



Situation Report: Confirmed COVID-19	Location: The Gambia
Date of Report: 18th - 19th 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 390th 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%)**
- **Five (5)** new cases were registered (**cumulative cases 9,956**)
- All the cases were reported on the 19th
- The test positivity rate is **1.66 (5/301)**, NPHL – **281 (5 positive)** and MRCG – **20(0 Positives)**
 - **Two (2)** cases are currently on **oxygen therapy**
- **Only 1** case was discharged after at least **10** days from the day they tested positive but evaded institutional isolation and none from treatment centres
- **No** new contacts traced and monitored
- As of **19th October 2021**, the following number of people have been vaccinated with:
 - **Janssen & Janssen:**
 - Only 1 dose: **177,336**
 - **Sinopharm:**
 - Dose 1: **4,457**
 - Dose 2: **3,246**
 - **AstraZeneca:**
 - Dose 1: **33,087**
 - Dose 2: **23,164**
- **TARGET POPULATION**
 - Proportion of target population fully vaccinated (2 doses of AZ/Sinopharm OR 1 dose of J&J): **13.0%**
 - Proportion of target population that received at least one Covid-19 vaccine dose (AZ OR J&J OR Sinopharm): **13.7%**
- **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): **8.4%**
 - Proportion of total population that received at least one COVID-19 vaccine dose (AZ or J&J or Sinopharm): **8.8%**
- Since the start of RDT for COVID-19 at The Banjul International Airport, **24,029** Rapid Diagnostic Tests (RDT) have been conducted with **8 positives** who were confirmed and treated

COVID-19 SITUATION IN NUMBERS

Globally

Confirmed Cases: **243,192,099**

Recoveries: **220,371,684**

Deaths: **4,943,461**

Senegal

Confirmed Cases: **73,876**

Recoveries: **71,985**

Deaths: **1,876**

The Gambia

Confirmed Cases: **9,956**

Active Cases: **16**

Recoveries: **9,601**

Deaths: **339**

II. EPIDEMIOLOGICAL DESCRIPTION

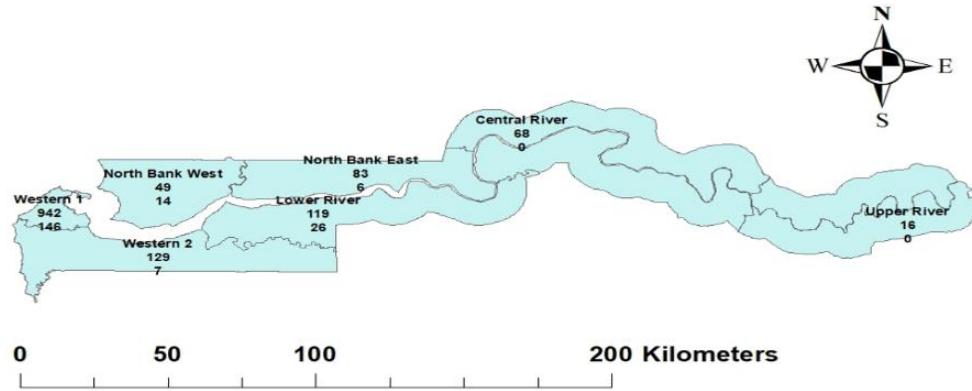


Fig 1:Geographic Distribution of COVID-19 cases per 100,000 Pop. by Region since the start of Pandemic to 31st August 2021(Number Above) and the month of August 2021(Number below) in The Gamiba

- 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**)

