

# AFGHANISTAN EMERGENCY SITUATION REPORT

No. 28 | April 2023



World Health  
Organization  
Afghanistan

## Key Figures (Monthly)

**587,635**

People reached with  
emergency health services

**9,798**

People received trauma  
care services<sup>1</sup>

**29.75MT**

Medical and Non-Medical  
supplies provided

**241**

Health workers trained

**25**

Surveillance support teams  
deployed to outbreak areas<sup>2</sup>

## Summary of Outbreaks (April 2023)

**4,954**

COVID-19 confirmed cases

**12,555**

Acute Watery Diarrhea (AWD)

**641,922**

Acute Respiratory Infection

**2,531**

Measles

**99**

Pertussis

**61**

Dengue fever



Newly renovated 50-bed unit in the infectious diseases hospital, Balkh province, supported by WHO.

## Overview

WHO and health partners continue in the delivery of health services through static and mobile health facilities throughout April 2023.

There were 587,635 individuals who have received health care services in WHO-supported health care facilities across the country. Around 9,798 people received trauma care services; 39,424 patients received post trauma rehabilitation services; and 241 health workers trained by WHO on acute respiratory infection (ARI) in South region; dengue in Eastern region; and acute watery diarrhea (AWD) in Central Region.

WHO also provided 29.75 metric tons (MT) of medical and non-medical supplies this April which benefited 1,536,650 people in 34 provinces, through 167 health facilities.

Currently, WHO is providing the full running cost of five hospitals, 10 integrated infectious diseases hospital, one rehabilitation center and 205 primary health care (PHC) facilities in the underserved areas through 12 implementing partners in 29 provinces.

WHO is expected to face a huge funding gap to support the 205 PHC facilities by end of December 2023, and advocacy to donors is critical to ensure continuity of health service delivery.

## Health Cluster Coordination

In April 2023, WHO along with the 51 Health Cluster partners reached more than 1.4 million people with humanitarian health services through 1,034 health facilities in 324 districts from all 34 provinces.

A mobile health and nutrition task force has been formed to develop a plan to identify sustainable strategies and alternate options for health services delivery in underserved areas. To inform the rationalization process of the existing mobile health and nutrition teams (MHNTs), the Health Cluster conducted mapping of the existing MHNTs.

## Health Service Delivery in Primary Health Care (PHC) and Hospitals

As of April 2023, WHO has been providing full running cost for a total of 205 PHCs in the underserved areas across the country that included two CHCs, 64 BHCs, 110 SHCs and 29 MHTs. WHO was able to provide full running cost of three national hospitals (mental hospital, children's hospital, infectious disease hospital), two maternal hospitals, 10 integrated regional/provincial Infectious Disease Hospitals (integration of COVID-19 into infectious disease), and

