



Situation Report: Confirmed COVID-19	Location: The Gambia
Date of Report: 14th - 17th October 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 **389th** 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 registered, bringing the total to **339** (Crude Case-Fatality Ratio, 3.4%)
- **Two (2)** new case was registered (**cumulative cases 9,951**)
- The test positivity rate is **0.2 (2/1021)**, NPHL – **964 (2 positive)** and MRCG – **57(0 Positives)**
 - **Two (2)** cases are currently on **oxygen therapy**
- **Two (2)** cases were newly discharged from the treatment centres and non after at least **10** days from the day they tested positive but evaded institutional isolation
- **No** new contacts traced and monitored
- As of **15th October 2021**, the following number of people have been vaccinated with:
 - **Janssen & Janssen:**
 - Only 1 dose: 165,582
 - **Sinopharm:**
 - Dose 1: 4,457
 - Dose 2: 3,243
 - **AstraZeneca:**
 - Dose 1: 32,169
 - Dose 2: 22,171
- **TARGET POPULATION**
 - Proportion of target population fully vaccinated (2 doses of AZ/Sinopharm OR 1 dose of J&J): **12.2%**
 - Proportion of target population that received at least one Covid-19 vaccine dose (AZ or J&J or Sinopharm): **12.9%**
- **TOTAL POPULATION** (Based on final MoH population projections for 2021)
 - Proportion of total population fully vaccinated (2 doses of AZ/Sinopharm or 1 dose of J&J): **7.8%**
 - Proportion of total population that received at least one Covid-19 vaccine dose (AZ or J&J or Sinopharm): **8.3%**

Since the start of RDT for COVID-19 at The Banjul International Airport, **23,924** rapid diagnostic tests (RDT) have been conducted with **8** positives who were confirmed and treated.

COVID-19 SITUATION IN NUMBERS

Globally

- Confirmed Cases: **241,281,611**
- Recoveries: **218,514,861**
- Deaths: **4,912,261**

Senegal

- Confirmed Cases: **73,865**
- Recoveries: **71,970**
- Deaths: **1,871**

The Gambia

- Confirmed Cases: **9,951**
- Active Cases: **10**
- Recoveries: **9,602**
- Deaths: **339**

II. EPIDEMIOLOGICAL DESCRIPTION

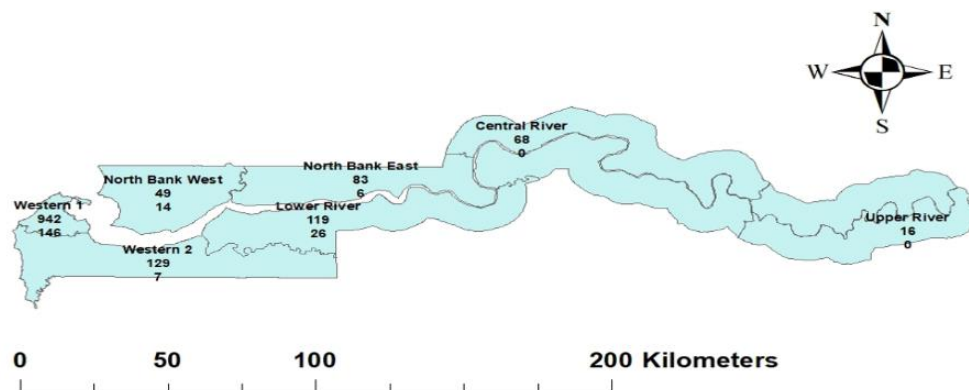


Fig 1: Geographic Distribution of COVID-19 cases per 100,000 Pop. by Region since the start of Pandemic to 31st August 2021 (Number Above) and the month of August 2021 (Number below) in The Gambia

- 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 date of sample collection, respectively (**See Fig. 2 and 3**)

