



Situation Report: Confirmed COVID-19		Location: The Gambia	
Date of Report: 22 <sup>nd</sup> September 2021		Investigation Start Date: 17 <sup>th</sup> March 2020 as of 18hrs.	
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## I. HIGHLIGHTS

This is the 375<sup>th</sup> national situation report since the confirmation of the first case of the coronavirus disease (COVID-19) in The Gambia, on the 16<sup>th</sup> March 2020

- No new COVID-19-related death registered, bringing the total to 335 (Crude Case-Fatality Ratio, 3.4%)
- A total of 7 new cases were registered (cumulative cases 9,918)
- The test positivity rate is 2.3% (7/302), NPHL – 281 (5 positive) MRCG – 21 (2 Positives)
  - Of the total new cases, 3 were males and 4 females, with ages ranging from less than 1yr – 70 years
  - Five (5) cases are currently on oxygen therapy
  - For reasons of testing, 2 (28.6%) for suspicion of COVID-19, 2 (28.6%) for knowing COVID-19 Status and 3(42.8%) for unspecified reasons
- No case was newly discharged from the treatment centres, while 12 got discharged at least 10 days from the day they tested positive but evaded institutional isolation
- No new contact traced and monitored

### COVID-19 SITUATION IN NUMBERS

#### Globally

- Confirmed Cases: 231,503,234
- Recoveries: 208,192,051
- Deaths: 4,744,657

#### Senegal

- Confirmed Cases: 73,719
- Recoveries: 71,218
- Deaths: 1,854

#### The Gambia

- Confirmed Cases: 9,918
- Active Cases: 23
- Recoveries: 9,560
- Deaths: 335

## II. EPIDEMIOLOGICAL DESCRIPTION

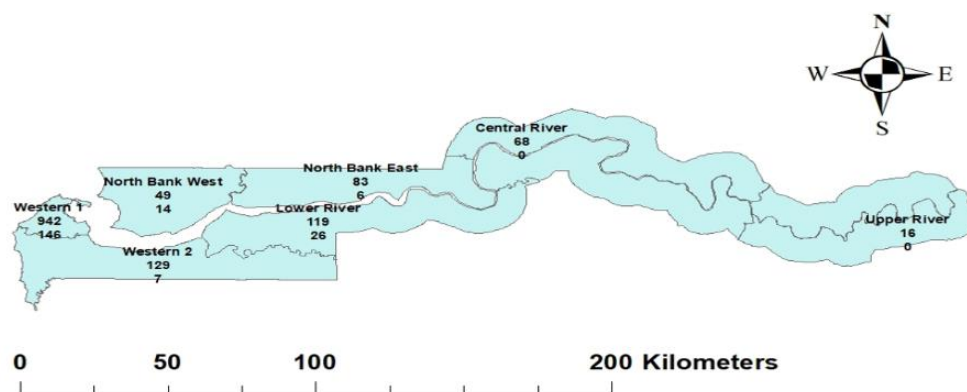
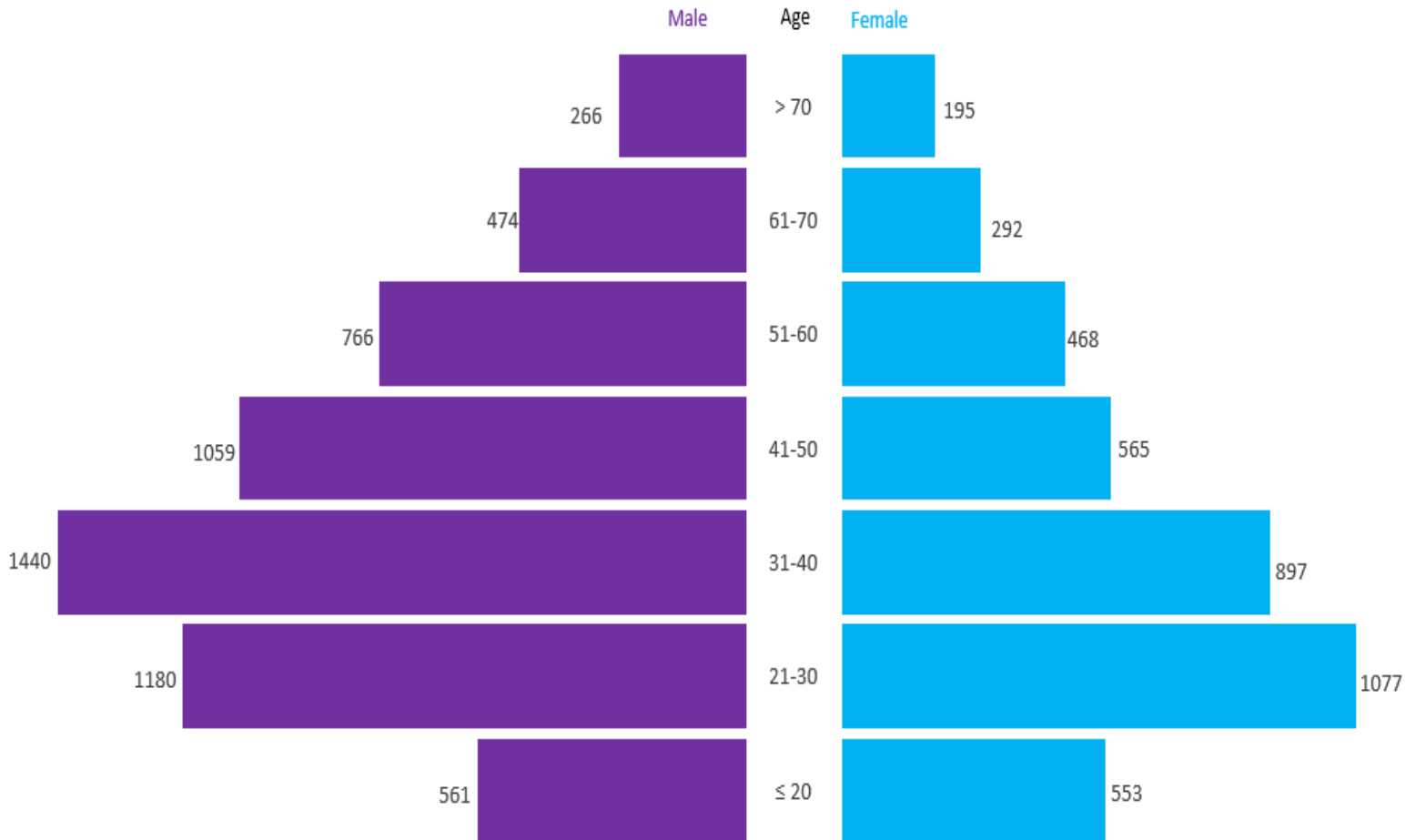


