



Situation Report: Confirmed COVID-19		Location: The Gambia	
Date of Report: 9th 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 **339th** 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 deaths were registered, bringing the total number of deaths since **March 2020** to **185**
- Forty-six (**46**) new cases were registered taking the total number of COVID-19 cases ever confirmed in the country to **6,328**
- Two (**2**) cases absconded from COVID-19 treatment centres
- The cases are composed of **30** males and **16** females with a median age of **37.5** years (Range: **5 - 78 years**)
- A total of **301** new laboratory test results were received (**25** from MRCG and **276** from NPHL)
 - Of these, 46 tested positive representing a **15.3%** test positivity rate
- Four (**4**) new COVID-19 patients were newly discharged from treatment centres, while **4** got discharged at least **10** days from the day they tested positive but evaded institutional isolation
- Eight(**8**) COVID-19 patient are currently on oxygen therapy
- No new contacts have been traced
- Currently, no one is in hotel quarantine, **229** active cases and a crude case-fatality ratio of **2.9%**
- As of **25th June 2021**, **31,254** and **12,303** people received the **1st** and **2nd** doses of **AstraZeneca** vaccine respectively, bringing the total number ever vaccinated to **43,557**
- So far **10,420 (518 New) Rapid Diagnostic Tests** were conducted at the Airport for travelers as of **7th July 2021**.
 - Of these, **only three (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: **187,389,372**
- Recoveries: **171,348,174**
- Deaths: **4,045,347**

Senegal

- Confirmed Cases: **45,646**
- Recoveries: **42,202**
- Deaths: **1,190**

The Gambia

- Confirmed Cases: **6,328**
- Recoveries: **5,914**
- Deaths: **185**

II. EPIDEMIOLOGICAL DESCRIPTION

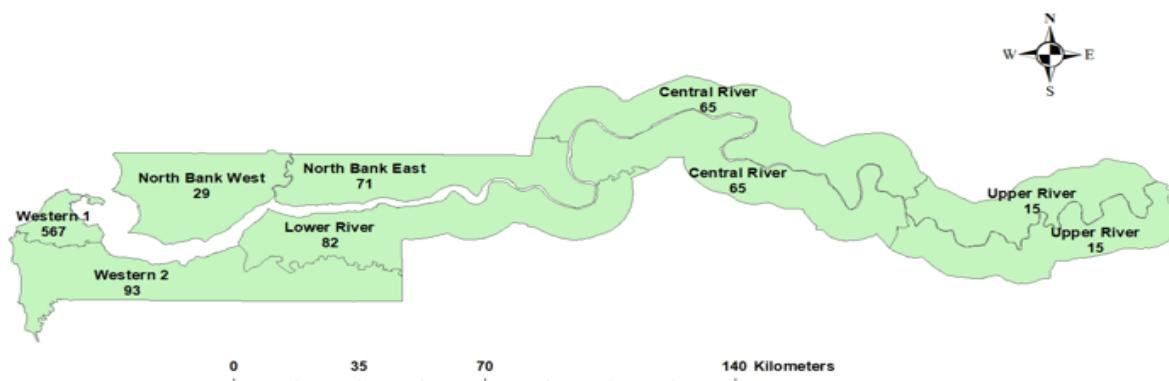


Fig1: Geographic Distribution of COVID-19 Confirmed Cases Per 100,000 Pop. by Region in The Gambia since the start of pandemic to 30th June 2021

- 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.

