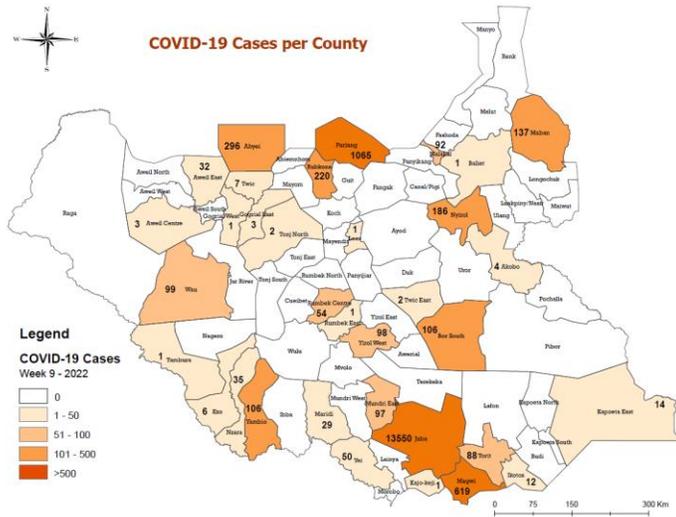




Highlights (as of Week 9)

- 17,015 confirmed cases with 138 deaths, 13,278 recoveries, and 3,599 active cases
- 0.81% case fatality rate (CFR)
- 290 healthcare workers confirmed as cases
- 42 new confirmed cases during the week with pre-travel (42.9%) and point of entry screening (38.1%) accounting for most of the cases
- 484 imported cases (12 new cases this week) mostly from South Sudanese returnees (309), Uganda (55), and Kenya (20)
- 0 admitted to the Infectious Disease Unit (IDU) in Juba during the week
- Seven-day moving averages for case count and positivity rate were 6.0 cases and 0.9% at the end of Week 9 compared to 5.0 cases and 0.8% at the end of Week 8 respectively
- 2,127 in-bound travellers tested at JIA to-date (8 tested positive, a yield of 0.4%)



