

Ministry of Public Health
Monitoring & Inspection General Directorate
National Diseases Surveillance and Response Department

وزارت صحت عامه
 ریاست عمومی نظارت و بازرسی
 دیپارتمنت ملی سرویلانس و پاسخ دهی به امراض

دعامة روغتیا وزارت
 دڅارنې او پلنتې عمومي ریاست
 د ناروغيو دملي سرویلانس او غبرگون دیپارټمنټ

Epidemiological Report | Week # 03– 2026

03 (18 Jan - 24 Jan, 2026)

Summary:

Out of **613** functional surveillance sentinel sites, **605 (98.7 %)** submitted reports this week.

A total of **645,091** new consultations were reported, among which **253,417 (39.3%)** were due to surveillance-targeted diseases, which include **129,058 (50.9%)** females and **111,624 (44%)** children under five.

The most frequently reported surveillance-targeted diseases this week were ARI cough & cold with **179,961** cases (**27.9%**), acute diarrheal diseases with **30,345** cases (**4.7%**), and pneumonia with **39,711** cases (**6.2%**).

A total of **489** deaths were reported this week, of which **99 (20.3%)** deaths were due to surveillance-targeted diseases. This includes **90 ARI pneumonia** deaths, **5 suspected meningitis** deaths, **1 acute viral hepatitis** death and **3 measles** deaths.

During this week, 34 outbreaks were reported: **4 measles** outbreaks, **12 scabies** outbreaks, **6** pertussis outbreaks, **5 chickenpox** outbreaks, **3 dog bite/suspected rabies** outbreaks, **1 food poisoning** outbreak, **1 mumps** outbreak, **1 anthrax** outbreak and **1 diphtheria** outbreak.

Table 1: Top 7 priority infectious diseases cases and deaths out of total consultations in Week 03-2026

Top 7 Diseases	Cases				Deaths				Total				CFR
	Male		Female		Male		Female		Cases		Deaths		
	< 5 Y	> 5 Y	< 5 Y	> 5 Y	< 5 Y	> 5 Y	< 5 Y	> 5 Y	Number	%	Number	%	
AWD with Dehydration	393	274	343	297	0	0	0	0	1307	0.2	0	0.0	0.00
ARI-Pneumonia	13150	6896	11809	7856	40	5	41	4	39711	6.2	90	18.4	0.23
Measles	221	36	186	38	1	1	1	0	481	0.1	3	0.6	0.62
CCHF	0	2	0	5	0	0	0	0	7	0.0	0	0.0	0.00
Confirmed Malaria	16	68	9	51	0	0	0	0	144	0.0	0	0.0	0.00
Dengue Fever	0	5	0	2	0	0	0	0	7	0.0	0	0.0	0.00
Covid-19	1	662	6	730	0	0	0	0	1399	0.2	0	0.0	0.00

Figure 1: Surveillance/ NDSR sentinel sites location by type of health facility, 2026

