

Summary of current outbreaks

Outbreak	AWD	Dengue fever	Measles	Malaria
No of cases	4,877	775	31,379	467

1. Acute Watery Diarrhoea (AWD) Outbreak (12 Sep 2021 to 08 Jan 2022)

Highlights

Current week	Cumulative figures
24 new cases (8.3% <5 years) 0 new deaths 2 districts reporting alerts 5 samples collected	4,877 cases (18% <5 years, 49% Female) 8 deaths (12.5% < 5 years), CFR=0.16% 12 districts in 5 provinces affected 276 samples collected

- The first few cases of Acute Watery Diarrhoea (AWD)¹ were reported to National Disease Surveillance and Response system (NDSR), Ministry of Public Health and WHO on 12 Sept 2021 from Tapa village of Sarobi district in Kabul province and spread to 12 districts of Kabul, Kapisa, Zabul, Kandahar and Laghman provinces
- The most affected districts include Kabul city (3,703 cases, 75.9%) and Surobi district (782 cases, 16.0%)
- The drivers of the epidemic are limited access to safe water, poor sanitation and hygiene practices
- During epidemiological week 1, the number of new AWD cases reported reduced by 66% from 71 to 24 cases with no deaths reported
- Of the 4,877 cases, 18.0% (975) are children below 5 years, 49.0% (2,390) of cases are females and 70.1% (3,414) of cases had severe dehydration

Table 1: Summary of Acute Watery Diarrhoea Cases in Afghanistan

Location	Epi week #1 (2-8 January 2022) and changes compared to last week		Cumulative case (12 Sept 2021 to 08 Jan 2022)	
	# of cases & % changes	# of deaths & % changes	Cases (%)	Deaths (CFR%)
Kabul City	11 (↓ 87)	0 (0)	3,703 (75.9)	6 (0.16)
Sarobi District (Kabul province)	13 (↓ 28)	0 (0)	782 (16.0)	2 (0.26)
Other Districts (Kabul province)*	0 (0)	0 (0)	147 (3.0)	0 (0)
Kohistan District (Kapisa Province)	0 (0)	0 (0)	9 (0.2)	0 (0)
Spinboldak District (Kandahar province)	0 (0)	0 (0)	154 (3.2)	0 (0)
Qalat City (Zabul Province)	0 (0)	0 (0)	47 (1.0)	0 (0)
Alishang District (Laghman Province)	0 (0)	0 (0)	35 (0.7)	0 (0)
Total	24 (↓ 66)	0 (0)	4,877 (100)	8 (0.16)

*These districts are: Farza, Dehsabz, Bagrami, Paghman, Shakardara and Qarabagh

¹ The Surveillance System defines AWD case as three or more abnormally loose or liquid stools in the past 24 hours with or without fever or mucous, it could be AWD with dehydration or without dehydration.

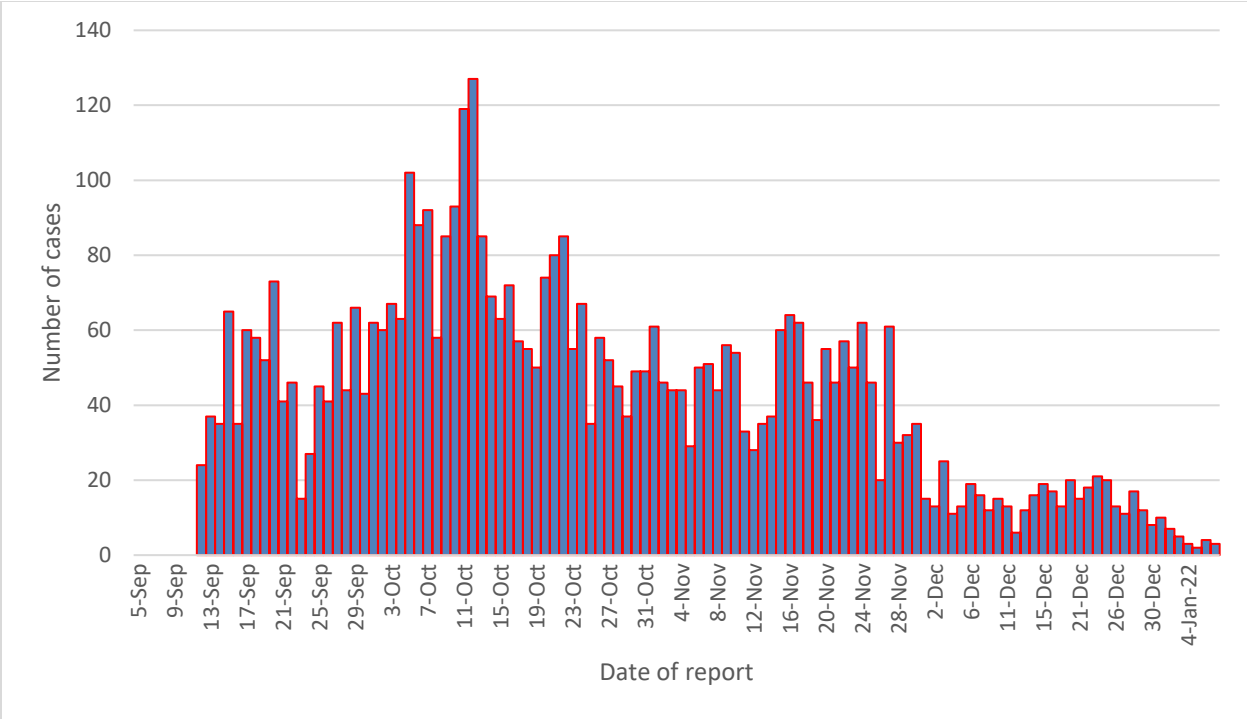


Figure 1. Epidemiological curve of the Acute Watery Diarrhoea cases in Afghanistan, Sep 2021-Jan 2022 (n=4,877)

