

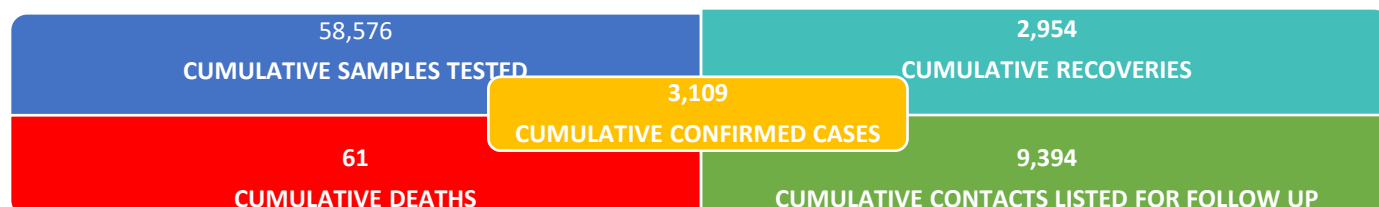


**PUBLIC HEALTH EMERGENCY OPERATIONS CENTRE (PHEOC)**

**COVID-19 WEEKLY SITUATION REPORT**

Issue No: 39

Reporting Period: 23-29 November 2020 (week 48)



**1. KEY HIGHLIGHTS**

- A cumulative total of **3,109** cases have been confirmed and **61** deaths with case fatality rate (CFR) of 2 percent have been recorded, including **241** imported cases as 29 November 2020.
- **1** Severe COVID-19 patient currently admitted in the IDU and 0 cases are currently isolated in health facilities in the Country; thus the National IDU has 99 percent bed occupancy available.
- **2,954** cases (43 new) have been discharged to date.
- 138 Health Care Workers have been infected since the beginning of the outbreak with one death.
- **9,394** cumulative contacts have been registered, of which **8,989** have completed the 14-day quarantine. Currently, 243 contacts are being followed.
- Cumulatively, **58,576** laboratory tests have been performed with 5.3 percent positivity rate.
- There was cumulative total of **1,592** alerts of which 93.3 percent (n=1,485) have been verified and sampled; Most alerts have come from Central Equatorial (75.4 percent), Eastern Equatorial (4.1percent); Upper Nile State (3.4 percent) and the remaining 17.1 Percent from the other States and Administrative Areas.
- As of 29 November, 24 Counties (30.0 percent) out of 80 Counties of ten states of South Sudan are affected (figure 4).

**2. BACKGROUND**

South Sudan confirmed its first COVID-19 case on 5 April 2020. To date 3,109 cases have been confirmed out of 58,576 tests performed by the National Public Health Laboratory (NPHL) and other decentralized Public Health Laboratories Networks in Nimule, Bor, and Malakal and UN clinics in Juba with 2,954 recoveries and 61 deaths, yielding the case fatality rate (CFR) of 2 percent.

South Sudan is classified as having clusters of transmission in general and community transmission in Juba, the capital city.

**3. EPIDEMIOLOGY AND SURVEILLANCE**

**Descriptive epidemiology**

This report includes analysis for 3,109 cases the Public Health Emergency Operation Centre (PHEOC) has line listed as confirmed cumulative cases. There are 2,954 recoveries and 61 deaths with case fatality rate (CFR) of 2 percent. Cases detected among South Sudanese nationals accounted for (78.8 percent) of all cases, whereas (13.0 percent) are foreigners and 8.7 percent unknown. There have been 249 imported cases (6 new) have been registered to date coming mostly from Kenya (18), Uganda (39), Eritrea (5), DRC (2), Somalia (1), Netherlands(1) and South Sudanese returnees (105), and 70 unknowns.



