# **EWARS Weekly Epidemiological Bulletin: Syrian Arab Republic** Organization Epi week 39 (20th of September to 26th September 2020)

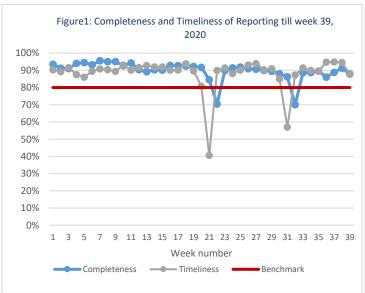


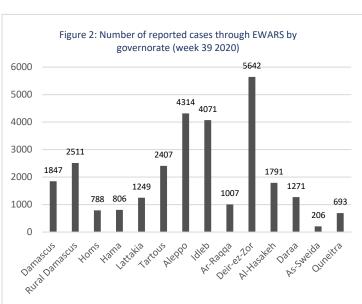
# **Highlights**

- A total of 205,510 consultations were recorded in all the 14 governorates in week 39.
- The leading causes of morbidity among all age groups influenza-like illnesses (48.0%) and acute diarrhea (33.6%).
- On 21 and 22 of September; 31 chemical poisoning cases were reported in Al msherfa town in Qunitera governorate, cases were distributed in different age groups, and no deceased cases were reported.
- 572 suspected COVID-19 were reported through EWARS system in week 39. The cases increased by 9.1% to previous week. Most of cases reported in Idleb 114 (19.9%) cases, Rural Damascus 89 (17.1%), and Hama 70 (12.2%).
- 6 acute flaccid paralysis case were reported.
- 16 suspected measles cases were reported during week 39. the blood specimens of 6 cases were collected and tested at the reference laboratory in Damascus. The laboratory result showed all negative for measles.
- Decrease in SARI cases by 19.3% to previous week. Number of cases in week 39 was 134 SARI cases.

#### Performance Indicators

A total of 1,145 out of 1,303 active reporting sites (88%) in all 14 governorates of Syria reported through EWARS, with 88% timeliness among those sites providing data during week 39 (Figure 1).





# **Morbidity**

A total of 205,510 consultations were recorded in 1,301 health facilities in 14 governorates in week 39, 2020. Among them, 28,603 cases were EWARS notifiable health conditions (Figure 2).

- Among all age groups, the leading causes of morbidity influenza-like illnesses (ILI) (48.0%), and acute diarrhea (AD) (33.6%).
- Of the 28,712 total reported cases, 50.4% (14,432) were female, and 41.7% (11,936) were children under 5 years old.
- Among children under 5 years of age, 44.0% of cases are ILI, and AD representing 40.9% of the cases during this reporting period (Figure 3).
- 572 suspected COVID-19 cases registered with 8 among children under 5 years of age, and 564 (3.4%) among cases equal or older than 5 years old.

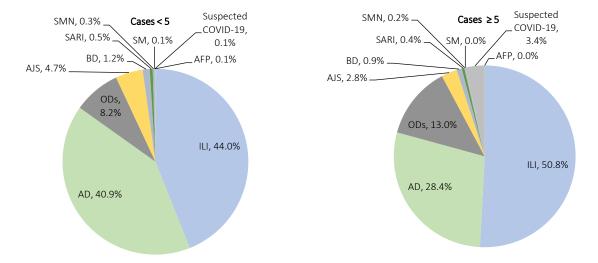
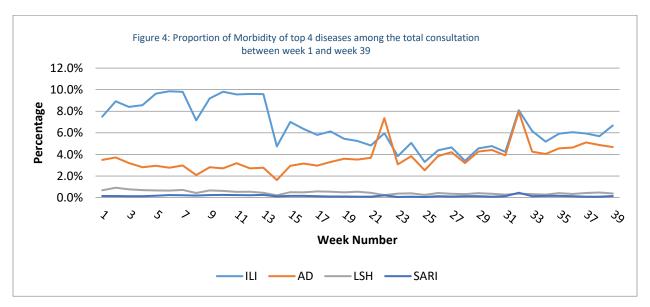
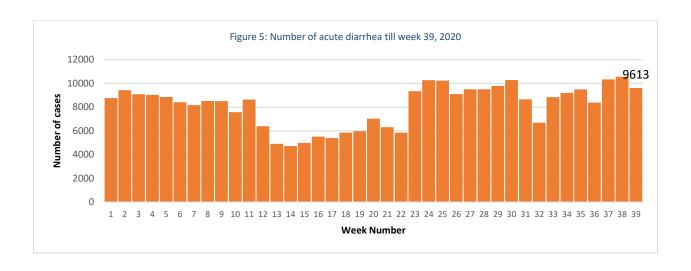