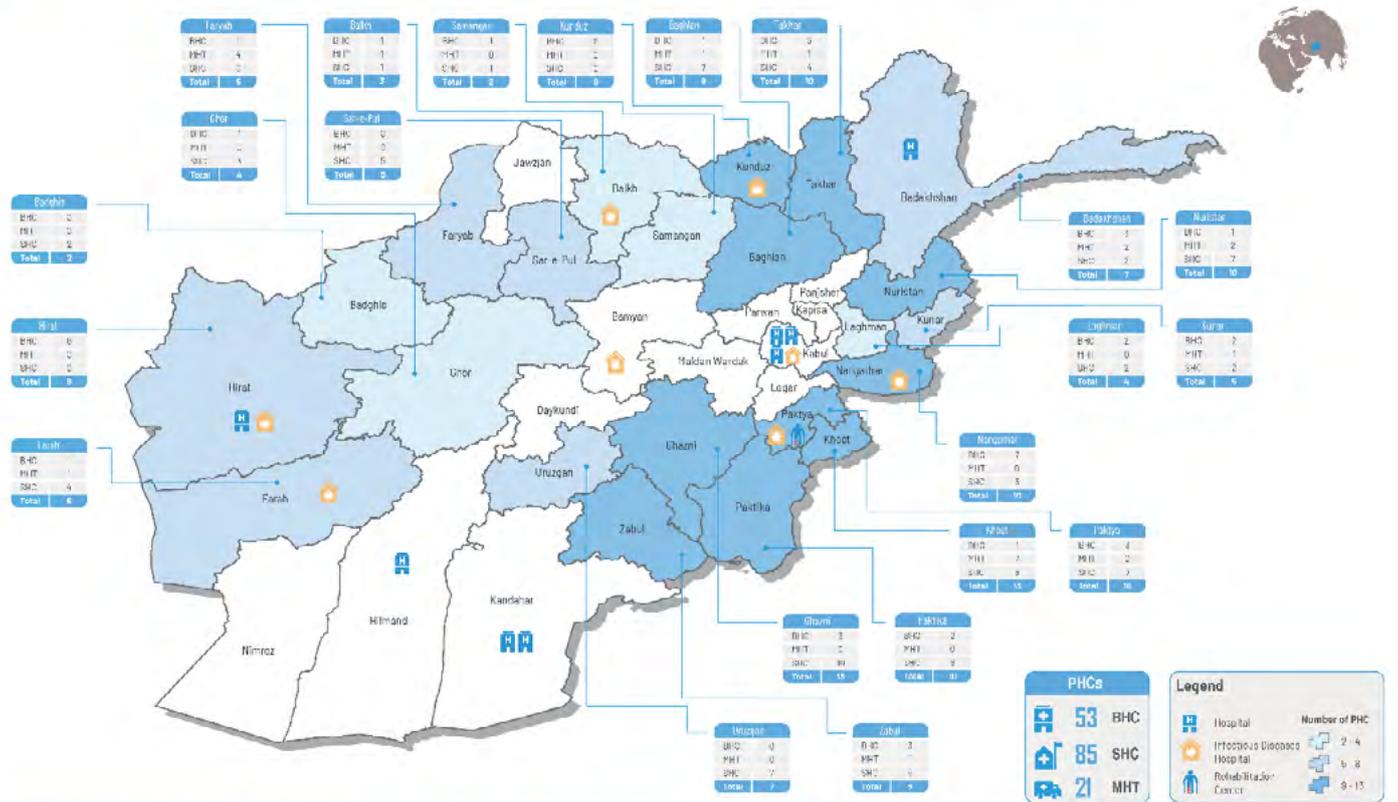
<sup>1</sup> The number of people who received trauma care services both in outpatient department and inpatient department of WHO-supported health facilities (PHC and hospitals)

<sup>2</sup> A WHO-supported surveillance support team consists of an epidemiology focal point to facilitate data collection and a laboratory focal point to support sample collection from suspected cases as well as aid the National Disease Surveillance and Response (NDSR) in investigating alerts and outbreaks

Afghanistan, WHO Supporting Hospitals & Primary Health Care Services (PHCs) in the White Area



WHO SUPPORTING 8 HOSPITALS and 8 INFECTIOUS DISEASES HOSPITALS and 1 REHABILITATION CENTER and 159 PHCs by 15 IMPLEMENTING PARTNERS in 26 PROVINCES



Disclaimer: The boundaries and names shown and the designations used on this map do not imply official endorsement or acceptance by the World Health Organization. Paper Size: A5 Creation date: 04, April 2023 Feedback: khawar@who.int

Beneficiaries of PHC services at WHO-supported facilities for April 2023 (Total 202,144)				
Over 18		49,276 Male		91,131 Female
		31,308 Male		33,392 Female

Services Provided at WHO-supported health facilities (April 2023)	
202,144	Individuals received outpatient (OPD) consultations
8,574	Women received antenatal care (ANC)
3,894	Women received prenatal care (PNC)
1,084	Institutional deliveries
188,269	Patients received essential drugs for their basic health services
8,908	Pregnant women, child bearing age (CBA) women and under 5 children received TT2+, measles, and PENTA-3 Vaccination
5,915	Women received family planning services and awareness
122,231	People living in remote and underserved areas received health education and awareness
29,605	Pregnant and Lactating Women received nutrition screening and Infant and Young Child Feeding (IYCF) counselling
50,846	Under 5 children received OPV, malnutrition treatment, and screening
15,206	People received mental health consultations

