

Summary:

- Out of 613 functional Surveillance sentinel sites, 610 (99.5%) have submitted reports this week.
- A total of 690,816 new consultations, of which 276,563 (40%) were due to Surveillance targeted diseases. That included 146,010 (52.8%) males and 130,553 (47.2%) females. Also, 125,356 (45.3%) people under five years old and 151,207 (54.7%) five years old and over were reported this week.
- The main causes of consultations this week were ARI Cough & Cold (193,049 = 27.9% cases out of total new consultations), Acute Diarrheal Diseases (39,142 = 5.7%) cases out of total new consultations, and Pneumonia (38,719= 5.6% cases out of total new consultations).
- A total of 377 deaths were reported this week, of which 86 (22.8%) deaths were due to surveillance-targeted diseases, which include 79 ARI Pneumonia deaths, 03 Suspected Meningitis/ Severely ill Child deaths, 02 Acute Watery Diarrhea with Dehydration deaths and 02 Suspected acute viral hepatitis deaths.
- In addition, during this week, 22 outbreaks were reported: 07 Clinical Scabies outbreaks were reported from, Ghazni, Kapisa, Panjshir, Takhar and Logar provinces, 07 Clinical Chickenpox outbreaks was reported from Kabul, Kapisa, Paktya, Panjshir, Takhar and Urozgan provinces, 02 Measles outbreaks were reported from Nangarhar and Zabul provinces, 02 Dog bite/suspected Rabies outbreaks were reported from Kabul and Kapisa provinces, 01 AWD with dehydration outbreak was reported form Nangarhar province, 01 Clinical Cutaneous Leishmaniosis outbreak was reported from Kunduz province, 01 ARI Cough and Cold outbreak was reported form Badakhshan province and 01 Brucellosis outbreak was reported from Herat province.

Moreover, 242 COVID-19 confirmed cases and 469 suspected Measles cases were reported at the national level.

Figure1: Surveillance/NDSR Sentinel Sites with GPS location by type of Health Facility, 2023

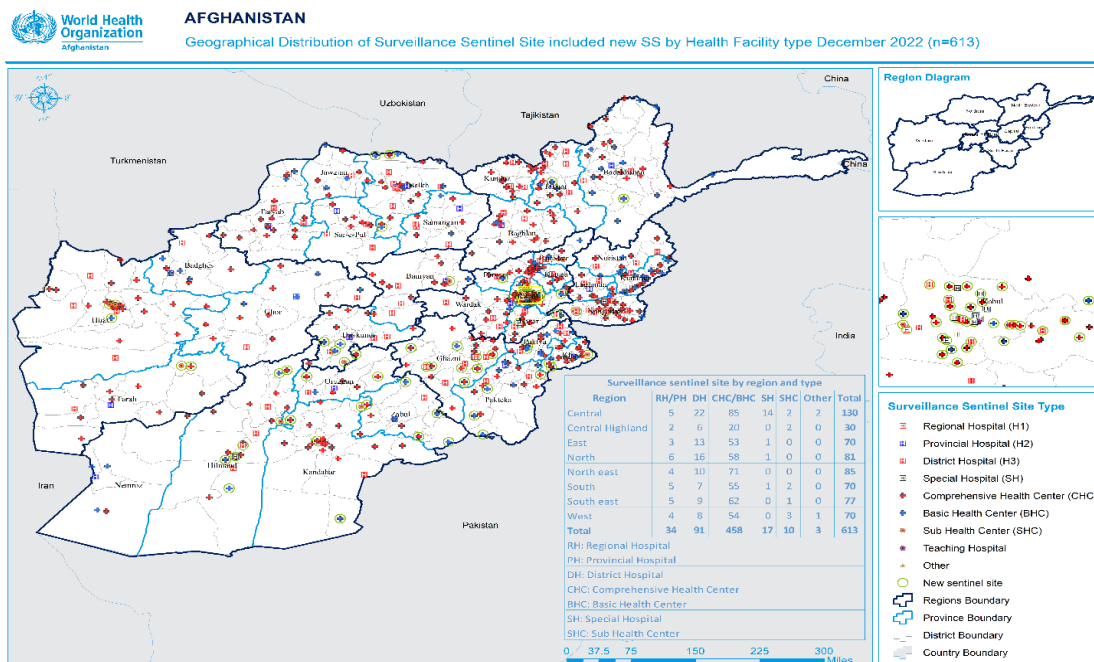


Table 1: Coverage of NDSR Surveillance System

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	8	26	90	348	111	17	10	3	613

