



Situation Report: Confirmed COVID-19	Location: The Gambia
Date of Report: 11th - 13th June 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 **329th** national situation report since the confirmation of the first case of the coronavirus disease (COVID-19) in The Gambia, on the **16th March 2020**

- One (1) new COVID-19-related death was registered, bringing the total number of deaths since **March 2020** to **181**
 - The decedent was a **73-year-old** man with a comorbidity of sarcoidosis admitted in one of COVID-19 treatment centres
- Eight (**8**) new cases were registered taking the total number of COVID-19 cases ever confirmed in the country to **6,024**
- Of the new cases, **3, 5 and 0** cases were reported on the **11th, 12th and 13th** respectively
- Fifty percent(50%) of the cases tested for reasons of travelling while 40% were detected through routine respiratory disease surveillance systems
- The cases are composed of 4 males and 4 females with ages ranging from 23-70years
- A total of **801** new laboratory test results were received (**40** from MRCG and **761** from NPHL)
 - Of these, 8 tested positive representing a **1.0%** test positivity rate
- Two (**2**) new COVID-19 patients were newly discharged from treatment centres, while **3** got discharged at least **10** days from the day they tested positive but evaded institutional isolation
- One (1)** COVID-19 patient is currently on oxygen therapy
Twenty four (**24**) new Contacts have been traced and are being monitored
- Currently there are two(2) people in hotel quarantine, **16** active cases and a crude case-fatality ratio of **3%**
- As of **10th June**, **30,688** and **9,861** people received the **1st and 2nd** doses of **AstraZeneca** vaccine respectively, bringing the total number ever vaccinated to **40,549**
- So far **6,348 (337 New)** Rapid diagnostic tests were conducted at the Airport for travelers as of **10th June 2021**.
 - Of these, **only 2** tested positive for both RDT and PCR. These were treated and discharged.
- As of **20th May 2021**, **82** new clients received Psychological First Aid (PFA) Services provided by MoH, Department of Social Welfare (DSW) and Paradise Foundation, thus bringing the number of attended to **1,829** since the start of the COVID-19 pandemic.

COVID-19 SITUATION IN NUMBERS

Globally

Confirmed Cases: **177,212,832**

Recoveries: **161,617,742**

Deaths: **3,832,608**

Senegal

Confirmed Cases: **42,050**

Recoveries: **40,637**

Deaths: **1,156**

The Gambia

Confirmed Cases: **6,024**

Recoveries: **5,827**

Deaths: **181**

II. EPIDEMIOLOGICAL DESCRIPTION

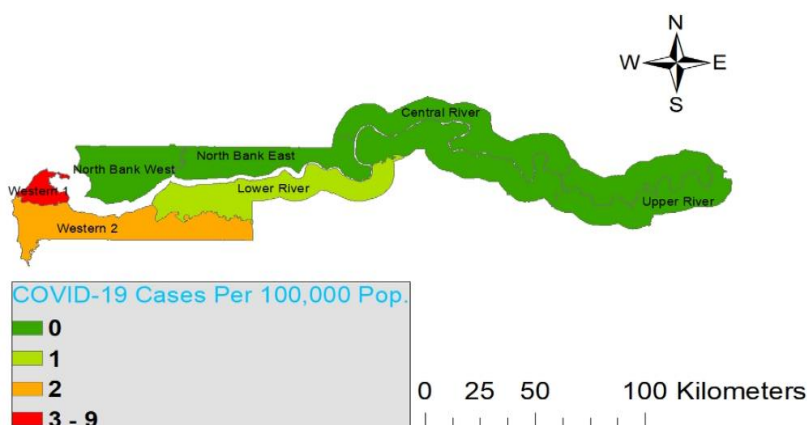


Fig 1: Geographic Distribution of Recent COVID-19 Cases Per 100,000 Pop. by Regions 15th April-14th May 2021

