



Situation Report: Confirmed COVID-19		Location: The Gambia	
Date of Report: 14th - 16th July 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 **343rd** national situation report since the confirmation of the first case of the coronavirus disease (COVID-19) in The Gambia, on the **16th March 2020**

- Two **(2)** new COVID-19-related deaths were registered, bringing the total number of deaths since **March 2020** to **190**
 - The decedents were all males aged **50** and **76** years with severe COVID-19 pneumonia admitted in one of the COVID 19 treatment centres
- **310** new cases were registered taking the total number of COVID-19 cases ever confirmed in the country to **6,920**
- Eight seven **(87)**, **114** and **109** cases were reported on the **14th**, **15th** and **16th** respectively
 - Of the **207** cases with known reasons for testing, **119 (57%)** tested for travelling, **40 (19%)** for suspicion of COVID-19 after being sick, **25 (11%)** contact with a confirmed case and **21 (10%)** wanted to know COVID-19 status
- The cases are composed of **164** males and **144** females with a median age of **35** years (**Range: 1 – 80 years**)
- A total of **1,217** new laboratory test results were received (**132** from **MRCG** and **1085** from **NPHL**)
 - Of these, **1,217** tested positive representing a **25.5% test positivity rate**
- Eight **(8)** new COVID-19 patients were newly discharged from treatment centres, while **16** got discharged at least **10** days from the day they tested positive but evaded institutional isolation
- Nineteen **(19)** COVID-19 patients are currently on **oxygen therapy**
- No new contacts were traced
- Currently, no one is in hotel quarantine, **715** active cases and a crude case-fatality ratio of **2.7%**

COVID-19 SITUATION IN NUMBERS

Globally

- Confirmed Cases: **190,944,707**
- Recoveries: **173,956,997**
- Deaths: **4,101,941**

Senegal

- Confirmed Cases: **52,096**
- Recoveries: **43,311**
- Deaths: **1,220**

The Gambia

- Confirmed Cases: **6,920**
- Recoveries: **6,015**
- Deaths: **190**

II. EPIDEMIOLOGICAL DESCRIPTION

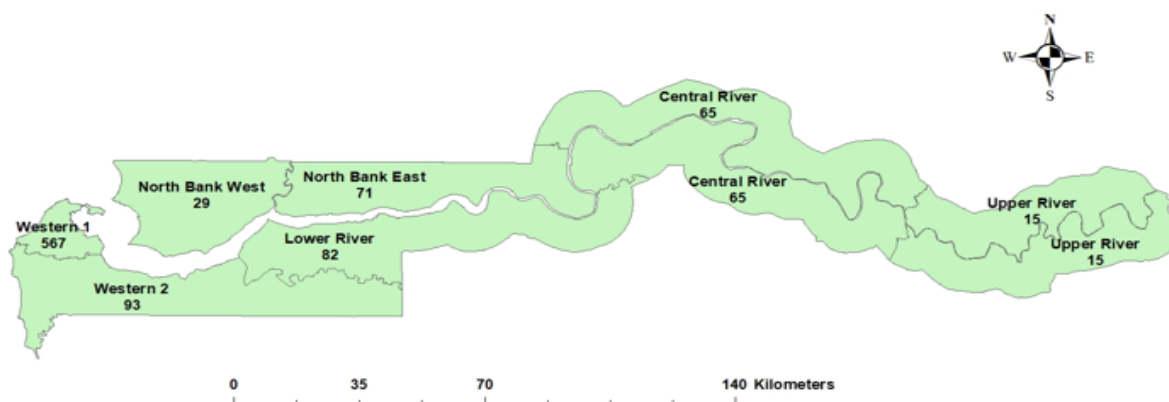


Fig1: Geographic Distribution of COVID-19 Confirmed Cases Per 100,000 Pop. by Region in The Gambia since the start of pandemic to 30th June 2021

Date	Negative	Positive	Inconclusive	Total	Test Positivity
14/7/2021	282	87	5	374	23.4
15/7/2021	305	114	7	426	26.8
16/7/2021	306	109	2	417	26.1
Total	893	310	14	1217	25.5

Table1: Shows the test positivity for three consecutive days

- Western 1 Health Region has a disproportionately higher number of cases than all the health regions (See Fig. 1)
- Below are the age-sex distribution and the Epi-curve of confirmed cases by reported date, respectively (See Fig. 2 and 3)

