



Republic of Rwanda
Ministry of Health

rbc Rwanda
Biomedical
Centre
Healthy People, Wealthy Nation

WEEKLY EPIDEMIOLOGICAL BULLETIN

WEEK **38** 14-20 September 2026





Editorial message

Effective and efficient disease surveillance systems 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 public-health events under surveillance in Rwanda. These data aim 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.

KEY EPIDEMIOLOGICAL HIGHLIGHTS



Event Based Surveillance (EBS) Highlights:



Alerts from Impuruza system:
No signal was notified.

Alerts from EIOS:
3 alerts

H1N1 cases surge in Ahmedabad, but severity remains low

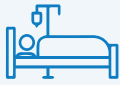
Pennsylvania measles outbreak and vaccine misinformation debate

Spain Jerez Zoo reopens following West Nile virus concerns

UMUJYANAMA W'UBUZIMA
MINISITERI Y'UBUZIMA
rbc RWANDA
BIOMEDICAL
CENTER
Healthy People. A Wealthy Nation



Indicator Based Surveillance (IBS) Highlights:



228 cases of immediately reportable diseases were notified by **94** health facilities nationwide. These included cases of acute flaccid paralysis, suspected bacterial meningitis, severe malaria, suspected shigellosis, suspected measles/rubella, suspected Mpox, suspected cholera, suspected VHF, suspected RVF, suspected foodborne illness, and snake bites.



77 deaths were reported by **27** health facilities through the electronic Integrated Disease Surveillance and Response (eIDSR) system. Most deaths were perinatal deaths and deaths of children under 5 years.



Outbreaks and events updates in week 38



Weekly updates on ongoing outbreaks:

Ongoing outbreaks:

- ⚠️ Mpox outbreak
- ⚠️ Measles outbreaks in different districts of Rwanda
- ⚠️ Cholera outbreak in Rusizi district

New outbreak:

- ⚠️ None
- ⚠️ Updates on Ebola Virus Disease outbreak preparedness in Rwanda



Completeness and timeliness



In Epi Week 38, the overall completeness and timeliness of surveillance data reporting in Rwanda were 99% and 97%, respectively.





Weekly updates on Event Based Surveillance (EBS)

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 the PHS&EPR Division.

Currently, an electronic Community Event-Based Surveillance System (eCBS), Hotline 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 the establishment of other types of EBS is still ongoing.

Alerts from Impuruza system: No signal was notified

Alerts from EIOS: 3 alerts

1. H1N1 cases surge in Ahmedabad, but severity remains low

Ahmedabad is experiencing an increase in H1N1 influenza cases following recent rainfall. Hospitalizations are reportedly lower than during previous surges, although people with chronic illnesses or weakened immunity remain at greater risk.

<https://timesofindia.indiatimes.com/city/ahmedabad/h1n1-cases-surge-in-ahmedabad-but-severity-low/articleshow/133549901.cms>

2. Pennsylvania measles outbreak and vaccine misinformation debate

Pennsylvania's governor challenged misleading claims about the MMR vaccine amid an ongoing measles outbreak. The report mentions nearly 400 cases across 29 counties, 70 hospitalizations and two deaths in 2026.

<https://www.mediaite.com/media/news/pa-gov-shapiro-fires-back-at-rfk-jrs-vaccine-thoroughly-discarded-claims-amid-measles-outbreak-in-his-state/>

3. Spain Jerez Zoo reopens following West Nile virus concerns

Jerez Zoo in Spain reopened after a temporary closure associated with West Nile virus concerns. This highlights the importance of mosquito surveillance and prevention in places where humans and animals may be exposed.

https://www.diariodejerez.es/jerez/reabre-zoo-jerez-virus-nilo-no-sabiamos-cerrado_0_2007797865.html



WEEKLY UPDATES ON EVENT-BASED SURVEILLANCE (EBS)

Description: Rwanda had implemented Indicator-Based Surveillance according to the IDSR guidelines 3rd edition where 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 reported immediately within 24 hours after detection, while diseases that are considered endemic are reported on a weekly basis every Monday before midday.

A. IMMEDIATE REPORTABLE DISEASES - EPI WEEK 38

During this Epi week,

228 cases of immediately reportable diseases were notified by 94 health facilities:



119 suspected cases of Measles/Rubella were reported by 56 health facilities



23 cases of severe malaria were reported by 15 health facilities.



6 snake bites cases were reported by 6 health facilities.