Indicator - based Surveillance (IBS):

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

Figure 2: A

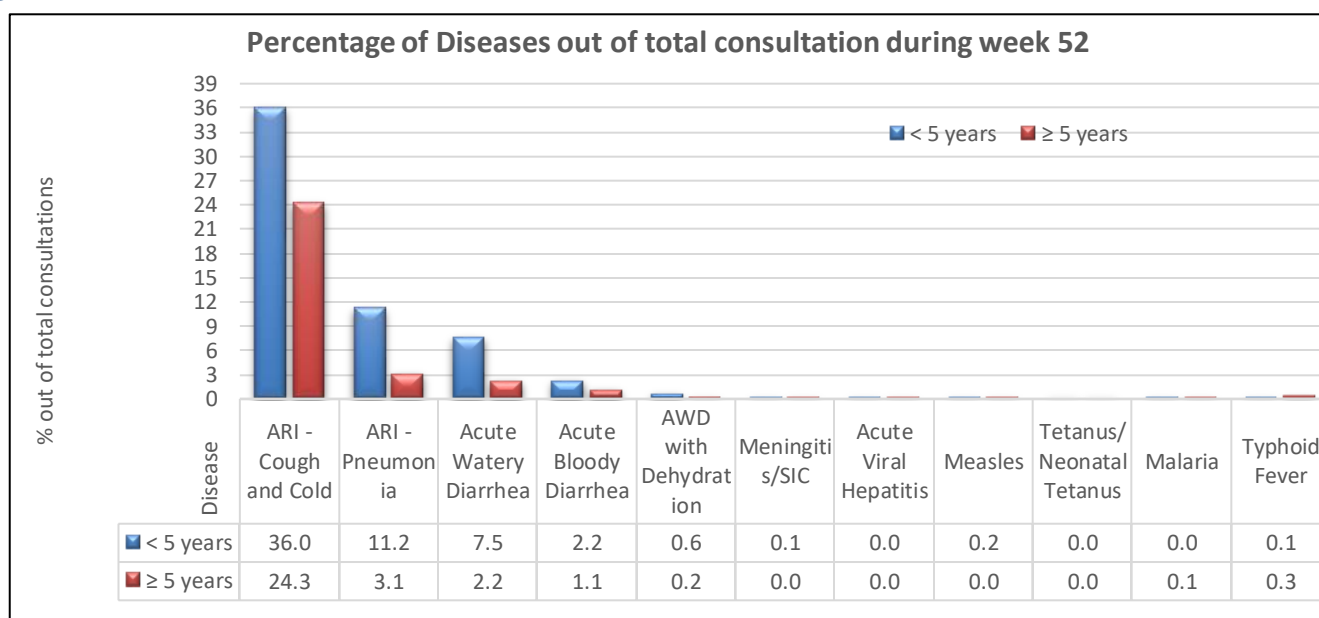
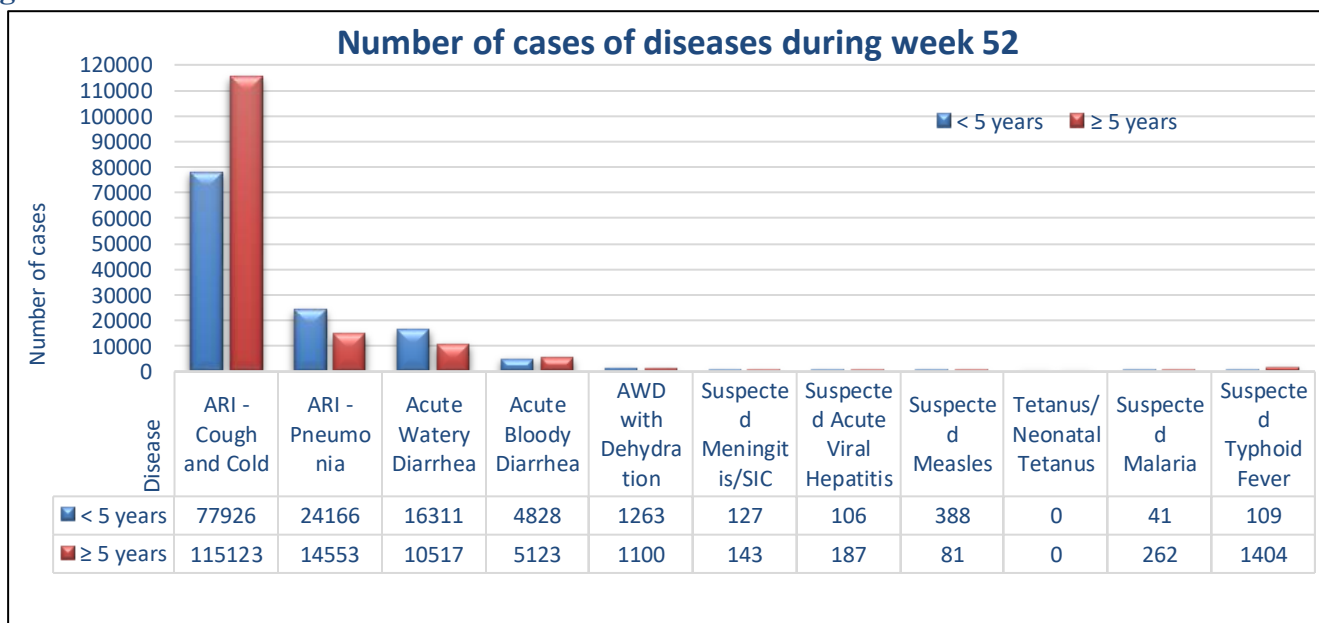


