



WEEKLY EPIDEMIOLOGICAL BULLETIN

WEEK 27– 2024

(01-07 July 2024)

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.

Authors: Public Health Surveillance & Emergency Preparedness and Response Division

KEY EPIDEMIOLOGICAL HIGHLIGHTS

EPIDEMIOLOGICAL WEEK 27/2024

Event Based Surveillance (EBS) Highlights:

- **Alert from community:** twenty-nine alerts: 27 Human Deaths, 1 Dog Bite, 1 Human Illness
- **Alert from EIOS:** three alerts
 - DRC - Measles outbreak 2024
 - Burundi / Matyazo, an unknown disease frightens disaster floods Gatumba.
 - Rift valley fever outbreak confirmed in Ntungamo / Uganda

Indicator Based Surveillance (IBS) Highlights:

- 132 immediate reportable diseases were notified by health facilities countrywide. These include the cases of acute flaccid paralysis (AFP), mumps, severe malaria, bloody diarrhea, measles/rubella, chicken pox, bacterial meningitis, typhoid fever and Mpox.
 - For 8 weekly reportable diseases and health events, a thorough analysis conducted for the epi Week 27 revealed that no cases surpassed the epidemic thresholds, even for malaria cases, they decreased in general from week 26 up to this week 27, compared with the previous weeks.
 - A total of 64 deaths were reported through the electronic Integrated Disease Surveillance and Response (eIDSR) system. Most of deaths were perinatal deaths and deaths of children under 5 years.
- **Sentinel surveillance:** Update on trend of influenza in Rwanda.
 - **Vaccine Preventable Diseases (VPDs) surveillance status from April to June 2024**
 - Measles surveillance
 - Polio surveillance
 - Conducted visits for Polio surveillance: ISS and e-Surve

● Outbreaks and events updates in week 27

- No new outbreak occurred
- Update on trend of malaria cases

● Completeness and timeliness

In Epi Week 27, the overall completeness and timeliness of surveillance data reporting in Rwanda was 99% and 96% respectively.

WEEKLY UPDATES ON EVENT BASED SURVEILLANCE (EBS) EPIDEMIOLOGICAL WEEK 27

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

- **Alert from community:** twenty-nine alerts:

- 27 Human Deaths
- 1 Dog Bite
- 1 Human Illness

- **Alert from EIOS:** three alerts

1. DRC - Measles outbreak 2024

Summary: A measles epidemic has been raging for more than a month in the Bolia sector, in the Mai-Ndombe province. It causes an average of 3 deaths per day among the child population. Between January and June 2024, we recorded a total of 1,003 cases including 732 children under 5 years old with 15 deaths.

<https://flutrackers.com/forum/forum/emerging-diseases-other-health-threats-alphabetical-a-thru-h/childhood-diseases/measles/984667-drc-measles-outbreak-2024#post993214>

2. Title: Burundi / Matyazo, an unknown disease frightens disaster floods gatumba.

Summary: Threatened by wind and cold in tents without ventilation, the victims of Gatumba are victims of a strange disease that strikes an entire family at once and manifests itself as if the victims are poisoned. A situation exacerbated by the lack of a health care structure in the locality. The displaced people of the Gatumba zone following the floods, relocated to Matyazo in Mutimbuzi commune of Bujumbura province, are extremely concerned about their health and that of their children.

<https://www.rpa.bi/index.php/actualites/8sante/matyazo-une-maladie-inconnue-fait-peur-aux-sinistres-des-inondations-de-gatumba>

3. Rift valley fever outbreak confirmed in Ntungamo / Uganda

Summary: The disease has already claimed three lives, in the areas of Rubaare, Nyarutuntu and Itojo. The majority of cases are registered among 13 to 45-year-olds and livestock handlers. Rift Valley Fever is a mosquito-borne virus that is endemic.

