

# **AFGHANISTAN**

INFECTIOUS DISEASE OUTBREAKS
SITUATION REPORT | Epidemiological week #22



No. 43/ (29 May-04 June) 2022

| Disease Outbreak           | Measles (Jan - June 2022) | AWD (Sep 2021- June 2022) | Pertussis (Apr-June 2022) | CCHF (Apr-June 2022) |
|----------------------------|---------------------------|---------------------------|---------------------------|----------------------|
| Cumulative Number of Cases | 52,287                    | 5,789                     | 52                        | 63                   |
| *Sentinel sites data       |                           |                           |                           |                      |
| Number of deaths (CFR %)   | 316 (0.60)                | 8 (0.14)                  | 0 (0.0)                   | <b>5</b> (7.9)       |

## Measles outbreak (01 Jan to 04 June 2022)



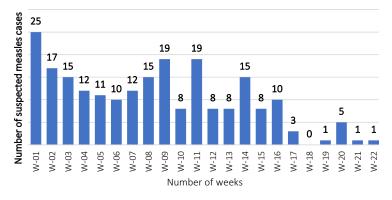
**6,294** Samples tested



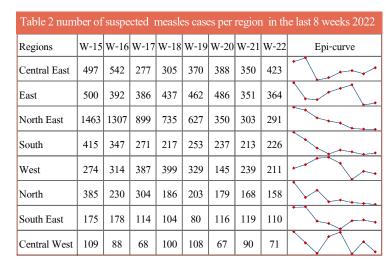


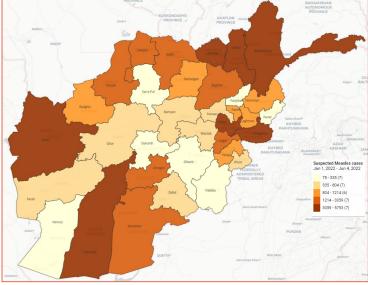
| Table 1 summary of the measles outbreak in the last eight weeks (13 Mar – 04 June 2022) |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |           |  |
|---|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|-----------|--|
| Indicators  | W-15 | W-16 | W-17 | W-18 | W-19 | W-20 | W-21 | W-22 | Epi-curve |  |
| Suspected cases   | 3818 | 3398 | 2706 | 2483 | 2432 | 1968 | 1833 | 1854 |           |  |
| Deaths  | 24   | 23   | 8    | 10   | 8    | 5    | 8    | 7    |           |  |
| CFR (%)   | 0.63 | 0.68 | 0.30 | 0.40 | 0.33 | 0.25 | 0.44 | 0.38 |           |  |

- During epidemiological week 22-2022, there have been 1,854 new cases and 7 new deaths reported (1 % increase and 12.5% decrease in the number of cases and deaths, respectively as compared to the previous week). The trend was increasing until week 15 (2022), however, it is decreasing for the last seven weeks (Figure 5).
- The number of suspected measles cases have increased in the Central East, South and East regions during the last weeks while the other five regions show decreasing trends (Table 2)
- The measles outbreak affected the entire country, however, the most affected provinces are Badakhshan (11.1%); Kunduz (10.3%); Nangarhar (9.3%); Kabul (8.5%); Helmand (6.9%); and Takhar (6.4%).
- Out of the total 6,294 samples tested for measles, 2,734 were laboratory confirmed from January-June 2022.
- During the last week, one new district reported suspected

