

**Daily Situation Report on Diarrhoea and Cholera in Iraq  
Sitrep no. 106 up to 19 October 2008**

**1. Current Status**

- The recent report of Iraq Ministry of Health indicates that 506 laboratory-confirmed Cholera cases have been detected and registered in Iraq, up to 19 October 2008.
- 57% of the cases are found in children below 5 years of age.
- There have been 8 deaths (6 males and 2 females). 50% of the deaths have been in below 5 year old children.
- Epidemiological findings have indicated that contaminated water is the most probable source of the outbreak.
- 505 cases have been identified as Inaba and 1 case as Ogawa serotypes.

**2. Summary**

- **Table (1) Suspect, confirmed cholera cases, death and dates of the first, most recent reported case by province, Iraq, 2 new cases were reported in last 24 hours**

Province	No. districts affected	Date first case	Date most recent case	Death	Under investigation	Laboratory confirmed cholera
Diala	1	09-09-08	09-09-08	0	<b>0</b>	<b>1</b>
Wasit	1	30-09-08	18-10-08	0	<b>0</b>	<b>2</b>
Erbil	2	07-10-08	07-10-08	0	0	2
Muthana	1	07-10-08	07-10-08	0	0	2
Missan	1	07-08-08	28-08-08	1	<b>0</b>	<b>3</b>
Anbar	2	07-09-08	01-10-08	0	0	<b>8</b>
Najaf	3	17-09-08	01-10-08	0	<b>9</b>	<b>9</b>
Kerbala	3	05-09-08	13-10-08	0	<b>2</b>	<b>40</b>
Basra	5	14-09-08	10-10-08	1	<b>2</b>	<b>50</b>
Diwanyia	4	20-09-08	14-10-08	2	<b>19</b>	<b>75</b>
Baghdad	10	18-08-08	18-10-08	1	<b>1</b>	<b>78</b>
Babil	4	28-08-08	14-10-08	3	<b>15</b>	<b>236</b>
<b>Total</b>	<b>32</b>	<b>07-08-08</b>	<b>18-10-08</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>48</b>	<b>506</b>

- 4 cases were discovered through the routine testing of negative samples sent for laboratory quality control, 2 of them were from Erbil in northern Iraq and the other 2 were from Muthana in southern Iraq.

### 3. Distribution of confirmed cholera by province:

Fig. 1, below shows that the majority (47%) of confirmed cholera were reported from Babil province followed by Baghdad and, Diwaniya provinces each reporting (15%), Basra (13%), Karbala (8%), while (Missan, Diala, Najaf, Anbar, Wasit, Muthana and Erbil) reported the remaining (5%) of the total cases.

Fig. 1 Confirmed cholera cases by province up to 19 October 2008

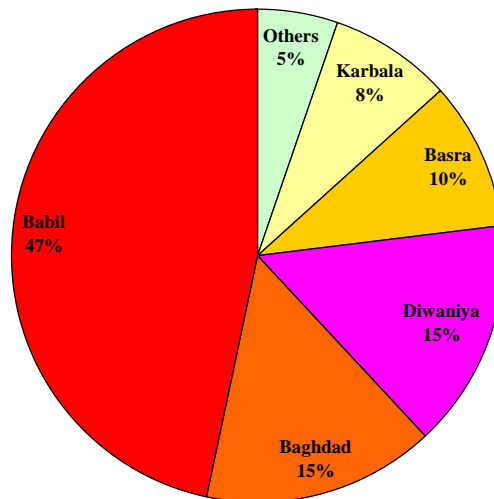
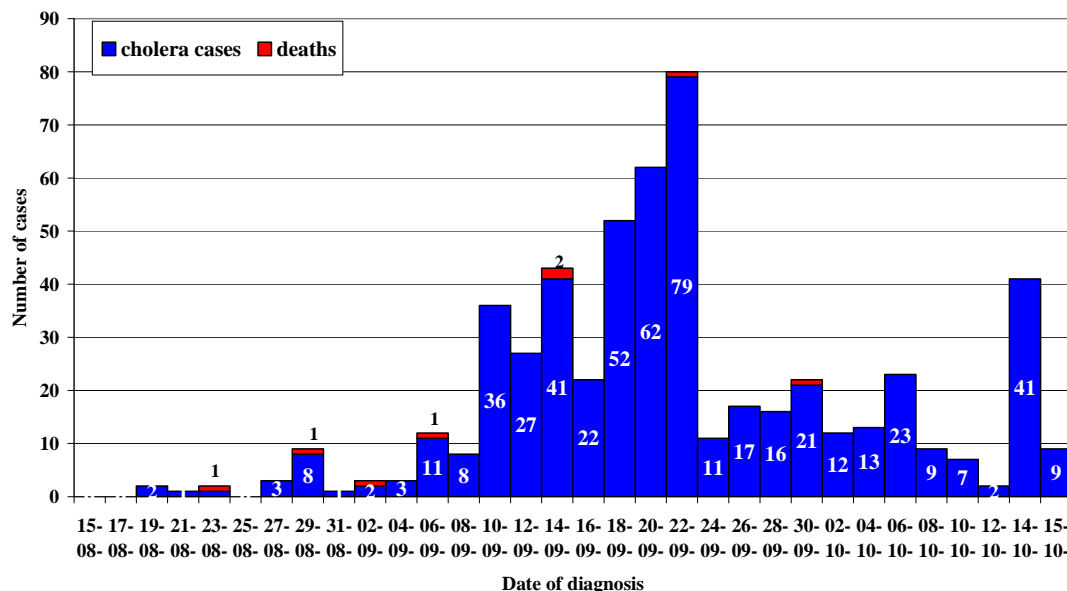


Fig. 2 Reported cholera cases and deaths by date of diagnosis, Iraq, 14/08-17/10/2008



### 4. Epidemic curve:

Fig. 2, shows that unlike last year's explosive outbreak this year's outbreak is gradually building up; it seems to have started mid-August, peaked on 22/09 at 79 cases and then started to fade out during the period 24/9 to 12/10 /2008; the second peak of 23 cases on 06/10 may be due to late reporting of accumulate cases that occurred during EID holidays. However the third peak on 13&14 October is mainly due to a second wave mainly in Diwaniya, It is early to reach a solid conclusion about the trend of the outbreak as cases are still under investigation and the new wave of cases might increase and spread to other districts and provinces.

## 5. Distribution of cases by sex:

Fig. 4, below shows that cases were almost equally distributed between the two sexes.

**Fig. 3 Cholera cases by sex, up to 19/10/ 2008**