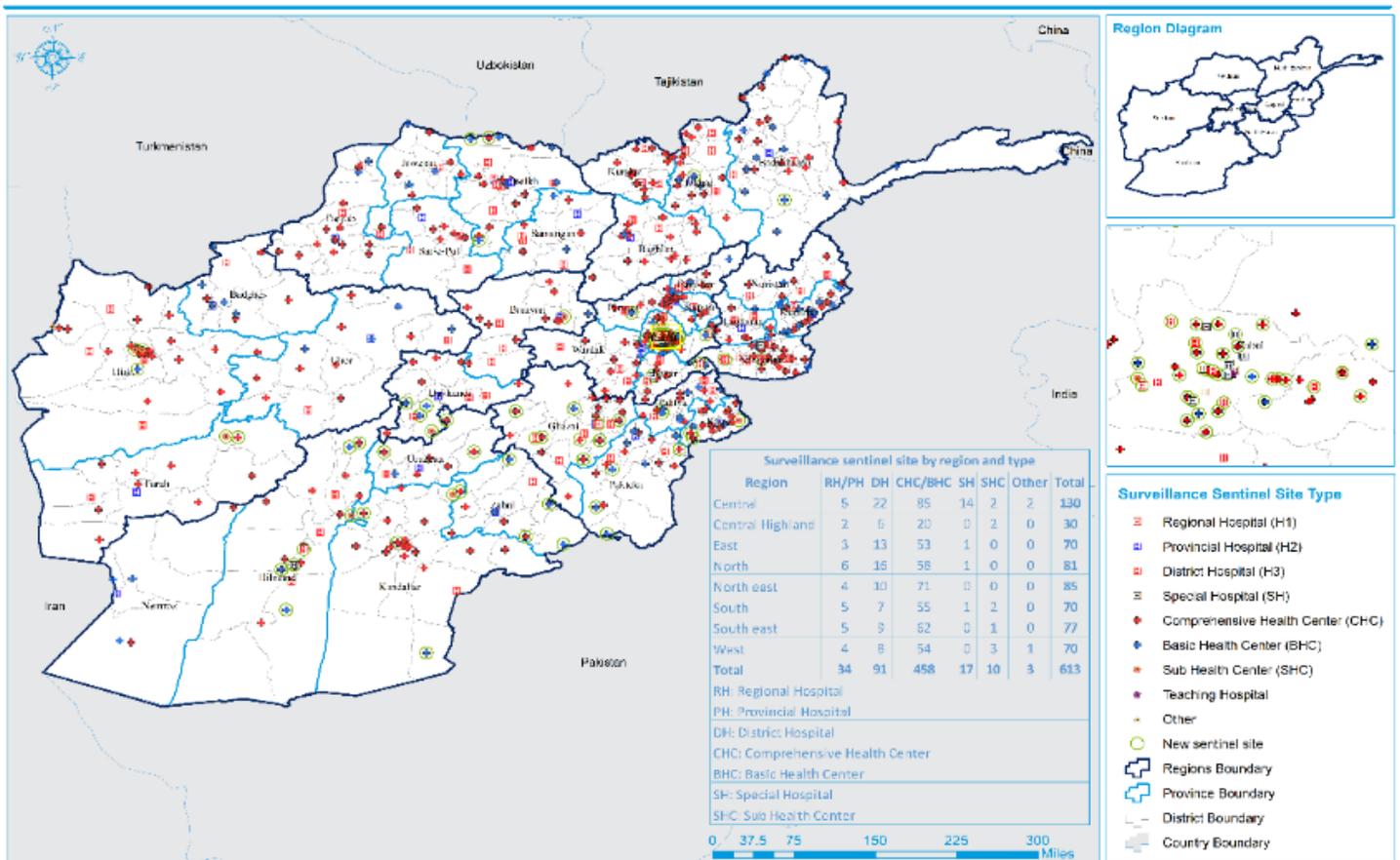


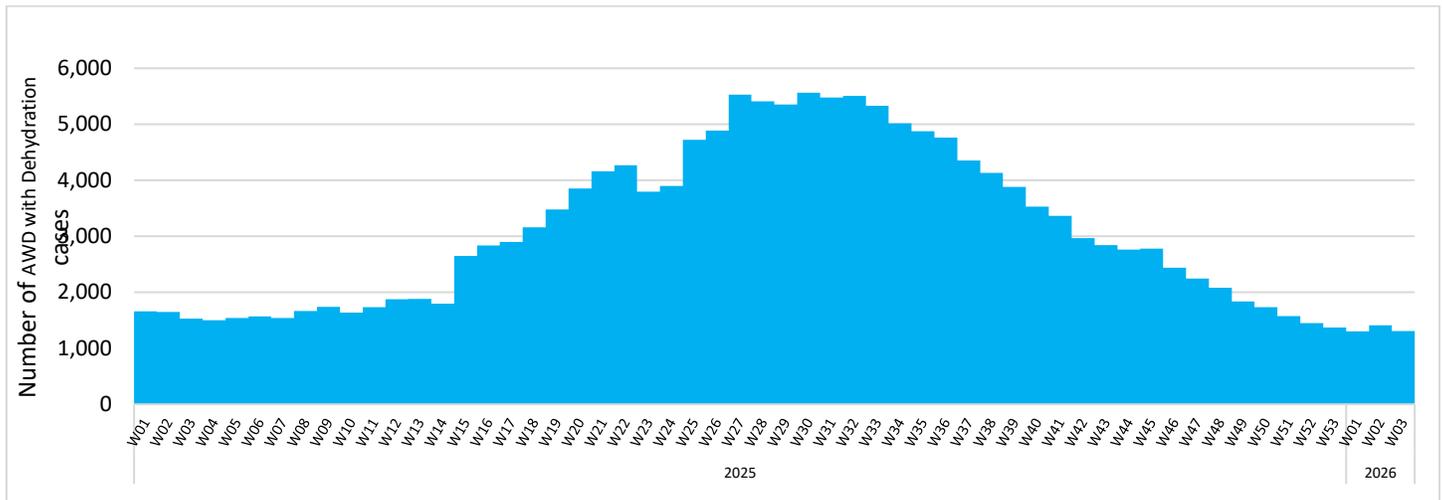
Table 2: Cumulative data on 17 surveillance priority diseases (W03, 2026)

Surveillance Indicators	Cases				Deaths				Total				CFR
	Male		Female		Male		Female		Cases		Deaths		
	< 5 Y	> 5 Y	< 5 Y	> 5 Y	< 5 Y	> 5 Y	< 5 Y	> 5 Y	Number	%	Number	%	
AWD with Dehydration	1,219	859	1,090	855	0	0	0	0	4,023	0.2	0	0.0	0.00
Acute Bloody Diarrhea	6,296	7,200	5,753	7,197	0	0	0	0	26,446	1.3	0	0.0	0.00
AFP	28	20	19	8	0	0	0	0	75	0.0	0	0.0	0.00
Acute Viral Hepatitis	122	158	122	193	2	1	0	1	595	0.0	4	0.3	0.67
Acute Watery Diarrhea	21,312	13,109	19,993	14,505	0	0	0	0	68,919	3.3	0	0.0	0.00
ARI-C&C	115,589	165,424	111,813	190,375	0	0	0	0	583,201	28.3	0	0.0	0.00
Probable Diphtheria	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0.0	0	0.0	0.00
CCHF	0	12	0	14	0	0	0	0	26	0.0	0	0.0	0.00
Confirmed Malaria	41	210	31	158	0	0	0	0	440	0.0	0	0.0	0.00
Measles	631	108	591	138	3	1	1	0	1,468	0.1	5	0.4	0.34
Covid-19	4	2,178	22	2,435	0	0	0	0	4,639	0.2	0	0.0	0.00
Pertussis	39	2	35	5	0	0	0	0	81	0.0	0	0.0	0.00
ARI-Pneumonia	40,080	20,989	36,451	24,438	117	27	110	21	121,958	5.9	275	19.3	0.23
Meningitis	135	105	110	90	7	5	4	3	440	0.0	19	1.3	4.32
Dengue Fever	0	21	0	9	0	0	0	0	30	0.0	0	0.0	0.00
Neonatal Tetanus	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0.0	0	0.0	0.00
Typhoid Fever	107	1,400	93	1,691	0	0	0	0	3,291	0.2	0	0.0	0.00
NDSR targeted diseases/Deaths	185,603	211,795	176,123	242,111	129	34	115	25	815,632	39.5	303	21	0.04
Total of new clients/ death	320,099	573,193	308,748	862,205	426	389	325	286	2,064,245	100	1,426	100	0.07

Epidemic situation of AWD with dehydration:

- The epi-curve of AWD with dehydration illustrates a gradual decrease since week 33-2025.
- During 3rd week of 2026, a total of 1,307 cases and 0 death have been reported (CFR=0.0%)
- Out of the total cases, 736 (56.3%) were under-five children, and 640 (48.9%) were females.
- Since the beginning of 2026, a total of 4,023 AWD + dehydration cases and 0 death (CFR=0.0%) have been reported. Of these cases 2,309 (57.4%) are children under five and 1,945 (48.3%) are females.