Figure 3: propositional morbidity by age group in week 39, 2020



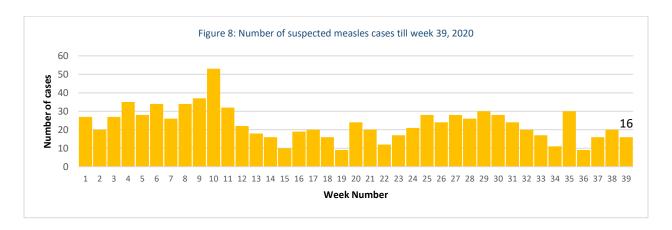
#### 1. Waterborne Diseases

- 0 cases of acute watery diarrhea (AWD) in week 39.
- A total of 9,613 AD cases were reported during week 39.



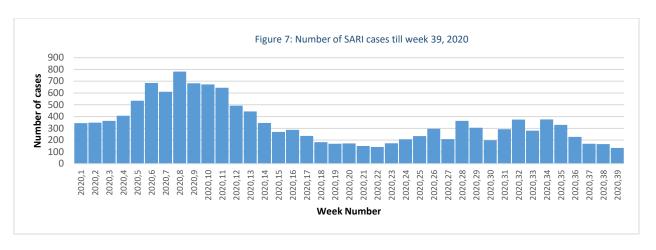
## 2. Vaccine Preventable Diseases

- 9 cases of acute flaccid paralysis (AFP) were reported in week 39
- Number of suspected measles in week 39 was (16) cases. Most cases were reported from Idleb (10), and Deir-ez-Zor (3)



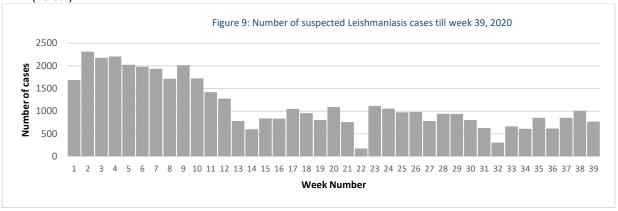
### **Respiratory Diseases**

- In total, 134 SARI cases were reported during week 39.
- In total, 13,723 ILI cases were reported during week 39.



#### **Other Diseases**

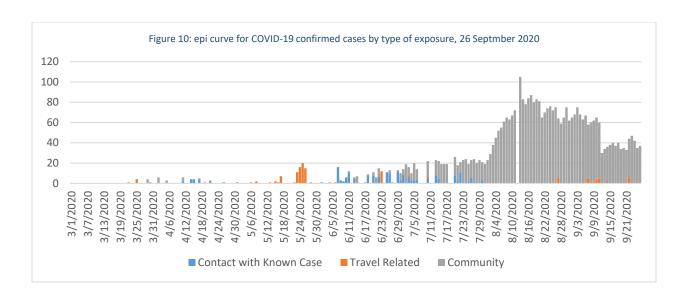
- 3,137 cases were reported as "other diseases" through EWARS. The health conditions with the highest incidents were lice (1,033), leishmaniasis (768), and scabies (346).
- During week 39, most of suspected leishmaniasis cases were reported from Aleppo (42.8%), Deir-ez-Zor (22.4%), and Idleb (20.8%).



#### COVID-19

During the week 39 MoH reported 273 confirmed COVID-19 cases in Syria including 18 deceased cases through the COVID-19 surveillance. As of 19 September, 4038 cases reported in 13 governorates. cases distributed as follows: 1377 (34.1%) in Damascus, 947 (23.5%) in Aleppo, 423 (10.5%) in Lattakia, 348 (8.6%) in Rural Damascus, 320 (7.9%) in Homs, 145 (3.6%) in As-Sweida, 140 (3.5%) in Hama, 118 (2.9%) in Tartous, 88 (2.2%) in Dar'a, 77 (1.9%) in Quneitra, 35 (1.9%) in Al-Hasakeh, 13 (0.3%) in Deir-ez-Zor, and 7 (0.2%) in Ar-Raqqa.

