



WHO Regional Office for the Eastern Mediterranean
Health emergencies biweekly bulletin

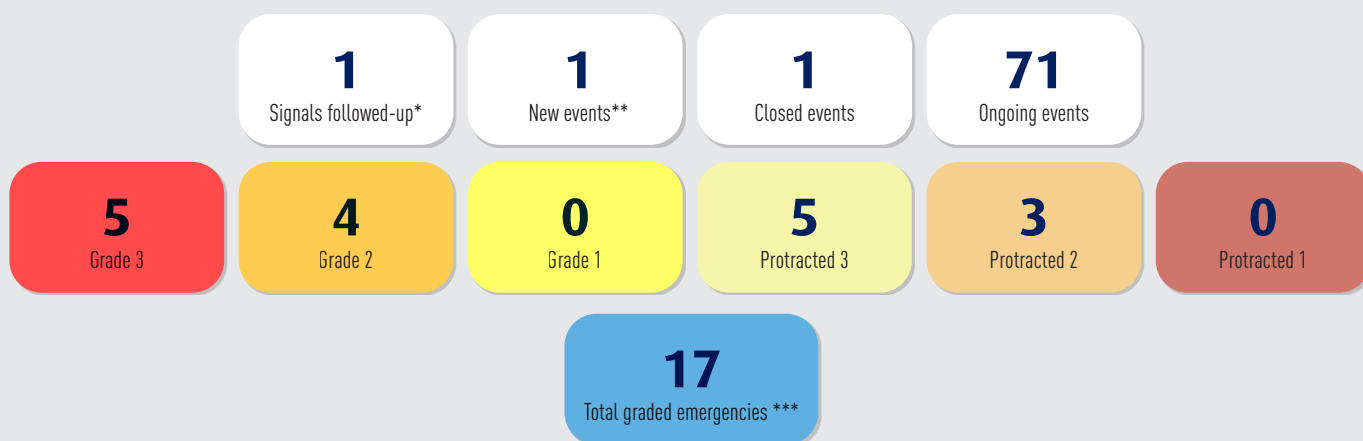
13–26 June 2024

Contents

- 2 Public health events and emergencies dashboard
- 3 Public health events and emergencies map
- 4 **Afghanistan: dengue**
- 5 **Saudi Arabia: managing health risks during the 2024 Hajj**
- 7 New public health events and emergencies
- 8 Ongoing public health events and emergencies
- 14 Closed public health events and emergencies

Public health events and emergencies dashboard

13–26 June 2024



*Signals followed-up: Signals are data and/or information detected that represent a potential acute risk to human health. Signals followed-up are signals for which confirmation is requested and/or for which official government websites and reports are continuously monitored for further information.

**Events: An event is defined by article 1 of the International Health Regulations (2005) as “a manifestation of disease or an occurrence that creates a potential for disease”. This can include events that are infectious, zoonotic, food safety-related, chemical, radiological or nuclear in origin and which are transmitted by people, vectors, animals, goods/food or the environment.

***Grading: Grading is an internal WHO process that triggers WHO emergency procedures and activities for the management of the response.

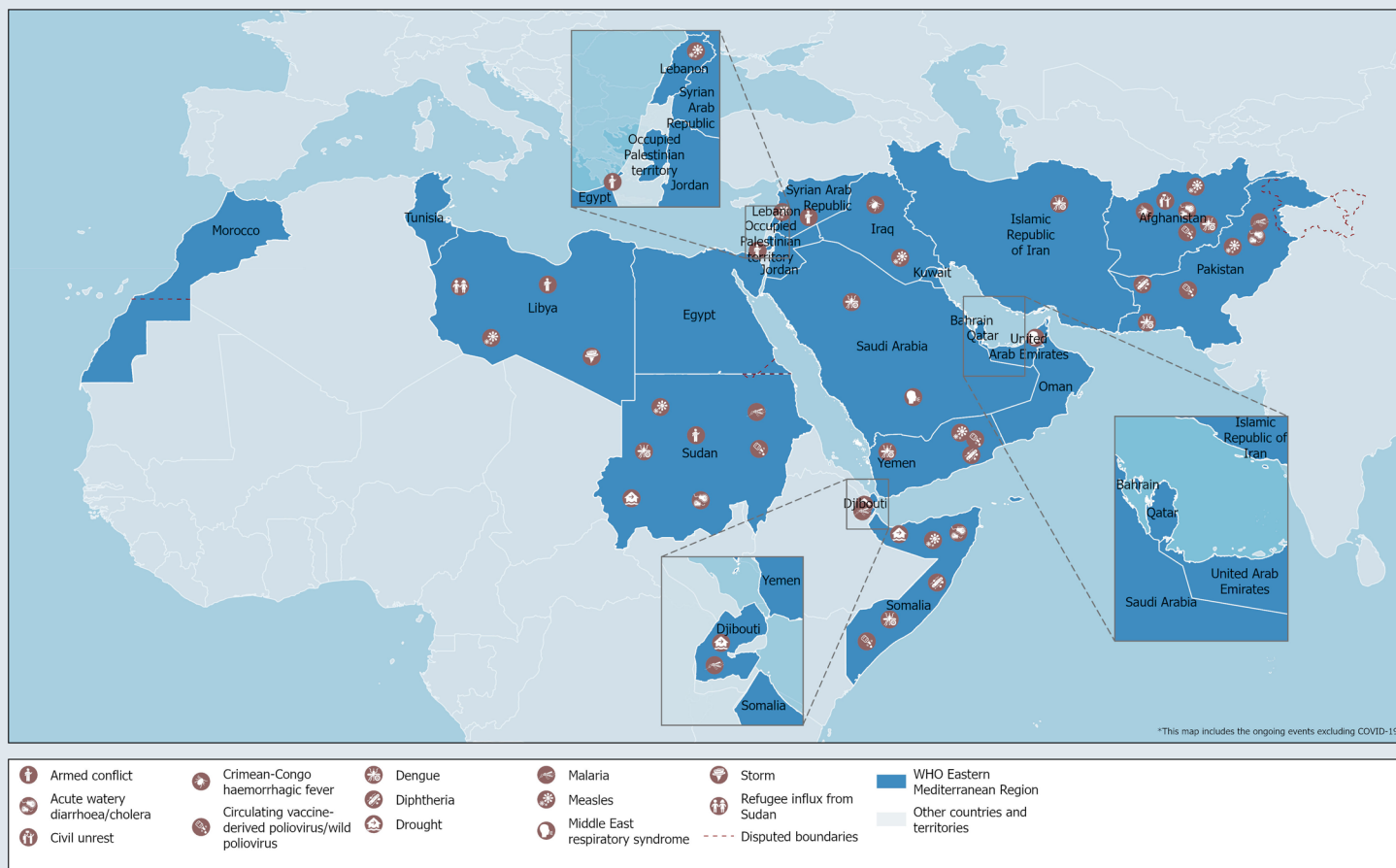
[More information on WHO grading, according to the Emergency Response Framework](#)