3 cases of acute flaccid paralysis were reported by 3 health facilities



53 suspected cases of cholera were reported by 13 health facilities



9 suspected cases of foodborne illness were reported by 3 health facilities



5 suspected cases of RVF were reported by 2 health facilities; the samples were taken and sent to the laboratory



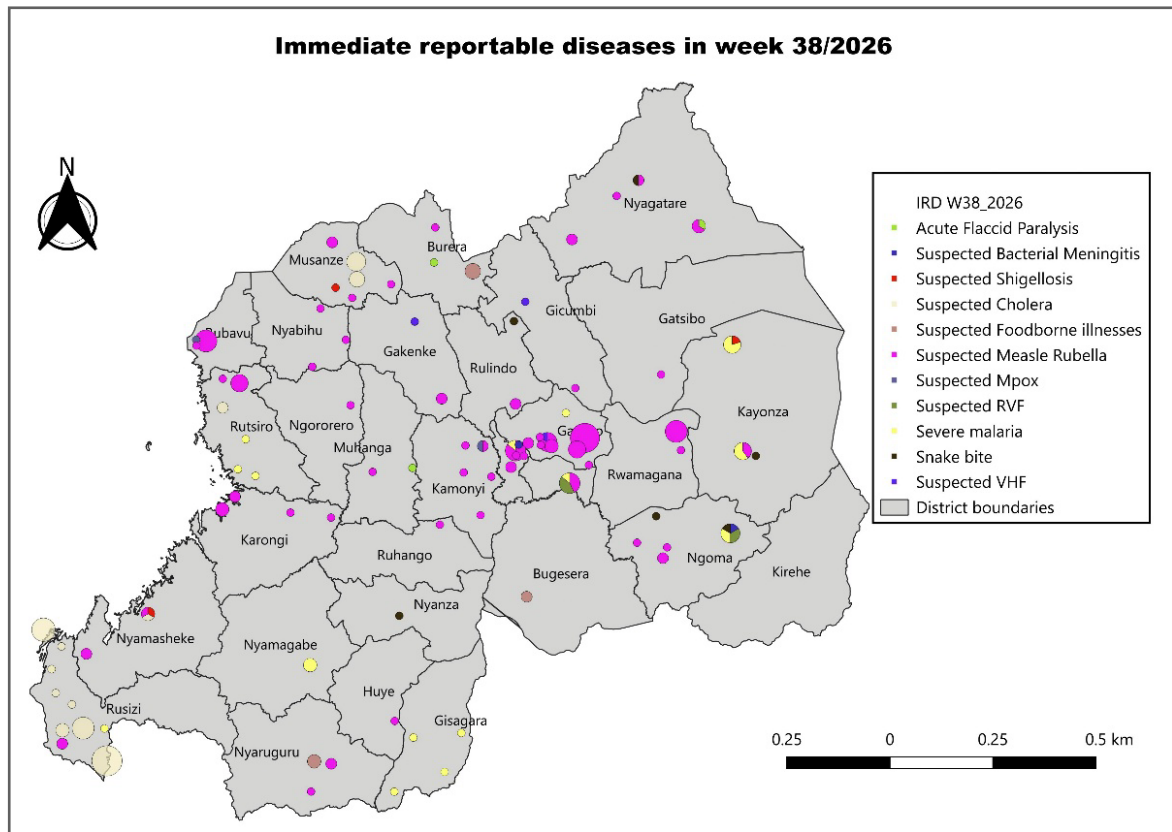
3 suspected cases of VHF were reported by 3 health facilities; the samples were taken and sent to the laboratory



3 suspected cases of shigellosis were reported by 3 health facilities; the samples were taken and sent to the laboratory



2 suspected cases of bacterial meningitis were reported by 2 health facilities; the samples were taken and sent to the laboratory