Number of deaths related to COVID-19 is 188 in 11 governorates, CFR 4.6%. 137 cases (3.4%) are travel related cases, 205 cases (5.1%) are contacts of confirmed cases, and 3696 cases (91.5%) are community. (Figure 10).



# **Public Health Response Actions**

#### chemical poisoning cases in Quneitra:

- 31 chemical poisoning cases were reported in two days 21 and 22 September 2020, cases were distributed in different age groups, no deceased cases.
- Location: Al Msherfa town in Qunitera governorate.
- Symptoms: daze, miosis, headache, bradycardia, increased saliva and bronchial secretions
- Response actions:
- 1. All cases were admitted to Mamdouh Abaza hospital and treated with Atropine. All cases improved and discharged from the hospital.
- 2. Samples from drinking water were tested to check chemical contamination with pesticides (phosphorous compounds), the lab results were negative.
- 3. Blood samples from some cases were collected to test cholinesterse enzyme, lab results are still pending
- 4. No new cases were reported.

#### COVID-19

- WHO continues to provide needed support for the Rapid response teams to undertake investigation and response of COVID-19 alerts by facilitating the transportation of RRTs, samples collection and transporting to designated laboratory in 4 governorates. During the reporting period than 1379 suspected COVID-19 cases and contacts were investigated properly within 24 hours.
- WHO efforts are still going on to support MoH to early detection of suspected COVID-19 cases admitted to hospitals through supporting active surveillance visits to 125 hospitals in 13 governorates.

#### Suspected measles

A total of 16 suspected measles cases were reported during week 39. All the cases were investigated by rapid response teams of the health directorates expect for cases reported from Adleb due to accessibility. The blood specimens from 6 suspected cases were collected and tested for IgM ELISA at the reference laboratory in Damascus. the lab results showed negative results for measles for all cases.

#### Acute flaccid paralysis:

The stool samples were collected and tested at the polio reference laboratory in Damascus, and the results showed the all cases were negative for poliomyelitis.

# **Comparison with Previous Week by Health Condition**

| Disease                                   | Week 38 | Week 39 |
|---|---------|---------|
| Acute diarrhea (AD)                       | 10556   | 9613    |
| Bloody diarrhea (BD)                      | 300     | 304     |
| Acute watery diarrhea (AWD)               | 0       | 0       |
| Acute jaundice syndrome (AJS)             | 891     | 1032    |
| Influenza like illness (ILI)              | 12304   | 13723   |
| Acute flaccid paralysis (AFP)             | 3       | 6       |
| Suspected measles (SM)                    | 20      | 16      |
| Suspected meningitis (SMN)                | 61      | 63      |
| Typhoid fever (TYF)                       | 416     | 304     |
| Brucellosis (BRU)                         | 212     | 136     |
| Suspected tuberculosis (TB)               | 21      | 21      |
| Severe acute respiratory infection (SARI) | 166     | 134     |
| Suspected pertussis (PER)                 | 65      | 39      |
| suspected leishmaniasis (LSH)             | 1011    | 768     |
| Suspected chickenpox (CHP)                | 134     | 159     |
| Scabies (SCA)                             | 377     | 346     |
| Lice (LIC)                                | 1196    | 1033    |
| Suspected mumps (MUM)                     | 86      | 63      |
| COVID-19                                  | 524     | 572     |
| Others                                    | 369     | 268     |
| Total                                     | 28712   | 28600   |

