

Summary:

- Out of 519 functional Surveillance sentinel sites, 494 (95.2%) have submitted reports this week.
- A total of 500,698 new consultations, 213,977 (42.7%) were due to Surveillance targeted diseases. That included 112,085 males (52.4%) and 101,892 females (47.6%). Also, 97,215 (45.4%) under five years old and 116,762 (54.6%) five years old and over, reported this week.
- The main causes of consultations this week were ARI Cough & Cold, 142,360 cases (28.4%) out of total new consultations, Acute Diarrheal Diseases 29,989 cases (6%) out of total new consultations and Pneumonia, 33,338 cases (6.7%) out of total new consultations.
- A total of 272 deaths were reported this week, of which 106 were due to Surveillance targeted diseases deaths, which includes 16, COVID-19 deaths, 61 Pneumonia deaths, 27 suspected Measles deaths and 02 Pregnancy-related deaths.
- A total of 1,815 Measles suspected cases with 27 deaths were reported in this week.
- During this week, 26 AWD new cases epi-linked with Kabul province AWD outbreak were reported.
- In addition, during this week 12 Measles outbreaks were reported from Zabul, Urozgan, Helmand, Nangarhar, Baghlan, Jawzjan, Sar-e-pul, and Badghis provinces.
- Moreover, 2,558 COVID-19 confirmed cases reported at national level.

Figure1: Surveillance/NDSR Sentinel Sites with GPS location by type of Health Facility, 2022

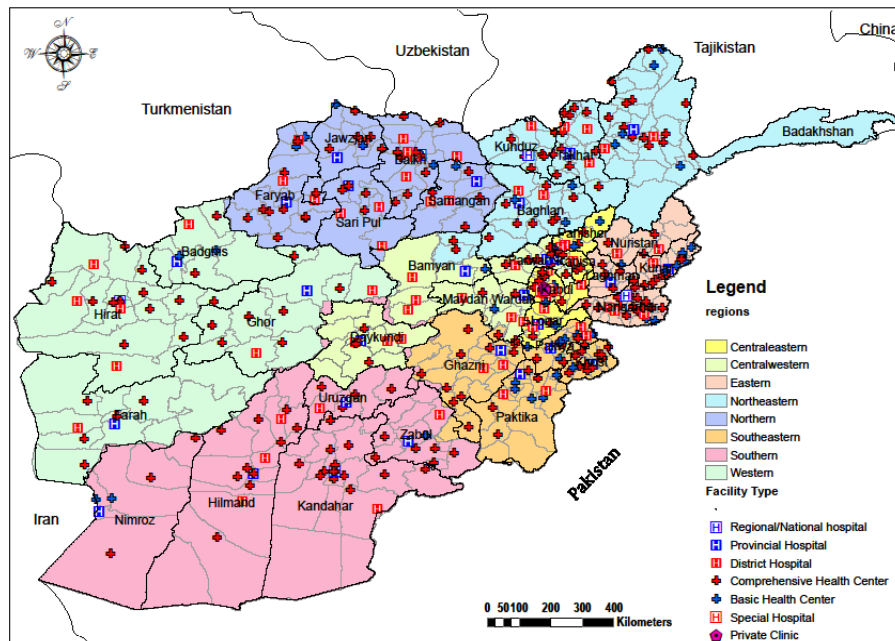


Table 1: Coverage of NDSR Surveillance System

Type of Health Facility	RH	PH	DH	CHC	BHC	NH/ Special Hospital	SHC	Other	Total
Total Health Facilities (HF)	8	27	91	437	900	36	1,106	2,093	4,698
HF covered by NDSR-Plus	6	25	80	310	80	13	1	4	519

Indicator – based Surveillance (IBS):

The Indicator-based surveillance component of NDSR report 17 priority conditions/infectious diseases from sentinel sites on weekly bases. The data is compared with previous weeks and the corresponding weeks of previous years and the alert and epidemic threshold is checked to see if disease incidence has crossed these levels and necessary action is initiated.

