



### AFGHANISTAN

#### INFECTIOUS DISEASE OUTBREAKS

SITUATION REPORT | Epidemiological week #20-2023

No. 20/(14 to 20 May)

Disease Outbreaks	CCHF (Jan 22 - May 23)	AWD (May 22 - May 23)	COVID-19 (Feb 20 - May 23)	Measles (Jan 22 - May 23)	Dengue fever (Jun 22 - May 23)
<b>Cumulative Cases</b> <small>(Data from 601 (98.0%) out of 613 surveillance sentinel sites)</small>	<b>486</b>	<b>297,644</b>	<b>220,545</b>	<b>91,138</b>	<b>1,553</b>
<b>Death (CFR %)</b>	<b>25 (5.14)</b>	<b>114 (0.04)</b>	<b>7,912 (3.58)</b>	<b>430 (0.47)</b>	<b>3 (0.19)</b>

## Outbreak of Crimean Congo Hemorrhagic Fever (CCHF) (01 Jan 2022 to 20 May 2023)

- During week 20-2023, another nosocomial outbreak of CCHF was reported from Jawzjan province (North Region), where a total of 5 cases including 2 deaths have been reported (case fatality ratio of 40%).
- All cases were males with a mean age of 37 years (range from 28 - 48 years).
- The index case was a 30-year-old male, butcher who started to show symptoms and was admitted to Jawzjan provincial hospital. His condition deteriorated and he passed away while being referred to Balkh regional hospital.
- Four health care workers who were in contact with him, started to show symptoms the following day and another death was reported among them. The 3 remaining cases are hospitalized (2 in Jawzjan provincial hospital and 1 in Balkh regional hospital) and their conditions are stabilized.
- An additional 11 suspected CCHF cases were reported during the last week (Helmand (5), Herat (2), Fariab (1), Farah (1), Kandahar (1) and Ghazni (1)) This makes the total number of suspected CCHF cases and deaths reported during week 20-2023 16 and 2, respectively.
- Between 1 Jan 2022 – 20 May 2023, a total of 486 suspected CCHF cases were reported from 26 provinces, out of which 345 cases (70.9%) were males and all were over five years of age.
- Out of the total reported cases, 124 (25.5%) were lab confirmed using PCR.
- A total of 25 CCHF associated deaths (CFR 5.1%) were also reported from 10 provinces including 9 deaths from 5 North Region provinces, Balkh (4), Samangan (1), Jawzjan (3), Faryab (1) and Takhar (2).

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### Geographical Distribution of Crimean-Congo Hemorrhagic Fever (CCHF) cases by Province As of 20 May 2023

