

# EWARS Weekly Epidemiological Bulletin: Syrian Arab Republic Epi week 1 (29th December 2019 to 4th January 2020)

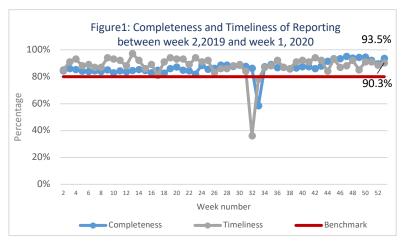


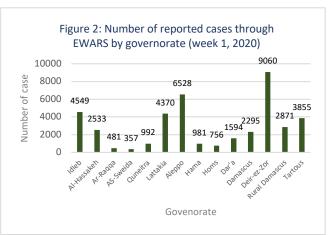
#### **Highlights**

- A total of 250 824 consultations were recorded in all the 14 governorates in week 1 of 2020.
- The leading causes of morbidity among all age groups were influenza-like illnesses (58.2%) and acute diarrhea (27. 1%).
- 37 suspected measles cases were reported during week 1. Among them, the blood specimens of 29 cases were collected and tested at the reference laboratory in Damascus. The laboratory result showed all tested negative for measles.
- Three acute flaccid paralysis cases (all children above 5 years old) were reported: 2 cases from Aleppo, and one case from Hama.
- An increase of acute diarrhea cases were observed Ashrefia Al-Wadi and Jdeideh Al-Wadi in Rural Damascus, with a total of 882 cases (no associated death) between 31 December 2019 and 11 January, 2020.

#### **Performance Indicators**

• A total of 1175 out of 1257 active reporting sites (93.5%) in all 14 governorates of Syria reported through EWARS, with 90.3% timeliness among those sites providing data during week 1 (Figure 1).



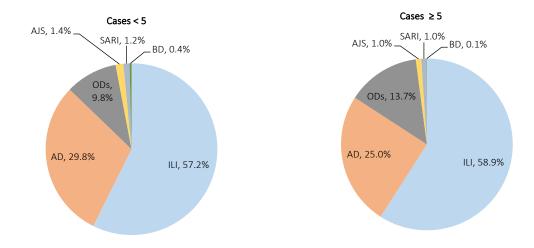


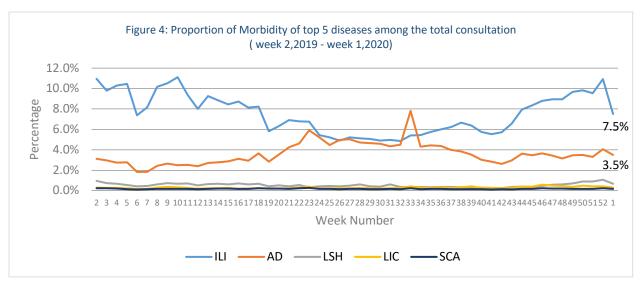
### **Morbidity**

#### 1. Proportional Morbidity

- A total of 250 824 consultations were recorded in 1175 health facilities in 14 governorates in week 1, 2020. Among them, 32 308 cases were EWARS notifiable health conditions (Figure 2).
- Among all age groups, the leading causes of morbidity influenza-like illnesses (ILI) (58.2%), and acute diarrhea (AD) (27.1%).
- Of the 32 308 total reported cases, 49.8% (16 103) were female, and 43.7% (14 116) were children under 5 years old.
- Among children under 5 years of age, 57.2.% of cases are ILI, and AD representing 29.8% of the cases during this reporting period (Figure 2).
- The proportianl mortality of ILI is 7.5% which decreased by 7.5% from the previous week (Figure 4).