Figure 2: A

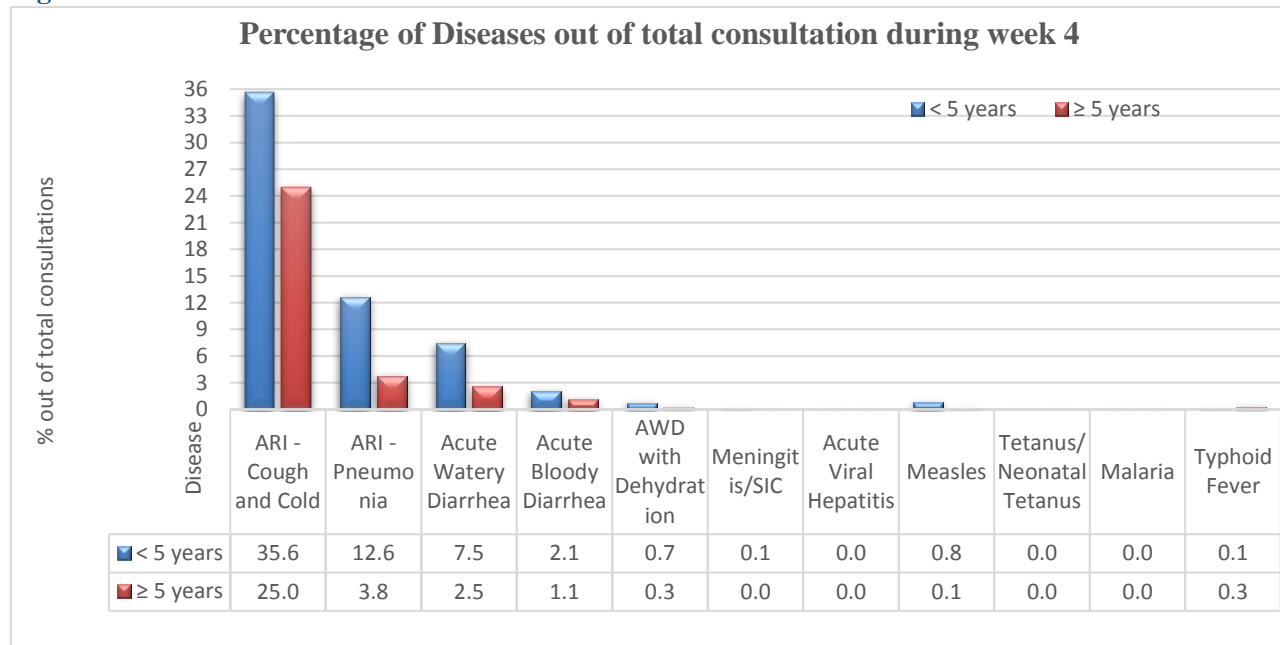


Figure 2: B

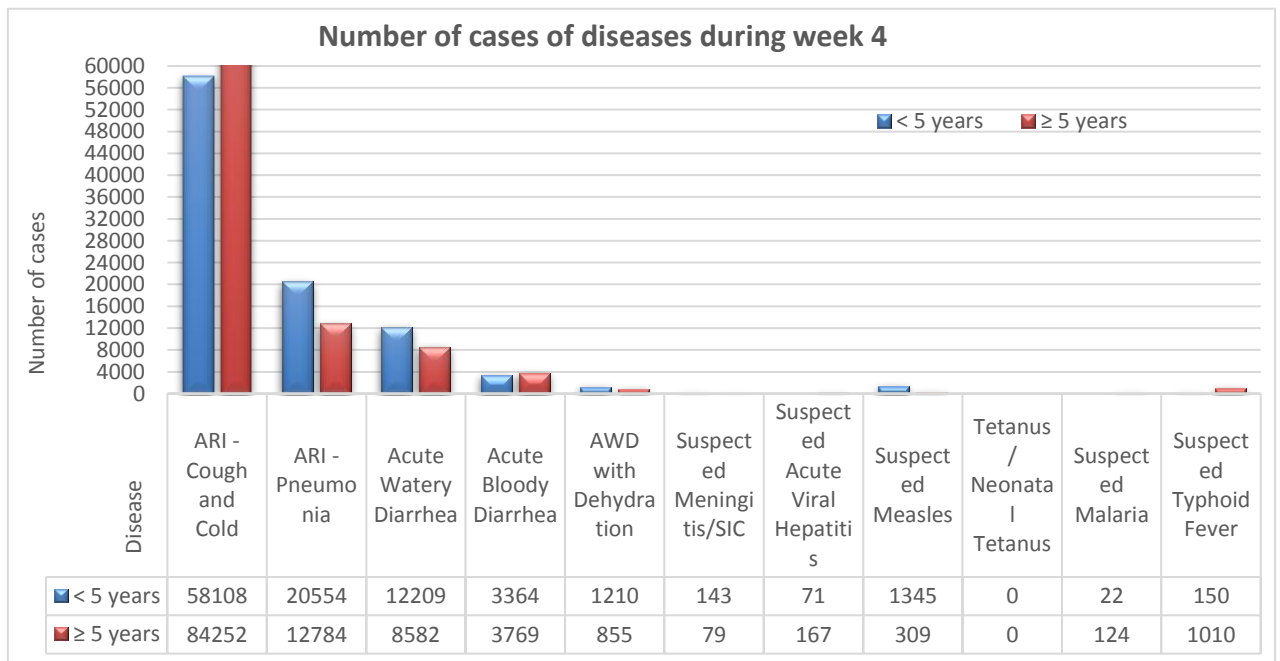


Table 2: Cases and deaths due to VPDs by age group during week 04th, 2022

Diseases	Cases			Deaths			CFR/100
	<5 years	≥ 5 years	Total	<5 years	≥ 5 years	Total	
Suspected Measles	1345	309	1654	18	3	21	1.27

Seasonal Diseases:

Figure 3: A

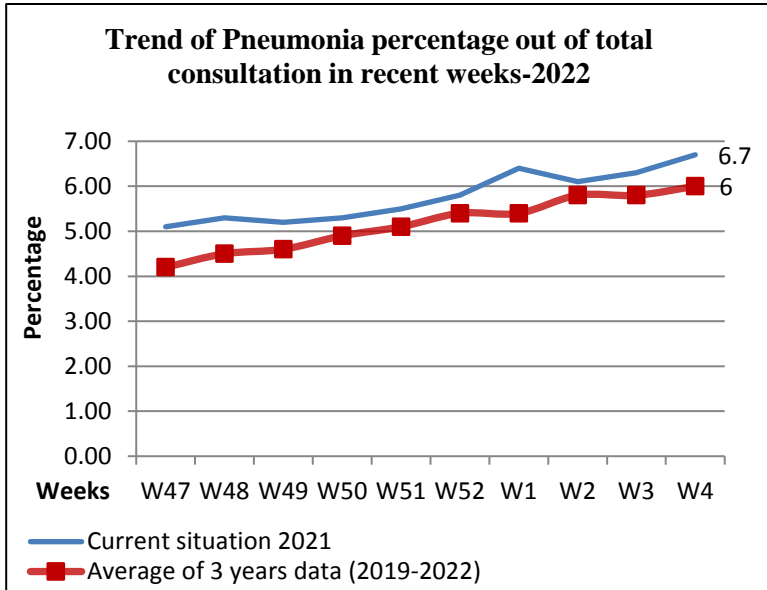


Figure 3: B

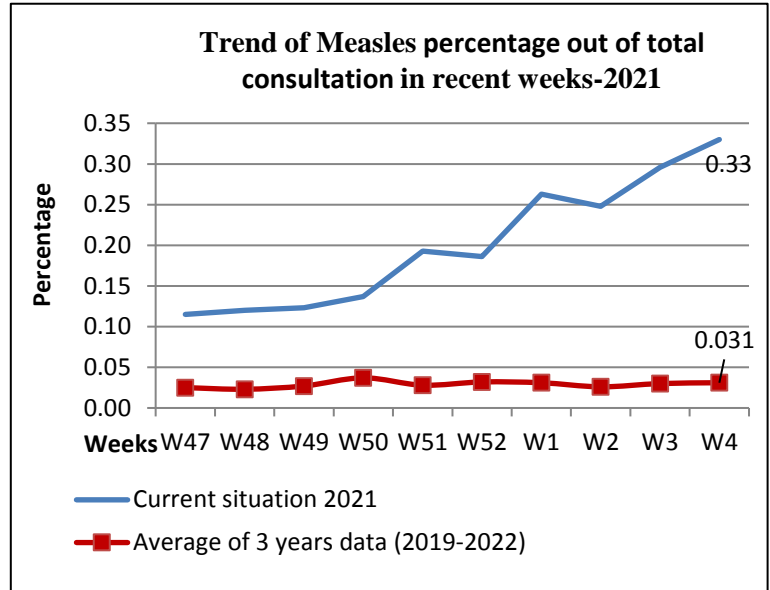


Figure 3: C

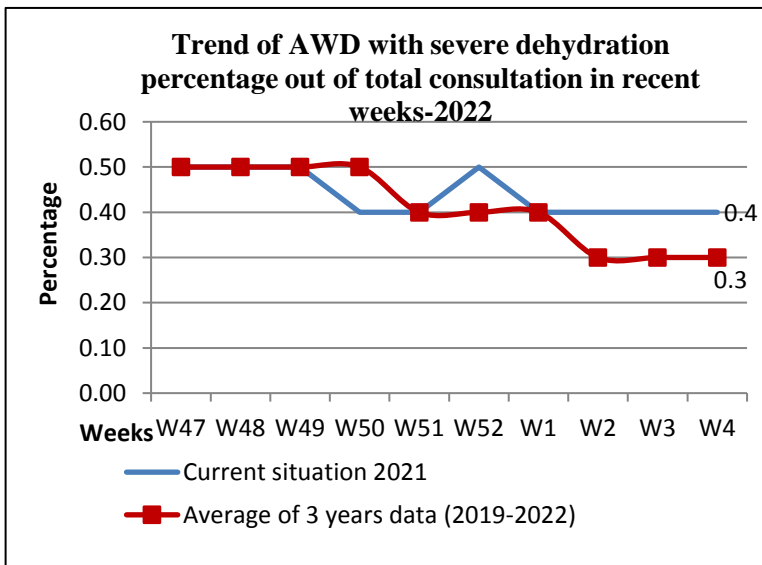


Figure 3: D

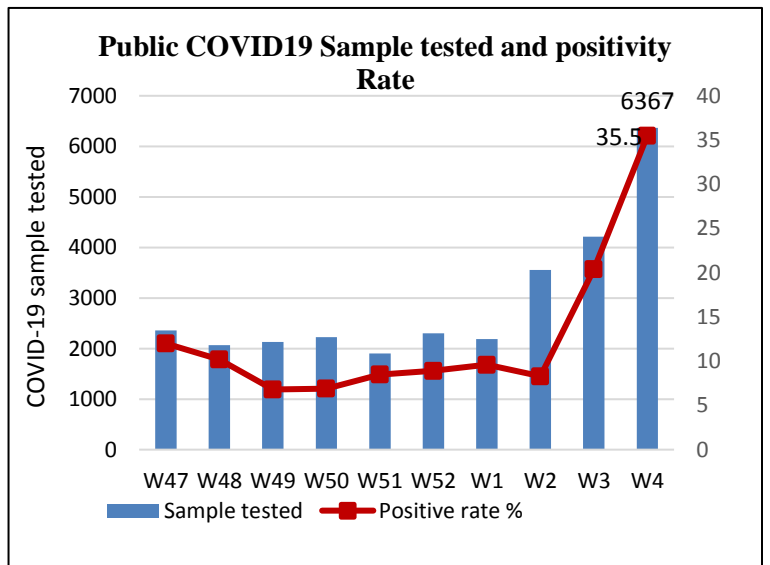


Table 3: Part of Outbreaks:

Reported Date	Province	District	Village	<5 Cases	≥5 Cases	Total Cases	Total Deaths	Recommendation /Action taken	
23/01/2022	Kabul	Kabul districts	Kabul	0	26	26			In this week, 26 AWD new cases epi-linked with Kabul province AWD outbreak reported, Active/daily surveillance and the case investigation is going on, case management was done for all the cases. RDT Sample collection was done and all samples were negative. In addition, Health education was conducted by the investigation team.
Suspected Measles outbreaks (Zabul, Urozgan, Helmand, Nangarhar, Baghlan, Jawzjan, Sar-e-pul and Badghis provinces)									
Reported dated	Province	District	Village	<5 cases	≥5 cases	Total cases	Deaths	Vaccination coverage %	Recommendation/Action taken
25/01/2022	Zabul	Seorai	Bolan	10	4	14	0	80%	In this week, 12 suspected Measles outbreaks were reported from Zabul, Urozgan, Helmand, Nangarhar, Baghlan, Jawzjan, Sar-e-pul and Badghis provinces. The outbreaks were investigated, case management was done for all the outbreaks and cases. Also, health education sessions were conducted. Vaccination of children in the surrounding villages of the affected area is going on.
23/11/2022	Urozgan	Qalat	Hotakzai	13	8	21	0	62%	
23/11/2022	Helmand	Dehrawood	Mazar	4	6	10	0	70%	
25/01/2022		Nahreseraj	New Zanbuli	4	5	9	0	70%	
23/1/2022	Nangarhar	Behsood	10 th Canal	5	2	7	0	90%	
24/1/2022		Pacheer Agam	Badankhil	12	2	14	0	85%	
23/01/2022	Baghlan	Baghlan	Baghlan Markazi	13	0	13	1	NA	
25/01/2022	Jawzjan	Khowja do kuh	Qezel ayaq	14	8	22	2	92%	
24/01/2022		Mordian	Chelek yoldash	1	8	9	3	106%	
24/01/2022	Sar-e-pul	Gosfandi	karize	8	3	11	0	55%	
23/01/2022	Badghis	Qadis	Gunbad Klora	11	3	14	0	0%	
23/01/2022		Qadis	Surkh	14	3	17	0	0%	

Figure 4: Distributions of COVID-19, AWD and Measles cases and deaths during week 04th

