

MONTHLY DISEASES EPIDEMIOLOGY REPORT

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March (Epidemiological Weeks 9- 12), 2023

1. Highlights on COVID-19 surveillance and NEWARS reporting

I. Highlights on COVID-19:

- a) Total of 32 (antigen 10 and PCR 12) SARS-CoV-2 positive cases were detected in the month of March 2023
- b) The trend of SARS-COV-2 cases had been decline steadily
- c) The cumulative number of positive cases has gone to 62,705 at the end of March 2023.

II. Highlights on NEWARS:

- a) Two dengue fever reported (Sarpang 01 and Samtse 01) and two suspected Bacterial meningitis cases (Punakha 01 and JDWNRH 01) was reported in March 2023
- b) Two measles confirmed case (Sarpang 01 and Samdrupjongkhar 01) and one rubella case was reported from Sarpang
- c) Five outbreak (Acute gastroenteritis from Paro, Chickenpox from Geneka, Thimphu and Gelposhing, Chillblain from Lhuntse, Foodpoisong from Lumang Trashigang and Influenza like Illness from Ura was reported in March 2023

2. Situation of COVID-19:

A total of 32 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**).

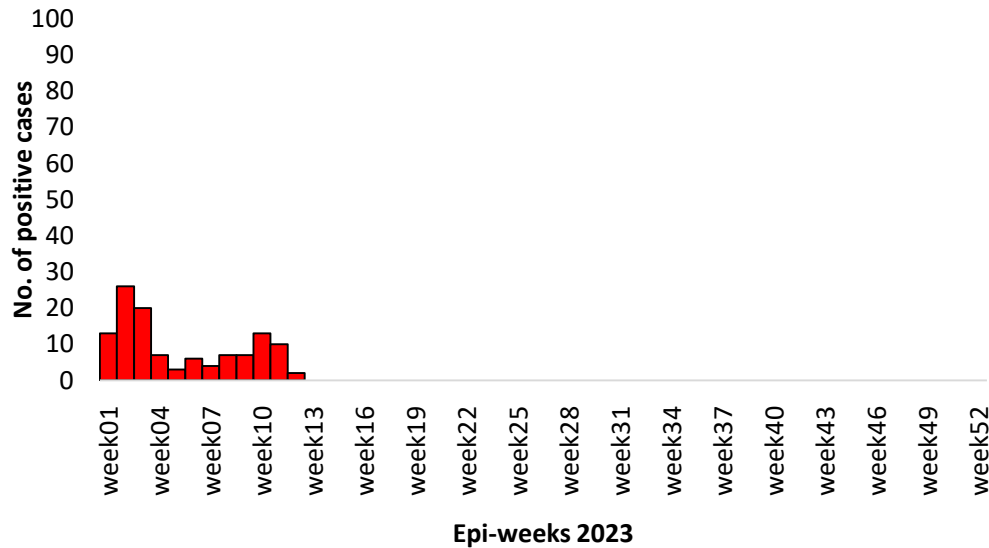
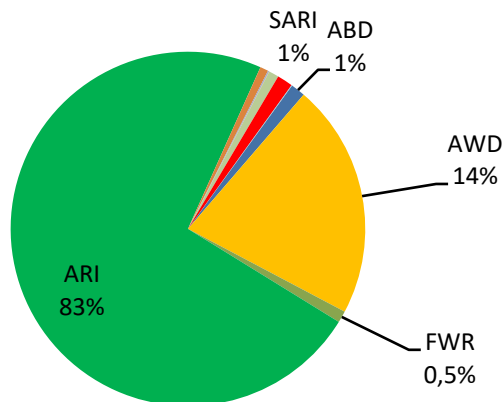


Figure 1: No. of samples tested positive for SARS-CoV-2 by epi-week, 2023

3. Status of Notifiable Diseases/Syndromes reported:

A total of 14019 cases of notifiable diseases were reported in the weekly indicator-based surveillance system, among the 11 weekly notifiable diseases Acute Respiratory Illness (ARI) (83.0%) followed by Acute Watery Diarrhea (AWD) (14.0%) topped the list (**Figure 2**).



Abbreviation:), ABD (Acute Bloody Diarrhea), AWD (Acute Watery Diarrhea), ARI (Acute Respiratory Infection), SAR (Severe Acute Respiratory Infection), DGF (Dengue Fever) MUM (Mumps) TPF (Typhoid Fever) RKS (Rickettsiosis) SARI (Severe Acute Respiratory illness FBD (Food borne illness)

Figure 2: Proportion of notifiable diseases reported in NEWARS

Among the dzongkhags, Samtse had reported a higher percentage of ARI and SARI followed by Thimphu dzongkhag (**Figure 3**):

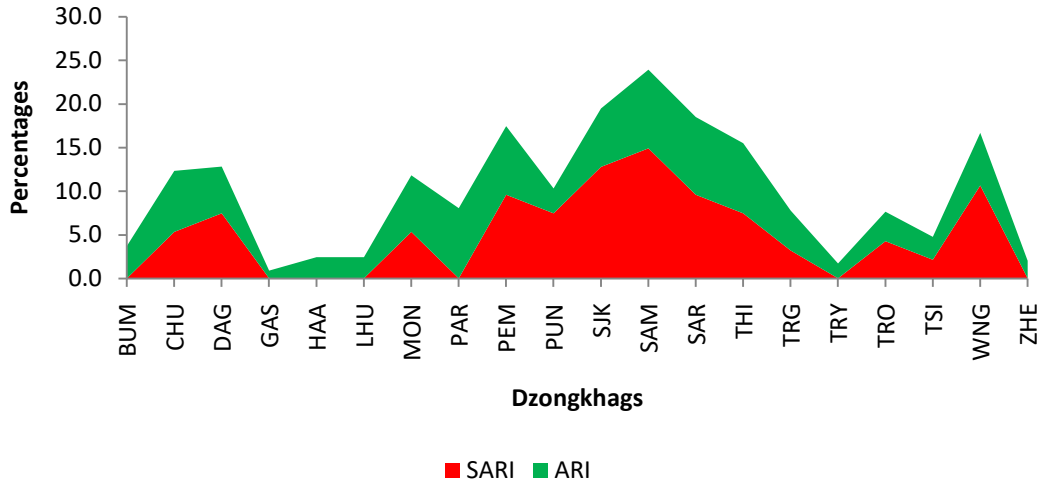
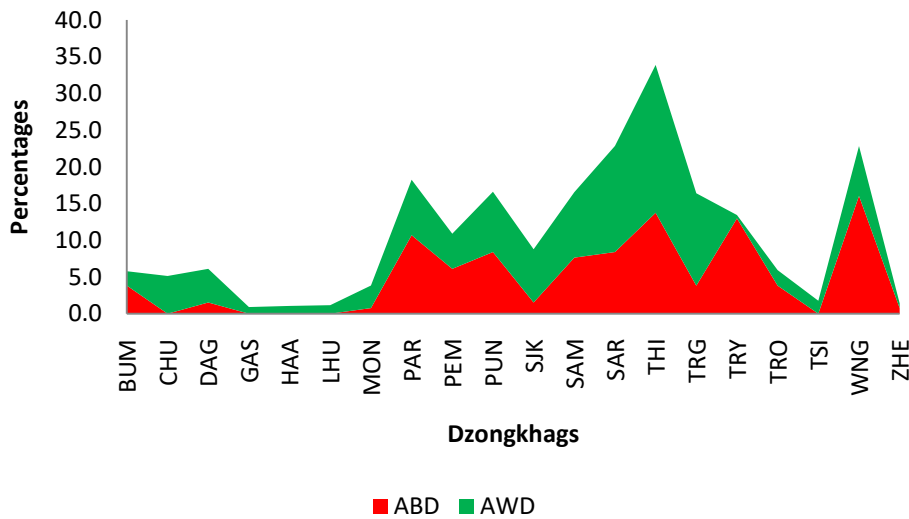


Figure 3: Proportion of ARI and SARI reported by Dzongkhags

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

The higher incidence of both the AWD and ABD was reported by Thimphu and Wangduephodrang 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, 84.0% were reported in time, 10.0% were lately reported, and the rest were not reported (**Figure 5**).

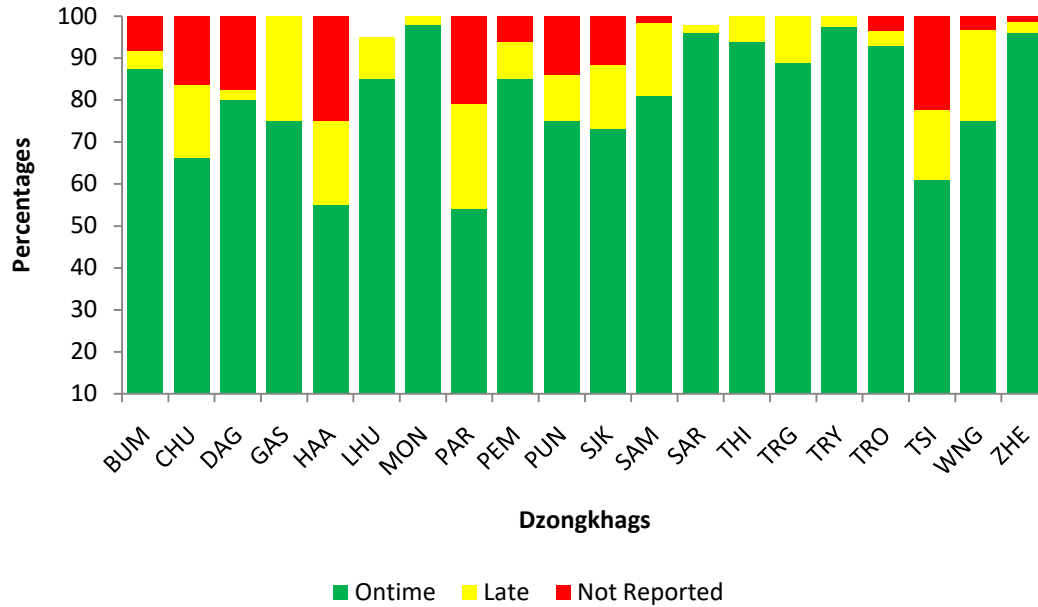


Figure 5: Reporting status of Notifiable Diseases by Dzongkhags