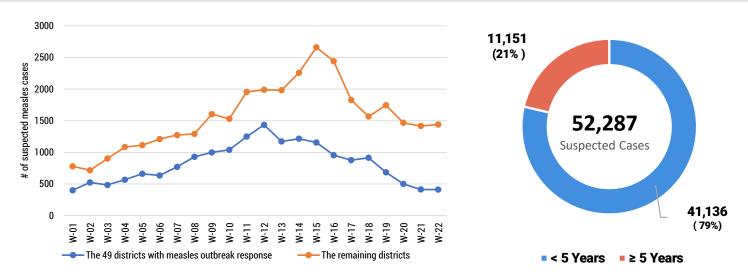


**Figure 1.** New districts reporting suspected measles cases on weekly bases In Afghanistan January - June 2022 (N=223)





**Figure 2.** Geographical distribution of suspected measles cases in Afghanistan January - June 2022 (N=52,287)



**Figure 3.**Trend of suspected measles cases in 49 districts where measles vaccine campaign was conducted and the remaining districts Jan - June 2022

**Figure 4.** Distribution of suspected measles cases by age groups in Afghanistan, Jan - June 2022

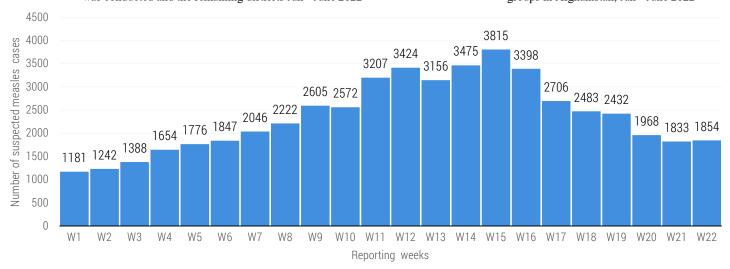


Figure 5. Weekly epidemiological curve of suspected measles cases in Afghanistan, Jan-June 2022 (N=52,287)

#### Response to measles outbreak

- The nationwide measles vaccine campaign is planned in July -August 2022.
- After the measles case management training was conducted in Kabul (April 2022), the cascade of measles case management training was conducted in the West (in week 20) and East regions (in week 22) and will be extended to other regions in the coming weeks.



Health care providers give measles vaccine to a child during measles During measles campaign in March 2022 in Kabul, Afghanistan

## Acute Watery Diarrhoea (AWD) Outbreak (12 Sep 2021 to 04 June 2022)

| Current Week  | Cumulative Figures                                 |
|---|--|
| 106 new cases (19 % under 5)                                    | <b>5,789</b> cases (16.0% < 5 years, 49.7% Female) |
| 0 new deaths  | 8 deaths (12.5% < 5 years), CFR=0.16%              |
| 4 districts (1 from Kabul and 3 from Kandahar) reporting alert. | 20 districts in 5 affected provinces               |
| 18 samples collected  | 551 samples collected                              |

- In Kandahar province, 14 new AWD cases were reported during week 22 of 2022.
- Additionally, 92 new AWD cases were reported from Kabul city which brings the total number of AWD cases to 106 in week 22 (Table 3).
- Cumulatively, Kabul city (4,403 cases, 76.1%) and Sorobi district (887 cases, 15.3%) are the most affected areas as compared to the other five provinces.
- Of the total 5,789 cases, 16.0% (972) were children below 5

years, 49.7% (2,876) were females and 64% (3,731) had severe dehydration (Figure 7).

 The first few cases of acute watery diarrhea were reported to the National Disease Surveillance and Response System (NDSR), Ministry of Public Health, and WHO on 12 Sept 2021 from Tapa village of Sorobi district in Kabul province and spread to 20 districts of Kabul, Kapisa, Zabul, Kandahar, Laghman and Logar provinces.