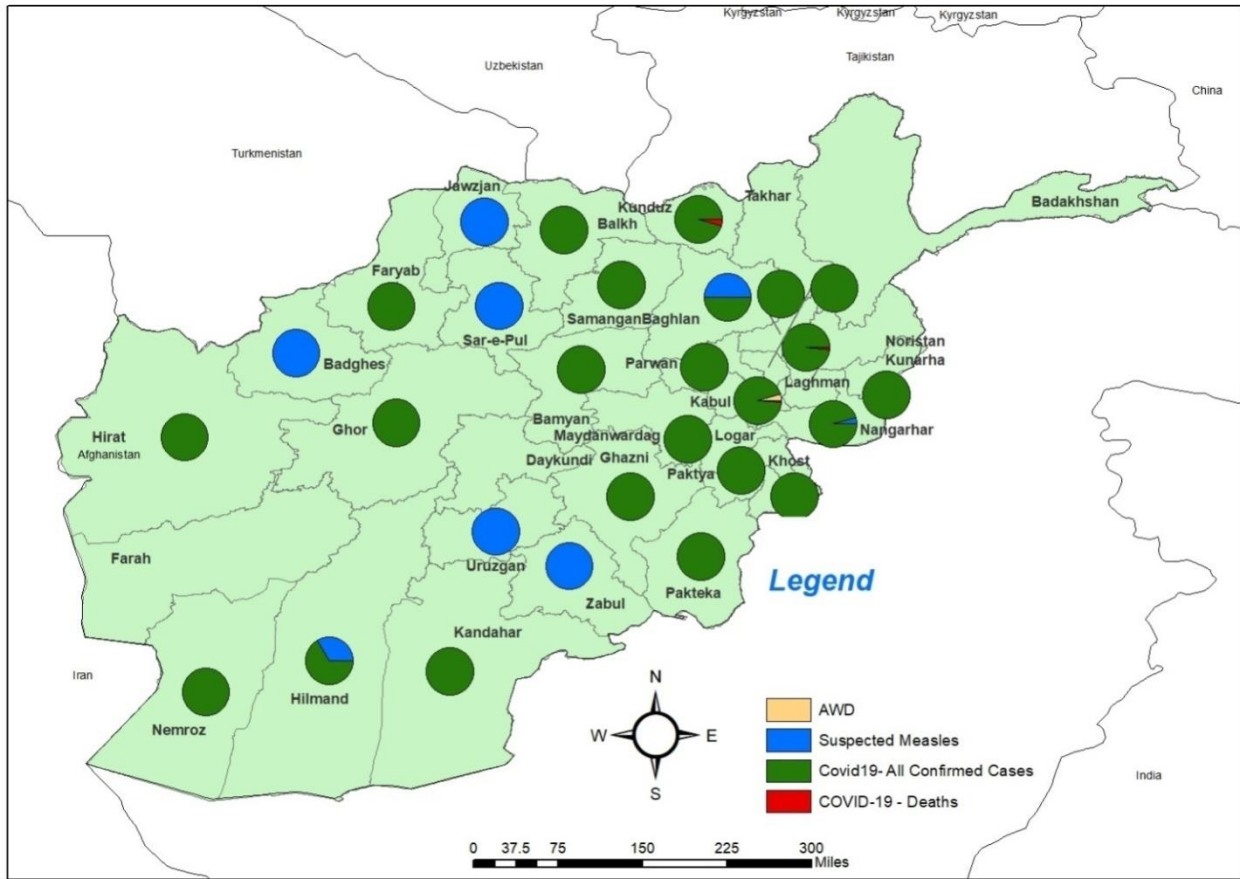


Table 4: Updates on the outbreaks reported during 2021 (26 Dec 2021 to 29, Jan, 2022)

Disease/Event	Count of Disease/Event	Sum of Lab Confirm	Sum of total Cases	Sum of Total Deaths
Measles	36	0	480	19
Acute Watery Diarrhea	1	1	194	0
COVID 19	1	1	4084	48
Diphtheria	1	0	1	0
Dog bite/Suspected Rabies	2	0	10	0
Grand Total	41	2	4769	67

Laboratory surveillance:

A total of 9,891 specimens were collected and shipped to CPHL from regional and private labs. Out of which 2,558 specimens were confirmed for COVID-19 and 14 samples were confirmed for Measles, 06 samples were confirmed for SARI and ILI in this week. (Follow up by the CPHL is going on).

Influenza Surveillance activities:

In Epidemiological week 4th 2022, we have received Epidemiological reports from 09 out of 09 sentinel sites. (Kabul, Kandahar, Balkh, Herat, Bamyan, Baghlan, Nangarhar, and Paktya). Out of all new hospital admissions, **327 (6.3%)** Severe Acute Respiratory Infections cases were reported and 72 were under 5 years old. The proportion of SARI cases were increased as compared to week 03rd 2022. Eleven SARI associated deaths were reported this week. At the 9 provincial levels, the top sentinel sites with the highest proportion of SARI cases were from Kabul (48%), Kapisa (45%) and Bamyan (13%) provinces. In this epidemiological week, our field staff shipped 53 SARI and 40 ILI specimens to the National Influenza Center (NIC).

COVID-19 Surveillance activities:

In this week, 9,740 specimens were tested for suspected COVID-19. Out of which 2,558 samples were confirmed for COVID-19 by rtPCR. The cases have been managed either in the isolation wards or in home quarantine.

- COVID-19 cases were strongly increased **171%** compared to last week, (lab samples positivity rate was 26.3, which increased 13.3% as compared to last week at national level).
