

**Summary of current outbreaks**

Outbreak	AWD	Dengue fever	Measles	Malaria
Cumulative No of cases	4,990	775	34,144	467

**1. Acute Watery Diarrhea (AWD) Outbreak (12 Sep 2021 to 22 Jan 2022)**

**Highlights**

Current week	Cumulative figures
42 new cases (4.8% <5 years)	4,990 cases (17.8% <5 years, 48.8% Female)
0 new deaths	8 deaths (12.5% < 5 years), CFR=0.16%
0 districts reporting alerts	12 districts in 5 provinces affected
9 samples collected	291 samples collected

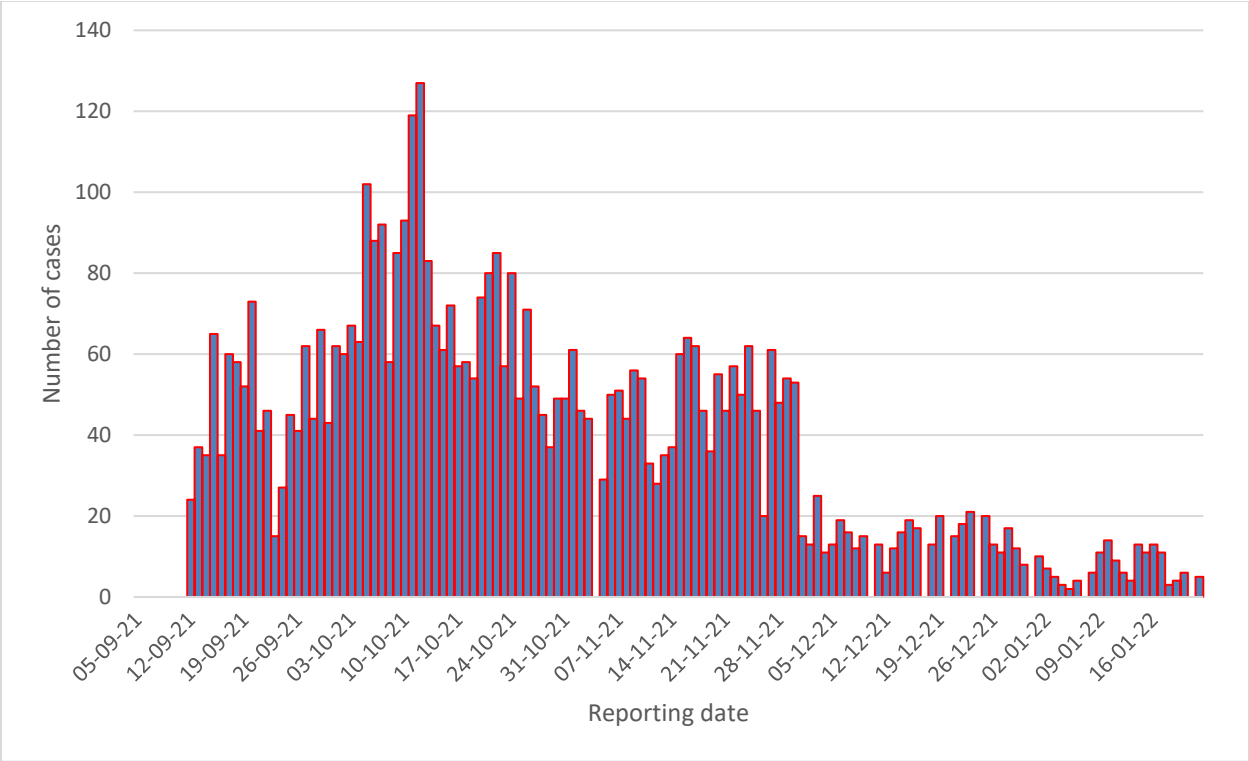
- The first few cases of Acute Watery Diarrhoea (AWD)<sup>1</sup> were reported to National Disease Surveillance and Response system (NDSR), Ministry of Public Health and WHO on 12 Sept 2021 from Tapa village of Sarobi district in Kabul province and spread to 12 districts of Kabul, Kapisa, Zabol, Kandahar and Laghman provinces.
- The most affected districts include Kabul city (3,793 cases, 76.0%) and Surobi district (801 cases, 16.1%)
- The drivers of the epidemic are limited access to safe water, poor sanitation and hygiene practices.
- During epidemiological week 3, the number of new AWD cases reported decreased by 38% (from 68 to 42 cases) with no deaths reported.
- Of the 4,990 cases, 17.9% (890) are children below 5 years, 48.8% (2,437) of cases are females and 70.0% (3,491) of cases had severe dehydration.