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Confirmed cases range from 2 months - 90 years of age with an average of 34.5 years. As for gender, 72.3 percent of confirmed cases were diagnosed in men, 23.5 percent in women, and 4.2 percent unknown. Young men within the 30-39 age groups are the most at risk for COVID-19. Only 20.0 percent (n=607) cases reported symptoms, of which the most frequent have been: cough- 404, fever- 351, runny nose - 257, shortness of breath- 230, fatigue -227, headache- 203, sore throat-135, muscle aches -129, and others -226. New and cumulative; age, sex; frequency of symptoms; and geographical distribution of COVID-19 confirmed cases are shown in figures 1, 2, 3 and 4 and table 1 respectively.

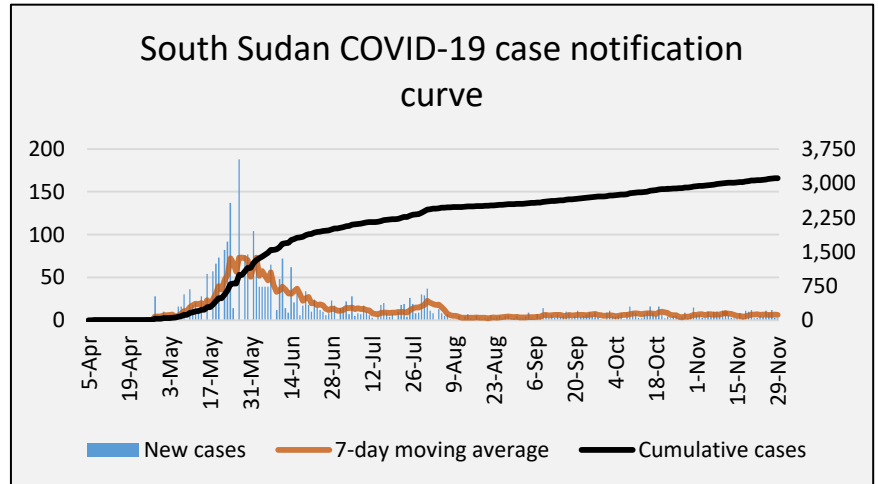
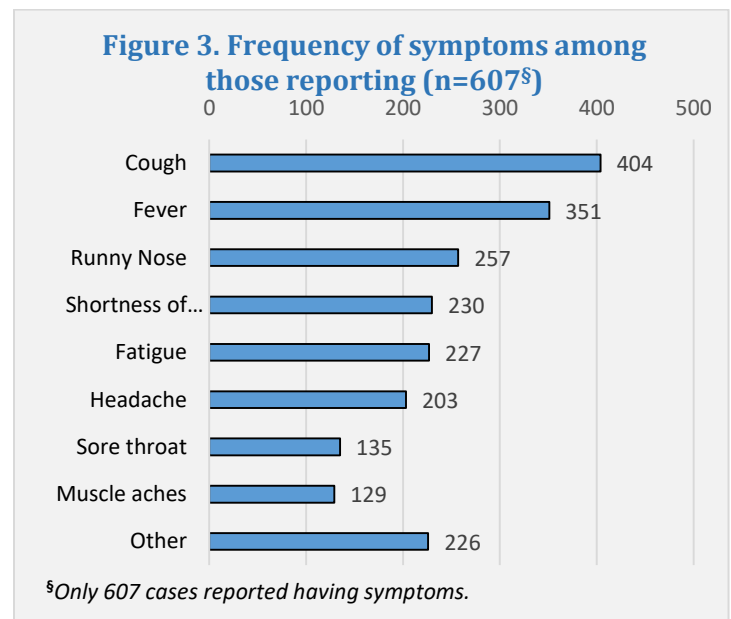
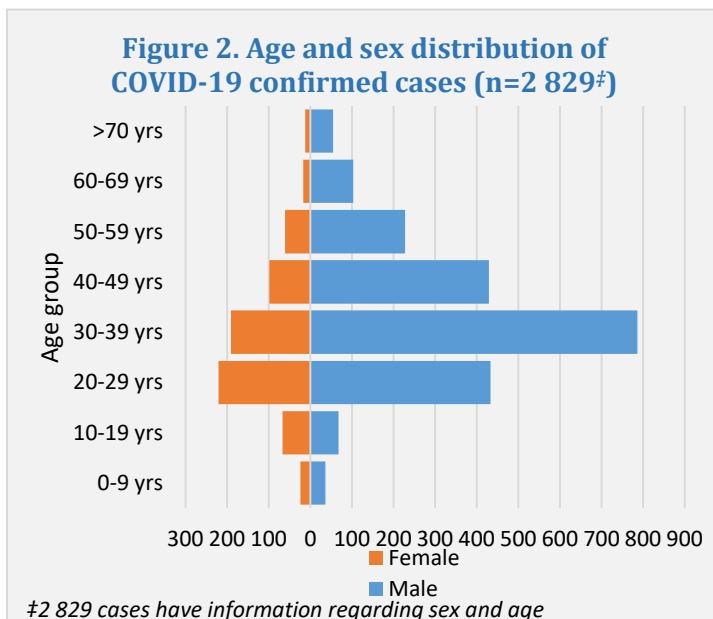