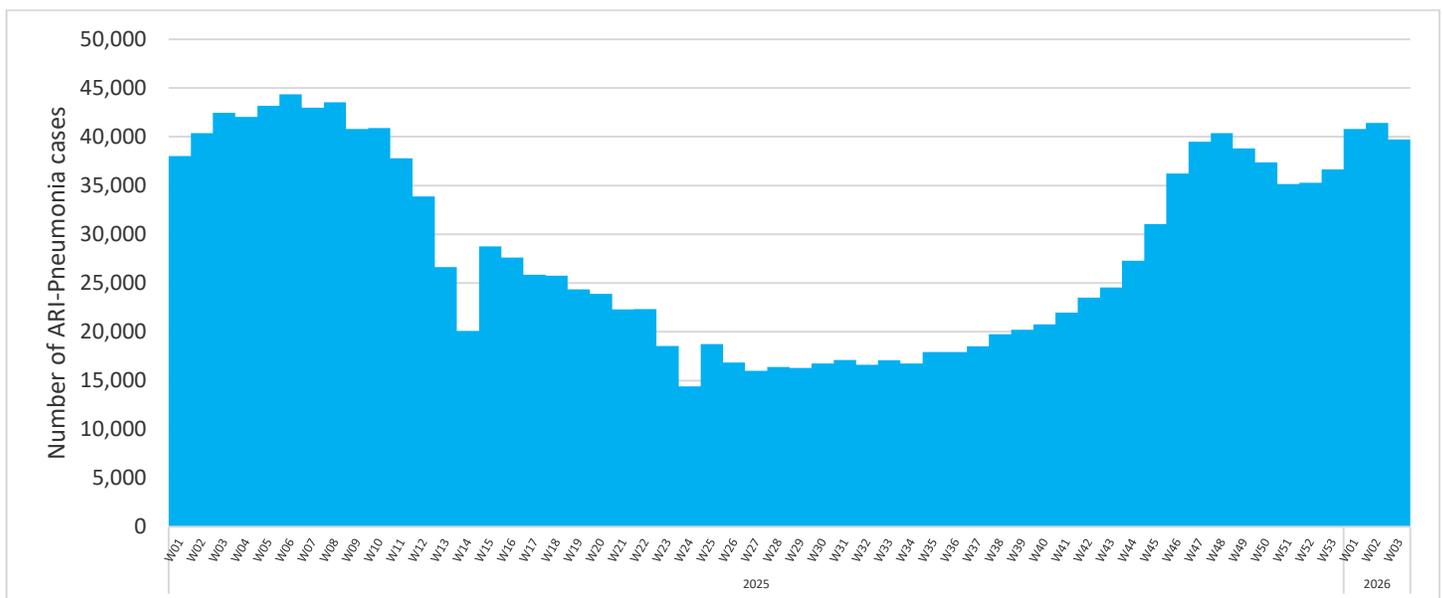
Figure 2: Epidemic curve of AWD with dehydration cases in Afghanistan (W 01, 2025 to W 03, 2026)



Epidemic situation of ARI pneumonia:

- The epi-curve of ARI pneumonia illustrates a notable increase since week 52-2025.
- During the 3rd week of 2026, a total of 39,711 cases and 90 deaths have been reported (CFR=0.23%)
- Out of the total cases, 24,959 (62.8%) were under-five children, and 19,665 (49.5%) were females.
- Since the beginning of 2026, a total of 121,958 ARI pneumonia cases and 275 deaths (CFR=0.2%) have been reported. Of these cases 76,531 (62.7%) are children under five and 60,889 (49.9%) are females.

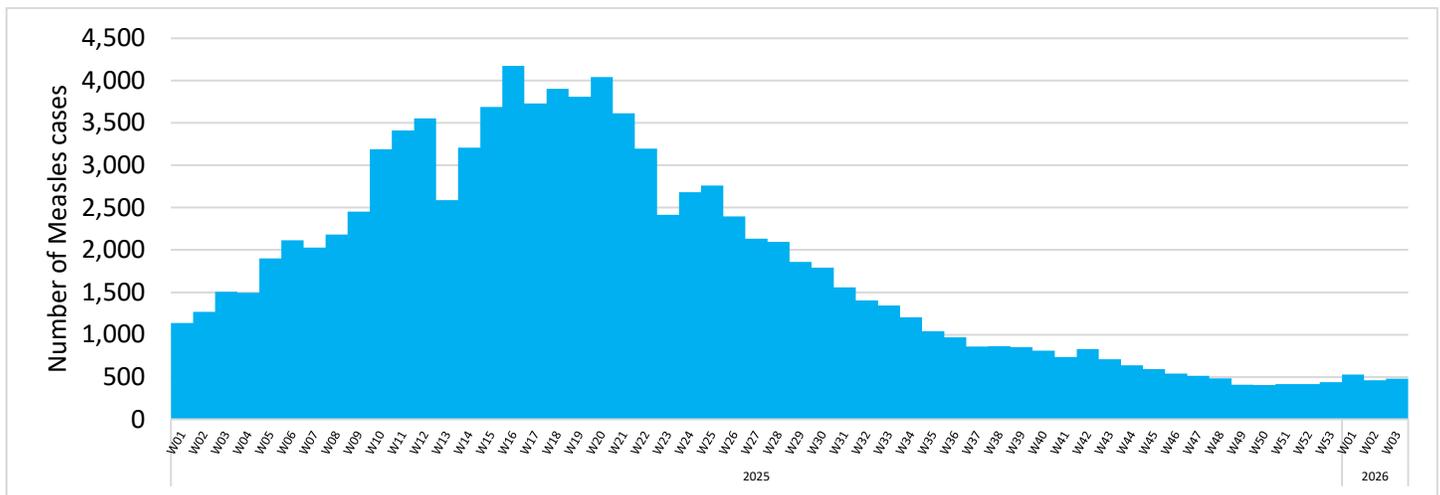
Figure 3: Epidemic curve of ARI pneumonia cases in Afghanistan (W 01, 2025 to W 03, 2026)



Epidemic situation of measles:

- The epi-curve of measles illustrates a notable decrease since week 20-2025.
- During the 3rd week of 2026, a total of 481 cases and 3 deaths have been reported (CFR=0.6%)
- Out of the total cases, 407 (84.6%) were under-five children, and 224 (46.6%) were females.
- Since the beginning of 2026, a total of 1,468 measles cases and 5 death (CFR=0.3%) have been reported. Of these cases 1,222 (83.2%) are children under five and 729 (49.6%) are females.

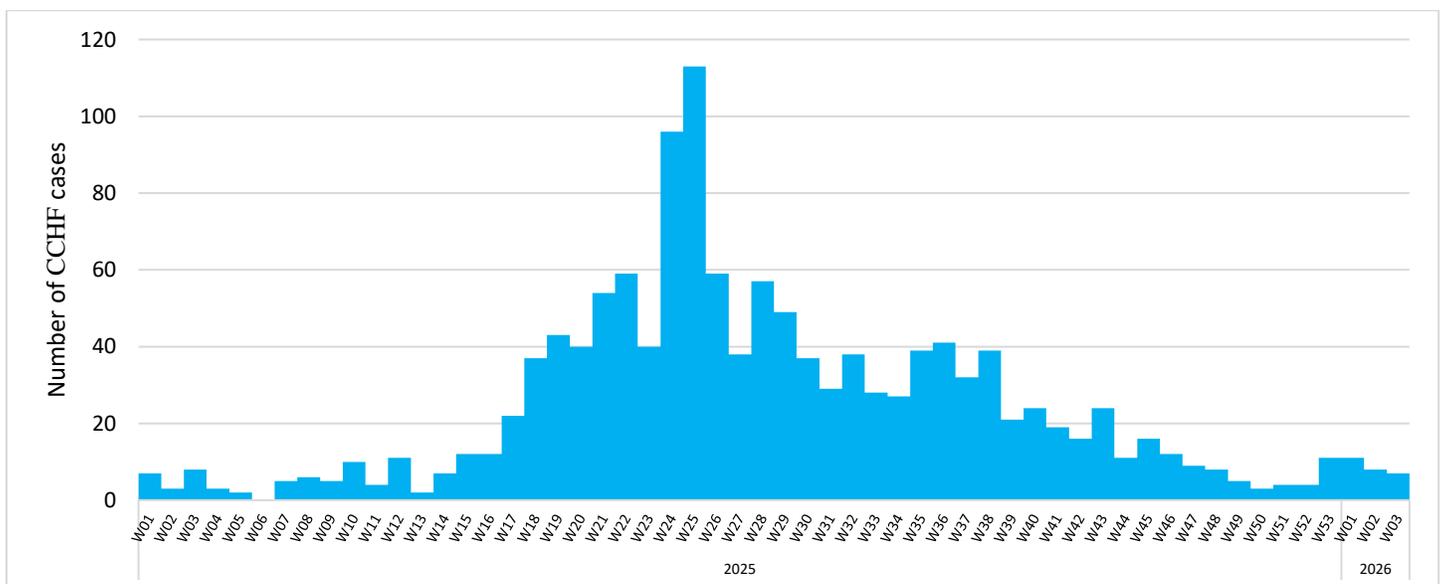
Figure 4: Epidemic curve of suspected measles cases in Afghanistan (W 01, 2025 to W 03, 2026)