<https://www.independent.co.ug/rift-valley-fever-outbreak-confirmed-in-ntungamo/>

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 27

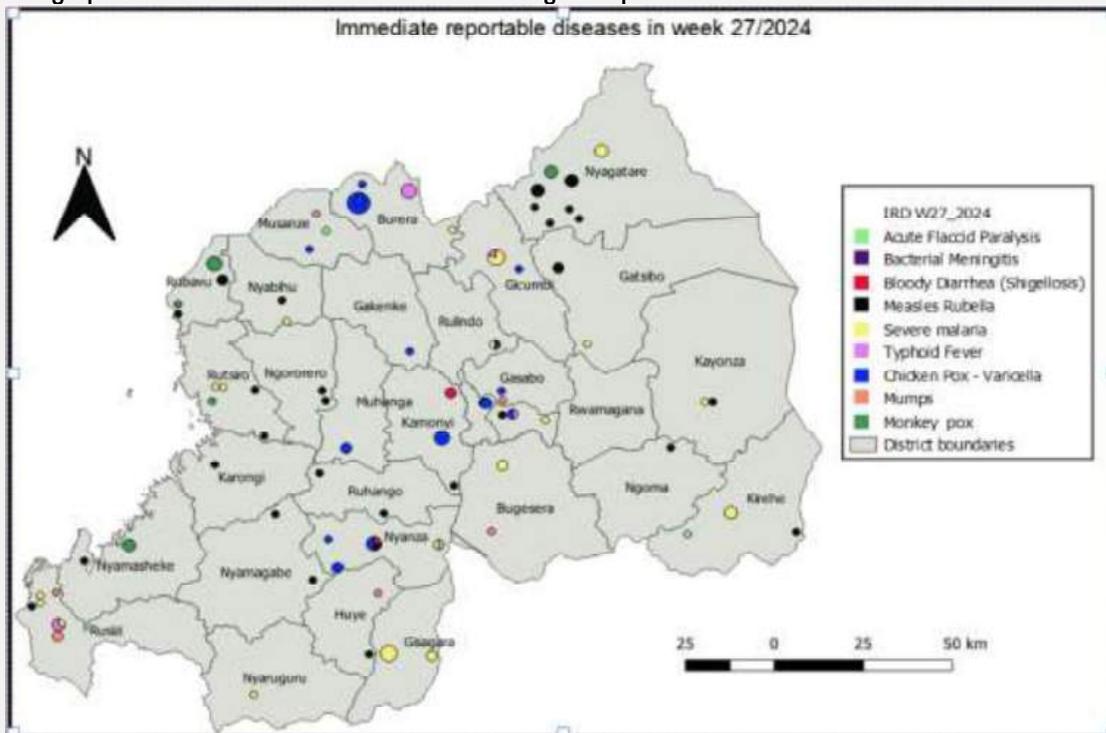
During this Epi week, 132 cases of immediate reportable diseases were notified:

- 31 cases of chicken pox were reported by 15 HFs. No HF crossed the threshold.
- 7 cases of mumps were reported by 6 HCs. No HF crossed the threshold.
- 3 suspected cases of bloody diarrhea (Shigellosis) were reported by 2 health facilities. The samples were taken and sent to NRL.
- 35 suspected cases of Measles/Rubella were reported by 29 HCs. Samples were taken and sent to NRL.
- 32 cases of severe malaria were reported by 19 health facilities.
- 3 suspected cases of acute flaccid paralysis were reported by 3 health facilities, the samples were taken and sent to NRL for transportation to UVRI laboratory.
- 8 suspected cases of typhoid fever reported by 4 health facilities. 4 cases from one health facility were tested positive, while other 4 samples were taken and sent to NRL.
- 12 cases of Mpox reported by 1 health facility, the sample were sent to NRL.
- 1 suspected case of bacterial meningitis reported by 1 health facility.

Notes:

- ✓ All confirmed and suspected cases had been managed at the health facility level.
- ✓ The hospitals with surpassed thresholds are recommended to conduct the investigations.

Geographical distribution of cases notified during the epi week 27/2024.