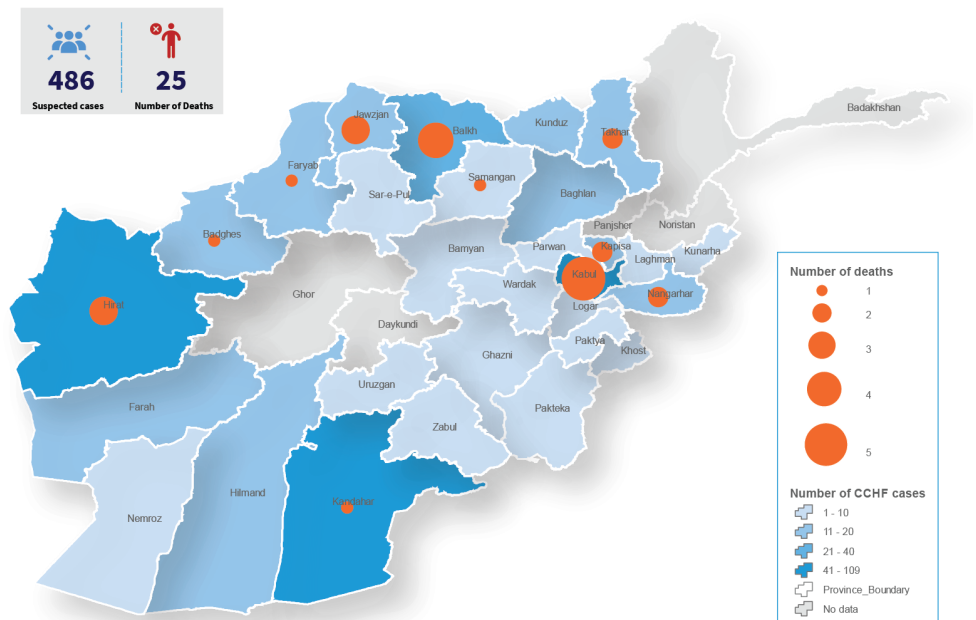


Figure 1. Geographical Distribution of Crimean-Congo Hemorrhagic Fever (CCHF) cases by Province in Afghanistan, 01 Jan 2022 - 20 May 2023

### Response to the nosocomial CCHF outbreak

- Following the report of the outbreak from Jawzjan province, a joint team from the WHO and MOPH was deployed to support the different response pillars (surveillance and active case finding, sample collection, infection prevention and control and case management).
- During last week a total of 2,000 double bags for CCHF case management were supplied to Kandahar, Herat, Mazar and Nangarahr sub-offices.
- A total of 69 health care workers were trained on CCHF case management protocol since Apr-2023.

- SOP on laboratory procedures for sample collection and type of test to be performed was shared with staff at Kandahar RRL.
- Technical support was provided to laboratory staff on CCHF sample processing.

## Acute Watery Diarrhea (AWD) with Dehydration Outbreak (01 May 2022 to 20 May 2023)

Table 1: summary of the AWD with Dehydration outbreak in the last eight weeks (26 Mar – 20 May 2023)

Indicators	W13	W14	W15	W16	W17	W18	W19	W20	Epi-curve
Suspected cases	2,954	3,639	3,314	2,335	3,267	3,793	3,419	3,908	
% Change cases	0.4	23.2	-8.9	-29.5	39.9	16.1	-9.9	14.3	
Suspected deaths	2	3	5	3	3	2	1	0	
CFR (%)	0.07	0.08	0.15	0.13	0.09	0.05	0.03	0.00	

- The number of AWD with dehydration case continues to show increase over last two weeks, the epi curve shows upward trend since week 10-2023 which could be linked with the start of the new season (Figure 2).
- During week 20-2023, a total of 3,908 new AWD cases with dehydration were reported which represents 14.3% increase in the number of cases compared to the previous week. No new associated deaths were reported during the last week.
- Out of 297,644 cases, 165,176 (55.5%) were children below 5 years and 148,552 (49.9%) were females.

- During last week, 2 new districts reported AWD with dehydration alert; this brings the total number of districts reporting AWD alerts to 307 in 34 provinces.
- A total of 3,740 RDT tests were conducted among AWD with dehydration cases.
- The first case of AWD with dehydration was reported on 04 May 2022 from Kandahar city of Kandahar province and now is reported from 307 districts in all 34 provinces (Figure 3).

