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|---|--|--|--|
| Situation Report: Confirmed COVID-19                            |  | Location: The Gambia   |  |
| Date of Report: 3 <sup>rd</sup> - 5 <sup>th</sup> December 2021 |  | Investigation Start Date: 17 <sup>th</sup> March 2020 as of 18hrs. |  |
| Prepared by:  | Epidemiology and Disease Control Unit, MoH, The Gambia |  |  |

## I. HIGHLIGHTS

This is the **405<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 **342 (Crude Case-Fatality Ratio, 3.4%)**
- **No** new cases were registered (**Cumulative cases 9,998**)
- The test positivity rate is **0.0% (0/675)**, NPHL – **635(0 positives)** and MRCG – **40 (0 Positives)**
  - **One (1)** case is currently on **oxygen therapy**
- **No** case was discharged after at least **10** days from the day they tested positive but evaded institutional isolation from COVID-19 treatment centres

### COVID-19 SITUATION IN NUMBERS

#### Globally

- 👤 Confirmed Cases: **267,412,424**
- 👤 Recoveries: **240,785,876**
- ➡ Deaths: **5,286,860**

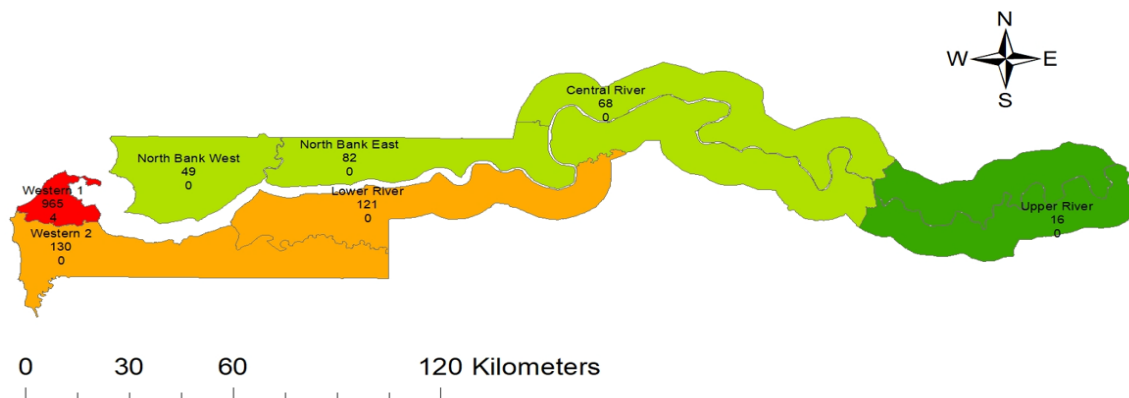
#### Senegal

- 👤 Confirmed Cases: **74,036**
- 👤 Recoveries: **72,112**
- ➡ Deaths: **1,886**

#### The Gambia

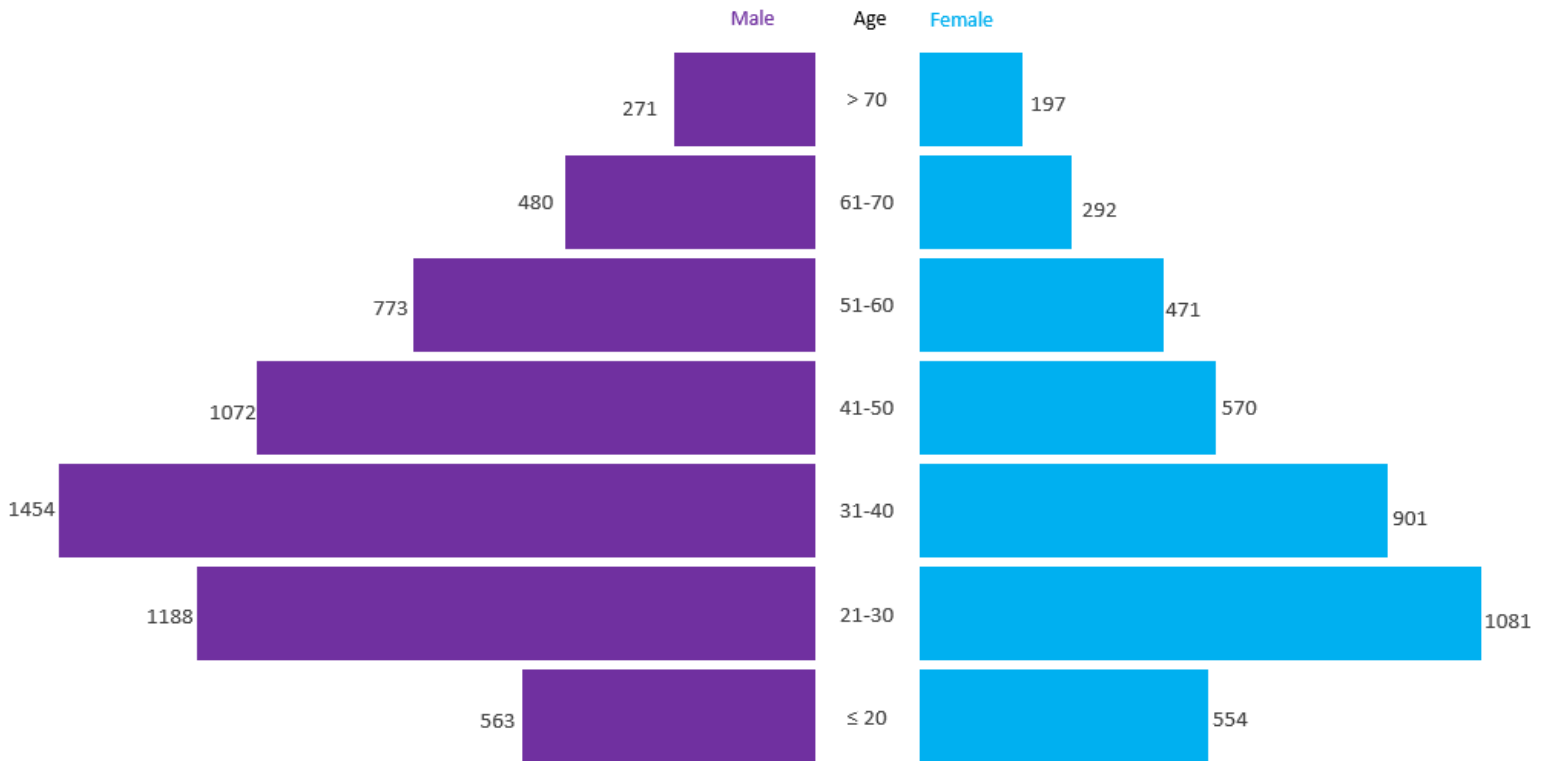
- 👤 Confirmed Cases: **9,998**
- 👤 Active Cases: **15**
- 👤 Recoveries: **9,641**
- ➡ Deaths: **342**

## II. EPIDEMIOLOGICAL DESCRIPTION



**Fig 1: Geographic Distribution of COVID-19 Cases per 100,000 Pop. by Region since the start of the Pandemic to 31<sup>st</sup> October (Number Above) and October only (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**)

