



## IDSR Weekly Epidemiology and Surveillance Bulletin

11<sup>th</sup> March – 17<sup>th</sup> March 2024, Epi-week 11, 2024

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### Introduction:

We are pleased to share our weekly epidemiological bulletin. This bulletin serves to inform all stakeholders at district, regional, national and international levels on disease trends, public health surveillance and interventions undertaken in detecting, preventing and responding to public health threats in The Gambia on a weekly basis. We are also thrilled to include the Occupational Health and Safety injuries courtesy the Directorate of Public Health services

### Published by:

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# National Responses, Highlights, and Weekly IDSR Summary

## National Responses

1. The national response to COVID-19 is continuing at a routine service level

## Highlights

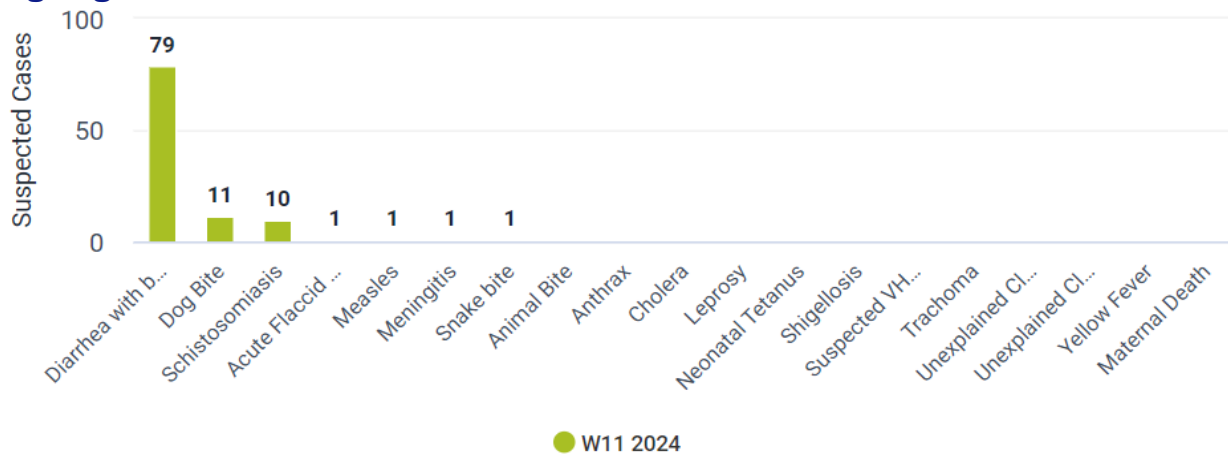


Figure1: Cases reported into the national DHIS2, Week 11,2024

- In Epi week- 11, 79 cases of Diarrhoea, 11 cases of Dog bite, 10 cases of Schistosomiasis, 1 case of snake bite, 1 case of AFP and a suspected case of measles and meningitis.
- The AFP case was reported from Western 1 health region
- The number of dog bit cases is alarming especially in western 1 health region
- Diarrhea with blood and dog bite continue to be a concern across the country
- National timeliness and completeness were both **98.2%**

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## Reporting Coverage and Performance Ranking

### Timeliness and completeness

Table1. District Weekly IDSR Reporting Coverage, The Gambia, Epi – week11, 2024

Regions	Number of reports expected	Number of complete reports received	Number of reports received on time	Timeliness (%)	Completeness (%)
Central River	11	11	11	100	100
Lower River	6	6	6	100	100
North Bank East	4	4	4	100	100
North Bank West	3	3	3	100	100
Upper River	7	7	7	100	100
Western 1	3	3	3	100	100
Western 2	8	7	7	87.5	87.5
<b>The Gambia</b>	<b>42</b>	<b>41</b>	<b>41</b>	<b>98.2</b>	<b>98.2</b>

Legend	$\geq 80\%$ on time and complete	50% - 79% on time and complete	<50% on time and complete
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- Timeliness and completeness of District Reporting from all the districts were perfect except for North Bank West Region
- The national timeliness and completeness were both **98.2%**