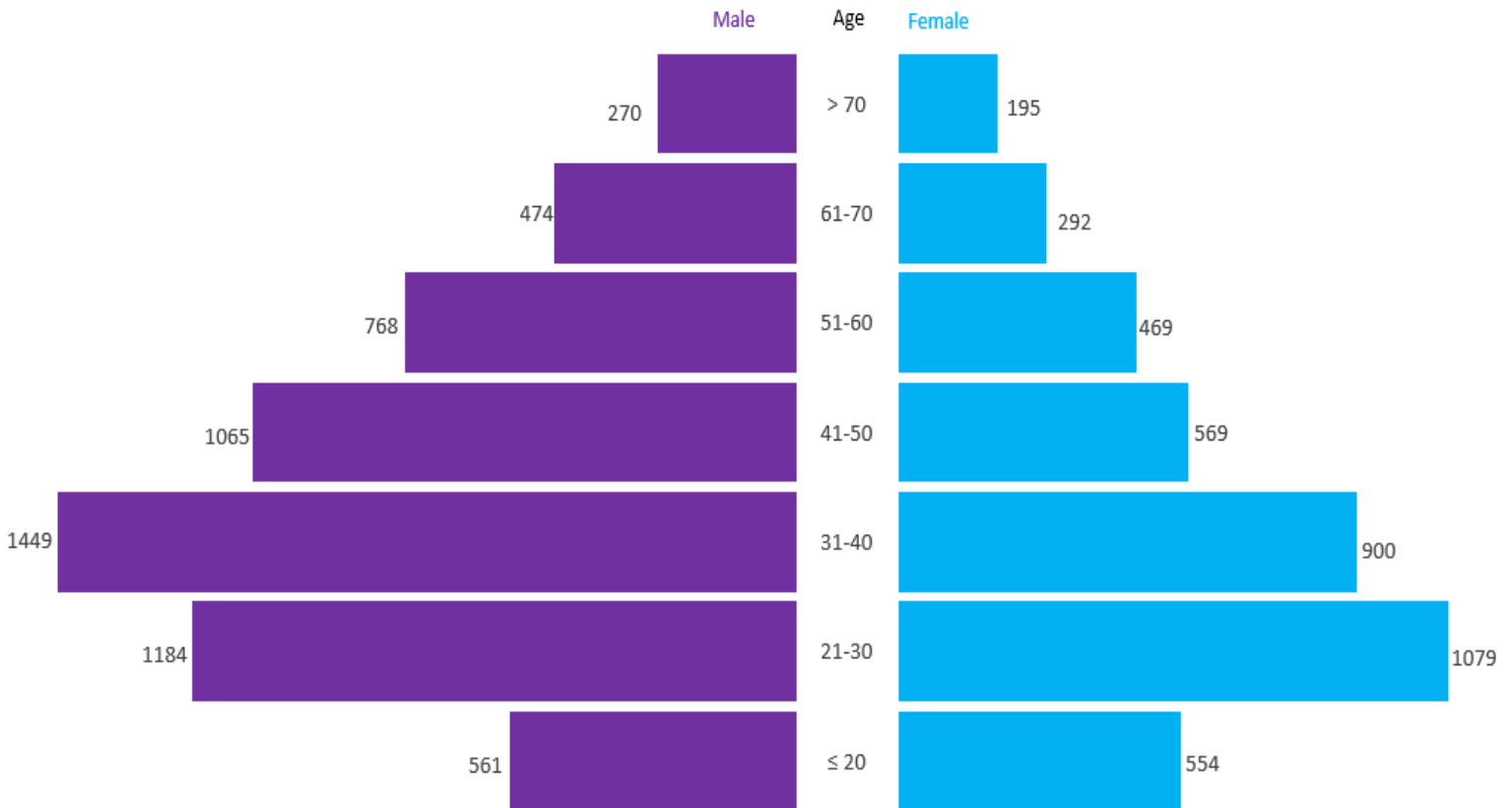


Fig 2: Age-Sex Distribution of Confirmed COVID-19 Cases, The Gambia, 2021

* 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)

