



# AFGHANISTAN

## INFECTIOUS DISEASE OUTBREAKS

### SITUATION REPORT | Epidemiological week #15

No. 36/ (10-16) April 2022

The Outbreak	Measles (Jan - Apr 2022)	AWD (Sep 2021- Apr 2022)	Dengue Fever (Sep 2021-Jan 2022)
Cumulative Number of Cases	<b>35,610</b>	<b>5,247</b>	<b>775</b>
Number of deaths (CFR %)	<b>247 (0.70)</b>	<b>8 (0.15)</b>	<b>1 (0.13)</b>

### Summary of the Measles outbreak (01 Jan to 16 Apr 2022)

**4,457**  
Samples tested

**1,605**  
Lab confirmed cases

**36.0%**  
Test positivity ratio

Table 1 summary of the Measles outbreak in the last eight weeks (19 Feb – 16 Apr 2022)

Indicators	W-08	W-09	W-10	W-11	W-12	W-13	W-14	W-15	Epi-curve
Suspected cases	2222	2605	2572	3207	3424	3156	3475	3815	
Deaths	17	18	18	21	22	20	18	24	
CFR (%)	0.77	0.69	0.70	0.65	0.64	0.63	0.52	0.63	

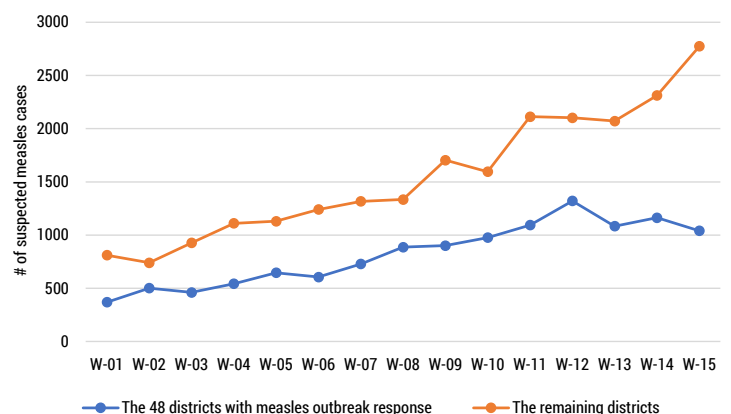
- During epidemiological week 15-2022, 3,815 new cases and 24 new deaths were reported (9.8% and 33.3% increase in cases and deaths as compared to the previous week).
- Since the first week of 2022, the trend of new measles cases reported in most of the provinces has continued to increase sharply.
- The number of measles suspected cases have increased in 6 (out of 8) regions during the last week and only North East and East regions shows a slight decrease in the number of cases (Table 2).
- The number of measles suspected cases in 48 districts (where measles campaign was conducted in March 2022) shows a decline in week 13 with a slight increase in week 14 and a reduction again in week 15. (Figure 1)
- The most affected provinces by this outbreak are Kunduz (13.4%), Badakhshan (11.6%), Kabul (9.2%), Nangarhar (8.4%), Helmand (8.4%) and Takhar (7.4%). And a total of 4,457 samples have been tested out of which 1,605 were lab-confirmed and a total of 247 measles-associated deaths were reported in 2022.



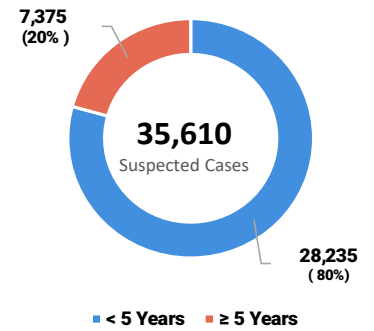
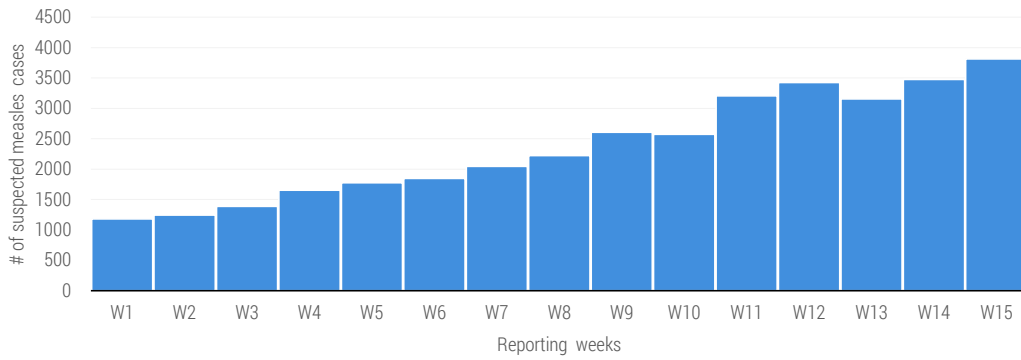
Measles case management TOT in Kabul, Afghanistan 12-14 Apr 2022