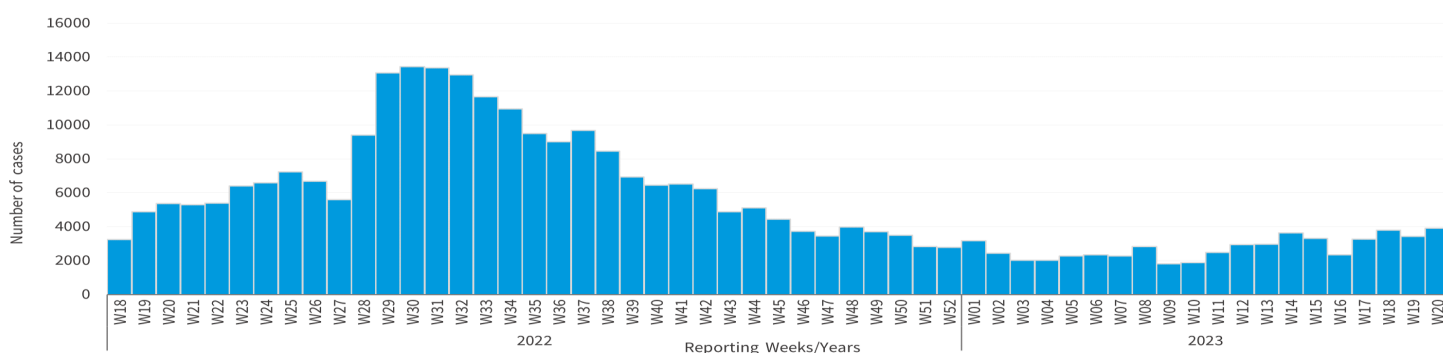
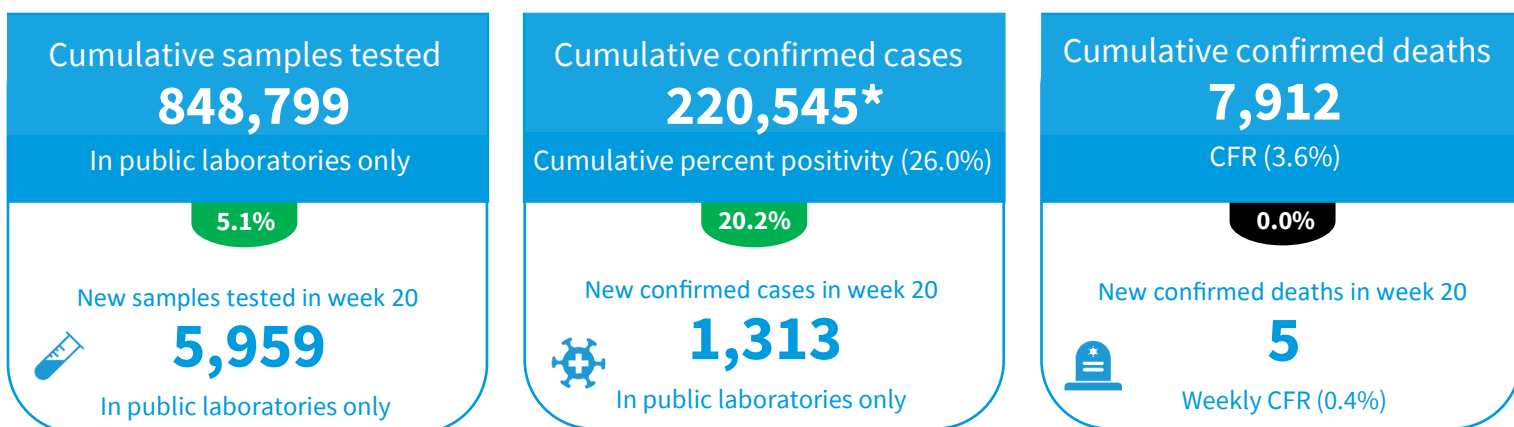


Figure 2. Epidemiological curve of AWD with dehydration cases in Afghanistan 01 May 2022 - 20 May 2023 (N=297,644)



## COVID-19 (24 Feb 2020 – 20 May 2023)



\* A delayed reporting was experienced during week 19-2023, and the number of new cases was modified from 1,503 to 1,646.

Key: ● Increasing ● Decreasing ● No change

### COVID-19 Vaccination highlights



\*Total population: 39,269,174\* (Ref: UN estimation, AFG CMYP 2022)

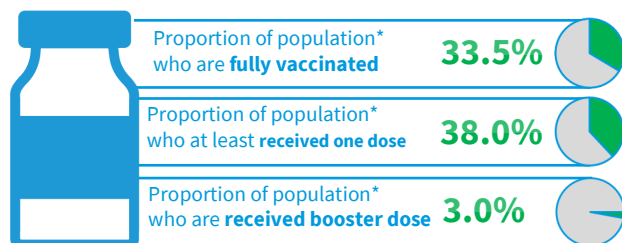


Table 2: Summary of COVID-19 indicators in the last 8 weeks in Afghanistan (26 Mar - 20 May 2023)