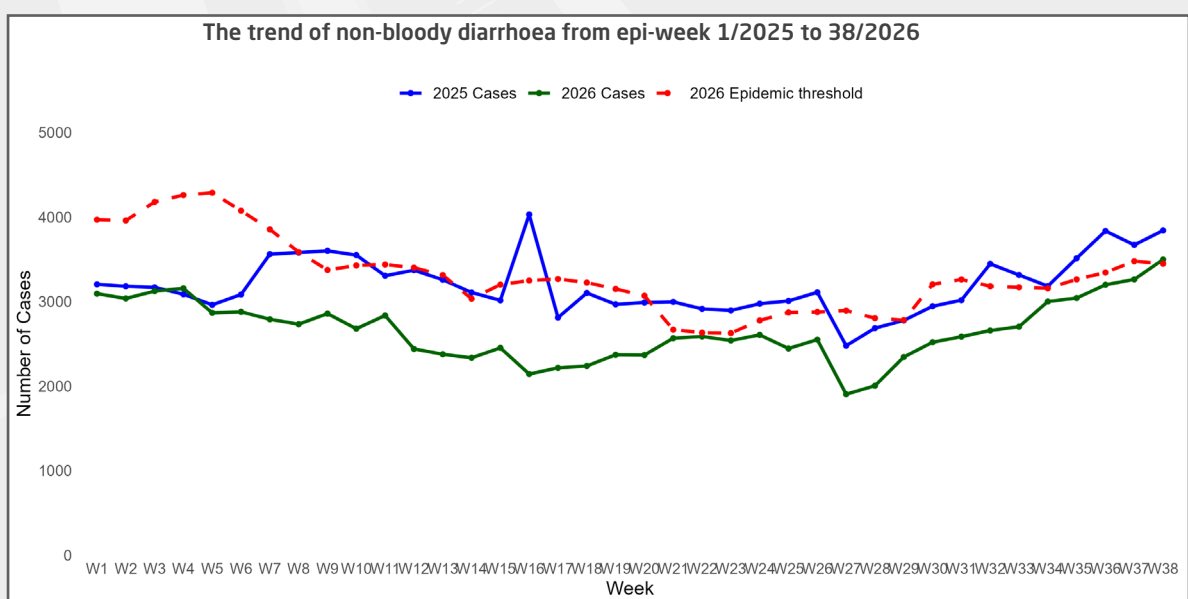
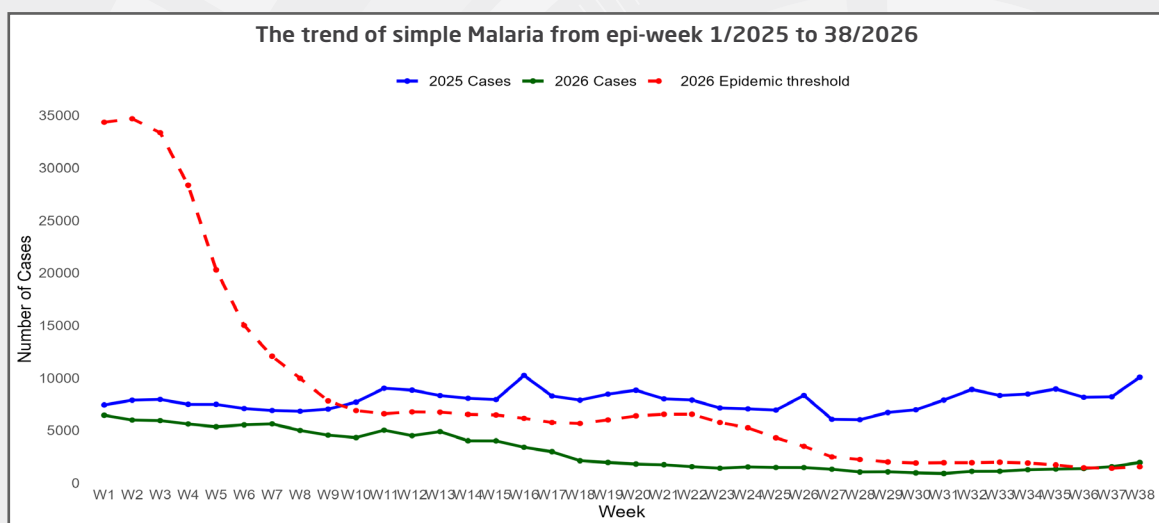
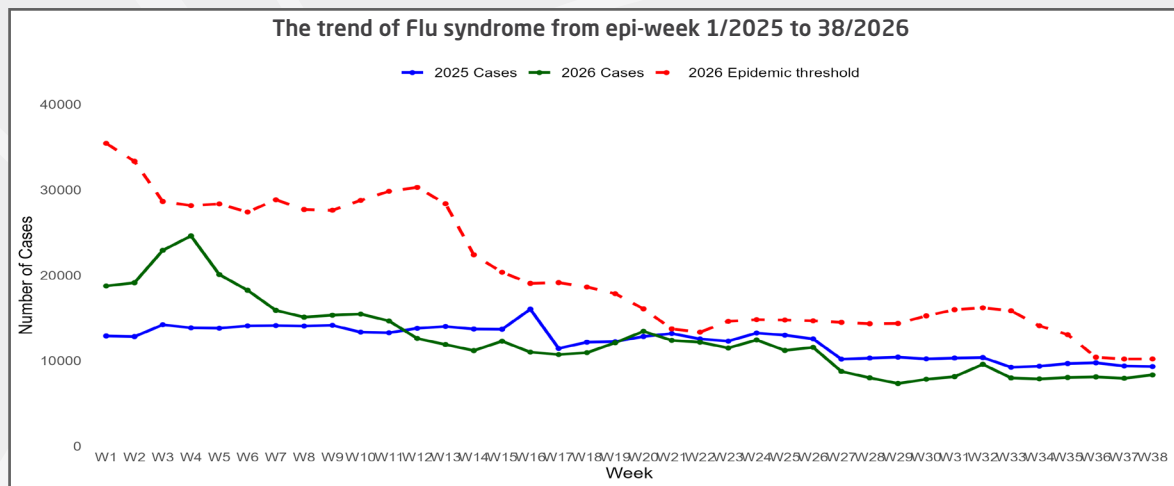


