



Epidemiology and Surveillance

Cases

- 68 cases confirmed in Week 42, a 29.2% decrease in reported cases compared to Week 41
- Majority of new cases came from traveler screening (17.6%) and alerts (76.5%), and from Central Equatoria (23.5%), and Ruweng Administrative Area (36.8%)
- No new imported cases identified from Nimule point of entry this week
- No new confirmed cases among healthcare workers
- Case tally for Week 42 represents 0.6% of cumulative case tally
- 1.5% 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 decreasing
- 29.2% decrease in 7-day moving average for new cases in the last seven days, 3.0% 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
- 54.8% of cases are South Sudanese, 21.0% are foreigners, and 24.3% 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%)
- 81.6% of cases detected in Juba compared to 18.4% outside of Juba
- Cumulatively, 62.1% of cases came from pre-travel screening, 10.1% contact tracing, 9.9% alerts, 7.3% point of entry screening, and 7.0 sentinel surveillance (3.5% have unknown source)

Deaths

- Two new reported deaths in Week 42
- 1.08% 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

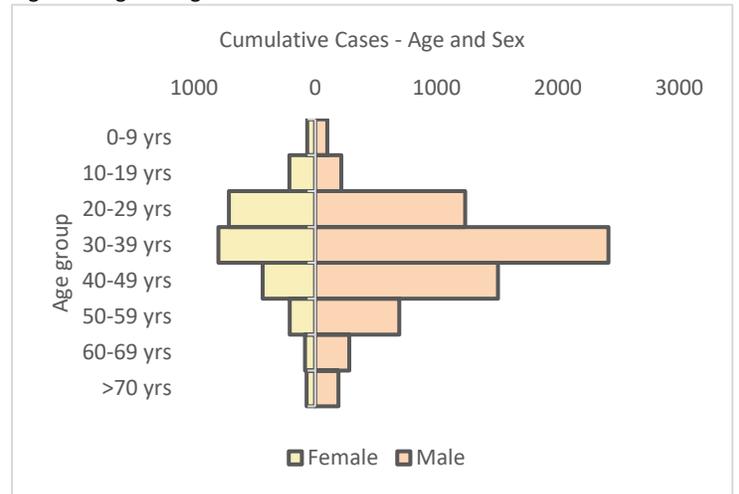
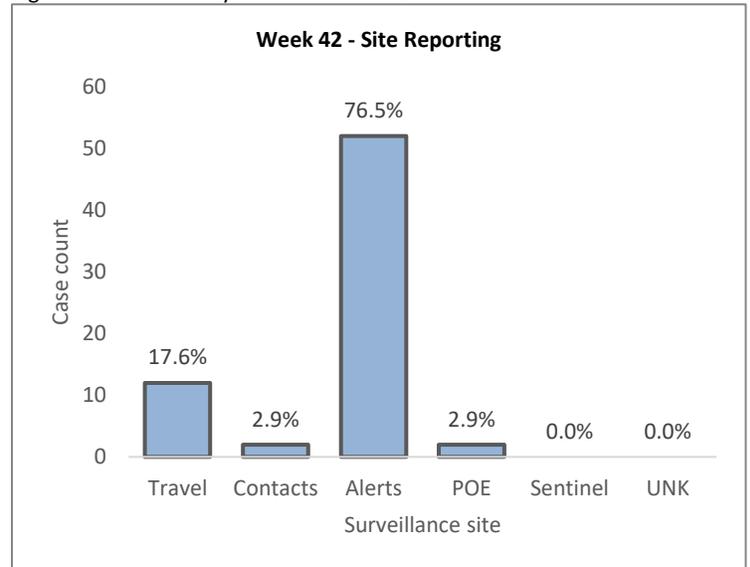


