



WHO Regional Office for the Eastern Mediterranean
Health emergencies biweekly bulletin

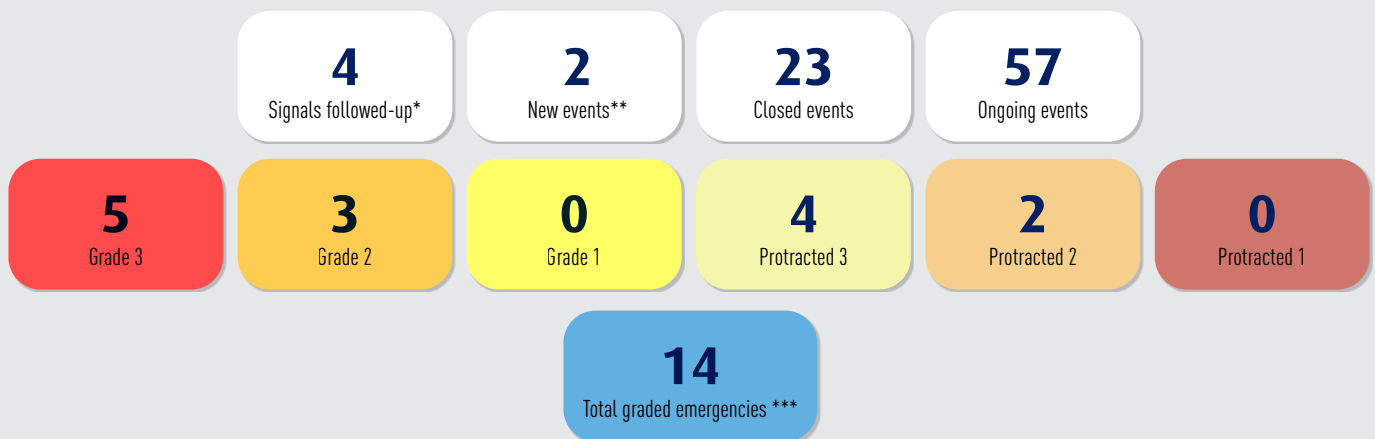
19 September–2 October 2024

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Public health events and emergencies dashboard

19 September–2 October 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.

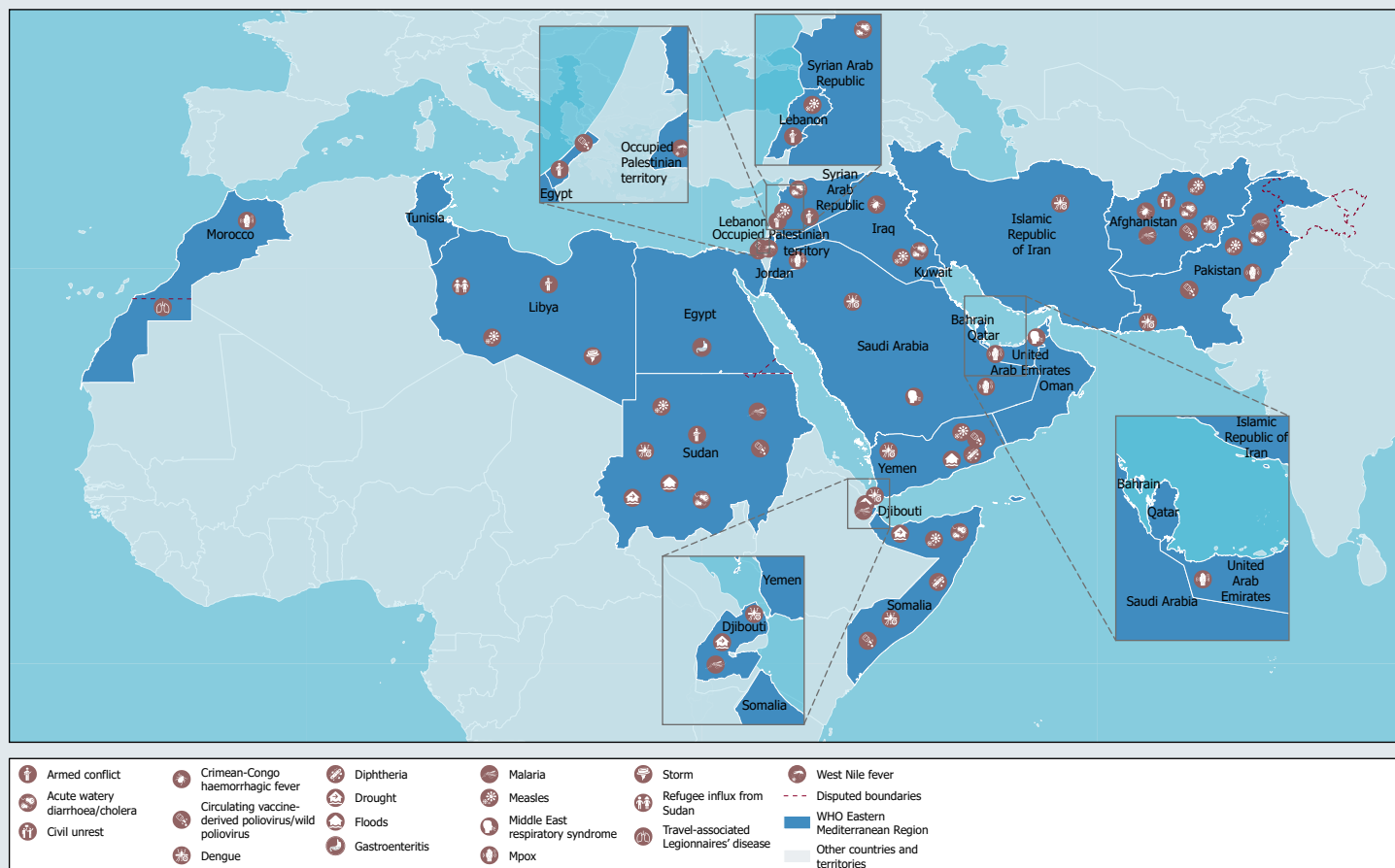
***Grading: Grading is an internal WHO process that triggers WHO emergency procedures and activities for the management of the response.
[More information on WHO grading, according to the Emergency Response Framework](#)