Table 3: Summary of Acute Watery Diarrhea Cases in Afghanistan, as of 04 June 2022

|                                  | Weekly                | changes                | Cumulative number<br>(12 Sep 2021 to 04 June 2022) |                |  |
|----------------------------------|-----------------------|------------------------|--|----------------|--|
| Location                         | # of cases (% change) | # of deaths (% change) | Cases (%)  | Deaths (CFR %) |  |
| Kabul <sup>1</sup>               | 92 (†24.3 )           | 0 (N/A)                | 4,403 ( 76.1 )                                     | 6 ( 0.12 )     |  |
| Sorobi District (Kabul Province) | 0 (N/A)               | 0 (N/A)                | 887 ( 15.3 )                                       | 2 ( 0.04 )     |  |
| Kapisa <sup>2</sup>              | 0 (N/A)               | 0 (N/A)                | 9 ( 0.2 )  | 0 (N/A)        |  |
| Kandahar <sup>3</sup>            | 14 (↓54.8)            | 0 (N/A)                | 250 (4.3)  | 0 (N/A)        |  |
| Zabul <sup>4</sup>               | 0 (N/A)               | 0 (N/A)                | 205 ( 3.5 )  | 0 (N/A)        |  |
| Laghman <sup>5</sup>             | 0 (N/A)               | 0 (N/A)                | 35 ( 0.6 )   | 0 (N/A)        |  |
| Sub Total                        | 106 (†1.0)            | 0 (N/A)                | 5,789 ( 100.0 )                                    | 8 ( 0.14 )     |  |

Kabul<sup>1</sup> Kabul city (4,403), Bagrami (53), Paghman (25), Dehsabz (20), Shakardara (14), Garabagh (11) and Farza (6) Kapisa<sup>2</sup> Kohistan (9)

Kandahar<sup>3</sup> Spinboldak (156), Kandahar city(87), Dand (16), Panjwayi (12), Daman (5), Zhari (4), Arghandab (3) and Shahwali-kot (2)

Zabul<sup>4</sup> Shahjoy (158) and Qalat (47) Laghman<sup>5</sup> Alishing (35)

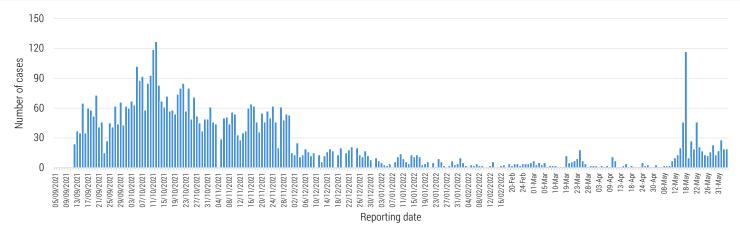
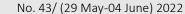


Figure 6. Epidemiological curve of the AWD cases in Afghanistan Sep 2021-June 2022 (N=5,789)



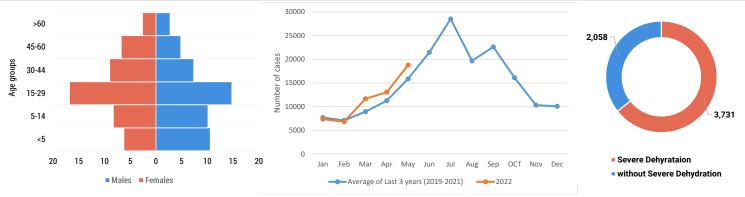


Figure 7. Distribution of AWD cases by sex and age groups in Afghanistan, Sep 2021 - June 2022 (N=5,789)

Figure 7.a. National trend of AWD cases with dehydration in Afghanistan, (2019-2021 and 2022)