B. WEEKLY REPORTABLE DISEASES - EPI WEEK 38

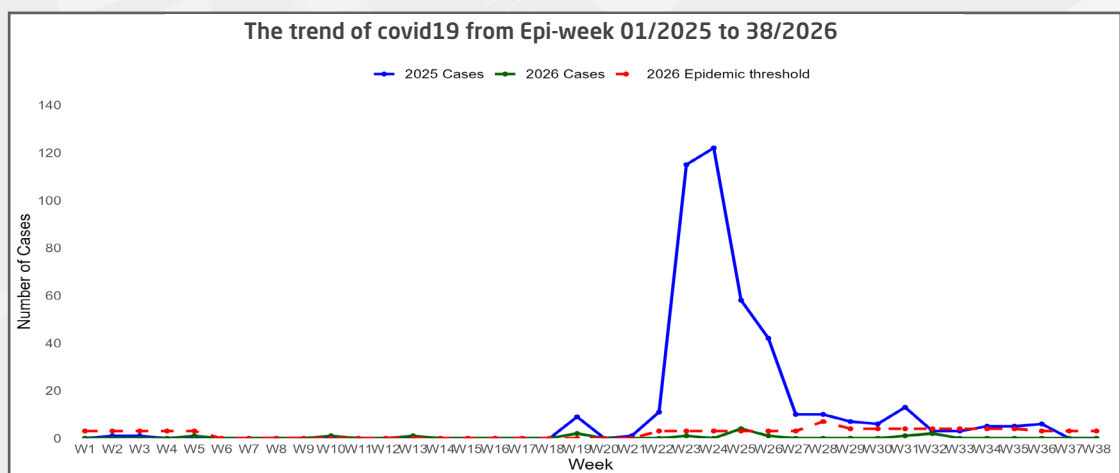
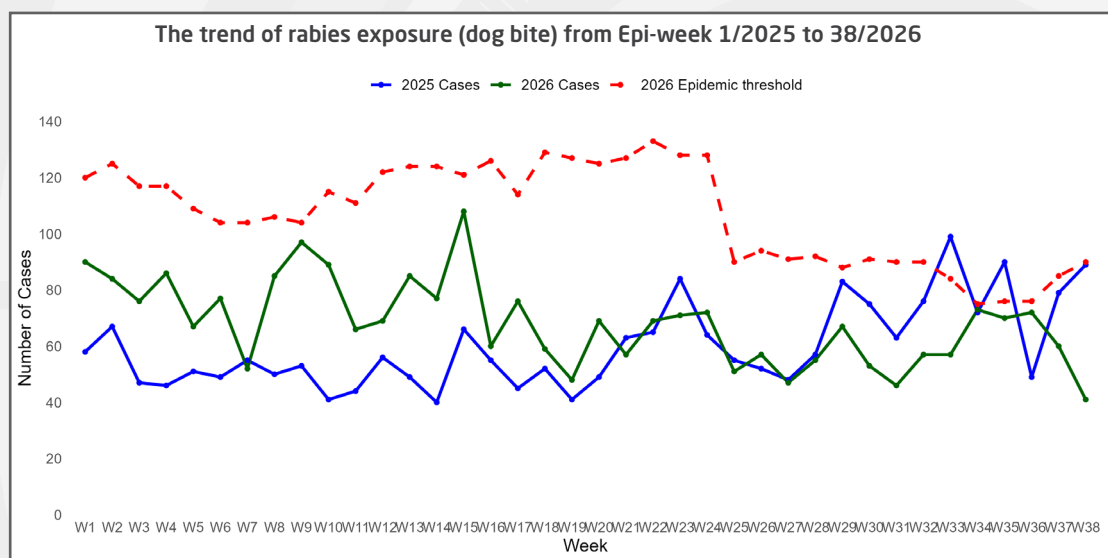
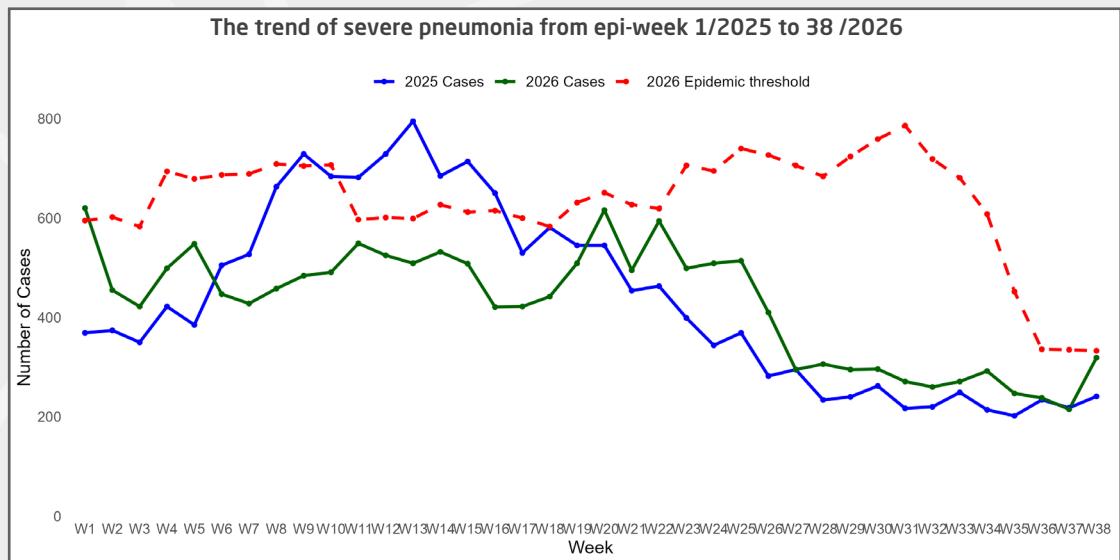
: In Rwanda, after the adaptation of the IDSR guidelines 3rd edition, eight diseases events are being reported and analyzed on a weekly basis. These include flu syndrome, simple malaria, severe pneumonia for under 5 years, non-bloody diarrhea for under 5 years, COVID-19, dog bites, brucellosis, and trypanosomiasis. The monitoring trends of these weekly reportable diseases or health events helps to detect an unusual increase early.