**Table 1:** Summary of Acute Watery Diarrhea Cases in Afghanistan, 22 Jan 2022

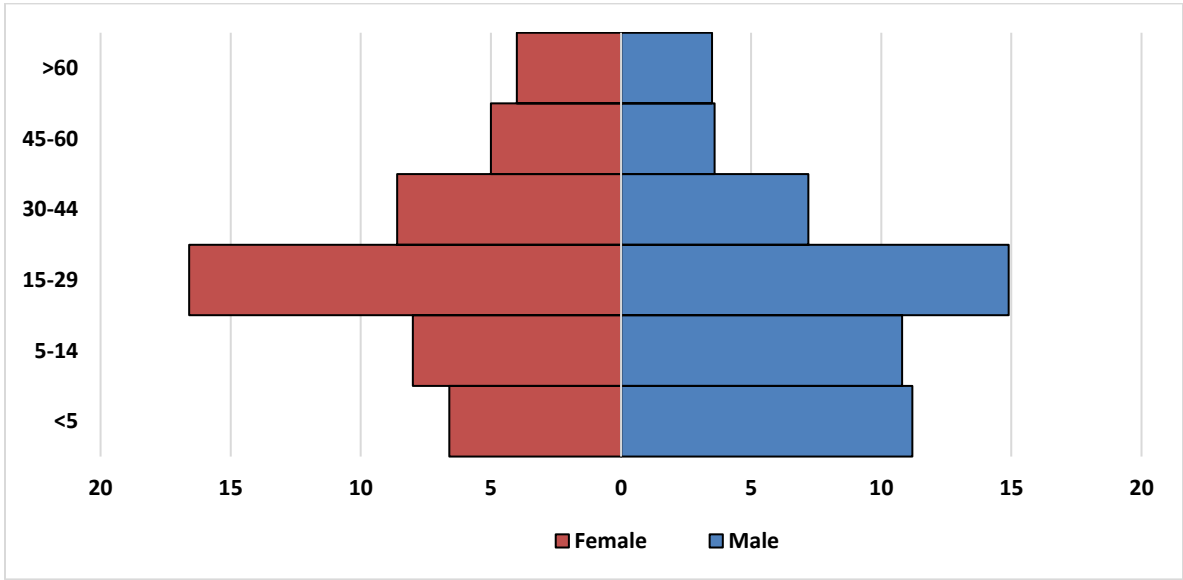
Location	Epi week #3 (16-22 January 2022) and changes compared to last week		Cumulative cases (12 Sept 2021 to 22 Jan 2022)	
	# of cases (% change)	# of deaths (% change)	Cases (%)	Deaths (CFR%)
Kabul City	35 (↓ 33%)	0 (0)	3,793 (76.0)	6 (0.16%)
Sarobi District (Kabul province)	6 (↓ 54%)	0 (0)	801 (16.1)	2 (0.25%)
Other Districts (Kabul province)*	1 (↓ 67%)	0 (0)	151 (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 (3.1)	0 (0)
Qalat City (Zabul Province)	0 (0%)	0 (0)	47 (0.9)	0 (0)
Alishang District (Laghman Province)	0 (0%)	0 (0)	35 (0.7)	0 (0)
<b>Total</b>	42 (↓ 38%)	0 (0)	4,990 (100)	8 (0.16%)

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

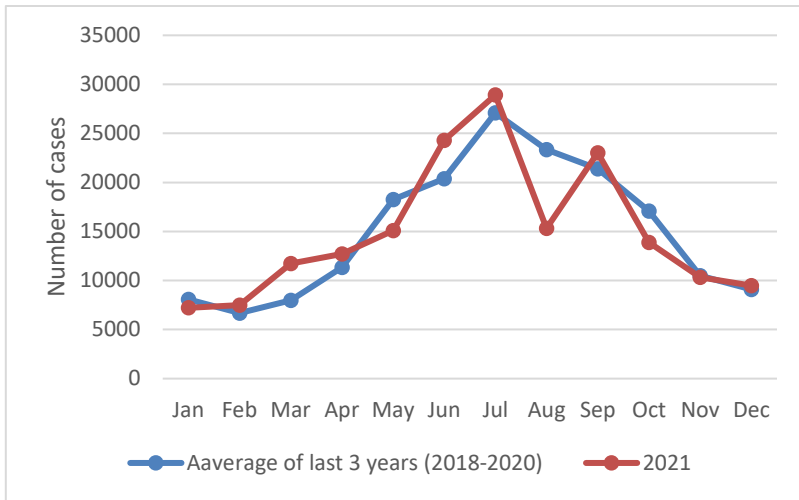
<sup>1</sup> The Surveillance System defines AWD case as three or more abnormally loose or liquid stools in the past 24 hours with or without fever or mucous, it could be AWD with dehydration or without dehydration.



