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| Situation Report: Confirmed COVID-19 | | Location: The Gambia | |
| Date of Report: 1 st -2 nd April 2022 | | Investigation Start Date: 17 th March 2020 as of 18hrs. | |
| Prepared by: | Epidemiology and Disease Control Unit, MoH, The Gambia | | |

I. HIGHLIGHTS

This is the **432nd** national situation reports 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 **365 (Crude Case-Fatality Ratio, 3.0%)**
- A total of **01** new case was registered (**Cumulative cases 11,990**)
- The test positivity rate is **0.2% (1/487)**, **NPHL –455(1 positives)** and **MRCG – 32 (0 Positives)**
 - No case is currently on oxygen therapy
 - No case was discharged after at least **10** days monitoring from the day they tested positive but evaded institutional isolation and none from COVID-19 treatment centre

COVID-19 SITUATION IN NUMBERS

Globally

- Confirmed Cases: 491,542,797
- Recoveries: 426,340,513
- Deaths: 6,175,647

Senegal

- Confirmed Cases: 85,919
- Recoveries: 83,914
- Deaths: 1,965

The Gambia

- Confirmed Cases: 11,990
- Active Cases: 04
- Recoveries: 11,621
- Deaths: 365

II. EPIDEMIOLOGICAL DESCRIPTION

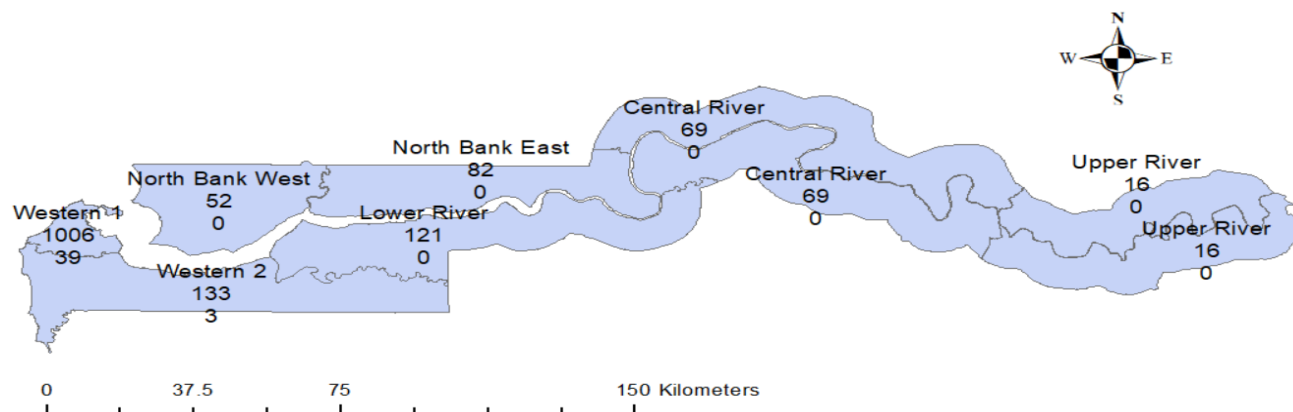
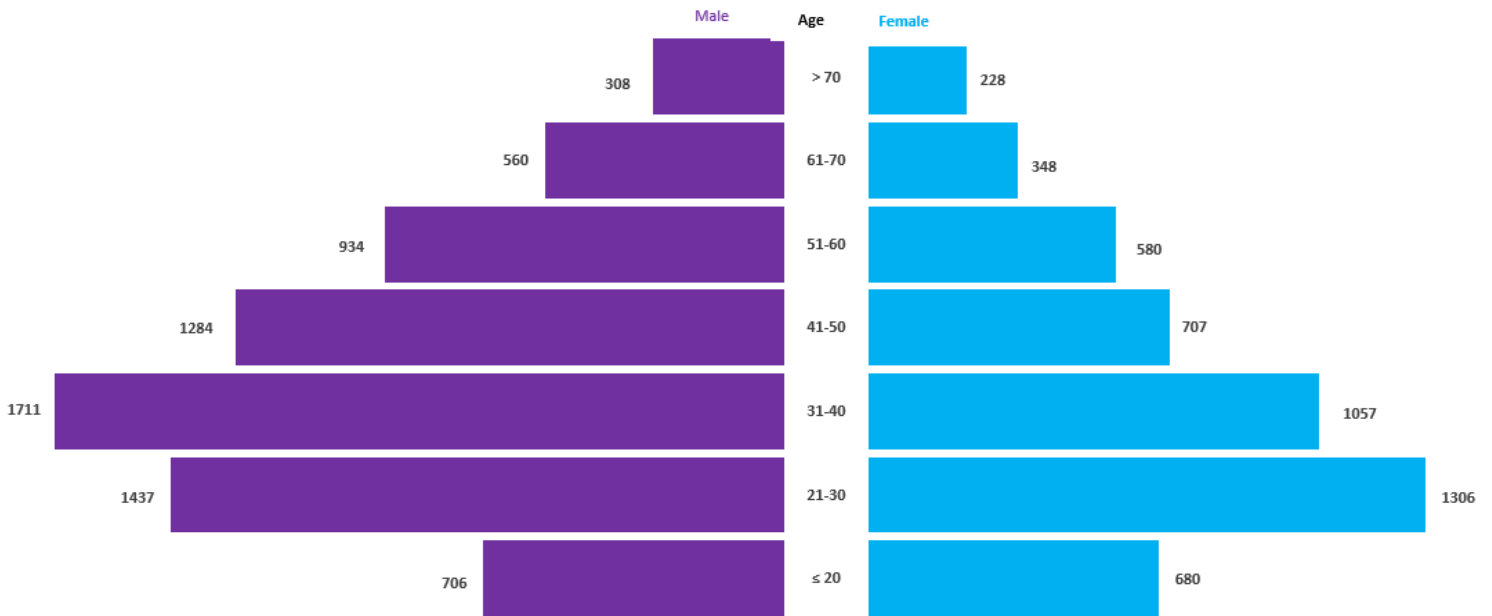