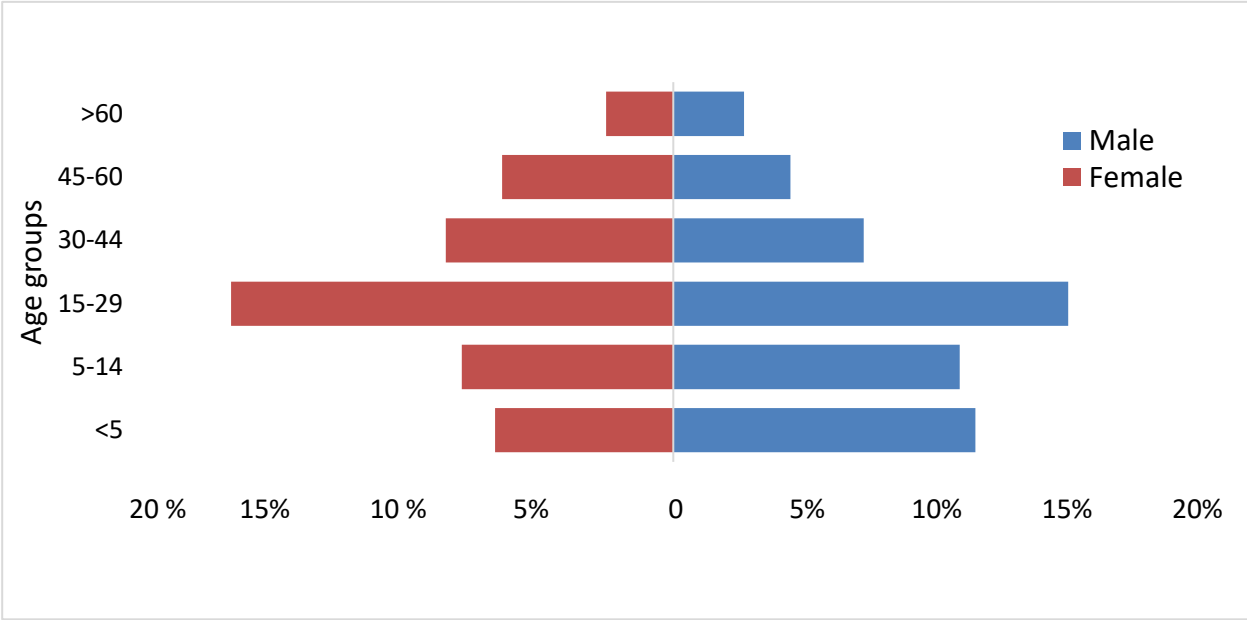


Figure 2. Distribution of AWD cases by gender and age groups (n=4,877)

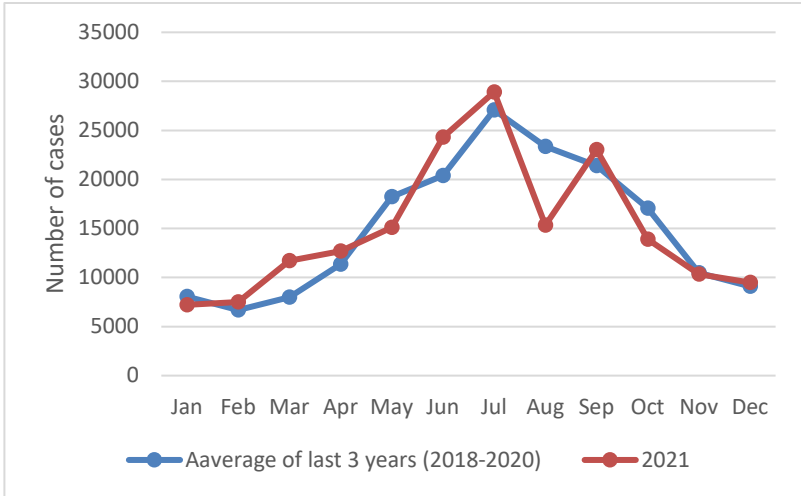


Figure 3.a National trend of AWD cases with dehydration

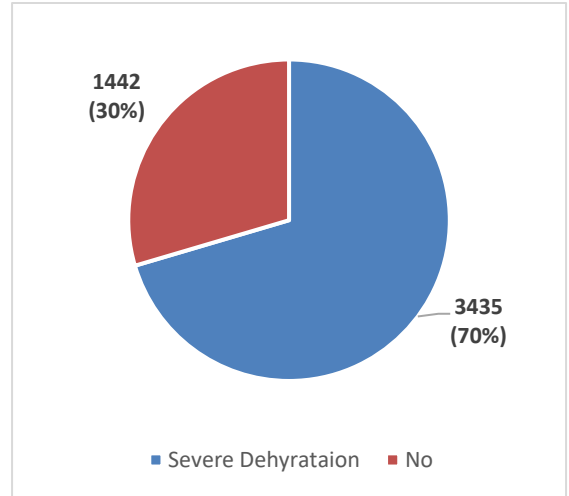


Figure 3b. AWD Cases with severe dehydration (n=4,877)