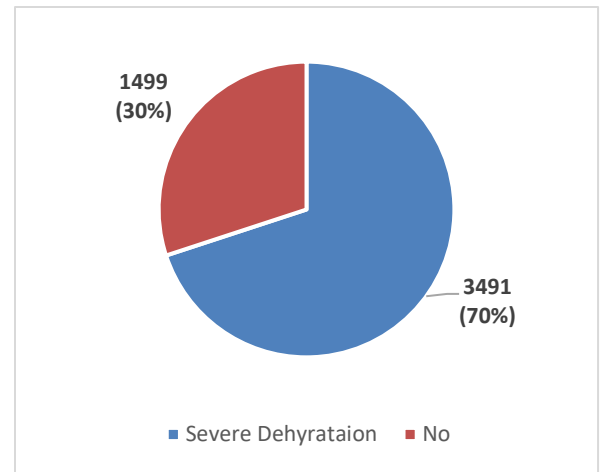
**Figure 1.** Epidemiological curve of the Acute Watery Diarrhea cases in Afghanistan, Sep 2021 - Jan 2022 (n=4,990)



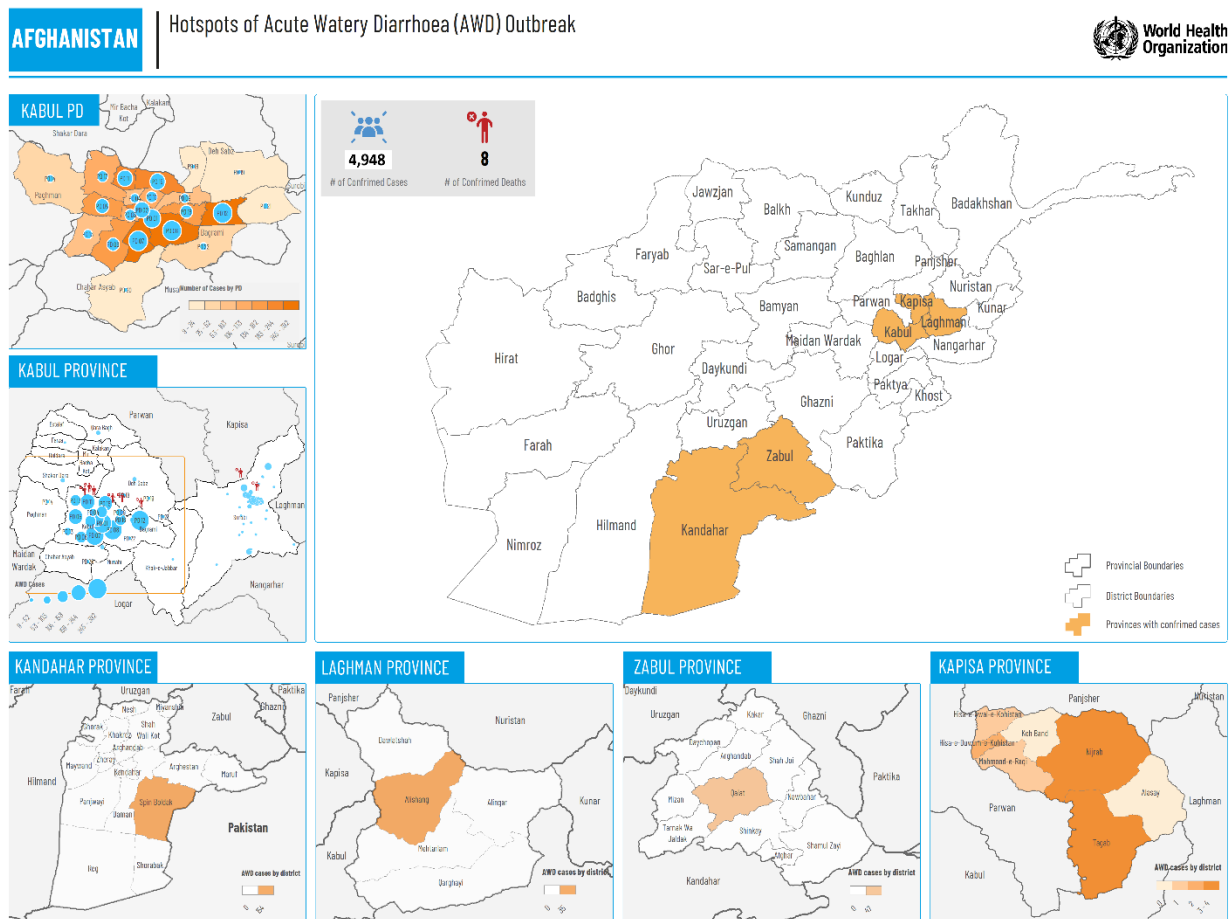
**Figure 2.** Distribution of AWD cases by sex and age groups in Afghanistan, Sep 2021 - Jan 2022 (n=4,990)



**Figure 3.a** National trend of AWD cases with dehydration in Afghanistan (2018 - 2021)



**Figure 3b.** AWD Cases with severe dehydration in Afghanistan, Sep 2021 – Jan 2022 (n=4,990)



**Figure 4.** Hotspot areas of Acute Watery Diarrhea cases in Afghanistan, Sep 2021 - Jan 2022 (n=4,990)

## 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
- Regular monitoring and supportive supervision visits from Health Facilities reporting/managing AWD cases, in Kabul province (WHO)