Figure 2: B



Seasonal Diseases:

Figure 3: A

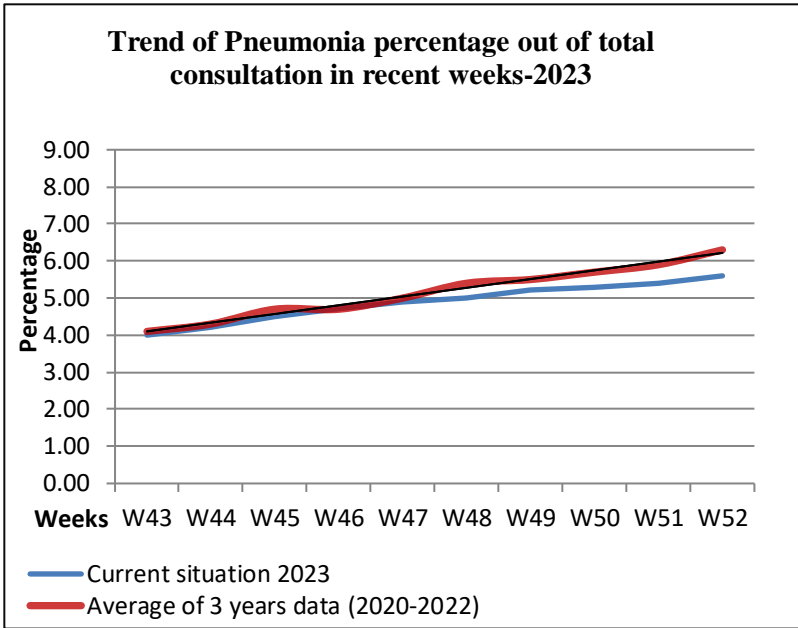


Figure 3: B

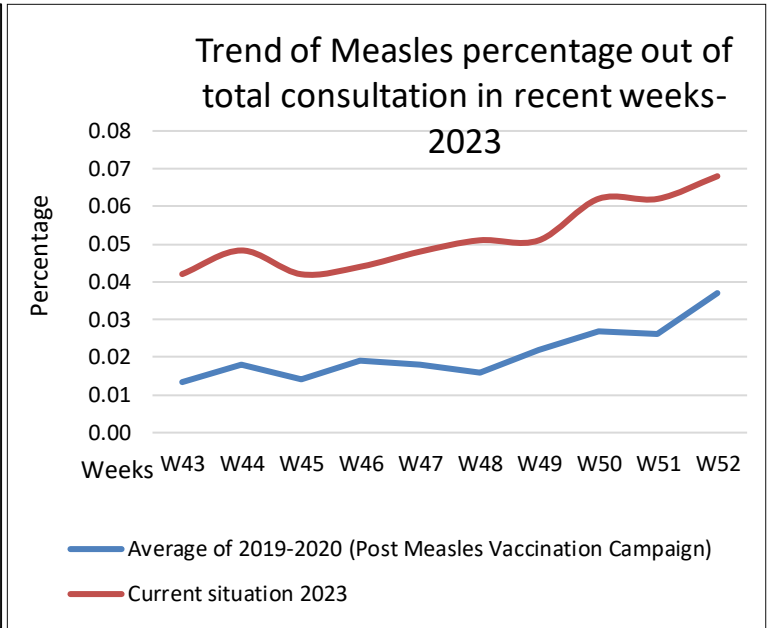