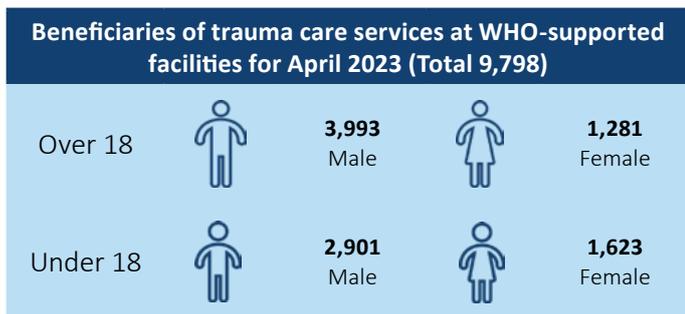
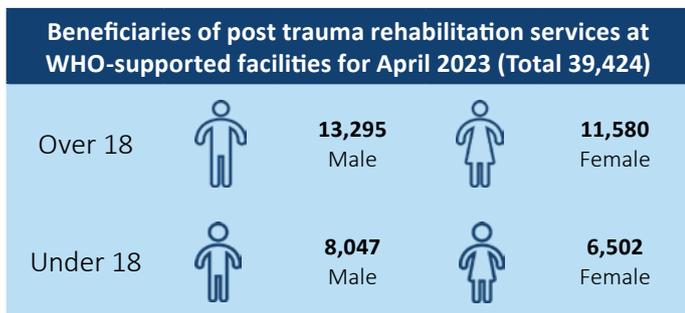
one physical rehabilitation center. These full running costs involved 11 implementing partners in 29 provinces across the country. WHO was able to reach a total of 587,635 people from the PHC and hospital services, 9,798 people who received trauma care services.

There were a total of 4,954 confirmed cases of COVID-19, around 12,555 AWD cases, 2,531 measles cases, 61 dengue cases, and 641,922 ARI cases reported in April.

On health service delivery, there were a total of 202,144 patients who benefited from PHC and hospital services, with 70,381 patients under 18 years old, and 131,763 above 18 years old.

## Trauma and Physical Rehabilitation Care Services

There were a total of 39,424 patients who received post-trauma rehabilitation services that included psychological counselling (7,759), physiotherapy (5,231) blood transfusion (5,118), plus minor and major surgical operation (4,250).

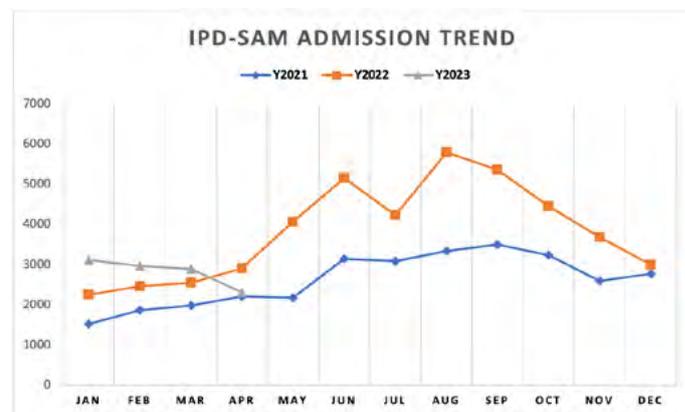


**Service Provided at WHO-supported facilities (April 2023)**

<b>5,231</b>	people received physiotherapy
<b>7,759</b>	people received psychological counselling
<b>5,118</b>	people who received blood transfusion
<b>17,066</b>	people who received minor surgical operation
<b>4,250</b>	people who received major surgical operation

## Nutrition in Emergencies

A total of 2,312 children (1,203 girls and 1,109 boys) with medical complications were admitted and treated in 130 WHO supported In-Patient Department for Severe Acute Malnutrition (IPD-SAM) centers (119 hospitals and 11 Comprehensive Health Centers plus) in April. WHO continues to support 130 IPD-SAM centers all over Afghanistan. The cases in April decreased compared to March 2023. WHO is helping to strengthen the national capacity to respond to food insecurity and malnutrition. A total of 24 health staff members were trained in the management of severe acute malnutrition with medical complications. A total of 282 medicine kits and 118 renewable kits were distributed for 110 IPD-SAM centers, 28 PED SAM equipment part A and B distributed in 28 IPD-SAM centers, and a total of 116 bed side chairs distributed in 16 IPD-SAM centers.



## Infectious Hazard Preparedness/ Surveillance

**Monthly summary of infectious disease outbreaks in Afghanistan April 2023**

Outbreaks	AWD	ARI	COVID-19	Pertussis	Measles	Dengue fever
Monthly new cases (% change compared to Jan)	<b>12,555</b> (↑4.0)	<b>641,922</b> (↓27.9)	<b>4,954</b> (↑282.5)	<b>99</b> (↑67.8)	<b>2,531</b> (↓34.8)	<b>61</b> (↓1.6)
Monthly New deaths (CFR%)	<b>14</b> (0.11)	<b>183</b> (0.03)	<b>9</b> (0.18)	<b>0</b>	<b>4</b> (0.16)	<b>2</b> (0.64)
Cumulative cases	<b>286,163</b>	<b>5,681,143</b>	<b>215,188</b>	<b>1,262</b>	<b>89,346</b>	<b>1,453</b>
Cumulative deaths	<b>111</b>	<b>1,799</b>	<b>7,892</b>	<b>15</b>	<b>422</b>	<b>3</b>

WHO has been working closely with Ministry of Public Health (MoPH) on its national disease surveillance response (NDSR) for early detection and verification of alerts. WHO has deployed 121 surveillance support teams (SSTs) which are actively participating in outbreak investigation and response activities related to public health hazards in 34 provinces. Regular updates on disease outbreaks are available in the weekly situation reports in this link: [Afghanistan's infectious disease outbreak situation reports](#).

