 2 510 | 5 042 | 550 | 757 | 615 | 1 457 | 3 034 | 1 739 | 2 640 | 22 677 |
| Grand total | | 3 566 | 2 582 | 873 | 314 | 1 037 | 3 974 | 8 715 | 1 167 | 1 234 | 1 126 | 2 400 | 6 356 | 2 653 | 4 051 | 40 048 |