

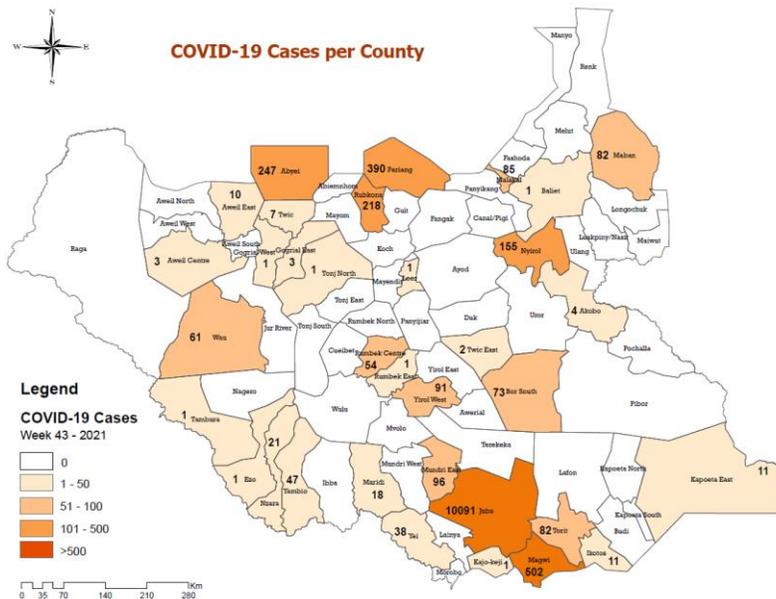


Epi week: 43

Date: 25 — 31 October 2021

Highlights (as of Week 43)

- **12,410** confirmed cases with **133** deaths, **12,047** recoveries, and **230** active cases
- **1.07%** case fatality rate (CFR)
- **287** healthcare workers confirmed as cases
- **117** new confirmed cases during the week with pre-travel screening (**14.5%**) and alerts (**78.6%**) accounting for majority of the cases
- **440** imported cases (**9** new cases) mostly from South Sudanese returnees (**268**), Uganda (**53**), and Kenya (**19**)
- **2** admitted to the Infectious Disease Unit (IDU) in Juba during the week (**1** severe, **1** mild)
- Seven-day moving averages for case count and yield were **17** cases and **2.9%** at the end of Week 43 compared to **10** and **1.4%** at the end of Week 42 respectively
- **610** in-bound travellers (from Uganda and United Arab Emirates) tested at JIA to-date (**0** tested positive)



Summary Statistics



Cases
12,410



Deaths
133



Cases in IDU
2



Samples tested
251,111



Fully vaccinated
55,769

New cases
117

New deaths
0

Discharged
1

Crude positivity
4.9%

Epicurve

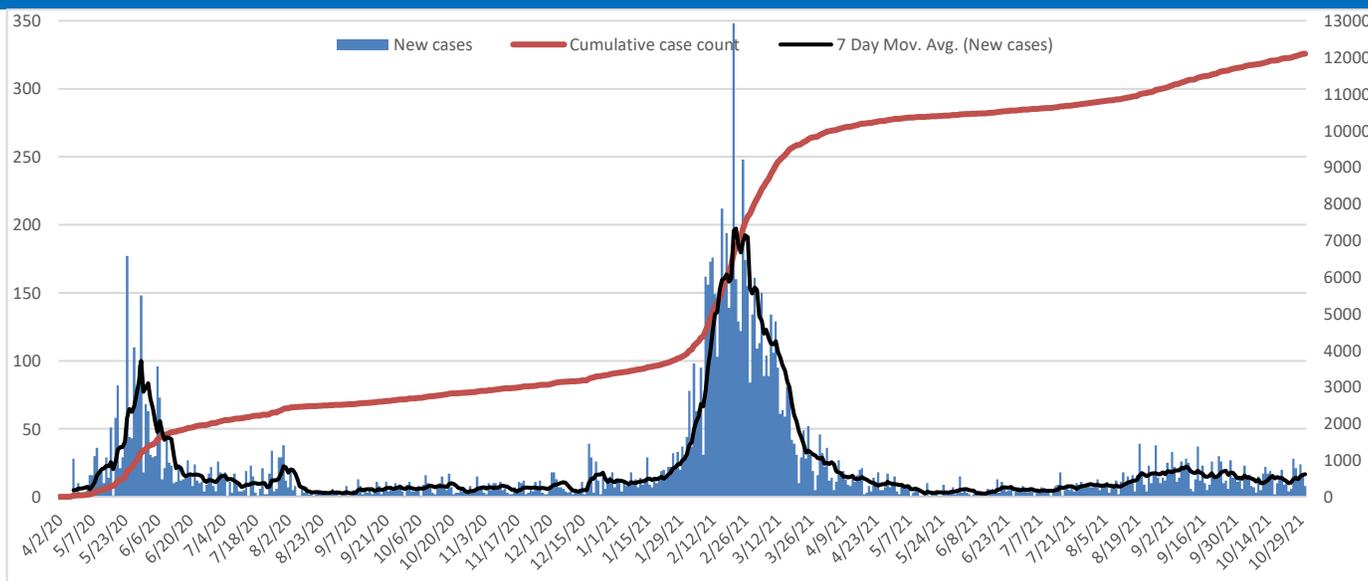


Figure 2. Epidemiological curve of reported cases through Week 43



Epidemiology and Surveillance

Cases

- 117 cases confirmed in Week 43, a 72.1% increase in reported cases compared to Week 42
- Majority of new cases came from traveler screening (14.5%) and alerts (78.6%), and from Central Equatoria (15.4%), and Ruweng Administrative Area (59.0%)
- Nine new imported cases identified from Nimule point of entry this week
- One new confirmed case among healthcare workers
- Case tally for Week 43 represents 0.9% of cumulative case tally
- 2.9% 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
- 83.5% increase in 7-day moving average for new cases in the last seven days, 21.9% 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
- 54.4% of cases are South Sudanese, 20.9% are foreigners, and 24.8% 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%)
- 81.0% of cases detected in Juba compared to 19.0% outside of Juba
- Cumulatively, 61.6% of cases came from pre-travel screening, 10.6% alerts, 10.0% contact tracing, 7.3% point of entry screening, and 6.9 sentinel surveillance (3.5% have unknown source)