Multiple occurrences of the same graded emergency across different countries and territories are considered a single emergency. For instance, COVID-19 is a graded emergency in all 22 countries and territories of the WHO Eastern Mediterranean Region, but it counts as just one emergency when calculating the total number of graded emergencies in the Region.

Public health events and emergencies map

Geographical distribution of ongoing public health events and emergencies in the Eastern Mediterranean Region

As at 26 June 2024

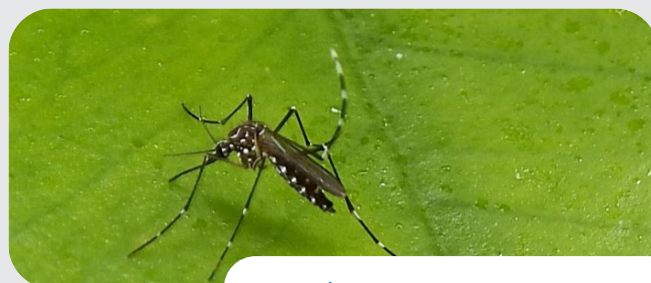


The boundaries and names shown and the designations used on this map do not imply the expression of any opinion whatsoever on the part of the World Health Organization concerning the legal status of any country, territory, city or area or of its authorities, or concerning the delimitation of its frontiers or boundaries. Dotted and dashed lines on maps represent approximate border lines for which there may not yet be full agreement.

Afghanistan: dengue

BACKGROUND

Dengue is a mosquito-borne viral infection caused by the dengue virus, transmitted primarily by *Aedes* mosquitoes, particularly *Aedes aegypti*. Symptoms range from mild febrile illness to severe dengue, which can lead to shock, haemorrhaging and death. Common symptoms include high fever, severe headache, pain behind the eyes, joint and muscle pain, rash and mild bleeding. There is no specific treatment for dengue. Prevention relies on controlling mosquito populations and avoiding bites.



An *Aedes aegypti* mosquito, primary transmitter of the dengue virus.

Photo credit: Ian Jabobs

SITUATION UPDATE

During week 26 of 2024, Afghanistan reported 34 suspected cases of dengue from Nangarhar province, a 54.5% increase on the preceding week. The surge may be attributed to a lower number of cases being reported during week 25 due to the Eid Al-Adha holidays.

The incidence of suspected dengue cases exceeded the number reported in the same week of 2023, and since the beginning of 2024 has surpassed the two-year average (2021–2022). As of week 26, Afghanistan had reported a total of 1088 suspected cases with no associated deaths. Among the cases, 655 (60.2%) were females and 10 (0.9%) were children under five years old. This indicates

widespread geographic distribution and represents a notable weekly increase in case numbers.

Of 482 samples tested since the start of 2024, 166 have been confirmed positive by polymerase chain reaction (PCR), a positivity rate of 34.4%.

The sharp increase in dengue cases in Nangarhar province highlights the urgent need for continued surveillance, prompt diagnosis and effective case management. Continued efforts in vector control, public education and resource mobilization are essential to control and eventually eliminate dengue in the affected regions.

RESPONSE ACTIVITIES

Since the beginning of 2024, the Afghan Ministry of Public Health, in collaboration with WHO, has taken several steps to enhance the response to this outbreak, mitigate the spread of dengue and reduce its impact on public health.

- A total of 835 dengue Rapid Diagnostic Test kits, each containing 10 tests, have been distributed to WHO sub-offices in the south and east of the country, enhancing the capacity for early detection and timely diagnosis of dengue cases.
- Comprehensive training programmes have been conducted for 386 health care workers, including doctors and nurses. Eighty-eight health care workers from Kandahar (46 male and 42 female), 107 from the Southeast region (64 male and 43 female), and 191 from the East region (104 male and 87 female) have been trained on dengue fever case management.
- A total of 150 laboratory technicians from health care facilities have received training on dengue diagnosis, strengthening diagnostic capabilities. This includes 28 technicians from Kandahar, 54 from the Southeast region and 68 from the East region.