Multiple occurrences of the same graded emergency across different countries and territories are considered a single emergency.

Public health events and emergencies map

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

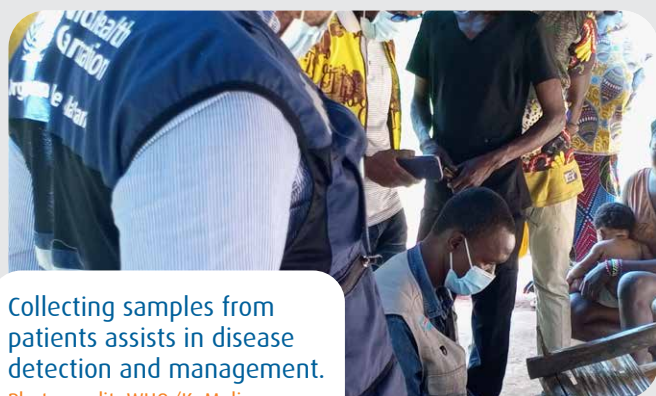
As at 2 October 2024



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.

Eastern Mediterranean Region: managing mpox outbreaks

BACKGROUND



Collecting samples from patients assists in disease detection and management.

Photo credit: WHO/K. Maliro

Mpox is a zoonotic viral disease that can be transmitted from animals to humans. It primarily occurs in Africa, particularly in tropical rainforest regions, and presents with symptoms like fever and rash. The severity of mpox varies, ranging from asymptomatic cases to fatalities. While mpox transmission has persisted in central and west Africa for decades, since May 2022, cases have emerged in regions with no prior transmission history.

The virus has two main clades: clade I (formerly Central African clade), with subclades Ia and Ib, and clade II (formerly West African Clade), with subclades IIa and IIb. Clade IIb drove a significant global outbreak in

2022–2023. Since September 2023, Clade Ib has spread in the Democratic Republic of the Congo (DRC), with cases reported in neighbouring countries, as well as in Sweden and Thailand.

In response to the increase in cases in the DRC and neighbouring countries, on 14 August 2024, WHO Director-General Dr Tedros Adhanom Ghebreyesus declared mpox a [Public Health Emergency of International Concern](#) (PHEIC).