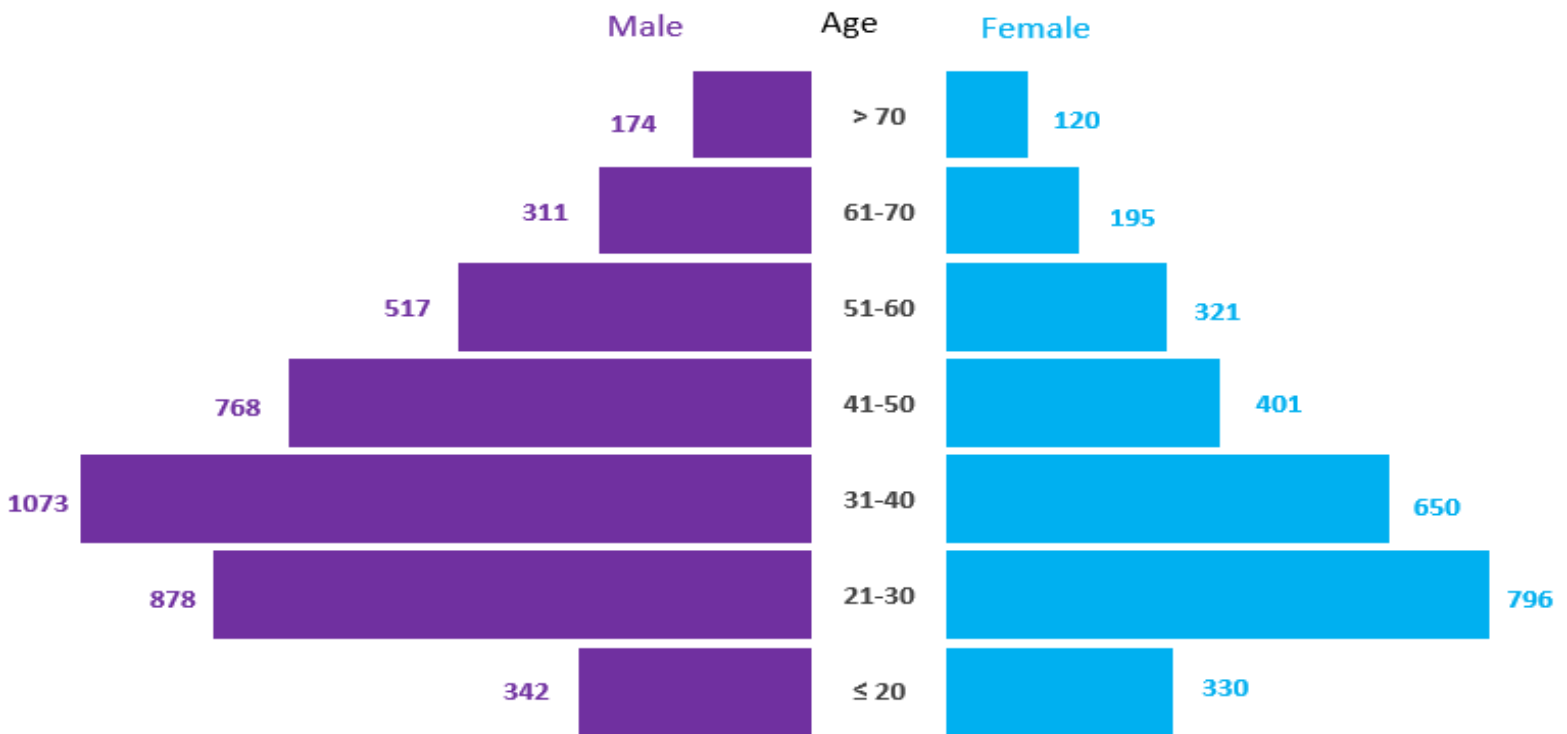


Fig 2: Age-Sex Distribution of Confirmed COVID-19 Cases, The Gambia, 2021

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

About 59% of the confirmed cases are males (See Fig. 2)

About 58.6% of the confirmed cases are 40 years below (See Fig. 2)