Fig1: Geographic Distribution of COVID-19 Cases per 100,000 Pop. by Region Since the start of the Pandemic to 31st December (Number Above) and December only (Number below) 2021 in The Gambia

- 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, 2022

* 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 58% of the confirmed cases are 40 years below (**See Fig. 2**)

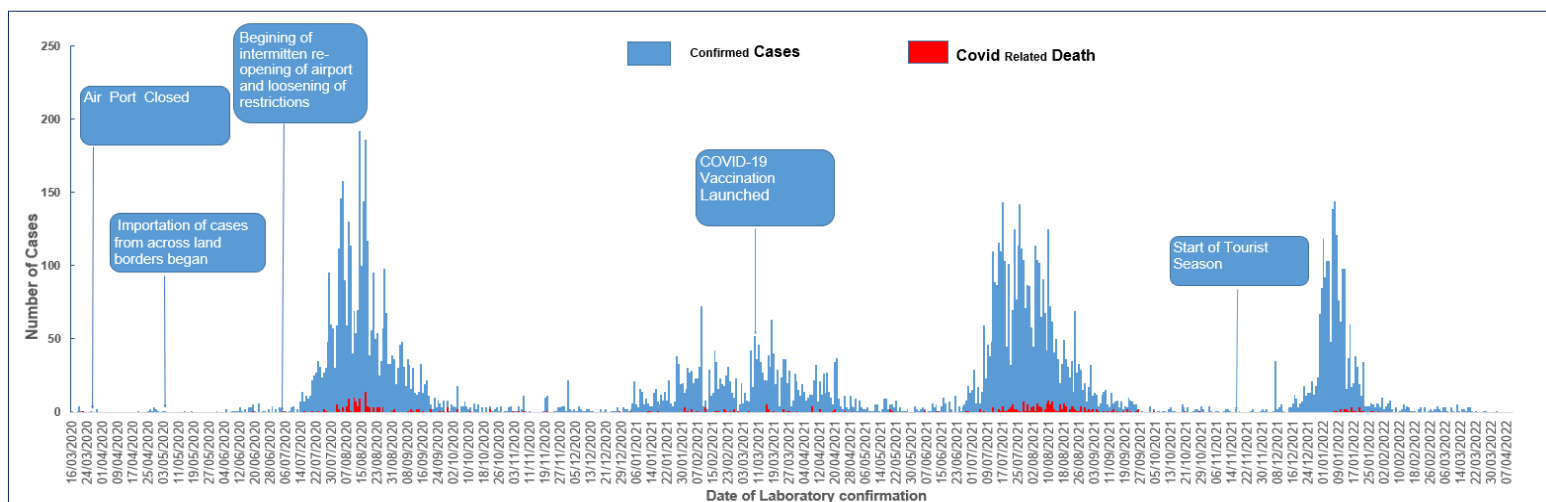


Fig. 3: Epidemic Curve of Laboratory-Confirmed Cases Reported daily, COVID-19 Pandemic, The Gambia, 16th March 2020-2nd April 2022*.

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, 2022

| Status | New | Cumulative |
|---|--------|------------|
| No. of active cases in institutional isolation | | 0 |
| No. of COVID-19 patients on oxygen support | | 0 |
| 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 | 17,129 |
| No. of Contacts lost to follow-up | 0 | 58 |
| Total Tests conducted (Repeat Tests)*** | 487(0) | 160,440 |
| Positive test result (Repeat Tests)*** | 01(0) | 11,990 |
| Negative test result (Repeat Tests)*** | 486(0) | 147,043 |
| Inconclusive test result (Repeat Tests)*** | 00(0) | |

* 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

Table 3: Major response activities undertaken newly, COVID-19 Outbreak, The Gambia, 2022

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 487 new laboratory test results received 455 from NPHL and 32 from MRCG</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ <i>Of these, no test result returned inconclusive or indeterminate, 1 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>No patient was newly discharged from treatment centres</i> • <i>No new contacts traced and monitored</i> • <i>No COVID-19 patient is currently on oxygen therapy</i> |

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.

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PARTNERS