Figure 3: C

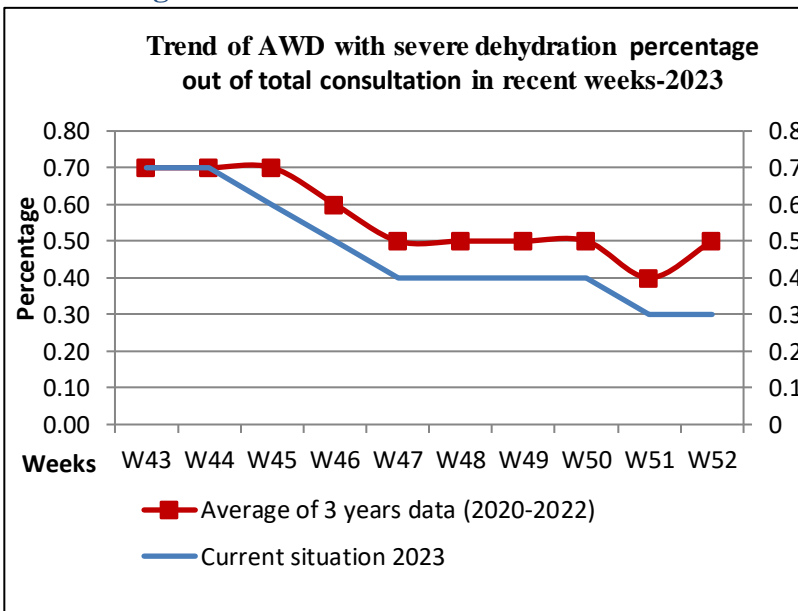


Figure 3: D

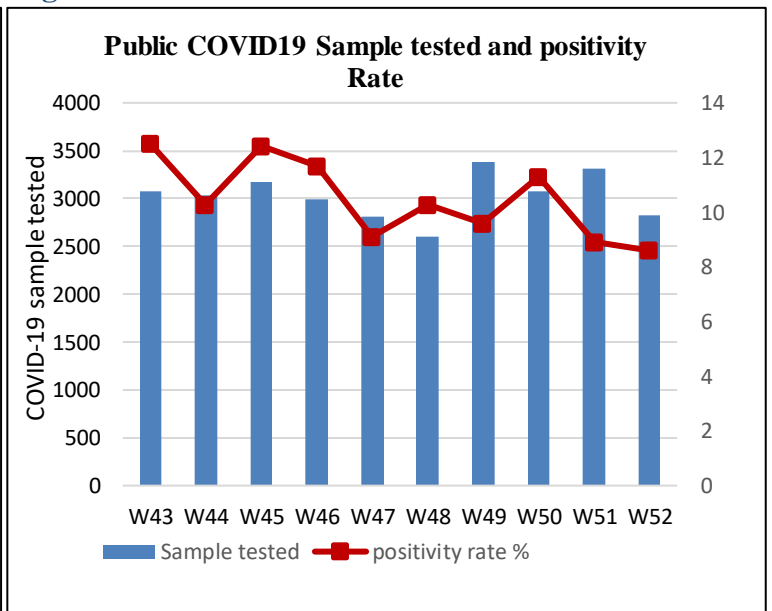


Table 3: Outbreaks in Week 52nd 2023:

Clinical Scabies outbreaks from Ghazni, Kapisa, Logar, Panjshir and Takhar provinces						
Reported dated	Province	District	Village	Total Cases	Total deaths	Recommendation
24/12/2023	Ghazni	Center	Hayat Abad	30	0	During this week, 07 Clinical Scabies outbreaks were reported from Ghazni, Kapisa, Logar, Panjshir and Takhar provinces and case management was done. Health education sessions were conducted for all the cases.
25/12/2023	Kapisa	Kohistan-2	Said Ali Khail	22	0	
27/12/2023		Kohistan-2	Sokhata Khail	16	0	
30/12/2023	Logar	Puli Alam	Shahrak Mamorin	9	0	
24/12/2023	Panjshir	Abshar	Ail Sokhta	7	0	
26/12/2023		Hisa Awal	Baghnaw	14	0	
24/12/2023	Takhar	Taloqan	Bagh Miri	14	0	

Clinical Chickenpox outbreaks from Kabul, Kapisa, Paktya, Panjshir, Takhar and Urozgan provinces						
Reported dated	Province	District	Village	Total Cases	Total deaths	Recommendation
29/12/2023	Kabul	Bagrami	Qala E Ahmad Khan	5	0	During this week, 07 Clinical Chickenpox outbreaks were reported from Kabul, Kapisa, Paktya, Panjshir, Takhar and Urozgan provinces and case management was done. Health education sessions were conducted for all the cases.
24/12/2023	Kapisa	Center	Saifudin Khail	7	0	
25/12/2023	Paktya	Zurmat	Shahzy Village	15	0	
25/12/2023	Panjshir	Abshar	Shahree Gulgula	8	0	
30/12/2023		Center	Zardi	7	0	
24/12/2023	Takhar	Taluqan	Puli Qaq	5	0	
23/12/2023	Urozgan	Tarin-Kot	Kashata Sarkhom	10	0	

Suspected Measles outbreaks from Nangarhar and Zabul provinces						
Reported Dated	Province	District	Village	Total Cases	Total Deaths	Recommendation/Action take
24/12/2023	Nangarhar	Behsood	Naghlo Saracha	9	0	During this week, 02 Suspected Measles outbreaks were reported from Nangarhar and Zabul provinces, case management was done, health education sessions were conducted for all the cases.
23/12/2023	Zabul	Dayo-Chopan	Nayak	13	0	

Dog bite /suspected Rabies outbreaks from Kabul and Kapisa provinces

Reported Dated	Province	District	Village	Total Cases	Total Deaths	Recommendation/Action take
27/12/2023	Kabul	District 8	Gul Buta	4	0	During this week, 02 Dog bite /suspected Rabies outbreaks were reported from Kabul and Kapisa Provinces, case management was done, health education sessions were conducted for all the cases.
30/12/2023	Kapisa	Alasay	Chora Khail	6	0	

Clinical Brucellosis outbreak from Herat province						
Reported dated	Province	District	Village	Total Cases	Total deaths	Recommendation
26/12/2023	Herat	Robat Sangi	Cheshmeh Rooqani	32	0	During this week, 01 Clinical Brucellosis outbreak was reported from Herat province and case management was done. Health education session was conducted for all the cases.

AWD with Dehydration outbreak from Nangarhar province						
Reported Dated	Province	District	Village	Total Cases	Total Deaths	Recommendation/Action take
25/12/2023	Nangarhar	Jalalabad	Mayobin	1	0	During this week, 01 AWD with Dehydration outbreak was reported from Nangarhar Province, case management was done, health education session was conducted for all the cases.