Figure 1. COVID-19 Case Notification Curve

As of 29 November 2020, the affected Counties are alphabetically: Abyei (52), Aweil Center (8), Aweil East (5), Baliat (1), Ikotos (5), Juba (2,406), Maban (7), Magwi (3), Malakal (84), Nyirol (26), Rubkona (10), Rumbek North (1), Rumbek Center (22), Rumbek East (1), South Bor (33), Tonj North (1), Torit (40), Twic Warrap (3), Twic East (2), Uror (2), Wau (31), Yambio (7), Yei (23), Yirol West (1), Unknown (11).



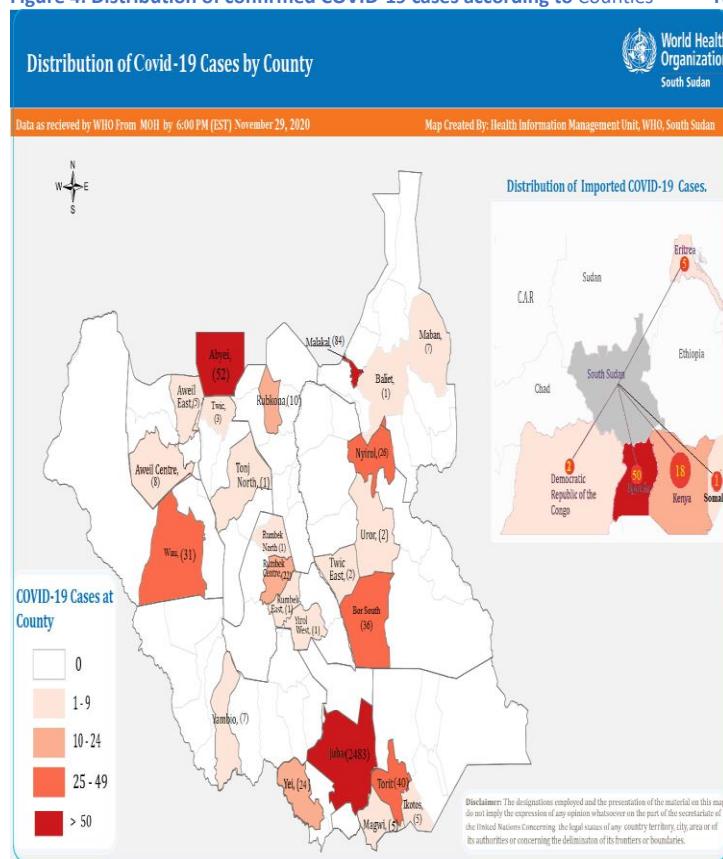
§Only 607 cases reported having symptoms.



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Figure 4: Distribution of confirmed COVID-19 cases according to Counties

Table1: Summary of COVID-19 Cases by State including imported as of 22 Nov.