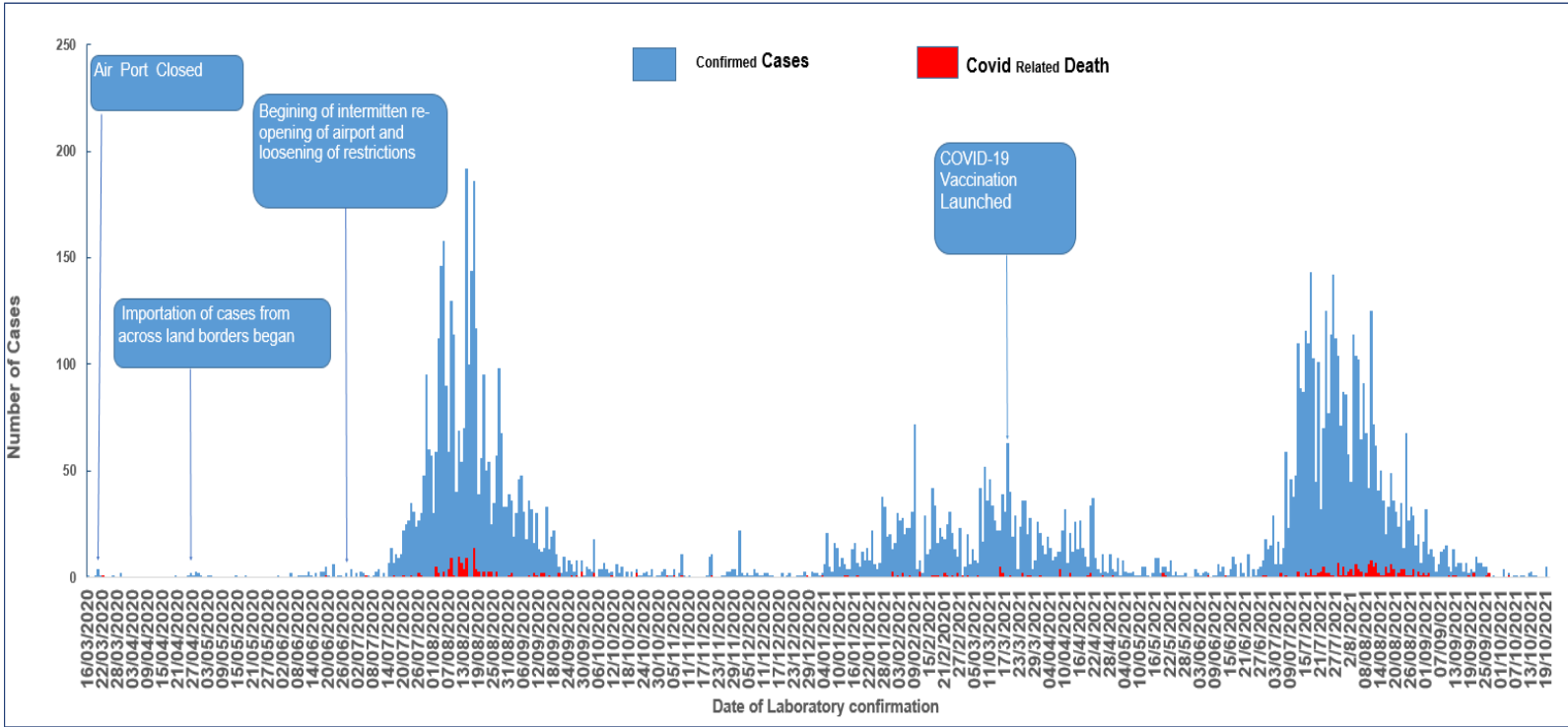


Fig. 3: Epidemic Curve of Laboratory-Confirmed Cases Reported daily, COVID-19 Pandemic, The Gambia, 16th March 2020-10th August 2021*.

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		6
No. of COVID-19 patients on oxygen support		2
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)***	301(0)	116,127
Positive test result (Repeat Tests)***	5(0)	9,956
Negative test result (Repeat Tests)***	296(0)	104,915
Inconclusive test result (Repeat Tests)***	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 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 301 new laboratory test results received 20 from MRCG and 281 from NPHL <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Of these, No test result returned inconclusive or indeterminate, 5 new samples tested positive
Case Management / Psychosocial Support & Research / IPC	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> No new COVID-19 related death recorded NO patient was newly discharged from treatment centres No new contact traced and monitored Two (2) COVID-19 patients are currently on oxygen therapy

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

