



Situation Report: Confirmed COVID-19	Location: The Gambia
Date of Report: 23rd - 24th June 2021	Investigation Start Date: 17th March 2020 as of 18hrs.
Prepared by: Epidemiology and Disease Control Unit, MoH, The Gambia	

I. HIGHLIGHTS

This is the **334th** national situation report since the confirmation of the first case of the coronavirus disease (COVID-19) in The Gambia, on the **16th March 2020**

- No new COVID-19-related death was registered, bringing the total number of deaths since **March 2020 to 181**
- Four (**4**) new cases were registered taking the total number of COVID-19 cases ever confirmed in the country to **6,069**
- Zero (**0**) and **4** cases were reported on the **23rd and 24th** respectively
- The cases are composed of 1 males and 3 females with ages ranging from **24-34 years**
- A total of **545** new laboratory test results were received (**55** from MRCG and **490** from NPHL)
 - Of these, 11 tested positive representing a **0.7 %** test positivity rate
- Six (**6**) new COVID-19 patients were newly discharged from treatment centres, while **none** got discharged at least **10** days from the day they tested positive but evaded institutional isolation
- Four (**4**) COVID-19 patient are currently on oxygen therapy
No new contact has been traced and monitored
- Currently, **2** people are in hotel quarantine, **33** active cases and a crude case-fatality ratio of **3%**
- As of **21st June 2021**, **31,150** and **11,825** people received the **1st** and **2nd** doses of **AstraZeneca** vaccine respectively, bringing the total number ever vaccinated to **42,975**
- So far **8,320 (724 New) Rapid** diagnostic tests were conducted at the Airport for travelers as of **25th June 2021**.
 - Of these, **only 3** tested positive for both RDT and PCR. They were all treated and discharged
- As of **20th June 2021**, **102** new clients received Psychological First Aid (PFA) Services provided by MoH, Department of Social Welfare (DSW) and Paradise Foundation, thus bringing the number patients of attended to **1,931** since the start of the COVID-19 pandemic.

COVID-19 SITUATION IN NUMBERS

Globally

Confirmed Cases: **181,159,231**

Recoveries: **165,746,172**

Deaths: **3,924,403**

Senegal

Confirmed Cases: **42,747**

Recoveries: **41,118**

Deaths: **1,161**

The Gambia

Confirmed Cases: **6,069**

Recoveries: **5,855**

Deaths: **181**

II. EPIDEMIOLOGICAL DESCRIPTION

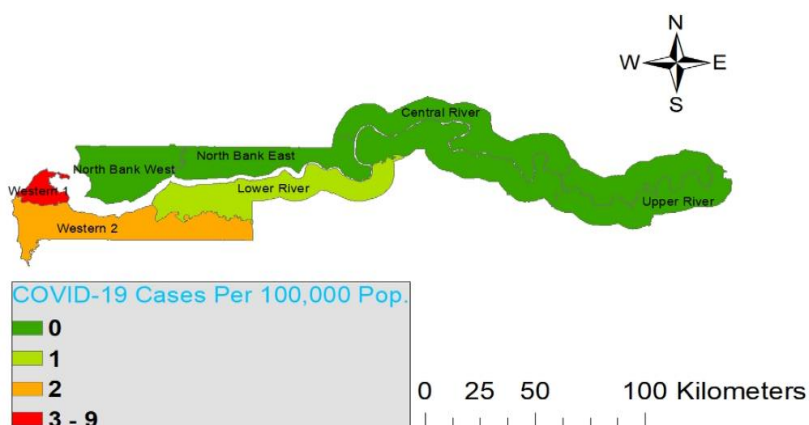


Fig 1: Geographic Distribution of Recent COVID-19 Cases Per 100,000 Pop. by Regions 15th April-14th May 2021

