



IDSR Weekly Epidemiology and Surveillance Bulletin

19th February – 25th February 2024, Epi-week 8, 2024

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.

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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; see the latest COVID-19 SitRep available for additional details

Highlights



Figure1: Cases reported into the national DHIS2, Week 8,2024

- In Epi week- 8, 85 cases of diarrhea with blood, 29 unexplained cluster of health events, 10 schistosomiasis, 5 Dog Bite, 2 snake bite and 7 suspected measles cases, were reported into the national DHIS2 platform
- Five of the suspected measles cases were from Upper River Region and two cases were from North Bank East Region
- All the unexplained cluster of health events are from Western Health Region One
- National timeliness and completeness were both **100%** for all the regions

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Reporting Coverage and Performance Ranking

Timeliness and completeness

Table1. District Weekly IDSR Reporting Coverage, The Gambia, Epi – week8, 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	8	8	100	100
The Gambia	42	41	41	100	100

Legend	≥ 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 for all the regions.
- The national timeliness and completeness were both **100%**

Priority Diseases, Conditions and Events

Diarrhea with Blood (DWB)

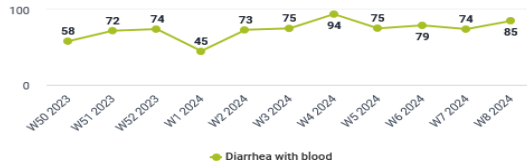


Figure2: Reported cases of DWB, The Gambia, Epi-week 8, 2024

- 85 cases were reported in Epi-week 8
- Of the 85 cases, 25.9% (22/85), 23.5% (20/85) and 16.5% (14/85) were for CRR, WR2 and URR respectively
- There number of cases continue to be relatively low compared to when the rains were heavy

Dog bite

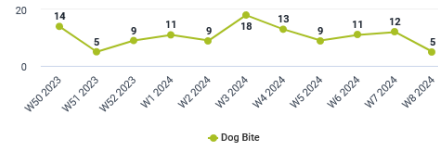


Figure3: Reported Dog bite cases, The Gambia, Epi-week 8, 2024

- 5 cases of dog bite were reported in Epi-week 8
- Of the 5 cases 40% (2/5) were from WR2.
- URR, LRR and NBE each reported a case

Measles

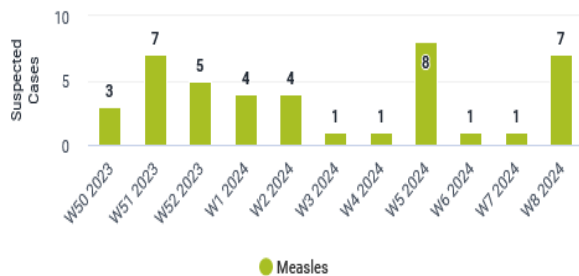


Figure4: Snake bite cases reported, The Gambia, Epi-week 8, 2024

- 7 suspected cases of measles were reported in Epi week 8
- Of the 7 cases, 71.4% (5/7) were from URR and 28.6% (2/7) were from NBE

Schistosomiasis



Figure5: Reported cases of schistosomiasis, The Gambia, Epi-week 8, 2024

- 10 cases were reported in Epi week 8
- 70% (7/10) are from CRR and the 20% (2/10) were from URR

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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- 8, 2024

REGION	Under 15 Population	Total AFP Cases reported Wk 01-- Wk 8	Stool Adequacy	Stool Condition	Annualized Non-Polio AFP Rate
Western Region 1	452970	1	100	100	1.43
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	2.50
The Gambia	1119132	2	100	100	1.16

- 2 cases of AFP have been reported so far as per the EPI VPD surveillance data base
- All of the test results received so far are negative for both the wild polio virus and Circulating vaccine-derived poliovirus (cVDPV) and stool adequacy have been adequate both samples

Measles

Table 3: National and Regional Annualized Non-Measles Febrile Rash Rate as per EPI VPD surveillance database, The Gambia, Epi-week 1- 8, 2024

Reporting Region	Total Population	Epi-linked	Clinically confirmed	Indeterminate (Equivocal)	Discarded (Negative)	Pending	Lab confirmed	Total	Annualized Non-Measles Febrile Rash
CRR	280,156	0	0	0	9	0	0	9	20.88
LRR	92,405	0	0	0	6	0	0	6	42.21
NBE	142,529	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
NBW	143,152	0	0	0	1	0	0	1	4.54
URR	314,610	0	0	0	11	0	0	11	22.73
WR1	1,100,739	0	0	0	7	0	0	7	4.13
WR2	642,846	0	0	0	2	0	0	2	2.02
National	2,716,437	0	0	0	36	0	0	36	8.61