Indicators	W13	W14	W15	W16	W17	W18	W19	W20	Epi-curve
Samples tested (in public Labs)	3,435	4,163	4,730	4,001	3,569	5,906	6,280	5,959	
Confirmed cases	616	891	1233	1253	1123	1855	1646	1313	
% Change cases	74.5	44.6	38.4	1.6	-10.4	65.2	-11.3	-20.2	
Percent positivity (%)	17.9	21.4	26.1	31.3	31.5	31.4	26.2	22.0	
Deaths	1	1	1	4	5	8	5	5	
CFR (%)	0.2	0.1	0.1	0.3	0.4	0.4	0.3	0.4	

- The number of COVID-19 cases are decreasing, the epi curve (Figure 4) shows a decrease in the number of confirmed cases over the last two weeks.
- Since the beginning of the pandemic in Feb 2020, a total of 848,799 samples have been tested for COVID-19 through public laboratories.
- In week 20-2023, 5,959 samples were tested in public labs, of which 1,313 samples were positive for COVID-19 (test positivity of 22.0%) and 5 new deaths were reported.
- During week 20-2023, 9.2% (121 /1,313 confirmed cases) were hospitalized (Figure 5), including 21 cases admitted to ICU (Figure 6).

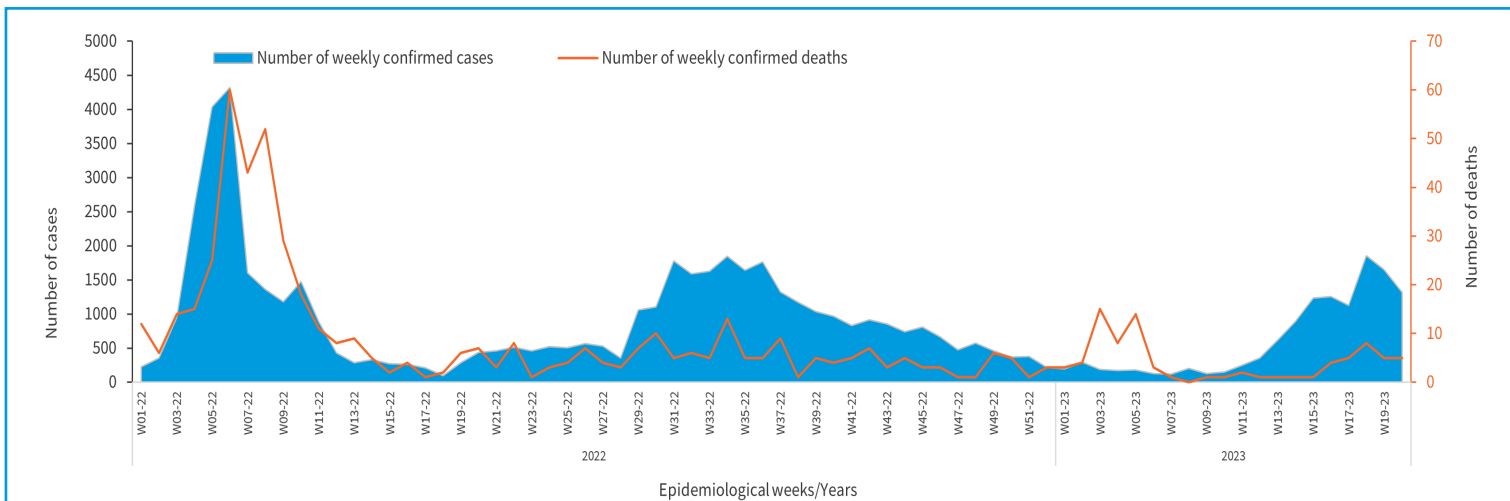


Figure 4. Epidemiological curve of confirmed COVID-19 cases and deaths in Afghanistan 01 Jan 2022 - 20 May 2023