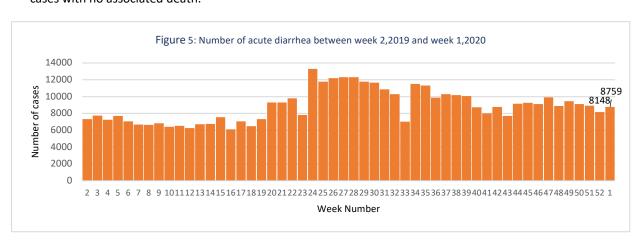
Figure 2: Proportional morbidity by age group in week 1, 2020





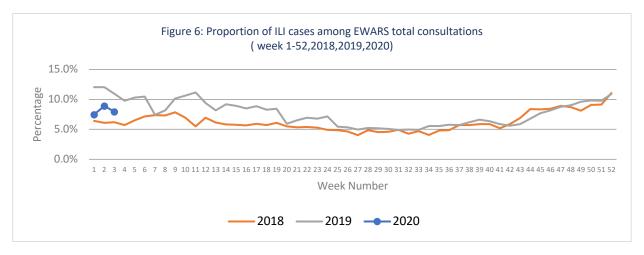
#### 2. Waterborne Diseases

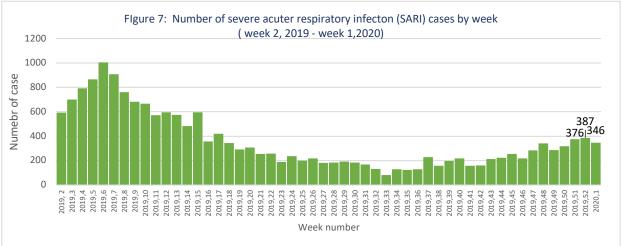
- There no case of acute watery diarrhea (AWD) in week 1.
- A total of 8759 acute diarrhea cases were reported. The trend remains stable.
- An increase of acute diarrhea cases was reported from 31<sup>st</sup> of December 2019 in Ashrafia Al-Wadi and Jdeideh Al-Wadi in Rural Damascus. From 31 of December till 11 of January 2020, a total of 882 (U5yrs:199, above 5yrs: 683) cases with no associated death.



#### 3. Respiratory Diseases

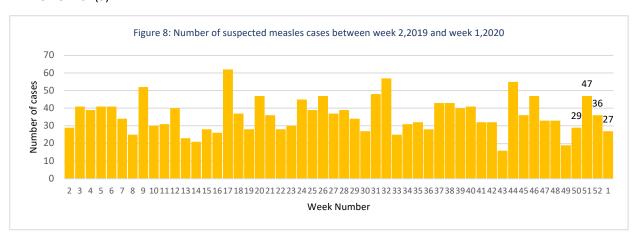
- In total, 18 917 ILI cases were reported during week 1 which decreased by 23.2% compared to the average of the last three weeks. The proportional morbidity of ILI among the total consultation is 7.5% which is lower than the proportional morbidity of the previous year (Figure 6).
- In total, 346 SARI cases were reported, and the trend remain stable (Figure 7). The proportional morbidity is still below the same week in the previous year (Figure 8).





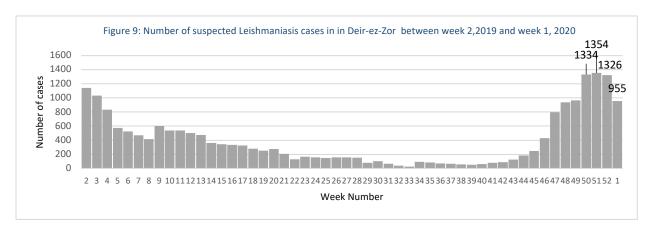
#### 4. Vaccine Preventable Diseases

- Three case of acute flaccid paralysis (AFP) was reported in week 1: Two cases from Aleppo, and one case from Hama. All the cases were children above 5 years old.
- A total of 27 suspected measles cases were reported. Most cases were reported from Idleb (8), Ar-Raqqa (7), and Deir-ez-Zor (5).



#### 5. Other Diseases

- 3878 cases were reported as "other diseases" through EWARS. The health conditions with the highest incidents were leishmaniasis (1688), lice (700), and scabies (391).
- During week 1, most of suspected leishmaniasis cases were reported from Deir-ez-Zor (56.6%), Aleppo (24.1%), and Idleb (8.8%). In Deir-ez-Zor, a total of 955 cases were reported which decreased by 28.6% compared to the previous three weeks (figure 9).



#### **Public Health Response Actions**

#### Suspected measles

- A total of 37 suspected measles cases was reported during week 1. All the cases were investigated by
  rapid response teams of the health directorates except for the cases reported from Idleb governorate ( 8
  cases) where the access is limited. The blood specimens from 29 suspected cases were collected and
  tested for IgM ELISA at the reference laboratory in Damascus. The laboratory result showed all 29
  samples were negative for measles.
- During 2019, a total of 1023 suspected measles cases were tested at the central public health laboratory in Damascus. Among them, 39 cases were positive for measles. Most positive cases were reported in Lattakia (7), Aleppo (6), Damascus(6) and Rural Damascus (6).

