



WEEKLY EPIDEMIOLOGICAL BULLETIN

WEEK 44 – 2023

(30 October – 05 November 2023)

Editorial message

Effective and efficient disease surveillance system contribute to the reduction of morbidity, disability and mortality from disease outbreaks and health emergencies.

This weekly bulletin presents the epidemiological status of the priority diseases, conditions, and events under surveillance in Rwanda. These data are useful to trigger a rapid response for rapid impact, actions and results oriented, a proactive preparedness, risk mitigation and prevention, intelligence, real-time information, and communication for decision making.

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KEY EPIDEMIOLOGICAL HIGHLIGHTS

EPIDEMIOLOGICAL WEEK 44

Event Based Surveillance (EBS) Highlights:

- During the epidemiological week 44, three deaths and two events of human illness were notified through the electronic Community Event Based Surveillance System (eCEBS).
- One alert was identified through the Epidemic Intelligence from Open Source (EIOS):
Polio Outbreak Declared in Harare, Zimbabwe

Indicator Based Surveillance (IBS) Highlights:

- 256 immediate reportable diseases were notified by health facilities countrywide. These include the cases of acute flaccid paralysis (AFP), foodborne illness, mumps, severe malaria; bloody diarrhea, measles/rubella, bacterial meningitis, cholera, human rabies and chicken pox.
- For 8 weekly reportable diseases and health events, a thorough analysis conducted for Epi Week 44 revealed that no disease surpassed the epidemic threshold.
- A total of 67 deaths were reported through the electronic Integrated Disease Surveillance and Response (eIDSR) system. The majority of deaths were perinatal deaths and deaths of children under 5 years.

Outbreaks and events updates in week 44

- One ongoing outbreak:
Bacillary dysentery outbreak in Karongi district, Rwankuba Sector, Nyarusanga Cell- Kiziba refugee camp
- One outbreak occurred:
Food borne illness in Gatsibo district, Nyagihanga sector, Murambi cell, Kabeza Village.
- One event of suspected Mass hysteria among student of ASPADE in Ngororero district

Completeness and timeliness

In Epi Week 44, the overall completeness and timeliness of surveillance data reporting in Rwanda was 98% and 96% respectively.

WEEKLY UPDATES ON EVENT BASED SURVEILLANCE (EBS) EPIDEMIOLOGICAL WEEK 44

Description: *Event Based Surveillance (EBS) is a type of public health surveillance system that detects and reports unusual health events or disease outbreaks in a timely manner. The system is designed to detect signals of potential public health threats and allow a rapid response to prevent or control the spread of diseases. RBC is implementing EBS through PHS&EPR Division.*

Currently, an electronic Community Event Based Surveillance System (eCBS) and Epidemic Intelligence from Open Source (EIOS) are being used to detect and report events of public health importance from the community and media. The process for establishment of other types of EBS is still being on going.

COMMUNITY BASED SURVEILLANCE

During the Epi week 44, three human deaths and two human illness were notified from community

- 2 deaths from Ngororero district
- 1 death from Rusizi district
- 2 human illness events Ngororero district

MEDIA SCAN

One alert from EIOS:

- Polio Outbreak Declared in Harare, Zimbabwe

<https://www.zimeye.net/2023/10/31/polio-outbreak-declared-in-harare-zimbabwe/>

WEEKLY UPDATES ON INDICATOR BASED SURVEILLANCE (IBS)

Description: *Rwanda had implemented Indicator Based Surveillance according to the IDSR guidelines 3rd edition where approximately 45 priority diseases, health conditions and public health events are being monitored and reported from health facilities countrywide on a regular basis. Diseases that are prone to outbreaks are being reported immediately within 24 hours after detection while diseases that are considered as endemic are reported on weekly basis every Monday before midday.*

A. IMMEDIATE REPORTABLE DISEASES – EPI WEEK 44

During this Epi week, 256 cases of immediate reportable diseases were notified:

- 42 cases of chicken pox were reported by 24 HFs. None crossed the threshold.
- 30 cases of mumps were reported by 15 HCs. Bigugu HC crossed the threshold.
- 29 cases of foodborne illness reported by CHUB, Bwisige HC and Ngarama DH. For CHUB, the case was occurred in week 43 and reported in week 44, while others cases are described below.
- 80 suspected cases of bloody diarrhea (Shigellosis) reported by 29 HCs. Samples had been sent to NRL and results are pending

