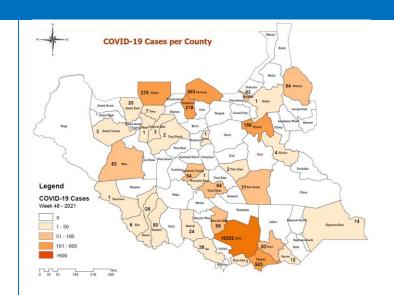




Epi week: 48 Date: 29 Nov — 05 Dec 2021

Highlights (as of Week 48)

- **12,823** confirmed cases with **133** deaths, **12,463** recoveries, and **227** active cases
- 1.04% case fatality rate (CFR)
- 287 healthcare workers confirmed as cases
- 68 new confirmed cases during the week with pre-travel screening (38.2%) and alerts (81.8%) accounting for all the cases
- 441 imported cases (0 new cases this week) mostly from South Sudanese returnees (268), Uganda (54), and Kenya (19)
- 0 admitted to the Infectious Disease Unit (IDU) in Juba during the week
- Seven-day moving averages for case count and positivity rate were 10 cases and 1.5% at the end of Week 48 compared to 11 cases and 1.6% at the end of Week 47 respectively
- 1,299 in-bound travellers tested at JIA to-date
 (1 tested positive, a yield of 0.08%)



Summary Statistics



Cases 12,823



Deaths 133



Cases in IDU 0



Samples tested 271,262



Fully vaccinated 172,064

New cases

68

New deaths

)

Discharged

Crude positivity

4.7%

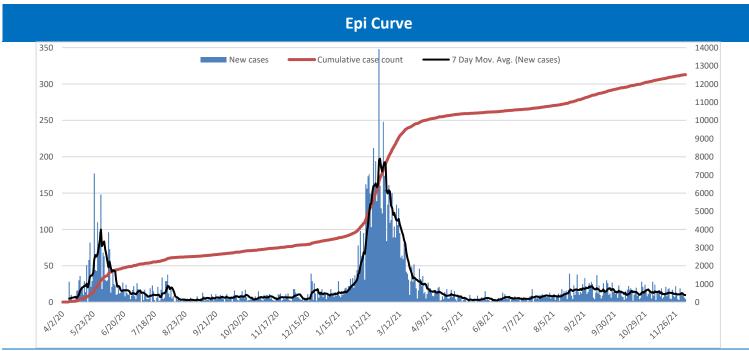


Figure 2. Epidemiological curve of reported cases through Week 48





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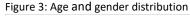
Epidemiology and Surveillance

Cases

- 68 cases confirmed in Week 48, a 9.3% decrease in reported cases compared to Week 47. This is the second consecutive week of recorded decrease in the weekly case tally
- Majority of new cases came from traveler screening (38.2%) and alerts (61.8%), and from Central Equatoria (38.2%), and Ruweng Administrative Area (47.1%)
- No new imported cases reported this week
- No new confirmed cases among healthcare workers this week
- Case tally for Week 48 represents 0.5% of cumulative case tally
- 1.6% 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 flattening/stabilizing
- 8.5% decrease in 7-day moving average for new cases in the last seven days, with a 21.8% 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
- 53.1% of cases are South Sudanese, 20.5% are foreigners, and 26.4% 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%). However, no sequencing results have been reported in over three months, so the variant landscape could be different now especially with the emergence of the Omicron (B.1.1.529) variant
- 79.2% of cases detected in Juba compared to 20.8% outside of Juba
- Cumulatively, 60.4% of cases came from pre-travel screening, 12.8% alerts/suspected cases, 9.7% contact tracing, 7.1% point of entry screening, and 6.7% sentinel surveillance (3.3% have unknow source)

Deaths

- No new reported deaths in Week 48
- 1.04% CFR
- Need for more active mortality surveillance → response to community death alerts and swabbing of suspect deaths during daily visits to mortuaries