#### Acute flaccid paralysis

In total, three AFP cases were reported during week 1 in Aleppo (two cases) and Hama (one case). All the cases were children above 5 years old. The stool samples from all the three cases were collected and tested at the polio reference laboratory in Damascus, and the result showed the all case were negative for poliomyelitis.

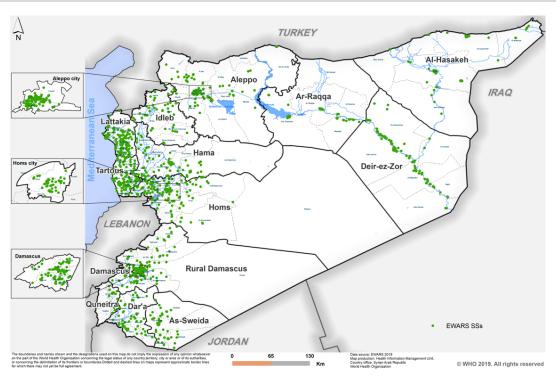
#### Diarrhea cases in Rural Damascus

- An increase of acute diarrhea cases was reported from 31<sup>st</sup> of December 2019 in Ashrafia Al-Wadi and
  Jdeideh Al-Wadi in Rural Damascus. From 31 of December till 11 of January 2020, a total of 882
  (U5yrs:199, above 5yrs: 683) cases with no associated death were reported though EWARS. The common
  symptoms were acute diarrhea and vomiting. The severity of diarrhea ranges mild to moderate.
- DoH Rapid Response Team was deployed on 1<sup>st</sup> of January to collect water samples from different water sources in Ashrafia Al-Wadi and Jdeideh Al-Wadi. Coliform contamination was found in water samples collected from both neighborhoods. E.Coli was detected in water samples from Jdidet el-Wadi. The contaminated water sources were sterilized, and the use of the contaminated water source was banned. A laboratory analysis of human stool sample detects norovirus and campylobacter.

## **Annex 1: Comparison with Previous Week by Health Condition**

| Disease                                   | Week 52,2019 | Week 1,2020 |
|---|--------------|-------------|
| Acute diarrhea (AD)                       | 8 148        | 8 759       |
| Bloody diarrhea (BD)                      | 86           | 61          |
| Acute watery diarrhea (AWD)               | 1            | 0           |
| Acute jaundice syndrome (AJS)             | 692          | 391         |
| Influenza like illness (ILI)              | 21 926       | 18 795      |
| Acute flaccid paralysis (AFP)             | 1            | 3           |
| Suspected measles (SM)                    | 36           | 27          |
| Suspected meningitis (SMN)                | 49           | 50          |
| Typhoid fever (TYF)                       | 303          | 210         |
| Brucellosis (BRU)                         | 227          | 137         |
| Suspected tuberculosis (TB)               | 14           | 17          |
| Severe acute respiratory infection (SARI) | 387          | 344         |
| Suspected pertussis (PER)                 | 156          | 104         |
| suspected leishmaniasis (LSH)             | 2 128        | 1 688       |
| Suspected chickenpox (CHP)                | 364          | 312         |
| Scabies (SCA)                             | 460          | 391         |
| Lice (LIC)                                | 826          | 700         |
| Suspected mumps (MUM)                     | 77           | 104         |
| Others                                    | 263          | 215         |
| Total                                     | 36 144       | 32 308      |