- Bed occupancy rate (BOR) at the national level was **34.9%**, which increased 5.4% compared to last week.
- Out of **3,958** contacts of **1,121** confirmed cases that were mostly family members with an average of 3.5 Contacts per one case, and will be continued until 14 days of their last contact with the confirmed cases. Also, surveillance screening teams screened all the passengers in the points of entry for fever. In addition, health education was conducted for them, about **5, 2134** passengers have been screened for COVID-19 in the points of entry of four provinces (Herat, Kandahar, Nangarhar and Nimroz).

Challenges:

- COVID-19 cases and lab positivity rate are increased as compared to last week.
- No lab capacity for confirmation of the new COVID-19 variant (Omicron) in the country.
- Shortage of lab samples collection consumables and testing kits in majority of the provinces for COVID-19, and other epidemic prone diseases.
- Suspected Measles cases and outbreaks are in the increasing trend (in this week 1,815 measles cases and 27 deaths were reported).

Recommendations:

- COVID-19 control all functions should be strengthened, in order to response for the possible coming wave of COVID-19 pandemic due to Omicron in Afghanistan
- CPHL should be supported for the confirmation of the new COVID-19 variant (Omicron)
- Regular supply for lab sample collection and testing kits for epidemic prone diseases including COVID-19 are needed and lab testing capacity needs to be strengthened and expanded to all the provinces.
- Vaccination coverage for measles and other vaccine preventable diseases need to be improved and measles control strategy need to be revised.
 - **EPI:** As the system detected 1,815 suspected Measles cases, with **27** deaths due to measles, further prevention and control measures should be conducted by the EPI team.
- The findings should be analyzed further in different levels and appropriate actions to be taken by the concerned departments.