- 37 suspected cases of Measles/Rubella reported by 29 HCs.
- 27 cases of severe malaria reported by 10 health facilities, including Gakoma DH, Rutongo DH, Byumba DH, Masaka DH, Nyagatare DH, Nyamata DH, Rwinkwavu DH, Gisagara HC ang Uwinkingi HC.
- 7 cases of acute flaccid paralysis reported by 8 health facilities: Buhabwa HC, Islamic (Bugarana HC), Mugina HC, Muhoza (Ruhengeri) HC, Mukoma (Ruhango) HC, Ruhunda HC and Rukara HC.
- 1 suspected case of bacterial meningitis was reported by CHUB.
- 2 suspected cases of human rabies reported by Masaka DH and Mont Cyangugu HCs.
- 1 Cholera suspected case reported by Mushubati (Rutsiro) HC

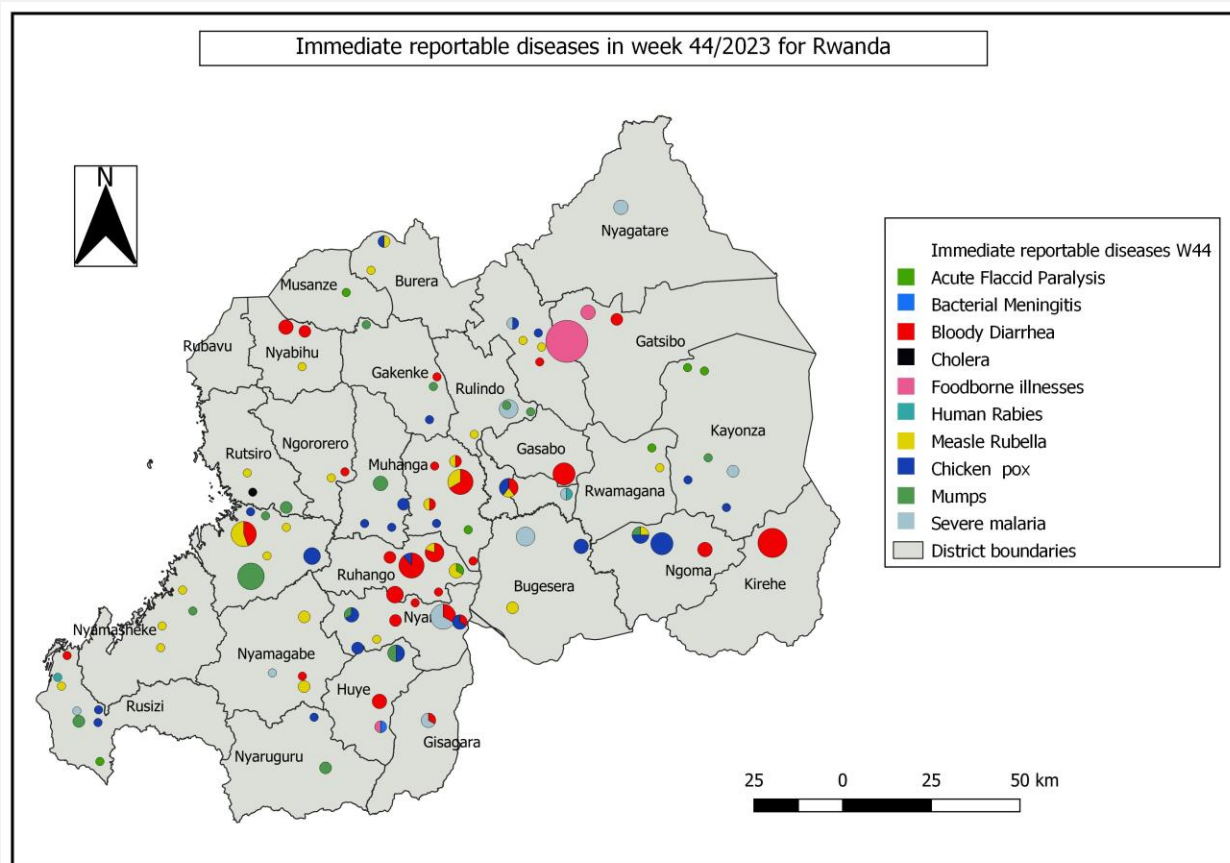
Notes:

For the diseases whose cases crossed the thresholds, District Hospitals are recommended to investigate.