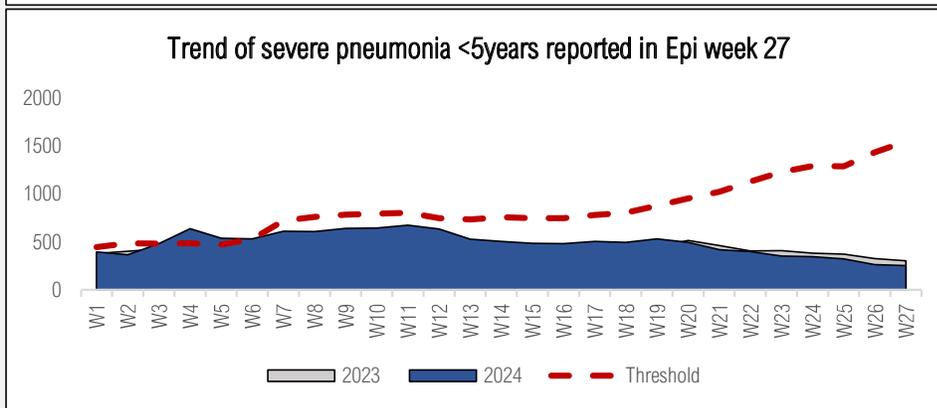
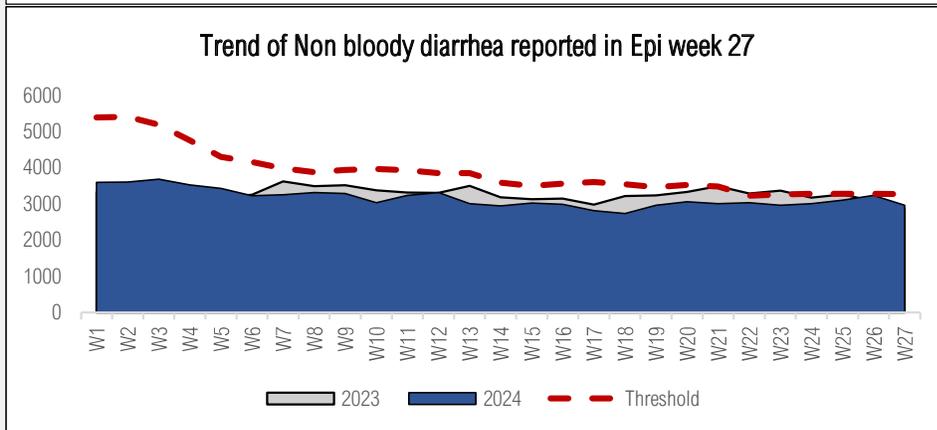
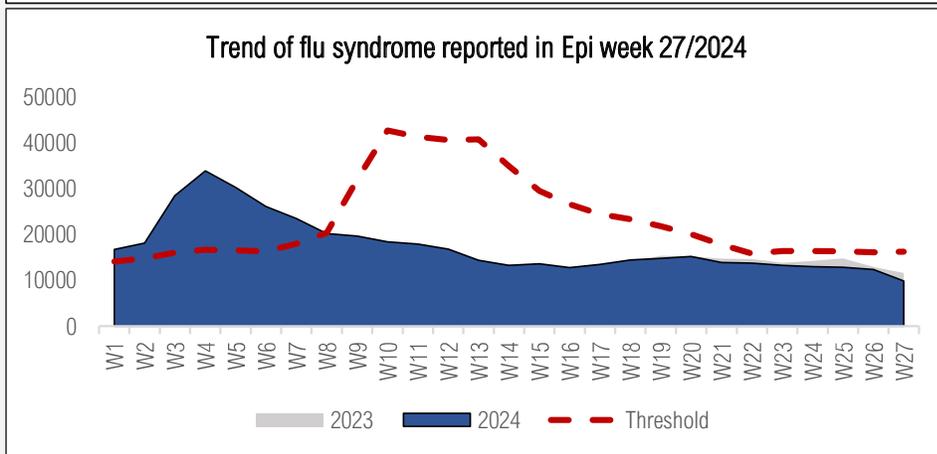
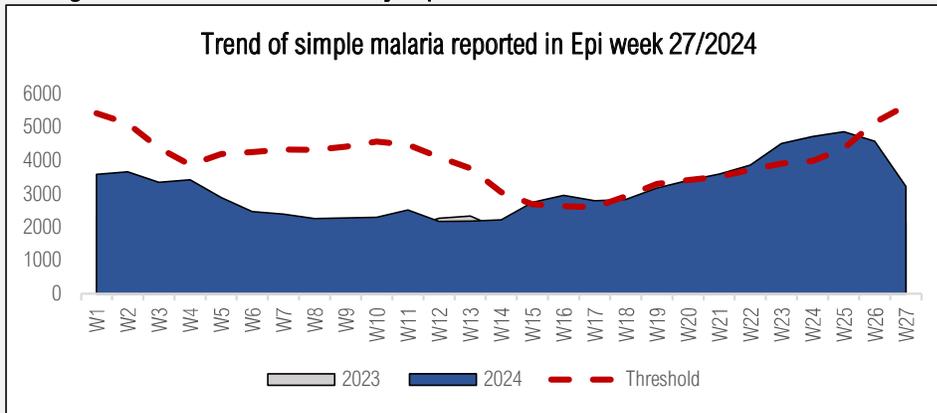
Distribution of immediate reportable diseases in Epi week 27