Epidemic situation of CCHF:

- The epi-curve of suspected CCHF cases has shown a gradual decrease since week 25-2025.
- During week 3rd 2026, a total of 7 cases and 0 death have been reported (CFR= 0.0%)
- Out of the total cases, none of them children under five, and 5 of them (71.4%) was female.
- Since the beginning of 2026, a total of 26 suspected CCHF cases and 0 death (CFR=0.0%) have been reported. Of these cases 0 (0.0%) are children under five and 14 (53.8%) are females.

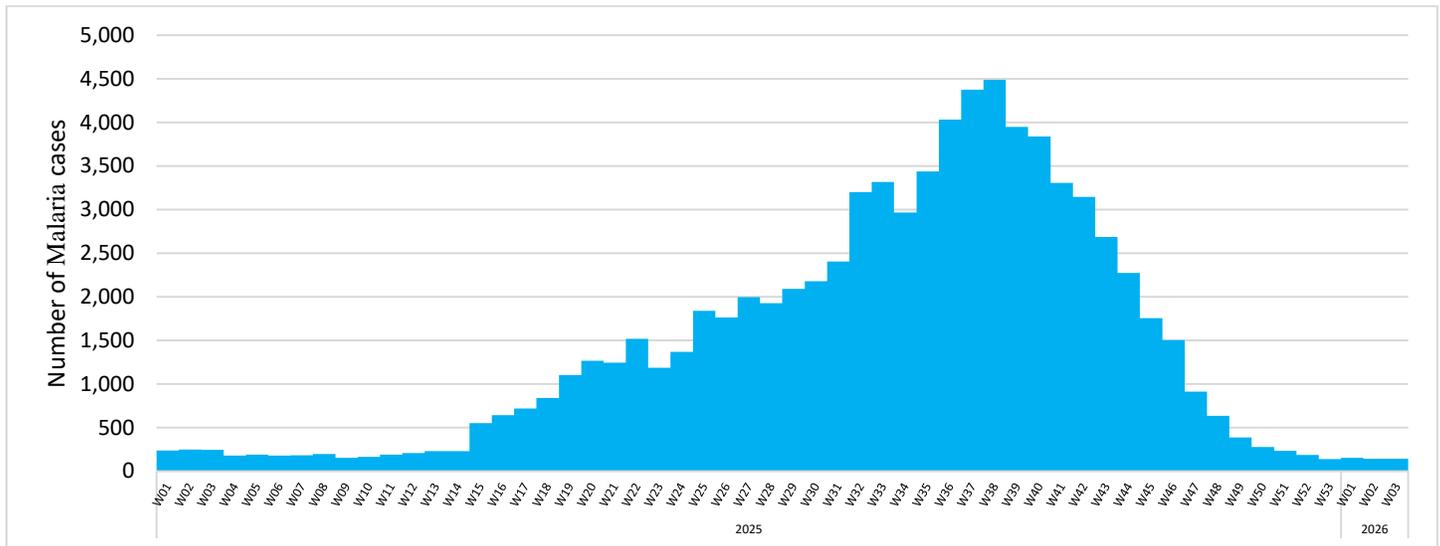
Figure 5: Epidemic curve of suspected CCHF cases in Afghanistan (W 01, 2025 to W 03, 2026)



Epidemic situation of malaria:

- The epi-curve of confirmed malaria illustrates a considerable decrease since week 39-2025.
- During 3rd week of 2026, a total of 144 cases and zero deaths have been reported (CFR=0.0%)
- Out of the total cases, 25 (17.3%) were children under-five, and 60 (41.6%) were females.
- Since the beginning of 2026, a total of 440 confirmed malaria cases and zero deaths have been reported. Of these cases 72 (16.3%) are children under-five, and 189 (43%) are females.

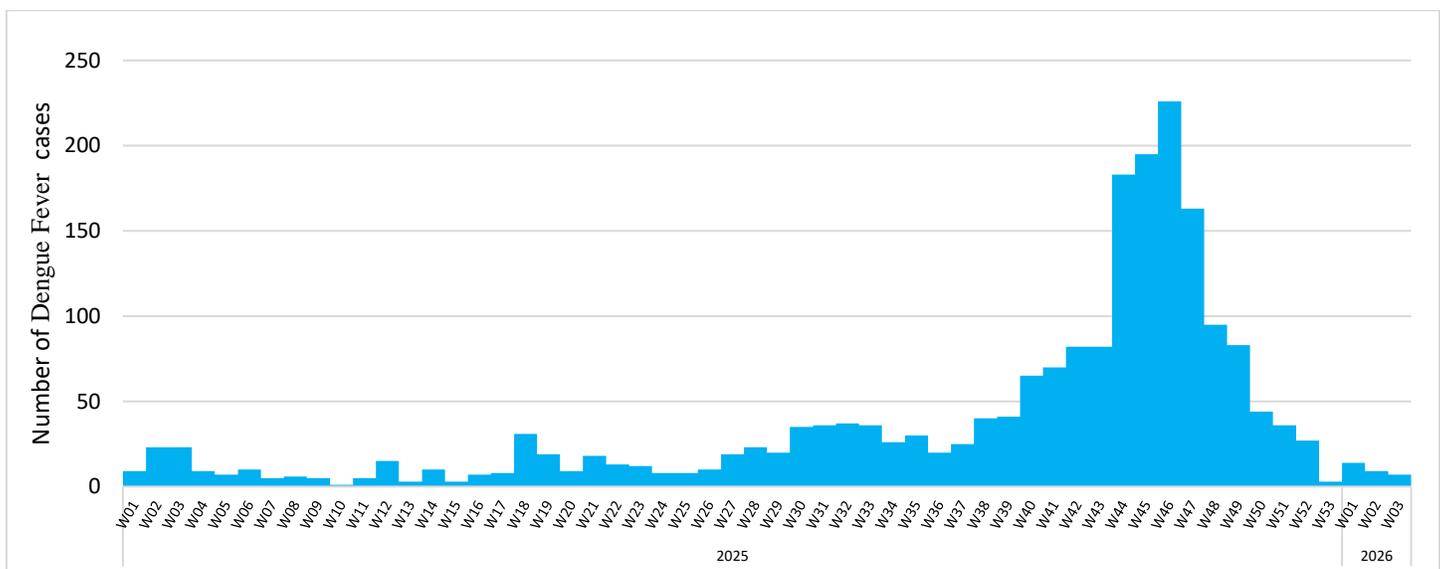
Figure 6: Th Epidemic curve of confirmed malaria cases in Afghanistan (W 01, 2025 to W 03, 2026)