### Acute Respiratory infection (ARI)

During the reporting period, the number of acute respiratory infection (ARI) cases showed 27.9% decrease (641,922 suspected cases in April-2023 compared to 890,487 in March 2023), with 183 new

associated deaths reported (CFR of 0.03%). Cumulatively, more than 5.7M ARI cases have been reported, 52.0% (2,954,370) are females, and 45.3% (2,572,578) are under five years.

### Acute Watery Diarrhea (AWD) with dehydration

The number of reported AWD cases with dehydration was 12,555, which shows an increase by 4.0% when compared to March 2023, with a total of 14 associated deaths (CFR of 0.11%).

### COVID-19

The number of confirmed COVID-19 cases showed an increase by 282.5% with 9 associated deaths (CFR 0.18%) (4 deaths were reported during March 2023 compared to April 2023). During April 2023, a total

of 18,049 tests have been conducted in public laboratories, which is higher by 50.7% compared to March 2023, meanwhile, the test positivity increased from 10.8% in March 2023 to 27.4% in April 2023. During the reporting period, around 196,000 individuals have been vaccinated, and the proportion of those who received at least one dose slightly increased to reach 37.4%. The 2nd Phase of the COVID-19 immunization campaign training commenced on 29th April and will continue through early May. Meanwhile, 800 fixed site locations throughout the country are providing COVID-19 vaccination to the adult population.

**Pertussis**

During the reporting period, the number of suspected pertussis cases showed a increase by 67.8% (99 suspected cases in April 2023 compared to 59 in March 2023), with no new associated deaths. Cumulatively, 1,262 suspected pertussis cases have been reported, 47.5% (599) are females, and 71.6% (903) are under five.

**Measles**

The number of reported suspected measles cases was 2,531 which represents an decrease by 34.8% compared to March 2023, with a total of four associated deaths (CFR of 0.16%).

**Dengue Fever**

This April, 61 new suspected cases were reported which represents stabilization in the number of suspected cases compared to March 2023. One new associated death was reported from Nangarhar province. During April 2023, all new suspected dengue fever cases were from Nangarhar province.

**Trainings conducted on Surveillance and Outbreak Response**

There were series of trainings conducted by WHO specific on Indicator-Based Surveillance (IBS) and Event-Based Surveillance (EBS) Training specific for NDSR provincial supervisors; AWD Case Management Training for 164 health care workers (doctors and nurses) from Kabul, central and central highland. Training on Dengue Fever Case Management was done in Nangarhar region for 200 health workers (doctors and nurses), where there are increased cases of dengue during this season.

**Distribution of Supplies::**

WHO has distributed 1,500 COVID-19 test kits to all the 34 provinces, including distribution of 1300 doses of rabies vaccine.

**Health System and Development**

- WHO has supported the establishment of COVID-19 laboratories since the start of the pandemic. The support included the provision of diagnostic equipment, infrastructure, capacity building, reagents, and human resources.
- As of 30 April 2023, there are 35 out of 37 COVID-19 laboratories functional across 34 provinces.
- The testing capacity is 9,050 tests/24 hours.
- In this month a total of 16,034 sample which were tested for COVID-19, 4,240 samples were reported positive.
- WHO HSD Team conducted training on Infection , Prevention and Control ( IPC) and Waste Management for 26 IPC Officers and medical doctors across Kabul.



**Mental Health and Psychosocial Support (MHPSS) and Drug Addiction**

In April, a joint Needs Assessment was done between WHO and Mental Health Department of the MoPH on the National Mental Hospital, which WHO is providing the full running cost of the said hospital through HNTPO (implementing partner). Recommendations included the provision of training specific on MHPSS services, providing sports activities for the admitted mental health patients (male and female); allocation of more MHPSS services; improving the foods for patients; occupational/ vocation trainings, among others.