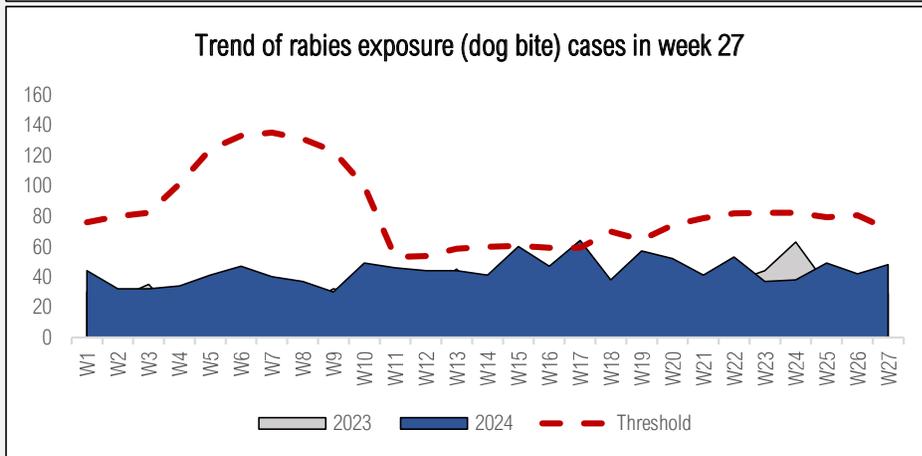
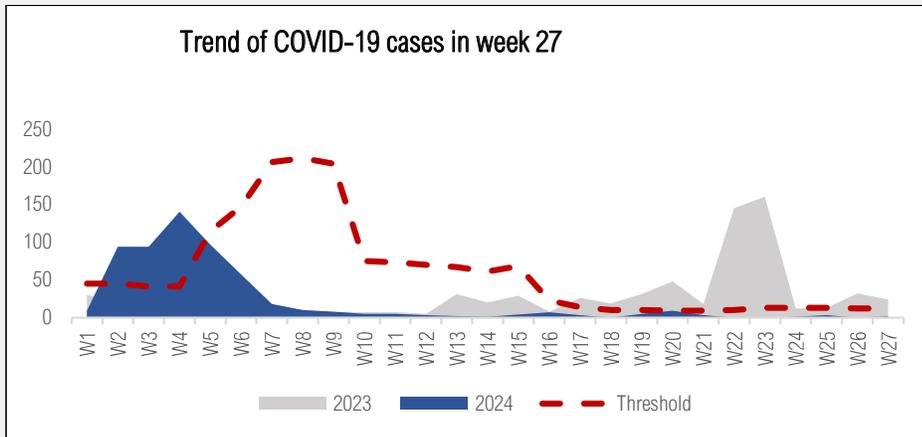
B. WEEKLY REPORTABLE DISEASES – EPI WEEK 27

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 27, 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 threshold.

The figures below show the weekly reportable diseases trends:

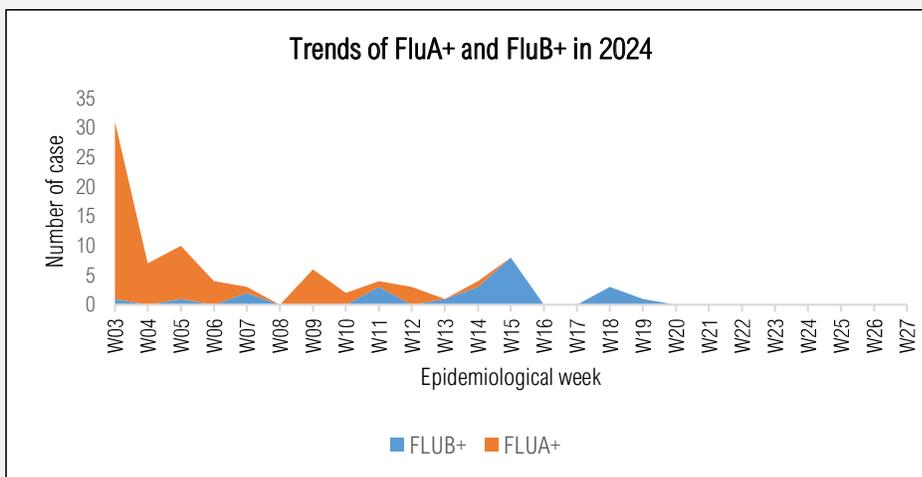




SENTINEL SURVEILLANCE

Trend of influenza

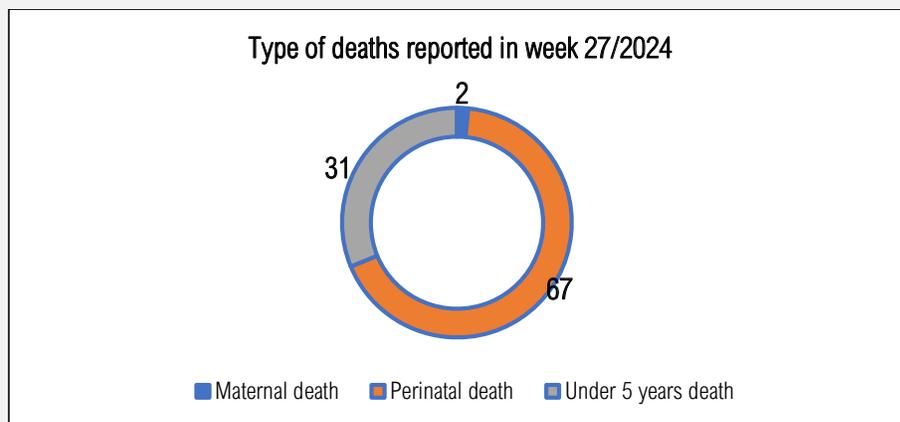
During the 27th Epidemiological week, **29** samples were collected from sentinel sites. **(7)** from GIHUNDWE RH and **(19)** from KIBUNGO RH. Out of the 29 samples received and tested by the National Reference Laboratory (NRL), all tested negative for all influenza subtypes, **0** co-infection cases, and **0** positive cases for COVID-19.



Trend of influenza in week 27

C. DISTRIBUTION OF REPORTED DEATHS IN eIDSR – EPIDEMIOLOGICAL WEEK 27

As summarized in the Pie Chart below, a total number of 64 deaths were reported through the electronic Integrated Disease Surveillance and Response (eIDSR) system. Among these deaths, 43(67%) were perinatal deaths, 20 (31%) were the deaths of children under 5 years old, 1 (2%) maternal death.