Summary Statistics



Cases 17,015



Deaths 138



Cases in IDU 0



Samples tested 346,056



Fully vaccinated 435,763

New cases 42

New deaths 1

Discharged 0

Crude positivity 4.9%

Epi Curve

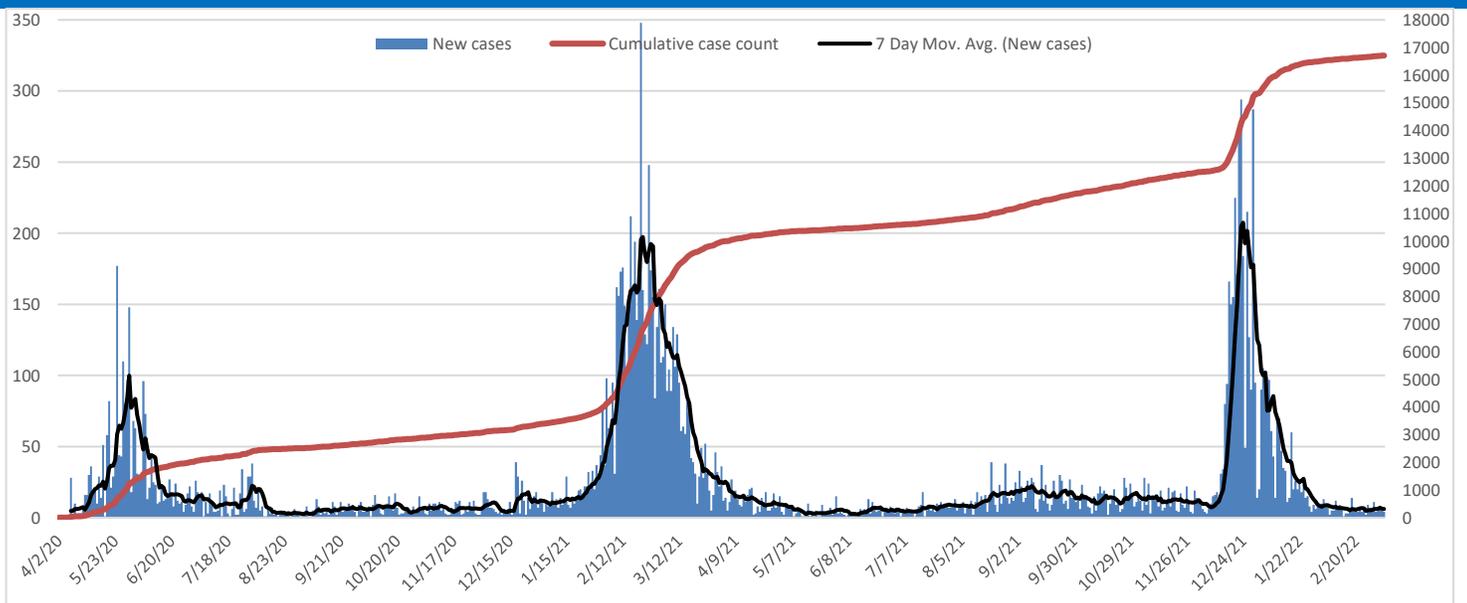


Figure 2. Epidemiological curve of reported cases through Week 9



Epidemiology and Surveillance

Cases

- 42 cases confirmed in Week 9, a 13.5% increase in reported cases compared to Week 8, the first reported increase after nine consecutive weeks of observed decrease in weekly case incidence. The increase this week is due to resumption of COVID-19 testing at Nimule mobile laboratory
- Majority of new cases came from pre-travel (42.9%) and point of entry screening (38.1%), and from Central Equatoria (35.7%), and Eastern Equatoria (38.1%)
- 12 new imported cases reported this week from Nimule land crossing
- No new confirmed cases among healthcare workers this week
- Case tally for Week 9 represents 0.2% of cumulative case tally
- 0.9% crude positivity for samples tested during the week (highest yields came from sites using GeneXpert (GXP) machines and antigen rapid diagnostic tests)
- Trends for moving averages for yield, case count, and proportional daily case change are stabilizing (after increasing steeply in epi weeks 50 and 51)
- 11.1% increase in 7-day moving average for new cases in the last seven days, with a 5.3% 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
- 52.9% of cases are South Sudanese, 20.8% are foreigners, and 26.3% are of unknown nationality
- The last batch of samples sequenced at Uganda Virus Research Institute were all the Omicron variant
- 79.4% of cases detected in Juba compared to 20.6% outside of Juba
- Cumulatively, 64.8% of cases came from pre-travel screening, 14.4% alerts/suspected cases, 7.3% contact tracing, 6.1% point of entry screening, and 4.9% sentinel surveillance (2.5% have unknow source)

Deaths

- One backlog death that occurred at a private health facility was reported in Week 9
- 0.81% 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

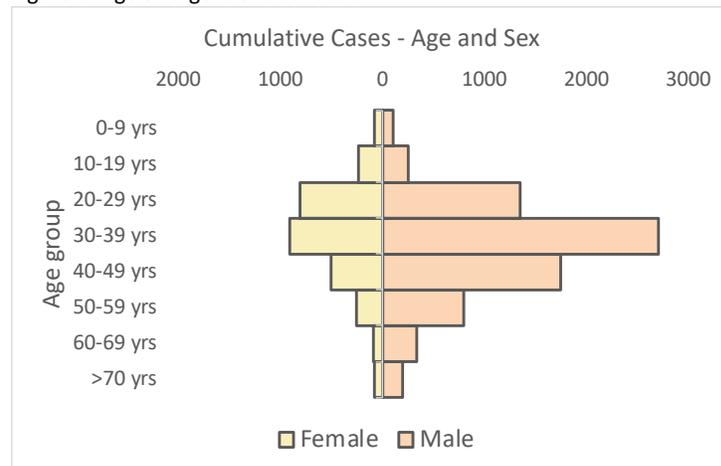
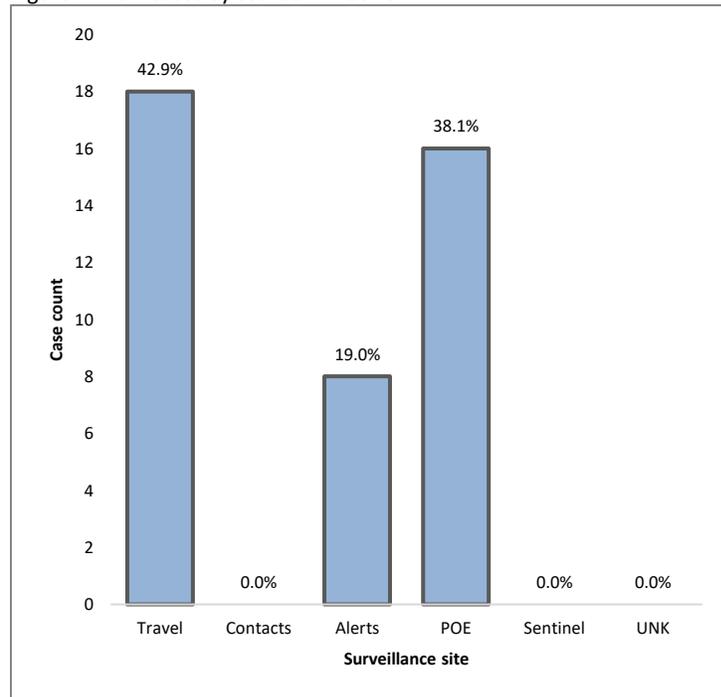


