





Epidemiology and Surveillance

Cases

- 96 cases confirmed in Week 41, a 9.1% increase in reported cases compared to Week 40. This is the first increase after two consecutive weeks of recorded decrease in new cases
- Majority of new cases came from traveler screening (36.5%) and alerts (57.3%), and from Central Equatoria (40.6%), and Abyei Administrative Area (22.9%)
- No new imported cases identified from Nimule point of entry this week
- No new confirmed cases among healthcare workers
- Case tally for Week 41 represents 0.8% of cumulative case tally
- 2.0% 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/decreasing
- 30.0% increase in 7-day moving average for new cases in the last seven days but 17.2% 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
- 55.0% of cases are South Sudanese, 21.0% are foreigners, and 24.0% 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%)
- 81.9% of cases detected in Juba compared to 18.1% outside of Juba
- Cumulatively, 62.4% of cases came from pre-travel screening, 10.2% contact tracing, 9.5% alerts, 7.3% point of entry screening, and 7.0 sentinel surveillance (3.5% have unknown source)

Deaths

- One new reported death in Week 41
- 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

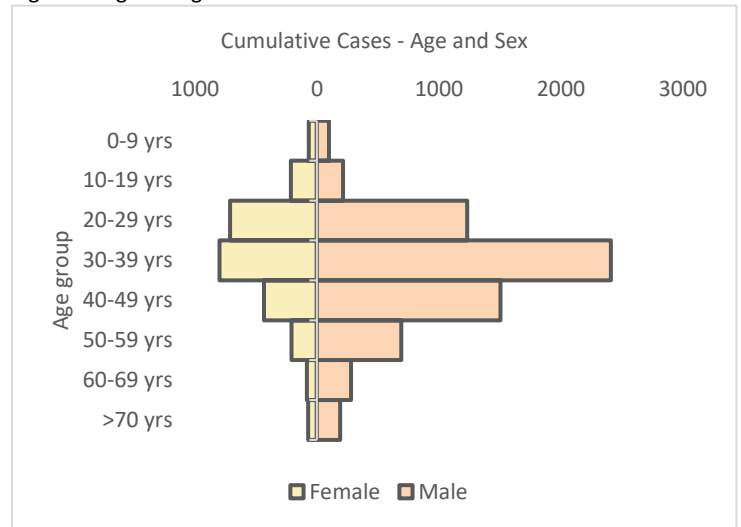
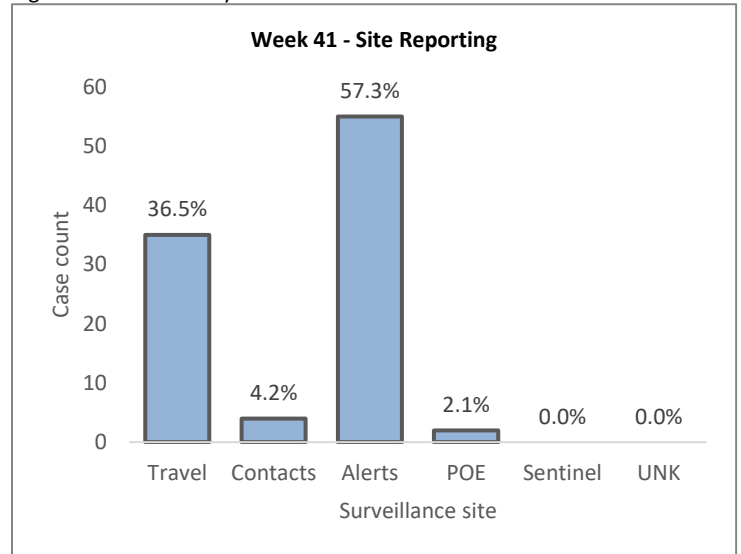