For diseases requiring laboratory confirmation, the samples were collected and sent to the National Reference Laboratory for confirmation.

All confirmed cases and suspected cases had been managed at health facility level.

Geographical distribution of cases:



Distribution of immediate reportable diseases in Epi week 44

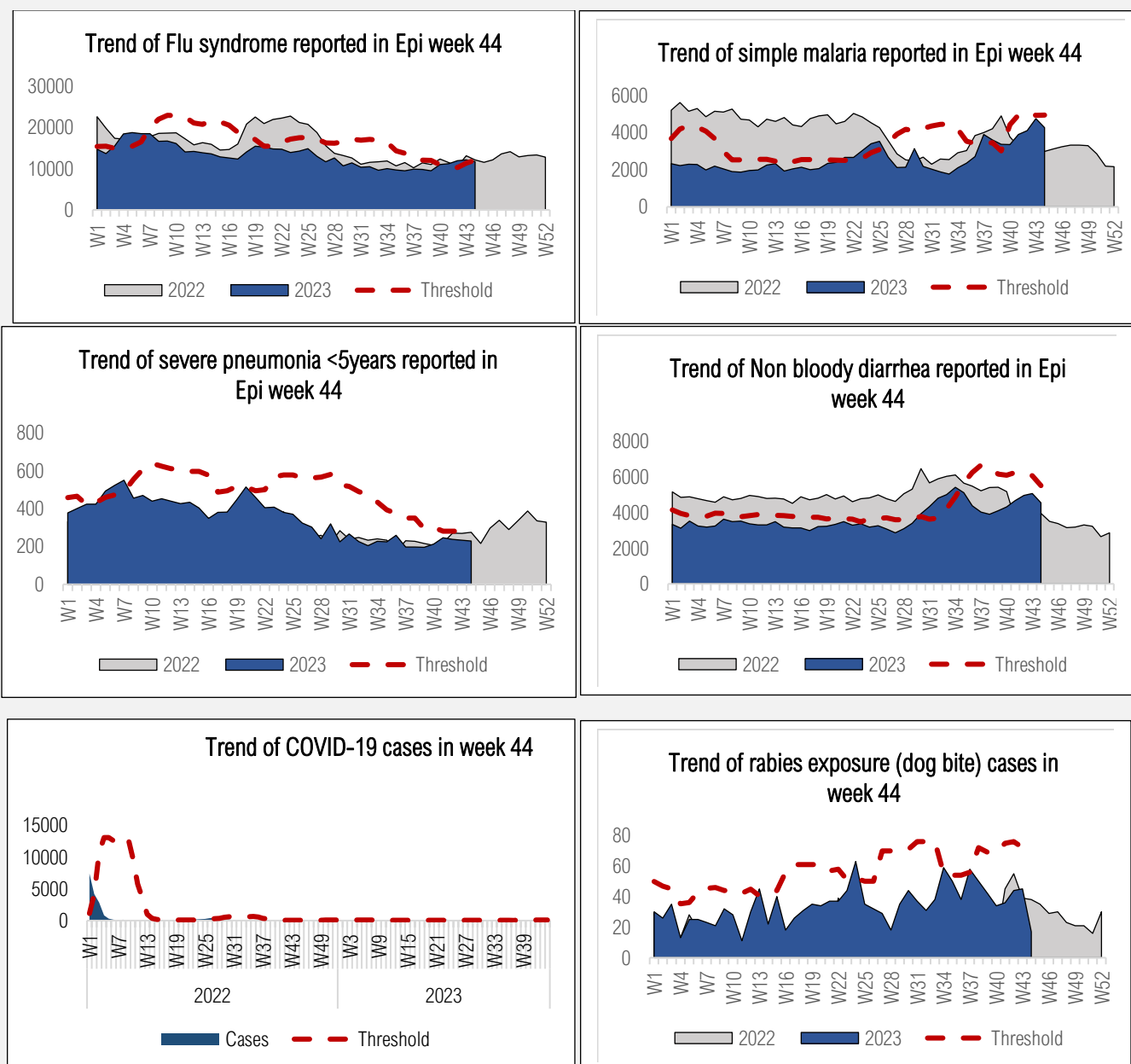
B. WEEKLY REPORTABLE DISEASES – EPI WEEK 44