In Epi Week 38, a thorough analysis was conducted, comparing the number of reported cases of the diseases monitored on a weekly basis to their respective epidemic thresholds. The results revealed that no disease cases surpassed the epidemic thresholds.

The figures below show the weekly reportable diseases trends:



The figures below show the weekly reportable diseases trends:



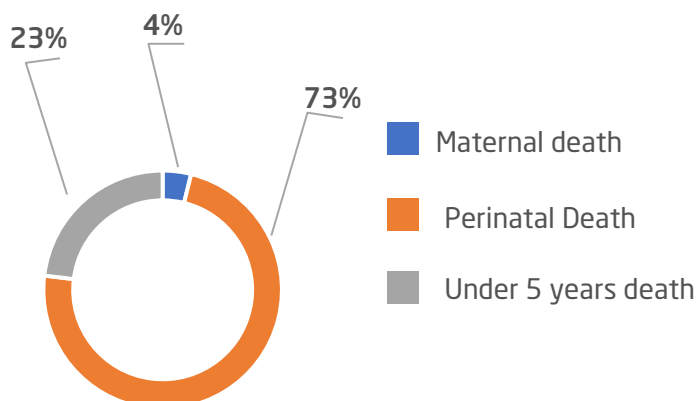


C. DISTRIBUTION OF REPORTED DEATHS IN eIDSR

As summarized in the Pie Chart below, a total of 77 deaths were reported through the electronic Integrated Disease Surveillance and Response (eIDSR) system. Among these deaths:

- 56 (73%) were perinatal deaths
- 18 (23%) were deaths of children under 5 years old, including 1 death due to severe pneumonia
- 3(4%) were maternal deaths

Type of deaths reported in week 38 /2026



Distribution of deaths by health facilities

77 deaths were reported from 27 health facilities as follows:



11

- 11 deaths were reported by each of the following health facilities:
- CHUB (8 perinatal deaths and 3 deaths under 5 years)
 - Gisenyi DH (7 perinatal deaths and 4 deaths under 5 years)



6

- 6 deaths were reported by each of the following health facilities:
- CHUK (4 perinatal deaths and 2 deaths under 5 years)
 - Kibirizi DH (6 perinatal deaths)



5

- 5 deaths were reported by Rwamagana PH (5 perinatal deaths)



4

- 4 deaths were reported by Masaka DH (3 perinatal deaths and 1 death under 5 years)



3

- 3 deaths were reported by each of the following health facilities:
- Kabgayi DH (3perinatal deaths)
 - Kirehe DH (1 perinatal death and 2 deaths under 5 years)
 - Muhororo DH (2 perinatal deaths and 1 death under 5 years)



2

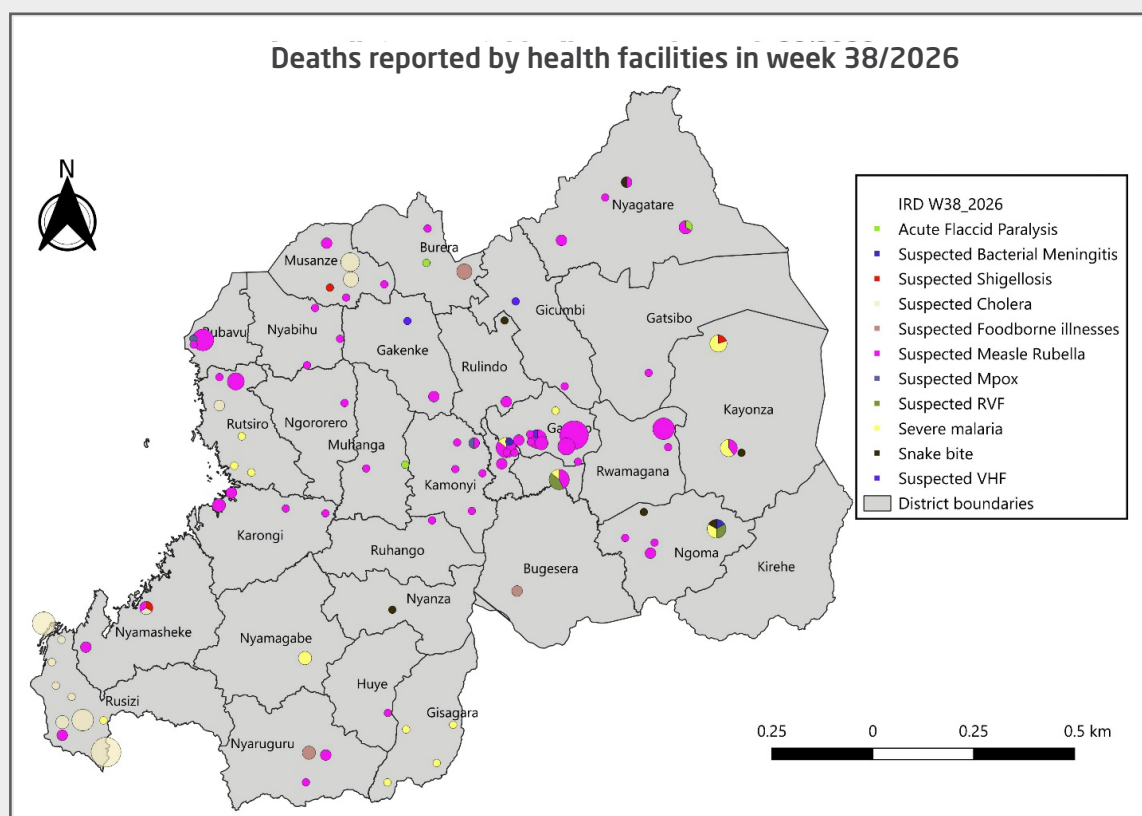
- 2 deaths were reported by each of the following health facilities:
- Byumba DH, Kibogora DH, Kirinda DH, Munini DH, Murunda DH, and Rwinkwavu DH (2perinatal deaths)
 - Nyanza DH (1perinatal death and 1death under 5 years)



1

- 1 death was reported by each of the following health facilities:
- Gatunda DH, Gihundwe DH, Mugonero DH (1Maternal death)
 - Gitwe DH, Kibuye RH, Nemba DH, Muhura HC (1 perinatal death)
 - Kinihira PH, Kiziguro DH, Ngarama DH, Ruhengeri RH (1death under 5 years)