#### ➤ **Surveillance and Laboratory**

- Trained 50 surveillance officers, 14 Rapid Response Teams (RRTs) and 80 NDSR Focal Points regarding epidemic prone diseases surveillance and early response, including AWD outbreak (WHO)
- 7 RRTs conducts active AWD surveillance in Kabul province (WHO)
- 291 samples collected for AWD patients (WHO)

#### ➤ **Essential medical supplies**

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

#### ➤ **Case management**

- 4,940 admitted cases are treated and discharged as cured. Only 28 cases are currently receiving treatment in designated health facilities (WHO)
- AWD mild, and moderate cases at IDPs camps are treated by ORS and Zinc (IMC)

#### ➤ **WASH**

- 2174 combined laterines and bathroom models are finalized to be installed soon in 41 IDPs settlements in need in Kabul city, and this will also include rehabilitation of water supply points
- 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 (UNICEF)

#### ➤ **Risk communication and community engagement**

- Forty social mobilizers were hired, and 4,610 community dialogue sessions conducted reaching 552,496 people with key messages on cholera prevention. 27,000 religious leaders and 12,400 community leaders (school management shura, community health workers) were trained on key cholera prevention messages to be disseminated in their communities and integrated media campaigns through radio and television reached six million people across the country.
- 3.2 million people were reached through the ongoing AWD/CHOLERA AWARENESS CAMPAIGN using social media platforms through Facebook, Instagram and Twitter.

### 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.



*AWD Public awareness session, Kabul, UNICEF*



*Hygiene and water kits distribution in AWD affected areas, Kabul, IRC*

## 2. Dengue Fever Outbreak (20 Sep 2021 to 22 Jan 2022)

### Highlights

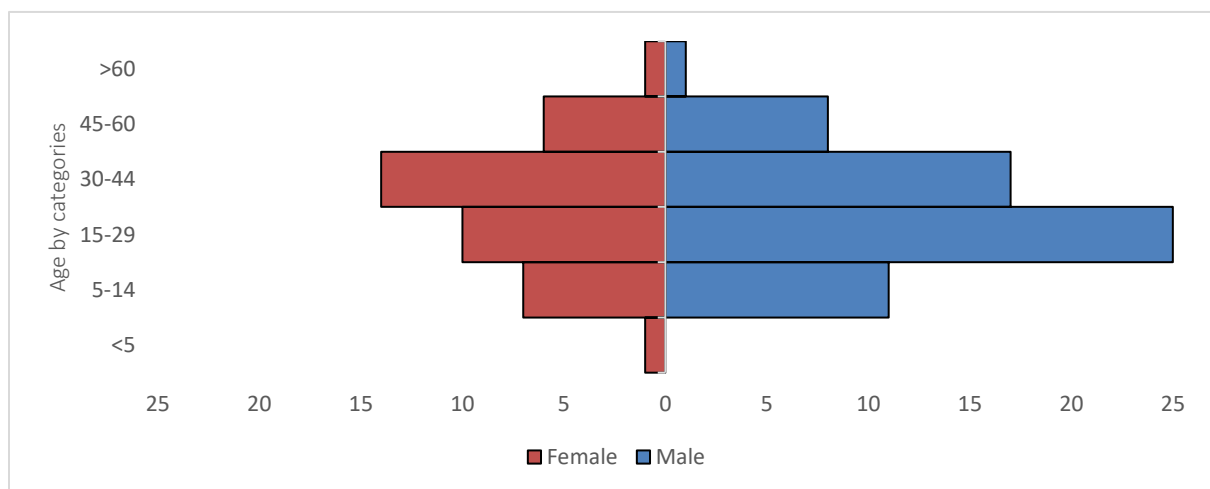
Current week	Cumulative figures
0 new cases	775 cases (1.2% <5 years, 39.1% Females)
0 new deaths	1 death (0% < 5 years), CFR=0.13%
0 districts reporting alerts	16 districts in 1 province affected
0 samples collected	332 samples collected

- 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 14 to 0 with no deaths reported
- The most affected districts include Mohmandara (56.0%, 434 cases) and Dor Baba (22.1 %, 171 cases).
- Of the total 775 cases, 1.2% are children below 5 years. 39% of cases are female.
- One death has been reported from Batikot district of Nangarhar province on 02 November 2021, a male age 55 years old and dengue positive (confirmed by PCR).