Description: In Rwanda, after the adaptation of the IDSR guidelines 3rd edition, eight diseases & events are being reported and analyzed on a weekly basis. These include flu syndrome, simple malaria, severe pneumonia for under 5 years, non-bloody diarrhea for under 5 years, COVID-19, dog bites, brucellosis, and

trypanosomiasis. The monitoring trends of these weekly reportable diseases or health events helps to detect an unusual increase early.

In Epi Week 44, a thorough analysis was conducted, comparing the number of reported cases of the eight diseases monitored on a weekly basis to their respective epidemic thresholds. The results of the analysis revealed that no disease surpassed the epidemic threshold.

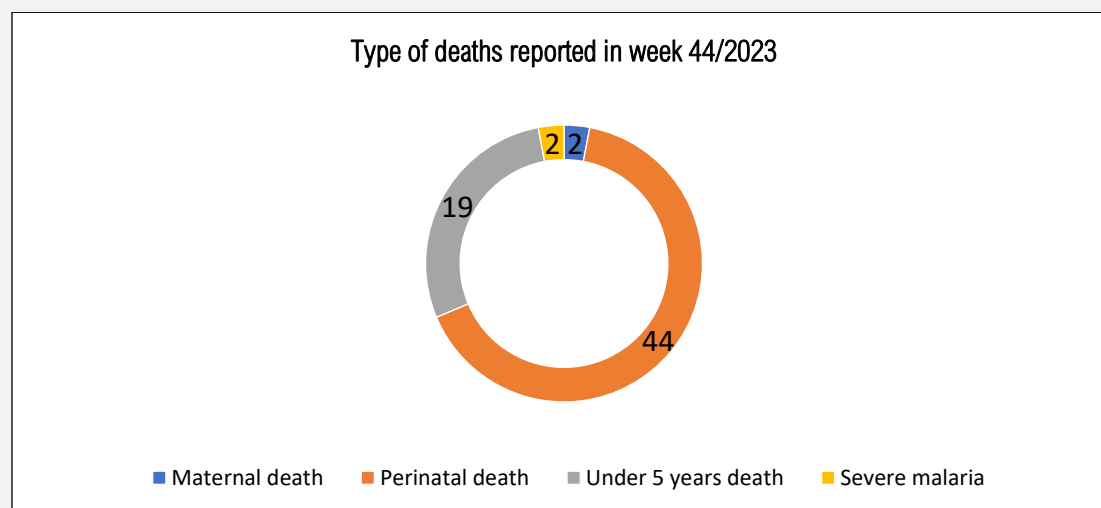
The figures below show the weekly reportable diseases trends:



C. DISTRIBUTION OF REPORTED DEATHS IN eIDSR – EPIDEMIOLOGICAL WEEK 44

As summarized in the Pie Chart below, a total number of 67 deaths were reported through the electronic Integrated Disease Surveillance and Response (eIDSR) system. Among these deaths, 44 (66%) were perinatal,

19 (28%) were deaths of children under 5 years old (including 1 death due to non-bloody diarrhea and 1 due to severe pneumonia), 2 (3%) maternal deaths and 2 (3%) deaths due to severe malaria.