Epidemic situation of dengue fever:

- The epi-curve of suspected dengue fever illustrates a considerable decrease since week 47 of 2025.
- During 3rd week of 2026, a total of 7 cases and 0 deaths have been reported (CFR=0.0%)
- Out of the total cases, none of them were children under five and 2 (28.6%) cases were female.
- Since the beginning of 2026, a total of 30 suspected dengue fever cases and 0 death (CFR=0.0%) have been reported. Of these cases none of them are children under five and 9 (30%) cases are females.

Figure 7: Epidemic curve of suspected dengue fever cases in Afghanistan (W 01, 2025 to W 03, 2026)



Epidemic situation of COVID-19

- The epi-curve of suspected COVID-19 illustrates a gradual decrease from weeks 48-2025.
- During 3rd week of 2026, a total of 1,399 cases and 0 death have been reported (CFR=0.0%)
- Out of the total cases, 7 (0.5%) were under-five children, and 736 (52.6%) were females.
- Since the beginning of 2026, a total of 4,639 suspected COVID-19 cases and 0 death (CFR=0.0%) have been reported. Of these cases 26 (0.5%) are under-five children, and 2,457 (52.9%) are females.

Figure 8: Epidemic curve of suspected COVID-19 cases in Afghanistan (W 01, 2025 to W 03, 2026)

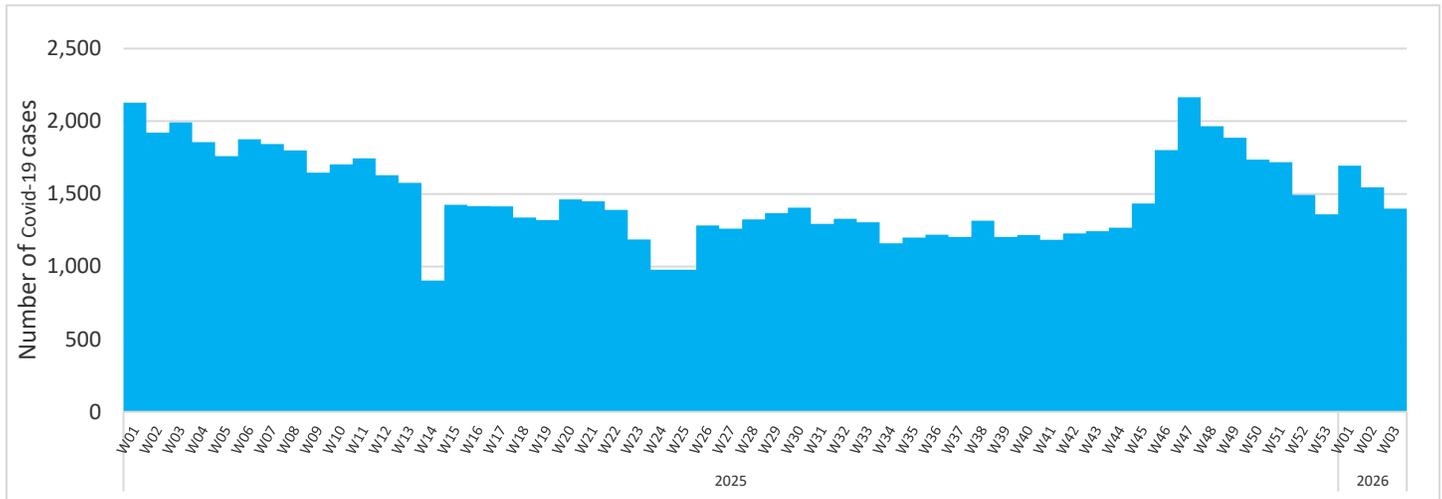


Figure 9: Geographical distribution of major infectious diseases cumulative cases by province in 2026

Figure 9: A (Pneumonia)

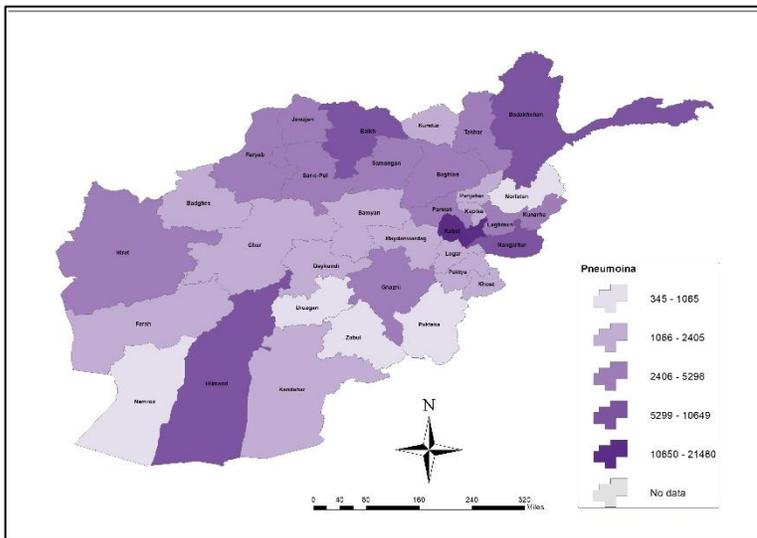


Figure 9: B (Measles)