**Table 2:** Summary of dengue fever in Nangarhar province, Afghanistan, 22 Jan 2022

Location	Epi week #3 (16-22 January 2022) and changes compared to last week		Cumulative cases (20 Sept 2021 to 22 Jan 2022)	
	# of cases (% change)	# of deaths (% change)	Cases (%)	Deaths (CFR%)
Mohmandara	0 (0)	0 (0)	434 (56.0%)	0 (0)
Dor Baba	0 (0)	0 (0)	171 (22.1%)	0 (0)
Ghanikhil	0 (0)	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)
Batikot	0 (0)	0 (0)	15 (1.9%)	1 (0.13)
Other District*	0 (0)	0 (0)	50 (6.5%)	0 (0)
<b>Total</b>	<b>0 (0)</b>	<b>0 (0)</b>	<b>775 (100%)</b>	<b>1 (0.13)</b>

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



**Figure 5.** Distribution of dengue fever cases by sex and age group in Nangarhar province, Afghanistan, Sep 2021 - Jan 2022 (n=775)

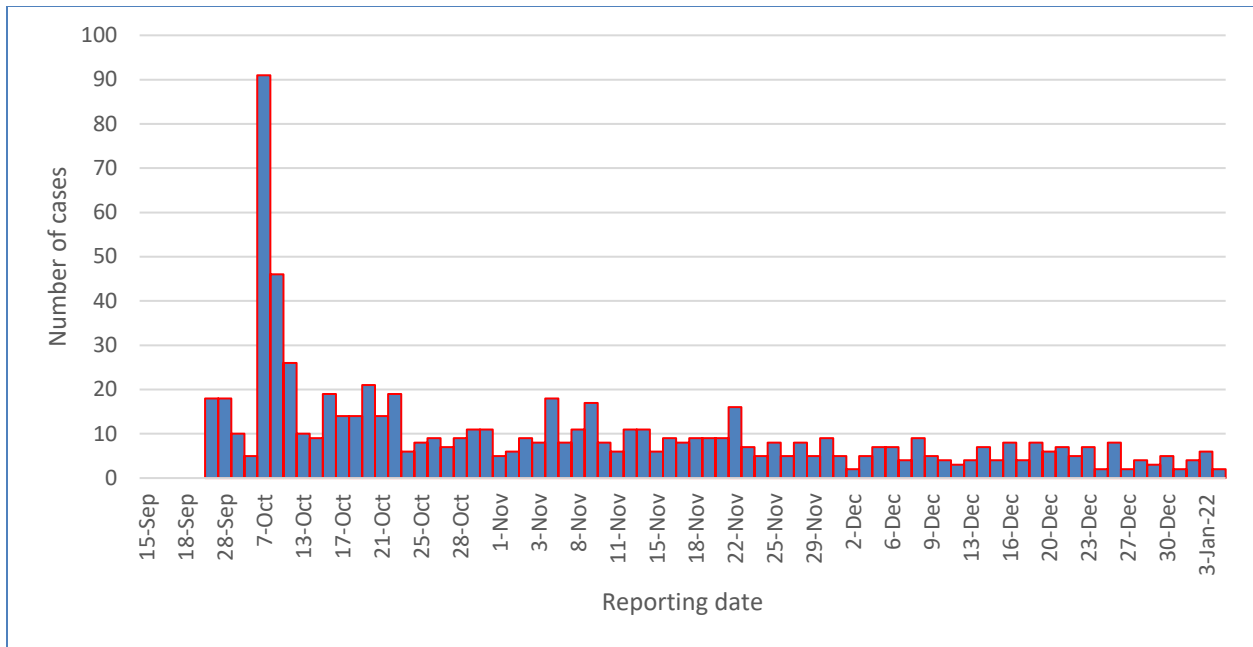


Figure 6. Epidemiological curve of the dengue cases in Nangarhar province, Afghanistan, Sep 2021 to Jan 2022 (n=775)

