



<b>Situation Report: Confirmed COVID-19</b>	<b>Location: The Gambia</b>
<b>Date of Report: 26<sup>th</sup> October 2021</b>	<b>Investigation Start Date: 17<sup>th</sup> March 2020 as of 18hrs.</b>
<b>Prepared by: Epidemiology and Disease Control Unit, MoH, The Gambia</b>	

## I. HIGHLIGHTS

This is the 394<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 **340** (Crude Case-Fatality Ratio, 3.4%)
- Two (2) new case was registered (cumulative cases 9,965)
- The test positivity rate is **1.35%** (2/148), NPHL –130 (0 positive) and MRCG – 18 (2 Positives)
  - **Two (2)** cases are currently on **oxygen therapy**
- **One (1)** case was discharged after at least **10** days from the day they tested positive but evaded institutional isolation while none from Covid-19 treatment centres
- As of **26<sup>th</sup> October 2021**, the following number of people have been vaccinated with:
  - **Janssen & Janssen:**
    - Only 1 dose: 188,263
  - **Sinopharm:**
    - Dose 1: 4,457
    - Dose 2: 3,273
  - **AstraZeneca:**
    - Dose 1: 35,961
    - Dose 2: 24,820
- **TARGET POPULATION**
  - Proportion of target population fully vaccinated (2 doses of AZ/Sinopharm OR 1 dose of J&J): **13.8%**
  - Proportion of target population that received at least one Covid-19 vaccine dose (AZ OR J&J OR Sinopharm): **14.7%**
- **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): **8.9%**
  - Proportion of total population that received at least one Covid-19 vaccine dose (AZ OR J&J OR Sinopharm): **9.4%**

### COVID-19 SITUATION IN NUMBERS

#### Globally

- Confirmed Cases: **245,721,989**
- Recoveries: **222,689,551**
- Deaths: **4,986,738**

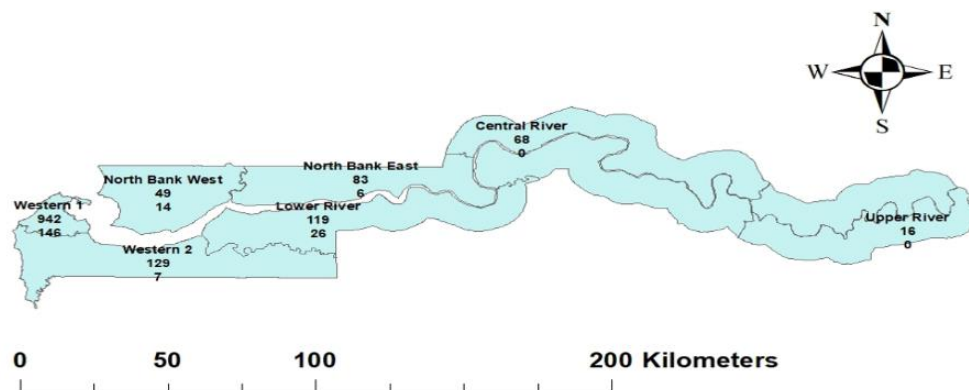
#### Senegal

- Confirmed Cases: **73,902**
- Recoveries: **71,998**
- Deaths: **1,878**

#### The Gambia

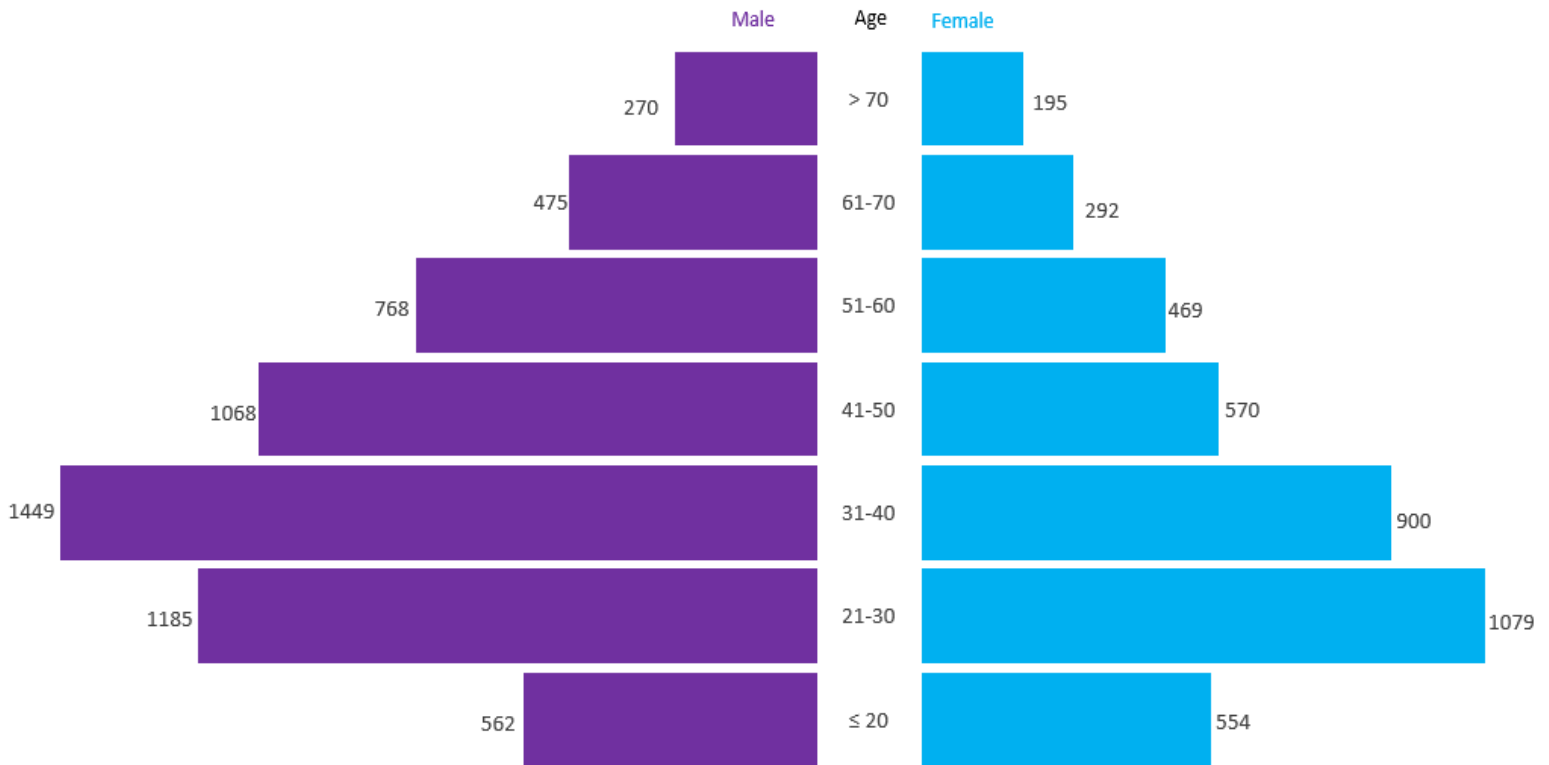
- Confirmed Cases: **9,965**
- Active Cases: **14**
- Recoveries: **9,611**
- Deaths: **340**