Since September 2023, the spread of mpox cases in Africa has been attributed to a strain called MPXV clade Ib, initially found in DRC. Cases attributed to this strain have been detected in Burundi, India, Kenya, Rwanda, Sweden, Thailand and Uganda. In DRC, clade Ia also contributed to the increase in cases, which is endemic in the DRC and neighbouring countries.

Meanwhile, a different strain, clade II, has been reported globally, including in the Eastern Mediterranean Region where clade Ib cases have not yet been detected.

In response to these developments, in August 2024, WHO updated the global mpox rapid risk assessment. Mpox risk was assessed as high in DRC and neighbouring countries and moderate elsewhere.

SITUATION UPDATE

From 24 May 2022 to 2 October 2024, 871 mpox cases, including two deaths, were notified to WHO from 12 countries in the Eastern Mediterranean Region (Table 1). All the cases in the Region were attributed to clade II, except in Sudan which reported clade Ia. The number of cases reported in the Region should be interpreted with caution: it reflects detection and reporting capacity in Member States.

Table 1. Reported mpox cases and deaths in the Eastern Mediterranean Region, 24 May 2022–2 October 2024

Country	Cases	Deaths
Saudi Arabia	764	0
United Arab Emirates	28	0
Lebanon	27	0
Sudan	19	1
Pakistan	11	1
Morocco	6	0
Qatar	5	0
Egypt	3	0
Oman	3	0
Bahrain	2	0
Jordan	2	0
Iran (Islamic Republic of)	1	0
Total	871	2

From 1 January to 2 October 2024, 103 cases, including one death, were reported from five countries in the Region (Table 2).

Table 2. Reported mpox cases and deaths in the Eastern Mediterranean Region, 1 January 2024–2 October 2024

Country	Cases	Deaths
Saudi Arabia	95	0
United Arab Emirates	3	0
Morocco	2	0
Pakistan	2	1
Jordan	1	0
Total	103	1

Eastern Mediterranean Region: managing mpox outbreaks

In the WHO Eastern Mediterranean Region, where there have been limited reported cases and transmission, the level of risk for mpox is assessed as moderate to low. The Region nonetheless remains vigilant: mpox cases have spread internationally, including in areas with no previous history of transmission.

Countries have taken a number of preparedness measures, including enhancing disease surveillance, increasing laboratory testing capacity and training health care workers to identify and manage mpox cases. The Regional Office for the Eastern Mediterranean has been actively coordinating with national health authorities to improve outbreak readiness, promote public awareness and provide guidance on infection prevention and control.

Risk communication strategies are also in place to inform the public about preventive measures, especially for those travelling to or from affected regions. While the immediate threat of widespread transmission remains low, the Region is proactively strengthening its response capacity to ensure prompt containment should cases arise.

RESPONSE ACTIVITIES

The Regional Office has activated the Incident Management Support Team to coordinate the response to mpox across different pillars, working closely with partners across Africa. The response includes:

- Supporting the development of the mpox continental preparedness and response plan for Africa, taking place from September 2024 to February 2025. The plan aims to strengthen mpox preparedness and response and to control the spread of the disease.
- Supporting the development of national strategic preparedness and response plans in several countries.
- Mobilizing financial resources to support the implementation of national preparedness and response plans.
- Conducting awareness sessions for International Health Regulations (2005) national focal points to strengthen their skills in responding to mpox.
- Producing and adapting risk communication and community engagement (RCCE) materials in Arabic and English to raise awareness on mpox preparedness and response measures.
- Enhancing laboratory capabilities through the procurement of supplies and diagnostics tools.
- Conducting capacity building sessions for Member States through webinars and workshops, and providing guiding documents for different pillars, including surveillance, case management, laboratories, vaccination and RCCE.

These measures aim to mitigate the impact of the disease, enhance public health security, manage current cases and prevent future outbreaks.

