



World Health Organization

Afghanistan

AFGHANISTAN

EMERGENCY SITUATION REPORT



No. 55 | August 2025

Key figures (monthly)



99 432

Outpatient consultations (PHCs & Hospitals)



92 613

Essential drugs distributed

Summary of outbreaks (2025)



958 886

ARI-Pneumonia



87 166

Measles



116 083

AWD with dehydration



40 379

Malaria



3216

COVID-19



1240

Dengue fever



1138

CCHF



A WHO technical staff member providing training on substance use disorders

Highlights

A surge in malaria cases by over 21% has been reported, maintaining a rising trend in August 2025. While there has been a decline in cases of Acute Respiratory Infection (ARI)-Pneumonia, AWD with dehydration, Dengue, and suspected CCHF, these conditions still remain at consistently high levels.

In addition to the ongoing health challenges, the region is dealing with the aftermath of a devastating 6.0 magnitude earthquake that struck eastern Afghanistan. The earthquake has resulted in 2205 deaths, 3640 injuries, and severe damage to infrastructure, with over 6782 homes destroyed. Given the scale of the disaster, it is critical to prioritize the response efforts to address both the immediate humanitarian needs and the long-term recovery.

Epidemiological overview

Disease Outbreaks

The epidemiological situation in August 2025 was marked by several concerning trends:

- **Acute Watery Diarrhea (AWD):** 20 721 new cases and 11 deaths (CFR 0.05%), reflecting a 24.2% decrease from July. This is the first decline following the upward trend observed since mid-February.

- **Acute Respiratory Infection (ARI) – Pneumonia:** 68 345 new cases and 142 deaths (CFR 0.2%), a 17.2% decrease compared to July.
- **Suspected Dengue Fever:** 273 new cases, representing a 19.5% decrease from July. No dengue-related deaths have been reported in 2025.
- **Confirmed Malaria:** 12 897 new cases, a 21.7% increase from July, continuing the gradual rise observed since April.
- **Suspected Measles:** 4993 new cases and 17 deaths (CFR 0.3%), a 47.1% decrease from July, consistent with the downward trend since mid-May.
- **COVID-19:** 208 new confirmed cases (Test Positivity Rate: 9.8%), marking a 63.8% decrease from July. No deaths reported.
- **Suspected Crimean–Congo Hemorrhagic Fever (CCHF):** 166 new cases and 16 deaths (CFR 9.6%), a 33.3% decrease compared to July.

Surveillance system performance:

- Surveillance for key epidemic-prone diseases remained functional.
- Enhanced screening at Points of Entry (PoEs) reached 73,808 individuals at returnee camps and border crossings in Herat (Islam Qala) and Nangarhar (Torkham).

Health service delivery

Key milestones achieved in WHO-supported primary healthcare facilities & hospitals during August 2025



99 432

People received OPD consultations



5763

Under 5 children received DTP, Penta3, and Measles vaccination



6708

Pregnant, CBA women received TT2+ vaccination



5087

Individuals received mental health consultations



5431

Pregnant and lactating women received Infant and IYCF counselling



106 697

People living in remote and underserved areas received health education and awareness-raising materials



3137

Women received postnatal care (PNC)



92 613

Patients received essential drugs for their basic health services needs



5673

Women received antenatal care (ANC)



600

institutional deliveries conducted

- **Complementary Health Interventions:**

- ✓ 92 613 patients received essential medicines for basic health services
- ✓ 5673 women received antenatal care (ANC)
- ✓ 3137 women received postnatal care (PNC)
- ✓ 600 institutional deliveries conducted
- ✓ 106 697 people in remote and underserved areas received health education and awareness materials
- ✓ Five Primary Health Care (PHC) kits distributed, estimated to reach 5000 individuals.

Emergency response

Health screening services were operational at major Points of Entry (Islam Qala in Herat and Torkham in Nangarhar), where 73 808 returnees were screened for infectious diseases, strengthening early detection and response.

Challenges & risks

Key bottlenecks

- Rising disease burden: The health system remains under strain from the surge in malaria cases and the continued high incidence of other syndromes (ARI, AWD with dehydration, dengue, suspected CCHF), despite recent declines.
- Pressure from returnee influx: The arrival of large numbers of returnees is overstressing already limited health resources, overwhelming both facilities and health personnel.