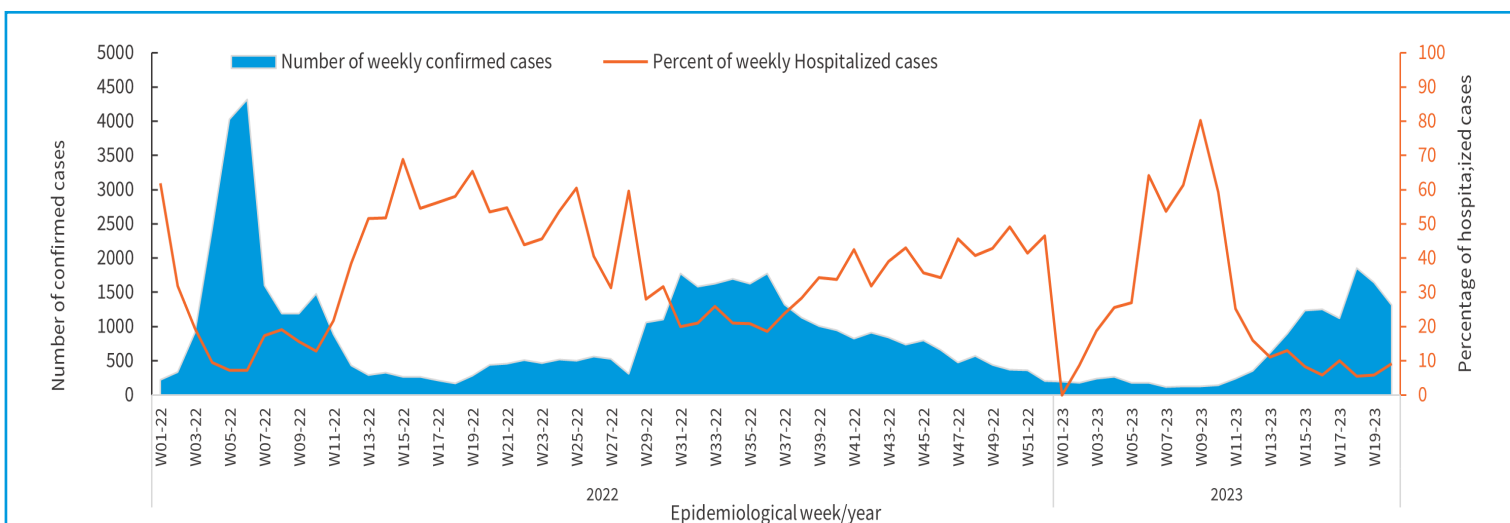


Figure 5. Weekly proportion of hospitalized cases out of new COVID-19 confirmed cases in Afghanistan as of 01 Jan 2022 - 20 May 2023