- A total of 36 suspected measles cases have been recorded in the EPI VPD surveillance database but none are positive for measles
- The test result for one of the suspected cases from URR turn out to be positive for rubella

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COVID-19 update

Table 4: Total number of COVID-19 test conducted and test outcome by region, epi-week 1 to epi-week 8, The Gambia, 2024

REGION	NEGATIVE	POSITIVE	TOTAL TEST CONDUCTED
CRR	2	0	2
LRR	2	0	2
NBE	2	0	2
NBW	1	0	1
URR	0	0	0
WR 1	5	1	6
WR 2	1	0	1
TOTAL	13	1	14

- A total of 14 COVID-19 tests have been recorded across the country so far and one result turn out positive
- 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

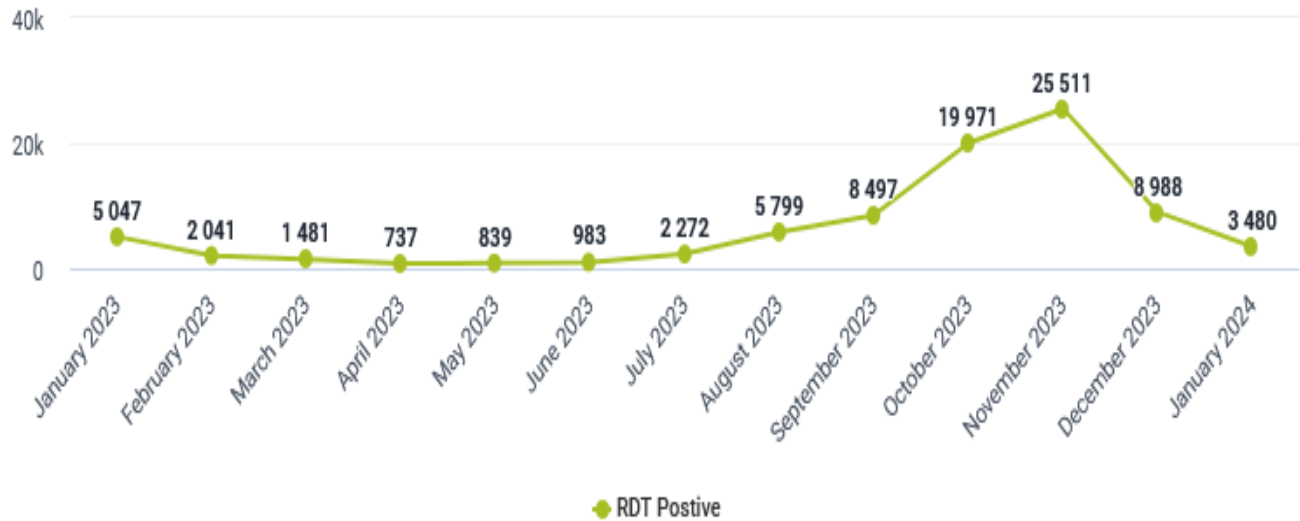


Figure 6: Monthly Reported RDT positive Malaria cases, The Gambia, Jan 2023 to January 2024

- 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. This may be attributed to the many malaria prevention strategies across the country including the malaria case surveillance in NBW and NBE.
- The malaria case-based surveillance has started in the North Bank East and West Health regions in epi-week 34, 2023. This entails an investigation into every confirmed malaria case in their communities to interrupt the possible chains of transmission by instituting control measures. Significant success has been registered so far in the implementation of this important intervention.

-7- Reported cases (suspected/confirmed) and events by region as per DHIS2, week 8, 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	22	8	10	5	14	6	20	85
Dog Bite	0	1	1	0	1	0	2	5
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	0	0	2	0	5	0	0	7
Meningitis	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0
Neonatal Tetanus	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Schistosomiasis	7	0	1	0	2	0	0	10
Shigellosis	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Snake bite	0	0	0	1	0	0	1	2
Suspected VHF (incl. EVD)	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Trachoma	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Unexplained Cluster Health Events	0	0	0	0	0	29	0	29
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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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
- 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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Public Health Interventions

- The Ministry of is taking part and supporting response activities to curb the recent rise in the number of “Kush” abuse victims

- 7- Partners