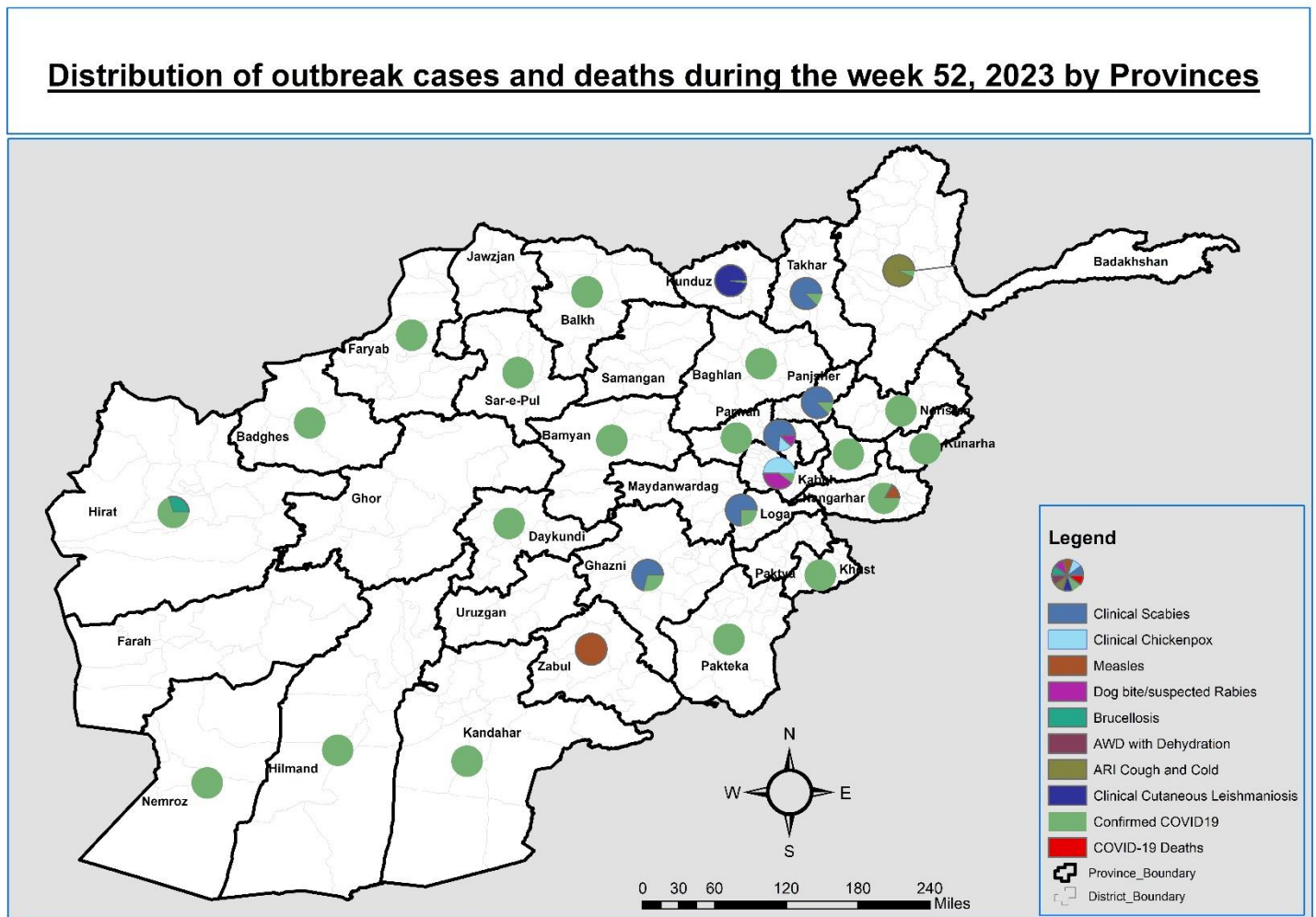
ARI Cough and Cold outbreak from Badakhshan province						
Reported Dated	Province	District	Village	Total Cases	Total Deaths	Recommendation/Action take
23/12/2023	Badakhshan	Yamgan	Kalfzar	98	0	During this week, 01 ARI cough and cold outbreak was reported from Badakhshan Province, case management was done, health education session was conducted for all the cases.

Clinical Cutaneous Leishmaniasis outbreak from Kunduz province						
Reported Dated	Province	District	Village	Total Cases	Total Deaths	Recommendation/Action take
23/12/2023	Kunduz	Qalaye Zaal	Doman, Kolokh Tapa	47	0	During this week, 01 Clinical Leishmaniasis outbreak was reported from Kunduz Province case management was done, health education session was conducted for all the cases.

Table 4: Updated outbreak reports during 2023 (01 Jan 2023 to 30 December 2023)

