19 November 2019 - The Ministry of Public Health and Population of Yemen reported 12 924 suspected cases and 10 associated deaths during epidemiological week 43 (21–27 October) of 2019 with 11% of the cases reported as severe. The cumulative total number of suspected cholera cases from 1 January 2018 to 27 October 2019 is 1 133 163, with 1485 associated deaths (CFR 0.13%). Children under five represent 26% of total suspected cases during 2019. The outbreak has affected 22 of the 23 governorates and 311 of the 333 districts of Yemen.

Suspected cholera cases at the country level started to be increasingly reported from week eight of 2019 and the trend continued until week 14 when the number of cases reached more than 29 500, the highest number of cases reported so far. The number of suspected cases fluctuated over the following period with the trend now considered as stable during the past three weeks based on the average number of cases calculated between weeks 41 and 43.

The governorates reporting the highest number of suspected cases of cholera during 2019 are Al Hudaydah (115 912), Amanat Al Asimah (100 179), Sana'a (93 918), Hajjah (69 806), Ibb (68 149), Dhamar (61 531) and Amran (46 888).

Of a total of 100 745 samples tested at the central public health laboratories since January 2019, 4986 have been confirmed as cholera-positive by culture. During this reporting period the governorates reporting the highest number of positive culture were Amanat Al Asimah (1337), Taizz (1321) and Sana'a (468).

WHO continues to provide leadership and support for activities with health authorities and partners to respond to this ongoing cholera outbreak including case management; surveillance and laboratory investigations; hotspot mapping and oral cholera vaccine (OCV) campaign planning; water, sanitation and hygiene (WaSH); and risk communication.

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