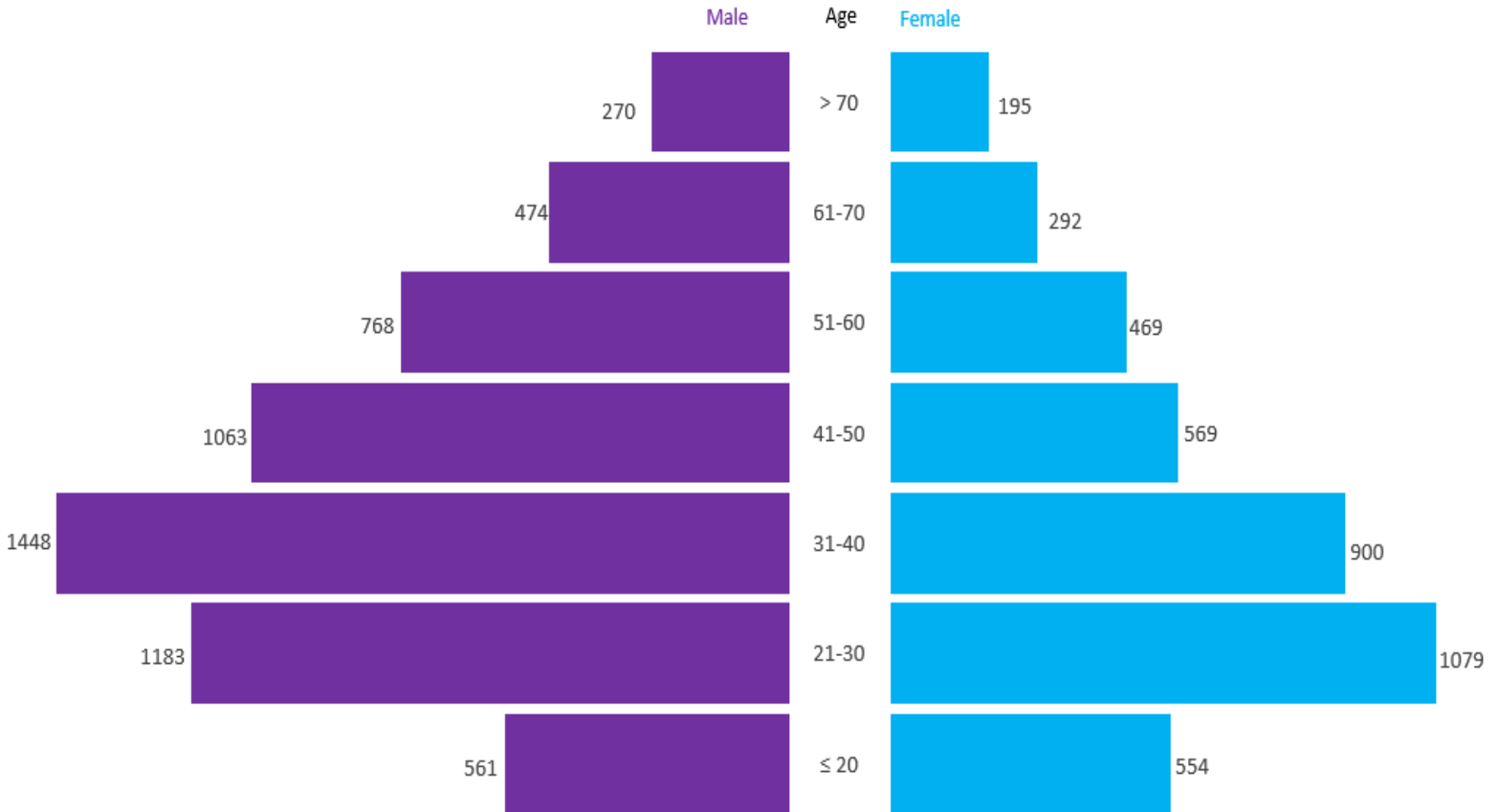


Fig 2: Age-Sex Distribution of Confirmed COVID-19 Cases, The Gambia, 2021

⚠ 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 59% of the confirmed cases are 40 years below (**See Fig. 2**)