Figure 4: New cases by source – Week 42





Laboratory

- Average positivity yield is 1.5% this week, first time below 2.0% since Week 32
- Highest yields reported in 6 GXP sites (Gordhim, Nzara, Agok, Wau, Pamir, and Mapourdit)
- Positivity yields by testing site in Week 42: Crawford (0.5%), Med Blue (0.0%), NPHL (1.1%), Nimule (0.6%), Queens Medical Complex (0.9%), Nojum (0.0%), Biolab (0.6%), PIC Diagnostic Center (0.0%), Life Link (0.0%), Check Up (0.0%), Hakima Ajoung (0.0%), Gordhim (23.1%), Gentil (0.0%), Kapoeta (0.0%), Juba International Airport (0.0%), Magwi (0.0%), Nzara (42.9%), Lui (6.7%), Agok (17.6%), Mapourdit (20.0%), Pariang (9.5%), Bor (0.0%), Yambio (0.0%), Wau (12.5%), Pamir (24.7%), Rumbek (0.0%), Torit (0.0%), and Yirol (0.0%)
- Positivity yield from GXP sites is 15.6% compared to 1.1% at the NPHL, 0.6% in Nimule, and 0.4% in the private laboratories

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

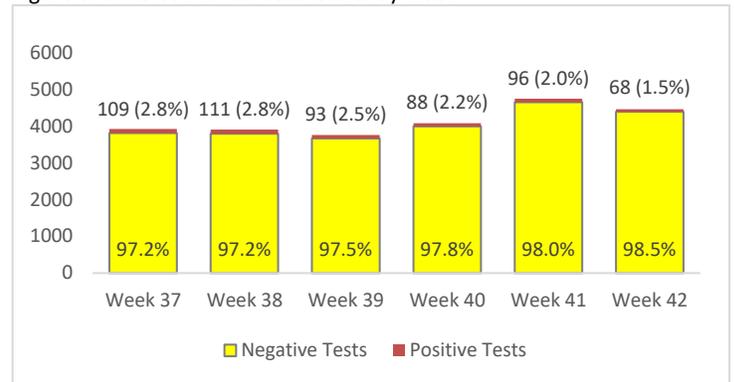


Figure 6: SARS CoV-2 PCR test results and positivity by site (PCR)

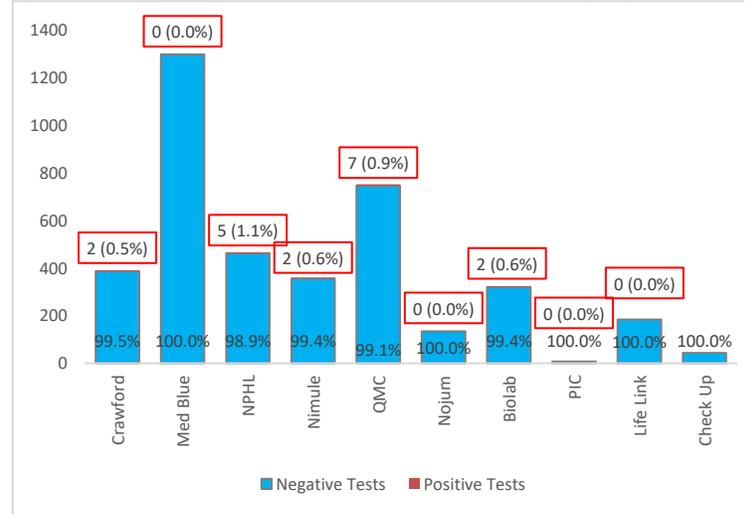
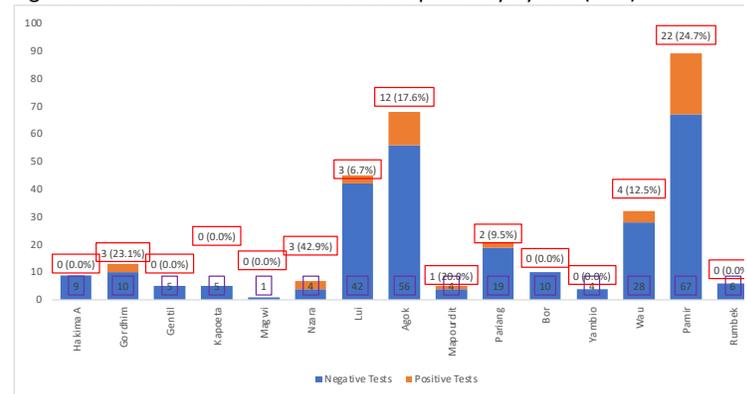