New public health events and emergencies

19 September–2 October 2024

Member State/territory	Hazard	Event	WHO grade ^a	Cases/injuries	Deaths	Date of start ^b
Egypt	Biological	Gastroenteritis	Ungraded	480	–	24-Sep-24
<p>On 11 September 2024, the Ministry of Health and Population in Egypt reported an increase in the number of diarrhoea and gastroenteritis cases. Of a total of 480 cases, 35% were hospitalized and 36 cases were admitted to intensive care. The outbreak peaked on 19 September, with <i>E. coli</i> identified as the main cause. According to the Ministry, out of the cases, 5 deaths occurred, though they are not linked to the gastroenteritis event. Response activities included deploying medical convoys, conducting risk communication and community engagement activities, and implementing water safety measures.</p>						
Lebanon	Societal	Armed conflict	Ungraded	8408	1640	25-Sep-24
<p>On 8 October 2023, Lebanon experienced a surge in armed violence in the south. It continued to escalate throughout September 2024. Between 17 and 23 September, a series of explosions targeted personal pagers and walkie-talkies in Lebanon, killing 32 people and injuring between 3200 and 3250. Airstrikes on 20 and 23 September killed 608 people and injured 1901. Four paramedics were killed, 16 injured and 14 ambulances targeted. A huge wave of displacement occurred after these attacks, with many seeking refuge in the Syrian Arab Republic. From 8 October 2023 to 28 September 2024, 1640 people were killed and 8408 were injured.</p>						

^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: mpox

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 2 October 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	146 555	68	22-Sep-21
During week 39 of 2024, 3657 cases of AWD with dehydration and 2 associated deaths were reported, a 12% decrease in case numbers compared with the previous week. Since the start of 2024, 146 555 cases of AWD with dehydration, with 68 deaths have been reported (case fatality ratio: 0.05%).						
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	1101	89	5-Mar-23
During week 39 of 2024, 31 suspected cases of Crimean-Congo haemorrhagic fever were reported, with no associated deaths, the same numbers reported in the previous week. Since the start of 2024, a total of 1101 suspected cases of Crimean-Congo haemorrhagic fever and 89 associated deaths, have been reported (case fatality ratio 8%).						
Afghanistan	Biological	Dengue	Multi-Region Dengue, Grade 3	2597	2	14-Aug-22
During week 39 of 2024, 138 suspected dengue cases were reported, with no associated deaths, a 17% increase in suspected case numbers compared with the previous week. Since the start of 2024, 2597 suspected cases of dengue and 2 associated deaths have been reported (case fatality ratio: 0.04%).						
Afghanistan	Biological	Malaria	Afghanistan Complex Emergencies, Protracted 3	64674	2	15-Aug-24
Malaria is endemic in some areas of Afghanistan. During week 39 of 2024, 3043 confirmed malaria cases were reported, with no deaths. This shows a 22% decrease in confirmed case numbers compared with the previous week. Since the start of 2024, a total of 64674 confirmed cases and 2 associated deaths have been reported (case fatality ratio: 0.003%).						
Afghanistan	Biological	Measles	Afghanistan Complex Emergencies, Protracted 3	53 539	237	19-Apr-21
During week 39 of 2024, Afghanistan reported 804 suspected measles cases, with 4 deaths, a 3% increase in suspected cases compared with the previous week. Since the start of 2024, 53 539 suspected cases of measles, with 237 associated deaths, have been reported (case fatality ratio: 0.5%).						
Afghanistan	Biological	Wild poliovirus type 1	Afghanistan Complex Emergencies, Protracted 3	22	0	16-Mar-23
During week 39 of 2024, 3 new wild poliovirus type 1 cases were reported. For 2024, Afghanistan has reported a total of 22 wild poliovirus type 1 cases, with no deaths.						
Djibouti	Biological	Dengue	Multi-Region, Dengue Grade 3	8	0	15-Jul-24
From 22 to 28 September 2024, 8 suspected dengue cases were reported, with no associated deaths.						
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.						
Djibouti	Biological	Malaria	Ungraded	245	–	13-Feb-19
From 22 to 28 September 2024, 245 malaria cases were reported, a 25% decrease in case numbers compared with the same period in 2023.						
Iran (Islamic Republic of)	Biological	Dengue	Multi-Region Dengue, Grade 3	193	3	18-Jun-24
From 27 May to 21 August 2024, 193 dengue cases and 3 deaths were reported.						
Iraq	Biological	Cholera	Cholera Multi-Region Cholera, Grade 3	8	0	12-Sep-24
On 5 September 2024, the International Health Regulations (2005) National Focal Point in Iraq reported 8 cholera cases in the city of Sulaymaniyah in the Kurdistan Region. These cases were sporadic, with no evidence of community transmission. Stool cultures from the cases tested positive for <i>Vibrio cholerae</i> 01 serotype Ogawa. Iraq is cholera endemic, having reported cases consistently since 2018.						
Iraq	Biological	Crimean-Congo haemorrhagic fever	Iraq Crimean-Congo Haemorrhagic Fever, Grade 2	712	43	21-Apr-22
From week 1 to week 39 of 2024, 712 suspected Crimean-Congo haemorrhagic fever cases were reported, with 43 deaths, giving a case fatality ratio of 6%. Among the suspected cases, 182 were confirmed, with 26 deaths, giving a case fatality ratio of 14.2% among the confirmed cases.						

Ongoing public health events and emergencies

As at 2 October 2024

Member State/territory	Hazard	Event	WHO grade	Cases/injuries	Deaths	Date of start
Iraq	Biological	Measles	Iraq Complex Emergencies, Protracted 2	31 210	53	19-Apr-23
During week 32 of 2024, 33 measles cases were reported, with zero deaths. From 1 January to 7 August 2024, 31 210 measles cases were reported, with 53 deaths.						
Jordan	Biological	Mpox	MPOX, Grade 3	2	0	11-Sep-22
On 2 September 2024, 1 confirmed mpox case was reported in Jordan (a 33-year-old male). The first mpox case recorded in Jordan was on 8 September 2022. Since the start of the outbreak 2 cases have been reported.						
Lebanon	Biological	Measles	Ungraded	5	0	4-Jul-23
From 22 August to 4 September 2024, 5 suspected measles cases were reported, with no deaths. Since the start of 2024, the most affected age group was children aged under 5 years. Akkar and Baalbek-Hermel governorates reported the highest number of cases, with 2 cases among 100 000 population. Among reported cases, 97% were unvaccinated and 20% required hospitalization.						
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. From August 2023 to 30 September 2024, however, no major armed conflicts that could affect public health have been reported.						
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 30 September 2024, WHO still delivers support to affected areas, strengthening the national capacities of Libya's health system.						
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 6 districts, with Sabha district most affected. As at week 49 of 2023, 1962 suspected measles and rubella cases had been reported, of which 251 measles cases and 196 rubella cases were confirmed, with 1 associated death. Between then and 30 September 2024, reporting of data has been intermittent.						
Libya	Societal	Refugee influx from Sudan	Ungraded	–	–	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. As at 12 August 2024, the number of displaced persons from Sudan reached around 100 000. Additionally, flooding in Libya, on 11 August 2024, displaced another 3000 people within Kufra. In response, WHO has been providing urgent medical aid to 60 000 people. No further significant updates have been available since 30 September 2024.						
Morocco	Biological	Travel-associated Legionnaires' disease	Ungraded	2	–	28-Aug-24
On 24 August 2024, the European Legionnaires' Disease Surveillance Network notified WHO of a new cluster of 2 cases of Travel-associated Legionnaires' disease, potentially associated with a visit to a hotel in Al Hoceima province, Morocco. The first case was detected in Belgium with symptom onset in September 2023 and the second case was detected in Portugal with symptom onset in July 2024.						
Morocco	Biological	Mpox	MPOX, Grade 3	5	0	2-Jun-22
From 1 January to 16 September 2024, 1 mpox case and no deaths were reported in the country and notified to WHO. Clade II is the only clade identified in the country so far. Since the start of the outbreak, 5 mpox cases have been reported.						
Occupied Palestinian territory	Societal	Armed conflict	Israel/oPt Hostilities, Grade 3	103 080	42 384	7-Oct-23
Ongoing war in the occupied Palestinian territory since 7 October 2023, have compounded an existing health crisis. As at 2 October 2024, the Palestinian Ministry of Health reported that 42 384 people had been killed and 103 080 injured. The Gaza Strip bears the highest casualties, including children, women and elderly people.						
Occupied Palestinian territory	Biological	Circulating vaccine-derived poliovirus type 2	Polio (cVDPV), Grade 2	1	0	22-July-24
On 16 July 2024, the International Health Regulation National Focal Point of the occupied Palestinian territory notified WHO of the detection of circulating vaccine-derived poliovirus type 2 (cVDPV2) in 6 environmental samples from Deir Al-Balah (3) and Khan Yunis (3) in the Gaza Strip. Subsequently, on 16 August 2024, the Ministry of Health reported the first case of cVDPV2 in a 10-month-old child in Deir Al-Balah. The child had not received any doses of the polio vaccine. The infection was confirmed to be caused by a strain of poliovirus derived from the vaccine.						