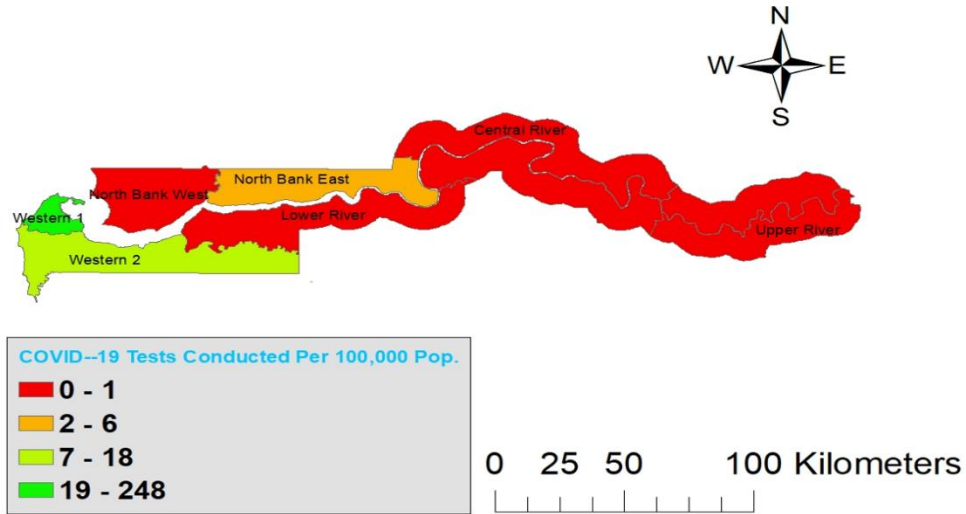


Fig 2: Geographic Distribution of Recent COVID-19 Tests Per 100,000 Pop. by Regions 15th April-14th May 2021

- Western 1 Health Region has a disproportionately higher number of cases than all the health regions (See Fig. 1)
- Despite being far-flung from current testing sites, North Bank East has sent in more samples per 100,000 population than all other regions in the hinterland, over the last 30 days (See Fig. 2)

Figures 3 and 4 are the age-sex distribution and the Epi-curve of confirmed cases by reported date, respectively age-sex distribution and the Epi-curve of confirmed cases by reported date, respectively.

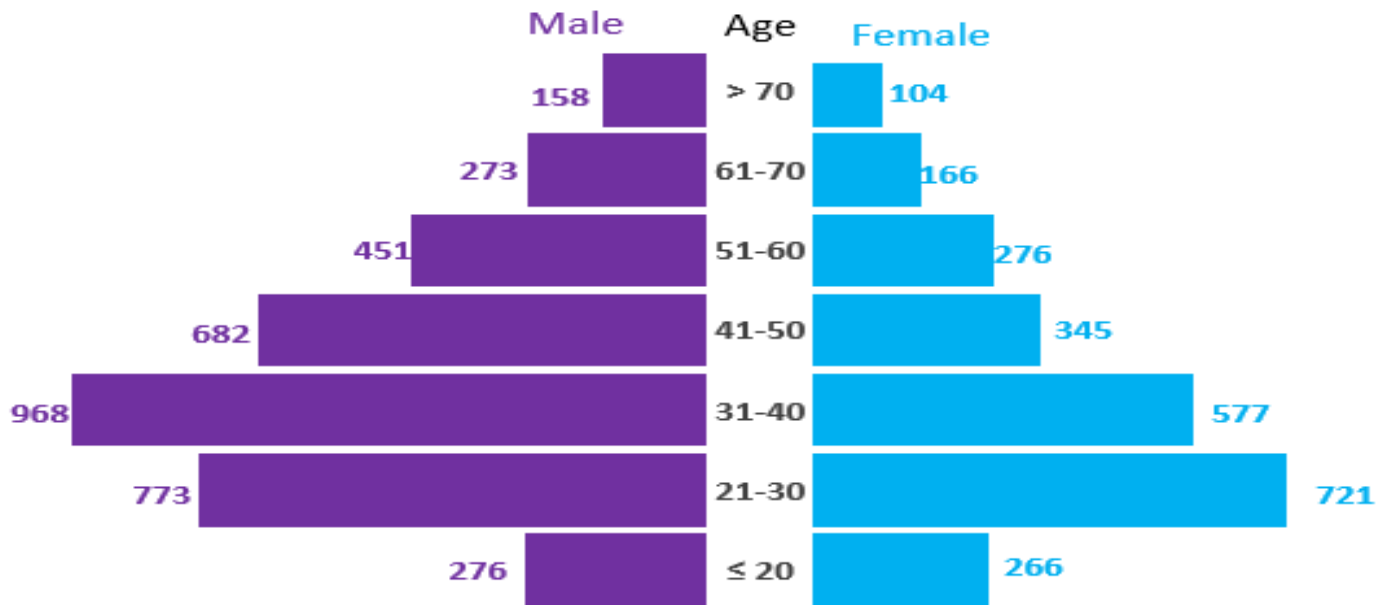


Fig 3: Age-Sex Distribution of Confirmed COVID-19 Cases, The Gambia, 2021

* This excludes the 27 confirmed cases whose demographic information are not yet available