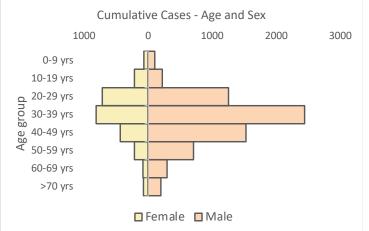
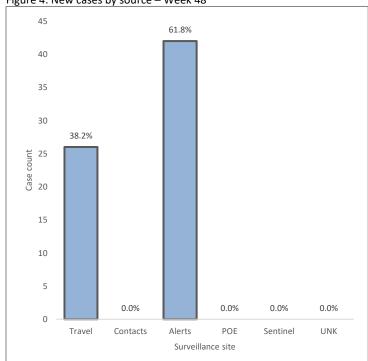


Figure 4: New cases by source - Week 48







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Laboratory

- Average positivity yield is 1.6% this week compared to 1.7% in Week 47
- Highest yields reported in 7 GXP sites (Pamir PHCC, Nzara Hospital, Maridi Hosp, Ezo Hospital, Aweil Hospital, Mapourdit Hosp, and Hakima Ajuong Thok PHCC)
- Positivity yields by testing site were as follows in Week 48: Crawford (1.8%), Med Blue (0.2%), NPHL (1.4%), Nimule (0.0%), Queens Medical Complex (0.7%), Nojum (1.2%), Biolab (0.3%), PIC Diagnostic Center (1.4%), Life Link (0.0%), Check Up (0.0%), Tonj (0.0%), Makpandu (14.3%), Hakima Ajoung Thok (33.3%), Bor (0.0%), Rumbek (0.0%), Kapoeta (0.0%), Juba International Airport (0.0%), Gordhim (18.2%), Nzara (20.0%), Maridi (33.3%), Agok (4.3%), Yambio (0.0%), Pariang (2.8%), Ezo (33.3%), Aweil (50.0%), Pamir (60.0%), Wau (0.0%), and Mapourdit (33.3%)
- Positivity yield from GXP sites is 20.8% compared to 1.4% at the NPHL, 0.0% in Nimule, and 0.6% in the private laboratories

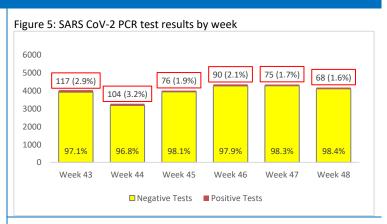
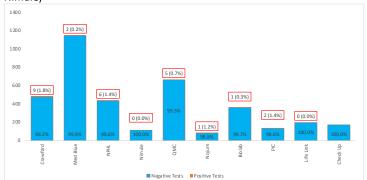
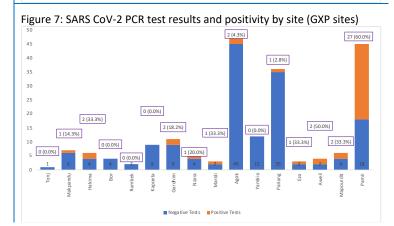


Figure 6: SARS CoV-2 PCR test results and positivity by site (Juba & Nimule)







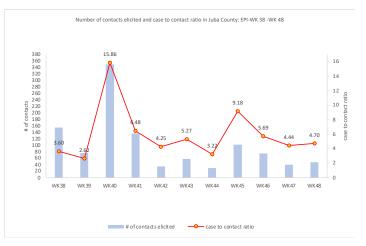


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Contact Tracing

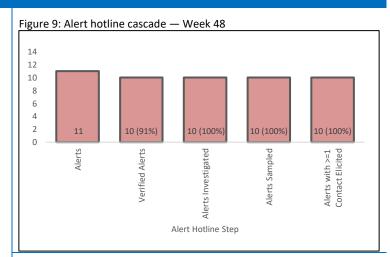
- None of the 68 cases this week came from contact tracing
- 15 of the 26 cases confirmed in Juba County this week were distributed to ICAP for contact listing and tracing
- 11 (73.3%) of the 15 cases were eligible for contact listing (i.e., had valid phone numbers), 10 (90.9%) of whom provided 47 contacts, providing a case to contact ratio of 1:4.7
- 521 contacts were under active follow-up during the week while 32 contacts completed their follow-up period this week
- None of the 521 contacts followed up this week reported any COVID-19 related symptoms
- Samples were collected from 35 contacts in Juba this week, none 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