# Case Distribution by Age Group, and by Governorate Week 39, 2020

|                               |     | Idleb | Al-<br>Hasa<br>keh | Ar-<br>Raqq<br>a | As-<br>Swei<br>da | Qune<br>itra | Latta<br>kia | Alep<br>po | Ham<br>a | Homs | Dar'a | Dam<br>ascus | Deir-<br>ez-<br>Zor | Rural<br>Dam<br>ascus | Tarto<br>us | Total |
|-------------------------------|-----|-------|--------------------|------------------|-------------------|--------------|--------------|------------|----------|------|-------|--------------|---------------------|-----------------------|-------------|-------|
| Acute<br>diarrhea             | < 5 | 874   | 458                | 248              | 24                | 58           | 83           | 638        | 189      | 147  | 151   | 332          | 1335                | 235                   | 106         | 4878  |
| (AD)                          | ≥5  | 853   | 384                | 156              | 38                | 68           | 73           | 558        | 200      | 109  | 299   | 394          | 1017                | 262                   | 324         | 4735  |
| Bloody<br>diarrhea            | < 5 | 0     | 6                  | 1                | 0                 | 0            | 1            | 1          | 0        | 2    | 6     | 1            | 131                 | 0                     | 0           | 149   |
| (BD)                          | ≥ 5 | 0     | 3                  | 10               | 0                 | 0            | 0            | 1          | 0        | 0    | 5     | 4            | 130                 | 1                     | 1           | 155   |
| Acute<br>watery               | < 5 | 0     | 0                  | 0                | 0                 | 0            | 0            | 0          | 0        | 0    | 0     | 0            | 0                   | 0                     | 0           | 0     |
| diarrhea                      | ≥5  |       |                    |                  |                   |              |              |            |          |      |       |              |                     |                       |             |       |
| (AWD)<br>Acute                | < 5 | 0     | 0                  | 0                | 0                 | 0            | 0            | 0          | 0        | 0    | 0     | 0            | 0                   | 0                     | 0           | 0     |
| jaundice                      | < 5 | 48    | 1                  | 128              | 0                 | 1            | 0            | 7          | 1        | 2    | 3     | 1            | 364                 | 3                     | 7           | 566   |
| syndrome<br>(AJS)             | ≥5  | 39    | 10                 | 99               | 2                 | 2            | 0            | 7          | 15       | 8    | 24    | 13           | 230                 | 7                     | 10          | 466   |
| Influenza                     | < 5 | 467   | 318                | 160              | 48                | 262          | 421          | 929        | 50       | 136  | 213   | 296          | 833                 | 672                   | 445         | 5250  |
| like<br>illness               | ≥5  |       |                    |                  |                   |              |              |            |          |      |       |              |                     |                       |             |       |
| (ILI)<br>Acute                |     | 473   | 507                | 177              | 59                | 265          | 475          | 1625       | 123      | 208  | 424   | 676          | 869                 | 1131                  | 1461        | 8473  |
| flaccid                       | < 5 | 0     | 0                  | 0                | 0                 | 0            | 0            | 2          | 0        | 0    | 0     | 0            | 0                   | 2                     | 0           | 4     |
| paralysis<br>(AFP)            | ≥5  | 0     | 0                  | 0                | 0                 | 0            | 0            | 0          | 0        | 0    | 0     | 2            | 0                   | 0                     | 0           | 2     |
| Suspecte d measles            | < 5 | 4     | 1                  | 0                | 0                 | 0            | 0            | 0          | 0        | 0    | 0     | 1            | 2                   | 0                     | 0           | 8     |
| (SM)                          | ≥5  | 6     | 0                  | 0                | 0                 | 0            | 0            | 0          | 0        | 0    | 0     | 1            | 1                   | 0                     | 0           | 8     |
| Suspecte<br>d                 | < 5 | 4     | 0                  | 5                | 0                 | 0            | 0            | 3          | 2        | 0    | 2     | 1            | 16                  | 0                     | 1           | 34    |
| meningiti<br>s (SMN)          | ≥ 5 | 11    | 0                  | 2                | 0                 | 0            | 0            | 2          | 2        | 0    | 4     | 3            | 5                   | 0                     | 0           | 29    |
| Severe<br>acute<br>respirator | < 5 | 1     | 14                 | 0                | 0                 | 0            | 0            | 3          | 16       | 1    | 0     | 17           | 0                   | 0                     | 8           | 60    |
| y<br>infection<br>(SARI)      | ≥5  | 0     | 6                  | 0                | 0                 | 0            | 0            | 0          | 3        | 5    | 0     | 34           | 2                   | 0                     | 24          | 74    |
| Typhoid                       | < 5 | 31    | 2                  | 2                | 0                 | 0            | 0            | 0          | 1        | 1    | 0     | 0            | 11                  | 1                     | 0           | 49    |
| fever<br>(TYF)                | ≥ 5 | 32    | 5                  | 5                | 0                 | 0            | 0            | 8          | 16       | 4    | 59    | 0            | 119                 | 7                     | 0           | 255   |
| Brucellosi                    | < 5 | 7     | 0                  | 1                | 0                 | 0            | 0            | 1          | 2        | 1    | 0     | 0            | 0                   | 3                     | 0           | 15    |
| s (BRU)                       | ≥ 5 | 8     | 7                  | 4                | 0                 | 2            | 0            | 7          | 23       | 5    | 11    | 12           | 17                  | 25                    | 0           | 121   |
| Suspecte<br>d                 | < 5 | 0     | 0                  | 0                | 1                 | 0            | 0            | 0          | 0        | 0    | 0     | 0            | 0                   | 0                     | 0           | 1     |
| tuberculo<br>sis (TB)         | ≥5  | 2     | 0                  | 0                | 0                 | 0            | 0            | 7          | 3        | 0    | 0     | 4            | 0                   | 4                     | 0           | 20    |
| Suspecte                      | < 5 | 8     | 0                  | 0                | 0                 | 0            | 0            | 0          | 0        | 0    | 0     | 0            | 8                   | 0                     | 0           | 16    |
| d<br>pertussis<br>(PER)       | ≥5  | 16    | 0                  | 0                | 0                 | 0            | 0            | 0          | 0        | 0    | 0     | 0            | 7                   | 0                     | 0           | 23    |
| suspected<br>leishmani        | < 5 | 77    | 5                  | 1                | 0                 | 0            | 0            | 69         | 4        | 5    | 0     | 0            | 66                  | 0                     | 1           | 228   |
| asis (LSH)                    | ≥ 5 | 83    | 13                 | 2                | 0                 | 15           | 0            | 260        | 35       | 21   | 0     | 1            | 106                 | 0                     | 4           | 540   |
| Suspecte<br>d                 | < 5 | 30    | 0                  | 1                | 0                 | 3            | 0            | 8          | 0        | 0    | 6     | 0            | 32                  | 1                     | 0           | 81    |
| chickenp<br>ox (CHP)          | ≥5  | 58    | 2                  | 0                | 0                 | 1            | 0            | 2          | 5        | 0    | 0     | 2            | 8                   | 0                     | 0           | 78    |