About 59% of the confirmed cases are males (See Fig. 3)

About 62% of the confirmed cases are below age 40 (See Fig. 3)

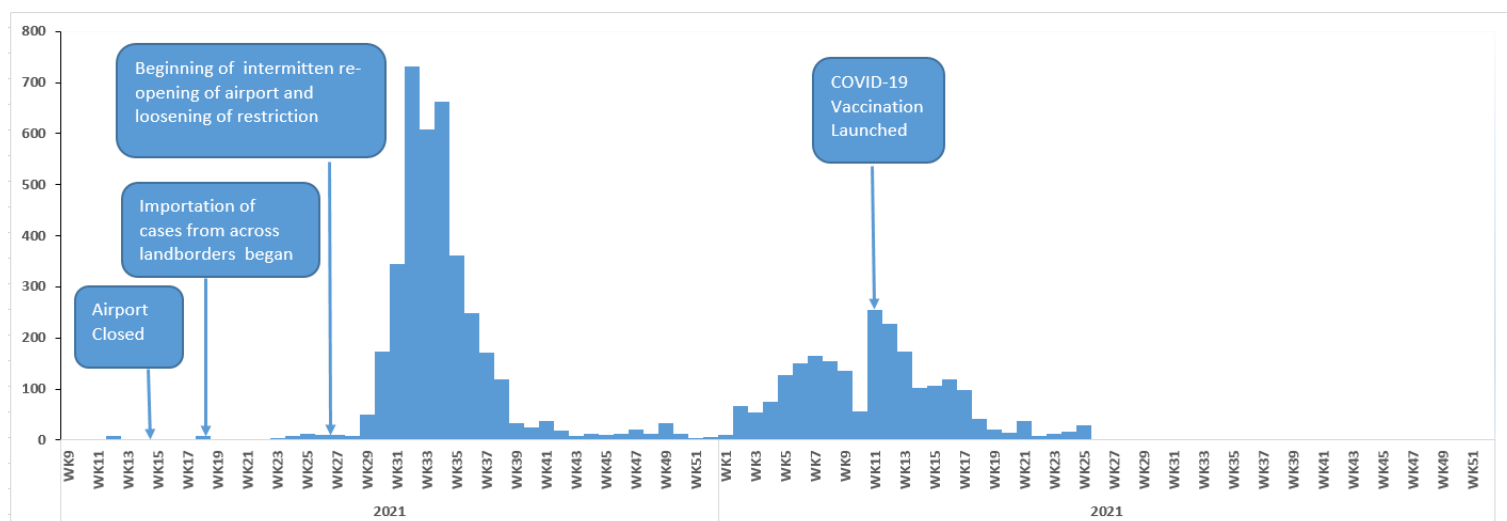


Fig. 4: Epidemic Curve of Laboratory-Confirmed Cases Reported Weekly, COVID-19 Pandemic, The Gambia, 2021[†].

A considerable amount of time elapsed between date of reporting and the date of laboratory confirmation of some cases

- Three main waves of infection occurred – the pre airport closure wave, the importation from Senegal wave and the intermittent airport re-opening and loosening of restrictions wave (**See Fig. 4**)

Status	New	Cumulative
No. of active cases in institutional isolation		17
No. of COVID-19 patients on oxygen support		4
No. of patients recovered and discharged	6	
In Hotel Quarantine	2	7
Completed Hotel Quarantine	0	5,231
Completed follow-up (asymptomatic people with travel history to affected countries) *	0	310
No. of Contact(s) Identified**	0	
No. of Contacts being monitored	17	
No. of Contacts who completed 14-day follow-up	20	16,885
No. of Contacts lost to follow-up	0	58
Total Tests conducted (Repeat Test (s))***	545(0)***	76,887
Positive test result (Repeat Test (s))	4(0)	6,069
Negative test result (Repeat Test (s))***	538(0)***	69,754
Inconclusive test result (Repeat Test (s))***	3(0)***	

Table 2: Summary of New and Cumulative Public Health Response Outputs, COVID-19 Pandemic, The Gambia, 2021