WHO also conducted a Needs Assessment of DATCs (Drug Addiction Treatment Centers) in Bamyan and Paktika provinces as part of the support for the new project with EU specific on support on Drug Demand Reduction. WASH and minor physical rehabilitation assessment were carried out by WHO-WASH Team for the female DATC in Kabul, Nangarhar and Kandahar, with allocation of around \$60,000. The translation of the School Mental Health Manual by WHO-EMRO was completed in Pashtu and Dari. Preparations are being carried by WHO for the Master Training of Trainers on Problem Management Plus (WHO Manual) for midwives and/or nurses at BPHS, including support for the DATCs.

**Water Sanitation and Hygiene (WASH) at Health Facilities**

Water sanitation and hygiene (WASH) in healthcare facilities is crucial for preventing the spread of infections and ensuring safe and quality healthcare services. WHO is currently supporting the improvement of WASH services in 24 health facilities and 31 TFUs across 12 provinces through rehabilitation. In 24 health facilities, established 24 new solar powered bore wells with enhanced water supply network and water quality analysis to ensure its suitable for consumption. Safe sanitation services were ensured through rehabilitation of 24 male/female separated toilets and septic tanks for safe fecal sludge management. These health facilities were provided with 11 incinerators to ensure safe healthcare waste disposal.

Minor repair and maintenance of WASH services is ongoing in 31 therapeutic feeding centers where the work is completed in 26 TFU's; established/repared hand washing stations, repair, and maintenance of water supply network, environmental cleaning, electrification, doors, windows, and safe sanitation systems.

**Operational Logistical Support (OLS)**

WHO provided 29.75 metric tons (MT) of medical and non-medical supplies in April 2023, which will benefit 1,536,650 people in 34 provinces, through 167 health facilities across the country including;

- 765 Inter-Agency Emergency Health Kits (IEHK) to Primary Health care facilities in Badghis, Ghor, Hirat, Helmad, Nimroz, Zabulk, Urozgan as well as to the Infectious Disease Hospital in Farah province.
- 63 Inter-Agency Reproductive Health Kits (IARH) in 8 districts in the provinces of Badghis, Farah, Ghor, Hirat, Lashkargah Nimroz, Zabulk, Urozgan.
- 2 WHO Trauma and Emergency Surgery Kits (TESK) to the Farah Province Infectious Disease Hospital.
- 50 PED-SAM kits to WHO supported Health facilities as well as to Health Facilities currently without any support across 33 Provinces, in 103 Districts, including Abad District Hospital Balkh in Dawlate Abad district, Aqcha District Hospital Jawzjan, Bazar-e-Sokhta District Hospital Samangan, Tookzar District Hospital Sari Pul, as well as Nusai CHC+ Badakhshan province.

### Health Information Management (HIM)

The Health Information Management (HIM) team has been working to coordinate the collection, collation and dissemination of data and information from the core interventions of the WHE. The HIM Team maintains the following datasets, and analysis: Trauma Care, Health Resources and Availability Mapping System (HeRAMS), Partner Reporting, Medical Supplies and Outbreak Response (for Surveillance). Data is currently available from 11 Implementing Partners, at 125 Health Facilities and from seven hospitals. Collated data is disseminated through a publicly hosted portal at <https://dashboard.whe-him.org/>.

### Program Management Unit (PMU)

To ensure proper oversight of project implementation, WHO has conducted systematic and regular monitoring and evaluation (M&E) activities through 30 monitoring officers on the ground using specific tools developed for each type of health interventions. In April 2023, WHO conducted monitoring visits of 84 primary healthcare facilities, 97 Therapeutic Feeding Unit (TFU), four Family Health Houses (FFHs) and 19 hospitals (including Integrated Infectious Disease and COVID-19 hospitals and, Trauma Care Centers), and 95 hospitals under Health Emergency Response (HER) projects in 34 provinces. The identified areas of improvements will be followed up to ensure mitigation measures take place.



Solar panel installation at Shireen Tagab District Hospital, Faryab Province, North Region

For more information about WHO’s work in emergencies, contact:

- Dr Alaa AbouZeid, Health Emergencies Team Lead, WHO Afghanistan, Email: [abouzeida@who.int](mailto:abouzeida@who.int)**
- Ms Joy Rivaca, Head of Communications, WHO Afghanistan, Email: [caminadej@who.int](mailto:caminadej@who.int)**
- Mr Mohamed Kakay, External Relations & Partnerships Lead, WHO Afghanistan, Email: [kakaym@who.int](mailto:kakaym@who.int)**
- Mr Grattan Lynch, Communications Officer, WHO Afghanistan, Email: [lynchg@who.int](mailto:lynchg@who.int)**

WHO’s work in emergencies is supported by the following donors and partners:

