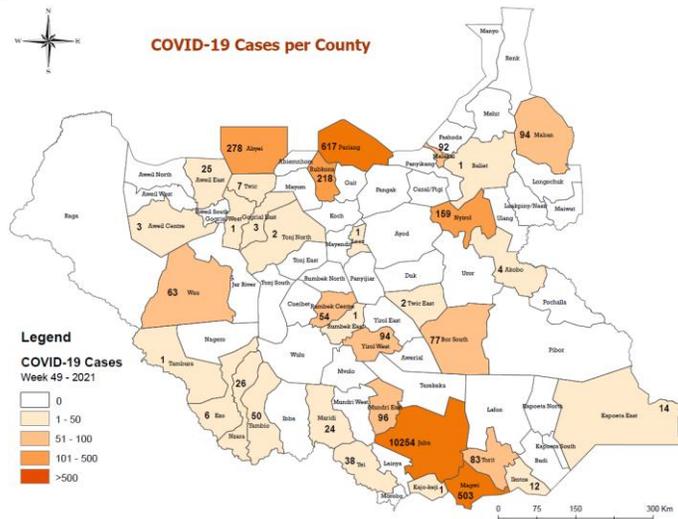




Highlights (as of Week 49)

- **12,904** confirmed cases with **133** deaths, **12,614** recoveries, and **157** active cases
- **1.03%** case fatality rate (CFR)
- **287** healthcare workers confirmed as cases
- **81** new confirmed cases during the week with pre-travel screening (**60.5%**) and alerts (**37.0%**) accounting for majority of 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 **12** cases and **1.5%** at the end of Week 49 compared to **10** cases and **1.5%** at the end of Week 48 respectively
- **1,397** in-bound travellers tested at JIA to-date (**1** tested positive, a yield of **0.07%**)



Summary Statistics



Cases  
12,904



Deaths  
133



Cases in  
IDU  
0



Samples  
tested  
276,352



Fully  
vaccinated  
180,728

New  
cases  
81

New  
deaths  
0

Discharged  
0

Crude  
positivity  
4.7%

Epi Curve

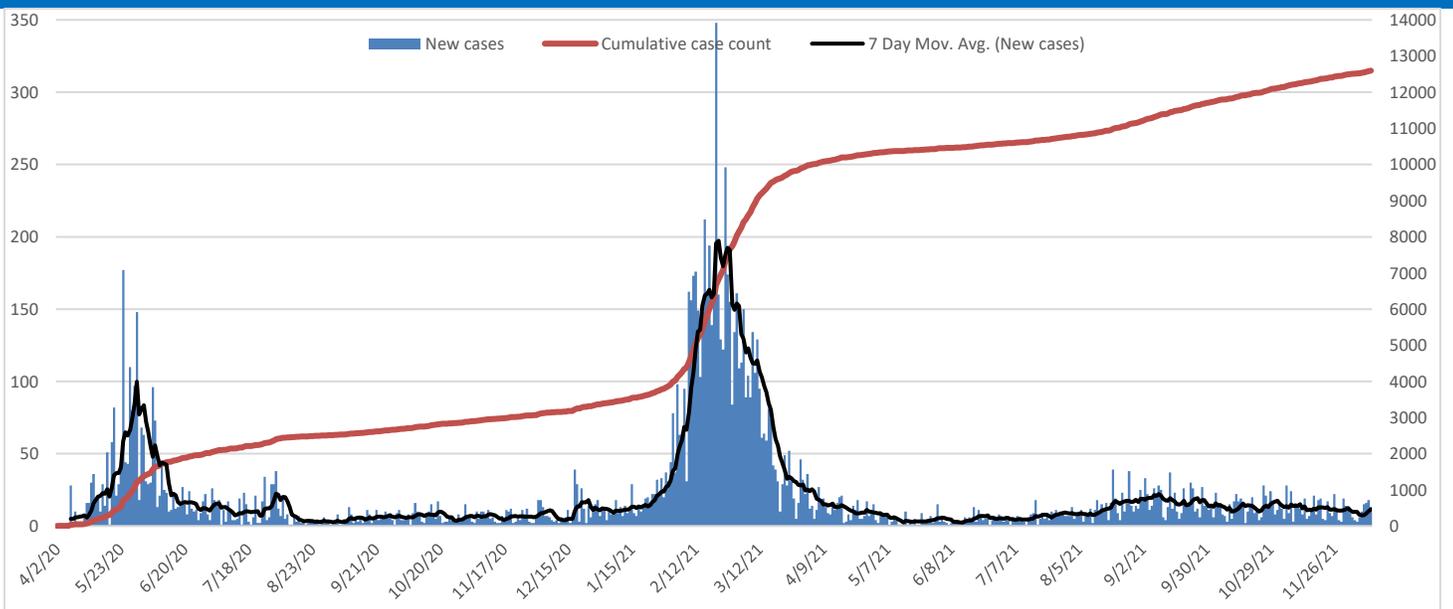


Figure 2. Epidemiological curve of reported cases through Week 49



Epidemiology and Surveillance

Cases

- 81 cases confirmed in Week 49, a 19.1% increase in reported cases compared to Week 48.
- Majority of new cases came from traveler screening (60.5%) and alerts (37.0%), and from Central Equatoria (64.2%), and Ruweng Administrative Area (29.6%)
- No new imported cases reported this week
- No new confirmed cases among healthcare workers this week
- Case tally for Week 49 represents 0.6% 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 increasing. More cases were identified in Juba than in the non-Juba sites (especially the GXP sites) this week. This is likely due to increased pre-travel testing during the holidays
- 19.6% increase in 7-day moving average for new cases in the last seven days, with a 9.4% increase 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 (100%) the last batch of samples sequenced
- 79.1% of cases detected in Juba compared to 20.9% outside of Juba
- Cumulatively, 60.4% of cases came from pre-travel screening, 13.0% alerts/suspected cases, 9.6% contact tracing, 7.1% point of entry screening, and 6.6% sentinel surveillance (3.3% have unknown source)

Deaths

- No new reported deaths in Week 49 (last new death was reported on 20 October 2021)
- 1.03% 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

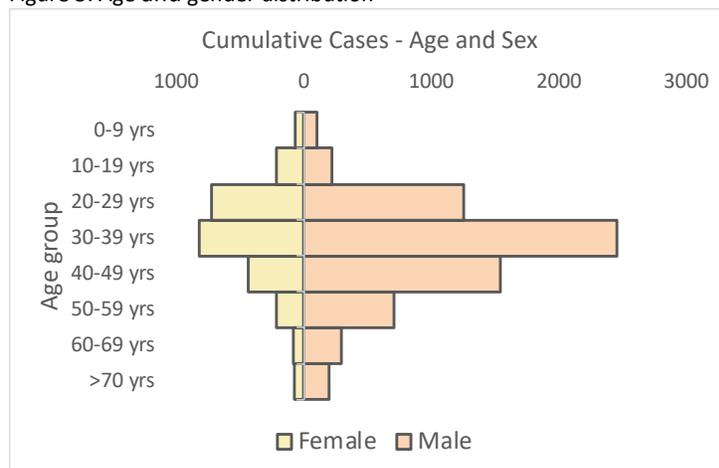
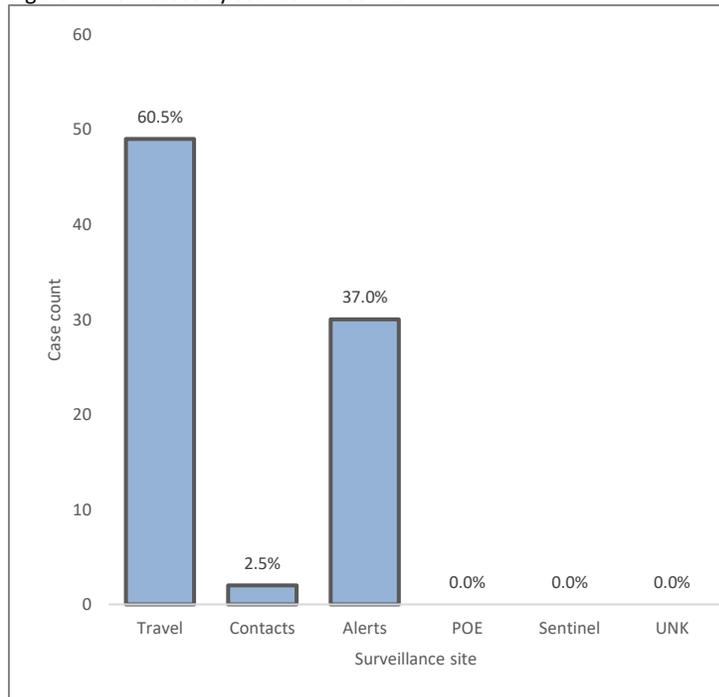


