

Summary:

- Out of 519 functional Surveillance sentinel sites, 478 (92.1%) have submitted reports this week.
- A total of 479,340 new consultations, 188,692 (39.4%) were due to Surveillance targeted diseases. That included 100,108 males (53.1%) and 88,584 females (46.9%). Also, 92,292(48.9%) under five years old and 96,400 (51.1%) five years old and over, reported this week.
- The main causes of consultations this week were ARI Cough & Cold, 115,084 cases (24%) out of total new consultations, Acute Diarrheal Diseases 38,701 cases (8.1%) out of total new consultations and Pneumonia, 26,027 cases (5.4 %) out of total new consultations.
- A total of 177 deaths were reported this week, of which 91 deaths (51.4 %) were due to Surveillance targeted diseases deaths, which includes 51 Pneumonia deaths, 26 suspected Measles deaths, 08 COVID-19 deaths, 03 Typhoid Fever deaths, 02 suspected Meningitis / Severely Ill Child deaths and 01 suspected Acute Viral Hepatitis death.
- A total of **3,608** Measles suspected cases with **26** deaths were reported in this week.
- In addition, during this week 08 Measles outbreaks were reported from Daykundi, Bamyan, Zabul, Kandahar, Nangarhar, Nuristan, Badakhshan and Takhar provinces.
- Moreover, **432** COVID-19 confirmed cases reported at national level.