Figure 4: New cases by source – Week 9





Laboratory

- Average positivity yield is 0.9% this week compared to 0.7% in Week 8 (first reported increase in positivity yield after eight consecutive weeks of observed decrease in positivity rate)
- Highest yields reported in 3 GXP and Ag-RDT sites (Hakima Yacoub PHCC GXP testing, Hakima Yacoub PHCC Ag-RDT testing, and Pariang Hosp Ag-RDT testing)
- Positivity yields by testing site were as follows in Week 9: Crawford (0.2%), Med Blue (0.1%), NPHL (0.9%), Nimule (8.9%), Queens Medical Complex (0.2%), Catherine Medical Centre (0.0%), PIC Diagnostic Centre (0.0%), Nojum (2.3%), Biolab (1.0%), Check Ups (0.3%), Life Link (0.2%), Yambio (0.0%), Makpandu (0.0%), Hakima Yacoub Ag-RDT testing (11.1%), Pariang Ag-RDT testing (12.5%), Lui (8.3%), Aweil (0.0%), Juba International Airport (0.0%), Juba contact tracing (0.0%), IOM-Juba (0.0%), IOM-Bentiu (0.0%), IOM-Malakal (0.0%), IOM-Wau (0.0%), IOM-Nimule (0.0%), Pariang GXP testing (3.8%), Pamir GXP testing (0.0%), Pamir Ag-RDT testing (5.0%), Hakima Yacoub GXP testing (25.0%), Ezo (0.0%), Old Fangak (0.0%), Sika Hadid Wau (0.0%), Gorom PHCC (0.0%), Nzara (0.0%), Wau (0.0%), and Juba Teaching Hospital (0.0%)
- Positivity yield is 3.3% from the GXP sites, 2.8% in the Ag-RDT sites, 0.9% at the NPHL, 8.9% in Nimule, and 0.3% in the private laboratories

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

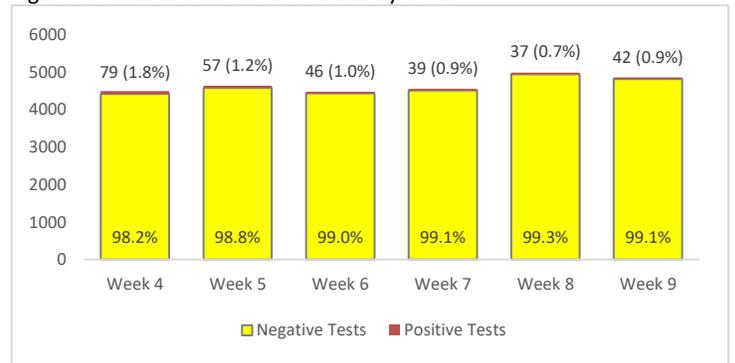


Figure 6: SARS CoV-2 PCR test results and positivity by site (Juba & Nimule)