Saudi Arabia: managing health risks during the 2024 Hajj

BACKGROUND

Mass gatherings, which attract participants from across the globe, bring significant health challenges. These events heighten the risk of infectious disease spread, can exacerbate chronic conditions and raise concerns about food and environmental safety. Host countries must ensure the health and safety of attendees and residents before, during and after such events.

The Hajj pilgrimage in Saudi Arabia is the world's largest annual religious mass gathering, attracting around two million Muslim pilgrims to Mecca for the Hajj rituals.

Saudi Arabia has extensive experience in managing such gatherings and maintains a robust surveillance system capable of swiftly detecting potential outbreaks during Hajj. Prior to the event, Saudi health authorities issued comprehensive guidelines, including mandatory and recommended vaccinations against infectious diseases, to help ensure adherence to health protocols by pilgrims from around the world.



Large mass gathering during the Hajj season in Saudi Arabia.
Photo credit: WHO

Saudi Arabia: managing health risks during the 2024 Hajj

SITUATION UPDATE

In collaboration with the Global Center for Mass Gatherings Medicine (GCMGM) in Saudi Arabia, a WHO collaborating centre which specializes in preparing for and managing mass gatherings like Hajj and Umrah, WHO conducted a risk assessment for Hajj in 2024 using the Jeddah risk assessment tool. The risk assessment was followed by the updating of mitigation measures, including health requirements and recommendations for pilgrims travelling to Saudi Arabia.

Measures implemented by Saudi Arabia included screening at point of entry, active surveillance and follow-up of cases, and enhanced capacity to provide health services to meet pilgrims' needs.

Challenges

The predominant challenge during Hajj in 2024 was environmental. A severe heatwave coincided with the Hajj season. Temperatures in Mecca soared close to 50°C, leading to an increase in cases of heat exhaustion among pilgrims. The situation was compounded by the presence of thousands of unauthorized pilgrims who strained available transportation and medical service capacities. Many unauthorized pilgrims, including older people with chronic conditions, had to endure long walks under intense sun.

Recommendations

Building on lessons learned from the 2024 Hajj, it is recommended that countries hosting mass gatherings adopt a risk-based approach by strengthening their capacities, including surveillance systems and collaboration with partners. Adopting a proactive and comprehensive approach will make future Hajj and other mass gatherings safer and more resilient.

Hajj preparation began two months in advance and involved extensive collaboration between stakeholders, including the Saudi Ministry of Health, GCMGM, the European Centre for Disease Prevention and Control and the Gulf Center for Disease Prevention and Control. This collaborative effort ensured a coordinated and proactive approach, pooling expertise and resources across partners for effective monitoring and response.

From 7 to 23 July 2024, the WHO Regional Office for the Eastern Mediterranean monitored media and social channels from official and nonofficial sources to detect, verify, assess and respond to potential health threats. A team from the WHO Regional Office was present on the ground during Hajj, working with the Ministry of Health to ensure effective public health coordination.

Saudi health authorities reported that 83% of the 1301 deaths due to heat exhaustion occurred among unauthorized pilgrims walking long-distances. Saudi health authorities delivered medical services to over 1.3 million pilgrims, including many unauthorized pilgrims.

No significant signals or outbreaks of infectious diseases were identified during the 2024 Hajj season.

Participants in mass gatherings must prioritize their own safety and that of others by following health guidelines from official authorities. For Hajj, this includes receiving mandatory and recommended vaccinations before travel, taking personal protective measures, remaining hydrated, seeking shade in extreme temperatures and promptly reporting any health concerns during and after Hajj.

New public health events and emergencies

13–26 June 2024

Member State/territory	Hazard	Event	WHO grade ^a	Cases/injuries	Deaths	Date of start ^b
Iran (Islamic Republic of)	Biological	Dengue	Multi-Region Dengue, Grade 3	92	3	18-Jun-24

From 27 May to 25 June 2024, the Islamic Republic of Iran reported 92 cases of dengue and three deaths. This is the first time the country has reported local transmission of dengue. During this period, the provinces of Bushehr, Fars, Gilan, Golestan, Hormozgan, Khuzestan, Mazandaran and Sistan and Baluchistan were identified as high-risk areas, with ongoing fever cases reported.

^a Grading is an internal WHO process that triggers WHO emergency procedures and activities for the management of the response.

[More information on WHO grading, according to the Emergency Response Framework](#)

Global graded emergencies: COVID-19

Regional graded emergencies: circulating vaccine-derived poliovirus

Multiregional graded emergencies: dengue, cholera and the Greater Horn of Africa drought and food insecurity

^b Date of start: The date the health event is created in the Event Management System (EMS).