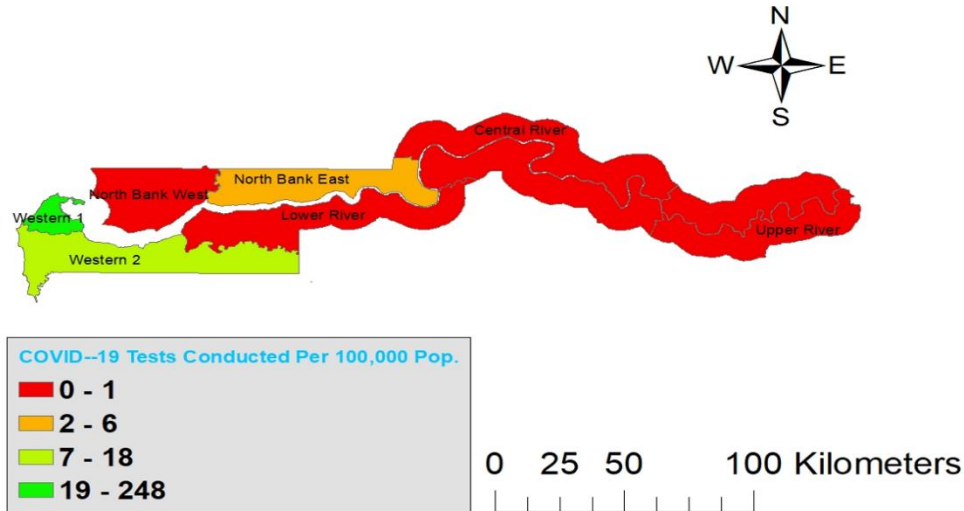


Fig 2: Geographic Distribution of Recent COVID-19 Tests Per 100,000 Pop. by Regions 15th April-14th May 2021

- Western 1 Health Region has a disproportionately higher number of cases than all the health regions (**See Fig. 1**)
- Despite being far-flung from current testing sites, North Bank East has sent in more samples per 100,000 population than all other regions in the hinterland, over the last 30 days (**See Fig. 2**)

Figures 3 and 4 are the age-sex distribution and the Epi-curve of confirmed cases by reported date, respectively age-sex distribution and the Epi-curve of confirmed cases by reported date, respectively.