Figure 7: SARS CoV-2 PCR test results and positivity by Site (GXP)

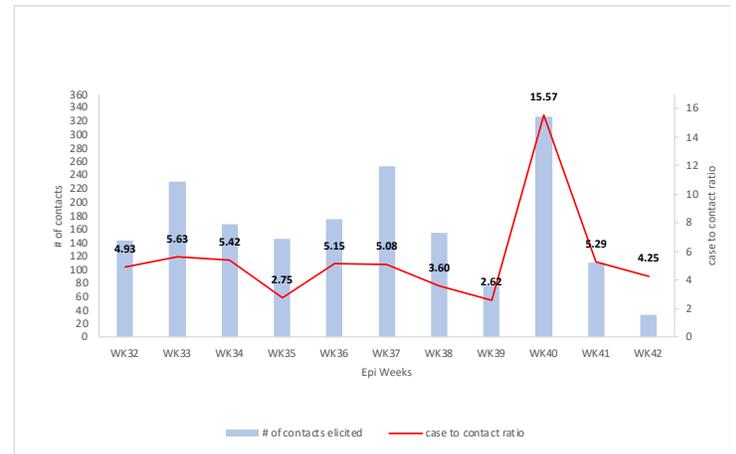




Contact Tracing

- Two of the 68 cases this week came from contact tracing
- All 16 cases confirmed in Juba County this week were distributed to ICAP for contact listing and tracing
- 12 (75.0%) of the 16 cases were eligible for contact listing (i.e., had valid phone numbers), 8 (66.7%) of whom provided 34 contacts, providing a case to contact ratio of 1:4.3
- 335 contacts were under active follow-up during the week while 44 contacts completed their follow-up period this week
- None of the 335 contacts followed up this week reported any COVID-19 related symptoms
- Samples were collected from 15 contacts in Juba this week, two 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 32 -Week 42



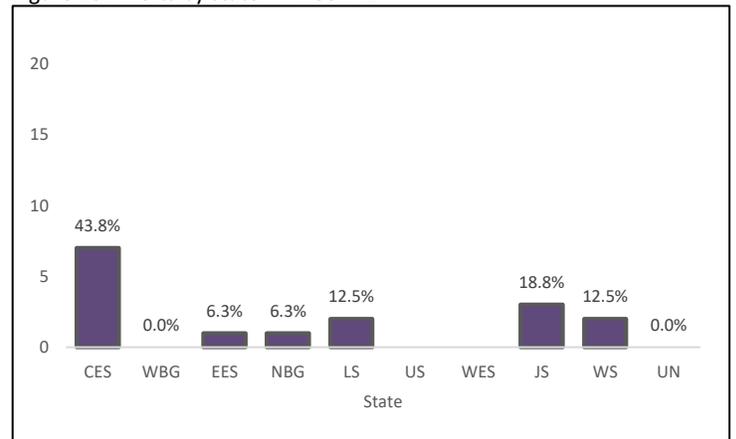
Hotline/Alerts

- 16 potential COVID-19 alerts through hotline in Week 42, a 20.0% decrease from alerts reported in Week 41, and a fourth consecutive week of decrease in reported alerts
- 13 of the 16 alerts (81.0%) were verified and interviewed by the rapid response team (RRT), and all (100%) provided samples
- 7 (43.8%) of the potential alerts came from Central Equatoria followed by Jonglei (18.8%), Warrap, and Lakes (12.5%), and Eastern Equatoria and Northern Bahr el Ghazal (6.3%)
- Western Bahr el Ghazal, Unity, Western Equatoria, and Upper Nile did not report any alerts this week
- 52 alerts and suspected cases tested positive for COVID-19 this week
- Cumulatively, 3,278 alerts have been reported, 3,147 (96.0%) were verified, and 3,064 (97.4%) sampled
- Alerts account for 1.2% of total samples tested in the country
- Alerts outside of Central Equatoria are limited