Ongoing public health events and emergencies

As at 26 June 2024

Member State/territory	Hazard	Event	WHO grade	Cases/injuries	Deaths	Date of start
Afghanistan	Biological	Acute watery diarrhoea (AWD)	Afghanistan Complex Emergencies, Protracted 3	65 040	34	22-Sep-21
During week 25 of 2024, 3884 cases of AWD with dehydration were reported, with three associated deaths, from 175 districts. This represents a 18% decrease in the number of cases compared with the previous week. Since the start of 2024, a total of 65 040 cases of AWD with dehydration and 34 associated deaths have been reported from 315 districts, giving a case fatality ratio of 0.05%. Of this total, 36 608 cases (56.3%) were children aged under 5 years; 32 159 cases (49.4%) were females.						
Afghanistan	Biological	COVID-19	COVID-19, Protracted 3	229 590	7965	24-Feb-20
As at 26 June 2024, 229 590 cases and 7965 deaths had been reported. A total of 1 340 648 polymerase chain reaction (PCR) tests had been conducted by the same date.						
Afghanistan	Biological	Circulating vaccine-derived poliovirus type 2 (cVDPV2)	Polio (cVDPV), Grade 2	0	0	5-Jun-20
No new cases of cVDPV2 were reported from 1 January 2023 to 26 June 2024.						
Afghanistan	Societal	Civil unrest	Afghanistan Complex Emergencies, Protracted 3	–	–	30-Aug-21
Since 2023, no significant casualties or displacements have been recorded. Civil unrest incidents escalated in the country in 2023, however.						
Afghanistan	Biological	Crimean-Congo haemorrhagic fever	Afghanistan Complex Emergencies, Protracted 3	313	15	5-Mar-23
During week 25 of 2024, 41 suspected cases of Crimean-Congo haemorrhagic fever, with two associated deaths were reported. This represents a 12.8% decrease in the number of cases compared with the previous week. Since the start of 2024, a total of 313 suspected cases of Crimean-Congo haemorrhagic fever, with 15 associated deaths have been reported, giving a case fatality ratio of 4.8%. All suspected cases were aged over 5 years, while 91 (29.1%) of them were females.						
Afghanistan	Biological	Dengue	Afghanistan Complex Emergencies, Protracted 3	1054	0	14-Aug-22
During week 25 of 2024, Nangarhar province reported 22 suspected dengue cases, with no associated deaths. This represents a 52.2% decrease in the number of suspected cases compared with the previous week. The lower number of suspected cases reported during week 25 may be due to low reporting during Eid-u-Adha holiday. Since the start of 2024, 1054 suspected cases of dengue cases have been reported, with no associated deaths. Of these, 635 cases (60.2%) were females; 10 (0.9%) were children aged under 5 years.						
Afghanistan	Biological	Measles	Afghanistan Complex Emergencies, Protracted 3	33 334	143	19-Apr-21
During week 25 of 2024, 1451 suspected cases and four associated deaths were reported. This represents a 6.3% decrease in the number of suspected measles cases compared with the previous week. Since the start of 2024, a total of 33 334 suspected measles cases and 143 deaths (case fatality ratio: 0.4%) were reported. Among suspected measles cases, 26 725 cases (80.2%) were children aged under 5 years; 15 092 cases (45.3%) were females.						
Afghanistan	Biological	Wild poliovirus type 1	Afghanistan Complex Emergencies, Protracted 3	6	0	16-Mar-23
During week 25 of 2024, no new wild poliovirus type 1 cases were reported in Afghanistan. For 2024, Afghanistan has reported a total of six wild poliovirus type 1 cases.						
Bahrain	Biological	COVID-19	COVID-19, Protracted 3	696 614	1536	24-Feb-20
As at 26 June 2024, 696 614 COVID-19 cases and 1536 deaths had been reported. A total of 10 578 766 PCR tests had been conducted by the same date.						
Djibouti	Biological	COVID-19	COVID-19, Protracted 3	15 690	189	18-Mar-20
As at 26 June 2024, 15 690 COVID-19 cases and 189 deaths had been reported. A total of 319 153 PCR tests had been conducted by the same date.						
Djibouti	Climatological	Drought	Greater Horn of Africa Drought and Food Insecurity, Grade 3	–	–	21-May-23
About 11% of the population in Djibouti is estimated to be acutely food insecure.						