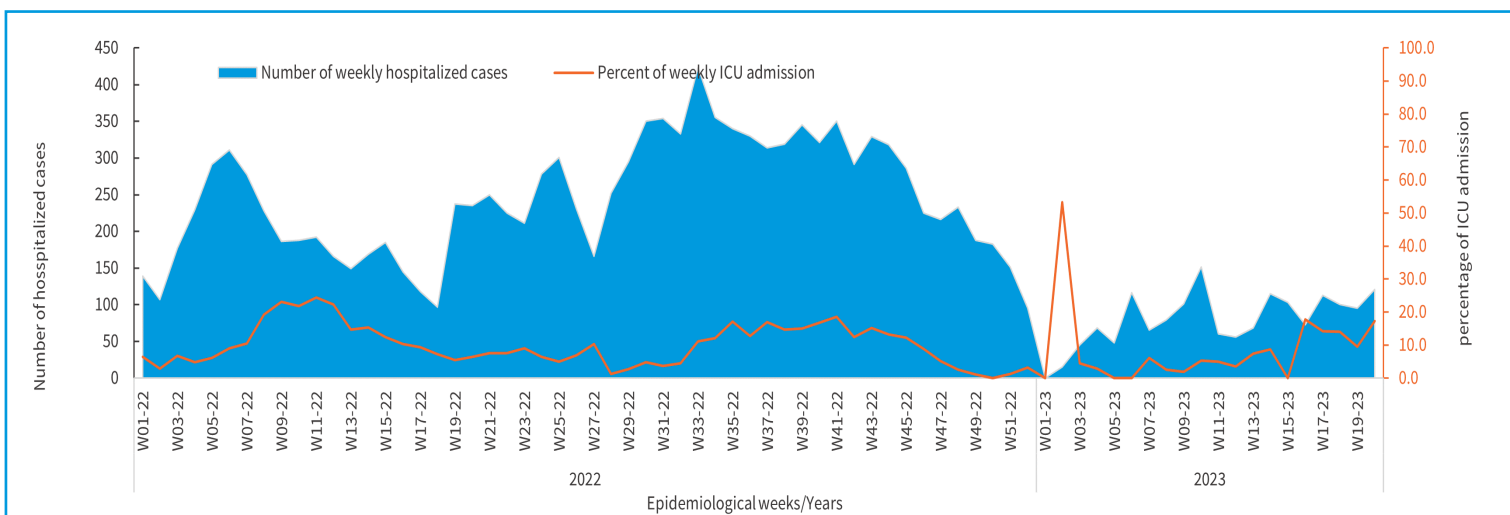


Figure 6. Weekly proportion of ICU admissions out of newly hospitalized COVID-19 cases in Afghanistan as of 01 Jan 2022 - 20 May 2023

## Measles Outbreak (01 Jan 2022 to 20 May 2023)

  
**91,138**  
Total Cases

  
**430**  
Total Deaths

  
**12,682**  
Sample tested

  
**7,297**  
Lab confirmed cases






  
**57.5%**  
Test positivity ratio

Table 3: summary of the suspected measles outbreak in the last eight weeks (26 Mar – 20 May 2023)

Indicators	W13	W14	W15	W16	W17	W18	W19	W20	Epi-curve
Suspected cases	709	721	649	550	611	564	595	579	
% Change cases	3.5	1.7	-10.0	-15.3	11.1	-7.7	5.5	-2.7	
Suspected deaths	2	3	0	1	0	1	1	6	
CFR (%)	0.3	0.4	0.0	0.2	0.0	0.2	0.2	1.0	

- The number of suspected measles cases are showing stabilization since week 31-2022, despite some fluctuations observed during the first few weeks of 2023, however, the general trend is showing stabilization at higher level compared to the average number of suspected cases between of 2019 – 2020 (Figure 7).
- During epidemiological week 20-2023, a total of 579 suspected cases and 6 new deaths were reported which indicates 2.7% decrease in the number of cases, compared to the last week.
- Out of the total 91,138 cases, 69,656 (76.4%) were children under 5 years of age and 44,171 (48.5%) were females.

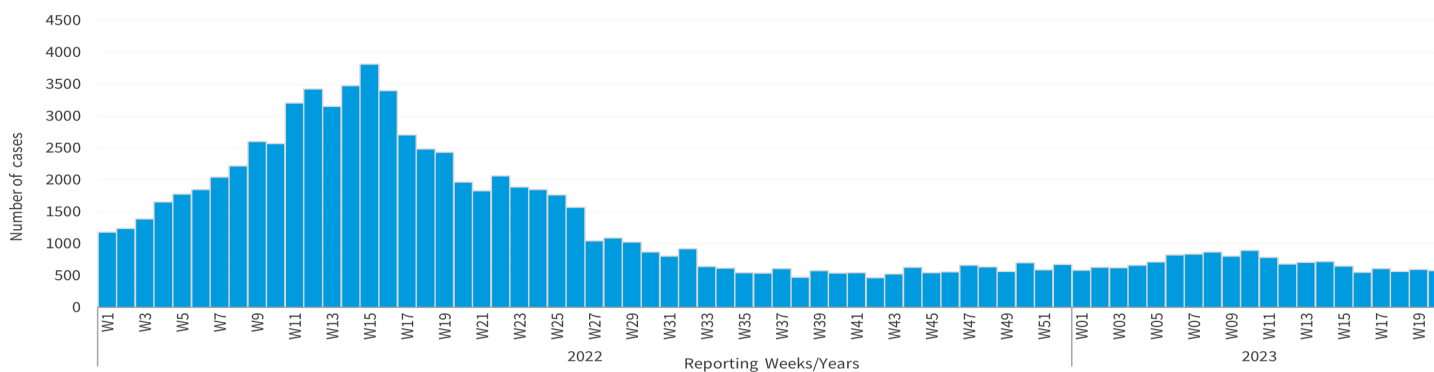


Figure 7. Epidemiological curve of suspected measles cases in Afghanistan, 01 Jan 2022 to 20 May 2023 (N=91,138)

