



Epidemiology and Surveillance

Cases

- 88 cases confirmed in Week 40, a 5.4% decrease in reported cases compared to Week 39. This is the second consecutive week of recorded decrease in new cases
- Majority of new cases from traveler screening (55.7%) and alerts (35.2%), and from Central Equatoria (63.6%), and Western Equatoria (11.4%)
- Four (4) new imported cases in Week 40 (identified from Nimule point of entry)
- No new confirmed case among healthcare workers
- Case tally for Week 40 represents 0.7% of cumulative case tally
- 2.2% crude positivity for samples tested during the week (highest yields came from GeneXpert (GXP) sites)
- Trends for moving averages for yield, case count, and proportional daily case change are stabilizing/flattening
- 19.7% decrease in 7-day moving average for new cases in the last seven days (11.9% decrease in the last 14 days)
- 35 (43.8%) of 80 counties in the country have a confirmed case, with no county with a first confirmed case this week
- Cumulatively, age distribution of cases reported is skewed towards people under 50 years old, with most cases occurring among males in the 20-49 age group
- 55.2% of cases are South Sudanese, 21.1% are foreigners, and 23.7% are of unknown nationality
- So far three variants of concern (Alpha [B.1.1.7], Beta [B.1.351], and Delta [B.1.617.2]) have been identified in the country, with the Delta variant predominating (93%)
- 82.3% of cases detected in Juba compared to 17.7% outside of Juba
- Cumulatively, 62.7% of cases came from pre-travel screening, 10.2% contact tracing, 9.1% alerts, 7.4% point of entry screening, and 7.1 sentinel surveillance (3.6% have unknown source)

Deaths

- No new reported deaths in Week 40
- 1.07% CFR
- Need for more active mortality surveillance → response to community death alerts and swabbing of suspect deaths during daily visits to mortuaries

Figure 3: Age and gender distribution

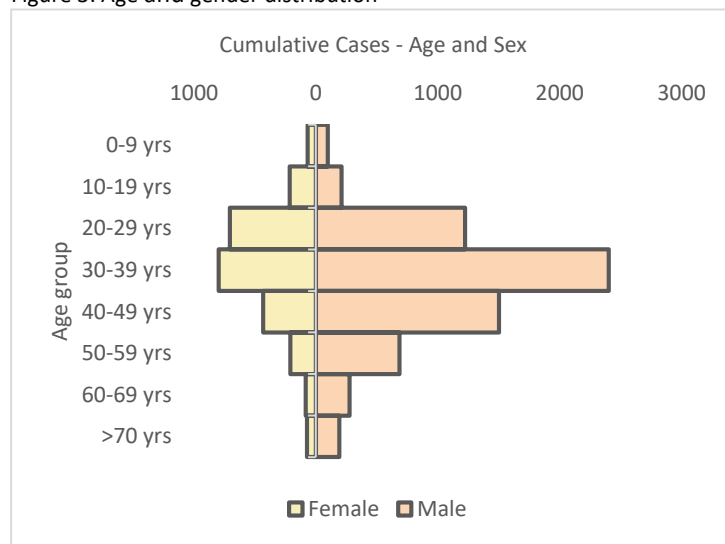
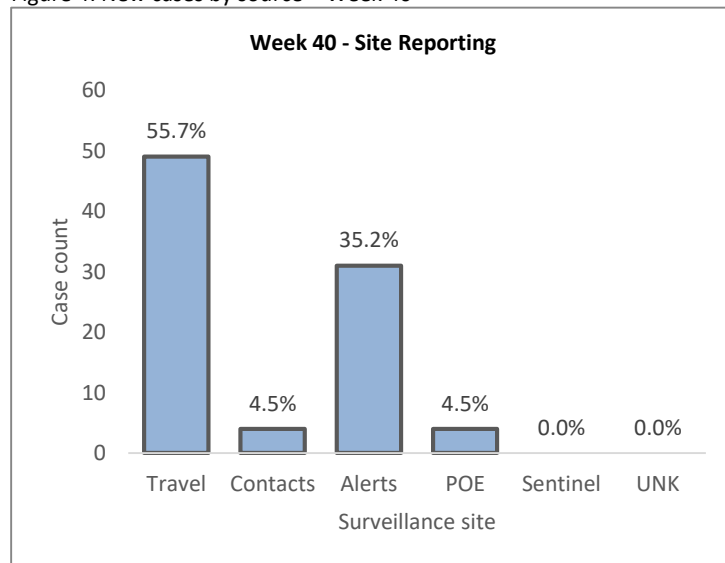