Table 2 number of measles suspected cases per region in the last 8 weeks

Regions	W-08	W-09	W-10	W-11	W-12	W-13	W-14	W-15	Epi-curve
North East	676	917	931	1021	1350	1282	1500	1463	
East	217	243	218	334	432	413	536	500	
Central East	297	314	301	362	363	366	347	497	
South	401	401	372	496	474	408	284	415	
North	389	416	458	407	319	254	372	382	
West	155	219	154	373	242	226	191	274	
South East	52	53	59	104	114	95	160	175	
Central West	35	42	79	110	130	112	85	109	

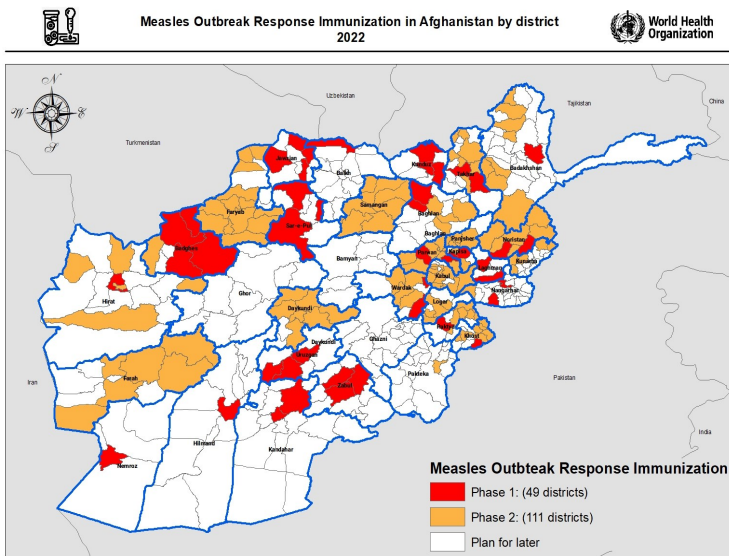


**Figure.1** Trend of suspected measles cases in 48 districts where measles vaccine campaign was conducted and all other districts Jan-Apr 2022

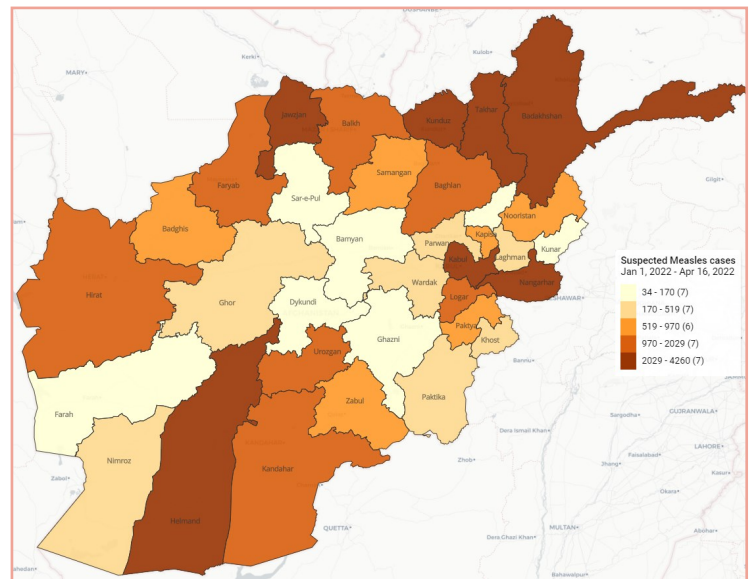


**Figure 2.** Weekly epidemiological curve of suspected measles cases in Afghanistan, Jan– Apr 2022 (N=35,610)

**Figure 3.** Distribution of suspected measles cases by age groups in Afghanistan, Jan - Apr 2022



**Figure 4.** Measle outbreak response immunization in Afghanistan 2022



**Figure 5.** Geographical distribution of suspected measles cases in Afghanistan Jan - Apr 2022 (N=35,610)

### Response to measles outbreak

- A total of 60 PED-SAM kits were received by the WHO, the distribution plan is ready and will be distributed according to the plan to MSF and ICRC.
- Phase two of the measles vaccine campaign is planned for 111 high-risk districts in 27 provinces in the second quarter of 2022. Around 2.3 million children will be targeted in this phase.
- The nationwide measles vaccine campaign is expected in August or September 2022
- A measles case management TOT was conducted in Kabul and 40 participants from 19 provinces were trained. The training will be cascaded to the provincial level as well.