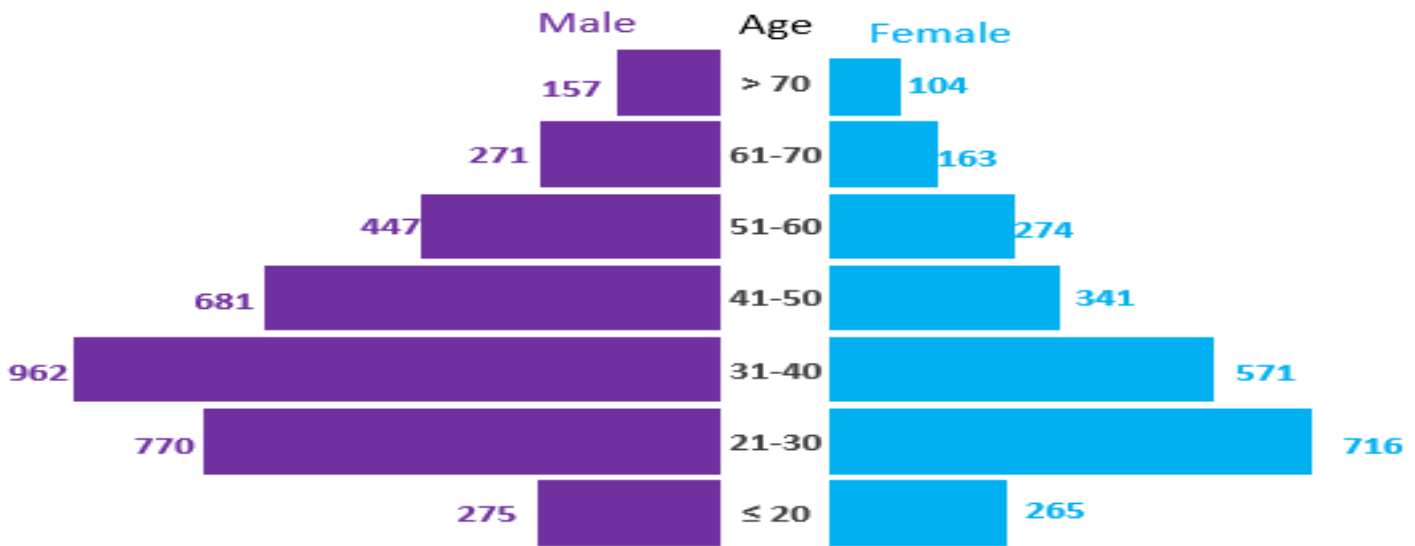


Fig 3: Age-Sex Distribution of Confirmed COVID-19 Cases, The Gambia, 2021

^{*} This excludes the 27 confirmed cases whose demographic information are not yet available

About 59% of the confirmed cases are males (**See Fig. 3**)

About 62% of the confirmed cases are below age 40 (**See Fig. 3**)

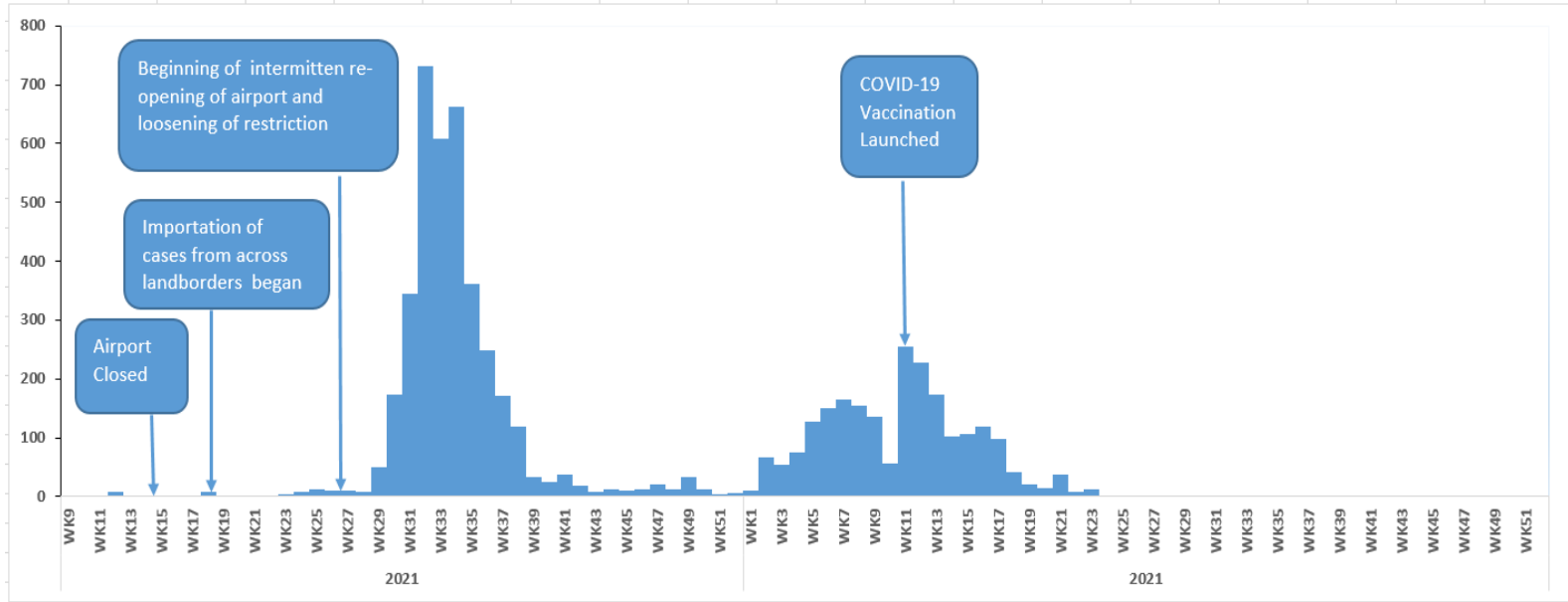


Fig. 4: Epidemic Curve of Laboratory-Confirmed Cases Reported Weekly, COVID-19 Pandemic, The Gambia, 2021^{*}.