Distribution of deaths by health facilities:



OUTBREAK AND EVENT UPDATES IN EPIDEMIOLOGICAL WEEK 38

1. Ongoing outbreaks

1.1 Ongoing Mpox outbreak in Rwanda

Rwanda confirmed its first two cases of Mpox on July 24, 2024. The current situation, as of 20th September 2026, was as follows:

8108	Cumulative suspected cases
2	New suspected cases
131	Total confirmed cases
0	New confirmed cases
0	Cases under follow up
0	New discharged case



Actions taken

In response to the Mpox outbreak, significant measures are being implemented at both the central and district levels. The District Command Posts have been activated to bolster preparedness and improve response efforts. Key actions include:

- Door-to-door active case searches for early detection
- Heightened screening and surveillance in schools and public areas
- Screening at points of entry (POE)
- Ring vaccination
- Public awareness campaigns

1.2 Measles outbreaks in different provinces

For the current situation, as of 20th September 2026, it was as follows:

119 suspected cases were reported in 56 health facilities and distributed across 4 provinces and the City of Kigali

1.3 Cholera outbreak Rusizi district

The current situation of the ongoing Cholera outbreak in Rusizi district, as of 20th September 2026, was as follows:

331	Cumulative suspected cases
39	New suspected this week
8	Confirmed cases (lab culture)
323	Confirmed cases Epilink
9	Cases under follow up

1.3.2 Cholera outbreak in Rutsiro District

214	Cumulative suspected cases
4	New suspected cases this week
4	Confirmed cases
0	Cases under follow-up

2. New outbreak occurred in week 38

None

3. Updates on Ebola Virus Disease outbreak preparedness in Rwanda

The activities related to preparedness to respond to a possible Ebola outbreak in Western Province remained ongoing, as the Ebola Virus Disease (EVD) outbreak is currently ongoing in the neighboring country of DRC. In Western Province, the Alert mode is ongoing, EVD preparedness activities were intensified, with RBC staff who were deployed to support two functioning provincial command posts currently activated, sitting in Rubavu and Rusizi districts since week 21 (from 17/05/2026) as of this week.



Actions taken

- Isolation and clinical management of identified cases
- Outbreak investigations had been carried out in these different areas affected
- Risk communication and community awareness
- Active case searching
- Vaccination



Actions taken

- Distributed ORS and Zinc supplies in Bugarama
- Carried out door-to-door outreach in Gihundwe and Bugarama
- Distributed 13,800 Aquatabs in Bugarura
- Added 8 extra beds at Bugarura health post
- Deployed 2 additional staff (a Nurse and an IPC officer) to Bugarura health post
- Held a community meeting on prevention measures at Bugarura island



Recommendations:

- Continue door to door activities
- Enhance Community sensitization
- Track progress on installing the 3 available water tanks at Bugarura island



eIDSR REPORTS COMPLETENESS & TIMELINESS

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

Greater or equal to 80%: High,

Between 60% and 79%: Moderate,

Less than 60%: Low.

In Epi Week 38, the overall completeness and timeliness of disease surveillance data reporting in Rwanda were 99% and 97%, respectively. All hospitals achieved high scores above 80% for completeness. For the timeliness, one hospital had a low score (King Faisal Hospital).

The hospitals that had a low score for the timeliness was recommended to submit the weekly reports on time, every Monday before 12:00.



Detailed completeness and timeliness performance for all health facilities are presented in the figures below.

Details on completeness and timeliness for all health facilities are shown in the figures below.

[illegible]

Details on completeness and timeliness for all health facilities are shown in the figures below.