State	Cases		Deaths	
	New	Cumulative	New	Cumulative
Central Equatoria	38	2507	0	45
Eastern Equatoria	1	50	0	3
Jonglei	0	66	0	1
Lakes	0	25	0	6
Northern Bahr el Ghazal	0	13	0	0
Unity	0	10	0	1
Upper Nile	0	92	0	4
Warrap (including Abyei)	0	56	0	0
Western Bahr el Ghazal	0	31	0	0
Western Equatoria	0	7	0	0
Imported	6	241	0	1
Unknown	0	11	0	0
Pending classification	0	0	0	0
<b>Total</b>	<b>45</b>	<b>3109</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>61</b>

**Contact tracing summary**

- 9,394 cumulative contacts have been registered of which 8,989 have completed the 14-day quarantine. Currently, 243 contacts are being followed;
- As of 29 November 2020, the total number of contacts (old and new) that have been monitored has reached 9,394. Out of these 95.7 percent (n=8,989) contacts have completed 14-day quarantine period.
- Currently, 243 contacts are being followed; of these 68.7 percent (n=167) contacts were reached.

**4. PUBLIC HEALTH ACTION / RESPONSE INTERVENTIONS**

**4.1 COORDINATION AND LEADERSHIP**

- Coordination is ongoing in the Country through different architectures at National, State and County levels: National Task Force (NTF) providing high level strategic decisions; the National Steering Committee (NSC) providing both strategic and operational decisions/ guidance; the Technical Working Groups at both National and State levels; and the State Task Forces (STF), as well as County Committees (CC).
- There have been ongoing discussions to push COVID-19 pre-travel screening to privatized facilities to relieve the anticipated load on the National Public Health Laboratory especially with the upcoming festive season and a large number of individuals wishing to travel abroad



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- Most technical pillars have presented to the NSC their transitioning plan from the current COVID-19 specific intervention activities to other relevant and existing mechanisms in the various sectors with consideration of an integrated approach for the continuation of COVID-19 activities. Technical pillars are to draft a road map for transitioning given the activity end dates of December 31st, 2020 and March 31st, 2021.

**4.2 LABORATORY**

Below are key highlights of achievements for the week:

- The Lab Covid-19 TWG is part of the assessment team (committee) formed by H.E. the vice President for Service Sector and they are going to use the WHO tool assessment for assessing the private clinics which are allowed (contracted) to do Covid-19 testing in Juba, and the tool will be reviewed to suit the MoH and the country setting.
- The Lab Covid-19 TWG has met with the company that the government bought the extraction, PCR machines and they are ready to fix, install, and train all the staff in the testing team when they settle their transactions with the Ministry, and they are ready to sponsor four(4) staff to be sent to Egypt for a training and an exposure with the current machines used in the market
- The Undersecretary has expressed willingness to clear all the remaining money not paid by the previous Ministry leadership and include the master mix machine for full automation
- The Lab Covid-19 has completed its presentation on the transition activities with time frames to the I.M.S for discussions and way forward