Ongoing public health events and emergencies

As at 2 October 2024

Member State/territory	Hazard	Event	WHO grade	Cases/injuries	Deaths	Date of start
Occupied Palestinian territory	Biological	West Nile fever	Israel/oPt Hostilities, Grade 3	10	1	7-Jul-24
From 4 July to 4 September 2024, 10 cases of West Nile fever were reported, including 7 males and 3 females. On 22 August, the International Health Regulations National Focal Point in the occupied Palestinian territory reported the death of a 66-year-old female due to West Nile fever in the West Bank.						
Pakistan	Biological	Cholera	Multi-region Cholera, Grade 3	2204	0	17-Apr-22
From 23 to 29 September 2024, 2204 suspected cholera cases were reported. Most cases were reported from Punjab province (1575 cases, 71%), followed by Balochistan province (282 cases, 13%).						
Pakistan	Biological	Dengue	Multi-region Dengue, Grade 3	2866	–	9-Apr-23
From 23 to 29 September 2024, 2866 suspected dengue cases were reported. Most cases were reported from Punjab province (2048 cases, 71%), followed by Sindh province (369 cases, 13%).						
Pakistan	Biological	Malaria	Ungraded	126 059	–	23-Sep-22
From 23 to 29 September 2024, 126 059 malaria cases were reported. Most cases were reported from Sindh province (106 684, 85%), followed by Khyber Pakhtunkhwa province (8861, 7%).						
Pakistan	Biological	Measles	Ungraded	644	–	26-Jan-21
From 23 to 29 September 2024, 644 suspected measles cases were reported. Most cases were reported from Punjab province (231 cases, 36%), followed by Khyber Pakhtunkhwa province (194, 30%).						
Pakistan	Biological	Mpox	MPOX, Grade 3	11	1	21-Apr-23
From 1 January to 16 September 2024, 2 cases and 1 death were reported in the country and notified to WHO. Clade II is the only clade identified in the country so far. Since the start of the outbreak, 11 mpox cases and 1 death have been reported.						
Pakistan	Biological	Wild poliovirus type 1 (WPV1)	Ungraded	28	0	16-Mar-23
From week 1 to week 40 of 2024, 28 wild poliovirus type 1 cases were reported.						
Saudi Arabia	Biological	Dengue	Multi-region, Dengue Grade 3	9296	0	5-Feb-23
From January to October 2024, 9296 suspected dengue cases were reported, with 5555 confirmed cases.						
Saudi Arabia	Biological	Middle East respiratory syndrome (MERS)	Ungraded	2205	863	11-May-12
As at 1 October 2024, Saudi Arabia reported 2205 MERS cases in total, including 863 deaths, since the first report of MERS in Saudi Arabia in 2012.						
Saudi Arabia	Biological	Mpox	MPOX, Grade 3	764	0	17-Jul-22
From 1 January to 16 September 2024, 95 cases and no deaths were reported in the country and notified to WHO. Clade II is the only clade identified in the country so far. Since the start of the outbreak, 764 mpox cases have been reported.						
Somalia	Biological	Cholera	Multi-region Cholera, Grade 3	19 208	138	2-Aug-18
As at 22 September 2024, 19 208 cholera cases had been reported in 2024 of which 64% were severe and 58% children aged under 5 years. By the same date, 138 associated deaths had been reported (a case fatality ratio of 0.7%). Kismayo, the district with the highest number of reported cases in 2024, accounts for 16% of the total. No new deaths have been reported since 4 August 2024, and the outbreak trend is coming under control after the surge of cases and deaths in early 2024. WHO, the United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF), the United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA), health, and water, sanitation and hygiene (WASH) clusters are collaborating on preparedness for an increase in cases following the rains expected in November.						
Somalia	Biological	Circulating vaccine-derived poliovirus type 2 (cVDPV2)	Polio (cVDPV), Grade 2	28	–	18-Aug-20
Since 1 January 2024, 3 new cVDPV2 cases were reported from Bardera district of Gedo province (2 cases) and Baidoa district of Bay province (1 case). From the start of the outbreak in August 2020 to 10 September 2024, 28 cases of cVDPV2 were reported. The Federal Ministry of Health in Somalia, with the support of WHO and the United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF), will conduct a nationwide polio vaccination campaign on 21 October 2024.						
Somalia	Biological	Dengue	Multi-region Dengue, Grade 3	5019	0	5-Oct-23
From the onset of the dengue outbreak on 3 October 2023 to 8 September 2024, 5019 suspected dengue cases were reported. Of these, 1680 cases were confirmed by rapid diagnostic tests. No deaths have been reported in 2024. The outbreak has spread across 30 districts in 5 states. As at 2 October 2024, no further significant updates are available.						