Ongoing public health events and emergencies

As at 26 June 2024

Member State/territory	Hazard	Event	WHO grade	Cases/injuries	Deaths	Date of start
Djibouti	Biological	Malaria	Ungraded	30 155	1	13-Feb-19
In week 25 of 2024, a total of 344 malaria cases were reported, with 327 cases (95%) reported in Djibouti Ville. Since the start of 2024, a total of 30 155 malaria cases have been reported, with one death.						
Egypt	Biological	COVID-19	COVID-19, Protracted 3	516 023	24 830	16-Feb-20
As at 26 June 2024, 516 023 COVID-19 cases had been reported, with 24 830 deaths. A total of 12 645 544 PCR tests had been conducted by the same date.						
Iran (Islamic Republic of)	Biological	COVID-19	COVID-19, Protracted 3	7 632 170	146 992	19-Feb-20
As at 26 June 2024, 7 627 863 COVID-19 Cases had been reported, with 146 837 deaths.						
Iraq	Biological	COVID-19	COVID-19, Protracted 3	2 465 545	25 375	24-Feb-20
As at 26 June 2024, 2 465 545 COVID-19 cases had been reported, with 25 375 deaths. A total of 19 550 473 PCR tests had been conducted by the same date.						
Iraq	Biological	Crimean-Congo haemorrhagic fever	Iraq Crimean-Congo Haemorrhagic Fever, Grade 2	356	20	21-Apr-22
From week 1 to week 25 of 2024, 356 suspected Crimean-Congo haemorrhagic fever cases were reported, with 20 deaths, giving a case fatality ratio of 5.6%. Among the suspected cases, 86 were confirmed, with 11 deaths, giving a case fatality ratio of 12.7%.						
Iraq	Biological	Measles	Iraq Complex Emergencies, Protracted 2	3655	2	19-Apr-23
From 1 January to 6 February 2024, 3655 measles cases were reported, with an incidence rate of 84 cases per 1 000 000 population, and two deaths. Iraq's health ministry will conduct a measles, mumps and rubella vaccination campaign for children aged under 5 years in schools in high-risk areas and populations. It will also enhance measles surveillance and conduct awareness and community engagement campaigns on measles.						
Jordan	Biological	COVID-19	COVID-19, Protracted 3	1 746 997	14 122	3-Feb-20
As at 26 June 2024, 1 746 997 COVID-19 cases had been reported, with 14 122 deaths. A total of 17 201 885 PCR tests had been conducted by the same date.						
Kuwait	Biological	COVID-19	COVID-19, Protracted 3	667 177	2570	24-Feb-20
As at 26 June 2024, 667 177 COVID-19 cases had been reported, with 2570 deaths. A total of 8 455 743 PCR tests had been conducted by the same date.						
Lebanon	Biological	COVID-19	COVID-19, Protracted 3	1 239 904	10 947	22-Feb-20
As at 26 June 2024, 1 239 904 COVID-19 cases had been reported, with 10 947 deaths. A total of 10 696 009 PCR tests had been conducted by the same date.						
Lebanon	Biological	Measles	Ungraded	50	0	4-Jul-23
From 5 June to 23 June 2024, 9 measles cases were reported. Of these, 7 were unvaccinated. Since the start of 2024, 164 rash cases have been reported, with 50 confirmed as measles, an attack rate of 0.8 per 100 000 population. Among cases, 94% were unvaccinated and 21% required hospitalization. Children under five were the most affected age group, with an attack rate of 4.7 per 100 000 population. Baalbek-Hermel governorate reported the highest overall attack rate of 2.2 per 100 000 population.						
Libya	Societal	Armed conflict	Libya Complex Emergencies, Protracted 2	-	-	9-Feb-18
A state of emergency was announced by the government on 2 September 2018 and there have been on-and-off conflicts since then, and into 2024. Since August 2023, however, no major armed conflicts that could affect public health have been reported.						
Libya	Biological	COVID-19	COVID-19, Protracted 3	507 269	6437	25-Mar-20
As at 26 June 2024, 507 269 confirmed COVID-19 cases were reported, with 6437 deaths (case fatality ratio: 1.3%).						
Libya	Meteorological	Cataclysmic storm	Libya Tropical Storm, Grade 2	-	5898	9-Dec-23
On 11 September 2023, heavy rains and flooding hit Libya, which caused extensive damage, especially in Derna city, displacing more than 44 800 residents and leading to 5898 fatalities. Emergency response teams used 182 sentinel sites for daily data sharing from the flood-hit areas. As at 1 May 2024, WHO still delivers support to affected areas, strengthening the national capacities of Libya's health system. A risk profiling is being conducted to develop a national emergency preparedness and response plan.						