Figure 4: New cases by source – Week 49





### Laboratory

- Average positivity yield is 1.6% this week compared to 1.6% in Week 48 (similar yields)
- Highest yields reported in 3 GXP sites (Pamir PHCC, Lankien Hosp, and Pariang Hosp)
- Positivity yields by testing site were as follows in Week 49: Crawford (0.5%), Med Blue (0.6%), NPHL (5.2%), Nimule (0.0%), Queens Medical Complex (1.6%), Nojum (0.0%), Biolab (1.0%), PIC Diagnostic Center (2.5%), Life Link (0.0%), Check Up (0.0%), Tonj (0.0%), Makpandu (0.0%), Hakima Yacoub (8.3%), Bentiu (0.0%), Ikwotos (0.0%), Kapoeta (0.0%), Juba International Airport (0.0%), Gordhim (0.0%), Nzara (0.0%), Torit (0.0%), Agok (9.5%), Pariang (16.7%), Aweil (0.0%), Lankien (25.0%), Mapourdit (0.0%), and Pamir (47.2%)
- Positivity yield from GXP sites is 17.0% compared to 5.2% at the NPHL, 0.0% in Nimule, and 0.8% in the private laboratories

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

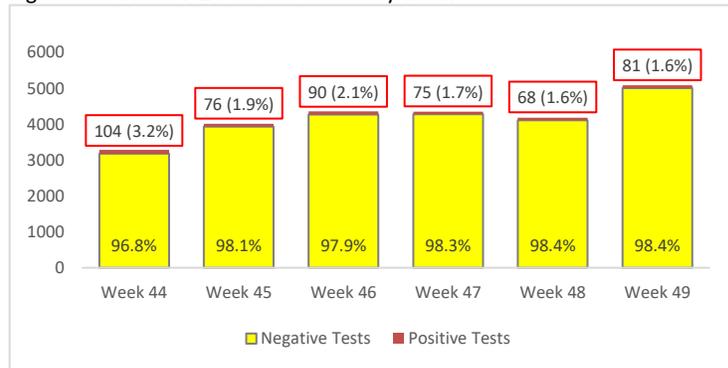


Figure 6: SARS CoV-2 PCR test results and positivity by site (Juba & Nimule)

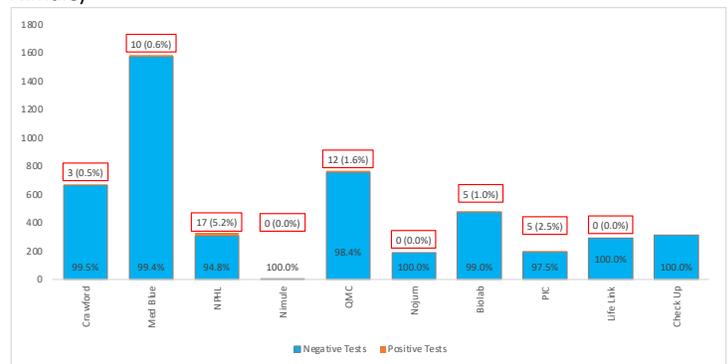
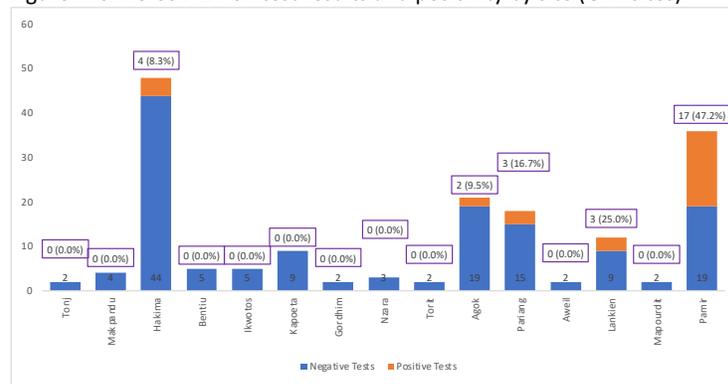