Figure 4: New cases by source – Week 40





Laboratory

- Average positivity yields increased for five consecutive epi weeks, reaching 3.3% in Week 35 before falling to 2.2% in Week 40
- Highest yields reported in 7 GXP sites (Maridi, Gordhim, Nzara, Lui, Makpandu, Lankien, and Pamir)
- Positivity yields by testing site in Week 40: Crawford (3.6%), Med Blue (0.0%), NPHL (3.1%), Nimule (2.6%), Queens Medical Complex (1.6%), Nojum (0.7%), Biolab (0.8%), PIC Diagnostic Center (0.8%), Life Link (0.0%), Check Up (0.0%), Maridi (50.0%), Gordhim (11.1%), Torit (0.0%), Kapoeta (0.0%), Yirol (0.0%), Juba International Airport (0.0%), Nzara (10.0%), Lui (16.7%), Agok (7.1%), Makpandu (12.5%), Pariang (5.6%), Lankien (16.7%), Wau (0.0%), Mapourdit (0.0%), Rumbek (0.0%), and Pamir (14.7%)
- Positivity yield from GXP sites is 9.1% compared to 3.1% at the NPHL, 2.6% in Nimule, and 1.2% in the private laboratories

Figure 5: SARS CoV-2 PCR test results by week

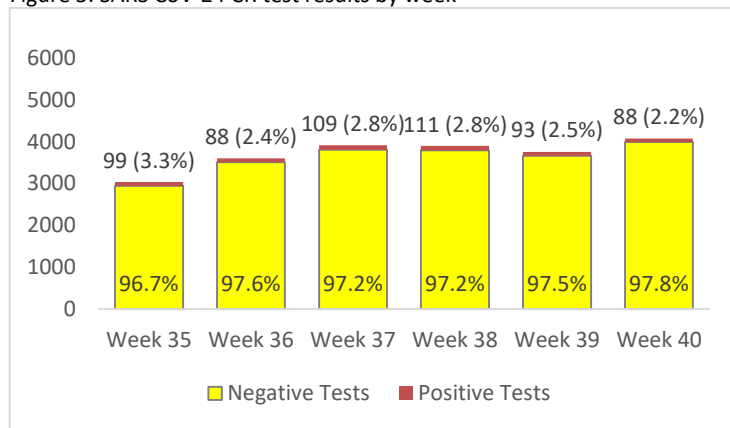


Figure 6: SARS CoV-2 PCR test results and positivity by site (PCR)

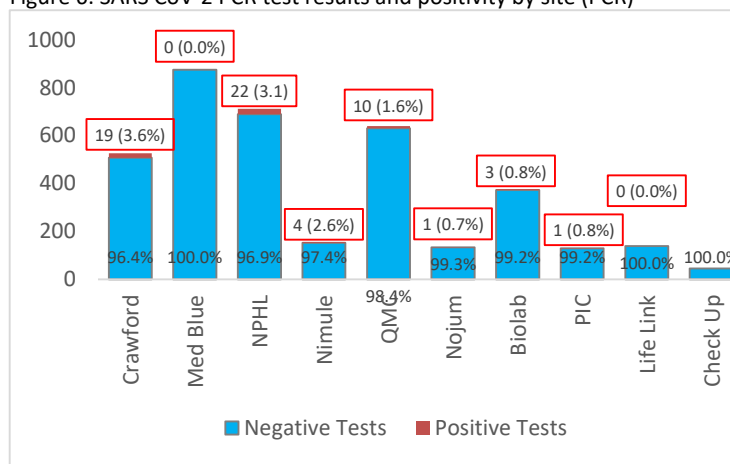
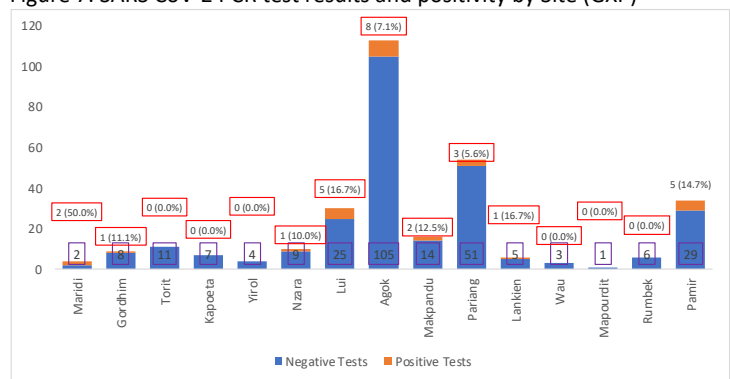


Figure 7: SARS CoV-2 PCR test results and positivity by Site (GXP)