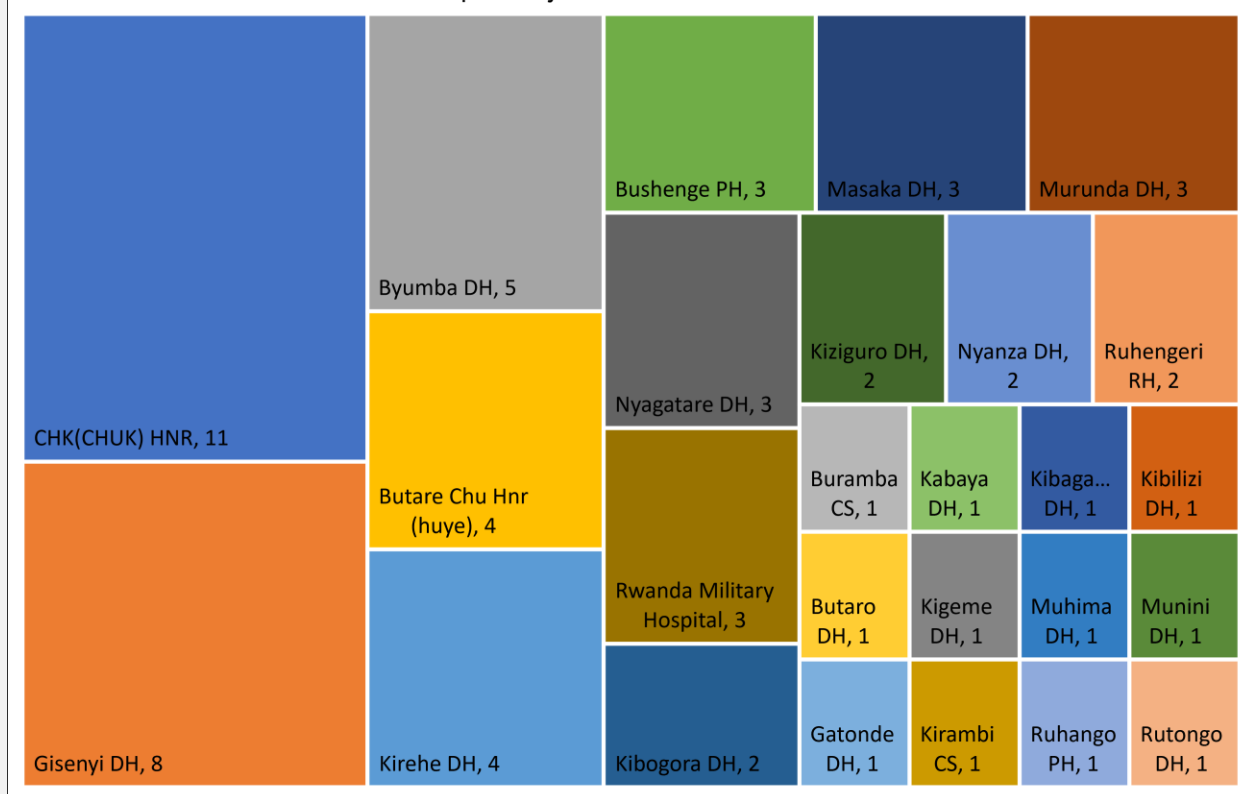


Cause of deaths declared in epi week 44

Deaths were reported from various catchment areas as follow:

- 11 deaths were reported by CHUK
- 8 deaths were reported by Gisenyi DH
- 5 deaths were reported Byumba DH
- 4 deaths were reported respectively by CHUB and Kirehe DH
- 3 deaths were reported respectively by Bushenge DH, Masaka DH, Murunda DH, Nyagatare DH and Rwanda Military Hospital
- 2 deaths were reported respectively by Kibogora DH, Kiziguro DH, Nyanza DH and Ruhengeri RH
- 1 death was reported respectively by Kabaya DH, Butaro DH, Gatonde DH, Kibagabaga DH, Kibilizi DH, Muhima DH, Munini DH, Ruhango PH, Rutongo DH, Kirambi HC, Buramba HC.

Deaths reported by health facilities in week 44-2023



Distribution of deaths by health facilities in Epi week 44

OUTBREAK AND EVENT UPDATES IN EPIDEMIOLOGICAL WEEK 44

1. BACILLARY DYSENTERY OUTBREAK IN KARONGI DISTRICT, RWANKUBA SECTOR, NYARUSANGA CELL- KIZIBA REFUGEE CAMP

Confirmed cases	04	Date reported:	September 3, 2023	Risk assessment	Low
Suspected cases	21	Source:	eIDSR		
Death(s)	0	District/HFs:	Kiziba camp/ Kibuye RH		
Total cases	25	Geoscope:	Low		

Outbreak description:

Since 03/09/2023, there has been a surge in suspected Shigella infections at Kiziba camp. On 10/10/2023, an outbreak was confirmed with 4 confirmed cases in the camp. Currently, 21 suspected cases have been identified, so far; samples were taken, and results are pending.