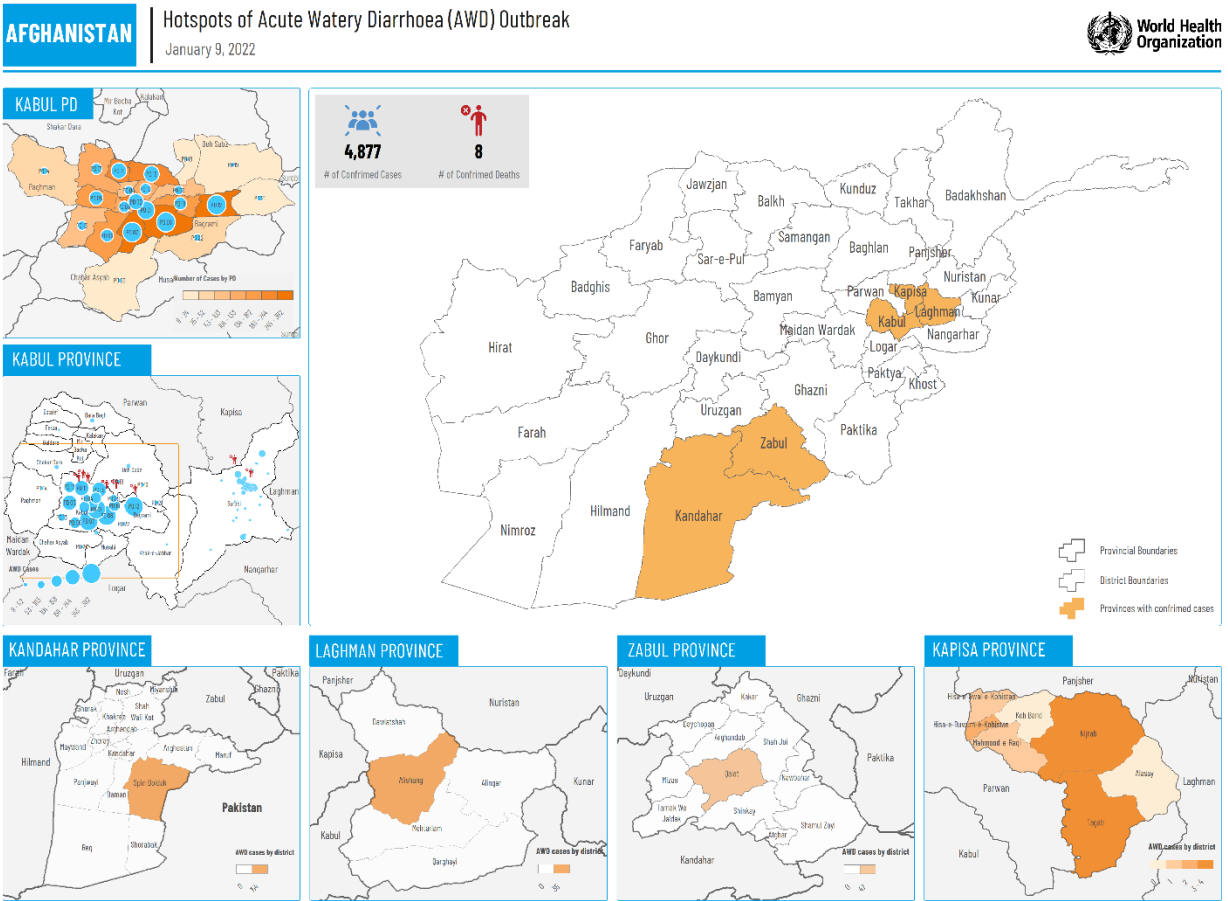


Figure 4. Hotspot areas of Acute Watery Diarrhoea cases (n=4,877)

Response to the AWD outbreak

Completed activities:

➤ **Coordination and Leadership**

- Coordination meeting with MoPH and partners (UNICEF, MSF) to follow on implementation of activities as outlined in integrated response plan
- Joint WHO/UNICEF support supervision to Sarobi to strengthen implementation of response activities
- Regular coordination and supportive suppression visits from Health Facilities reporting/managing AWD cases, in Kabul province

➤ **Surveillance and Laboratory**

- Trained 50 surveillance officers, 12 Rapid Response Teams (RRTs) and 80 NDSR Focal Points regarding epidemic prone diseases surveillance and early response, including AWD outbreak
- Refresher training of 14 health workers in Kabul district on AWD alert investigation and verification
- 7 RRTs conducts active AWD surveillance in Kabul province
- 276 samples collected for AWD patients

➤ **Essential medical supplies**

- Supplies and equipment provided for the laboratory testing and case management of more than 15,000 cases