| Scabies          | < 5 | 53   | 7    | 0    | 2   | 0   | 0    | 23   | 1   | 8   | 1    | 0    | 9    | 0    | 0    | 104   |
|------------------|-----|------|------|------|-----|-----|------|------|-----|-----|------|------|------|------|------|-------|
| (SCA)            | ≥ 5 | 90   | 1    | 0    | 5   | 0   | 0    | 18   | 22  | 8   | 8    | 8    | 72   | 6    | 4    | 242   |
| Lice (LIC)       | < 5 | 271  | 0    | 1    | 0   | 1   | 2    | 28   | 1   | 0   | 0    | 1    | 13   | 0    | 0    | 318   |
| Lice (Lic)       | ≥5  | 362  | 9    | 2    | 0   | 9   | 189  | 42   | 19  | 19  | 7    | 6    | 28   | 21   | 2    | 715   |
| Suspecte         | < 5 | 1    | 0    | 1    | 0   | 0   | 0    | 1    | 0   | 0   | 0    | 0    | 7    | 1    | 1    | 12    |
| d mumps<br>(MUM) | ≥ 5 | 48   | 1    | 1    | 0   | 0   | 0    | 1    | 0   | 0   | 0    | 0    | 0    | 0    | 0    | 51    |
| COVID-19         | < 5 | 0    | 0    | 0    | 1   | 0   | 0    | 2    | 0   | 2   | 0    | 3    | 0    | 0    | 0    | 8     |
|                  | ≥5  | 114  | 18   | 0    | 26  | 3   | 0    | 58   | 70  | 53  | 25   | 34   | 58   | 98   | 7    | 564   |
| Others           | < 5 | 0    | 2    | 0    | 0   | 2   | 1    | 1    | 2   | 19  | 5    | 0    | 116  | 5    | 0    | 153   |
| Others           | ≥5  | 0    | 11   | 0    | 0   | 1   | 4    | 2    | 1   | 21  | 18   | 0    | 30   | 26   | 1    | 115   |
| Total of         | < 5 | 1876 | 814  | 549  | 76  | 327 | 508  | 1716 | 269 | 326 | 387  | 653  | 2943 | 923  | 569  | 11936 |
| Total of         | ≥ 5 | 2195 | 977  | 458  | 130 | 366 | 741  | 2598 | 537 | 462 | 884  | 1194 | 2699 | 1588 | 1838 | 16667 |
| Grand to         | tal | 4071 | 1791 | 1007 | 206 | 693 | 1249 | 4314 | 806 | 788 | 1271 | 1847 | 5642 | 2511 | 2407 | 28600 |