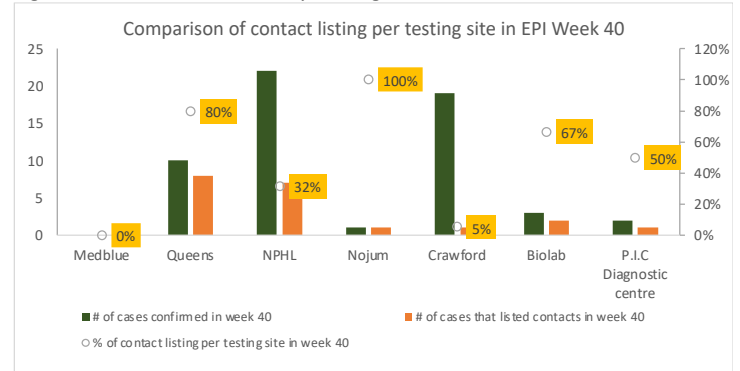




Contact Tracing

- Four of the 88 cases this week came from contact tracing
- All 56 cases confirmed in Juba County this week were distributed to ICAP for contact listing and tracing
- 38 (67.9%) of the 56 cases were eligible for contact listing (i.e., had valid phone numbers), 20 (52.6%) of whom provided 296 contacts, providing a case to contact ratio of 1:14.8 (one case in a school setting listed 100 contacts this week)
- 207 contacts under active follow-up during the week while 75 contacts completed their follow-up period this week
- None of the 207 contacts followed up this week reported any COVID-19 related symptoms
- Samples were collected from 240 contacts in Juba this week, four of whom tested positive for COVID-19
- Main barriers to enrol contacts continue to be:
 - Unwillingness of cases to list contacts
 - Incorrect contact addresses
 - Contacts not answering their phones

Figure 8: Contact elicitation by testing site — Week 40



Hotline/Alerts

- 27 potential COVID-19 alerts through hotline in Week 40, a 6.9% decrease from alerts reported in Week 39, which also showed a decrease of 3.3% compared to Week 38
- All 27 alerts were verified and interviewed by the rapid response team (RRT), 21 (78%) provided samples
- 21 (77.8%) of the potential alerts came from Central Equatoria followed by Western Bahr el Ghazal, Eastern Equatoria, Northern Bahr el Ghazal, Unity, and Western Equatoria (3.7% each)
- Lakes, Warrap, and Upper Nile did not report any alerts this week
- 31 alerts and suspected cases tested positive for COVID-19 this week
- Cumulatively, 3,256 alerts have been reported, 3,125 (96.0%) were verified, and 3,042 (97.3%) sampled
- Alerts account for 1.3% of total samples tested in the country
- Alerts outside of Central Equatoria are limited

Figure 9: Alert hotline cascade — Week 40

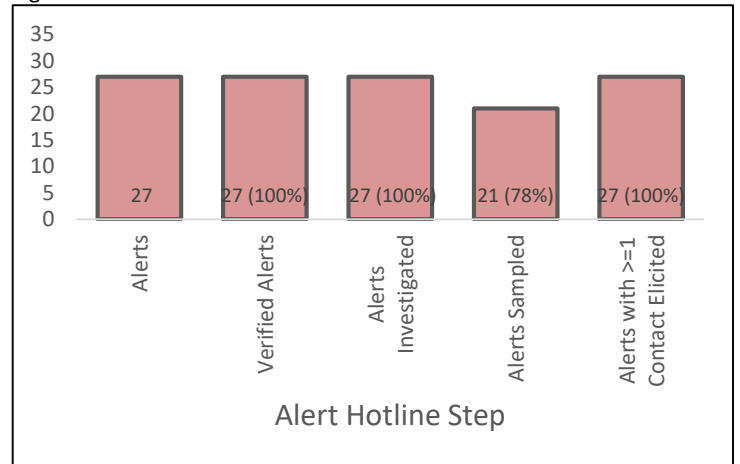
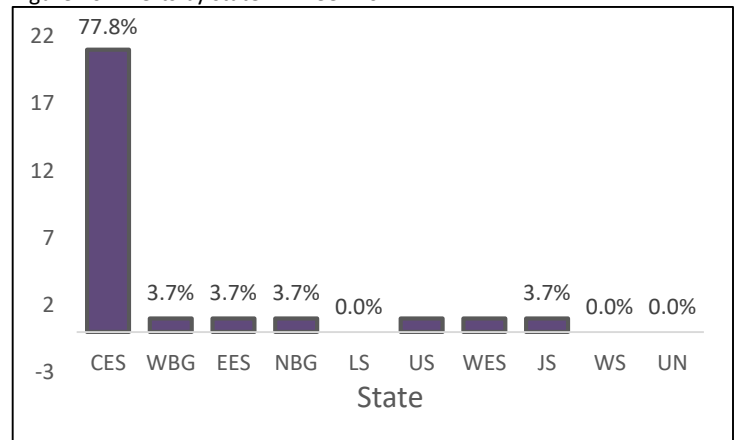