➤ **Case management**

- 4,845 admitted cases are treated and discharged as cured. Only 24 cases are currently receiving treatment in designated health facilities

➤ **WASH**

- Chlorination of active water points has been reached to 7,500 water points in 24 provinces
- Distribution of 100 hygiene kits in Surobi and 200 hygiene kits in Bagrami districts of Kabul province sufficient for around 1,000 people
- In the last week 102 water sources across the five City Districts in Kabul city were assessed to be planned for disinfection activities
- In the last week 3,192 household were reached for health promotion awareness along with provision of 6,600 pieces of handwashing soap and hygiene kits
- Distribution of 1,000 hygiene kits sufficient for 2,000 people along with the provision of 12 dosing pumps to chlorinate drinking water in Kabul city
- Upgrading of an existing water supply system for 50 bed Healthcare Facility, in Kapisa province

➤ **Risk communication and community engagement**

- 50 social mobilizers engaged in 20 districts of Kabul city conducted house to house and community visit and reached around 463,460 dwellers; 250,000 brochures and 5,000 flipcharts were distributed

Next Steps/needs

- Enhanced coordination between Health-WASH partners for the implementation of AWD Health-WASH Integrated response plan.
- Development of AWD strategic long-term plan
- Advocacy for the implementation of preventive OCV campaigns in Kabul city and Surobi district



Chlorination of household water source in Kabul province (WASH-DACAAR)



Drinking water source/supply monitoring by WHO national surveillance team, Spinboldak district, Kandahar province

2. Dengue Fever Outbreak (20 Sep 2021 to 08 Jan 2022)

Highlights

Current week	Cumulative figures
14 new cases (0% <5 years)	775 cases (1.2% <5 years, 39.1% Females)
0 new deaths	1 death (0% < 5 years), CFR=0.13%
3 districts reporting alerts	16 districts in 1 province affected
5 samples collected	332 samples collected

- The first few cases of dengue were reported to National Disease Surveillance and Response system, Ministry of Public Health and WHO on 20 Sept 2021 Mohmandara district of Nangarhar province
- Additional cases spread to other 15 districts in Nangarhar province
- In the last week, the number of cases reported reduced from 24 to 14 (42%) with no deaths reported
- The most affected districts include Mohmandara (434 cases) and Dor Baba districts (171)
- Of the 775 cases, 98.8% are aged over five years while 1.2% are children below 5 years. 39% of cases are female

Table 2: Summary of dengue fever in Nangarhar province

Location	Epi week #1 (2-8 January 2022) and changes compared to last week		Cumulative case (20 Sept 2021 to 08 Jan 2022)	
	# of cases & % changes	# of deaths & % changes	Cases (%)	Deaths (CFR%)
Mohmandara	11 (↓42)	0 (0)	434 (56.0%)	0 (0)
Dor Baba	0 (0)	0 (0)	171 (22.1%)	0 (0)
Ghanikhil	1 (↓67)	0 (0)	64 (8.3%)	0 (0)
Behsood	0 (0)	0 (0)	12 (1.5%)	0 (0)
Jalalabad	0 (0)	0 (0)	29 (3.7%)	0 (0)
Batikut*	0 (0)	0 (0)	15 (1.9%)	1 (0.13)
Other District**	2 (0)	0 (0)	50 (6.5%)	0 (0)
Total	14 (↓42)	0 (0)	775 (100%)	1 (0.13)

*One death has reported from Batikut district of Nangarhar province on 02 Nov 2021, a male age 55 years and dengue positive (PCR)

** Other districts include Chaparhar, Dari Noor, Kot, Rodat, Lalpoora, Sarkhrod, Hesarak, Khiwa, Kama and Achin

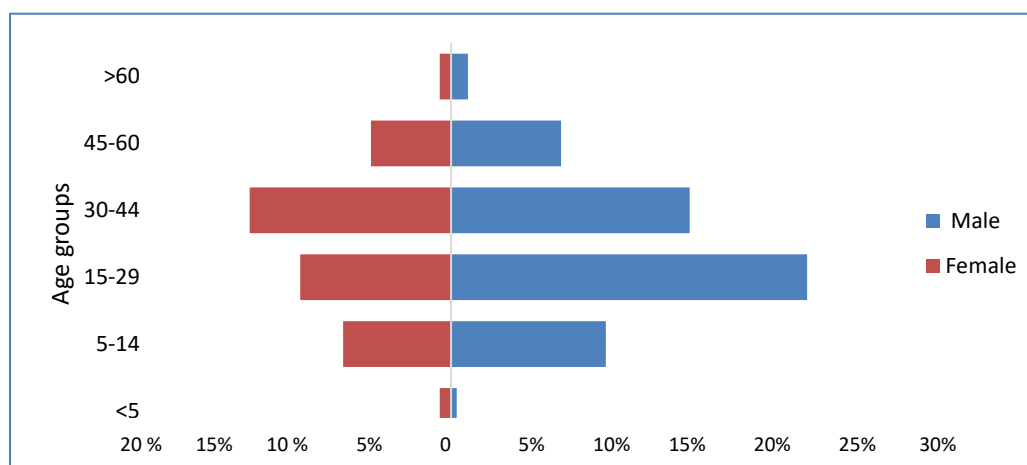


Figure 5. Distribution of dengue cases by age categories (n=775)