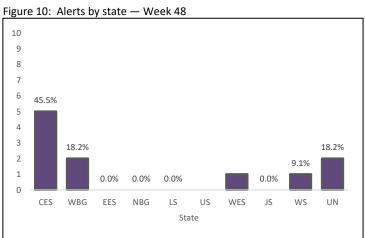
Figure 8: Contacts elicited and case to contact ratio in Juba County: Week 38 -Week 48



Hotline/Alerts

- 11 potential COVID-19 alerts through hotline in Week 48, an
 8.3% decrease from alerts reported in Week 47
- 10 alerts (91.0%) were verified and interviewed by the rapid response team (RRT), and all (100%) provided samples
- 5 (45.5%) of the potential alerts came from Central Equatoria followed by Upper Nile and Western Bahr el Ghazal (18.2%), and Warrap and Western Equatoria (9.1%)
- Five states (i.e., Eastern Equatoria, Northern Bahr el Ghazal, Lakes, Unity, and Jonglei) did not report any alerts this week
- 42 alerts and suspected cases tested positive for COVID-19 this week
- Cumulatively, 3,331 alerts have been reported, 3,200 (96.1%) were verified, and 3,117 (97.4%) sampled
- Alerts account for 1.1% of total samples tested in the country
- Alerts outside of Central Equatoria are limited







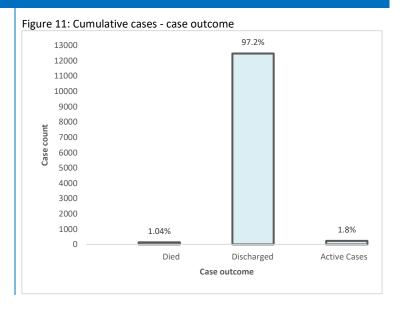


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Case Management

- 36.0% of cases managed at home, with 0.2% at health facilities
- 63.6% of cases are missing case management type at first contact although almost all of these were likely managed at home
- 12,463 (97.2%) of cases were discharged as of Week 48, with 227 cases (1.8%) under active follow-up
- 133 cases died, a CFR of 1.04%

Case management at first detection	#	% of total cases
Home management	4,581	36.0%
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	8,100	63.6%



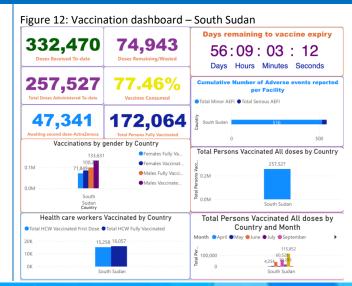
Risk Communication and Community Engagement (RCCE)/Point of Entry (POE)

- The following achievements were registered during Week 48 under the risk communication and community engagement (RCCE) pillar:
 - Community-based contact tracers supported by ICAP, provided information about COVID-19 to 1,578 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
- 3,567 (2,458 males; 1,109 females) were screened this week
- Most of the travelers screened were truck drivers (1,110), returnees (1,721), and other nationals other than truck drivers (736)
- 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

- 332,470 vaccine doses received to-date. Additional batch of the 168,000 J&J vaccines expected on 7 December 2021
- Vaccination is currently ongoing for the AstraZeneca and J&J vaccines in 66 counties and 294 health facilities
- Planned scale-up of vaccination to all 80 counties by mid-December 2021
- 257,527 doses administered as of 6 December 2021
 - 173,684 fully vaccinated (38,254 with two AZ doses, 135,430 with single dose of J&J)
- 16,057 healthcare workers fully vaccinated
- Gender disparity in vaccine uptake where only 40.3% female received the vaccine, but this has improved in Phase 3
- 543 cumulative adverse events following immunization (AEFI) reported
 - 516 minor AEFI
 - 27 severe AEFI







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

Email: sspheoc@gmail.com

Tel #: +211 925 851 662/+211 917 235 355

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