## Priority Diseases, Conditions and Events

### Diarrhea with Blood (DWB)

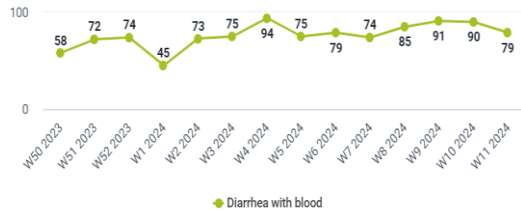


Figure2: Reported cases of DWB, The Gambia, Epi-week 11, 2024

- 79 cases were reported in Epi-week 11
- Of the 79 cases, 32.91% (26/79), 21.5% (17/79), 15.19% (12/79) and 13.92% (11/79) were from URR, CRR, LRR and WR2 respectively
- The figures continue to be alarming but relatively low compared to when the rains were heavy

### Meningitis

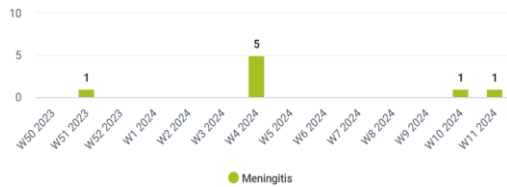


Figure4: Suspected Meningitis case reported, The Gambia, Epi-week 11, 2024

- 1 suspected case of meningitis was reported in Epi week 11
- The suspected was from Western region 1
- This is the 7<sup>th</sup> suspected cases of meningitis to be reported since Epi-week 1

### Dog bite

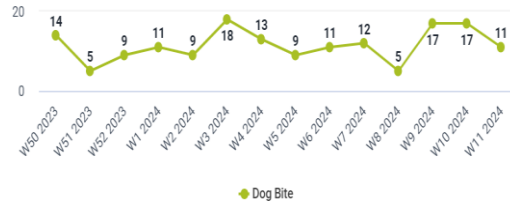


Figure3: Reported Dog bite cases, The Gambia, Epi-week 11, 2024

- 11 cases of dog bite were reported in Epi-week 11
- Of the 11 cases, 36.36% (4/11) are reported from WR1

### Yellow fever



Figure5: Suspected yellow fever case reported, The Gambia, Epi-week 11, 2024

- 1 case of suspected yellow fever was reported from NBE region

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## VPD Surveillance

### Acute Flaccid Paralysis (AFP)

Table 2: National and Regional Annualized Non-Polio AFP Rate as per EPI VPD surveillance database, The Gambia, Epi-week 1- 11, 2024

REGION	Under 15 Population	Total AFP Cases reported Wk 01-- Wk 10	Stool Adequacy	Stool Condition	Annualized Non-Polio AFP Rate
Western Region 1	452970	3	100	100	3.31
Central River Region	117164	0	0	0	0.00
North Bank East Region	59461	0	0	0	0.00
Upper River Region	130995	0	0	0	0.00
Lower River Region	39007	0	0	0	0.00
North Bank West Region	59721	0	0	0	0.00
Western Region 2	259814	1	100	100	1.82
<b>The Gambia</b>	<b>1119132</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>1.69</b>

- 4 cases of AFP have been reported from across the country so far as per the EPI VPD surveillance data base
- All of them are negative for the wild polio virus

### Measles

Table 3: National and Regional Annualized Non-Measles, Non-Rubella Febrile Rash Rate as per EPI VPD surveillance database, The Gambia, Epi-week 1- 11, 2024

Reporting Region	Total Population	Epi-linked	Clinically confirmed	Indeterminate (Equivocal)	Discarded (Negative)	Pending	Lab confirmed (Measles + Rubella)	Total	Annualized Non-Measles, Non rubella Febrile Rash
CRR	280,156	0	0	0	9	0	0	9	16.7
LRR	92,405	0	0	0	6	0	0	6	33.76
NBE	142,529	0	0	0	1	0	0	1	0
NBW	143,152	0	0	0	2	0	0	2	3.63
URR	314,610	0	0	0	13	0	2	15	18.18
WR1	1,100,739	0	0	0	10	0	0	10	3.31
WR2	642,846	0	0	0	2	0	0	2	1.62
<b>National</b>	<b>2,716,437</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>43</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>45</b>	<b>6.89</b>

- A total of 45 suspected measles cases have been recorded so far in the EPI VPD surveillance database
- One is positive for measles while another is positive for rubella
- Both positive cases are reported from Kantora District in the Upper River Region

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## **COVID-19 update**

<b>REGION</b>	<b>NEGATIVE</b>	<b>POSITIVE</b>	<b>TOTAL TEST CONDUCTED</b>
<b>CRR</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>2</b>
<b>LRR</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>2</b>
<b>NBE</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>2</b>
<b>NBW</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>1</b>
<b>URR</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>
<b>WR 1</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>7</b>
<b>WR 2</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>1</b>
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>14</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>15</b>