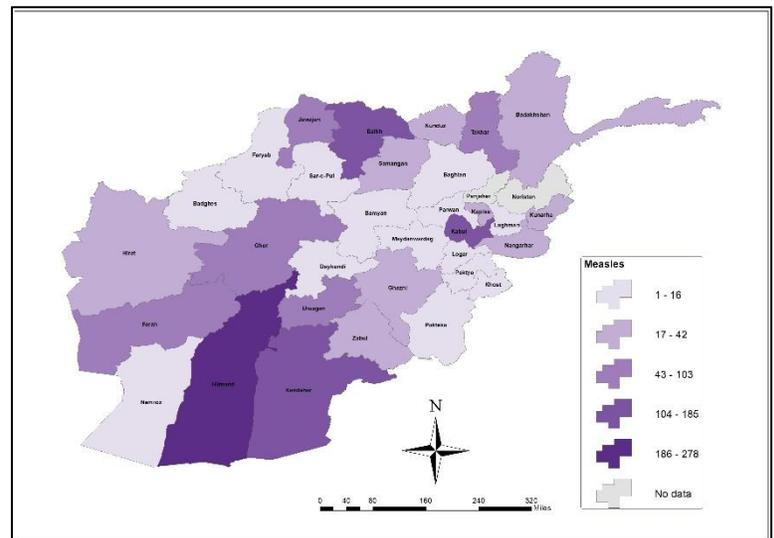


Figure 9: C (CCHF)

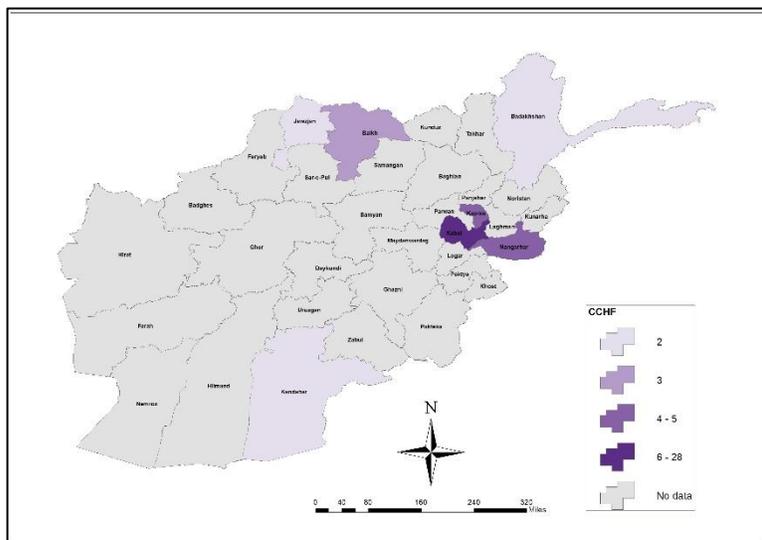
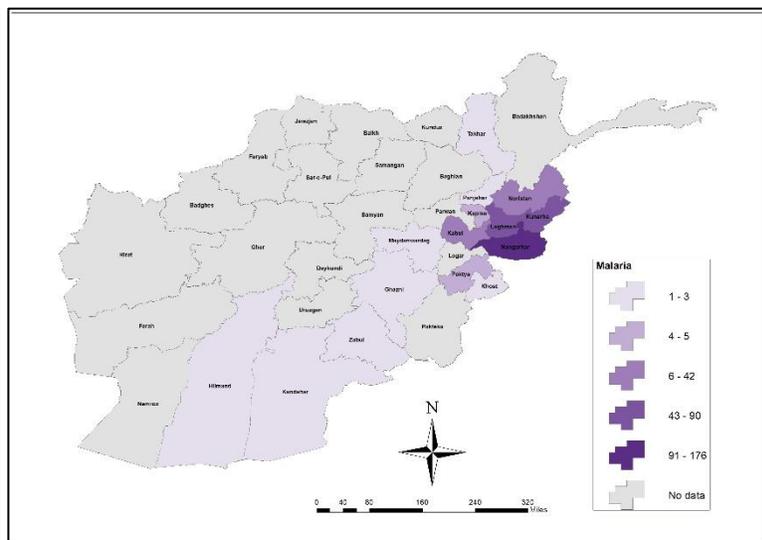


Figure 9: D (Malaria)



Influenza surveillance activities

- In Epidemiological week 03 of 2026, we have received reports from all ten influenza sites. Out of all new hospital admissions, 2002 (31.9%) Severe Acute Respiratory Infections cases were reported, and 1302 (65%) were under 5 years old and 1007 (50.2%) were female.
- The proportion of SARI cases increased (0.1%) compared to the previous week, and 52 SARI-associated deaths were reported this week: 46 (88.4%) under five and 29 (55.7%) females.
- At all influenza sentinel sites, the highest proportion of SARI cases were reported from Kabul (42%), Nangarhar (39%), and Herat (37%).
- During this week, our field staff in the country collected and shipped 100 specimens (60 SARI and 40 ILI) to the NIC. Out of all these tested specimens, 9 lab confirmed cases were reported for Influenza Flu (A/H3) and Influenza B Victoria, but not a new influenza virus subtype.

Table 3: The Afghanistan NIC lab result of influenza specimens in Week 3, 2026

Influenza site	Specimen Tested	Lab Confirmed	Lab confirmed influenza subtype details				Confirmed (COVID-19)	Positivity rate (%)
			Flu A (H1N1pdm09)	Flu A (H3)	Flu B (Victoria)	Flu B (Yamagata)		
Baghlan	10	0	0	0	0	0	0%	
Badakhshan	10	1	0	1	0	0	10%	
Balkh	10	1	0	0	1	0	10%	
Bamyan	10	0	0	0	0	0	0%	
Herat	10	0	0	0	0	0	0%	
Kabul	10	2	0	0	2	0	20%	
Kapisa	10	4	0	0	4	0	40%	
Kandahar	10	0	0	0	0	0	0%	
Nangarhar	10	0	0	0	0	0	0%	
Paktia	10	1	0	0	0	1	10%	
Total	100	9	0	1	7	0	9%	

Outbreak Situation

Table 4: Afghanistan infectious disease outbreaks report | Epidemiological Week # 03-2026