**Figure 7.b.** AWD cases with severe dehydration in Afghanistan, Sep 2021-June 2022

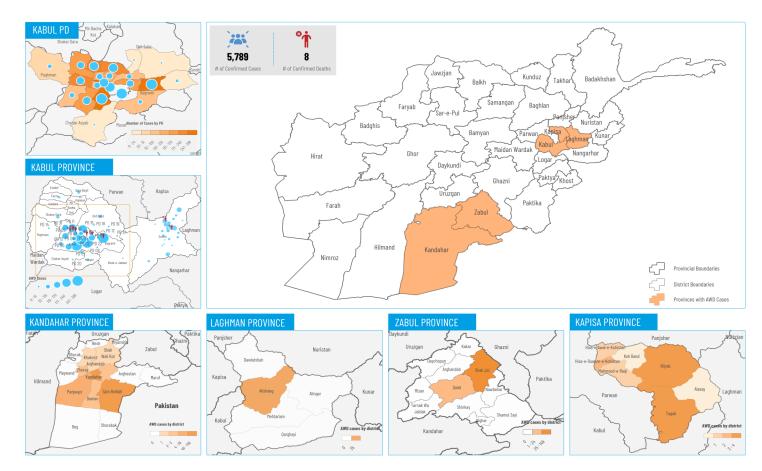


Figure 8. Hotspot areas of AWD cases in Afghanistan, Sep 2021– June 2022 (N=5,789)

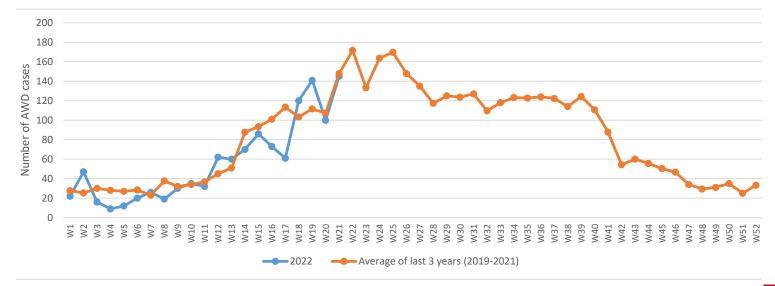


Figure 9. Provincial trend of AWD cases with dehydration in Kandahar City, (2019-2021 and 2022)

Response to the AWD outbreak



Figure 9. RCCE session regarding prevention and control of AWD in Dand district of Kandahar province in Afghanistan June 2022

## Response to AWD outbreak

- National task force committee has been established in MoPH to lead overall AWD response at national and subnational levels.
- A mission from country office was conducted to Kandahar province to coordinate the investigation and response with the local team and find a possible epidemiological link between the cases.
- 240 RDTs and 10 AWD investigation kits were sent to Kandahar regional office for testing the AWD samples.
- To enhance coordination, preparedness, and response to the AWD outbreak, joint work between WHO, UNICEF, MSF, IOM, Save the Children, Health-WASH clusters, and MOPH has taken place in outbreak affected areas.
- Active case findings are in place at outbreak affected areas, surveillance support teams (SSTs) are deployed for linelisting and collection of samples.
- 240 beds have already been identified for case management in Mirwais Regional Hospital (100) and Aynomina Hospital (140) in Kandahar. Additionally, 10 beds are also available from non-BPHS NGOs in this province.
- 20 beds are ready for the case management of hospitalized cases in Zabul province.

- Water, sanitation and hygiene (WASH) activities include chlorination and distribution of hygiene kits are ongoing. Risk communication and community engagement (RCCE)
- activities are ongoing, including public messaging on prevention measures.
- AWD case management materials are available at the sites and national mapping of partners' stocks are completed (Figure 10)
- 2,000 RDTs arrived to the country and distribution of these RTDs to the regions is ongoing.

#### WASH

- Around 13,000 wells were shock-chlorinated across 24 provinces for 3 million people, regular chlorination in hotspots.
- Half-million people assisted per month with hygiene kits.