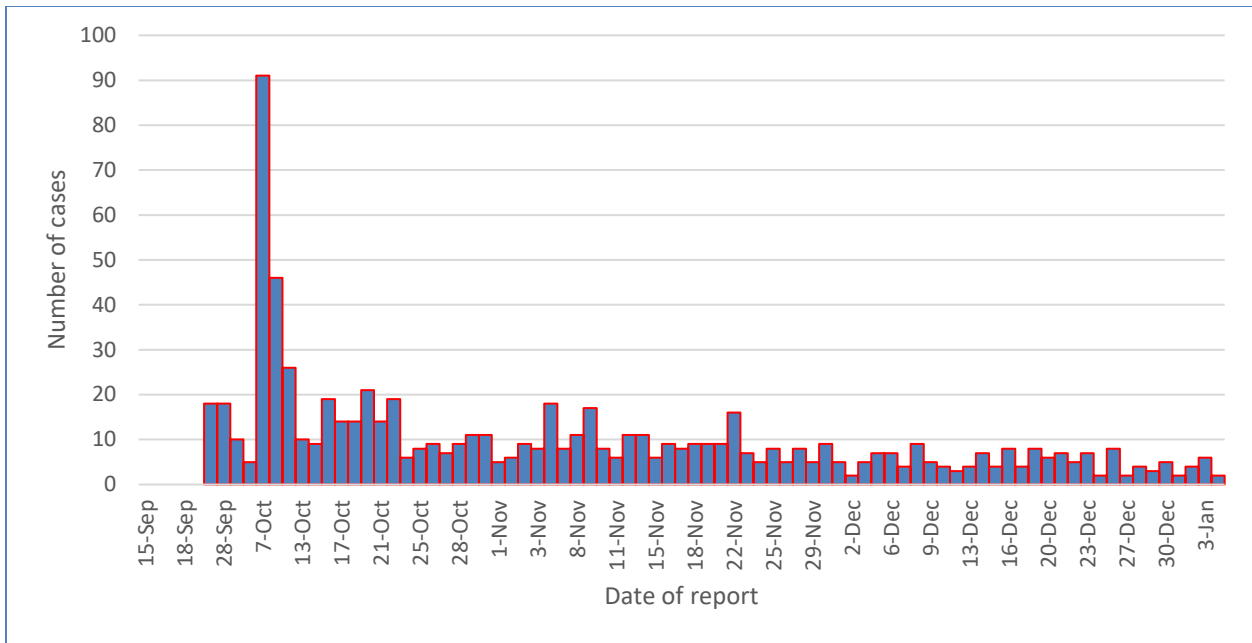


Figure 6. Epidemiological curve of the dengue cases in Afghanistan, Sep 2021 to Jan 2022 (n=775)