Event / Diseases Name	Investigation date	Province	District	Village	Total Cases	Total Deaths	Vaccination coverage, If VPD	
							HF reported coverage	Field Estimated Coverage
Measles	19/01/2026	Helmand	Shendak Mada	Nahrisrage	8	0	85%	70%
	22/01/2026	Helmand	Qasba	Lashkargah City	7	0	85%	75%
	20/01/2026	Takhar	Ghajar Abad	Yangi Qala (Takhar)	6	2	116%	20%
	21/01/2026	Urozgan	Chonai	Geezab (Urozgan)	10	0	74%	70%
Pertussis	19/01/2026	Kabul	Kabul	Takhnikom Chehelstoon	2	0	87%	51%
	20/01/2026	Kapisa	Kohistan	Murad Khuaja	5	0	85%	79%
	19/01/2026	Kapisa	Mahmod Raqi	Molazad Khail	6	0	87%	97%
	18/01/2026	Kapisa	Mahmod Raqi	Qrutak	5	0	95%	97%
	21/01/2026	Logar	Pul-e-Alam	Deh Mughulan & Mangokhil	11	0	90%	72%
	19/01/2026	Logar	Pul-e-Alam (Logar)	Qalai Bagey Hesarak	11	0	80%	30%
Scabies	12 Scabies outbreaks were reported from Baghlan (1), Khost (1), Kabul (4), Kunduz (1), Nangarhar (2), Nimroz (1), Urozgan (1) and Wardak (1) provinces (Total number of cases = 581)							
Chickenpox	5 Chickenpox outbreaks were reported from Balkh (1), Herat (1), Kabul (1), Nimroz (1) and Panjshir (1) provinces (Total number of cases = 52)							
Dog bite/Suspected Rabies	3 Dog bite/ Suspected Rabies outbreaks were reported from Ghazni (2) and Paktika (1) provinces (Total number of cases= 18)							
Food Poisoning	1 Food poisoning outbreak was reported from Badakhshan province (Total number of cases = 13)							
Diphtheria	1 Diphtheria outbreak was reported from Nangarhar province (Total number of cases = 15)							
Mumps	1 Mumps outbreak was reported from Urozgan province (Total number of cases = 09)							
Anthrax	1 Anthrax outbreak was reported from Jawzjan province (Total number of cases = 01)							

Figure 10: Geographical distribution of outbreaks and related deaths by province

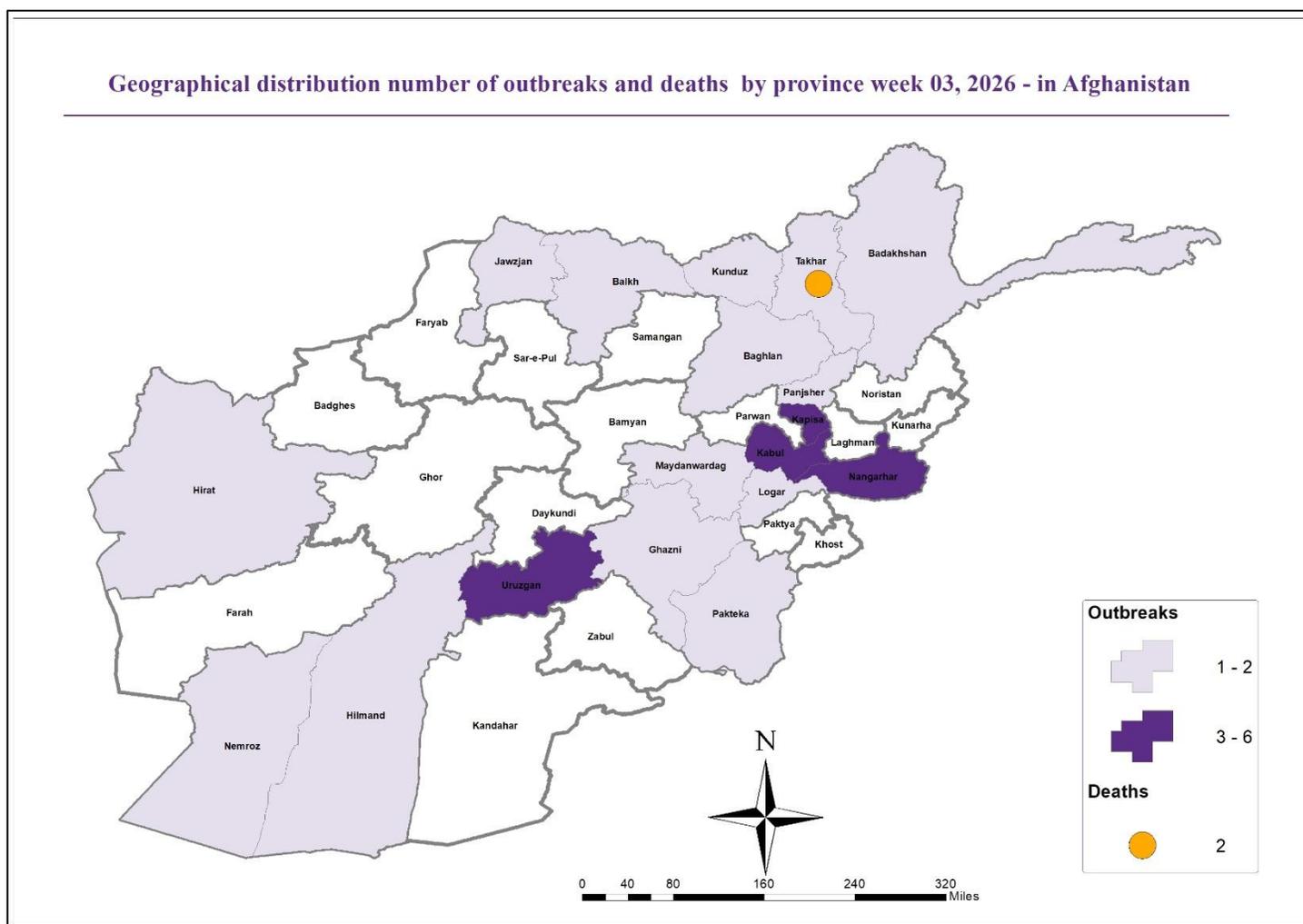


Table 5: Summary of diseases outbreaks during 2026

<u>Disease/Event</u>	<u>Disease/Event</u>	<u>Lab-Confirm</u>	<u>Total Cases</u>	<u>Total Deaths</u>
Measles	15	9	121	5
Scabies	52	0	2362	0
Chickenpox	20	3	252	0
Dog bite/Suspected Rabies	6	0	27	2
CCHF	1	1	5	0
Food Poisoning	1	0	13	0
Pertussis	7	0	51	0
Anthrax	1	0	1	0
AWD with Dehydration	0	0	0	0
Malaria	0	0	0	0
ARI-Pneumonia	1	0	45	0
Brucellosis	0	0	0	0
Viral Hepatitis	0	0	0	0
COVID-19	0	0	0	0
Impetigo	0	0	0	0

Typhoid Fever	0	0	0	0
Mumps	1	0	9	0
Leishmaniasis	0	0	0	0
Botulism	0	0	0	0
Tinea Capitis	0	0	0	0
ARI-Cough and Cold	0	0	0	0
Acute Bloody Diarrhea	0	0	0	0
Rubella	0	0	0	0
Probable Diphtheria	1	0	15	0
Neonatal Tetanus	0	0	0	0
Dengue fever	0	0	0	0
Grand Total	106	13	2901	7