60 PED-SAM kits arrived the WHO Afghanistan country office this week

**Acute Watery Diarrhea (AWD) Outbreak (12 Sep 2021 to 16 Apr 2022)**

Current Week	Cumulative Figures
26 new cases (all over 5)	5,247 cases (17% <5 years, 49% Female)
0 new deaths	8 deaths (12.5% < 5 years), CFR=0.16%
2 districts (Kabul city and Sorobi district ) reporting alert.	13 districts in 5 provinces affected
10 samples were collected	417 samples collected

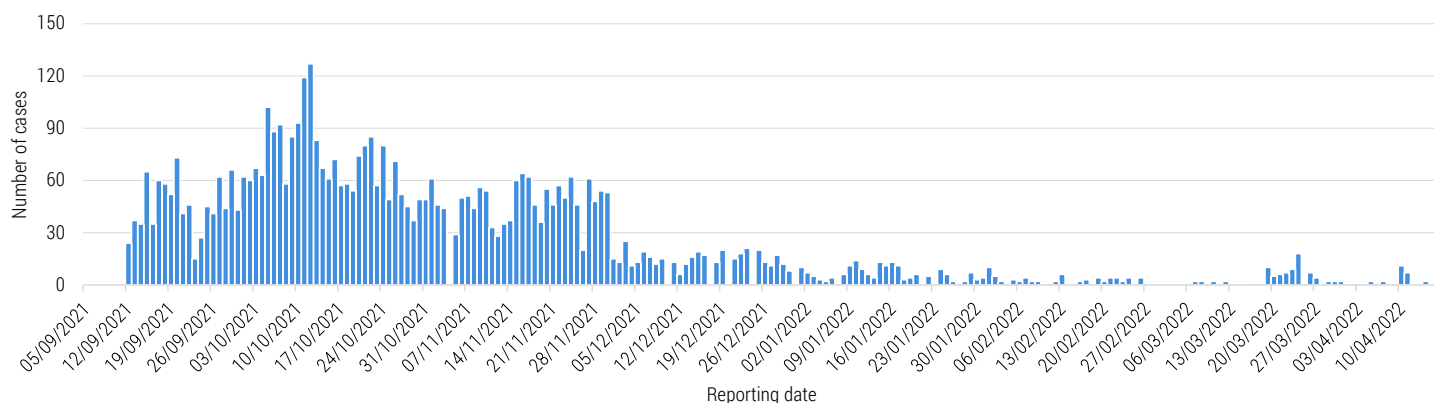
- During epidemiological week 15, the number of new AWD cases significantly increased as compared to week 14 (26 new cases with no deaths were reported). (Table 3).
- Cumulatively, Kabul city (3,962 cases, 75.5%) and Sorobi district (887 cases, 16.9 %) are the most affected areas as compared to the other five provinces.
- Of the total 5,247 cases, 17% (895) were children below 5 years, 49% (2,569) were females and 68% (3,560) 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 13 districts of Kabul, Kapisa, Zabul, Kandahar, Laghman and Logar provinces.

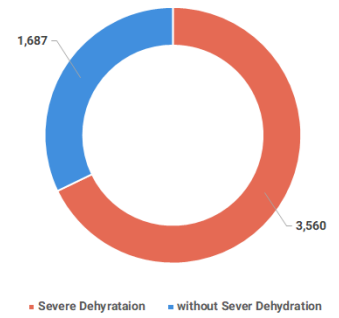
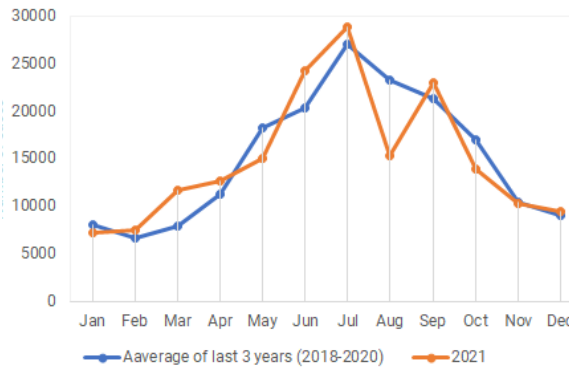
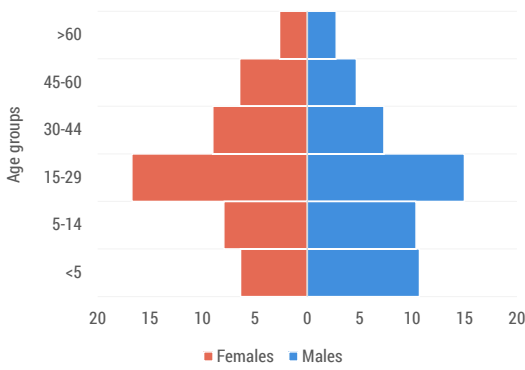
**Table 3:** Summary of Acute Watery Diarrhea Cases in Afghanistan, as of 16 Apr 2022