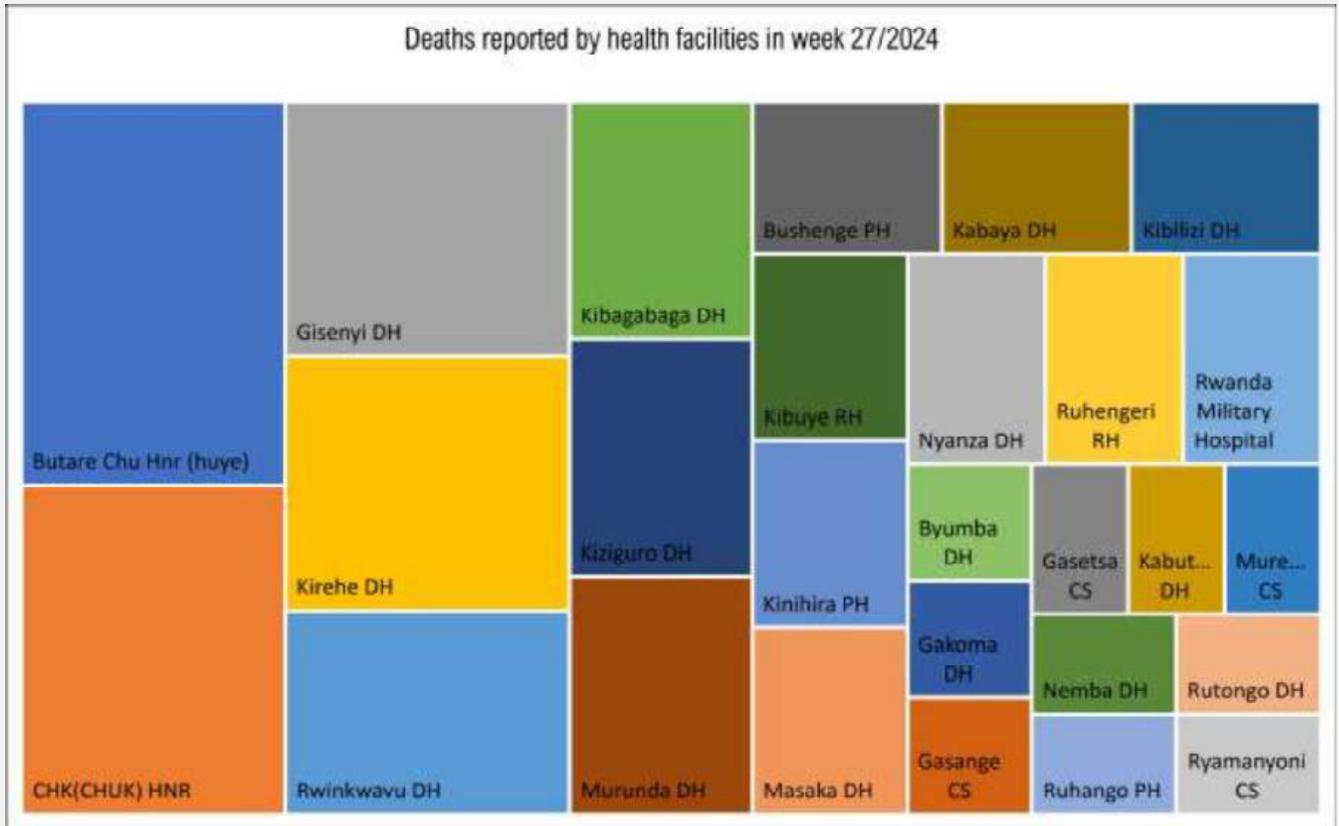


Cause of deaths declared in epi week 27

64 deaths were reported from various catchment areas as follow:

- 7 deaths were reported by CHUB (all were perinatal deaths)
- 6 deaths were reported by CHUK (1 perinatal death and 4 under 5 years deaths)
- 5 deaths were reported respectively by Gisenyi DH (all were perinatal deaths) and Kirehe DH (2 perinatal deaths and 3 under 5 years deaths)
- 4 deaths were reported by Rwinkwavu DH (all were perinatal deaths)
- 3 deaths were reported respectively by Kibagabaga DH (all were perinatal deaths), Kiziguro DH and Murunda DH (each one reported 2 perinatal death and 1 under 5 years death)
- 2 deaths were reported respectively by Bushenge PH, Kibuye RH, Kabaya DH, Masaka DH and Nyanza DH (each one reported 2 perinatal deaths), Kibilizi DH, Ruhengeri RH and Rwanda Military Hospital (each one reported 2 under 5 years deaths) and Kinihira PH (1perinatal death and 1 under 5 years death)
- 1death was reported respectively by Ruhango PH, Rutongo DH, Nemba DH, Byumba HC, Muremure HC in Gitwe DH, Gasetza HC in Kibungo RH (each one reported 1 perinatal death), Gakoma DH, Kabutare DH, Gasange HC in Kiziguro DH (each one reported 1under 5 years death), Ryamanyoni HC in Gahini DH (reported 1 maternal death).