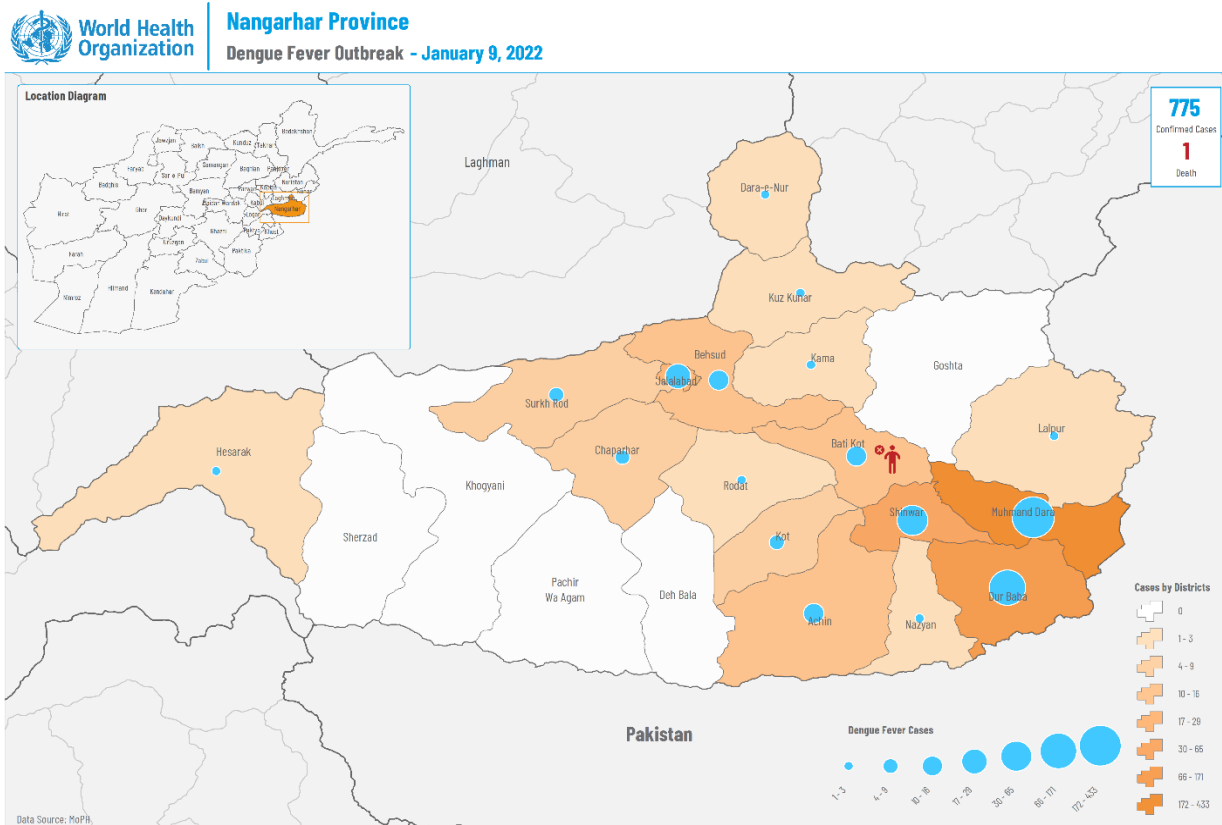


Figure 7. Hotspot areas of dengue cases (n=775)

Response

- Dengue laboratory training was conducted for 9 surveillance staff engaged in outbreak investigation/sample collection
- A joint monitoring field visit was taken place last week to conduct vector surveillance, monitor RCCE activities and provide on the job training to the outbreak surveillance and response team (WHO, MOPH-HPD-NMLCP).
- Outbreak surge response plan for next 6 months has been developed. Vector surveillance and vector control are priority activities for initial first month of the plan (WHO).
- The 14-day TV/radio campaign started in Nangarhar province (MoPH-WHO)
- Distribution of 100,000 posters and 250,000 brochures has been started as part of RCCE campaign (MoPH-WHO)
- National malaria control program involved in the response process to the outbreak (MoPH-WHO)
- Two RRT teams in Nangarhar, each team comprised of 4 members will do active Surveillance, RCCE and case management (WHO).
- Case management through Nangarhar regional Hospital and district health facilities (HN-TPO, AADA and WHO).

Way forward

- Development of Dengue strategic long-term plan
- Enhancing communication with WCO Pakistan on data sharing and implementation of joint activities
- Case management protocol and trainings to be developed (under process)
- Enhance community engagement for the source reduction
- Enhance implementation of the vector control plan for the current outbreaks
- procurement of gravitraps to conduct vector surveillance and control activities



Dengue lab staff training, Kabul, WHO-MoPH



Dengue breeding site assessment and vector sample collection by WHO surveillance team, Nangarhar

3. Measles Outbreak (01 Jan 2021 to 08 Jan 2022)

31,379	3,356	2,451	106	34	6
Total Clinical Cases	Sample tested	Lab Confirmed cases	Deaths	Provinces affected	Current Available testing labs

Most recent suspected outbreaks:

1. On 01 January 2022, surveillance department of Badghis province received report of suspected measles cases from Bala morghab district. A total of 18 suspected measles cases (15M, 03F) among children under 5 years old were identified and line listed. Four blood samples were collected by the investigation team and sent to laboratory for confirmation. The vaccination coverage in the affected area is less than 10%.
2. On 03 January 2022, surveillance department of Kunduz province received report of suspected measles cases from Emam sahib district. A total of 07 suspected measles cases (05M, 02F) among children under 5 years old were identified and line listed. 05 blood samples were collected by the investigation team and sent to laboratory for confirmation. The vaccination coverage in the affected area is 80%.

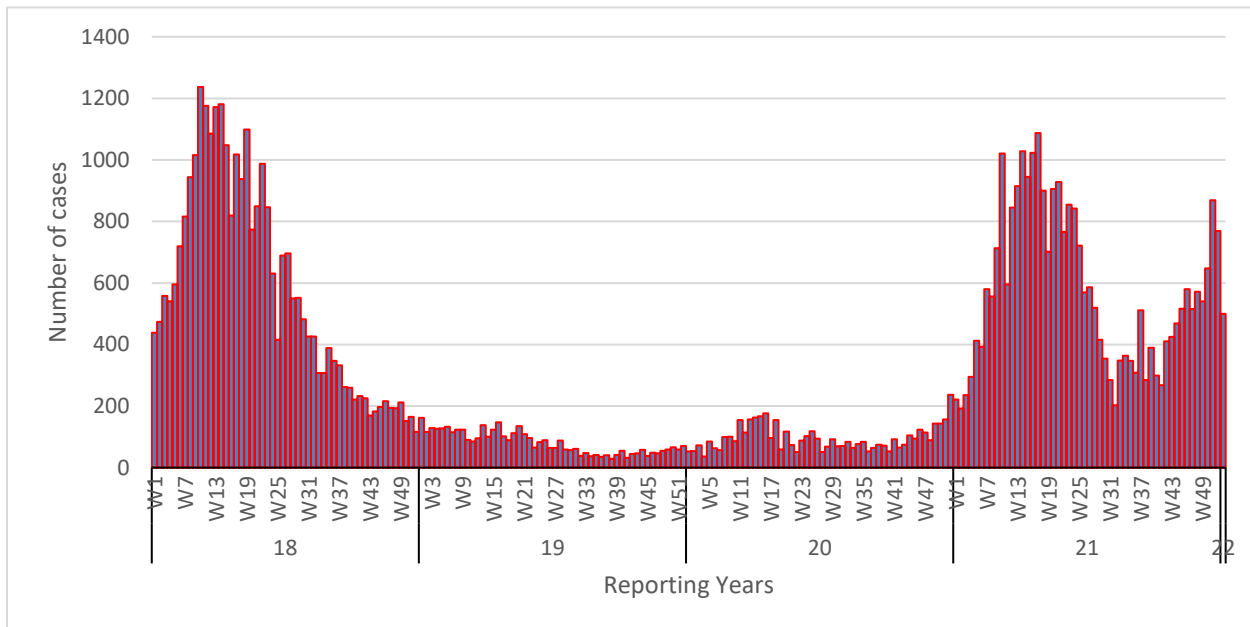


Figure 8. Weekly epidemiological curve of suspected measles cases in Afghanistan (2018-2022)