Figure 4: New cases by source – Week 41





Laboratory

- Average positivity yields have been 2.0% or higher for nine consecutive epi weeks (2.0% in Week 41)
- Highest yields reported in 7 GXP sites (Maridi, Gordhim, Nzara, Agok, Pariang, Pamir, and Mapourdit)
- Positivity yields by testing site in Week 41: Crawford (3.1%), Med Blue (0.2%), NPHL (1.0%), Nimule (0.5%), Queens Medical Complex (1.6%), Nojum (0.6%), Biolab (1.5%), PIC Diagnostic Center (0.0%), Life Link (0.0%), Check Up (0.0%), Maridi (100.0%), Gordhim (31.3%), Gentil (0.0%), Kapoeta (0.0%), Juba International Airport (0.0%), Magwi (0.0%), Nzara (57.1%), Lui (11.1%), Agok (16.2%), Makpandu (0.0%), Pariang (14.3%), Lankien (0.0%), Yambio (0.0%), Wau (12.2%), Bor (11.1%), Mapourdit (33.3%), and Pamir (23.7%)
- Positivity yield from GXP sites is 15.2% compared to 1.0% at the NPHL, 0.5% in Nimule, and 1.0% in the private laboratories

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

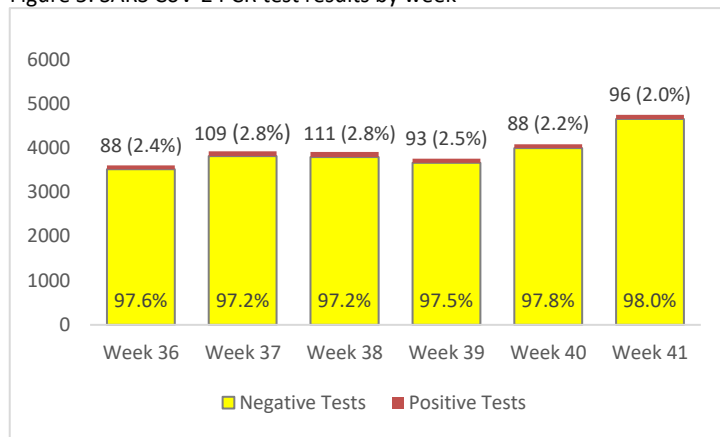


Figure 6: SARS CoV-2 PCR test results and positivity by site (PCR)

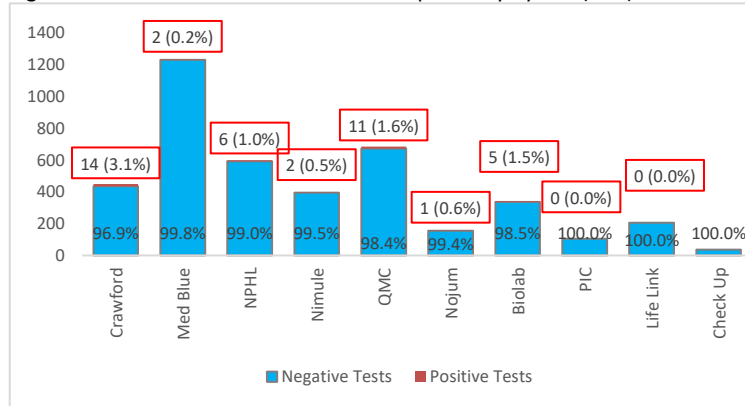
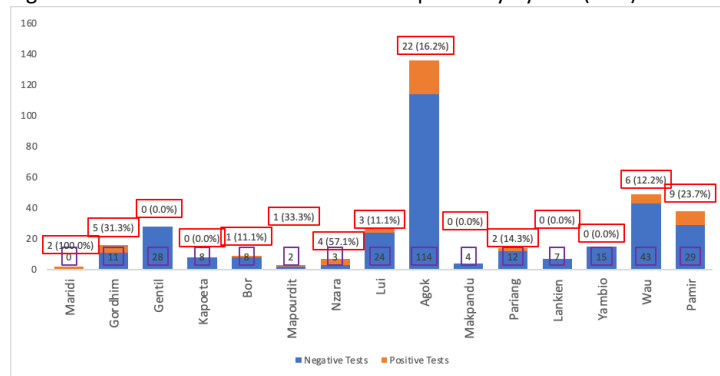


Figure 7: SARS CoV-2 PCR test results and positivity by Site (GXP)