Interventions conducted:

- Field investigation was conducted by Kibuye RH and PHSEPR Division Team
- Case management
- Community awareness on water, sanitation and hygiene, appropriate waste disposal and the use of treated water

2. FOOD BORNE ILLNESS IN GATSIBO DISTRICT, NYAGIHANGA SECTOR, MURAMBI CELL, KABEZA VILLAGE

Confirmed cases	00	Date reported:	November 2, 2023	Risk assessment	Low
Suspected cases	30	Source:	eIDSR		
Death(s)	0	District/HFs:	Ngarama DH		
Total cases	30	Geoscope:	Low		

Outbreak description:

Since 02/11/2023, patients from Kabeza village of Gatsibo district consulted Ngarama DH with abdominal pain, diarrhea and vomiting following consumption of non-alcoholic sorghum brew (ubushera) in a party held in Gicumbi district, Bwisige sector. A total of 30 affected people was recorded, 3 cases have consulted Ngarama DH. 3 cases were managed at Nyagihanga HC and treated as ambulant, 24 cases consulted Bwisige HC of Gicumbi district and were treated as ambulant.

Interventions conducted:

- Cases management
- Community education about food hygiene

3. OTHER EVENT OCCURRED




An event of suspected Mass hysteria among student of ASPADE boarding school in Rususa villages, Rususa Cell, Rususa Sector, Ngororero district. On 01/11/2023, Muhororo DH reported an unusual event involving students from ASPADE boarding school who exhibited symptoms of dizziness and collapsing. An investigation team from Muhororo DH went for investigation on the same day. Ten students (7 females and 3 males) aged between 12 and 18 were found displaying common psychological symptoms such as dizziness, involuntary collapsing and agitation.

Interventions conducted:

- The situation was reported.
- Individual counseling sessions were conducted for affected students.
- Nine cases presenting collapsing and agitation were referred to Muhororo DH for better management.

eIDSR REPORTS COMPLETENESS & TIMELINESS EPIDEMIOLOGICAL WEEK 44

In Rwanda, eIDSR reports completeness and timeliness are scored as follow:

-  **Greater or equal to 80%: High,**
-  **Between 60% and 79%: Moderate,**
-  **Less than 60%: Low.**

In the Epi Week 44, the overall completeness and timeliness of disease surveillance data reporting in Rwanda was 98% and 96%, respectively. With regards to completeness of surveillance reports, almost all hospitals had a high completeness (>80%), except Gitwe DH which had a moderate completeness (between 60 and 79%). For the timeliness, the overall score was 96%, and almost all hospitals had a high timeliness (>80%), except Nemba