Returnees from Pakistan transported by government vehicle to an IDP camp

Priorities for next month

1. Expand AWD case management and intensify prevention and control efforts in hotspot areas.
2. Accelerate integrated vector management (IVM) to curb rising dengue and malaria cases.
3. Prioritize health response for earthquake-affected populations.
4. Strengthen health screening and service delivery at key Points of Entry and returnee settlements.
5. Enhance specialized training for healthcare personnel, focusing on outbreak clinical management and substance use demand reduction.

Annexes

Annex A: Summary of Infectious Disease Outbreaks in Afghanistan; August 2025

Summary monthly Report on Infectious Disease Outbreaks in Afghanistan: August 2025							
Indicators	AWD with dehydration	Suspected Measles	Suspected CCHF	Suspected Dengue fever	Confirmed Malaria	Confirmed COVID-19	ARI- Pneumonia
Monthly new cases (% change compared to July) *	20 721 (↓24.2)	4993 (↓47.1)	166 (↓33.3)	273 (↓19.5)	12 897 (↑21.7)	208 (↓63.8)	68 345 (↓17.2)
Monthly new deaths (CFR%)	11 (0.05)	17 (0.3)	16 (9.6)	0 (0.0)	0 (0.00)	0 (0.0)	142 (0.2)
Cumulative cases **	116 083	87 166	1138	1240	40 379	247 379	958 886
Cumulative deaths (CFR%)	57 (0.05)	520 (0.6)	89 (7.8)	0 (0.0)	0 (0.0)	8052 (3.3)	2123 (0.2)

*Monthly percent change figures should be interpreted cautiously. August 2025 covers data for 4 epidemiological weeks, while July 2025 covered 5 epi-weeks.

** COVID-19 cumulative numbers have been reported since the start of the pandemic

Annex B: Beneficiary demographics of WHO supported PHCs & Hospital services; August 2025

Age	Male	Female
Over 18 years	30 824	49 601
Under 18 years	18 049	18 132

Annex C: Infectious Diseases Reported Among Returnees by the SSTs, 03-30 Aug 2025

Diseases	Male		Female		Total		
	<5 Years	≥5 Years	<5 Years	≥5 Years	Male	Female	Total
Diseases	<5 Years	>5 Years	<5 Years	>5 Years	Male	Female	Total
Acute bloody diarrhea	9	20	9	4	29	13	42
ARI Cough and Cold	71	193	38	87	264	125	389
Acute Watery Diarrhea	2	9	1	4	11	5	16
Chickenpox	1	30	3	15	31	18	49
COVID-19	0	154	0	52	154	52	206
Suspected dengue fever	0	28	0	35	28	35	63
ARI Pneumonia	3	3	2	6	6	8	14
Scabies	21	67	34	77	88	111	199
Suspected Measles	1	6	1	5	7	6	13
AWD with severe dehydration	0	13	1	12	13	13	26
Confirmed Malaria	1	1	0	0	2	0	2
Suspected Tuberculosis (TB)	0	0	0	2	0	2	2
Typhoid Fever	0	2	0	0	2	0	2
Pertussis	1	5	2	6	6	8	14
Suspected Rabies	0	1	0	0	1	0	1
Grand Total	110	532	91	305	642	396	1,038

1. COVID-19: 190 RDTs were conducted among returnees, with 52 positive cases (positivity rate: 27.4%).
2. Suspected Dengue Fever: 32 RDTs were performed, 16 tested positive (positivity rate: 50.0%).
3. AWD with Dehydration: 52 RDTs were conducted, 8 were positive (positivity rate: 15.4%).

Annex D: Capacity-building sessions for health workers during August 2025

Training Name	Male	Female	Total
AWD Case Management	41	19	60
Basic Emergency Care	27	0	27
Emergency Care Toolkits and Surgical Site Infection	26	0	26
IPD-SAM	31	0	31
Problem Management Plus	27	0	27
Thinking Healthy Training	0	18	18
Treatment and Rehabilitation of Drug Use Disorders	33	0	33
mhGAP IG	27	0	27
Grand Total	212	37	249

For further information, please contact:

Dr Jamshed Tanoli

Health Emergencies Programme

Team Lead, WHO Afghanistan

E-mail: tanolij@who.int

Helena O'Malley

Partnerships and External Relations

Specialist, WHO Afghanistan

E-mail: omalleyh@who.int

Ms Ajyal Sultany

Head, Communications,

WHO Afghanistan E-mail:

sultany@who.int

Dr Victor Tugumizemu

HIM & Risk Assessment Head,

WHO Afghanistan E-mail:

tuqumizemuv@who.int

WHE Information Hub is available at: <https://dashboard.whe-him.org>

WHO's work in emergencies is supported by the following current and previous partners:

