

Summary of current outbreaks

Outbreak	AWD	Dengue fever	Measles	Malaria
Cumulative number of cases	5,023	775	35,609	467

1. Acute Watery Diarrhoea (AWD) Outbreak (12 Sep 2021 to 29 Jan 2022)

Highlights

Current week	Cumulative figures
27 new cases (3.7% <5 years)	5,023 cases (17.8% <5 years, 48.8% Female)
0 new deaths	8 deaths (12.5% < 5 years), CFR=0.16%
2 districts reporting alerts	12 districts in 5 provinces affected
7 samples collected	298 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 (3,821 cases, 76.1%) and Surobi district (805 cases, 16.0%) (fig 4)
- The drivers of the epidemic are limited access to safe water, poor sanitation and hygiene practices
- During epidemiological week 4, the number of new AWD cases reported decreased by 36% from 42 to 27 cases with no deaths reported (table 1)
- Of the 5,023 cases, 17.8% (892) are children below 5 years, 48.8% (2,451) of cases are females and 70.0% (3,503) of cases had severe dehydration (fig 2,3)

Table 1: Summary of Acute Watery Diarrhoea Cases in Afghanistan, 29 Jan 2022

Location	Epi week #4 (23-29 January 2022) and changes compared to last week		Cumulative case (12 Sept 2021 to 29 Jan 2022)	
	# of cases (% change)	# of deaths (% change)	Cases (%)	Deaths (CFR%)
Kabul City	26 (↓ 26)	0 (0)	3,821 (76.1)	6 (0.16)
Sarobi District (Kabul province)	0 (↓ 100)	0 (0)	805 (16.0)	2 (0.25)
Other Districts (Kabul province)*	1 (0)	0 (0)	152 (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)
Total	27 (↓ 36)	0 (0)	5,023 (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.

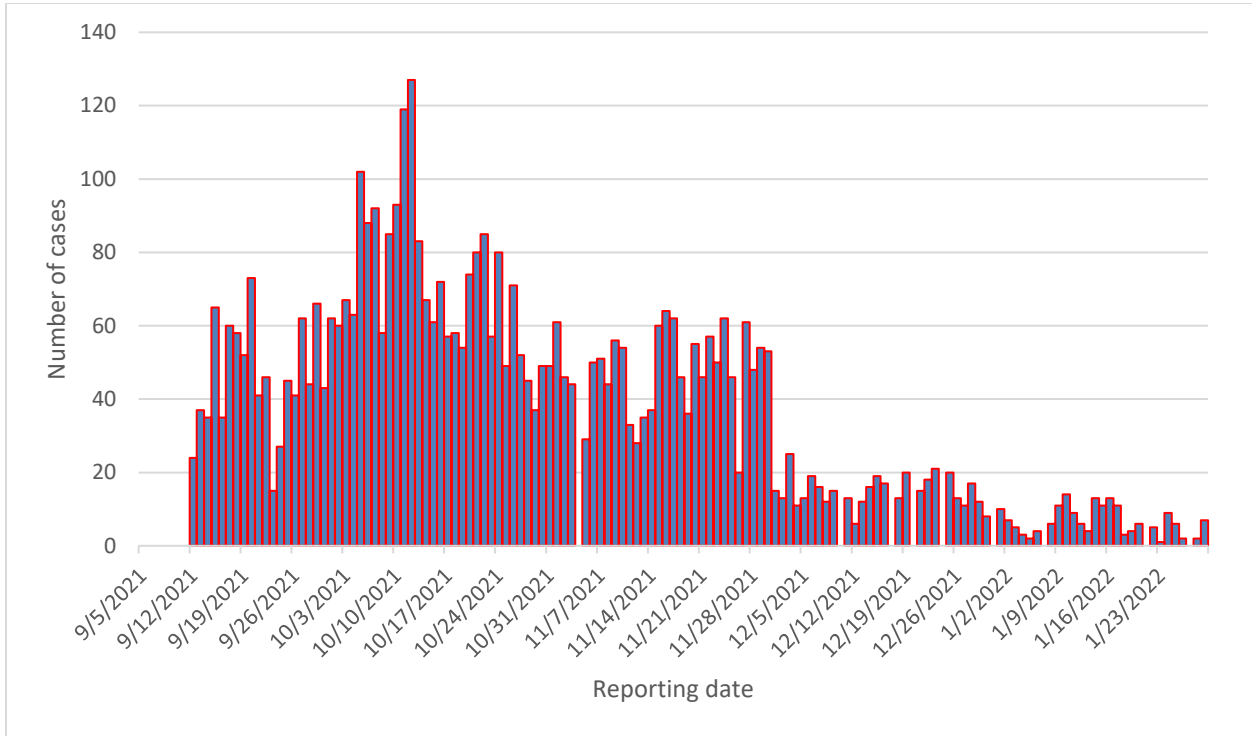


Figure 1. Epidemiological curve of the Acute Watery Diarrhoea cases in Afghanistan, Sep 2021-Jan 2022 (n=5,023)

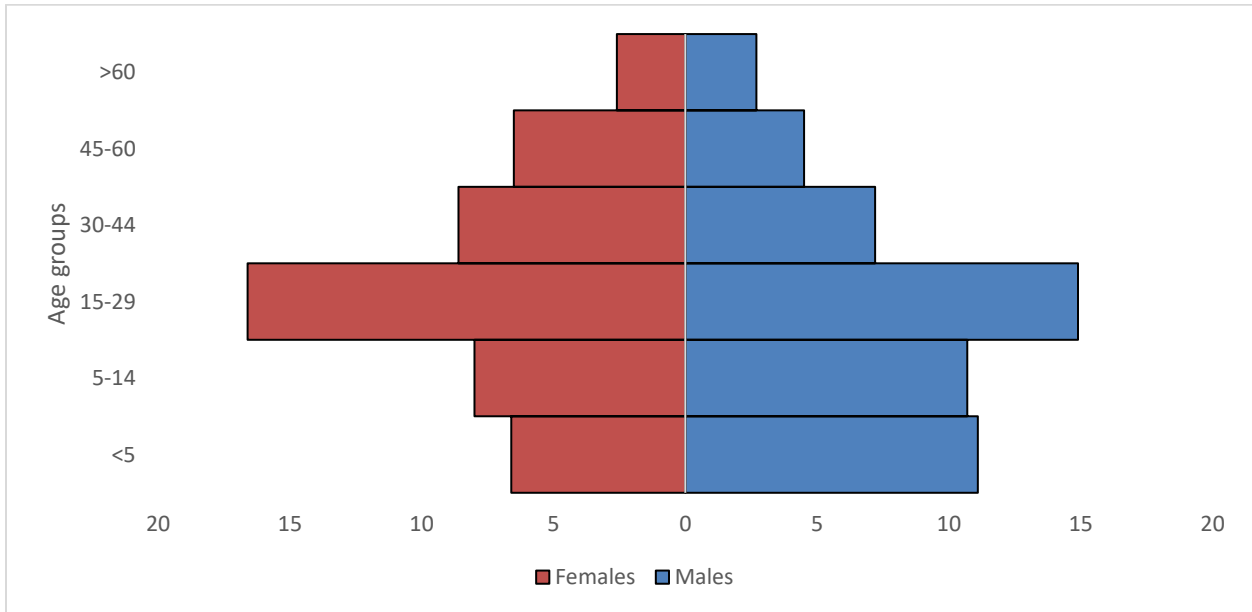


Figure 2. Distribution of AWD cases by sex and age groups in Afghanistan, Sep 2021 - Jan 2022 (n=5,023)

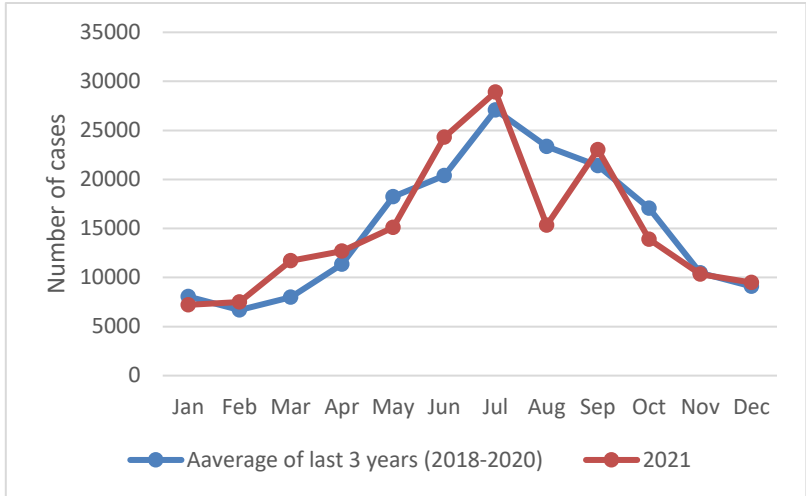


Figure 3a. National trend of AWD cases with dehydration in Afghanistan (2018 - 2021)

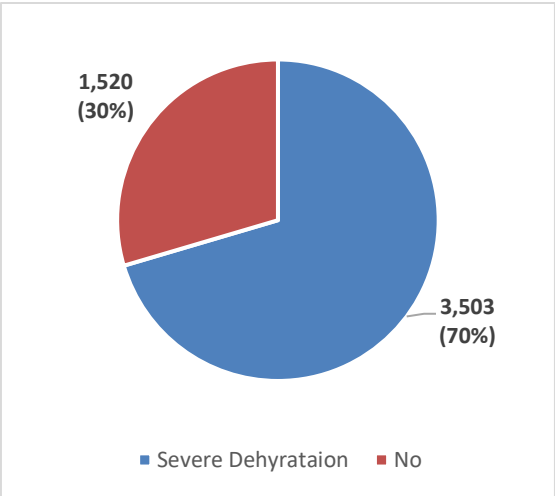


Figure 3b. AWD Cases with severe dehydration in Afghanistan, Sep 2021 – Jan 2022 (n=5,023)

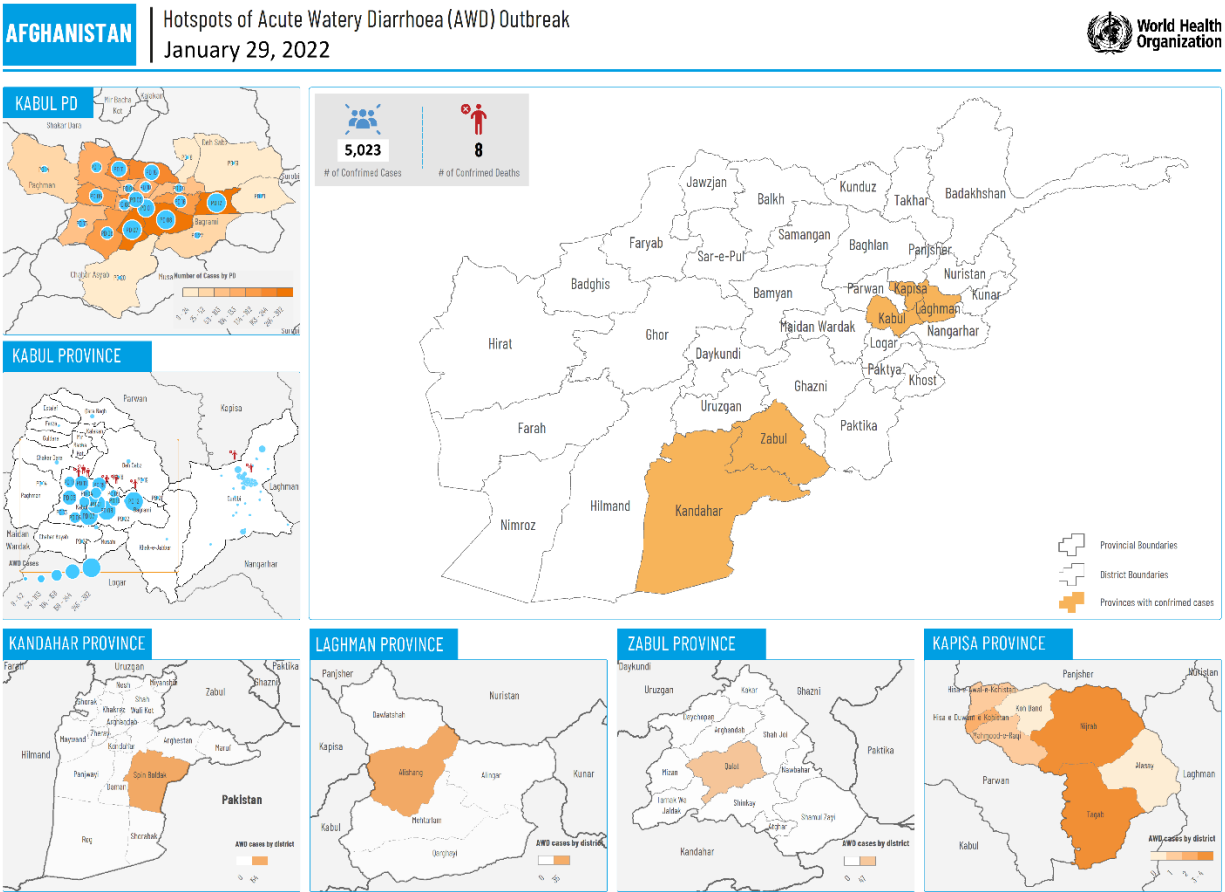


Figure 4. Hotspot areas of Acute Watery Diarrhoea cases in Afghanistan, Sep 2021 - Jan 2022 (n=5,023)

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 suppression 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)
- 298 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 27 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**

- Chlorination of active water points has been reached to 7,500 water points in 24 provinces (UNICEF-WASH cluster-DACAAR)
- 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 (UNICEF)
- Completion of the WASH need assessment in Surobi District (AWD epi center) to inform WASH investment/intervention (UNICEF)
- 2174 combined latrines and bathroom models are finalized to be installed in 41 IDPs settlements in need in Kabul city, and this will also include rehabilitation of water supply points (UNICEF)
- Distribution of hygiene kits to 2,676 households in Kabul city (IRC)
- Upgrading of an existing water supply system for 50 bed Healthcare Facility, in Kapisa province (UNICEF)

➤ **Risk communication and community engagement**

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

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 (five years) plan
- Advocacy for the implementation of preventive OCV campaigns in Kabul city and Surobi district
- Monitoring and supervision of response activities in Surobi district and Kabul city



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 29 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 in Mohmandara district of Nangarhar province
- Additional cases spread to other 15 districts in Nangarhar province
- The most affected districts include Mohmandara (434 cases) and Dor Baba districts (171)
- 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)
- In the last three weeks, no new cases or deaths have been reported (table 2)

Table 2: Summary of dengue fever in Nangarhar province, Afghanistan, 29 Jan 2022

Location	Epi week # 4 (23-29 January 2022) and changes compared to last week		Cumulative case (20 Sept 2021 to 29 Jan 2022)	
	# of cases (% changes)	# of deaths (% changes)	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)
Total	0 (0)	0 (0)	775 (100%)	1 (0.13)

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

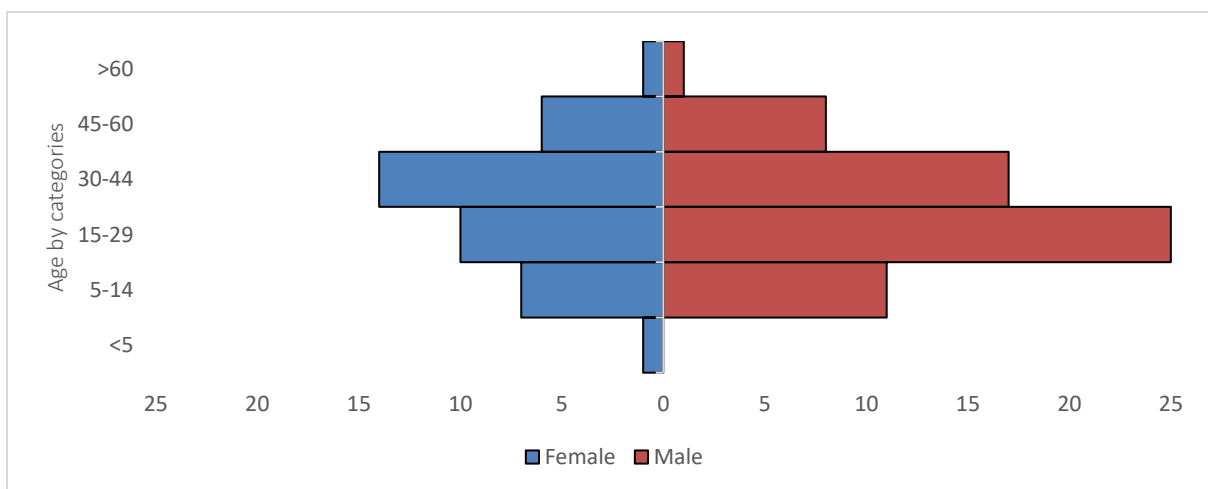


Figure 5. Distribution of dengue fever cases by sex and age group in Nangarhar province, Afghanistan, Sep 2021 - Jan 2022 (n=775)

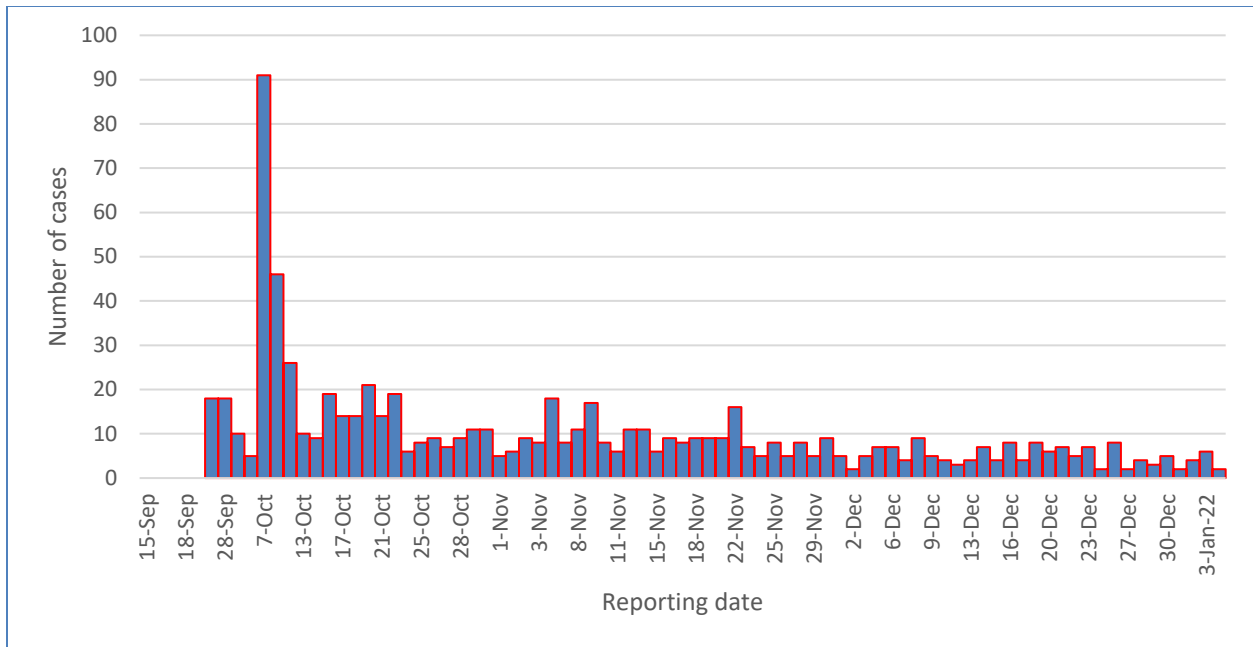


Figure 6. Epidemiological curve of the dengue cases in Nangrahar province, Afghanistan, Sep 2021 to Jan 2022 (n=775)

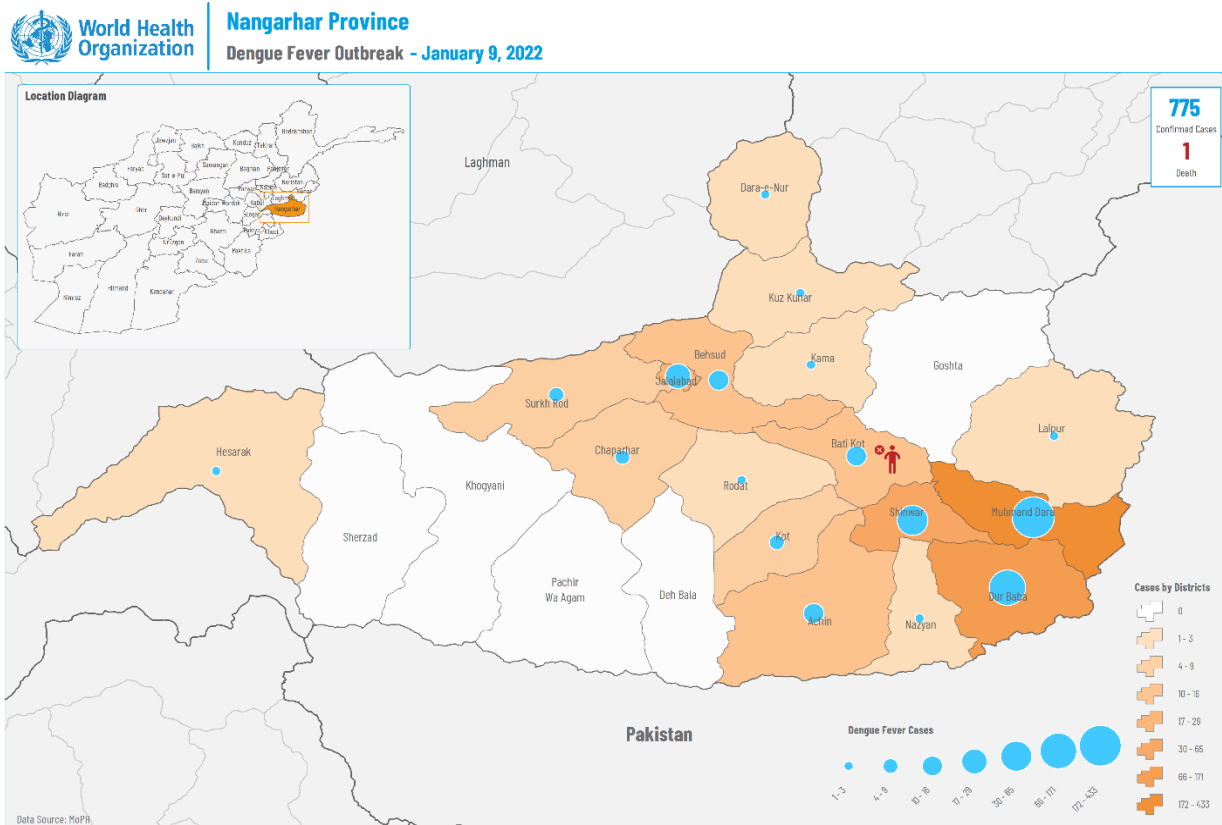


Figure 7. Hotspot areas of dengue cases in Nangrahar province, Afghanistan, Sep 2021 - Jan 2022 (n=775)

Response to the Dengue fever outbreak

Completed activities:

- Case management through Nangarhar regional Hospital and district health facilities (HN-TPO, AADA and WHO)
- Active surveillance, RCCE and case management through two RRT teams in Nangarhar, each team comprised of 4 members (WHO)
- The 14-day TV/radio campaign conducted in Nangarhar province (MoPH-WHO)
- Distribution of 100,000 posters and 250,000 brochures has been completed as part of RCCE campaign (MoPH-WHO)
- National malaria control program involved in the response process to the outbreak (MoPH-WHO)
- Dengue laboratory training was conducted for 9 surveillance staff engaged in outbreak investigation/sample collection (WHO)
- Monitoring and supportive supervision visits were taken place 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)

Next Steps/needs

- Development of Dengue strategic long-term plan
- 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 29 Jan 2022)

Cumulative Clinical Cases	Sample tested	Lab Confirmed cases	Deaths	Provinces affected	Current Available testing labs
35,609	4,580	3,211	156	34	6

Highlights

- A total of 35,609 clinical cases of measles (28,571 cases, 80% under 5 yrs) and 3,211 lab confirmed cases are reported between January 2021 to January 2022. A total of 156 confirmed deaths due to measles are recorded during the same period
- During epidemiological week 4 of 2022 a total of 1,465 new cases (5.5% increase from previous week) and 24 new deaths (100% increase from previous week) were reported (table 3) .
- Since epidemiological week 1 of 2022, the trends of new measles cases reported in all provinces has continued to increase sharply (fig 8)
- The most affected provinces include Helmand (20.9%), Kandahar (6.9%) ,Balkh (5.1%), Paktika provinces (4.4%), Ghor (4.3%) and Ghazni (3.9%) (fig 10)

Table 3: Summary of measles cases in Afghanistan, 29 Jan 2022

Location	Epi week #4 (23-29 January 2022) and changes compared to last week		Cumulative case (01 Jan 2021 to 29 Jan 2022)	
	# of cases (% changes)	# of deaths (% changes)	Cases (%)	Deaths (CFR%)
Balkh	73 (↑ 30)	0 (0)	1,830 (5.1)	6 (0.3)
Ghazni	2 (NA)	0 (0)	1,390 (3.9)	0 (0)
Ghor	56 (↑ 100)	1 (NA)	1,516 (4.3)	35 (2.3)
Helmand	174 (↓ 5)	0 (0)	7,433 (20.9)	0 (0)
Kandahar	71 (↓ 18)	3 (Na)	2,462 (6.9)	3 (0.1)
Paktika	6 (↓ 25)	0 (0)	1,584 (4.4)	8 (0.5)
Overall (in six campaign targeted provinces)*	382 (↑ 5.5)	4 (NA)	16,215 (45.5)	52 (0.3)
Other provinces	1,083 (↑ 5.6)	20 (↑ 66.7)	19,394 (54.4)	104 (0.5)
National (all 34 provinces)	1,465 (↑ 5.5)	24 (↑ 100)	35,609 (100)	156 (0.4)

* Measles vaccination campaign was conducted in six provinces (Balkh, Ghazni, Ghor, Helmand, Kandahar and Paktika) during 7-13 December 2021.

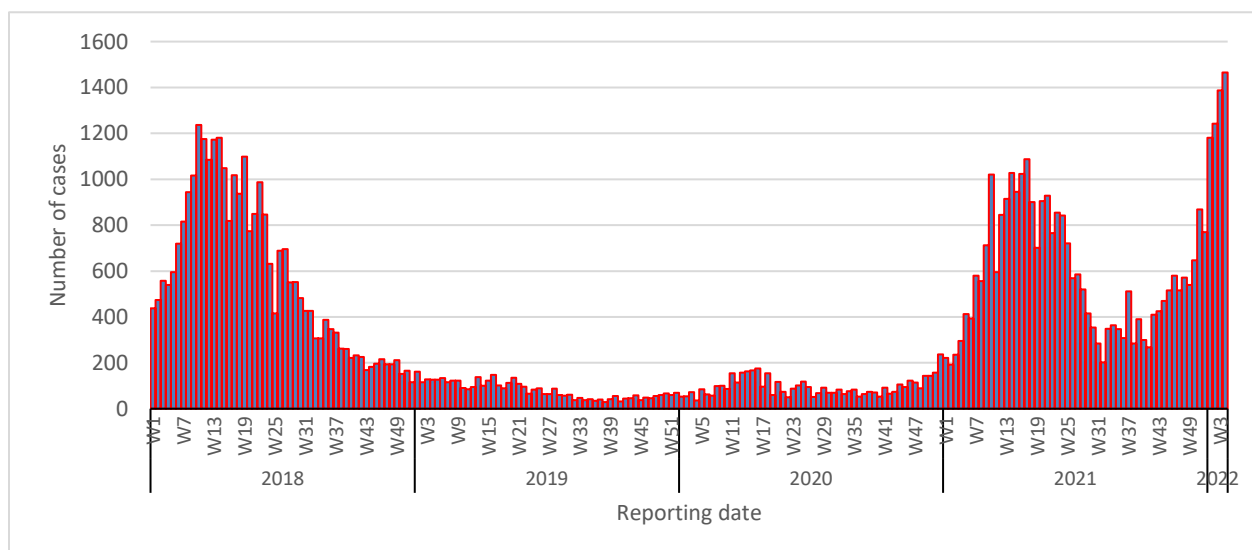


Figure 8. Weekly epidemiological curve of suspected measles cases in Afghanistan, 2018-2022 (n=35,609)

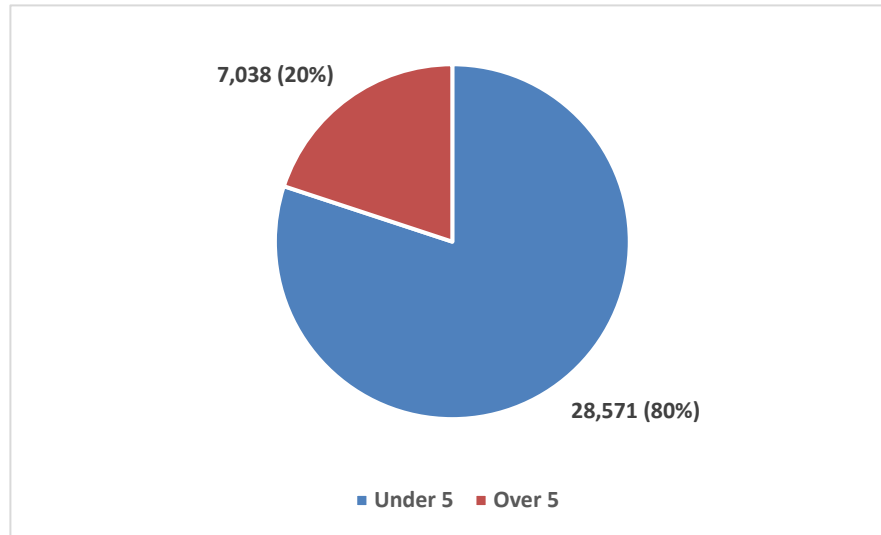


Figure 9. Distribution of suspected measles cases by age groups in Afghanistan, Jan 2021 - Jan 2022 (n=35,609)