Ongoing public health events and emergencies

As at 26 June 2024

Member State/territory	Hazard	Event	WHO grade	Cases/injuries	Deaths	Date of start
Libya	Biological	Measles	Libya Complex Emergencies, Protracted 2	1962	1	16-Mar-23
A measles outbreak has been spreading in Libya since early 2023, affecting six districts. Sabha has been the most affected district. As at week 49 of 2023, 1962 suspected measles and rubella cases had been reported, among which 251 measles cases and 196 rubella cases were confirmed, with one associated death. Since then and as at 23 June 2024, reporting of data has been intermittent.						
Libya	Societal	Refugee influx from Sudan	Libya Sudanese Refugees Influx, Grade 2	–	–	9-May-24
In April 2024, Kufra district in south-eastern Libya declared a state of emergency after a significant increase in the number of displaced persons from Sudan raised concerns about the potential spread of infectious diseases in an area with limited access to health services. It is estimated that there are 40 000 refugees from Sudan in Kufra, a number expected to triple by the end of 2024. On 30 April, WHO and UNICEF conducted an assessment of urgent needs and identified priorities, including enhancing health services, improving water quality and housing conditions, boosting immunization efforts and strengthening surveillance and early detection of infectious diseases.						
Morocco	Biological	COVID-19	COVID-19, Protracted 3	1 277 956	16 298	3-Mar-20
As at 26 June 2024, 1 277 956 COVID-19 cases and 16 298 deaths had been reported. A total of 13 068 242 PCR tests had been conducted by the same date.						
Occupied Palestinian territory	Societal	Armed conflict	Israel/oPt Hostilities, Grade 3	91 677	38 271	7-Oct-23
Ongoing war in the occupied Palestinian territory since 7 October 2023, have compounded an existing health crisis. As at 26 June 2024, the Palestinian Ministry of Health reported that over 38 271 people had been killed and more than 91 677 injured. The Gaza Strip bears the highest casualties, including children, women and elderly people.						
Occupied Palestinian territory	Biological	COVID-19	COVID-19, Protracted 3	703 228	5708	3-Dec-20
As at 26 June 2024, 703 228 COVID-19 cases, with 5708 deaths, had been reported. A total of 3 477 872 PCR tests had been conducted by the same date.						
Oman	Biological	COVID-19	COVID-19, Protracted 3	399 449	4628	24-Feb-20
As at 26 June 2024, 399 449 COVID-19 cases and 4628 deaths had been reported. A total of 3 737 036 PCR tests had been conducted by the same date.						
Pakistan	Biological	COVID-19	COVID-19, Protracted 3	1 580 631	30 656	27-Feb-20
As at 26 June 2024, 1 580 631 COVID-19 cases and 30 656 deaths had been reported. A total of 31 656 354 PCR tests had been conducted by the same date.						
Pakistan	Biological	Cholera	Multi-region Cholera, Grade 3	40 649	–	17-Apr-22
From 17 to 23 June 2024, 1693 suspected cholera cases were reported. Most of the cases (1050 cases, 62%) were reported from Punjab, followed by Balochistan province (333 cases, 11.5%). Since the start of 2024 to week 25 of 2024, 40 649 suspected cholera cases were reported.						
Pakistan	Biological	Circulating vaccine-derived poliovirus type 2 (cVDPV2)	Polio (cVDPV), Grade 2	0	0	11-Dec-19
As at 23 June 2024, zero cVDPV2 cases or environmental samples had been reported in Pakistan since 2022.						
Pakistan	Biological	Dengue	Multi-region Dengue, Grade 3	157	0	9-Apr-23
From 17 to 23 June 2024, 265 suspected dengue cases were reported. Most of the cases were reported from Punjab province (178 cases, 67%), followed by Sindh province (47 cases, 18%). Since the start of 2024 to week 25, 14454 suspected dengue cases were reported.						
Pakistan	Biological	Diphtheria	Ungraded	286	–	11-Feb-23
From 17 to 23 June 2024, 12 probable diphtheria cases were reported from Balochistan province (six cases), followed by Punjab province (five cases) and Khyber Pakhtunkhwa province (three cases). Since the start of 2024 to week 25, 286 suspected diphtheria cases were reported.						
Pakistan	Biological	Malaria	Ungraded	13 55 833	–	23-Sep-22
From 17 to 23 June 2024, 42 162 malaria cases were reported. Most of the cases were reported from Sindh province (33 373 cases, 79%), followed by Khyber Pakhtunkhwa (3902 cases, 9.3%). Since the start of 2024 to week 25, 13 55 833 malaria cases were reported.						
Pakistan	Biological	Measles	Ungraded	20 707	–	26-Jan-21
From 17 to 23 June 2024, 1359 suspected measles cases were reported. Most of the cases were reported from Punjab province (968 cases, 76%), followed by Khyber Pakhtunkhwa province (229 cases, 17%), and Sindh province (103 cases, 7.5%). Since the start of 2024 to week 25, 20 707 measles cases were reported.						

Ongoing public health events and emergencies

As at 26 June 2024

Member State/territory	Hazard	Event	WHO grade	Cases/injuries	Deaths	Date of start
Pakistan	Biological	Wild poliovirus type 1 (WPV1)	Ungraded	8	0	16-Mar-23
Wild poliovirus is endemic in Pakistan, and instances are reported retrospectively. From 1 January 2023 to 17 March 2024, eight confirmed WPV1 cases were reported. WHO and the Global Polio Eradication Initiative are focusing on reaching every last child in Pakistan with vaccines, and strengthening surveillance and technical support at all levels.						
Qatar	Biological	COVID-19	COVID-19, Protracted 3	514 524	690	3-Jan-20
As at 26 July 2024, 514 524 COVID-19 cases and 690 deaths had been reported, giving a case fatality ratio of 0.1%.						
Saudi Arabia	Biological	COVID-19	COVID-19, Protracted 3	841 469	9646	3-Mar-20
As at 26 June 2024, 841 469 COVID-19 cases, with 9646 deaths, had been reported. A total of 45 484 848 PCR tests had been conducted by the same date.						
Saudi Arabia	Biological	Dengue	Multi-region, Dengue Grade 3	2304	0	5-Feb-23
As at January 2024, 2304 suspected dengue cases had been reported, of which 1470 were confirmed.						
Saudi Arabia	Biological	Middle East respiratory syndrome (MERS)	Ungraded	2204	860	11-May-12
Since the first report of MERS in Saudi Arabia in 2012, the country has reported 2204 MERS cases in total, including 860 deaths.						
Somalia	Biological	COVID-19	COVID-19, Protracted 3	27 334	1361	16-Mar-20
As at 26 June 2024, 27 334 confirmed COVID-19 cases had been reported, with 1361 deaths, giving a case fatality ratio of 5%.						
Somalia	Biological	Cholera	Multi-region Cholera, Grade 3	15 379	129	2-Aug-18
In week 25 of 2024, 470 cholera cases were reported across 24 districts. Of these, 381 cases (81%) were severe, 278 cases (59%) were children aged under five, and 265 cases (56%) were females. From week 1 to week 25 of 2024, a total of 15 379 cholera cases were reported, including 7843 (51%) females and 9142 cases (59%) of children under five. The cumulative death toll was 129, equating to a case fatality ratio (CFR) of 0.8%. Of total cases, 9661 (63%) were severe. Twenty-eight districts affected by drought and El Niño-related flooding reported cholera cases.						
Somalia	Biological	Circulating vaccine-derived poliovirus type 2 (cVDPV2)	Polio (cVDPV), Grade 2	10	-	18-Aug-20
No new cVDPV2 cases were reported in week 25 of 2024. Just two cVDPV2 cases have been reported in 2024 in total. The total number of cases reported since 2023 is 10 cases.						
Somalia	Biological	Dengue	Multi-region Dengue, Grade 3	481	0	5-Oct-23
As at 31 May 2024, 481 cholera cases had been reported, with no deaths. Of these, 136 cases were confirmed, and 345 cases were suspected.						
Somalia	Biological	Diphtheria	Somalia Complex Emergencies, Protracted 3	563	71	29-Jan-24
A diphtheria outbreak in Somalia started in Hirshabelle state in July 2023 and then spread, in September 2023, to Puntland and Galmudug states. From July 2023 to 23 June 2024, a total of 563 suspected cases and 71 deaths were reported.						
Somalia	Climatological	Drought	Greater Horn of Africa Drought and Food Insecurity, Grade 3	-	125	6-Feb-22
The drought situation in Somalia is extremely serious. The country marked its fifth consecutive failed rainy season at the start of 2023. This has led to an acutely food-insecure population and the worsening of food security and nutrition outcomes, affecting more than 7.8 million people. Later in 2023, in October, Somalia finally experienced rain; however, this took the form of El Niño floods that hit the country. The flooding caused serious damage instead of improving the drought impacts. According to the Somali Disaster Management Agency, as at 10 December 2023, 2.48 million people had been affected by the drought, with 899 000 people displaced and 118 fatalities across the country. In addition, the annual Gu rains, which typically begin in April and end in June, have started. Flash floods caused by the rains from 18 to 28 April 2024 affected more than 163 400 people, including 37 120 people who were displaced and seven children killed.						
Somalia	Biological	Measles	Somalia Complex Emergencies, Protracted 3	8004	25	3-Sep-22
A measles outbreak has been spreading in Somalia since 2023. As at 23 June 2024, the surveillance system for fever and rash, used by public health emergency and surveillance coordinators in drought-affected districts, has reported a total of 8004 suspected measles cases and at least 25 deaths since the start of the year.						