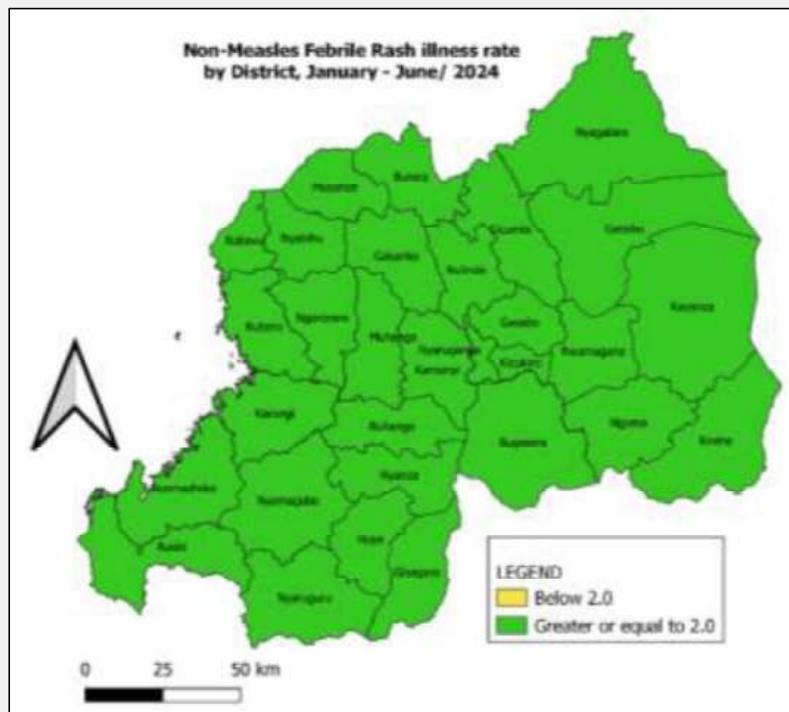
Distribution of deaths by health facilities:



Distribution of deaths by health facilities in Epi week 27

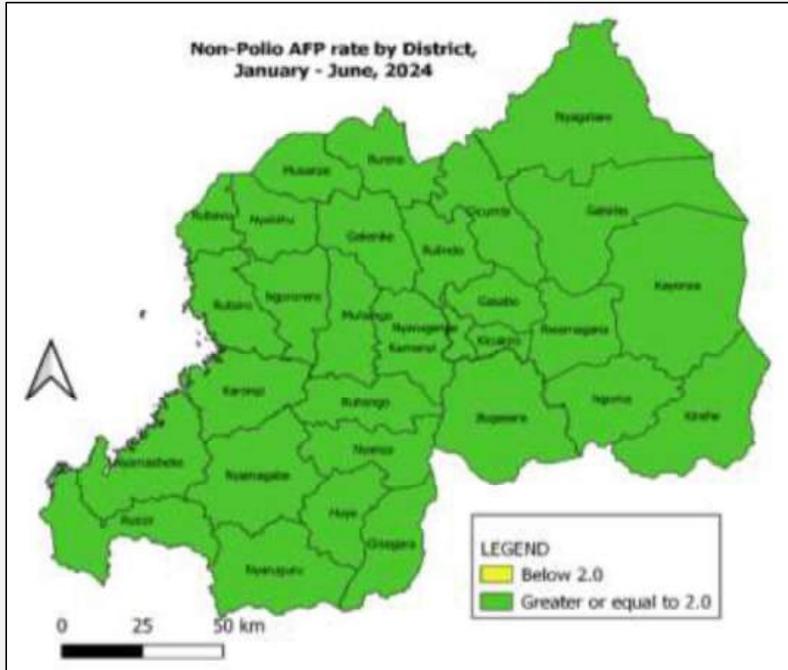
VPD surveillance status from April to June 2024

1. Measles surveillance



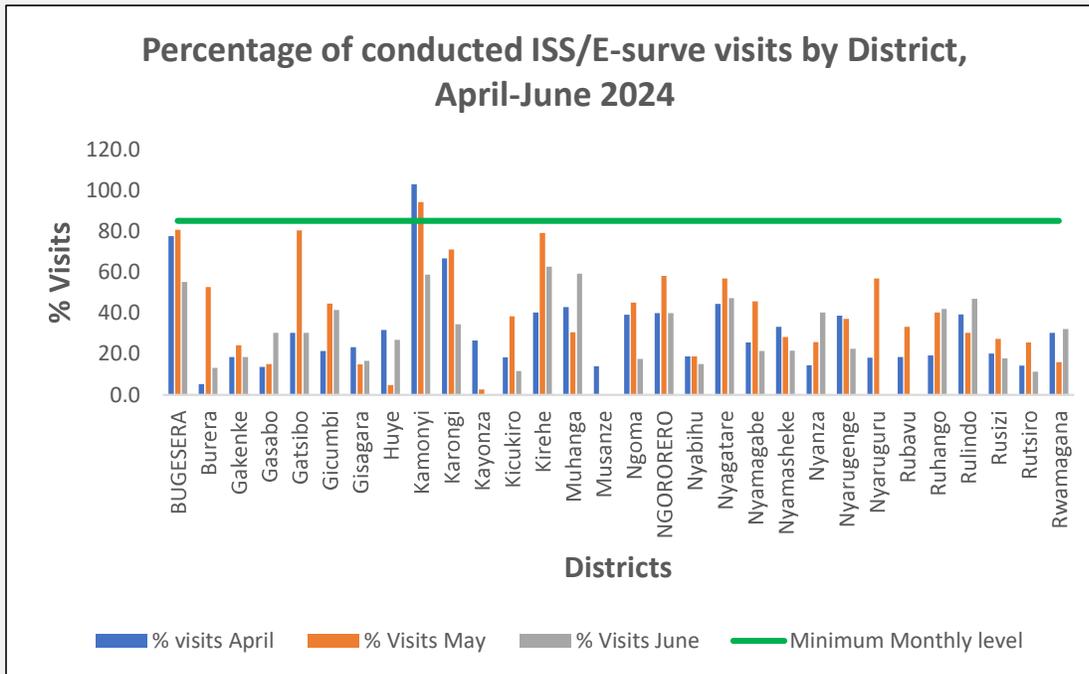
All Districts have already met the annual target of the Non-Measles Febrile Rash illness rate ($\geq 2/100,000$ population).