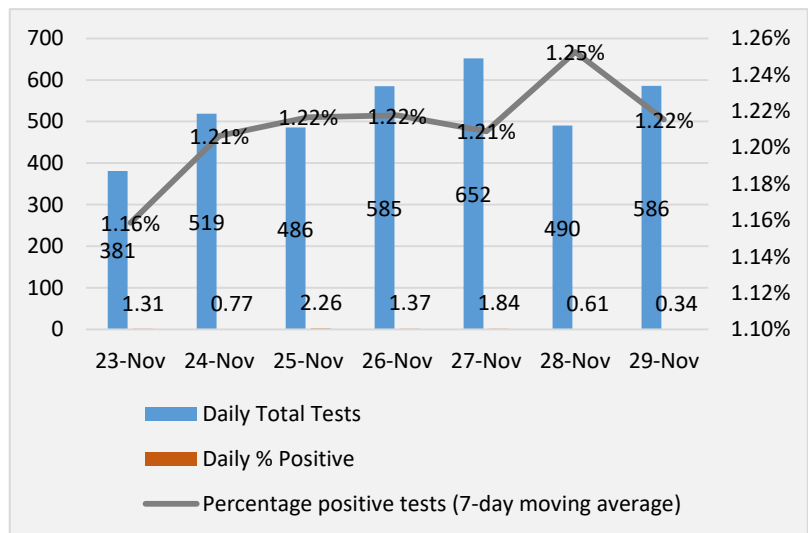


Figure 5. Daily Laboratory Testing

**4.3 SURVEILLANCE**

- The Epidemiology/Surveillance TWG submitted its transition matrix to the PHEOC and EP&R so that its activities and platform can transition by 31 December 2020.
- The TWG provided feedback to the Medical Advisory Panel (MAP) regarding its recommendations for COVID-19 testing entry and exit requirements.
- Household transmission investigation continues, with 72 cases and household contacts enrolled in Lakes State (Rumbek), Jonglei State (Bor), CES (Terekeka, Rajaf), and EES (Nimule) until 30 November. Oral and nasal swabs, blood specimens, and in-depth interviews of those enrolled will continue over the course of four visits for the duration of the investigation.
- Health worker COVID-19 exposure survey completed. Slide deck and data pack released by 30<sup>th</sup> November.
- CDC-led evaluation of the South Sudan COVID-19 response is ongoing, which will complement the findings of the Intra-Action Review held in October.



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- The TWG is supporting the EOC epidemiologist and Data Management TWG to develop revised CIF modules in DHIS2 and an accompanying data dictionary for users.
- TWG weekly Monday meetings will continue until 14<sup>th</sup> December.
- Epi-Bulletin 47 was disseminated the week of 23 November to all TWGs for distribution to their members and participants.

**4.4 CASE MANAGEMENT**

Key highlights of achievements for the week were:

- In the effort to establish an Intensive Care Unit (ICU) at the Juba Infectious Disease Unit (IDU), International Medical Corps (IMC) deployed Emergency Medical Team (EMT) trained 26 clinicians including 6 doctors, 3 clinical officers and 17 nurses.
- 1 Severe COVID-19 patient currently admitted in Juba IDU.
- Nil (0) Severe confirmed patient currently admitted in other COVID-19 facility countrywide.
- 82 individuals reached for the MHPSS regional hotline. They were all provided with Counseling, information on stress coping mechanism during covid-19 isolation and other psychosocial support.

**Medair Home Care Support System  
17<sup>th</sup> -23<sup>rd</sup> Nov, 2020**

- Active patients by COB 23/11:21
- Discharged: 19

Total Reached (Alerts + confirmed cases)	Enrolled	Declined	Admitted to IDU at time of first call	Deceased at time of first call	Not qualified
41	68.3% (28)	12.2% (5)	0% (0)	2.4% (1)	17.1% (7)

Total Enrolled	Male	Female	Asymptomatic	Mild	Moderate	Severe
28	71.4% (20)	28.6% (8)	32.1% (9)	67.9% (19)	0% (0)	0% (0)



Figure 6. NEDAIR Homecare Support System

**4.5 INFECTION PREVENTION AND CONTROL (IPC):**

At the time of this publication no information had been submitted from the TWG

**4.6 RISK COMMUNICATION AND COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT (RCCE):**

The following key achievements were registered during the reporting week:

- A total of 69,138 individuals (35,431 females and 33,707 males) were reached with key COVID-19 messages by community mobilisers through interpersonal awareness sessions at the 17,196 household visits.
- An estimated 43,620 persons received key COVID-19 messages through megaphone-walks.
- During this week, 34 community influencers received training orientation on Risk Communication and Community Mobilization issues on COVID-19 including the religious leaders, teachers, women and youth leaders.
- 3098 Banners, 3,710 Posters and 4,010 Flyers were distributed among the partners and displayed at the strategic locations.