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

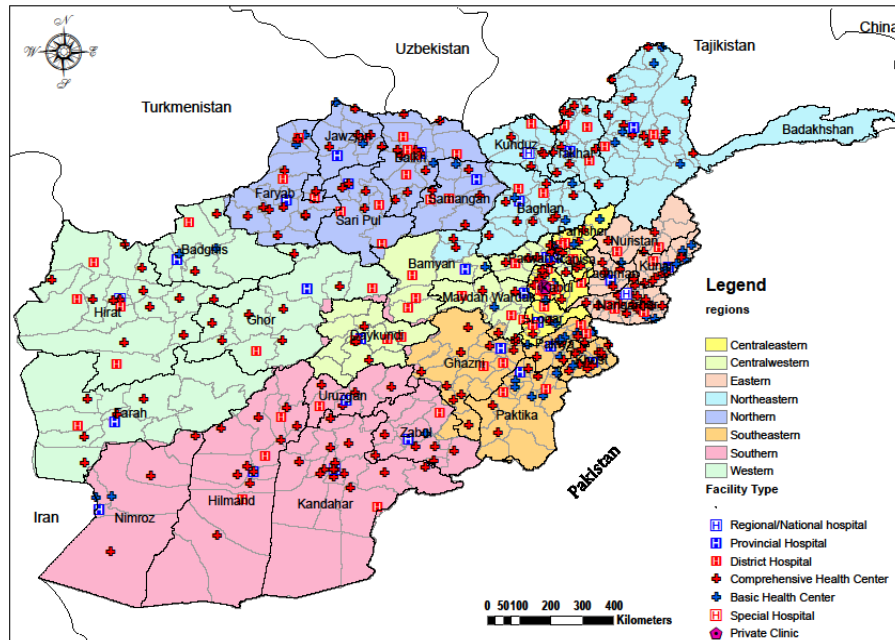


Table 1: Coverage of NDSR Surveillance System

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

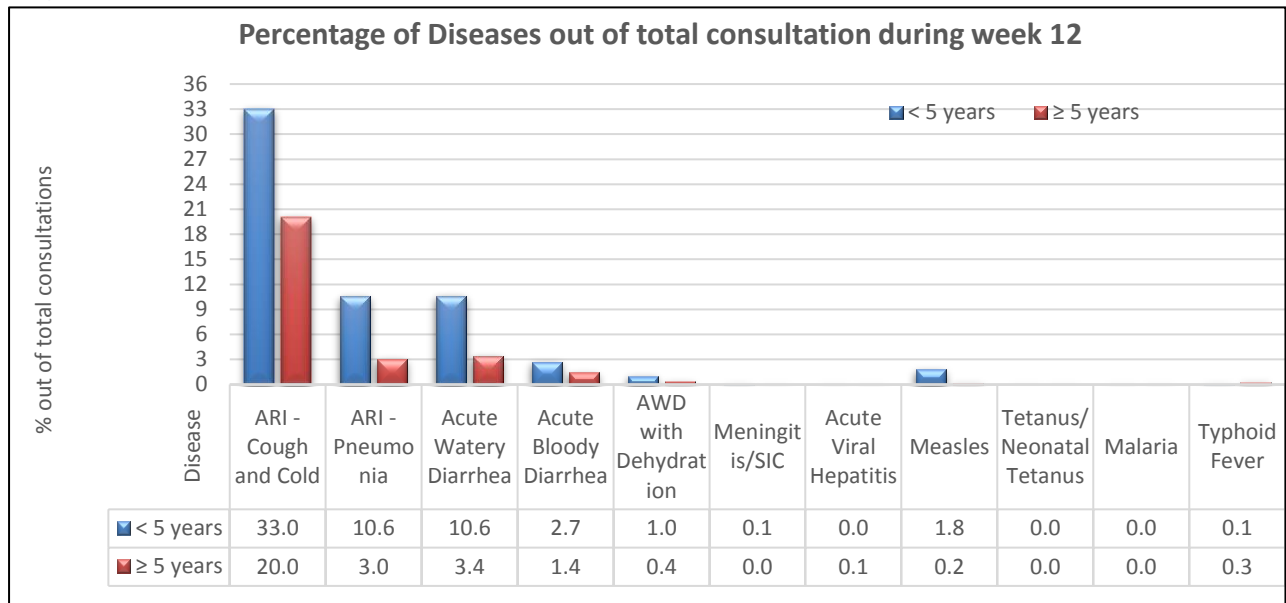


Figure 2: B

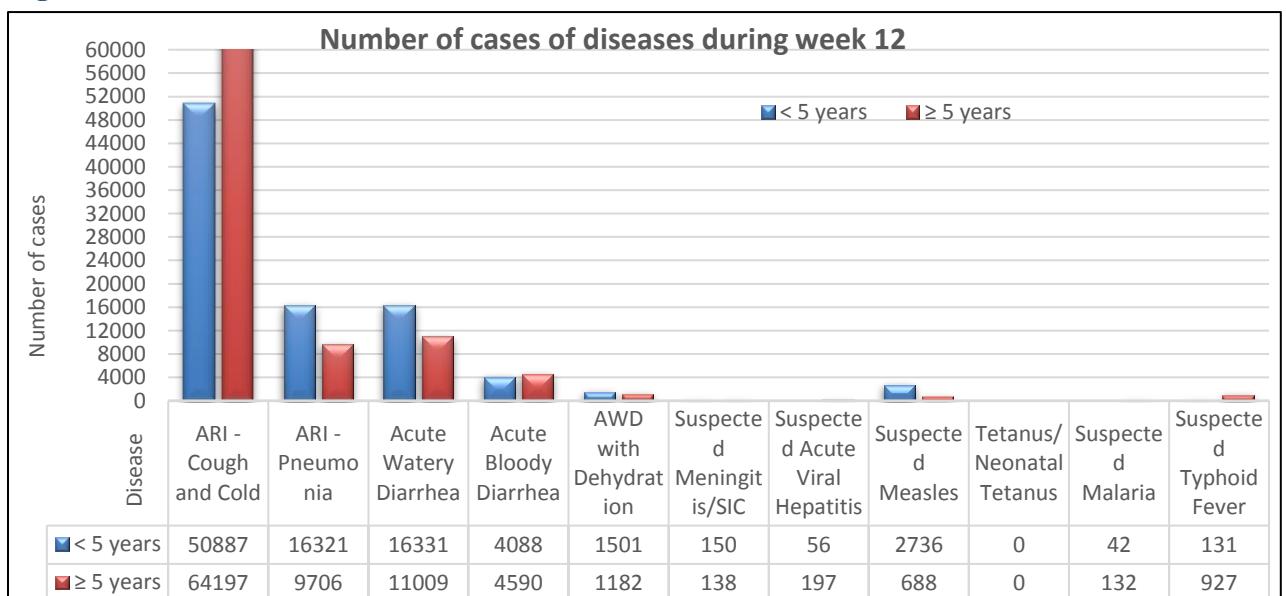


Table 2: Cases and deaths due to VPDs by age group during week 12th, 2022

Diseases	Cases			Deaths			CFR/100
	<5 years	≥ 5 years	Total	<5 years	≥ 5 years	Total	
Suspected Measles	2736	688	3424	21	0	21	0.61

Seasonal Diseases:

Figure 3: A

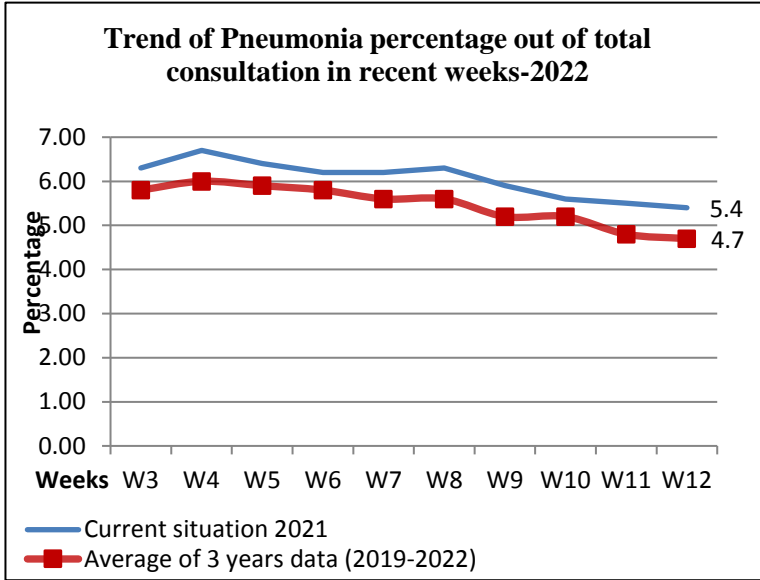


Figure 3: B

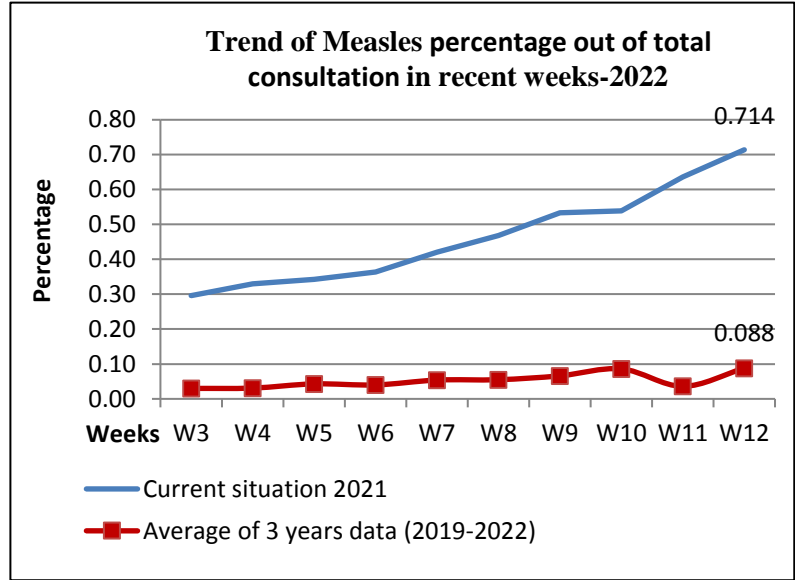


Figure 3: C

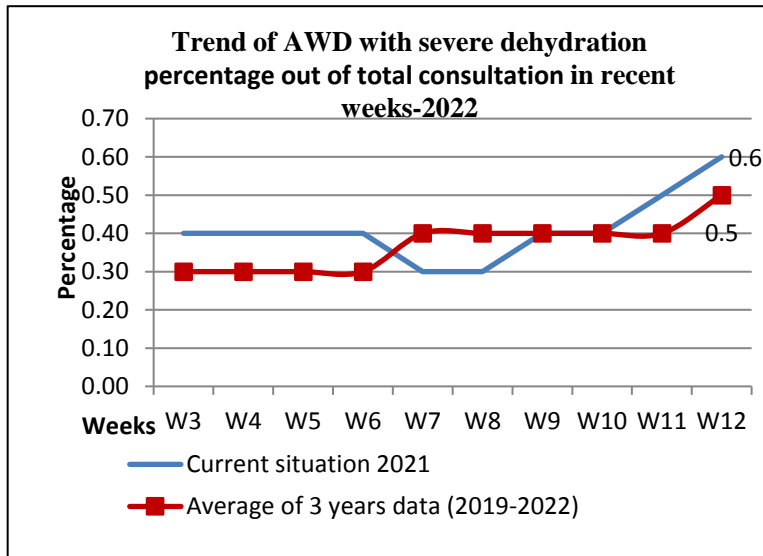


Figure 3: D

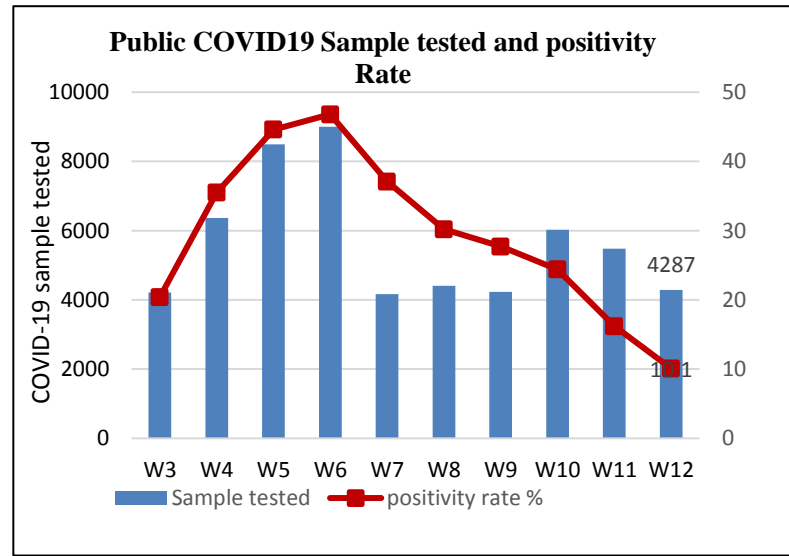


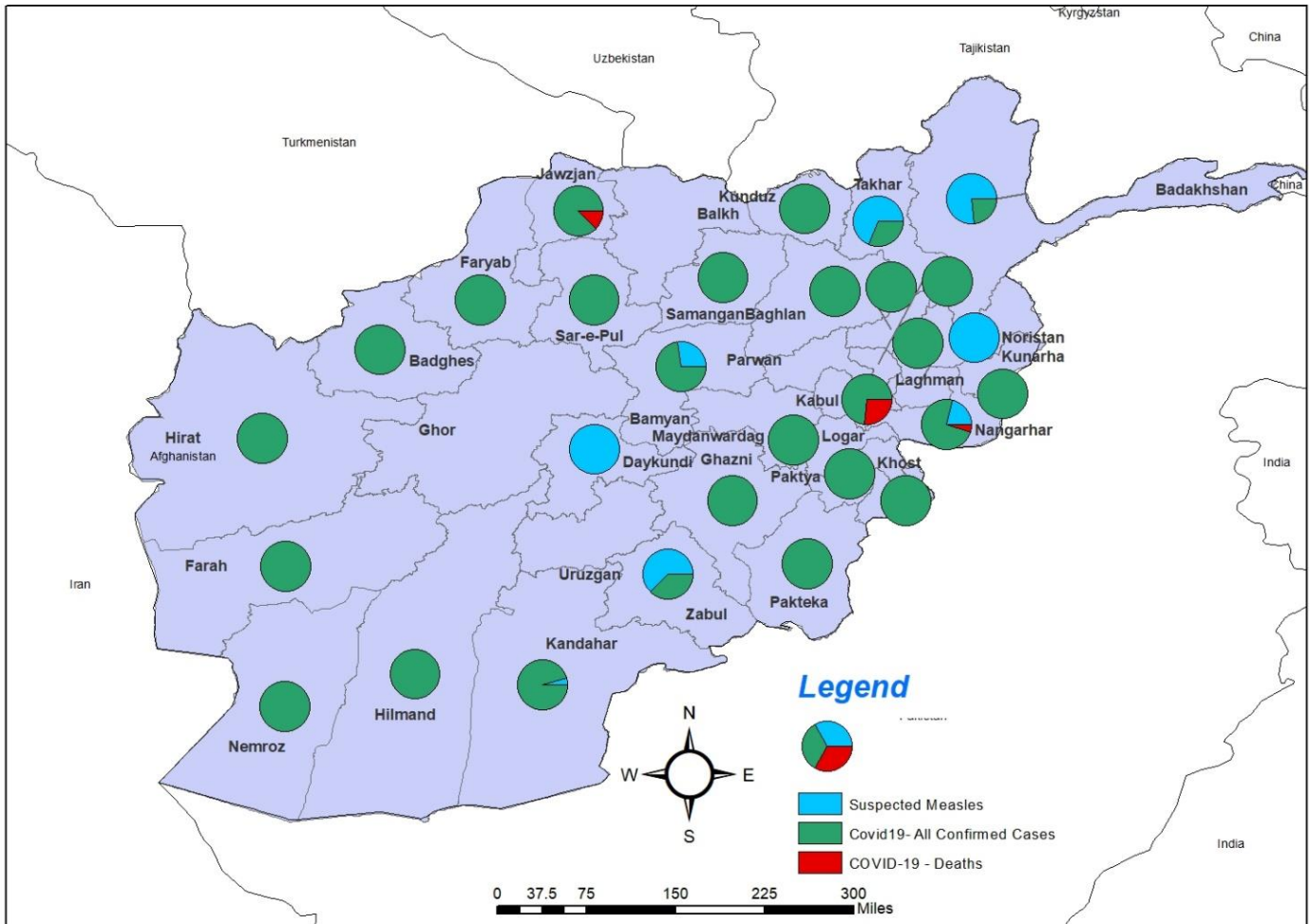
Table 3: Outbreaks in week 12th:

Suspected Measles outbreaks (Daykundi, Bamyan, Zabul, Kandahar, Nangarhar, Nuristan, Badakhshan and Takhar provinces)										
Reported dated	Province	District	Village	<5 cases	≥5 cases	Total cases	Deaths	Vaccination coverage		Recommendation/Action taken
								Reported	Assessed	
24/03/2022	Daykundi	Kitty	Shinyan and Madrasa	14	3	17	0	80%	10%	In this week, 08-suspected Measles outbreaks were reported from Daykundi, Bamyan, Zabul, Kandahar, Nangarhar, Nuristan, Badakhshan and Takhar 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. Follow up reports will be shared.
26/03/2022	Bamyan	Central	Khuja hasan	5	1	6	0	80%	80%	
22/03/2022	Zabul	Khak-e-afghan	Mullah wasil	19	6	25	0	60%	0%	
21/03/2022	Kandahar	Pajwaie	Salawath	1	4	5	0	70%	42%	
25/03/2022	Nangarhar	Jalalabad	Qali Ishaq, Jabarkhil Village	10	3	13	0	95%	90%	
20/03/2022	Nuristan	Mandol	Kawriz and Mandol	28	14	42	5	65%	20%	
20/03/2022	Badakhshan	Yaftal	Barbagh	41	24	65	0	NA	0%	
20/03/2022	Takhar	Warsaj	Warsaj	5	6	11	0	NA	60%	