Figure 11: Number of Outbreaks reported and responded during 2026

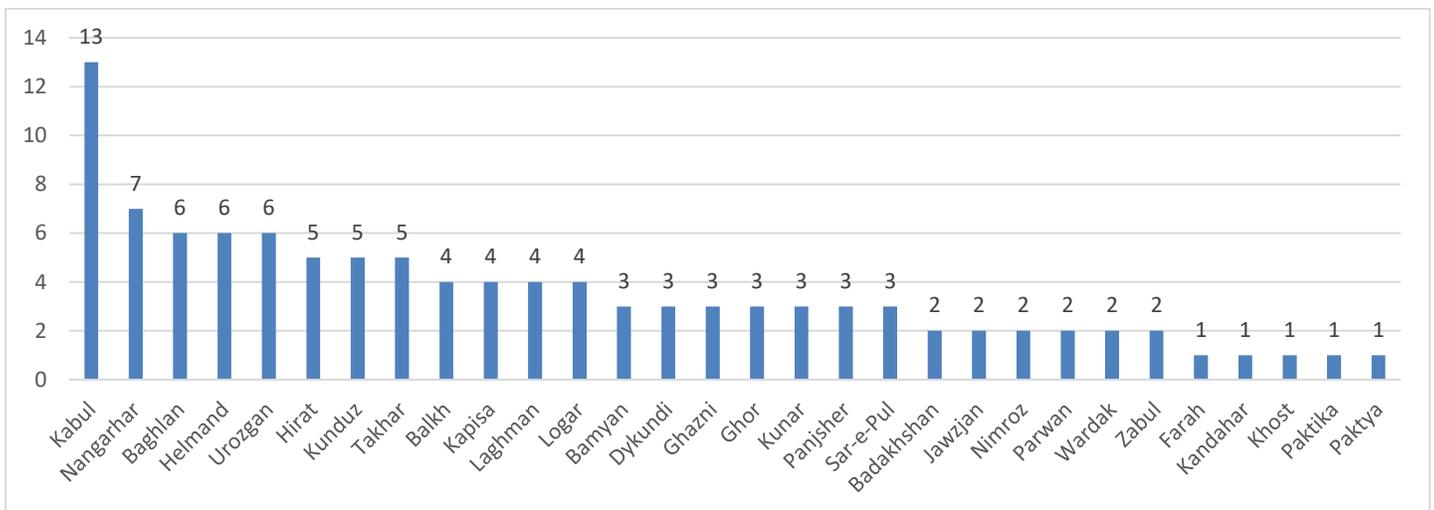


Figure 12: Outbreak Related Deaths during 2026

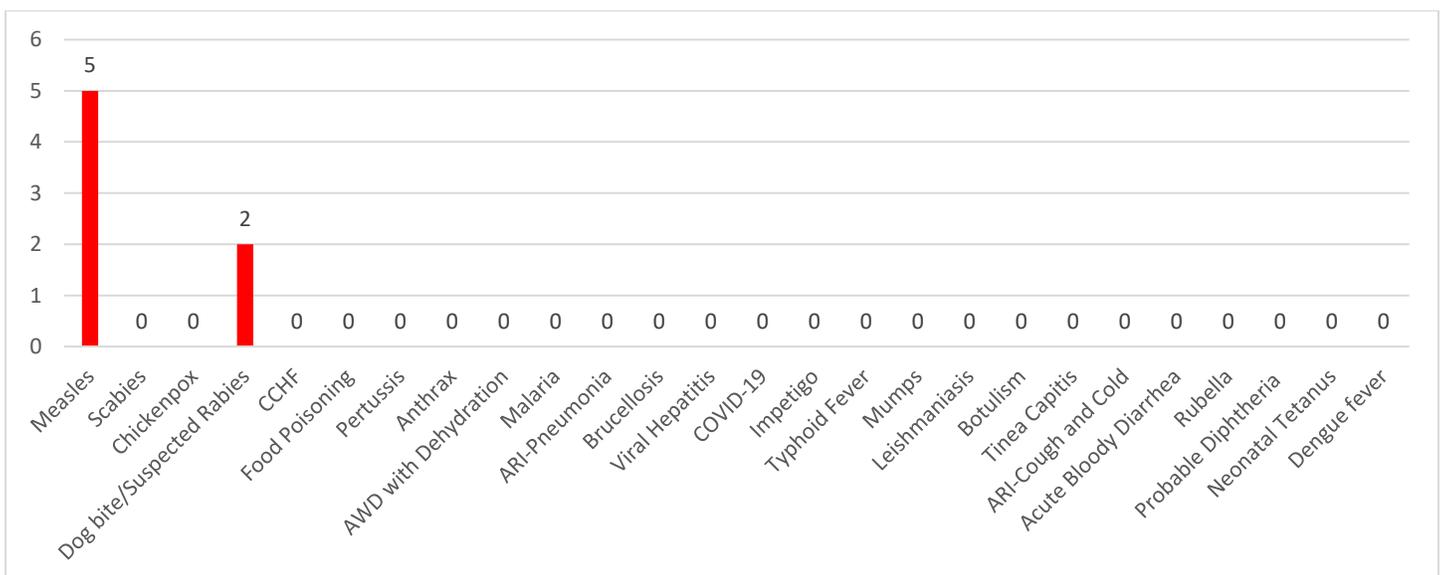


Table 6: Laboratory information from RRL, CPHL, NIDHL and provincial labs in Week # 03-2026

Lab Specimen	Specimen Tested	Specimen Confirmed	Positivity rate (%)
COVID-19	92	0	0.0
Measles	81	59	72.8
SARI	60	6	10.0
Chickenpox	56	31	55.4
ILI	40	3	7.5
Pertussis	31	9	29.0
CCHF	5	0	0.0
Hepatitis A+E(VAE)	3	1	33.3
Dengue Fever	0	0	0.0
Brucellosis	0	0	0.0
ARI/Pneumonia	0	0	0.0
Typhoid	0	0	0.0
M Pox	0	0	0.0
Total	368	109	29.6

Challenges and recommendations:

- Increasing the number of scabies outbreaks as a public health challenge due to the unimproved lifestyle of the community, such as poor hygiene and sanitation practices.
- Increasing the number of chickenpox outbreaks due to the unavailability of the Varicella Zoster vaccine, and it is recommended to provide its vaccine through the national EPI.
- Increasing the number of dog-bite clusters, and it is recommended to provide its control measure through the Zoonotic Committee at the national level.
- Although the number of CCHF cases has decreased over the past four weeks, it is still recommended to maintain and strengthen control measures at the national level to prevent further transmission
- COVID-19 preventive and control measures should be strengthened.
- 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 **512 (IBS+EBS)** suspected measles cases with **5 (IBS+EBS) deaths** 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 department concerned.

BR,

NDSR national team