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Suspected measles attack per 1,000 population of by province

As of 20 May 2023

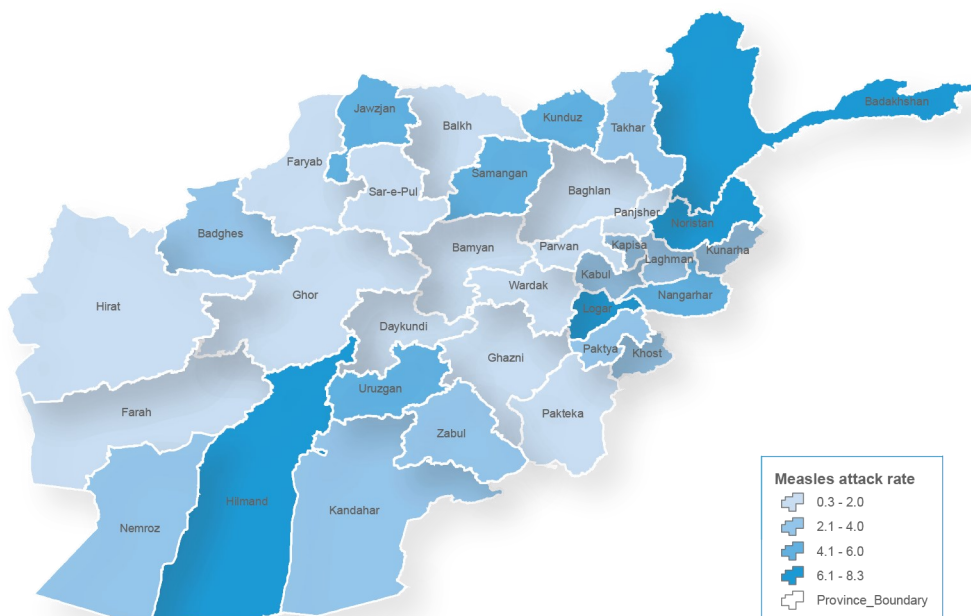


Figure 8. Suspected measles attack rate per 1,000 population of by province in Afghanistan 01 Jan 2022 - 20 May 2023 (N=91,138)

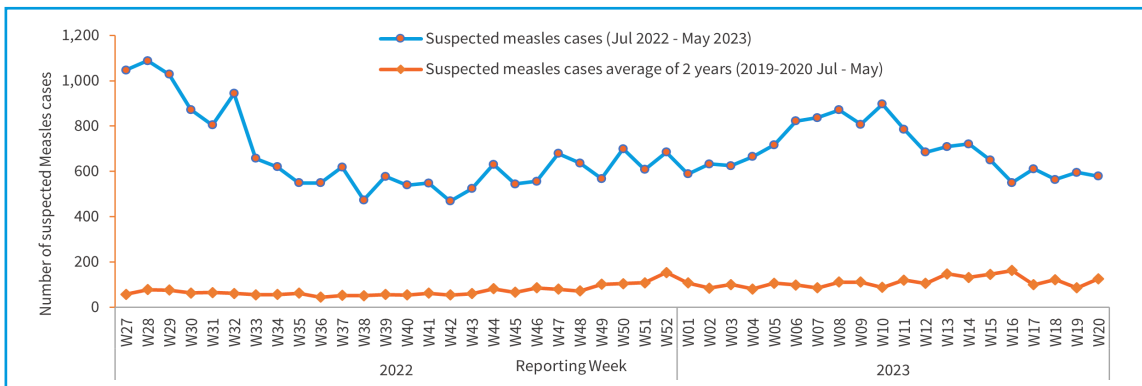


Figure 9. Comparison of suspected measles trend curve using 2 years average (2019-2020) vs Jul 2022 - May 2023, Afghanistan

The number of suspected measles cases is showing stabilization since week 31-2022 in general, despite some fluctuations observed during the first few weeks of 2023. However, comparing the current levels with the average number of suspected cases reported during (2019-2020) reveals that the trend of measles cases has not gone down to the low levels of endemicity observed during 2019-2020.