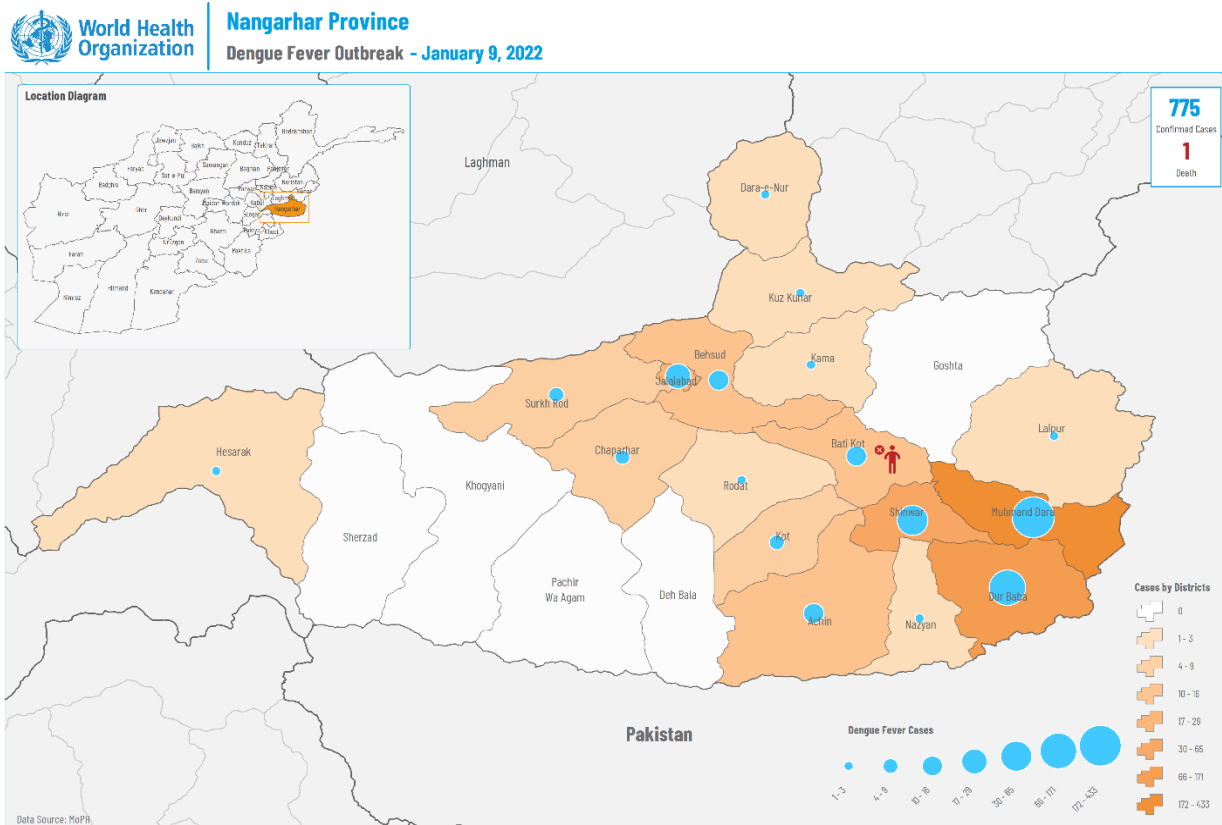


Figure 7. Hotspot areas of dengue cases in Nangarhar province, Afghanistan, Sep 2021 - Jan 2022 (n=775)

## 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*

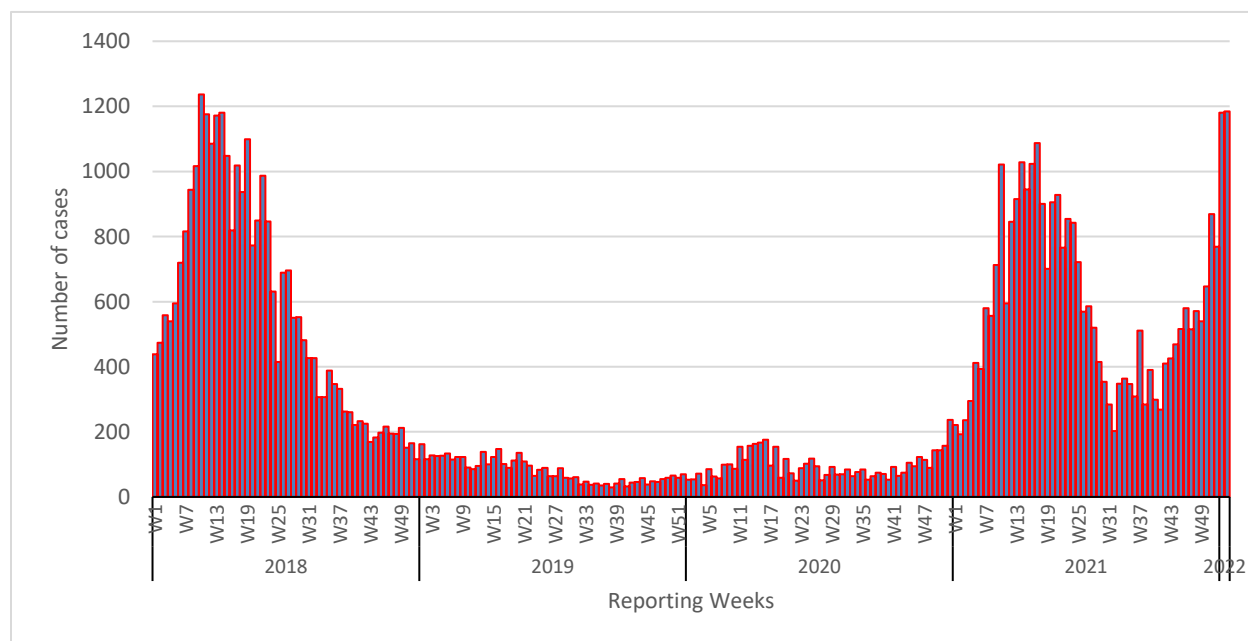
### 3. Measles Outbreak (01 Jan 2021 to 22 Jan 2022)

Cumulative Clinical Cases	Samples tested	Lab confirmed cases	Deaths	Provinces affected	Current Available testing labs
<b>34,144</b>	<b>3,349</b>	<b>2,475</b>	<b>132</b>	<b>34</b>	<b>6</b>