Figure 10: Alerts by state — Week 40



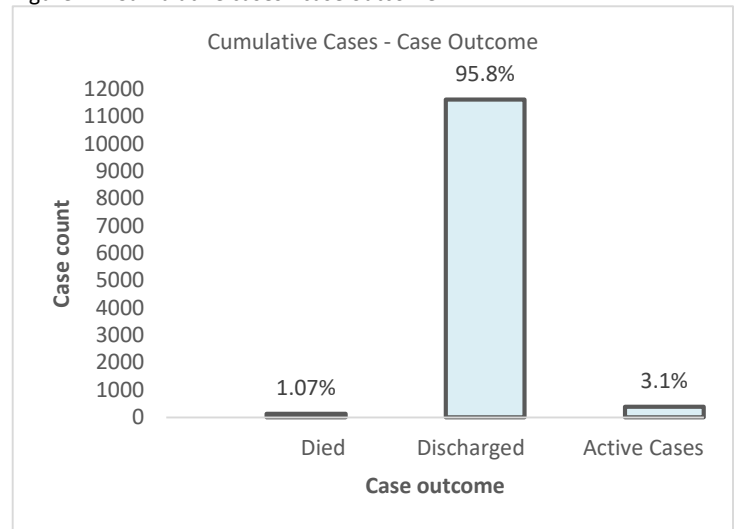


Case Management

- 38.1% of cases managed at home, with 0.2% at health facilities
- 61.6% of cases are missing case management type at first contact although almost all of these were likely managed at home
- 11,617 (95.8%) of cases were discharged as of Week 40, with 382 cases (3.1%) under active follow-up
- 130 cases died, a CFR of 1.07%

Case management at first detection	#	% of total cases
Home management	4,581	38.1%
Hospital	20	0.2%
Isolation center	4	<0.1%
UN health facility	2	<0.1%
UN home management	3	<0.1%
Died	10	0.1%
Unknown	7,406	61.6%

Figure 11: Cumulative cases - case outcome



Risk Communication and Community Engagement (RCCE)/Point of Entry (POE)

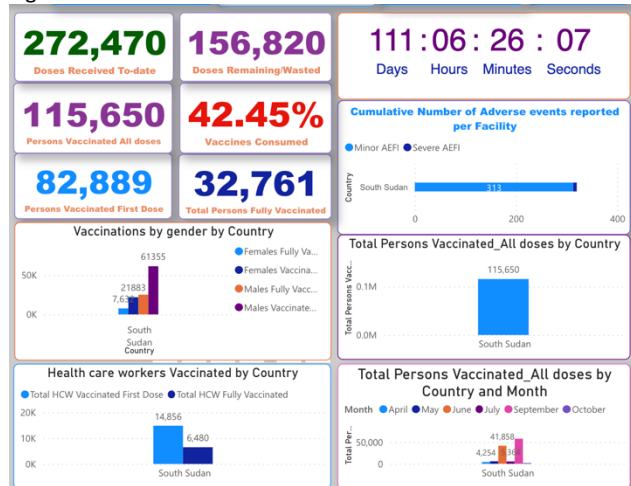
- The following achievements were registered during Week 38 under the risk communication and community engagement (RCCE) pillar:
 - Community-based contact tracers supported by ICAP, provided information about COVID-19 to 1,140 persons
- Main challenges for the RCCE pillar include:
 - Community non-compliance with COVID-19 preventive measures
 - Stigmatization of COVID-19 prevents people from reporting suspected cases to the hotline

- POE data are for the Nimule land crossing which only screens arriving travelers
- 3,669 (2,538 males; 1131 females) were screened in Week 40
- Most of the travelers screened were truck drivers (1,268), returnees (1,651), and other nationals other than truck drivers (750)
- Returnees do not undergo quarantine and are not required to present a negative PCR test COVID-19 certificate
- Other nationals and truck drivers are required to present valid negative PCR test COVID-19 certificate to enter South Sudan

COVID-19 Vaccination

- 272,470 vaccine doses received to-date
- Vaccination for the J&J batch of vaccines launched in Juba in Week 40, and is currently ongoing in all 80 counties in the country
- 115,650 people vaccinated as of 12 October 2021
 - 82,889 vaccinated first dose
 - 32,761 fully vaccinated
- 14,856 healthcare workers vaccinated
- Gender disparity in vaccine uptake where only 26.3% female received the vaccine
- 320 cumulative adverse events following immunization (AEFI) reported
 - 313 minor AEFI
 - 7 severe AEFI

Figure 12: Vaccination dashboard – South Sudan





Epi week: 40

Date: 04 — 10 October 2021

For more information, please contact the South Sudan Public Health Emergency Operation Centre[PHEOC]

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For additional information follow these links:

http://moh.gov.ss/daily_updates.php

<http://moh.gov.ss/covid-19.php>

Note: COVID-19 testing in South Sudan is free of charge for alerts, contacts of cases, and suspected cases