

February (Epidemiological Weeks 5-8), 2023

- 1. Highlights on COVID-19 surveillance and NEWARS reporting
 - I. Highlights on COVID-19:
 - a) Total of 20 (antigen 13 and PCR 7) SARS-CoV-2 positive cases were detected in the month of February 2023
 - b) The trend of SARS-COV-2 cases had been decline steadily
 - c) The cumulative number of positive cases has gone to 62,673 at the end of February 2023.

II. Highlights on NEWARS:

- a) Three dengue fever reported from and two suspected measles cases was reported from JDWNRH, in February 2023
- b) An outbreak of chickenpox was reported from Punakha Hospital

2. Situation of COVID-19:

A total of 20 laboratory-confirmed cases of SARS-CoV-2 have detected in the month, the trend of SARS-CoV-2 cases detection had been declining steadily in 2023 (**Figure 1**).

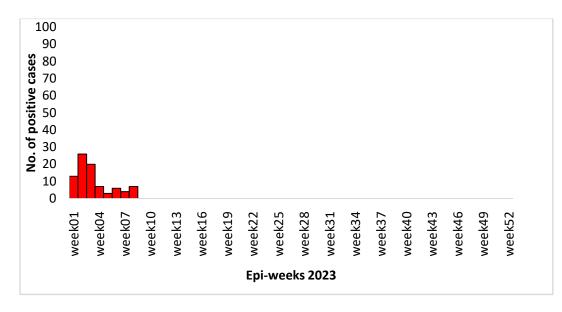


Figure 1: No. of samples tested positive for SARS-CoV-2 by epi-week, 2023

3. Status of Notifiable Diseases/Syndromes reported:

A total of 10341 cases of notifiable diseases were reported in the weekly indicator-based surveillance system, among the 11 weekly notifiable diseases Acute Respiratory Illness (ARI) (73.0%) followed by Acute Watery Diarrhea (AWD) (21.0%) topped the list (**Figure 2**).

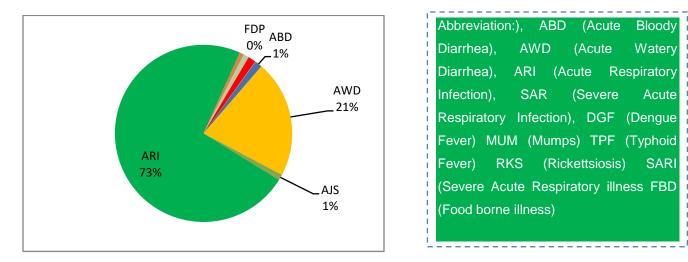


Figure 2: Proportion of notifiable diseases reported in NEWARS

Among the dzongkhags, Sarpang and Samtse had reported a higher percentage of ARI while Sarpang reported a higher percentage of SARI cases (**Figure 3**):

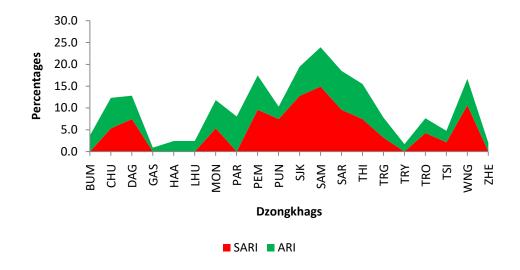
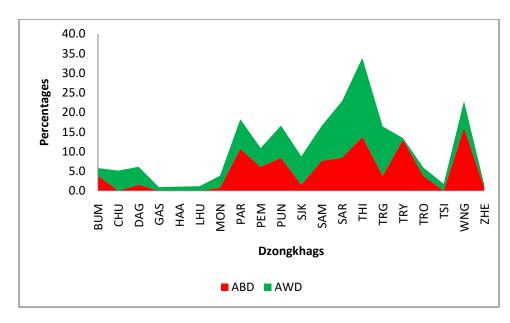


Figure 3: Proportion of ARI and SARI reported by Dzongkhags

ARI: Acute Respiratory Illness; SARI: Severe Acute Respiratory Illness

The higher incidence of AWD was reported by Sarpang dzongkhag, while the highest percentage of ABD was reported by Thimphu dzongkhag (**Figure 4**).



ABD: Acute Bloody Diarrhea; AWD: Acute Watery Diarrhea

Figure 4: Proportion of ABD and AWD reported by Dzongkhags

4. Status of Notifiable Diseases/Syndromes for the month

Of the total weekly report received in the system, 74.0% were reported in time, 14.0% were lately reported, and the rest were not reported (**Figure 5**).

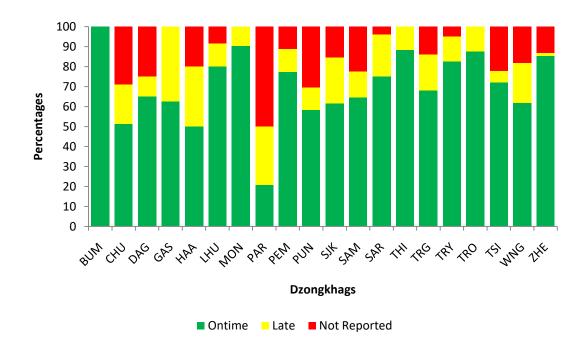


Figure 5: Reporting status of Notifiable Diseases by Dzongkhags