- A total of 15 COVID-19 tests have been recorded across the country from Epi-week 1 to Epi-week 11
- Only one of the suspect turns out positive and this was from western 1 health region
- COVID-19 test continue to be very low in all the seven health regions

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## Other Diseases / Events of Public Health Importance

### Malaria

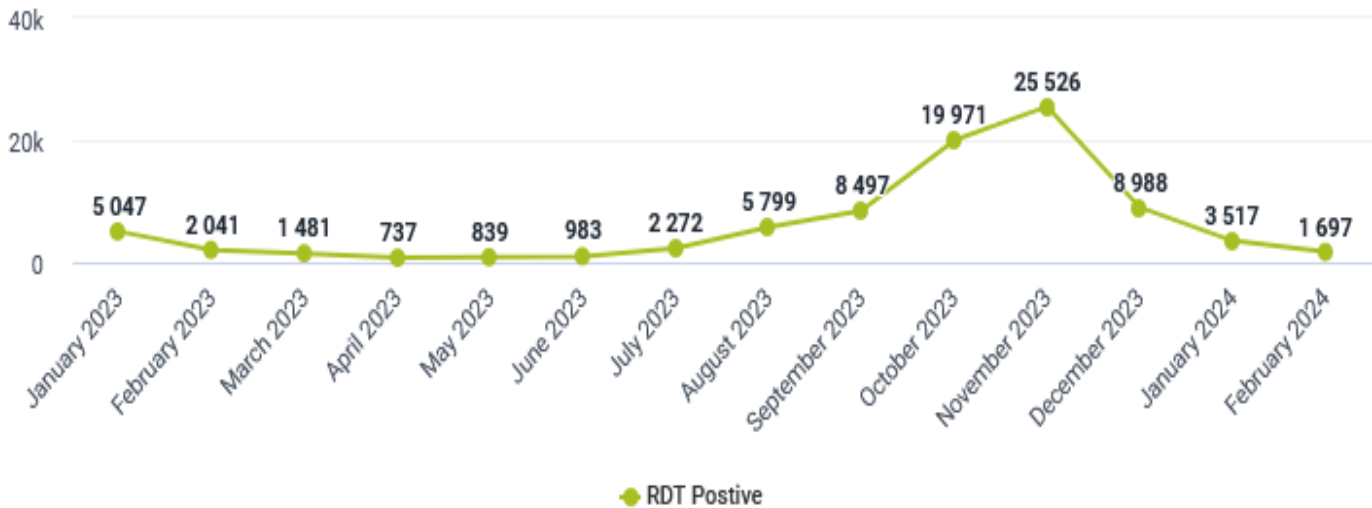
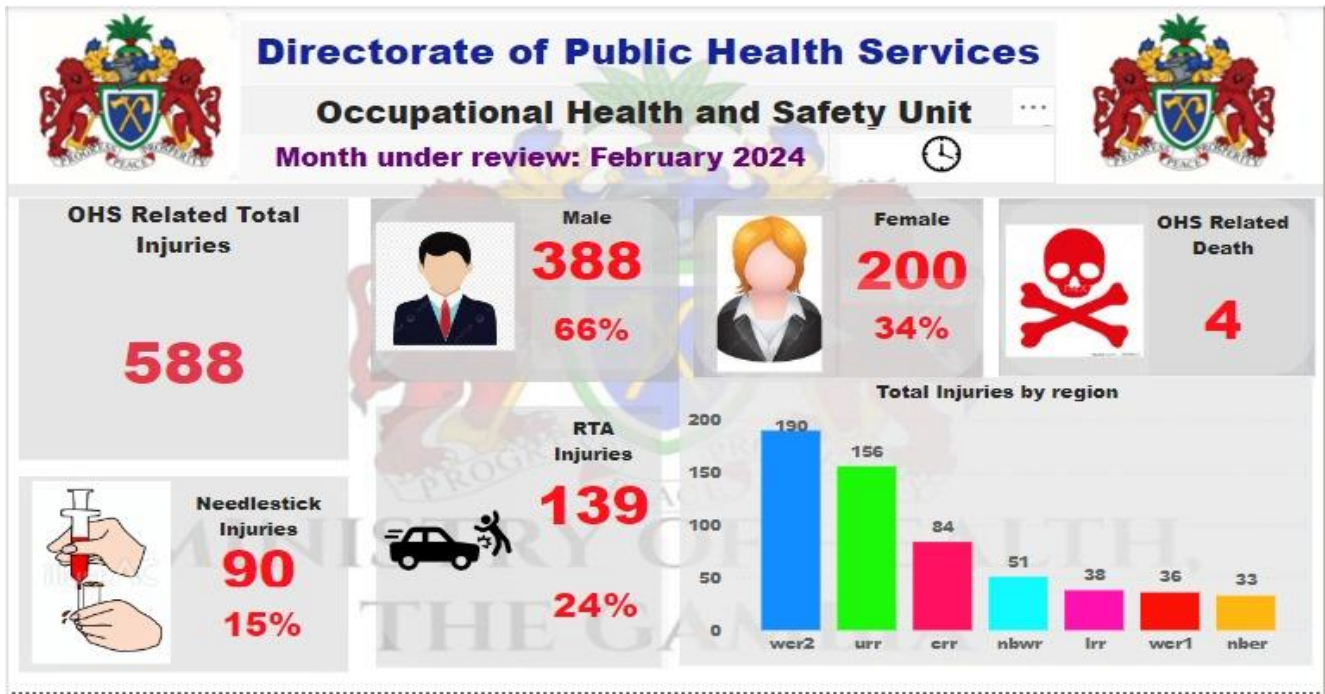