Ongoing public health events and emergencies

As at 2 October 2024

Member State/territory	Hazard	Event	WHO grade	Cases/injuries	Deaths	Date of start
Somalia	Biological	Diphtheria	Somalia Complex Emergencies, Protracted 3	771	85	29-Jan-24
A diphtheria outbreak in Somalia started in Hirshabelle state in July 2023 and spread to Puntland and Galmudug states in September 2023. From the start of the outbreak in July 2023 to 22 September 2024, 771 suspected cases and 85 deaths were reported.						
Somalia	Climatological	Drought	Greater Horn of Africa Drought and Food Insecurity, Grade 3	–	134	6-Feb-22
At the start of 2023, Somalia faced its fifth consecutive failed rainy season, resulting in a worsening of food security and nutrition outcomes and affecting more than 7.8 million people. In October 2023, Somalia experienced El Niño floods which, rather than offset the impact of drought, caused serious damage. In 2024, the annual Gu rains affected more than 268 000 people, including 81 000 people who were displaced, with flash floods bringing the total number of confirmed deaths to 134 since October 2023. As at 30 September 2024, flooding caused more displacement in the Lower Shabelle and Gedo regions, increasing the need for humanitarian assistance.						
Somalia	Biological	Measles	Somalia Complex Emergencies, Protracted 3	10017	34	3-Sep-22
As at 22 September 2024, 10017 suspected measles cases and at least 34 deaths had been reported through the surveillance system for fever and rash in 2024. The measles outbreak has been spreading in Somalia since 2023.						
Sudan	Societal	Armed conflict	Sudan Conflict and Complex Emergency, Grade 3	–	–	22-Jan-21
From April 2023 to 15 September 2024, the Federal Ministry of Health in Sudan reported more than 33 000 injuries and 3000 deaths due to the escalation of conflict. However, the open-source media reported more than 23 000 fatalities, including 45 humanitarian workers. As at 16 September 2024, there have been 106 verified attacks on health care facilities, resulting in 183 deaths and 125 injuries.						
Sudan	Biological	Cholera	Multi-region Cholera, Grade 3	17650	546	5-Oct-23
From 22 July to 29 September 2024, 17 650 cholera cases, including 546 deaths (case fatality ratio: 3.1%) were reported from 5 states. These figures should be interpreted with caution: the data comes from an early warning system that does not cover all states and has low data completeness.						
Sudan	Biological	Circulating vaccine-derived poliovirus type 2 (cVDPV2)	Polio (cVDPV), Grade 2	0	0	8-Oct-20
No new vaccine-derived poliovirus isolates were reported in week 37 of 2024. As at 15 September 2024, no cases of cVDPV2 had been reported in Sudan in 2024.						
Sudan	Biological	Dengue	Multi-region Dengue, Grade 3	9484	75	20-Oct-21
From 1 January to 20 August 2024, 9484 dengue cases, including 75 deaths, with a case fatality ratio of 0.8% were reported from 12 states. These figures should be interpreted with caution: the data comes from an early warning system that does not cover all states and has low data completeness.						
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	Hydrological	Floods	Ungraded	–	30	2-Sep-24
On 25 August 2024, the Arba'at Dam in Red Sea State, Sudan, collapsed following heavy rains. Over 30 deaths have been confirmed, and 64 people are reported missing. Around 70 villages near the dam were affected, with 20 completely destroyed. Around 13 000 families (65 000 people) living west of the dam have been impacted. Of these, about 10 000 families (50 000 people) have had their homes destroyed or damaged.						
Sudan	Biological	Malaria	Sudan Conflict and Complex Emergency, Grade 3	1 845 955	178	10-Sep-22
From 1 January to 27 September 2024, 1 845 955 malaria cases, including 178 deaths (case fatality ratio: 0.01%) were reported across 15 states. Week 39 of 2024 marks a 2% decrease compared with cases reported in week 38 of 2024. The numbers should be interpreted with caution because the source of the data is the early warning system, and it does not cover all the states besides the low data completeness.						