**Table 3: Summary of measles cases in Afghanistan, 22 Jan 2022**

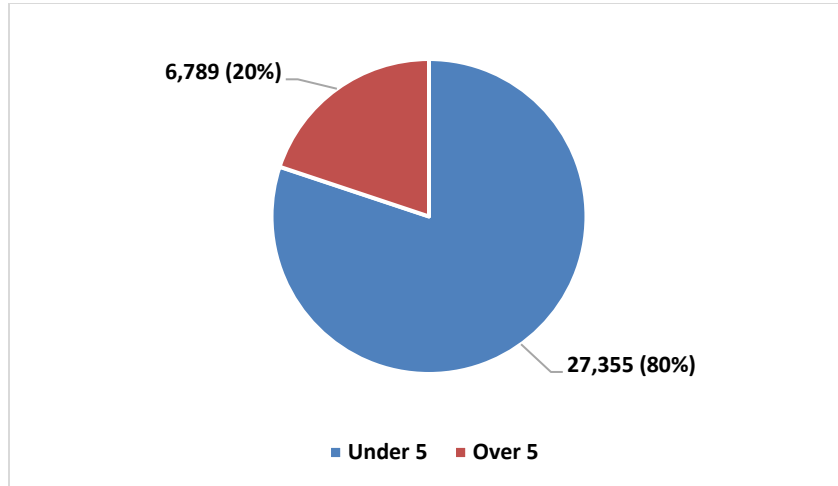
Province/Period	Epi week #3 (16-22 January 2022) and changes compared to last week		Cumulative cases (1 Jan 2021 to 22 Jan 2022)	
	# of cases (% change)	# of deaths (% change)	Cases (%)	Deaths (CFR%)
Balkh	51 (↑ 37)	0 (0)	1757 (5.1)	6 (0.02)
Ghazni	0 (0)	0 (0)	1,388 (4.1)	0 (0)
Ghor	28 (↓ 35)	0(0)	1460 (4.3)	34 (0.1)
Helmand	183 (↑ 26)	0 (0)	7,259(21.3)	0 (0)
Kandahar	87 (↑ 36)	0 (0)	2,391 (7.0)	0 (0)
Paktika	8 (0)	0 (0)	1,578 (4.6)	8 (0.02)
Overall (in six campaign targeted provinces)*	357 (↑ 21)	0 (0)	15,833 (46.4)	48 (0.3)
<b>National (all 34 provinces)</b>	<b>1,383 (0.3)</b>	<b>8 (0)</b>	<b>34,144 (100)</b>	<b>132(0.4)</b>

\* Recent vaccination campaign has been conducted in these six provinces (Balkh, Ghazni, Ghor, Helmand, Kandahar and Paktika) during 7-13 December 2021.