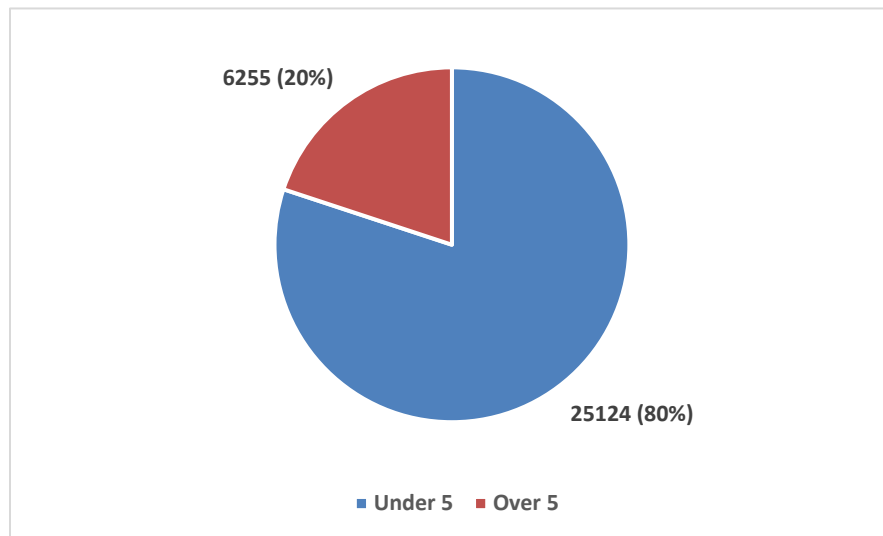


Figure 9. Distribution of measles cases by age categories (n=31,379)