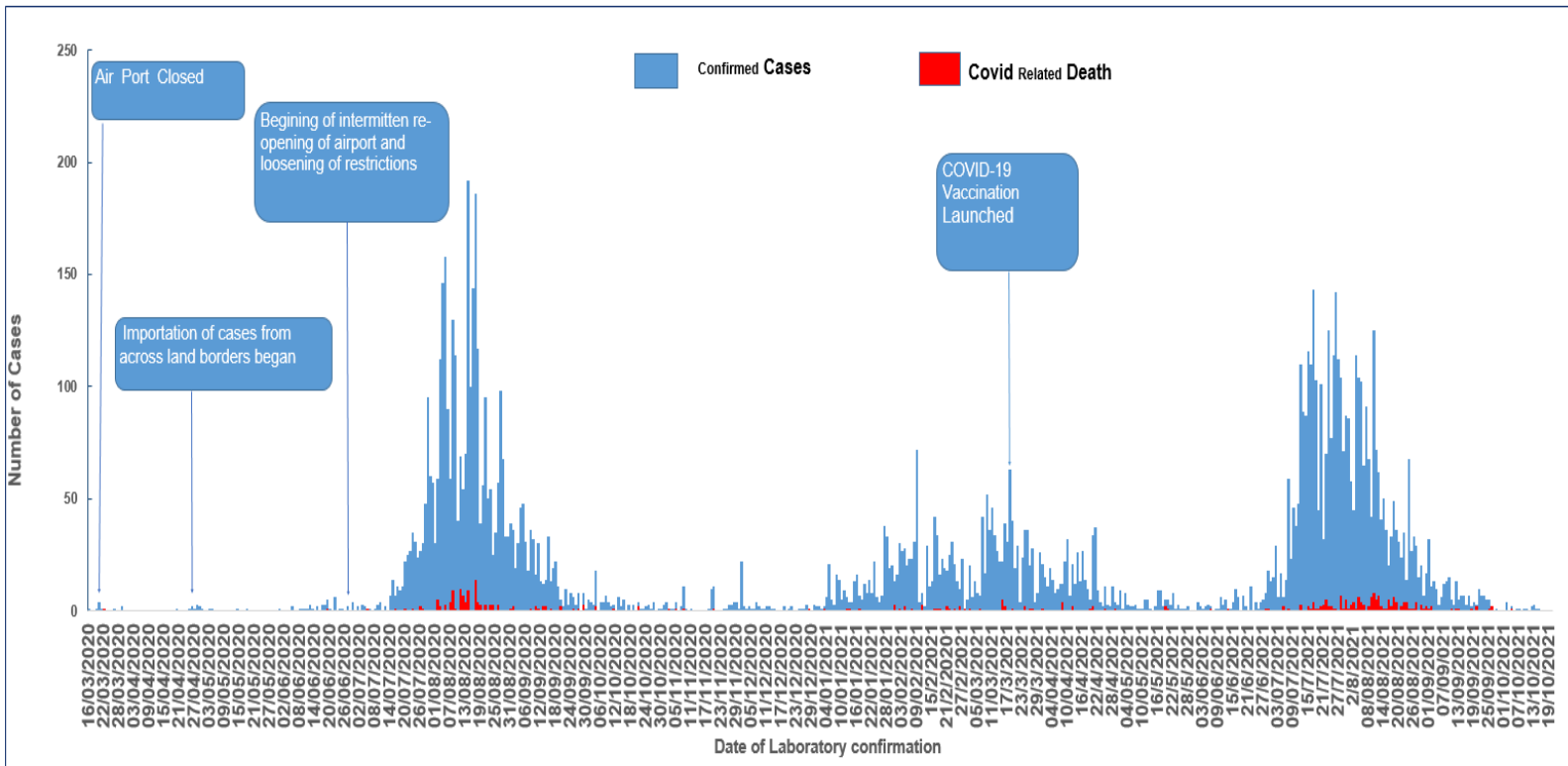


Fig. 3: Epidemic Curve of Laboratory-Confirmed Cases Reported daily, COVID-19 Pandemic, The Gambia, 16th March 2020-10th August 2021*.

- 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.

Status	New	Cumulative
No. of active cases in institutional isolation		5
No. of COVID-19 patients on oxygen support		3
No. of patients recovered and discharged	0	
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 Tests)***	1021(0)	115,826
Positive test result (Repeat Tests)***	2(0)	9,951
Negative test result (Repeat Tests)***	1018(0)	104,619
Inconclusive test result (Repeat Tests)***	1(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>
Surveillance/ Laboratory	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>A total of 1021 new laboratory test results received 57 from MRCG and 964 from NPHL</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ <i>Of these, 1 test result returned inconclusive or indeterminate, 2 new samples 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>Two (2) patients were newly discharged from treatment centres</i> • <i>No new contact traced and monitored</i> • <i>Two (2) COVID-19 patients are currently on oxygen therapy</i>

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

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PARTNERS

