8 July 2020 - The Ministry of Public Health and Population of Yemen reported 3049 suspected cases and one associated death during epidemiological week 26 (22 – 28 June) of 2020 with 17% of the cases reported as severe. The cumulative total number of suspected cholera cases from 1 January 2018 to 28 June 2020 is 1 384 423 with 1574 associated deaths (CFR 0.11%). Children under five represent 24% of the total suspected cases during 2020. The outbreak has affected 22 of the 23 governorates and 296 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 24 and 26.

The governorates reporting the highest number of suspected cases of cholera during 2020 are Al Hudaydah (24 155), Sana'a (22 560), Taizz (18 778), Ibb (14 558), Al Bayda (14 246), Amanat Al Asimah (12 415), Hajjah (10 868) and Dhamar (10 319).

Of a total of 1049 samples tested at the central public health laboratories since January 2020, 87 have been confirmed as cholera-positive by culture. During this reporting period the governorates reporting the highest number of positive cultures were Taizz (57), Al Hudaydah (8) and Amran (6).

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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Saturday 12th of October 2024 08:44:11 AM