Ongoing public health events and emergencies

As at 2 October 2024

Member State/territory	Hazard	Event	WHO grade	Cases/injuries	Deaths	Date of start
Sudan	Biological	Measles	Sudan Conflict and Complex Emergency, Grade 3	5491	120	8-Jan-21
From 1 January to 15 September 2024, 5491 measles cases, including 120 deaths (case fatality ratio: 2.1%) were reported from 11 states. Week 37 of 2024 marks a 79% decrease in cases compared with week 36 of 2024. These figures should be interpreted with caution: the data comes from an early warning system that does not cover all states and has low data completeness.						
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	Cholera	Multi-Region Cholera, Grade 3	454	0	13-Aug-24
In the Syrian Arab Republic, 454 suspected cholera cases were reported, including 15 confirmed cases, with no associated deaths. Among the reported cases, 56% were males, 49% were children aged under 5 years, and 21% were aged between 5 to 14 years. Additionally, 116 cases (16% of the total) have been reported from internally displaced persons camps. Laboratory testing through culture analysis has confirmed a 3% positivity rate, with 15 out of 454 tests returning positive results.						
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.						
United Arab Emirates	Biological	Mpox	MPOX, Grade 3	28	0	25-May-22
From 1 January to 16 September 2024, 1 mpox case and no deaths were reported in the country and notified to WHO. Clade II is the only clade identified in the country so far. Since the start of the outbreak 28 mpox cases have been reported.						
Yemen	Biological	Circulating vaccine-derived poliovirus type 2 (cVDPV2)	Polio (cVDPV), Grade 2	33	0	30-Nov-21
No new vaccine-derived poliovirus were reported during week 37 of 2024. For 2024, Yemen has reported a total of 33 cVDPV2 cases.						
Yemen	Biological	Dengue	Multi-Region Dengue, Grade 3	11 105	11	25-Jan-24
As at 3 August 2024, 11 105 suspected dengue cases have been reported, including 11 deaths (case fatality ratio: 0.1%), since the start of 2024. The current trend of dengue cases remains within the expected seasonal range across most of the country. However, concerns are growing about the potential impact of flooding in the western highlands and the southern coastal areas. These concerns are particularly focused on vector-borne diseases.						
Yemen	Biological	Diphtheria	Yemen Complex Emergencies, Protracted 3	1059	46	25-Jan-24
As at 3 August 2024, 1059 suspected diphtheria cases, including 46 deaths (case fatality ratio: 4.3%) have been reported since the start of 2024. The number of cases remains within the seasonally expected range for the country. Diphtheria antitoxin stocks are available in health care facilities, following WHO's management and distribution of global stocks.						
Yemen	Hydrological	Floods	Ungraded	–	48	27-Aug-24
On 6 August 2024, severe flooding affected over 18 740 families across the Hajjah, Hodeida, Sa'dah, and Taiz governorates of Yemen, resulting in 48 reported deaths. Health infrastructure was heavily impacted, with 11 facilities flooded in Hodeida. Some critical health facilities sustained significant damage. WHO is monitoring for diarrhoeal and vector-borne diseases in the aftermath and providing emergency health kits, mobile clinics and medical supplies to address urgent health needs.						
Yemen	Biological	Measles	Yemen Complex Emergencies, Protracted 3	26 109	222	29-Mar-21
From 1 January to 3 August 2024, 26 109 suspected measles cases were reported, including 222 deaths (case fatality ratio: 0.85%). The highest number of cases was reported from Sa'ada governorate, accounting for 19% of Yemen's total measles reports.						

Closed public health events and emergencies

19 September–2 October 2024

Member State/territory	Hazard	Event	WHO grade	Date of start
Eastern Mediterranean Region	Biological	COVID-19	COVID-19, Protracted 3	2020
Following the official declaration that COVID-19 no longer constitutes a Public Health Emergency of International Concern (PHEIC), and in alignment with WHO recommendations, there has been a strategic shift towards enhancing integrated respiratory surveillance systems to monitor the circulation of SARS-CoV-2 alongside influenza viruses.				
Pakistan	Biological	Diphtheria	Ungraded	11-Feb-23
The event was opened to monitor the development of the Diphtheria emergency response plan. It was closed after the plan was developed and the epidemiological data did not significantly change.				



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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.

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