Location	Weekly changes		Cumulative number (12 Sep 2021 to 16 Apr 2022)	
	# of cases (% change)	# of deaths (% change)	Cases (%)	Deaths (CFR %)
Kabul City	6 (↓14.3 )	0 (N/A)	3962 ( 75.5 )	6 ( 0.2 )
Sorobi District (Kabul Province)	20 (↑100)	0 (N/A)	887 ( 16.9 )	2 ( 0.2 )
Other Districts (Kabul Province)*	0 (N/A)	0 (N/A)	153 ( 2.9 )	0 (N/A)
Kohistan District (Kapisa Province)	0 (N/A)	0 (N/A)	9 ( 0.2 )	0 (N/A)
Spinboldak District (Kandahar Province)	0 (N/A)	0 (N/A)	154 ( 2.9 )	0 (N/A)
Qalat City (Zabul Province)	0 (N/A)	0 (N/A)	47 ( 0.9 )	0 (N/A)
Alishang District (Laghman Province)	0 (N/A)	0 (N/A)	35 ( 0.7 )	0 (N/A)
<b>Total</b>	<b>26 (↑271.4 )</b>	<b>0 (N/A)</b>	<b>5247 ( 100.0 )</b>	<b>8 ( 0.2 )</b>

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



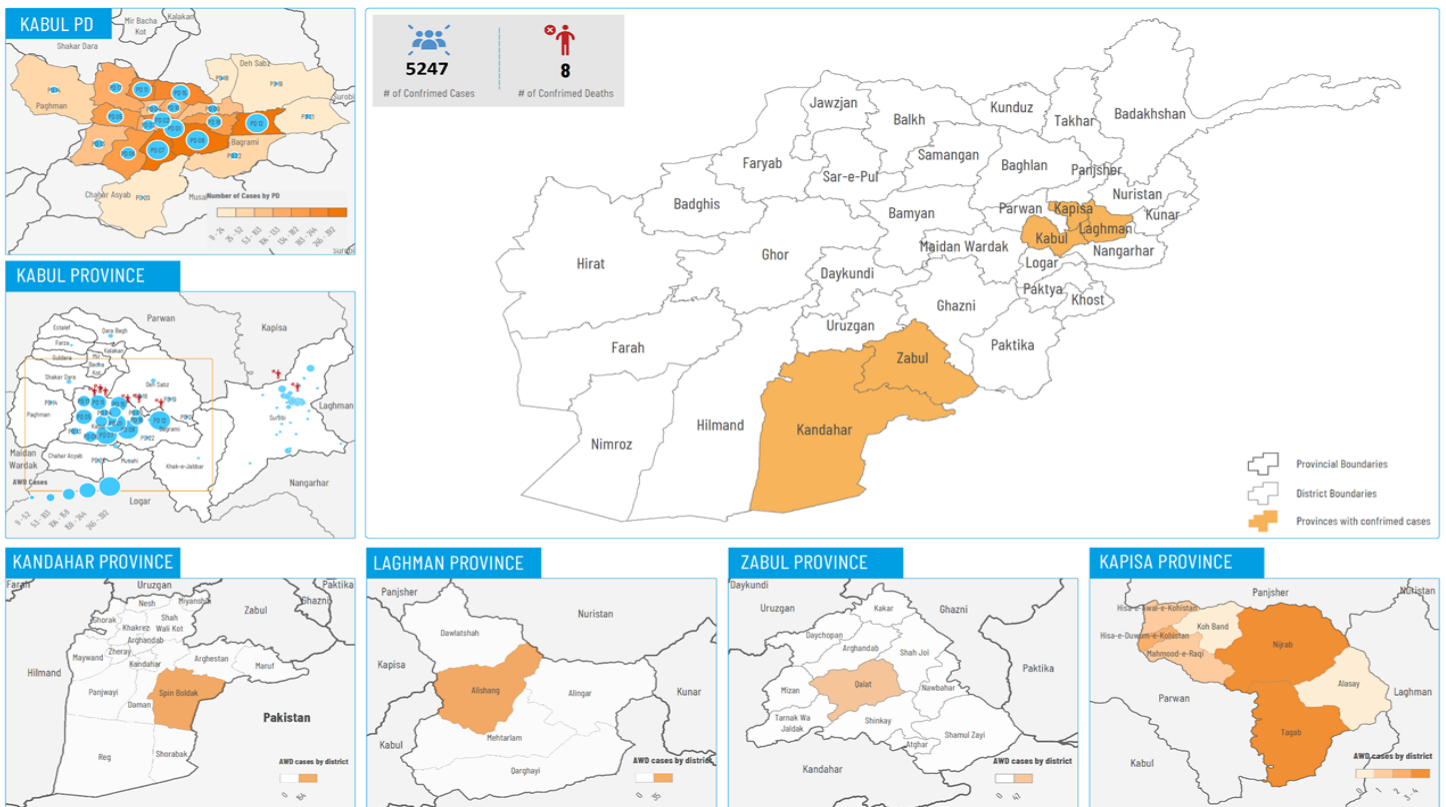
**Figure 6.** Epidemiological curve of the AWD cases in Afghanistan Sep 2021-Apr 2022 (N=5,247)