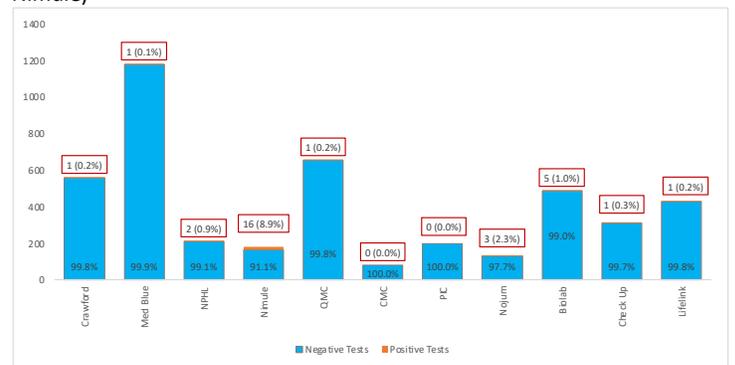
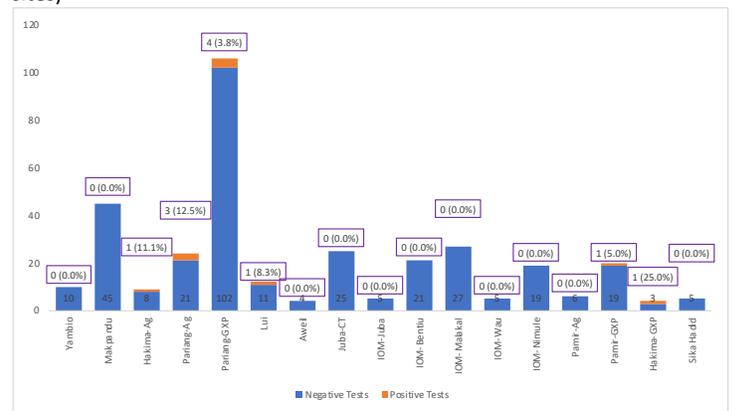


Figure 7: SARS CoV-2 test results and positivity by site (GXP & Ag-RDT sites)

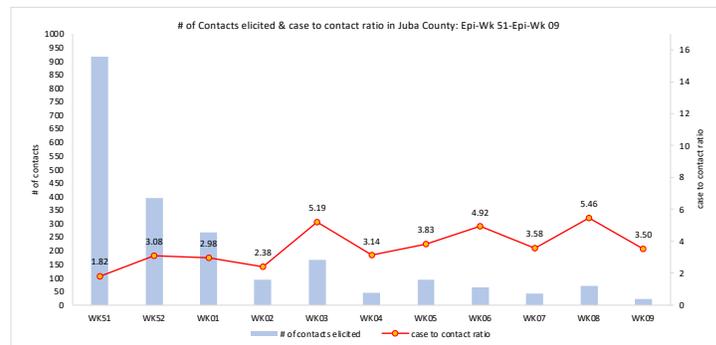




Contact Tracing

- None of the 42 cases recorded this week came from contact tracing
- 15 cases confirmed in Juba County were distributed to ICAP for contact listing and tracing during this week
- 13 (86.7%) of the 15 cases were eligible for contact listing (i.e., had valid phone numbers), 6 (46.2%) of whom provided 21 contacts, providing a case to contact ratio of 1:3.5
- 2,389 contacts were under active follow-up during the week while 18 contacts completed their follow-up period this week
- Samples were collected from 14 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 51 -Week 9



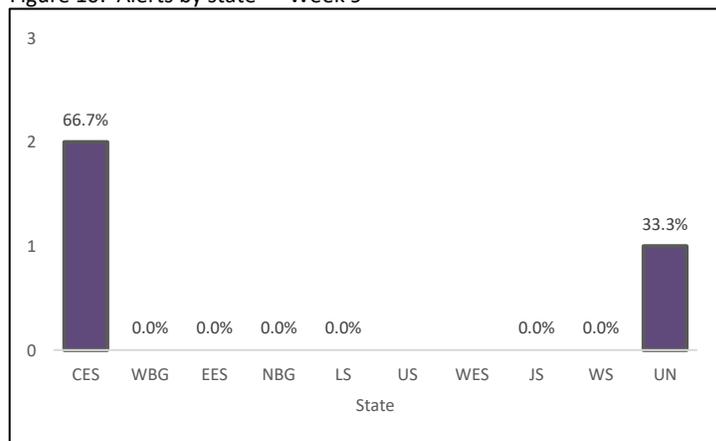
Hotline/Alerts

- Three potential COVID-19 alerts through hotline in Week 9, a 62.5% decrease from alerts reported in Week 8
- All 3 alerts (100.0%) were verified and interviewed by the rapid response team (RRT), and all provided samples
- Two (66.7%) alerts came from Central Equatoria, followed by Upper Nile (33.3%)
- Eight states (Western Bahr el Ghazal, Eastern Equatoria, Northern Bahr el Ghazal, Lakes, Unity, Western Equatoria, Jonglei, and Warrap) did not report any alerts this week
- Eight alerts and suspected cases tested positive for COVID-19 this week
- Cumulatively, 3,527 alerts have been reported, 3,396 (96.3%) were verified, and 3,313 (97.6%) sampled
- Alerts account for 1.0% of total samples tested in the country
- Alerts outside of Central Equatoria are limited