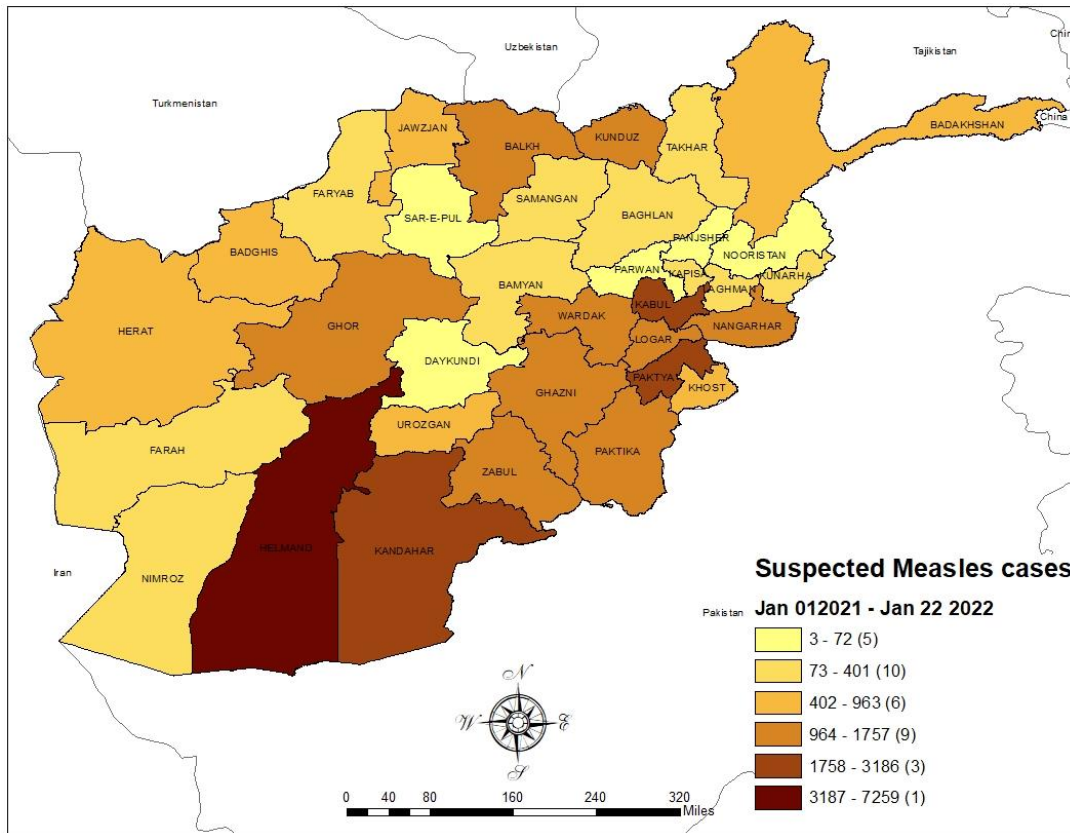


**Figure 8.** Weekly epidemiological curve of suspected measles cases in Afghanistan, 2018-2022 (n=34,144)





**Figure 9.** Distribution of suspected measles cases by age groups in Afghanistan, Jan 2021 - Jan 2022 (n=34,144)



**Figure 10.** Geographical distribution of suspected measles cases in Afghanistan, Jan 2021 -Jan 2022 (n=34,144)

**Most recent 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 situation (Oct-Dec 2021)

### Recent outbreak:

The recent cluster of malaria confirmed cases are reported from Samakat 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.

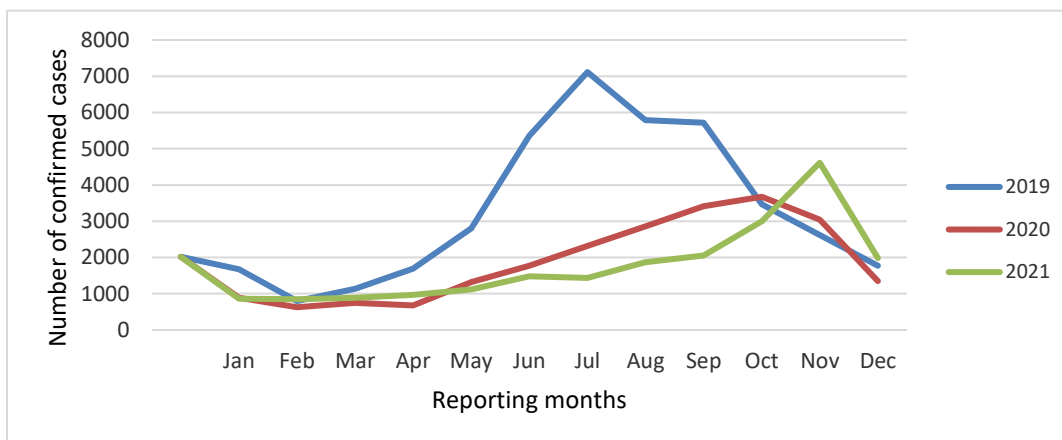


Figure 11. Trend of Malaria confirmed cases in Laghman province, Afghanistan 2019-2021

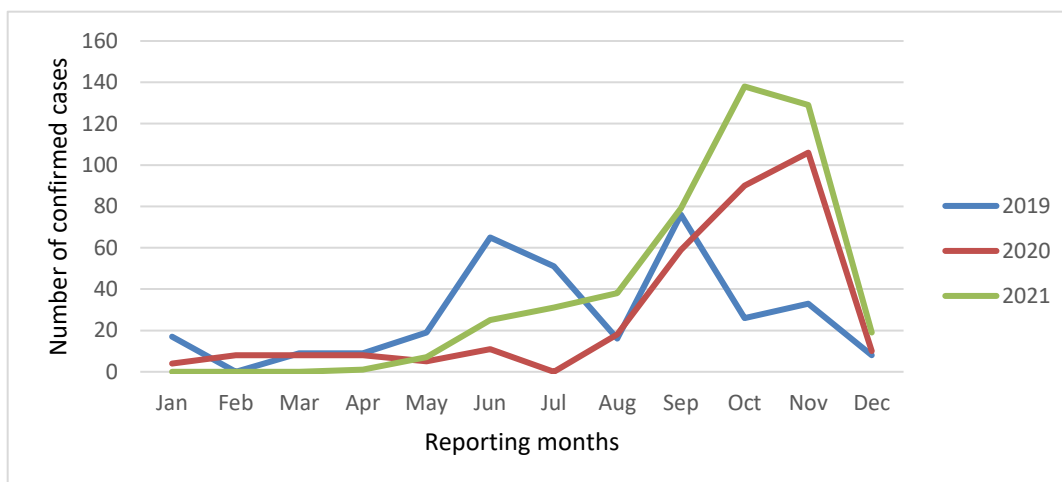


Figure 12. Trend of Malaria confirmed cases in Samakat village of Laghman province, Afghanistan 2019-2021

### 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

#### Contacts for further information:

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