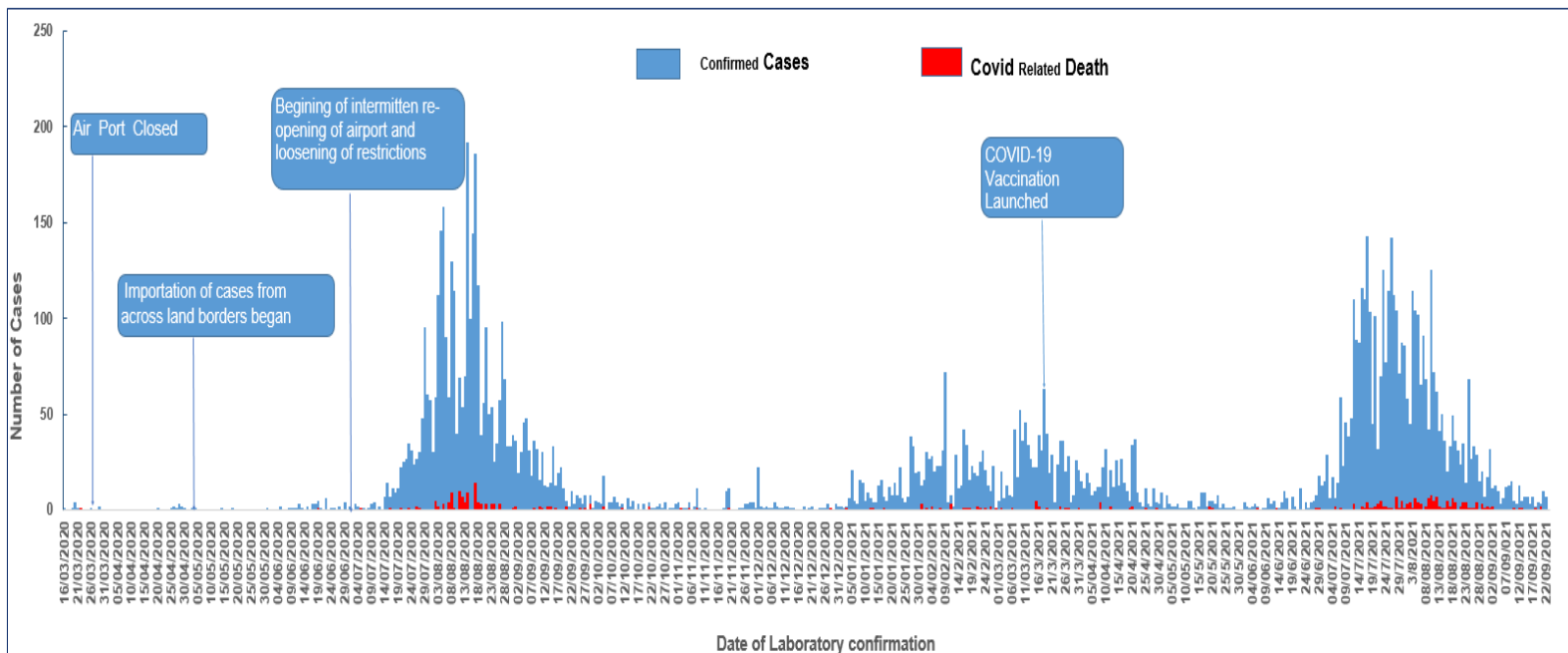
Fig 1: Geographic Distribution of COVID-19 cases per 100,000 Pop. by Region since the start of Pandemic to 31<sup>st</sup> August 2021 (Number Above) and the month of August 2021 (Number below) in The Gambia

- 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, 16<sup>th</sup> March 2020-10<sup>th</sup> August 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		15
No. of COVID-19 patients on oxygen support		5
No. of patients recovered and discharged	12	
In Hotel Quarantine	0	19
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	0	
No. of Contacts who completed 14-day follow-up	0	17,119
No. of Contacts lost to follow-up	0	58
Total Tests conducted (Repeat Test (s))***	302(0)***	109,184
Positive test result (Repeat Test (s))	7(0)	9,918
Negative test result (Repeat Test (s))***	295(0)***	98,013
Inconclusive test result (Repeat Test (s))***	0(0)***	

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

\* Follow-up completed prior to the 17<sup>th</sup> 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"> <li>• <i>Coordination meetings held at both central and regional levels</i></li> </ul>
Surveillance/ Laboratory	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <i>A total of <b>302</b> new laboratory test results received <b>281</b> from <b>MRCG</b> and <b>21</b> from <b>NPHL</b>)</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ <i>Of these, <b>no</b> test result returned inconclusive or indeterminate, <b>7</b> new samples tested positive</i></li> </ul> </li> </ul>
Case Management / Psychosocial Support & Research / IPC	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <i><b>No</b> new COVID-19 related death recorded</i></li> <li>• <i><b>No</b> patients were newly discharged from treatment centres</i></li> <li>• <i><b>No</b> new contact traced and monitored</i></li> <li>• <i><b>Five (5)</b> COVID-19 patients are currently on <b>oxygen therapy</b></i></li> </ul>

**Table 3: Major response activities undertaken newly, COVID-19 Outbreak, The Gambia, 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
- 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.
- Low COVID 19 Vaccination coverage rate

### V. NEXT STEPS/RECOMMENDATIONS:

- CBS activities need to be synchronized with MRC's ILI surveillance to spur up testing rates in the hinterland.
- 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 and vaccine hesitancy
- Strengthen community-based surveillance 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 always including the donning of appropriate PPEs
- Intensify activities geared to increase COVID-19 vaccination coverage at all levels

**For comments or questions, please contact:**  
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**PARTNERS**