2. Polio surveillance



All Districts met the target of the Acute Non-Polio Acute Flaccid Paralysis (AFP) detection rate (2/100,000 under 15 years of age), for this semester.

3. Conducted visits for Polio surveillance: ISS and e-Surve



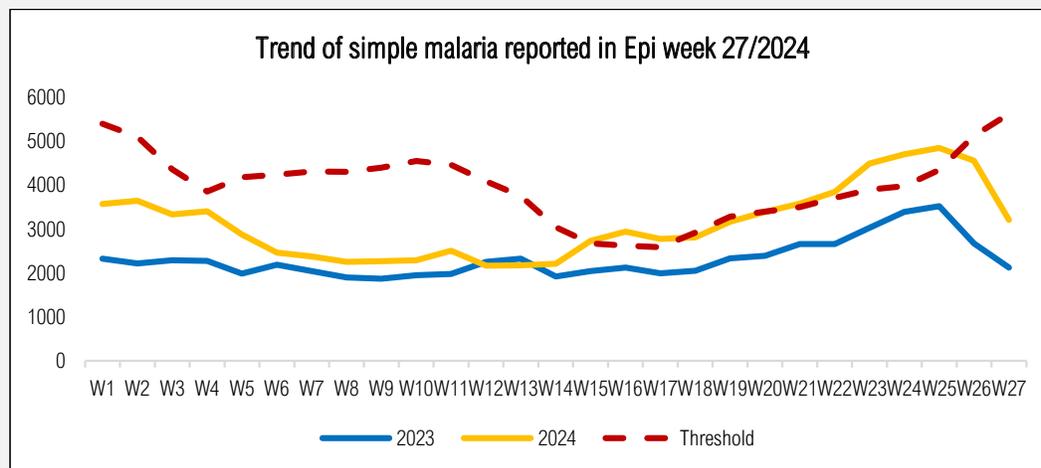
Only Kamonyi District reached the minimum number of ISS/e-serve visits during this quarter of April-June/2024.

OUTBREAK AND EVENT UPDATES IN EPIDEMIOLOGICAL WEEK 27

1. No outbreak occurred this week
2. Decrease in cases of malaria

From the epi week 21 to 25/2024, malaria cases increased compared to the previous weeks of 2023, while the results of the analysis revealed that from week 26 to 27/2024 the cases declined and did not surpass the epidemic thresholds as shown on the chart below.

Weekly malaria cases, Rwanda, from the epi week 1-27, year 2024 compared with 2023 and thresholds



eIDSR REPORTS COMPLETENESS & TIMELINESS EPIDEMIOLOGICAL WEEK 27

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 27, the overall completeness and timeliness of disease surveillance data reporting in Rwanda, was scored to 99% and 96%, respectively. With regards to the completeness of surveillance reports, all hospitals had the high score (>80%), that is to be appreciated. For the timeliness, three hospitals had a moderate score for timeliness (Nyamata DH, Kabaya DH and Muhima DH).

Notes: The health facilities that did not have a high score for the timeliness had been recommended to improve the reporting by submitting weekly surveillance reports not later than Monday before 12:00. Details on completeness and timeliness for all health facilities are shown in the figures below.

