



<b>Situation Report: Confirmed COVID-19</b>		<b>Location: The Gambia</b>	
<b>Date of Report: 14<sup>th</sup> - 15<sup>th</sup> December 2021</b>		<b>Investigation Start Date: 17<sup>th</sup> March 2020 as of 18hrs.</b>	
<b>Prepared by:</b>	<b>Epidemiology and Disease Control Unit, MoH, The Gambia</b>		

## I. HIGHLIGHTS

This is the **409<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 10,045**)
- The test positivity rate is **0.99% (6/607)**, NPHL –**560 (4 positives)** and MRCG – **47 (2 Positives)**
  - No 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 and zero (0) from COVID-19 treatment centres
- As of **14<sup>th</sup> December 2021**, the following number of people have been vaccinated with:
  - **Johnson & Johnson:**
    - Only 1 dose: 198,849
  - **Sinopharm:**
    - Dose 1: 4,468
    - Dose 2: 3,315
  - **AstraZeneca:**
    - Dose 1: 40,661
    - Dose 2: 27,880,
- **TARGET POPULATION** (based on microplanning estimates - **1,564,214**)
  - Proportion of target population fully vaccinated (2 doses of AZ/Sinopharm or 1 dose of J&J): **14.7%**
  - Proportion of target population that received at least one Covid-19 vaccine dose (AZ or J&J or Sinopharm): **15.6%**
- **TOTAL POPULATION** (Based on final MoH population projections for 2021 - **2,438,899**)
  - Proportion of total population fully vaccinated (2 doses of AZ/Sinopharm OR 1 dose of J&J): **9.4%**
  - Proportion of total population that received at least one COVID-19 vaccine dose (AZ or J&J or Sinopharm): **10.0%**

## COVID-19 SITUATION IN NUMBERS

### Globally

- Confirmed Cases: **272,845,615**
- Recoveries: **245,120,593**
- Deaths: **5,349,796**

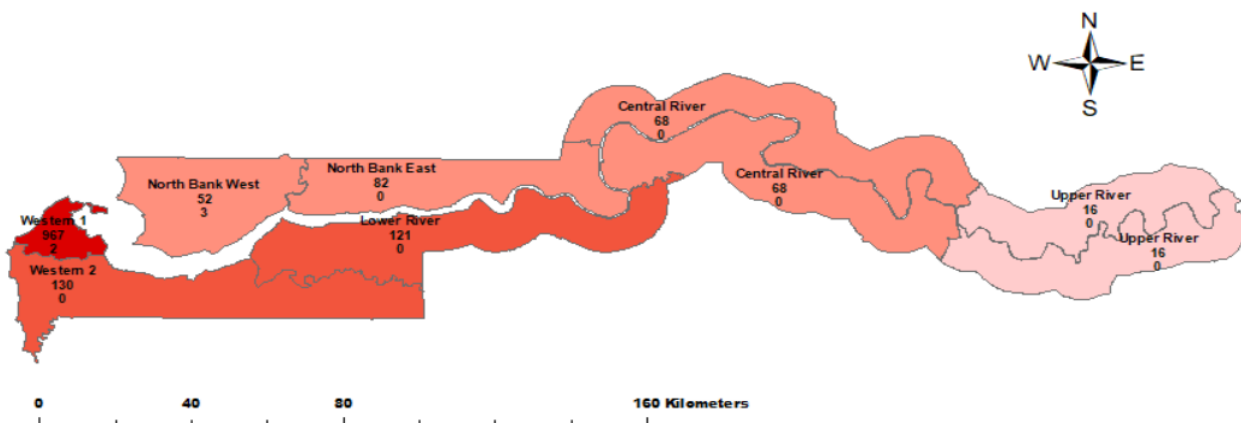
### Senegal

- Confirmed Cases: **74,115**
- Recoveries: **72,185**
- Deaths: **1,886**

### The Gambia

- Confirmed Cases: **10,051**
- Active Cases: **62**
- Recoveries: **9,647**
- 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 30<sup>th</sup> November (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**)