**Figure 7.** Distribution of AWD cases by sex and age groups in Afghanistan, Sep 2021 - Apr 2022 (N=5,247)

**Figure 7.a.** National trend of AWD cases with dehydration in Afghanistan, (2018-2021)

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



**Figure 8.** Hotspot of areas of AWD cases in Afghanistan, Sep 2021– Apr 2022 (N=5,247)

**Response to the AWD outbreak**

**Essential medical supplies**

- Supplies and equipment were provided for the laboratory testing and case management of more than 15,000 cases.
- 256 cholera community kits which are enough for 2560 cases arrived to the WHO Afghanistan country office this week.
- WHO supplied 2 cholera kits on 1st April 2022 to Sorobi DH which are enough for 200 cases.

**Preparedness**

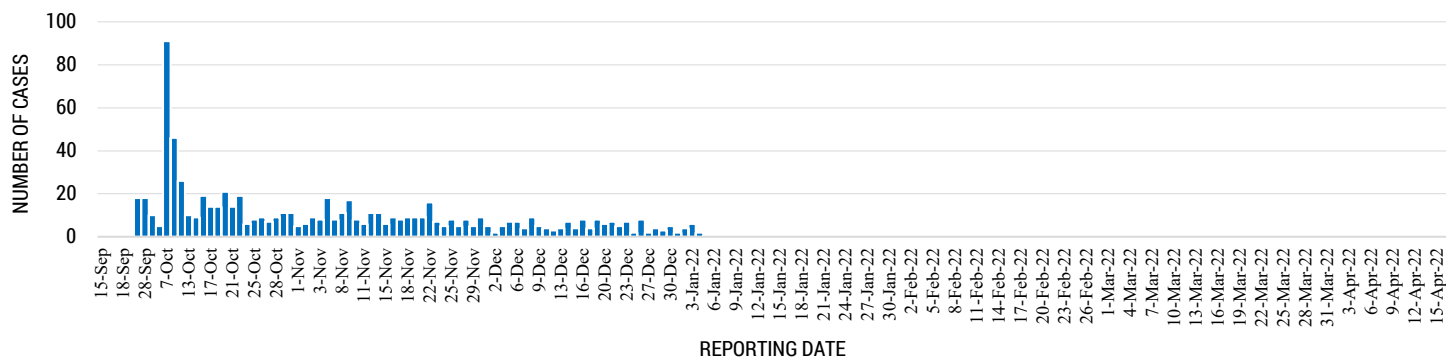
- A total of 196 central community kits, 23 central medical kits, 4 logistic kits and 27 investigation kits which are enough for around 25000 cases across the country for the next season.
- The WHO also prepared almost 100 beds for treatment of the AWD cases across the country.

**WASH**

- Around 13,000 wells shock-chlorinated across 24 provinces for 3 million people, regular chlorination in hotspots.
- Half-million people assisted per month with hygiene kits.
- Stockpile replenishment on track with 90,000 hygiene kits and 200 million Aquatabs expected by May 2022

**Dengue Fever Outbreak (20 Sep 2021 to 16 Apr 2022)**

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



**Figure 9.** epidemiological curve of dengue fever in Nangarhar province, Afghanistan, Sep 2021 – Apr 2022 (N=775)

- No dengue fever case was reported in the last 14 weeks.

Note: Ministry of Public Health, Afghanistan 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)