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- 699 radio jingles were aired in 10 local languages through 40 radio stations across all 10 states in the country. 5 weekly talk shows on COVID-19 have been hosted, in which different content experts and influencers participated.
- A total 75 Community mobilizers have been trained on COVID-19

**4.7 OPERATION SUPPORT AND LOGISTICS (OSL)**

- WFP through the Logistics Cluster, and WHO, as co-leads of the Operational Support and Logistics Pillar of the National Response Plan, manage the Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) Common Request System, aiming at consolidating requests of in-country COVID-19 PPE commodities. During the reporting week, 11 request forms were received from 7 organizations (Amity Catholic Youth, Assistance for Relief and Development Agency, Aweil Youth Blood Donor Club, Emergency Response & Development Initiative, Food Agriculture and Disaster Management (FADM), iFix Initiative, WHO). All request forms have been approved by the Inter-Agency technical team on 25 November, totalizing 472,012 PPE items allocated from the common pool to be received in 7 locations across the country (Awerial, Juba, Manyo, Mundri, Raja, Wau and Yei).

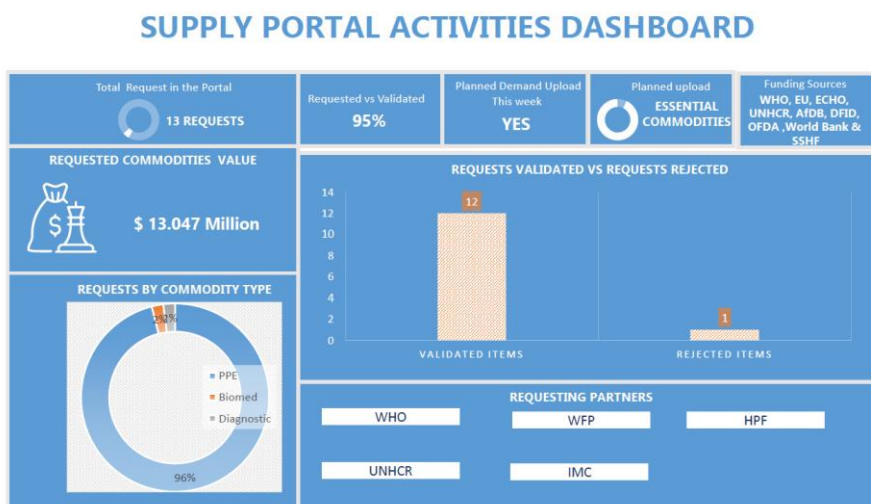


Figure 7. Supply Portal Activities Dashboard

- Between 23 and 27 November, 20 COVID-19 samples have been transported by air from Rubkona to Juba for testing.
- The movement of Rapid Response Team for COVID-19 related activities continues to be supported by the provision of 9 vehicles in Juba (7) and Nimule (2).

**4.8 POINTS OF ENTRY (POE)**

- Epi week #48: **14,855** travelers underwent primary screening at various screening points in Juba, Wau and Nimule. (5,071 JIA, 4,741 Nimule, 1,561 Wau, 3,469 Amiet market -Abyei and Renk (13) conducted by the International Organization for Migration (IOM). There was no traveler who underwent secondary screening.
- The key findings, including gaps and recommendation of the Renk joint supportive supervision were presented during POE TWG meeting.
- The next joint mission is planned to Nadapal from 2-9 December.
- The final joint supportive supervision will be conducted to Maban refugee camp from 14-17 December in collaboration with UNHCR and other partners.



Figure 8. Nimule Point of Entry Screening



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- The POE pillar transition plans were presented at the Ad-hoc National Steering Committee (NSC) meeting on Thursday 26<sup>TH</sup> November 2020.

**5. MAJOR CHALLENGES**

- Partners reporting on Case Management still an issue as many are not sharing updates
- Funding gap to continue support critical care at Yambio COVID-19 isolation facility

**6. RECOMMENDATIONS AND PRIORITY FOLLOW UP ACTIONS**

- Finalize the transitional road map for the CM TWG
- Continue establishment of triage and operationalization of COVID-19 facilities

**7. CONCLUSIONS**

- Ongoing stakeholders’ discussions including amongst TWGs on the COVID-19 transitioning roadmap into other response and coordination structures aimed at strengthening Incident Management System in both the short and long terms for humanitarian and development activities.

**For any clarifications, please contact**

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