* Follow-up completed prior to the 17th March (when the first confirmed case was reported)

** Includes both low-risk and high-risk contacts and not mutually exclusive with number quarantined (as some have been quarantined) * * * Includes repeat tests in bracket

III. MAJOR RESPONSE ACTIVITIES

Component	Interventions
Coordination	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Coordination meetings held at both central and regional levels Gambian philanthropist and businessman have helped in improving the internet problem at National Public Health Laboratories (NPHL)
Surveillance/ Laboratory	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> A total of 545 new laboratory test results received 55 from MRCG and 490 from NPHL) Of these, 3 test results returned inconclusive or indeterminate, 4 new sample tested positive
Case Management / Psychosocial Support & Research / IPC	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> No new COVID-19 related death recorded six(6) patients were newly discharged from treatment centres No new contact has been traced and monitored Four (4) COVID-19 patient are currently on oxygen therapy 102 new clients received Psychological First Aid (PFA) Services

Table 3: Major response activities undertaken newly, COVID-19 Outbreak, The Gambia, 2021

Priority group	Dose 1						Dose 2							
	Fixed		Outreach/Mobile		Total	AEFI		Fixed		Outreach/Mobile		Total	AEFI	
	Male	Female	Male	Female		Non-serious	Serious	Male	Female	Male	Female		Non-serious	Serious
Health Care workers	3244	2674	302	294	6514	0	3	1585	1436	250	169	3440	0	0
People with pre-existing conditions	1537	1851	555	671	4614	1	0	788	807	137	145	1877	0	0
Community workers	4559	3106	1134	1008	9807	1	0	1365	1049	241	195	2850	0	0
65 years and above	1776	1650	739	656	4821	0	0	635	678	104	118	1535	0	0
Teacher	333	195	487	212	1227	0	0	146	104	65	18	333	0	0
Hoteliers	513	304	34	21	872	0	0	153	137	0	0	290	0	0
Security forces	876	266	264	40	1446	0	0	268	65	54	33	420	0	0
41yrs - 64yrs	279	247	100	125	751	0	0	397	347	26	26	796	0	0
18yrs - 40 yrs	379	299	141	279	1098	0	0	100	134	28	22	284	0	0
Total Cov-1	13496	10592	3756	3306	31150	2	3	5437	4757	905	726	11825	0	0

Table 4: Total National vaccinated with COVISHIELD (AstraZeneca Vaccine) by priority group as of 10th June 2021

IV. GAPS/CHALLENGES:

- CBS activities not translating to increase in the number of daily tests being conducted
- Support for innovative countrywide risk communication strategies and activities on COVID-19 is suboptimal
- Security lapses at some of the treatment centers resulting in the abscondence of patients
- Dwindling compliance with mask-wearing requirements
- Low turn-out at COVID-19 sample collection sites resulting in fewer number of daily tests
- Denial, misinformation, stigma and discrimination against COVID-19 affected families.
- Weak and unreliable internet connection at the NPHL is hampering the implementation of e-surveillance at the laboratory.
- Difficulty in accessing data on time resulting to a delay in the production of the SITREP

V. NEXT STEPS/RECOMMENDATIONS:

- CBS activities need to be synchronized with MRC's ILI surveillance to spur up testing rates in the hinterland.
- Expedite the process of having testing sites in CRR and NBW
- Intensify risk communication and community engagement activities, on COVID-19 at community level, including at LUMOS, in a bid to curtail community transmission and dispel misinformation and denial
- More tests required in the catchment area of the MRC Keneba testing site to ascertain the extent of spread of COVID-19
- Security needs to be beefed up at all COVID-19 treatment/isolation centers to prevent the abscondence of patients
- Strengthen community-based surveillance in order to increase awareness and testing rates
- Thorough enforcement of the mandatory mask-wearing regulation
- IPC measures should be strictly adhered to in all public and private health healthcare facilities
- Provision of adequate stocks of PPEs to all health facilities
- Health workers to observe all COVID-19 preventive measures including the donning of appropriate PPEs at all times
- Response committee leads should endeavor to provide data to the SITREP team on time

For comments or questions, please contact:
Sana M. Sambou
 Public Health Emergency Operations Center
 Epidemiology and Disease Control Unit, The Gambia
Email: sanamsambou@hotmail.com **Phone:** +220 3516320/2422949

PARTNERS