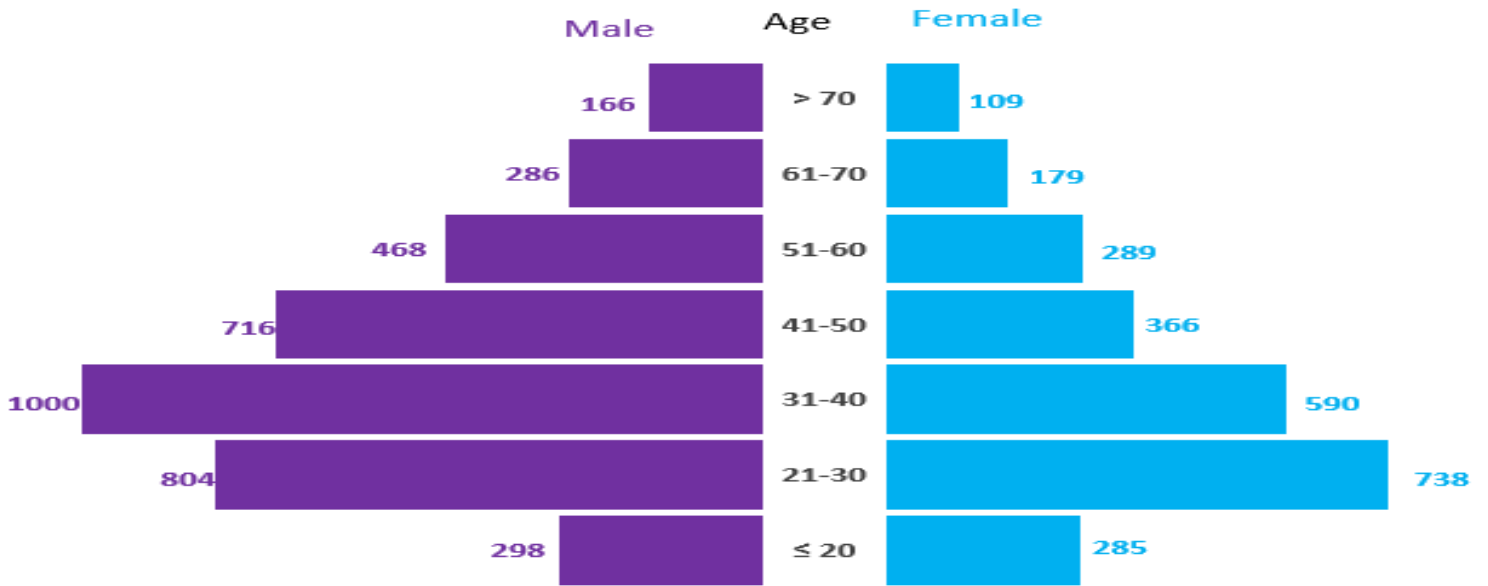


Fig 3: Age-Sex Distribution of Confirmed COVID-19 Cases, The Gambia, 2021

* 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**)

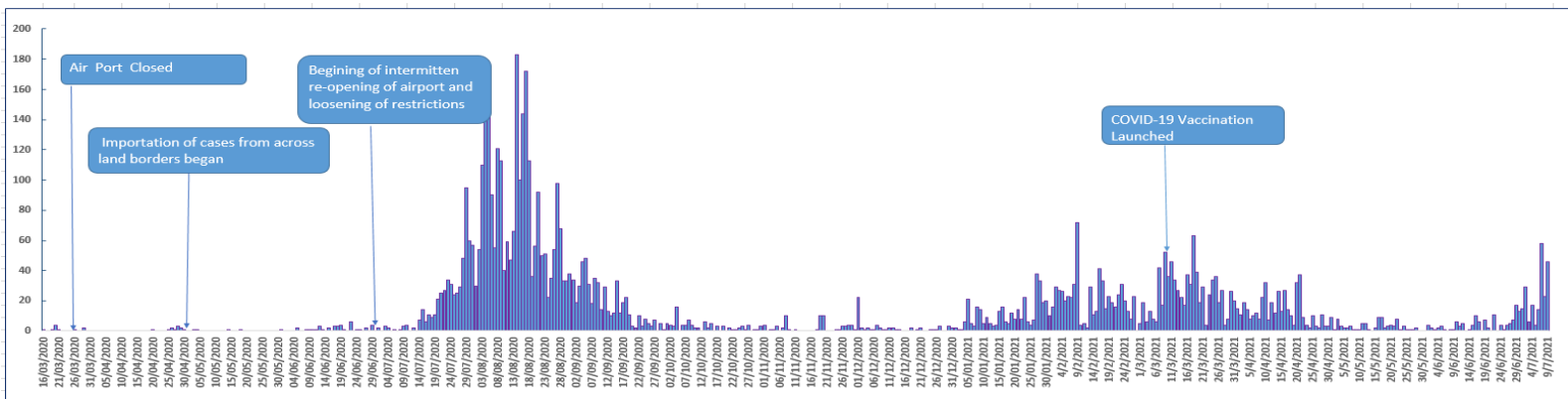


Fig. 4: Epidemic Curve of Laboratory-Confirmed Cases Reported daily, COVID-19 Pandemic, The Gambia, 2021*.

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. 4**)

Status	New	Cumulative
No. of active cases in institutional isolation		69
No. of COVID-19 patients on oxygen support		8
No. of patients recovered and discharged	8	
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	48	
No. of Contacts who completed 14-day follow-up	9	16,917
No. of Contacts lost to follow-up	0	58
Total Tests conducted (Repeat Test (s))***	301(0)***	80,873
Positive test result (Repeat Test (s))	46(0)	6,328
Negative test result (Repeat Test (s))***	252(0)***	73,472
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"> • <i>Coordination meetings held at both central and regional levels</i> • <i>Gambian philanthropist and businessman have helped in improving the internet problem at National Public Health Laboratories (NPHL)</i>
Surveillance/ Laboratory	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>A total of 301 new laboratory test results received 25 from MRCG and 276 from NPHL)</i> • <i>Of these, Three (3) test results returned inconclusive or indeterminate, 46 new sample tested positive</i>
Case Management / Psychosocial Support & Research / IPC	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>No new COVID-19 related death recorded</i> • <i>Four (4) patients were newly discharged from treatment centres</i> • <i>No new contact has been traced</i> • <i>Eight (6) COVID-19 patient are currently on oxygen therapy</i>

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.
- Difficulty in accessing data on time resulting to a delay in the daily 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:
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