Timeliness 2026																																						
Hospital catchment area	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	W37	W38	
Nyagatare	93	86	100	93	86	100	100	93	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	86	93	100	100	86	93	100	93	100	100	100	100	100	93	93	100	86	100	100	100	93	93	
Gatunda	100	100	89	100	100	100	89	100	100	100	100	100	100	89	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	89	100	100	100	78	100	89	100	100		
Ngarama	100	88	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	88	100	100	100	88	75	88	88	100	100	88	
Kiziguro	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	92	100	92	92	100	92	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	
Gahini	75	88	100	88	88	75	88	100	75	100	100	100	88	63	88	88	100	100	88	100	100	100	100	75	100	88	100	100	100	100	100	88	100	88	100	100	100	
Rwinkwavu	89	89	89	100	78	100	89	78	100	100	78	89	100	78	78	100	100	100	89	78	100	78	89	100	89	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	89	89	100	89	89	
Kibungo	100	94	94	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	94	94	88	88	94	94	82	88	88	94	100	94	88	88	82	100	94	88	100	100	100	94	82	88	88	94	
Kirehe	100	95	100	100	100	90	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	95	95	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	95	90	95	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	
Rwamagana	100	100	100	83	83	89	94	100	89	94	100	94	72	89	89	94	94	83	89	94	78	89	83	94	72	83	83	89	94	94	100	100	100	100	94	89	89	
Nyamata	100	100	100	94	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	82	71	76	94	100	76	94	88	100	88	88	94	100	100	94	100	94	88	82	100	100	100	100	94		
Kinihira	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	89	89	100	89	100	89	100	89	100	89	100	89	100	89	100	89	100	89	100	89	100	89	100	100	
Rutongo	100	100	100	100	93	100	100	100	100	100	93	100	100	100	89	100	100	93	100	100	87	93	100	93	93	93	100	100	93	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	
Gatonde	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	86	86	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	
Butaro	95	90	100	100	90	100	85	100	95	100	90	95	85	95	95	95	90	95	90	95	90	90	80	90	85	85	80	90	100	85	100	90	75	80	80	90	90	
Ruli	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	89	89	100	100	100	89	100	100	100	89	89	78	78	89	78	89	100	89	89	100	100	89	89	89	100	
Nemba	100	90	100	100	80	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	90	90	100	100	90	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	90	100	100	90	100	100	100	100	100	100	90	
Ruhengeri	94	94	100	100	94	83	100	94	83	94	100	83	83	78	100	56	94	94	94	100	94	94	100	94	94	100	100	100	94	100	100	89	89	89	100	94	94	
Byumba	100	88	100	96	96	96	100	96	100	96	100	96	100	96	92	100	100	92	100	96	96	100	92	96	92	92	88	92	100	100	100	96	96	96	96	100	100	
CHUB	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	
Kabutare	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	95	100	100	100	100	95	93	95	100	100	89	95	89	95	95	100	95	100	100	100	100	95	95	95	100	89	100	100	100	
Kabagayi	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	92	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	92	100	100	100	92	92	92	100	100	100	100	92	100	100	100	100	100	100	100
Kibizi	100	100	91	100	100	91	100	100	100	100	91	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100
Gakoma	100	100	100	100	100	83	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	83	100	83	83	83	100	100	100	100	100	83	100	100	100	100	
Gitwe	100	100	100	100	78	89	100	89	100	89	100	100	100	56	94	56	100	89	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	78	100	100	89	100	89	78	100	100	89	100
Ruhango	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	94	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	88	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	88	100	100	100	88	100	100	
Remera Rukoma	93	100	93	93	100	100	100	100	93	100	100	87	100	80	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	87	100	87	93	93	100	93	100	93	100	100
Nyanza	100	100	100	95	89	95	95	100	100	100	95	95	100	89	100	95	95	95	79	95	100	95	100	95	95	95	100	95	100	100	95	95	100	100	100	100	100	95
Kigeme	100	100	100	100	92	100	100	92	100	100	85	100	100	92	100	100	100	100	92	100	92	100	77	92	100	100	85	100	100	100	100	100	92	100	100	100	100	100
Kaduha	100	90	100	100	100	100	100	90	90	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	70	100	100	100	100	90	100	90	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	90	100	90	100	100	100	
Munini	100	100	88	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	94	100	100	94	100	95	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	94	100	100	88	100	94	100	100	100	
Bushenge	100	88	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	88	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100
Kibogora	100	100	93	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	86	100	100	100	100	93	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	86	100	100	100	100	100	100	
Kibuye	100	100	100	100	100	100	92	100	92	100	92	100	100	100	90	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	92	100	100	100	100	100	92	92	85	100	100	92	100	
Kirinda	100	100	83	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	83	100	100	100	100	83	83	100	100	83	100	67	100	100	100	100	
Mugonero	100	100	86	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	86	100	
Shyira	100	94	100	100	100	94	100	100	94	100	100	100	94	100	100	100	94	94	94	100	94	94	89	100	100	100	100	100	100	94	100	94	100	100	100	89	89	
Muhororo	100	100	100	100	100	90	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	90	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	90	100	100	90	100	100	100	100	
Kabaya	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	
Gihundwe	90	90	100	90	70	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	95	95	100	100	90	100	100	100	100	90	80	100	90	80	100	80	70	80	100	100	90	100		
Mibizi	100	100	92	100	100	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	92	92	100	100	
Gisenyi	100	94	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	94	93	100	94	100																				