Ongoing public health events and emergencies

As at 26 June 2024

Member State/territory	Hazard	Event	WHO grade	Cases/injuries	Deaths	Date of start
Sudan	Societal	Armed conflict	Sudan Conflict and Complex Emergency, Grade 3	–	–	22-Jan-21
From April 2023 to 16 June 2024, the Federal Ministry of Health in Sudan reported 32 576 injuries and 2953 deaths, due to the current war. However, open-source media reported 17 161 fatalities, including 45 humanitarian workers. Establishing the exact numbers of civilian casualties and injuries has been challenging.						
Sudan	Biological	COVID-19	COVID-19, Protracted 3	64 317	5047	15-Mar-20
During week 25 of 2024, 324 suspected COVID-19 cases and one death were reported. As at 26 June 2024, 64 317 COVID-19 cases and 5047 deaths had been reported.						
Sudan	Biological	Cholera	Multi-region Cholera, Grade 3	10 802	291	5-Oct-23
From 28 June 2023 to 3 April 2024, 10 802 cholera cases, including 291 deaths (case fatality ratio: 2.7%), were reported across nine states and 48 localities. Suspected cholera cases have shown a decreasing trend since the start of December 2023 and continuing into 2024.						
Sudan	Biological	Circulating vaccine-derived poliovirus type 2 (cVDPV2)	Polio (cVDPV), Grade 2	0	0	8-Oct-20
No new cVDPV isolates were reported in week 25 of 2024. As at this date, Sudan has reported zero cVDPV2 cases in 2024, unchanged from 2023. There have been two positive environmental samples in 2024 by the same date, compared with five in 2023.						
Sudan	Biological	Dengue	Multi-region Dengue, Grade 3	9316	71	20-Oct-21
During week 24 of 2024, eight dengue cases were reported, compared with 27 cases in week 23. No deaths were reported in the previous seven weeks. From 1 January to 21 June 2024, 9316 dengue cases were reported, with 71 deaths.						
Sudan	Climatological	Drought	Greater Horn of Africa Drought and Food Insecurity, Grade 3	–	–	21-May-23
Prolonged dry spells and crop failures across 14 states in Sudan are affecting more than 5.6 million people. Over 22 million people – half of the Sudanese population – live in the 115 affected areas, and 3.1 million people need short- to long-term assistance. The ongoing war has triggered population displacement, which, combined with a major deterioration of the economy, has led to acute food insecurity at levels higher than usual. As at 21 March 2024, high rates of acute food insecurity were observed in North Darfur (25%), West Darfur (22%), North Kordofan (20%), South Kordofan (20%), Gedaref (19%) and central, eastern and southern states.						
Sudan	Biological	Malaria	Sudan Conflict and Complex Emergency, Grade 3	1 621 164	172	10-Sep-22
During week 25 of 2024, 8472 malaria cases and zero deaths were reported. This marks a 37% decrease against the 13 490 cases reported in week 24 of 2024. No deaths have been reported in the previous 10 weeks. From 1 January to 21 June 2024, 1 621 164 malaria cases, including 172 deaths (case fatality ratio: 0.01%) were reported from 15 states.						
Sudan	Biological	Measles	Sudan Conflict and Complex Emergency, Grade 3	4871	108	8-Jan-21
During week 25 of 2024, eight measles cases and one death were reported. This marks a 72% decrease against the 29 cases reported in week 24 of 2024. From 1 January to 21 June 2024, 4871 cases, including 108 deaths (case fatality ratio: 2.22%) were reported from 14 states.						
Syrian Arab Republic	Societal	Armed conflict	Syrian Arab Republic Complex Emergencies, Protracted 3	–	–	27-Jun-18
The security situation within the Syrian Arab Republic remains unstable.						
Syrian Arab Republic	Biological	COVID-19	COVID-19, Protracted 3	57 423	3163	23-Mar-20
As at 26 June 2024, 57 423 COVID-19 cases and 3163 deaths had been reported. A total of 202 513 PCR tests had been conducted by the same date.						
Tunisia	Biological	COVID-19	COVID-19, Protracted 3	1 153 361	29 423	3-Feb-20
As at 26 June 2024, 1 153 361 COVID-19 cases and 29 423 deaths had been reported. A total of 5 013 383 PCR tests had been conducted by the same date.						
United Arab Emirates	Biological	COVID-19	COVID-19, Protracted 3	1 067 030	2349	29-Jan-20
As at 26 June 2024, 1 067 030 COVID-19 cases and 2349 deaths had been reported. A total of 200 761 593 PCR tests had been conducted by the same date.						