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

Disease/Event	Count of Disease/Event	Sum of Lab Confirm	Sum of total Cases	Sum of Total Deaths
Measles	150	55	2387	96
Dog bites/Suspected Rabies	5	0	25	0
CCHF	3	0	3	0
Scabies	3	0	56	0
Diphtheria	1	0	1	0
Pertussis	1	0	4	0
Food poisoning	1	0	1	1
COVID-19	1	1	19380	401
Acute Watery Diarrhea	1	1	291	0
Chicken Pox	1	0	1	0
Clinical Pneumonia	1	0	25	0
Grand Total	168	57	22174	498

Figure 4: Distributions of COVID-19, Measles cases and deaths during week 12th



Laboratory surveillance:

A total of 6,801 specimens were collected and shipped to CPHL and other regional laboratories. Out of which 432 specimens were confirmed for COVID-19 and 87 samples were confirmed for Measles, 02 specimens confirmed for Malaria and 01 specimen confirmed for Brucellosis in this week. (Follow up by the CPHL is going on).

Influenza Surveillance activities:

In Epidemiological week 12th 2022, we have received Epidemiological reports from 09 out of 09 sentinel sites. (Kabul, Kandahar, Balkh, Herat, Bamyan, Baghlan, Nangarhar, Kapisa and Paktya). Out of all new hospital admissions, 224 (6%) Severe Acute Respiratory Infections cases were reported and 62% were under 5 years old. The proportion of SARI cases were increased compared to week 11th 2022. Nineteen 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 Kapisa (51%), Kabul (25%), and Bamyan (10%) provinces. In this epi-week, our field staff shipped 54 SARI and 31 ILI specimens to the National Influenza Center (NIC).

COVID-19 Surveillance activities:

In this week, 6,801 specimens were tested for suspected COVID-19. Out of which 432 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 decreased **51.3 %** compared to last week, (in majority of the provinces we had testing kits shortage in this week).
- Bed occupancy rate (BOR) at the national level was **50.6 %**, which increased 2.1 % compared to last week.
- Out of **824** contacts of **377** confirmed cases that were mostly family members with an average of 2 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 **65,996** passengers have been screened for COVID-19 in the points of entry of four provinces (Herat, Kandahar, Nangarhar and Nimroz).

Challenges:

- Suspected Measles cases and outbreaks are in the increasing trend (in this week **3,608** measles cases and 26 deaths were reported).
- No mandatory reporting of Measles and other priority diseases and outbreaks from all the health facilities (public and private)
- Shortage of lab samples collection consumables and testing kits in majority of the provinces have strongly decreased the number of tests.
- No lab capacity for confirmation of the new COVID-19 variant (Omicron) in the country.

Recommendations:

- Measles vaccination campaigns are needed to be conducted based on the outbreaks reported and also the routine vaccination coverage need to be improved
- Measles and all surveillance priority diseases outbreaks should be reported by all health facilities including private HFs
- COVID-19 control all functions should be strengthened, in order to response for the current wave of COVID-19 pandemic in Afghanistan
- CPHL should be supported for the confirmation of the new COVID-19 variant (Omicron)
- Urgent supply of lab sample collection and testing kits for COVID-19 is recommended and lab testing capacity needs to be strengthened and expanded to all the provinces.
 - **EPI:** As the system detected **3,608** suspected Measles cases, with **26** 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.