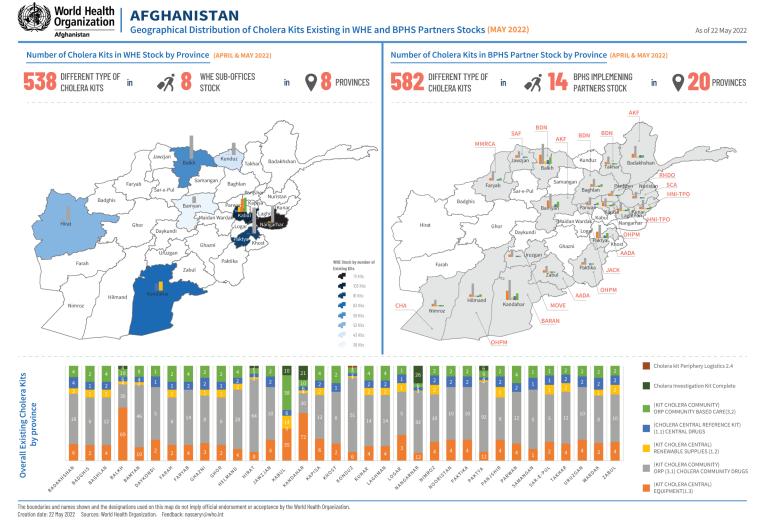


Figure 10. Distribution of AWD kits to partners by the WHO in Afghanistan (May 2022)



Figure 11. Humanitarian coordination meeting for AWD response in Kandahar Afghanistan, June 2022

# Alerts of other infectious diseases outbreaks

## Crimean-Congo Hemorrhagic Fever (CCHF) (Apr-Jun 2022)

| D        |         |        | Cases |        |       |         |        | Death | 1S     |       | 79   | 8 %               | <b>5</b> 8          |
|----------|---------|--------|-------|--------|-------|---------|--------|-------|--------|-------|--|-------------------|---------------------|
| Diseases | Under 5 | Over 5 | Male  | Female | Total | Under 5 | Over 5 | Male  | Female | Total | Province   | Samples collected | Samples<br>positive |
| CCHF     | 0       | 63     | 46    | 17     | 63    | 0       | 2      | 1     | 1      | 2     | Herat (14), Kabul (10), Nangarhar (5), Balkh (4), Farah(4), Badghis (3), Ghazni (3), Baghlan (3), Kapisa (3), Samangan (2), Faryab (2), Parwan (2), Kandahar (1), Jawzjan (1), Helmand (1), Kunar (1), Laghman (1), Nimroz (1), Paktika (1) and Takhar (1) | Yes               | 9                   |

- A total of 63 suspected CCHF cases were reported from 20 provinces as indicated in the above table.
- 73% (46) of the case were males and all of them were over five years of age.
- Out of 63 cases, 9 cases (14.3%) were lab confirmed.
- Two suspected CCHF associated deaths (a 22 years-old male, and a 27-years old female) were reported from Samangan and Kapisa, respectively.
- The cases are managed in the health facilities and 25 doses of Ribavirin have been availed and distributed to all regions.

## Pertussis (Apr-Jun 2022)

|           |         | (      | Cases |        |       |         |        | Death | S      |       |   |                      |                     |
|-----------|---------|--------|-------|--------|-------|---------|--------|-------|--------|-------|---|----------------------|---------------------|
| Diseases  | Under 5 | Over 5 | Male  | Female | Total | Under 5 | Over 5 | Male  | Female | Total | Province  | Samples<br>collected | Samples<br>positive |
| Pertussis | 35      | 17     | 22    | 30     | 52    | 0       | 0      | 0     | 0      | 0     | Jawzjan (16), Ghazni (14), Paktika (8),<br>Zabul (6), Kandahar (6) and Kapisa (2) | Yes                  | 0                   |

- During April and June 2022, a total of 52 suspected cases of pertussis were reported from six provinces as indicated in the above table.
- Out of total (52) reported cases 35 (67.3%) were under five years of age and 30 (58.0%) cases were females.
- WHO is working with MOPH to plan Penta vaccination in the affected areas.
- Case management of pertussis is conducted in the health facilities.

Note: MOPH is the source of epidemiological data

Contact us for further information:

Mohamed Moustafa Tahon, MD, PhD: Epidemiologist, WHO-CO, (tahonm@who.int)

Mohammad Akbar Paiman MD, MSc Epi: Surveillance Officer WHO-CO (paimanm@who.int)