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. 4**)

Status	New	Cumulative
No. of active cases in institutional isolation		10
No. of COVID-19 patients on oxygen support		1
No. of patients recovered and discharged	4	
In Hotel Quarantine	0	7
Completed Hotel Quarantine	0	5,231
Completed follow-up (asymptomatic people with travel history to affected countries) *	0	310
No. of Contact(s) Identified**	24	
No. of Contacts being monitored	35	
No. of Contacts who completed 14-day follow-up	29	16,826
No. of Contacts lost to follow-up	0	51
Total Tests conducted (Repeat Test (s))***	801(0)***	74,020
Positive test result (Repeat Test (s))	8(0)	6,024
Negative test result (Repeat Test (s))***	793(0)***	66,936
Inconclusive test result (Repeat Test (s))***	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 Gambian philanthropist and businessman have helped in improving the internet problem at National Public Health Laboratories (NPHL)
Surveillance/ Laboratory	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> A total of 801 new laboratory test results received 40 from MRCG and 761 from NPHL) Of these, no test results returned inconclusive or indeterminate, 8 new sample tested positive
Case Management / Psychosocial Support & Research / IPC	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> One (1) new COVID-19 related death recorded Two (2) patients were newly discharged from treatment centres Twenty-four(24) new Contacts have been traced and monitored One (1) COVID-19 patient is currently on oxygen therapy Eighty-two (82) new clients received Psychological First Aid (PFA) Services

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

Priority group	Dose 1						Dose 2							
	Fixed		Outreach/Mobile		Total	AEFI		Fixed		Outreach/Mobile		Total	AEFI	
	Male	Female	Male	Female		Non-serious	Serious	Male	Female	Male	Female		Non-serious	Serious
Health Care workers	3203	2630	293	281	6407	0	3	1299	1100	234	151	2784	0	0
People with pre-existing conditions	1515	1829	555	671	4570	1	0	688	710	83	96	1577	0	0
Community workers	4520	3079	1134	1007	9740	1	0	1180	931	197	163	2471	0	0
65 years and above	1754	1636	739	656	4785	0	0	550	605	73	98	1326	0	0
Teacher	326	190	487	212	1215	0	0	114	91	46	17	268	0	0
Hoteliers	509	298	34	21	862	0	0	123	109	0	0	232	0	0
Security forces	866	228	264	40	1398	0	0	220	56	51	29	356	0	0
41yrs - 64yrs	212	197	100	125	634	0	0	313	277	8	9	607	0	0
18yrs - 40 yrs	370	287	141	279	1077	0	0	90	113	18	19	240	0	0
Total Cov-1	13275	10374	3747	3292	30688	2	3	4577	3992	710	582	9861	0	0

Table 4: Total National vaccinated with COVISHIELD (AstraZeneca Vaccine) by priority group as of 10th June 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
- Security lapses at some of the treatment centers resulting in the abscondence of patients
- 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.
- Weak and unreliable internet connection at the NPHL is hampering the implementation of e-surveillance at the laboratory.
- Difficulty in accessing data on time resulting to a delay in the production of the SITREP

V. NEXT STEPS/RECOMMENDATIONS:

- CBS activities need to be synchronized with MRC's ILI surveillance to spur up testing rates in the hinterland.
- Expedite the process of having testing sites in CRR and NBW
- 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
- More tests required in the catchment area of the MRC Keneba testing site to ascertain the extent of spread of COVID-19
- Security needs to be beefed up at all COVID-19 treatment/isolation centers to prevent the abscondence of patients
- Strengthen community-based surveillance in order 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 including the donning of appropriate PPEs at all times
- Response committee leads should endeavor to provide data to the SITREP team on time

For comments or questions, please contact:
Sana M. Sambou
 Public Health Emergency Operations Center
 Epidemiology and Disease Control Unit, The Gambia
Email: sanamsambou@hotmail.com **Phone:** +220 3516320/2422949

PARTNERS