# **Annex 2: Map of EWARS sentinel site**



Week 1, 2020

| Week 1, 202                      |     | 1.01-1- | Al-            | Ar-          | As-          | 0              | Land de         |               | Usus        | Users      | Deale | Damascu  | Deir-ez-     | Rural               | T           | Total       |
|----------------------------------|-----|---------|----------------|--------------|--------------|----------------|-----------------|---------------|-------------|------------|-------|----------|--------------|---------------------|-------------|-------------|
|                                  |     | Idleb   | Hasakeh<br>313 | Raqqa<br>168 | Sweida<br>21 | Quneitra<br>44 | Lattakia<br>304 | Aleppo<br>539 | Hama<br>130 | Homs<br>87 | Dar'a | s<br>327 | Zor<br>1 004 | Damascu<br>s<br>274 | Tartous 234 | Total 4 203 |
| Acute diarrhea<br>(AD)           | < 5 | 656     | 171            | 119          | 18           | 70             | 472             | 386           | 105         | 71         | 113   | 382      | 1 035        | 705                 | 253         | 4 556       |
| (/                               | ≥5  | 0       | 4              | 12           | 0            | 0              | 1               | 0             | 0           | 0          | 2     | 2        | 28           | 2                   | 0           | 51          |
| Bloody diarrhea<br>(BD)          | < 5 | 0       | 1              | 4            | 0            | 0              | 0               | 0             | 0           | 0          | 1     | 4        | 0            | 0                   | 0           | 10          |
|                                  | ≥5  | 0       | 0              | 0            | 0            | 0              | 0               | 0             | 0           | 0          | 0     | 0        | 0            | 0                   | 0           | 0           |
| Acute watery<br>diarrhea (AWD)   | < 5 | 0       | 0              | 0            | 0            | 0              | 0               | 0             | 0           | 0          | 0     | 0        | 0            | 0                   | 0           | 0           |
|                                  | ≥5  | 43      | 2              | 74           | 0            | 4              | 1               | 6             | 3           | 2          | 4     | 4        | 59           | 2                   | 0           | 204         |
| Acute jaundice syndrome (AJS)    | < 5 | 42      | 2              | 32           | 1            | 1              | 5               | 9             | 16          | 7          | 4     | 14       | 41           | 10                  | 3           | 187         |
|                                  | ≥5  | 882     | 360            | 126          | 58           | 110            | 708             | 1 708         | 96          | 122        | 189   | 531      | 1 913        | 558                 | 711         | 8 072       |
| Influenza like<br>illness (ILI)  | < 5 | 783     | 470            | 108          | 117          | 272            | 969             | 2 170         | 90          | 190        | 340   | 856      | 1 888        | 1 019               | 1 451       | 10 723      |
| ,                                | ≥5  | 0       | 0              | 0            | 0            | 0              | 0               | 0             | 0           | 0          | 0     | 0        | 0            | 0                   | 0           | 0           |
| Acute flaccid<br>paralysis (AFP) | < 5 | 0       | 0              | 0            | 0            | 0              | 0               | 2             | 1           | 0          | 0     | 0        | 0            | 0                   | 0           | 3           |
|                                  | ≥5  | 2       | 1              | 7            | 0            | 0              | 0               | 2             | 0           | 0          | 1     | 0        | 2            | 0                   | 0           | 15          |
| Suspected<br>measles (SM)        | < 5 | 6       | 0              | 0            | 0            | 0              | 1               | 1             | 0           | 0          | 1     | 0        | 3            | 0                   | 0           | 12          |
|                                  | ≥5  | 4       | 0              | 2            | 1            | 1              | 1               | 4             | 6           | 0          | 0     | 0        | 6            | 0                   | 0           | 25          |
| Suspected<br>meningitis          | < 5 | 8       | 0              | 2            | 1            | 0              | 0               | 4             | 1           | 0          | 0     | 2        | 3            | 3                   | 1           | 25          |
| (SMN)                            | ≥5  |         |                |              |              |                |                 |               |             |            |       |          |              |                     |             |             |
| Severe acute respiratory         | < 5 | 0       | 22             | 0            | 0            | 1              | 10              | 18            | 58          | 0          | 0     | 27       | 1            | 0                   | 27          | 164         |
| infection (SARI)                 | ≥ 5 | 1       | 11             | 0            | 6            | 0              | 24              | 9             | 31          | 0          | 0     | 49       | 4            | 0                   | 45          | 180         |
|                                  | < 5 | 21      | 0              | 0            | 0            | 0              | 0               | 1             | 0           | 0          | 1     | 0        | 6            | 1                   | 0           | 30          |