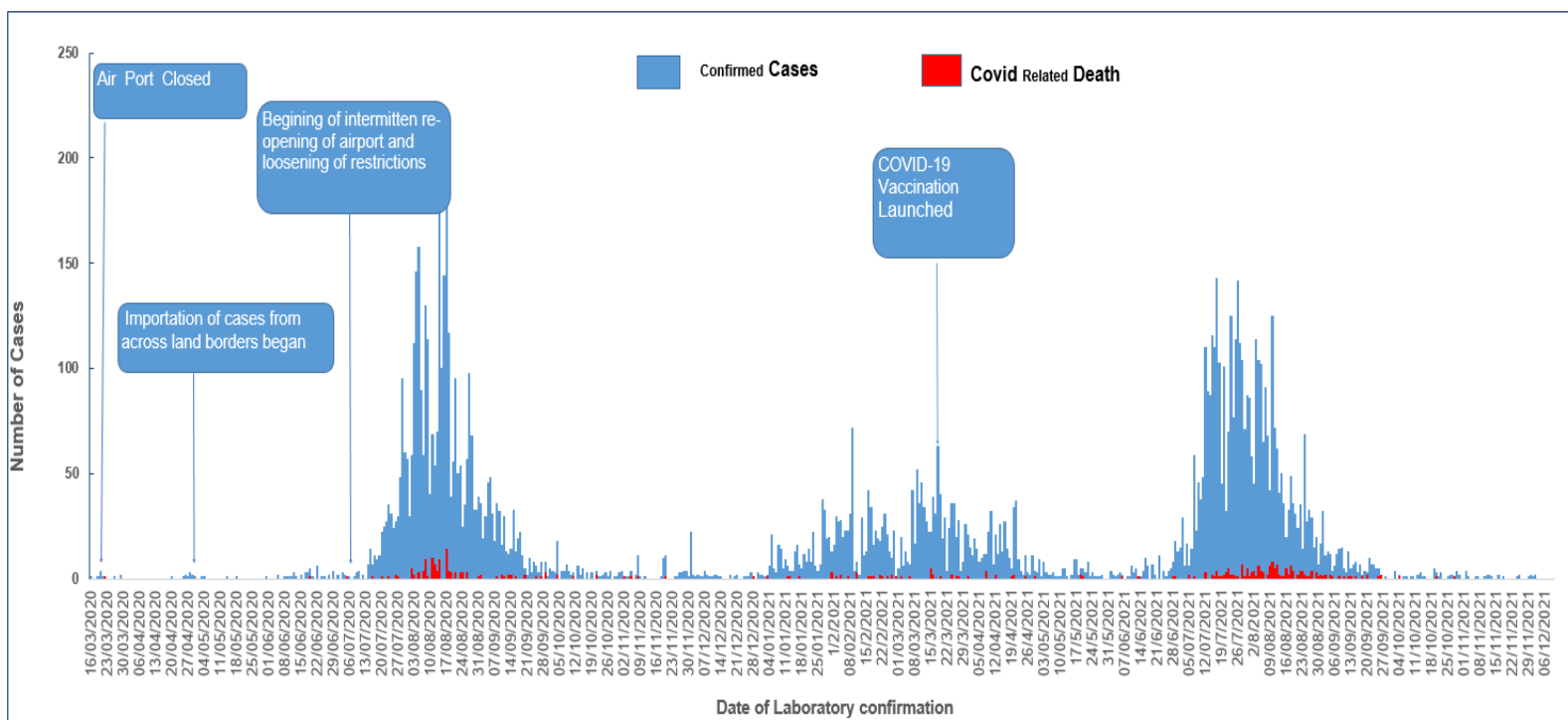


**Fig 2: Age-Sex Distribution of Confirmed COVID-19 Cases, The Gambia, 2021**

✧ 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, 16<sup>th</sup> March 2020-5<sup>th</sup> December 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

**Table 1: Summary of New and Cumulative Public Health Response Outputs, COVID-19 Pandemic, The Gambia, 2021**

| Status  | New    | Cumulative |
|---|--------|------------|
| No. of active cases in institutional isolation  |        | 2          |
| No. of COVID-19 patients on oxygen support  |        | 1          |
| 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)***   | 675(0) | 126,646    |
| Positive test result (Repeat Tests)***  | 0(0)   | 9,998      |
| Negative test result (Repeat Tests)***  | 675(0) | 115,391    |
| Inconclusive test result (Repeat Tests)***  | 0(0)   |            |

\* 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

**Table 3: Major response activities undertaken newly, COVID-19 Outbreak, The Gambia, 2021**

### 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>675</b> new laboratory test results received <b>635</b> from <b>NPHL</b> and <b>40</b> from <b>MRCG</b></i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ <i>Of these, <b>no</b> test result returned inconclusive or indeterminate, <b>0</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> patient was newly discharged from treatment centres</i></li> <li>• <i><b>No</b> new contacts traced and monitored</i></li> <li>• <i><b>One (1)</b> COVID-19 patient is currently on <b>oxygen therapy</b></i></li> </ul>            |

### IV. GAPS/CHALLENGES:

- CBS activities not replicated in all regions 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.
- Strengthen community-based surveillance in all regions to increase awareness and testing rates
- 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
- 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**