### Response to Measles outbreak

- During the last week, a total of 100 children aged 9-59 months were vaccinated against measles as part of outbreak response immunization (ORI) by the implementing partners (NGOs) in two provinces (Parwan and Helmand). This brings the total number of vaccinated children by NGOs to 6,956 in outbreak affected areas across the county since the beginning of 2023.
- The national measles immunization campaign was conducted during November – December 2022; immunizing 5.3 million children aged 9-59 months in 329 planned districts of 34 provinces across the country (almost 99% admin coverage).
- Since December 2021, around 11 million children (aged between 6 months to 14 years) have been vaccinated through 5 different measles outbreak response and national immunization campaigns in 34 provinces.
- A total of 593 measles case management kits have been supplied to 28 provinces in 7 regions across the country to support case management.

### Dengue Fever Outbreak (01 Jun 2022 to 20 May 2023)

 <b>1,553</b> Total Cases	 <b>3</b> Total Deaths	 <b>474</b> Sample tested	 <b>383</b> Lab confirmed cases	 <b>80.8%</b> Test positivity ratio
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Table 4: summary of the Dengue fever outbreak in the last eight weeks (26 Mar – 20 May 2023)

Indicators	W13	W14	W15	W16	W17	W18	W19	W20	Epi-curve
Suspected cases	15	19	9	17	20	35	27	10	
% Change cases	50.0	26.7	-52.6	88.9	17.6	75.0	-22.9	-63.0	
Deaths	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	
CFR (%)	0.0	5.3	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	

- The number of suspected dengue cases shows decline during last week. The trend of dengue fever is showing a gradual increase between weeks 16-18-2023, the situation needs to be closely monitored given the start of the season for vector breeding in Nangarhar province (Figure 10).
- A total of 10 suspected dengue fever cases with no new deaths have been reported during week 20-2023, all cases were reported from Nangarhar province, which brings the total number of cases and deaths to 1,553 and 3 deaths respectively.
- Out of 1,553 reported cases, 452 (29.1%) were females and 1,531 (98.6%) were over 5 years of age.

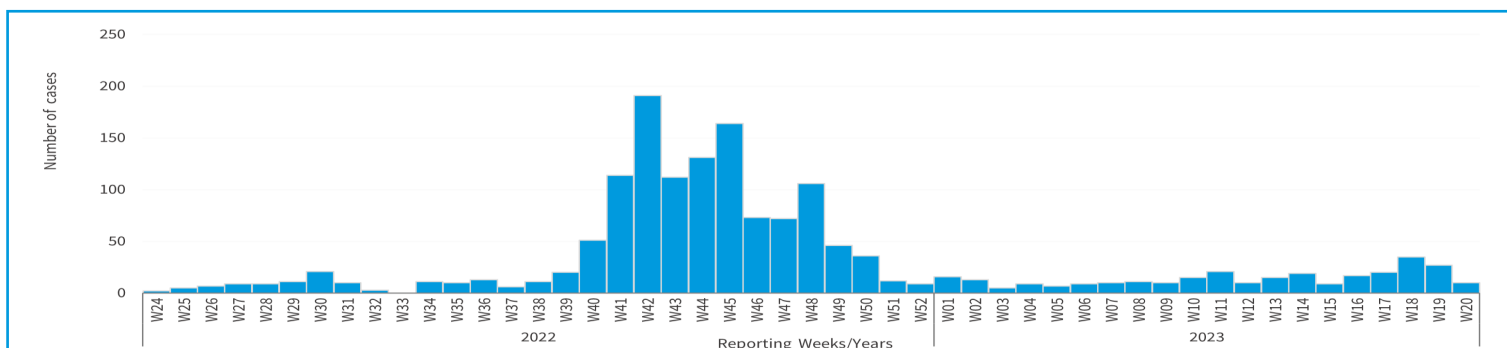


Figure 10. Epidemiological curve of dengue fever cases in Afghanistan 01 Jun 2022 - 20 May 2023 (N=1,553)