Figure 7: SARS CoV-2 PCR test results and positivity by site (GXP sites)

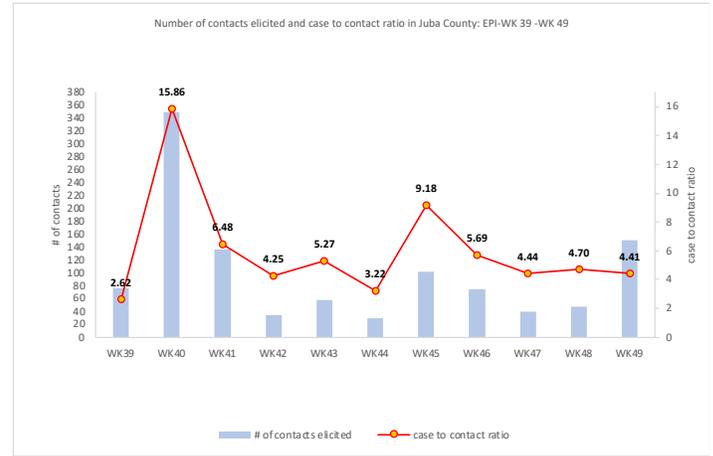




### Contact Tracing

- Two of the 81 cases this week came from contact tracing
- 48 of the 52 cases confirmed in Juba County this week were distributed to ICAP for contact listing and tracing
- 39 (81.3%) of the 48 cases were eligible for contact listing (i.e., had valid phone numbers), 34 (87.2%) of whom provided 150 contacts, providing a case to contact ratio of 1:4.4
- 631 contacts were under active follow-up during the week while 36 contacts completed their follow-up period this week
- Samples were collected from 22 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 39 -Week 49



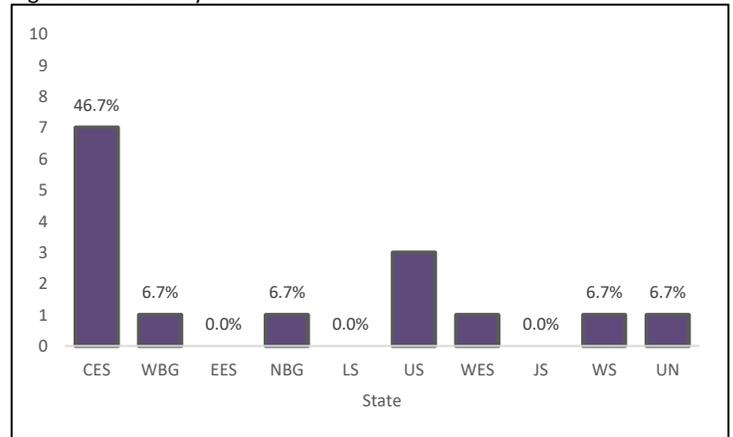
### Hotline/Alerts

- 15 potential COVID-19 alerts through hotline in Week 49, a 36.4% increase from alerts reported in Week 48
- 14 alerts (93.0%) were verified and interviewed by the rapid response team (RRT), and all (100%) provided samples
- 7 (46.7%) of the potential alerts came from Central Equatoria followed by Unity (20.0%), and Western Bahr el Ghazal, Northern Bahr el Ghazal, Warrap, Western Equatoria, and Upper Nile (6.7%)
- Three states (i.e., Eastern Equatoria, Lakes, and Jonglei) did not report any alerts this week
- 30 alerts and suspected cases tested positive for COVID-19 this week
- Cumulatively, 3,345 alerts have been reported, 3,214 (96.1%) were verified, and 3,131 (97.4%) sampled
- Alerts account for 1.1% of total samples tested in the country
- Alerts outside of Central Equatoria are limited