Disease/Event	Disease/Event	Lab Confirm	Total Cases	Total Deaths
Measles	204	151	2502	12
Suspected Chickenpox	246	7	3597	0
Scabies	233	0	7742	0
Mumps	57	0	906	0
Dog bites/Suspected Rabies	84	0	627	2
Pertussis	58	0	959	1
Pneumonia	30	2	1282	24
Malaria	41	41	3139	0
Leishmaniasis	20	2	1176	0
CCHF	24	24	149	13
Food poisoning	22	0	693	0
Anthrax	14	0	37	1
Unknown Poisoning	10	0	450	3
Typhoid Fever	4	0	125	3
Acute Bloody diarrhea	2	0	124	0
ARI	6	0	362	3
COVID 19	4	4	287	0
Acute watery Diarrhea (Dehydration)	63	60	292	2
Tinea Capitis	2	0	21	0
Skin diseases	3	0	571	0
Tetanus	1	0	3	0
Acute Viral Hepatitis	3	1	34	0
Dengue fever	1	0	2	1
Cat bites/Suspected Rabies	1	0	5	0
Cattle bites/Suspected Rabies	2	0	9	0
Suspected Botulism	3	0	10	5
Suspected Black Fungus	1	0	1	1
Vaccine reaction	1	0	4	0
Jaundice syndrome	1	0	33	0
Pink eye (Viral conjunctivitis)	4	0	46	0
Head Lice outbreak	1	0	281	0
Water Contamination	1	0	51	0
Brucellosis	1	0	32	0
Grand Total	1148	292	25552	71

Figure 4 Clinical Scabies, Clinical Chickenpox, Measles, Dog bite/suspected Rabies, Brucellosis, AWD with Dehydration, ARI Cough and Cold, Clinical Cutaneous Leishmaniosis, COVID-19 Cases, and deaths during the week 52nd 2023.



Laboratory surveillance:

A total of **4289** specimens were collected and shipped to CPHL and other regional laboratories. Out of which **20** specimens were confirmed for Dengue Fever, **04** specimens were confirmed for AWD, **21** specimens were confirmed for Acute Viral Hepatitis, **05** specimens were confirmed for Malaria and **26** specimens were confirmed for Measles (Follow-up by the CPHL is going on).

Influenza Surveillance activities:

In Epidemiological week 52nd 2023, we have received reports from 10 out of 10 sentinel sites (Kabul, Kandahar, Balkh, Herat, Bamyan, Baghlan, Nangarhar, Kapisa, Paktya and Badakhshan). Out of all new hospital admissions, 785 (16.0%) Severe Acute Respiratory Infections cases were reported and 55% were under 5 years old. The proportion of SARI cases was decreased compared to week 51st 2023. 24 SARI-associated deaths were reported this week. At the 10 provincial levels, the top sentinel sites with the highest proportion of SARI cases were Kabul (41.0%), Nangarhar (29.4%), and Kapisa (28.4%) provinces. During this Epi-week, our field staff shipped 60 SARI and 40 ILI specimens to the National Influenza Center (NIC).

COVID-19 Surveillance activities:

This week, **2829** specimens were tested for suspected COVID-19. Out of which **242** specimens were confirmed for COVID-19 by RT-PCR.

- The COVID-19 case positivity rate was 8.5 % this week, which decreased 0.4% compared to the previous week.
- Out of **242 confirmed** cases, **543** contacts out of **183** were traced that were mostly family members, with an average of 4 contacts per case, and will be continued until 14 days after their last contact with the confirmed cases. Also, surveillance screening teams screened all the passengers at the points of entry for fever. In addition, health education was conducted for them. About **32,553** passengers have been screened for COVID-19 at the points of entry in four provinces (Balkh, Herat, Kandahar and Nangarhar).

Challenges:

- Measles cases are still a public health concern in the country. This week, **491 (IBS+EBS)** Measles cases were reported to the surveillance system.
- Scabies cases are on increasing trend as a public health challenge due to unimproved lifestyle of the community.
- Chickenpox cases are on increasing trend, and it is recommended to provide its vaccine through the national EPI.
- Dog-bite cases are on increasing trend, and it is recommended to provide its control measure through the Zoonotic committee in national level.
- ARI cough and cold cases are on the decreasing trend (0.6%) compared to the previous week.
- Pneumonia cases are on an increasing trend (0.2%) compared to the previous week.
- Diarrheal diseases are on the decreasing trend (0.2%) compared to the previous week.
- COVID-19 preventive and control measures should be strengthened.
- Public awareness regarding ARI prevention and control is needed.
- Vaccine preventable diseases (especially Measles and Pertussis vaccination and preventive measures) should be strengthened.
- The measles response strategy should be reviewed to respond to the current measles epidemic situation.
 - **EPI:** As the surveillance system detected **491 (IBS+EBS)** suspected Measles cases at the national level, further prevention and control measures should be conducted by the EPI team.
- The findings should be analyzed further at different levels, and appropriate actions should be taken by the concerned department.