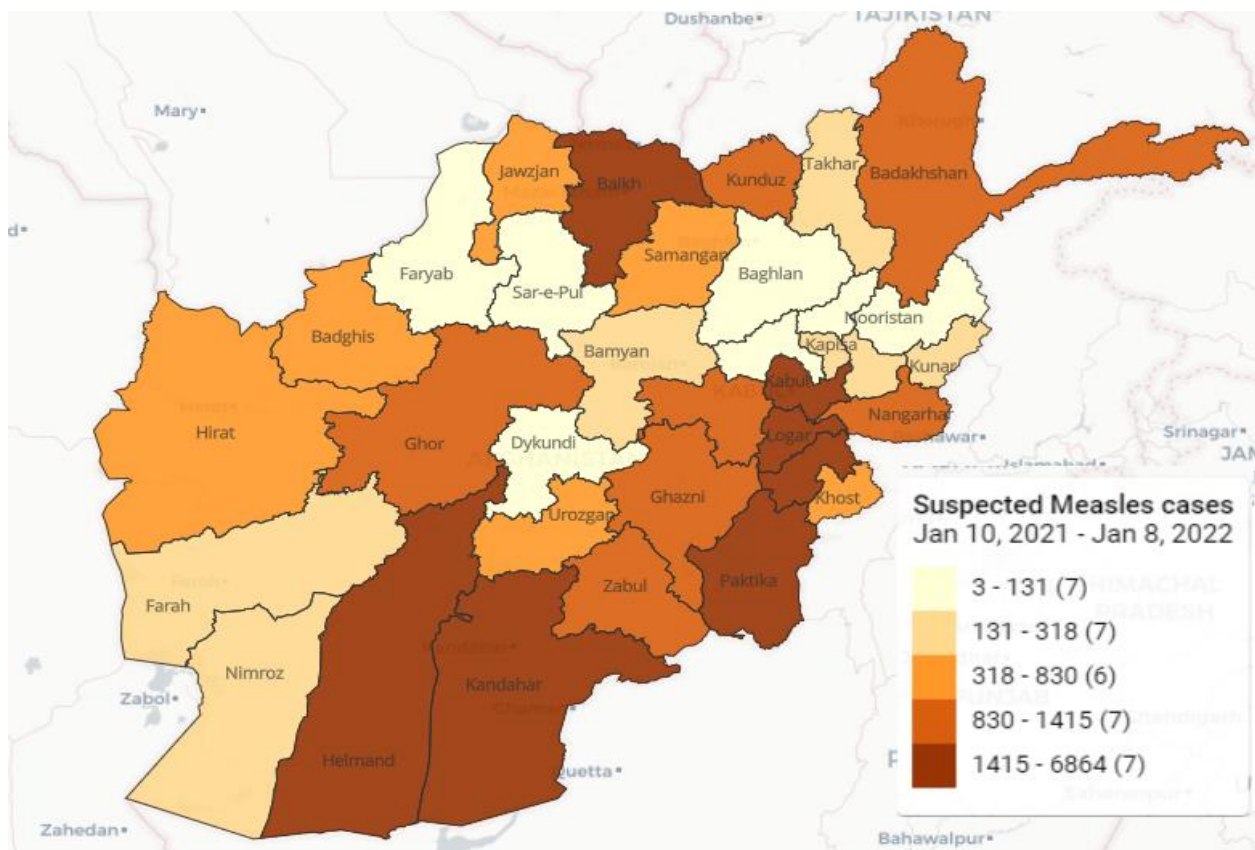


Figure 10. Geographic distribution of suspected measles cases 01 Jan 2021 to 08 Jan 2022 (n=31,379)

Response

- Measles campaign was conducted during Dec 2021 in following six provinces: Ghazni, Ghor, Helmand, Kandahar, Paktika and Balk
- 1.4 million aged 9-59 months were vaccinated (children above 6 months were given VIT-A)
- The campaign was implemented site to site/ mosque to mosque
- Next nationwide measles immunization campaign will be conducted in the first quarter of 2022

4. Malaria Outbreak (Oct-Dec 2021)

Recent outbreak:

The recent cluster of malaria confirmed cases are reported from Shamakat CHC in Alishang district of Laghman province. A total of 94 PV and 42 PF malaria cases were reported during October 2021 from the mentioned district. Laghman province is one of the endemic areas for malaria in Afghanistan.

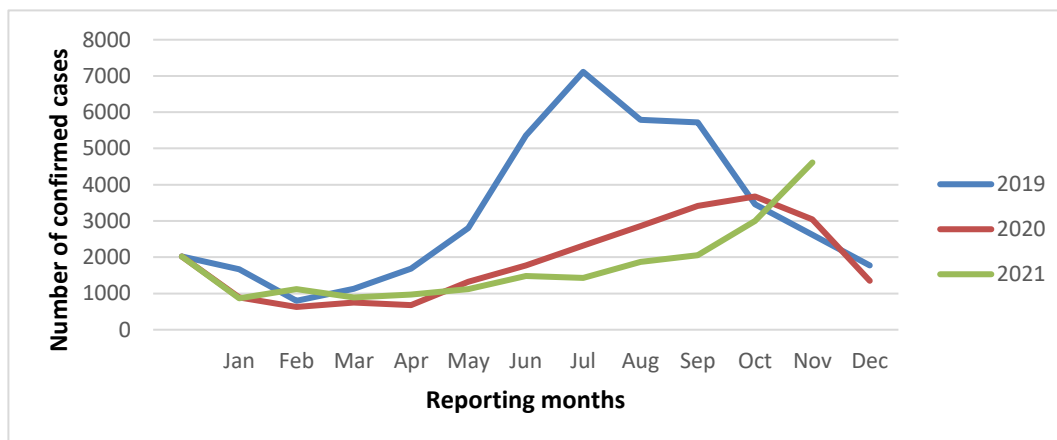


Figure 11. Trend of Malaria confirmed cases in Laghman province, 2019-2021

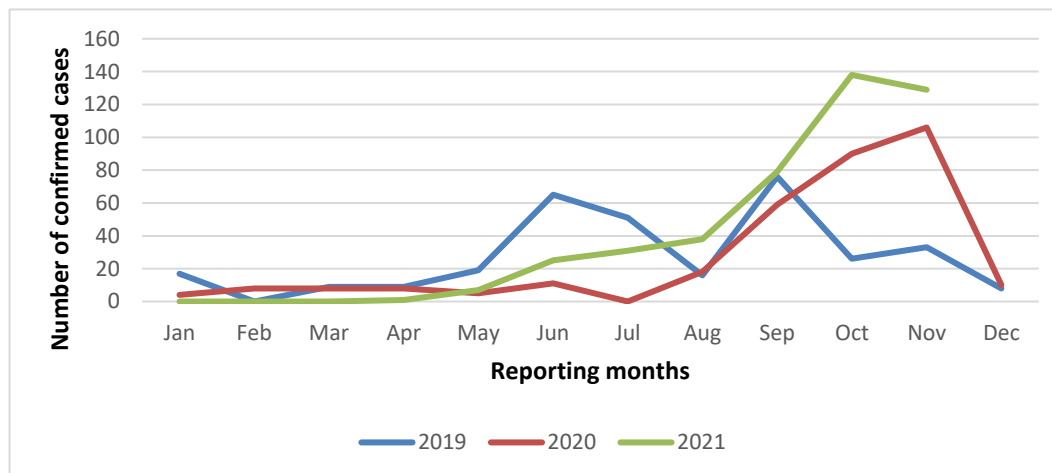


Figure 12. Trend of Malaria confirmed cases in Shamakat village of Laghman province, 2019-2021

Response

- Enhanced surveillance is in place to monitor the progress of the outbreak.
- Case management of the confirmed cases at the Shamakat Health Facility has been conducted.
- Testing capacity for malaria suspected cases in Alishang district has been enhanced through working with local BPHS implementers, sufficient number of RDTs available.

Ministry of Public Health, Afghanistan is the source of epidemiological data

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