| Typhoid fever<br>(TYF)           | ≥5  | 26      | 0              | 0            | 0            | 0              | 0               | 3             | 7           | 0          | 11    | 0        | 128          | 5                   | 0           | 180         |
|                                  | < 5 | 7       | 0              | 0            | 0            | 0              | 0               | 2             | 1           | 0          | 1     | 0        | 14           | 2                   | 0           | 27          |
| Brucellosis<br>(BRU)             | ≥ 5 | 8       | 0              | 0            | 0            | 2              | 1               | 5             | 5           | 0          | 4     | 2        | 71           | 12                  | 0           | 110         |
| Suspected                        | < 5 | 3       | 0              | 0            | 0            | 0              | 0               | 0             | 0           | 0          | 0     | 0        | 2            | 0                   | 0           | 5           |
| tuberculosis<br>(TB)             | ≥ 5 | 1       | 0              | 0            | 0            | 0              | 0               | 8             | 0           | 0          | 0     | 0        | 3            | 0                   | 0           | 12          |
| Suspected                        | < 5 | 22      | 0              | 0            | 0            | 0              | 0               | 2             | 0           | 0          | 0     | 0        | 35           | 0                   | 0           | 59          |
| pertussis (PER)                  | ≥5  | 23      | 0              | 0            | 0            | 0              | 0               | 0             | 0           | 0          | 0     | 0        | 22           | 0                   | 0           | 45          |
| suspected                        | < 5 | 58      | 6              | 1            | 0            | 0              | 0               | 87            | 3           | 3          | 0     | 2        | 382          | 5                   | 0           | 547         |
| leishmaniasis<br>(LSH)           | ≥ 5 | 91      | 87             | 5            | 0            | 0              | 2               | 320           | 19          | 12         | 0     | 15       | 573          | 16                  | 1           | 1 141       |
| Suspected                        | < 5 | 11      | 56             | 29           | 0            | 0              | 0               | 8             | 0           | 1          | 2     | 0        | 88           | 3                   | 0           | 198         |
| chickenpox<br>(CHP)              | ≥ 5 | 16      | 29             | 7            | 0            | 1              | 1               | 15            | 3           | 5          | 0     | 1        | 24           | 8                   | 4           | 114         |
|                                  | < 5 | 44      | 2              | 19           | 0            | 0              | 0               | 3             | 0           | 1          | 0     | 0        | 76           | 0                   | 0           | 145         |
| Scabies (SCA)                    | ≥ 5 | 81      | 1              | 11           | 1            | 0              | 2               | 24            | 0           | 7          | 2     | 7        | 108          | 1                   | 1           | 246         |
| Lice (LIC)                       | < 5 | 97      | 30             | 24           | 5            | 0              | 13              | 13            | 1           | 0          | 1     | 0        | 59           | 0                   | 0           | 243         |
|                                  | ≥ 5 | 152     | 23             | 15           | 2            | 2              | 49              | 64            | 43          | 4          | 1     | 3        | 95           | 4                   | 0           | 457         |
| Suspected<br>mumps (MUM)         | < 5 | 0       | 0              | 26           | 0            | 0              | 0               | 2             | 0           | 0          | 0     | 0        | 18           | 3                   | 1           | 50          |
|                                  | ≥ 5 | 25      | 0              | 5            | 0            | 0              | 0               | 2             | 2           | 1          | 0     | 0        | 15           | 4                   | 0           | 54          |
| Others                           | < 5 | 0       | 20             | 0            | 0            | 2              | 0               | 10            | 1           | 7          | 2     | 1        | 35           | 0                   | 0           | 78          |
|                                  | ≥ 5 | 0       | 14             | 0            | 0            | 2              | 0               | 1             | 3           | 19         | 25    | 3        | 39           | 31                  | 0           | 137         |
| Total of < 5                     |     | 1 847   | 816            | 488          | 85           | 162            | 1 038           | 2 405         | 299         | 223        | 308   | 894      | 3 728        | 850                 | 973         | 14 116      |
| Total of ≥ 5                     |     | 1 919   | 809            | 308          | 146          | 350            | 1 526           | 3 023         | 326         | 316        | 502   | 1 338    | 4 052        | 1 818               | 1 759       | 18 192      |
| Grand total                      |     | 3 766   | 1 625          | 796          | 231          | 512            | 2 564           | 5 428         | 625         | 539        | 810   | 2 232    | 7 780        | 2 668               | 2 732       | 32 308      |