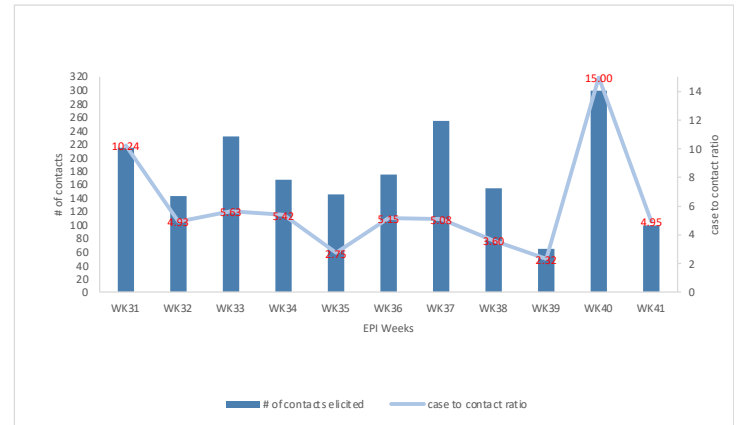




### Contact Tracing

- Four of the 96 cases this week came from contact tracing
- All 39 cases confirmed in Juba County this week were distributed to ICAP for contact listing and tracing
- 31 (79.5%) of the 39 cases were eligible for contact listing (i.e., had valid phone numbers), 20 (64.5%) of whom provided 99 contacts, providing a case to contact ratio of 1:5.0
- 333 contacts were under active follow-up during the week while 105 contacts completed their follow-up period this week
- None of the 333 contacts followed up this week reported any COVID-19 related symptoms
- Samples were collected from 91 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: Contacts elicited and case to contact ratio in Juba County: Week 31 -Week 41



### Hotline/Alerts

- 20 potential COVID-19 alerts through hotline in Week 41, a 25.9% decrease from alerts reported in Week 40, and a third consecutive week of decrease in reported alerts
- All 20 alerts were verified and interviewed by the rapid response team (RRT), and all (100%) provided samples
- 12 (60.0%) of the potential alerts came from Central Equatoria followed by Unity (10.0%), and Western Bahr el Ghazal, Northern Bahr el Ghazal, Lakes, Western Equatoria, Jonglei, and Upper Nile (5.0%)
- Eastern Equatoria and Warrap did not report any alerts this week
- 55 alerts and suspected cases tested positive for COVID-19 this week
- Cumulatively, 3,264 alerts have been reported, 3,133 (96.0%) were verified, and 3,050 (97.4%) 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 41

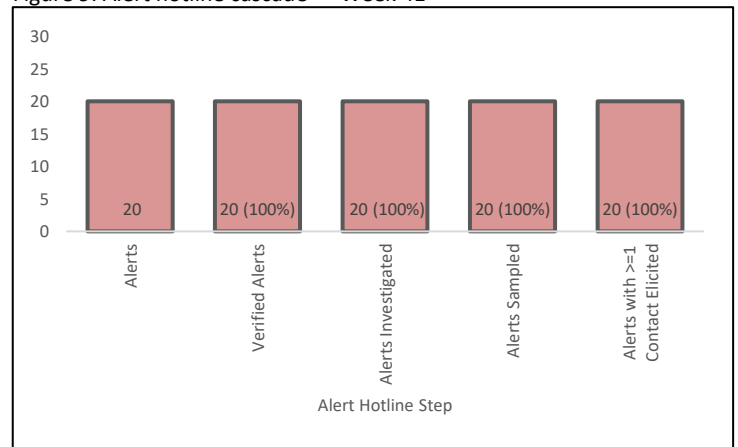
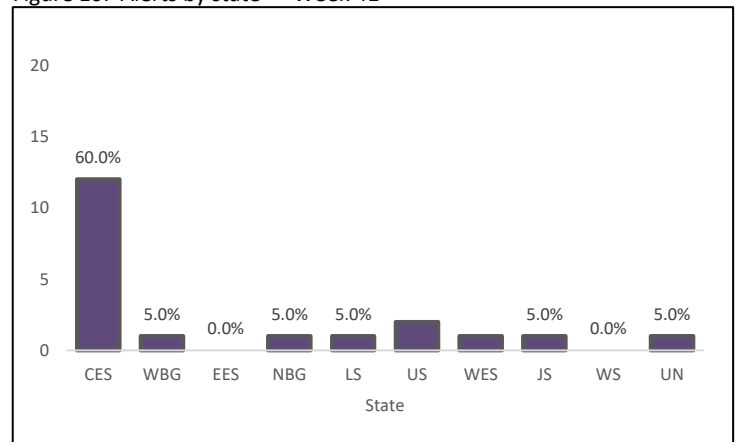