Figure 6: Monthly Reported RDT positive Malaria cases, The Gambia, Jan 2023 to February 2024

- The RDT positive malaria cases were steadily decreasing since December 2023. These reductions could be due to the reductions of mosquitoes in the dry season because of limited breeding sites.
- The number of RDT malaria cases recorded in January 2024 is 30.6% less than the same period 2023. Similar trend is been observed comparing February 2023 and February 2024 where a 16% decrement have been registered. These reductions may be attributed to the many malaria prevention strategies been implemented across the country including the malaria case-base surveillance in NBW and NBE.

## -7- Occupational Health and Safety report, Feb, 2024



- A total of 588 injuries were reported across the country in February and majority of those injuries occurred among male
- 4 deaths were occupational related
- 24 % (139/588) of the total injuries were associated with road traffic crashes
- 15% (90/588) of the total injuries were needle prick injuries
- The highest number of injuries were reported from Western 2 Health region and the least number of injuries were reported from North Bank East region



## -8- Reported cases (suspected/confirmed) and events by region as per DHIS2, week 11, 2024

Data Name	Central River	Lower River	North Bank East	North Bank West	Upper River	Western 1	Western 2	TOTAL
Acute Flaccid Paralysis	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Animal Bite	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Anthrax	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Cholera	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
COVID-19	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Diarrhea with blood	17	12	2	7	26	4	11	79
Dog Bite	1	1	0	2	0	4	3	11
Human Rabies	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Leprosy	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Lymphatic Filariasis	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Maternal Death	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Measles	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	1
Meningitis	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	1
Neonatal Tetanus	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Schistosomiasis	6	0	0	0	4	0	0	10
Shigellosis	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Snake bite	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	1
Suspected VHF (incl. EVD)	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Trachoma	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Unexplained Cluster of Health Events	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Unexplained Cluster of Deaths	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Yellow Fever	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0

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## **Public Health Interventions**

- The Ministry of Health (Epidemiology and Disease Control Programme & Directorate of Health Promotion and Education) is taking part and supporting response activities to curb the recent rise in the number of “Kush” abuse victims
- The Regional Health Directorate of Upper River Region is supporting Kantora District to curb the spread of measles and rubella following the confirmation of both measles and rubella in the region within the same District
- The National Public Health Laboratories is conducting tests on stool samples collected from patients with diarrhea with blood to confirm the cause of the condition
- The Expanded Programme on Immunization is conducting a Periodic Intensification of Routine Immunization across the country to boost coverage for routine immunization and the uptake of the COVID-19 and HPV vaccines

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## **Recommendations**

- The Epidemiology and Disease Control program should engage all the stakeholders in COVID-19 response to conduct and after-action review for the outbreak and declare the outbreak officially over
- Health facilities should continue testing for COVID-19 especially among patients presenting with its signs and symptoms
- Healthcare workers in CRR should include prevention and control messages of schistosomiasis in their school health programs in order to reduce the incidence of schistosomiasis in the regions
- Awareness level on the effect of dog bite should be intensified especially mad dogs due to the possibility of rabbi’s virus
- All regions are encouraged to share this bulletin with all staff under their purview using the different social media platforms at their disposal

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