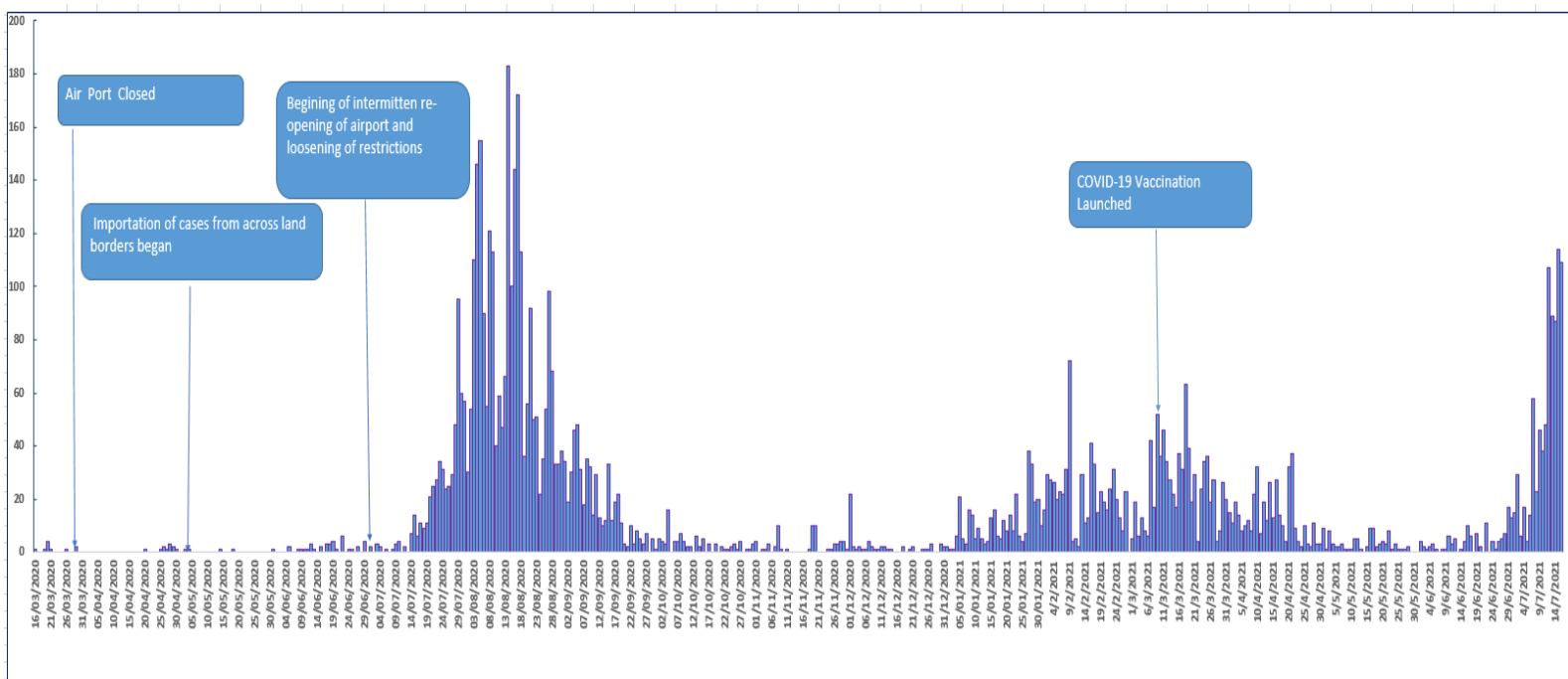


Fig. 3: Epidemic Curve of Laboratory-Confirmed Cases Reported daily, COVID-19 Pandemic, The Gambia, 2021*.

- 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. 3)

Status	New	Cumulative
No. of active cases in institutional isolation		103
No. of COVID-19 patients on oxygen support		19
No. of patients recovered and discharged	24	
In Hotel Quarantine	0	9
Completed Hotel Quarantine	0	5,240
Completed follow-up (asymptomatic people with travel history to affected countries) *	0	310
No. of Contact(s) Identified**	0	
No. of Contacts being monitored	122	
No. of Contacts who completed 14-day follow-up	0	16,945
No. of Contacts lost to follow-up	0	58
Total Tests conducted (Repeat Test (s))***	1217(0)***	83,193
Positive test result (Repeat Test (s))	310(0)	6,920
Negative test result (Repeat Test (s))***	893(0)***	75,186
Inconclusive test result (Repeat Test (s))***	14(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
Surveillance/ Laboratory	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> A total of 1217 new laboratory test results received 132 from MRCG and 1,085 from NPHL) Of these, No test results returned inconclusive or indeterminate, 310 new samples tested positive
Case Management / Psychosocial Support & Research / IPC	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Two new COVID-19 related deaths recorded Eight (8) patients were newly discharged from treatment centres No new contacts were traced and monitored Nineteen (19) COVID-19 patients are currently on oxygen therapy

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
Total Cov-24	438	266	374	242	1320	0	0	281	171	159	123	734	0	0
Health Care workers	3246	2674	302	294	6516	0	3	1655	1503	262	177	3597	0	0
People with pre-existing conditions	1537	1851	555	671	4614	1	2	809	841	150	147	1947	0	0
Community workers	4561	3107	1134	1008	9810	1	0	1410	1082	251	205	2948	0	0
65 years and above	1776	1650	739	656	4821	0	0	642	692	123	138	1595	0	0
Teacher	333	195	487	212	1227	0	0	154	112	65	18	349	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	74	62	469	0	0
41yrs - 64yrs	279	247	175	148	849	0	0	400	337	32	41	810	0	0
18yrs - 40 yrs	380	299	141	279	1099	0	0	104	136	30	28	298	0	0
Total Cov-1	13501	10593	3831	3329	31254	2	5	5595	4905	987	816	12303	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.

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

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PARTNERS