Figure 9: Alert hotline cascade — Week 9



Figure 10: Alerts by state — Week 9



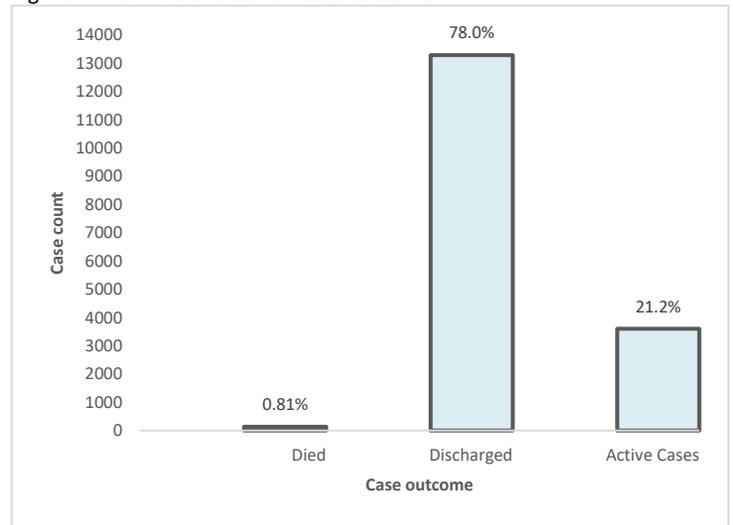


Case Management

- 27.1% of cases managed at home, with 0.1% at health facilities
- 72.7% of cases are missing case management type at first contact although almost all of these were likely managed at home
- 13,278 (78.0%) of cases were discharged as of Week 9, with 3,599 cases (21.2%) under active follow-up
- 138 cases died, a CFR of 0.81%

Case management at first detection	#	% of total cases
Home management	4,581	27.1%
Hospital	20	0.1%
Isolation center	4	<0.1%
UN health facility	2	<0.1%
UN home management	3	<0.1%
Died	10	0.1%
Unknown	12,295	72.7%

Figure 11: Cumulative cases - case outcome



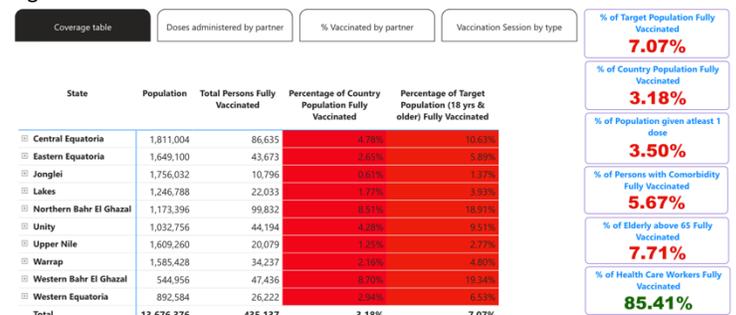
Risk Communication and Community Engagement (RCCE)/Point of Entry (POE)

- The following achievements were registered during Week 9 under the risk communication and community engagement (RCCE) pillar:
 - Community-based contact tracers supported by ICAP, provided information about COVID-19 to 911 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
 - 3,641 (2,723 males; 918 females) were screened this week
 - Most of the travelers screened were truck drivers (1,608), returnees (1,077), and other nationals other than truck drivers (956)
 - Returnees from refugee camps do not undergo quarantine and are not required to present a negative PCR test COVID-19 certificate but those with COVID-19 related symptoms are tested using antigen rapid diagnostic tests (Ag-RDTs)
 - Other nationals and truck drivers are required to present valid negative PCR test COVID-19 certificate to enter South Sudan

COVID-19 Vaccination

- 930,070 vaccine doses received to-date. The latest batch of 108,000 J&J vaccines was received on 30 December 2021
- Vaccination is currently ongoing for the J&J vaccine in 79 counties and 570 health facilities
- 527,964 doses administered as of 8 March 2022
 - 435,763 fully vaccinated (48,714 with two AZ doses, 387,049 with single dose of J&J)
- 29,827 healthcare workers fully vaccinated
- Gender disparity in vaccine uptake where only 45.6% female received the vaccine, but this has improved in Phase 3
- 753 cumulative adverse events following immunization (AEFI) reported
 - 704 minor AEFI
 - 49 severe AEFI

Figure 12: Vaccination dashboard – South Sudan





Epi week: 9

Date: 28 Feb — 06 Mar 2022

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