Ongoing public health events and emergencies

As at 26 June 2024

Member State/territory	Hazard	Event	WHO grade	Cases/injuries	Deaths	Date of start
United Arab Emirates	Biological	Middle East respiratory syndrome (MERS)	Ungraded	1	0	7-Oct-23
On 10 July 2023, a 28-year-old male MERS-CoV case was reported in the United Arab Emirates. Investigation revealed no camel or sick person contact. Immediate actions included contact tracing, incident reporting and notifying relevant authorities.						
Yemen	Biological	COVID-19	COVID-19, Protracted 3	11 945	2159	4-Oct-20
As at 26 June 2024, 11 945 COVID-19 cases and 2159 deaths had been reported. A total of 329 592 PCR tests had been conducted by the same date.						
Yemen	Biological	Circulating vaccine-derived poliovirus type 1 (cVDPV1)	Polio (cVDPV), Grade 2	0	0	29-May-20
As at 1 May 2024, there was no evidence of cVDPV1 in the country. The Global Polio Eradication Initiative and partners are supporting the local public health authorities in field investigation and field monitoring.						
Yemen	Biological	Circulating vaccine-derived poliovirus type 2 (cVDPV2)	Polio (cVDPV), Grade 2	15	0	30-Nov-21
During week 25 of 2024, five cVDPV2 cases were reported in Yemen. The cases were reported from Al Hudaidah province (four cases) and Dhamar province (one case). For 2024, Yemen has reported a total of 15 cVDPV2 cases.						
Yemen	Biological	Dengue	Multi-Region Dengue, Grade 3	9859	9	25-Jan-24
In Week 25 of 2024, 1286 suspected dengue cases were reported, including 189 confirmed cases and one death (case fatality ratio: 0.53%). From week 1 to week 25 of 2024, a total of 9859 suspected dengue cases and 1760 confirmed cases were reported, with nine associated deaths (case fatality ratio: 0.51%).						
Yemen	Biological	Diphtheria	Yemen Complex Emergencies, Protracted 3	583	17	25-Jan-24
As at 27 April 2024, 583 probable diphtheria cases had been reported, with 17 associated deaths, resulting in a case fatality ratio of 2.9%.						
Yemen	Biological	Measles	Yemen Complex Emergencies, Protracted 3	14 552	95	29-Mar-21
From 1 January to 27 April 2024, 14 552 suspected measles cases, with 95 associated deaths (case fatality ratio: 0.7%), were reported. About 67% of all cases occurred in the northern governorates. Nearly all cases in the southern governorates were children: 96% of cases were children aged under 15 years; 66% were aged under 5 years. Further, 82.5% of the cases in the southern governorates had no vaccination history. During this period, the reported cases of measles were nearly equal to the reports during the same period in 2023.						

Closed public health events and emergencies

13–26 June 2024

Member State/territory	Hazard	Event	WHO grade	Date of start
Djibouti	Biological	Measles	Ungraded	26-Jun-22
No measles outbreaks have been reported to WHO since September 2023. WHO will continue to monitor the situation for significant developments.				



**World Health
Organization**

Eastern Mediterranean Region

WHO Health Emergencies Programme

WHO Regional Office for the Eastern Mediterranean
Monazamet El Seha El Alamia Street
Extension of Abdel Razak El Sanhoury Street
P.O. Box 7608
Nasr City, Cairo, 11371, Egypt

WHO country office contributors

Afghanistan:
Mohamed Tahoun

Saudi Arabia:
Adham Rashad Ismail Abdel-Moneim

Regional Office contributors

Public health intelligence:

Farida Abougazia
Tarek Awad
Aura Corpuz
Mona Elbarbary
Ali Elkony
Rana Elzahar
Abdelrahman Khalifa
Basant Mohamed
Sara Morsy
Jeremias Naiene
Hazal Sami

Geographic information system:

Ramy Ahmed
Hanem Mohamed Basha

Design:
Zena Harb

Editing:
Nigel Ryan

Special contributors

**Country Health Preparedness and
International Health Regulations
Programme:**
Amgad ElKholy

Editorial advisory group

Rick Brennan
Aura Corpuz
Sarah Eissa
Mona Elbarbary
Sherein Elnossery
Farida Mahgoub
Basant Mohamed
Shaza Mohammed
Thomas Mollet
Jeremias Naiene
Hazal Sami
Muhammad Tayyab

Data and information are provided by Member States through WHO country offices. Situations are evolving and dynamic, therefore the figures stated herein are subject to change.

For more information and queries, email:
emrgowhebulletins@who.int