Figure 10: Alerts by state — Week 41



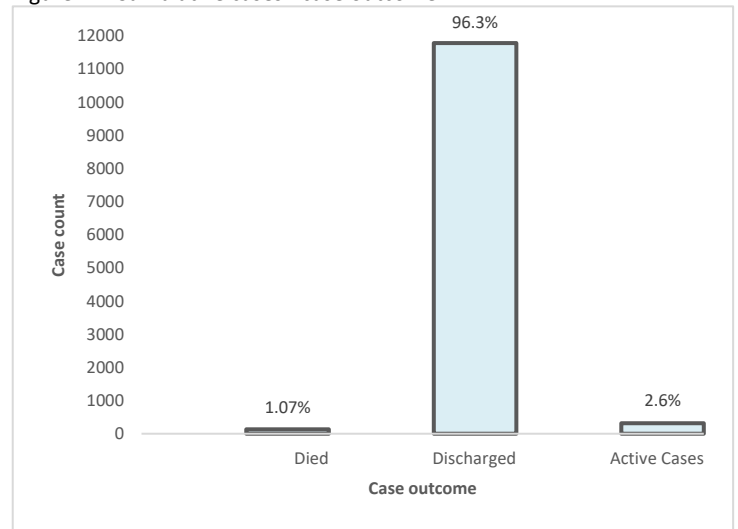


### Case Management

- 37.8% of cases managed at home, with 0.2% at health facilities
- 61.9% of cases are missing case management type at first contact although almost all of these were likely managed at home
- 11,776 (96.3%) of cases were discharged as of Week 41, with 318 cases (2.6%) under active follow-up
- 131 cases died, a CFR of 1.07%

| Case management at first detection | #     | % of total cases |
|------------------------------------|-------|------------------|
| Home management                    | 4,581 | 37.8%            |
| 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                            | 7,502 | 61.9%            |

Figure 11: Cumulative cases - case outcome



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

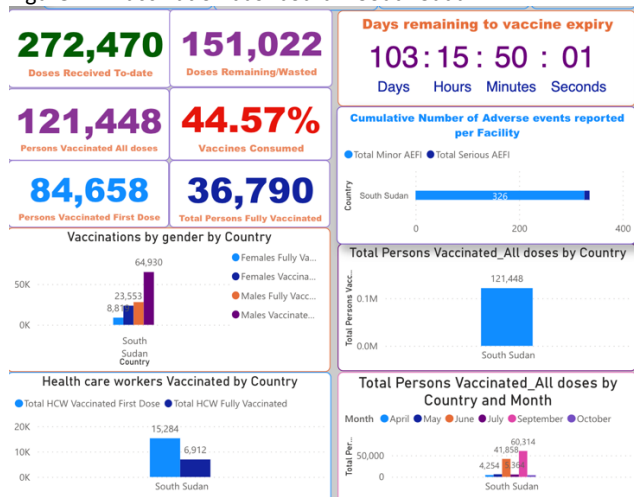
- The following achievements were registered during Week 41 under the risk communication and community engagement (RCCE) pillar:
  - Community-based contact tracers supported by ICAP, provided information about COVID-19 to 1,100 persons
- Main challenges for the RCCE pillar include:
  - Community non-compliance 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
- 3,237 (2,251 males; 986 females) were screened in Week 41
- Most of the travelers screened were truck drivers (1,132), returnees (1,415), and other nationals other than truck drivers (690)
- 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 is currently ongoing for the J&J batch of vaccines in all 80 counties in the country
- 121,448 people vaccinated as of 20 October 2021
  - 84,658 vaccinated first dose
  - 36,790 fully vaccinated
- 15,284 healthcare workers vaccinated
- Gender disparity in vaccine uptake where only 25.8% female received the vaccine
- 336 cumulative adverse events following immunization (AEFI) reported
  - 326 minor AEFI
  - 10 severe AEFI

Figure 12: Vaccination dashboard – South Sudan





Epi week: 41

Date: 11 — 17 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/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