Hospital catchment area	Timeliness																																														
	W01	W02	W03	W04	W05	W06	W07	W08	W09	W10	W11	W12	W13	W14	W15	W16	W17	W18	W19	W20	W21	W22	W23	W24	W25	W26	W27	W28	W29	W30	W31	W32	W33	W34	W35	W36	W37	W38	W39	W40	W41	W42	W43	W44			
Nyagatare	100	100	100	100	100	86	93	93	93	93	100	100	86	79	86	94	79	94	94	86	79	93	86	93	100	79	100	100	93	100	100	100	93	100	93	93	100	100	89	100	93	100	86	93	86		
Gatunda	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	78	89	100	89	100	100	100	78	100	100	100	89	89	100	100	100	67	100	100	100	89	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	89	100	100	100	100	100	100		
Ngarama	88	100	100	100	100	100	88	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	75	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	88	100	100	100	88	100	100	100	100	100	100	88	100	88	88	100	100	100	100	100		
Kiziguro	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	92	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	92	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100		
Gahini	100	100	100	100	100	89	89	89	78	100	100	78	100	100	100	100	100	78	78	100	100	100	100	89	100	67	78	100	89	100	89	100	78	100	100	89	100	89	89	89	100	89	100	100	100	100	
Rwinkwavu	100	88	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	88	88	88	100	63	75	100	88	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	88	88	88	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	
Kibungo	94	100	94	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	94	100	100	100	94	94	100	100	100	100	94	100	100	100	100	94	100	94	100	100	100	100	100	100	94	100	94	100	100	100	100	100	100	
Kirehe	100	100	100	100	95	95	100	100	100	90	95	100	100	90	100	100	85	95	95	100	100	100	100	95	100	85	100	100	95	95	85	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	90	100	95	100	100	100	100	
Rwamagana	76	65	83	82	76	88	100	100	100	94	100	100	94	94	94	100	88	71	94	94	100	100	94	88	88	89	100	94	100	100	94	100	100	94	100	100	94	100	89	100	100	100	100	100	94	100	
Nyamata	100	88	76	94	88	94	94	100	88	100	88	100	94	76	100	100	76	100	100	82	94	88	100	94	88	47	76	94	82	76	82	94	88	88	94	82	88	94	88	100	65	100	100	100	100	100	
Kinihira	100	100	100	100	89	100	89	67	100	89	78	89	100	89	89	89	89	89	89	100	100	100	67	100	89	100	100	89	78	100	89	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	89	100	100	100	100	
Rutongo	93	87	93	73	100	100	100	100	100	93	93	100	93	100	100	100	100	100	100	93	100	93	93	93	100	100	100	93	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	93	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	93	100	
Gatonde	100	86	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	86	100	100	86	100	100	100	71	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	71	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	86	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	
Butaro	80	85	80	75	65	90	85	95	90	95	90	90	85	75	85	95	75	85	85	85	90	85	85	90	95	60	100	95	90	100	85	90	100	100	90	90	90	90	90	90	95	95	95	95	95		
Ruli	100	100	100	100	100	100	90	100	100	100	90	90	100	100	100	90	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	90	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100
Nemba	100	100	89	100	100	89	100	100	100	89	78	100	100	78	100	100	67	89	89	100	100	89	100	89	89	89	89	89	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	78	100	100	100	89	100	100	100	100	100	70	100
Ruhengeri	94	89	89	100	83	89	83	72	94	94	94	78	94	83	89	89	89	100	100	94	89	89	100	100	89	89	100	94	89	94	94	100	89	89	100	100	100	94	100	100	100	100	100	94	100	94	
Byumba	96	100	96	96	88	96	100	100	100	96	96	96	96	81	96	96	96	96	96	96	100	96	96	96	100	96	96	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	96	100	100	96	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	
CHUB	0	100	100	100	100	100	100	0	0	0	0	100	100	0	100	100	0	100	100	100	100	100	100	0	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100
Kabutare	84	89	89	95	84	89	89	89	84	95	74	100	100	79	100	100	53	95	95	100	100	100	84	89	95	79	95	100	95	95	100	100	100	100	89	95	95	95	95	100	100	100	95	89	89	89	
Kabgayi	100	92	92	85	92	77	92	85	85	100	92	92	92	69	92	92	69	100	100	100	92	100	92	92	100	92	100	100	92	100	92	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	85	92	100	100	100	100	100	
Kibizi	100	100	100	100	100	100	82	100	100	100	100	82	91	82	91	91	91	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	91	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	91	100	100	100	100	100	100	91	100	100	91	100	91
Gakoma	83	100	100	100	83	67	83	100	83	100	100	100	67	50	83	67	50	83	83	83	67	100	83	50	100	83	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	83	100	100	83	100	100	100	100	83	100	100	100	100	100
Gitwe	100	100	89	89	89	78	100	78	100	100	89	89	100	67	100	78	44	89	89	100	89	89	89	100	100	56	89	100	89	100	89	100	89	89	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	67	100	56	100	
Ruhango	88	88	88	100	88	88	75	88	88	88	100	63	75	50	63	50	38	75	75	63	75	63	100	63	100	75	100	100	75	88	100	63	88	88	100	100	100	100	100	75	88	88	100	100	100	100	
Remera	100	100	100	93	100	100	100	100	100	100	93	100	93	93	93	100	93	93	93	100	100	93	93	87	100	93	100	93	100	93	100	93	100	100	93	100	93	100	93	87	93	100	93	100	100	100	
Nyanza	84	84	89	79	74	100	89	84	63	89	84	74	68	47	89	95	47	89	89	89	84	95	89	95	95	74	84	95	79	95	95	95	95	95	95	89	100	89	95	89	100	100	100	84	100		
Kigeme	77	69	92	92	100	92	100	92	100	92	100	92	100	46	100	85	46	100	100	92	92	100	92	100	92	100	100	92	100	100	100	100	85	100	100	100	100	100	92	10							