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

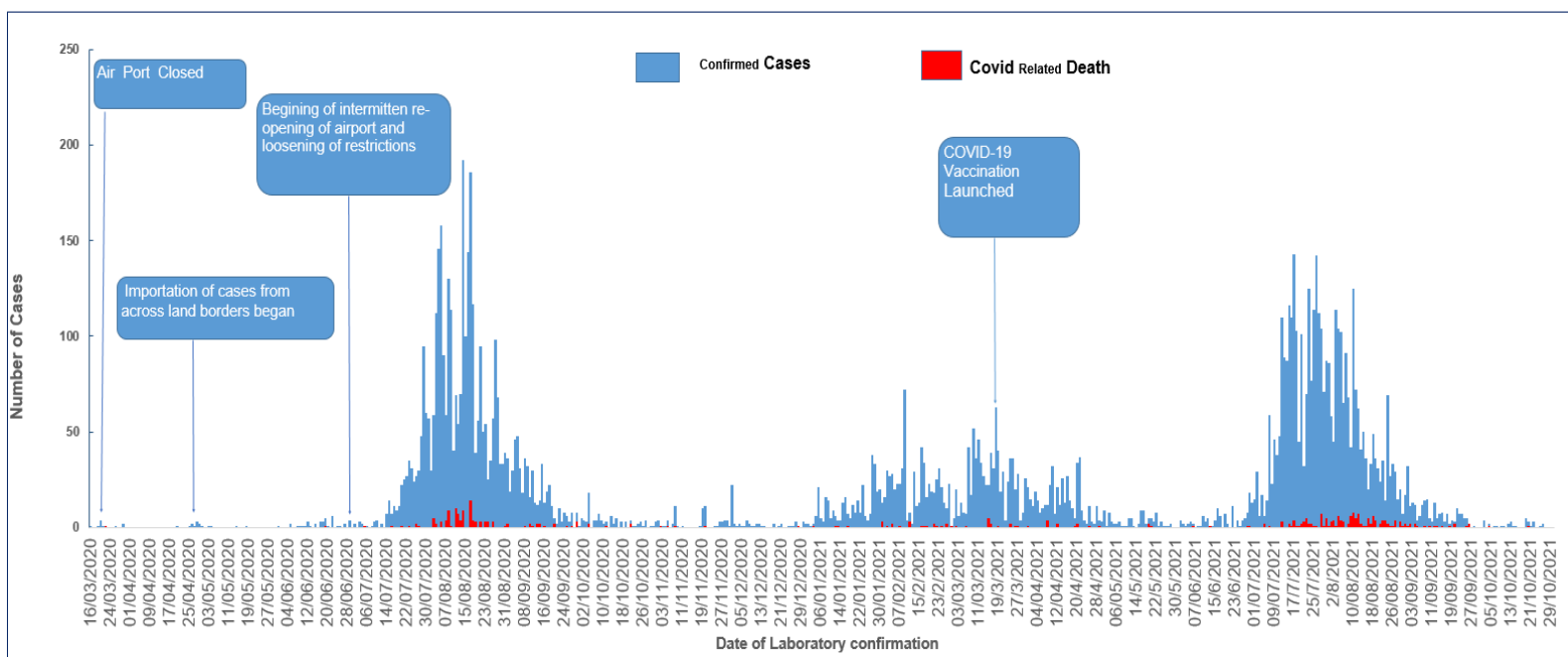


**Fig 2: Age-Sex Distribution of Confirmed COVID-19 Cases, The Gambia, 2021**

\* 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 2020-26<sup>th</sup> October 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		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)***	148(0)	117,604
Positive test result (Repeat Tests)***	2(0)	9,965
Negative test result (Repeat Tests)***	146(0)	106,382
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 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>148</b> new laboratory test results received <b>18</b> from <b>MRCG</b> and <b>130</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>2</b> new samples tested positive</i></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 contact traced and monitored</li> <li>• <b>Two (2)</b> COVID-19 patients are currently on <b>oxygen therapy</b></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 by everyone

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