Figure 9: Alert hotline cascade — Week 42



Figure 10: Alerts by state — Week 42



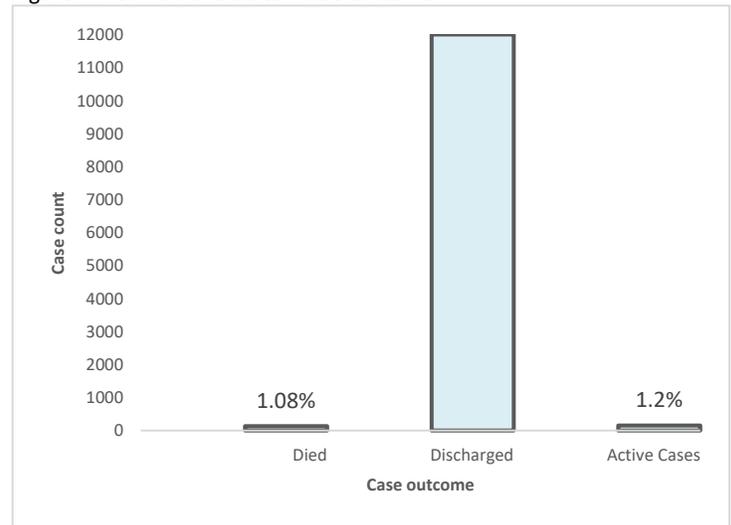


Case Management

- 37.6% of cases managed at home, with 0.2% at health facilities
- 62.1% of cases are missing case management type at first contact although almost all of these were likely managed at home
- 12,008 (97.7%) of cases were discharged as of Week 42, with 152 cases (1.2%) under active follow-up
- 133 cases died, a CFR of 1.08%

Case management at first detection	#	% of total cases
Home management	4,581	37.6%
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	7,570	62.1%

Figure 11: Cumulative cases - case outcome



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

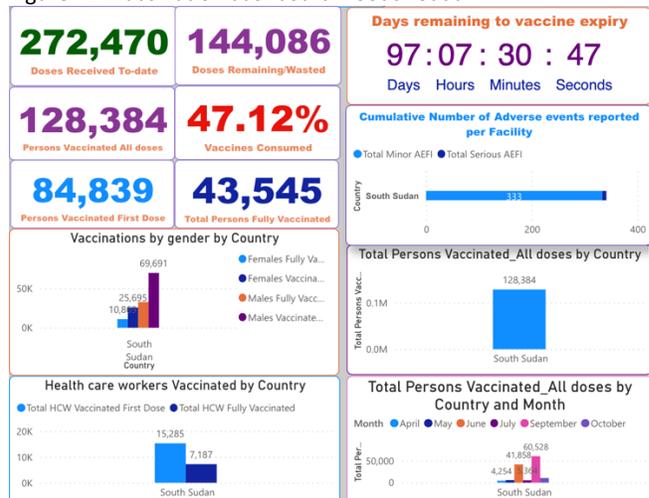
- The following achievements were registered during Week 42 under the risk communication and community engagement (RCCE) pillar:
 - Community-based contact tracers supported by ICAP, provided information about COVID-19 to 991 persons
- Main challenges for the RCCE pillar include:
 - Community non-compliance 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
- 3,512 (2,486 males; 1,026 females) were screened this week
- Most of the travelers screened were truck drivers (1,184), returnees (1,456), and other nationals other than truck drivers (872)
- 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
- 128,384 people vaccinated as of 26 October 2021
 - 84,839 vaccinated first dose
 - 43,545 fully vaccinated
- 15,285 healthcare workers vaccinated
- Gender disparity in vaccine uptake where only 26.3% female received the vaccine
- 341 cumulative adverse events following immunization (AEFI) reported
 - 333 minor AEFI
 - 8 severe AEFI

Figure 12: Vaccination dashboard – South Sudan





Epi week: 42

Date: 18 — 24 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