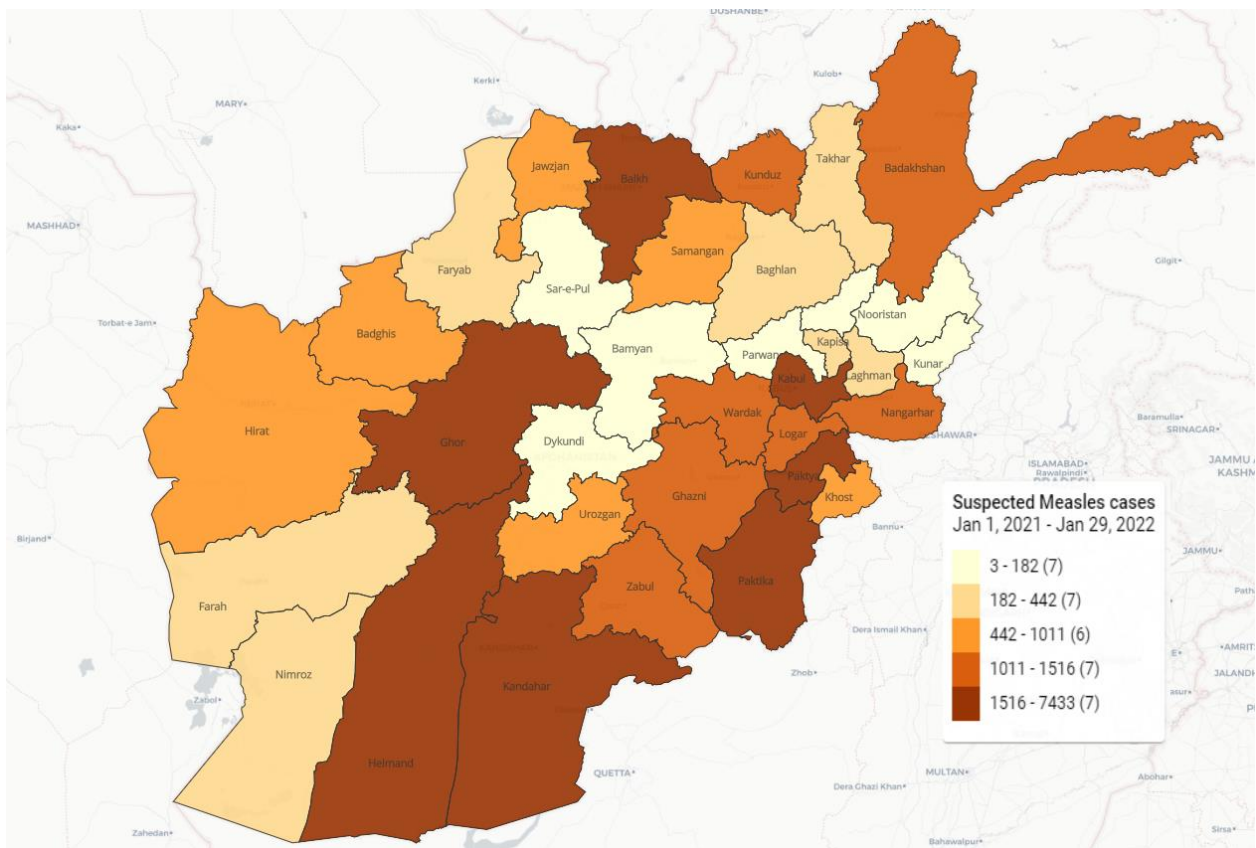


Figure 10. Geographical distribution of suspected measles cases in Afghanistan, Jan 2021 - Jan 2022 (n=35,609)

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.

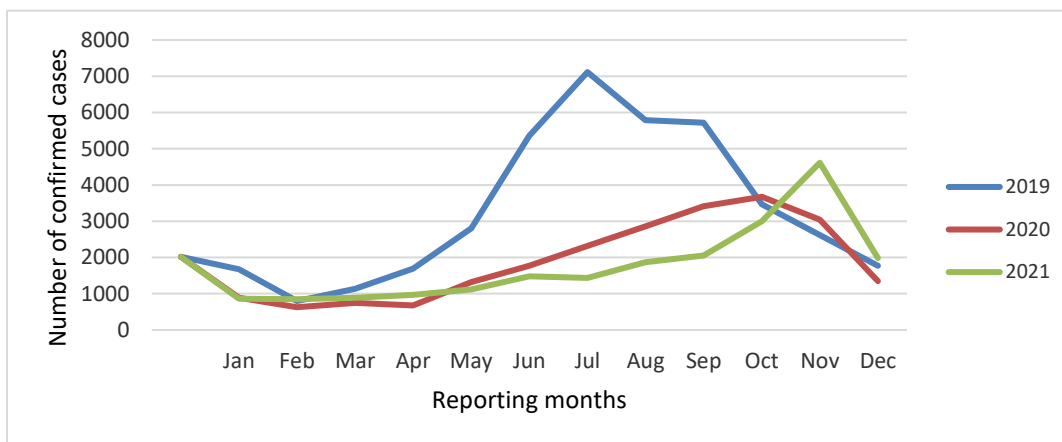


Figure 11. Trend of Malaria confirmed cases in Laghman province, Afghanistan 2019-2021

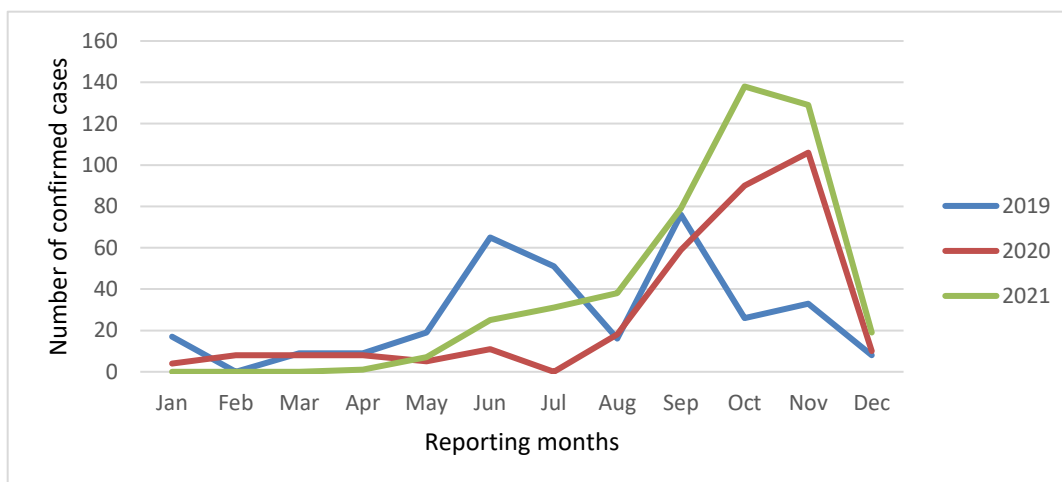


Figure 12. Trend of Malaria confirmed cases in Samakat village of Laghman province, Afghanistan 2019-2021

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

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