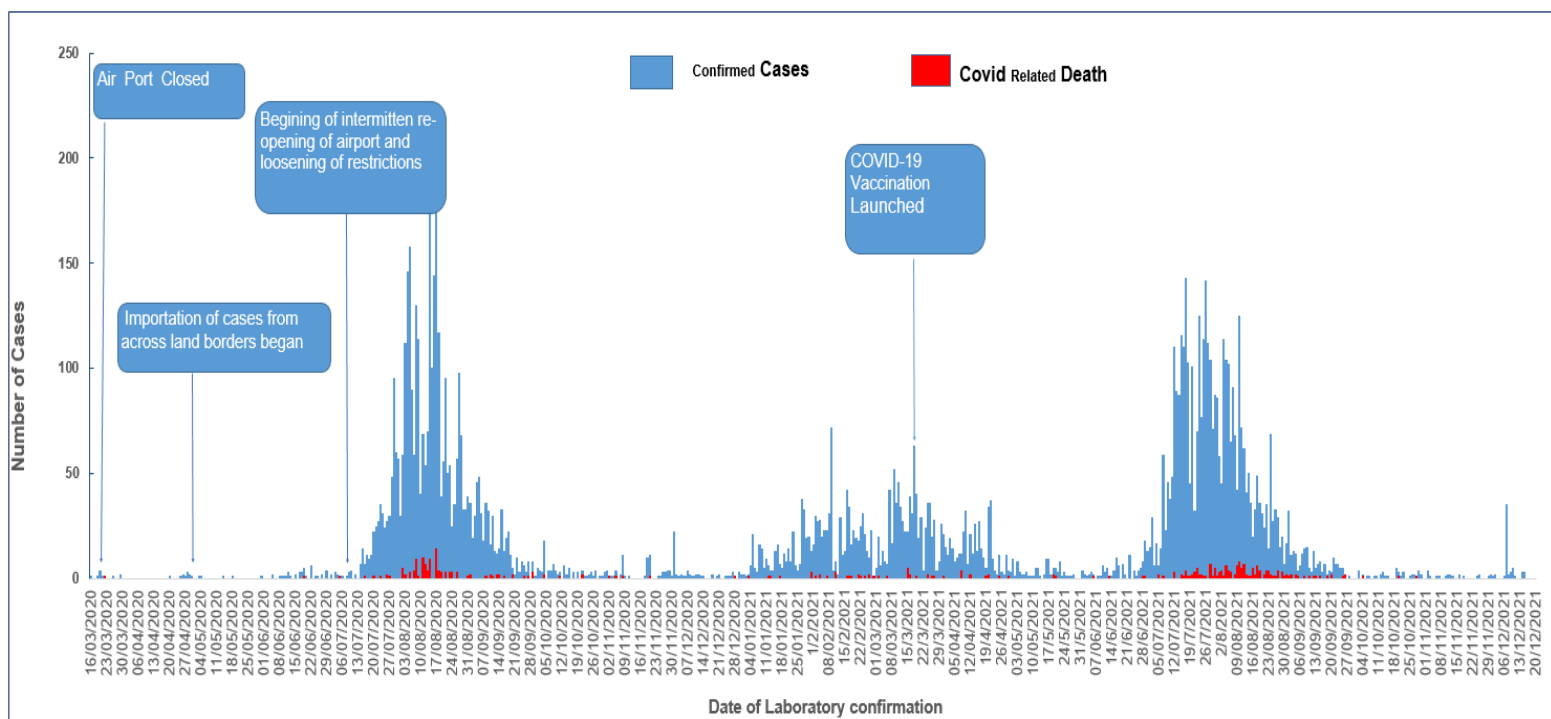


**Fig 2: Age-Sex Distribution of Confirmed COVID-19 Cases, The Gambia, 2021**

✧ 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 2020-12<sup>th</sup> December 2021<sup>a</sup>.**

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		4
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)***	607(0)	129,689
Positive test result (Repeat Tests)***	6(0)	10,051
Negative test result (Repeat Tests)***	601(0)	118,381
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 2: Summary by region (Total doses administered from the beginning of COVID-19 vaccination in The Gambia)

Region	08-Dec	09-Dec	10-Dec	11-Dec	12-Dec	13-Dec	14-Dec	Total
CRR	0	403	0	387	584	0	217	1,591
LRR	0	31	0	96	0	38	0	165
NBER	134	68	0	0	59	0	0	261
NBWR	0	9	0	0	0	0	0	9
WR1	97	96	28	3	20	0	58	302
WR2	0	200	0	0	0	0	59	259
<b>Total</b>	<b>231</b>	<b>807</b>	<b>28</b>	<b>486</b>	<b>663</b>	<b>38</b>	<b>334</b>	<b>2,587</b>

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>Coordination meetings held at both central and regional levels</li> </ul>
Surveillance/ Laboratory	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>A total of <b>607</b> new laboratory test results received <b>560</b> from <b>NPHL</b> and <b>47</b> from <b>MRCG</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Of these, <b>no</b> test result returned inconclusive or indeterminate, <b>6</b> new samples tested positive</li> </ul> </li> </ul>
Case Management / Psychosocial Support & Research / IPC	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><b>No</b> new COVID-19 related death recorded</li> <li><b>No</b> patient was newly discharged from treatment centres</li> <li><b>No</b> new contacts traced and monitored</li> <li><b>No</b> COVID-19 patient is currently on <b>oxygen therapy</b></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
- Strengthen the capacity of the National Public Health Laboratories to conduct sequencing to identify new variants from positive samples as the COVID-19 virus evolves.

**For comments or questions, please contact:**  
**Amadou Woury Jallow**  
 Public Health Emergency Operations Center  
 Epidemiology and Disease Control Unit, The Gambia  
**Email:** [amadou.jallow@gmail.com](mailto:amadou.jallow@gmail.com) **Phone:** +220 2639690/9921415//3921415

**PARTNERS**