Figure 9: Alert hotline cascade — Week 49



Figure 10: Alerts by state — Week 49



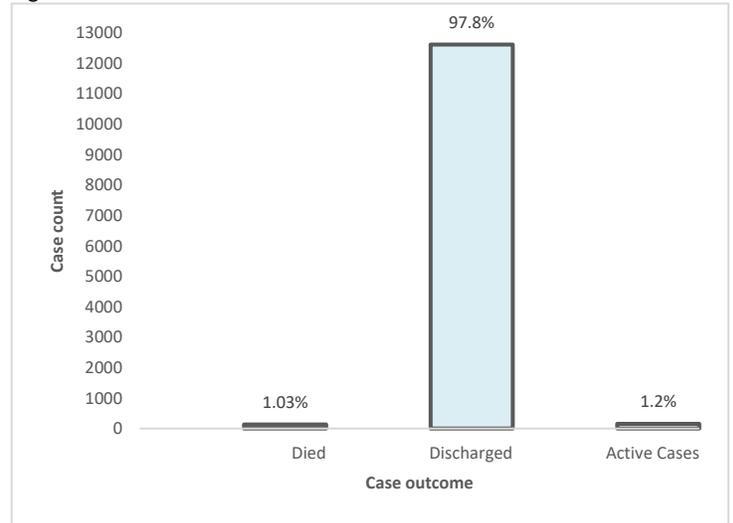


### Case Management

- 35.8% of cases managed at home, with 0.2% at health facilities
- 63.9% of cases are missing case management type at first contact although almost all of these were likely managed at home
- 12,614 (97.8%) of cases were discharged as of Week 49, with 157 cases (1.2%) under active follow-up
- 133 cases died, a CFR of 1.03%

Case management at first detection	#	% of total cases
Home management	4,581	35.8%
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	8,181	63.9%

Figure 11: Cumulative cases - case outcome



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

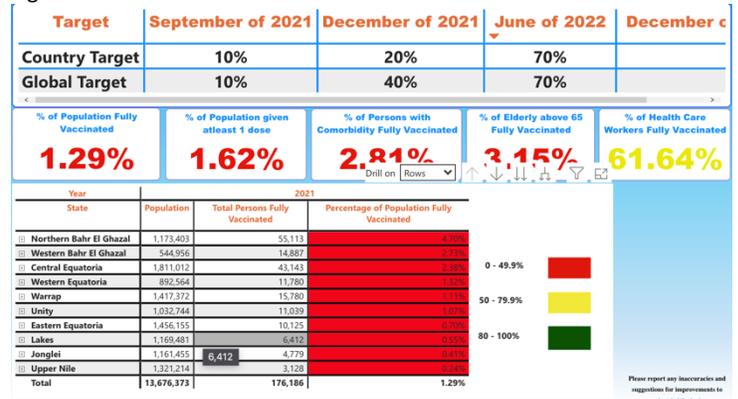
- The following achievements were registered during Week 49 under the risk communication and community engagement (RCCE) pillar:
  - Community-based contact tracers supported by ICAP, provided information about COVID-19 to 1,430 persons
- Main challenges for the RCCE pillar include:
  - Community non-compliance 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
- 3,541 (2,256 males; 1,285 females) were screened this week
- Most of the travelers screened were truck drivers (1,055), returnees (1,874), and other nationals other than truck drivers (612)
- 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

- 500,470 vaccine doses received to-date. The latest batch of 168,000 J&J vaccines was received on 7 December 2021
- Vaccination is currently ongoing for the AstraZeneca and J&J vaccines in 68 counties and 301 health facilities
- Planned scale-up of vaccination to all 80 counties by mid-December 2021
- 266,255 doses administered as of 14 December 2021
  - 180,728 fully vaccinated (40,883 with two AZ doses, 139,845 with single dose of J&J)
- 16,940 healthcare workers fully vaccinated
- Gender disparity in vaccine uptake where only 39.3% female received the vaccine, but this has improved in Phase 3
- 548 cumulative adverse events following immunization (AEFI) reported
  - 521 minor AEFI
  - 27 severe AEFI

Figure 12: Vaccination dashboard – South Sudan





Epi week: 49

Date: 06 — 12 Dec 2021

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

Email: [sspheoc@gmail.com](mailto: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/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