Deaths

- No new reported deaths in Week 43
- 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

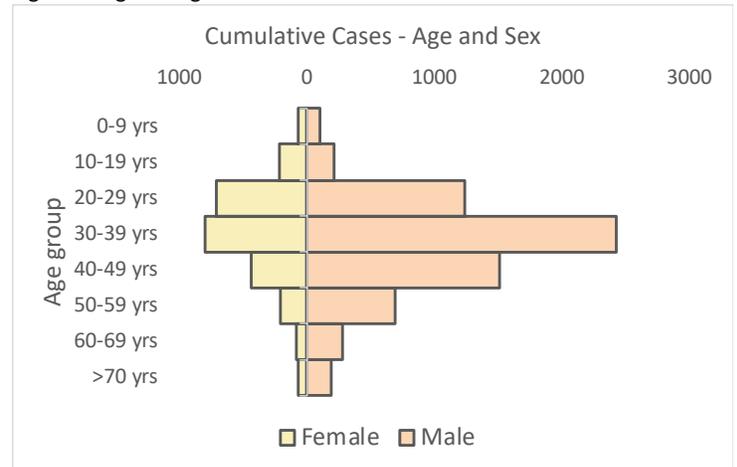
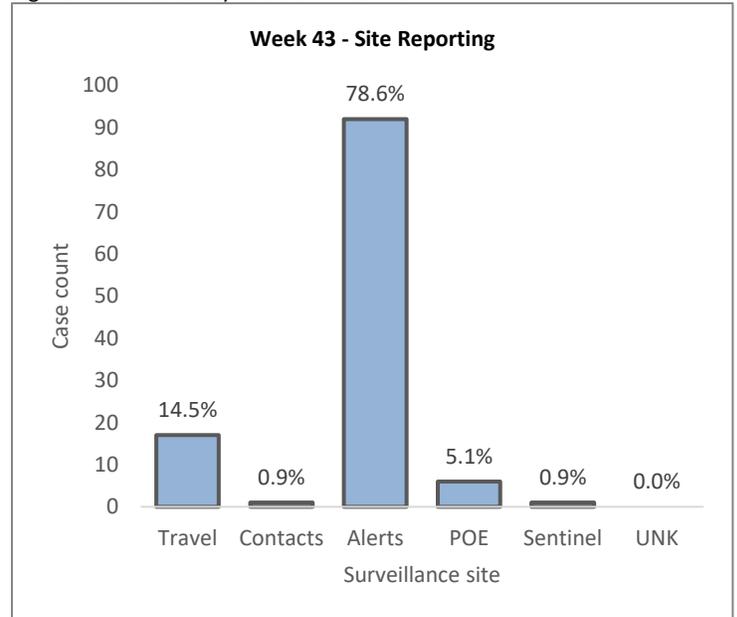


Figure 4: New cases by source – Week 43





Laboratory

- Average positivity yield is 2.9% this week, after falling below 2.0% (in Week 42) for the first time since Week 32
- Highest yields reported in 6 GXP sites (Gordhim, Nzara, Agok, Pamir, Lui, and Hakima Ajuong Thok)
- Positivity yields by testing site in Week 43: Crawford (0.2%), Med Blue (0.2%), NPHL (1.0%), Nimule (1.6%), Queens Medical Complex (1.1%), Nojum (1.0%), Biolab (1.4%), Life Link (0.0%), Check Up (0.0%), Hakima Ajuong (17.0%), Gordhim (33.3%), Bor (7.1%), Gentil (0.0%), Kapoeta (100.0%), Juba International Airport (0.0%), Magwi (0.0%), Nzara (30.8%), Lui (28.6%), Agok (25.5%), Mapourdit (0.0%), Pariang (6.7%), Lankien (0.0%), Wau (0.0%), Pamir (50.5%), Rumbek (0.0%), and Yirol (0.0%)
- Positivity yield from GXP sites is 23.8% compared to 1.0% at the NPHL, 1.6% in Nimule, and 0.5% in the private laboratories

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

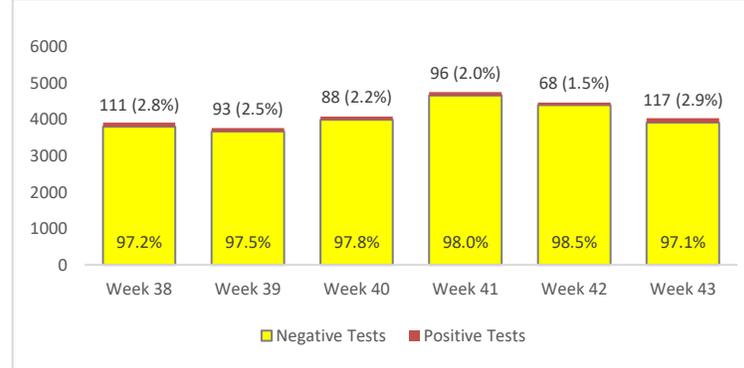
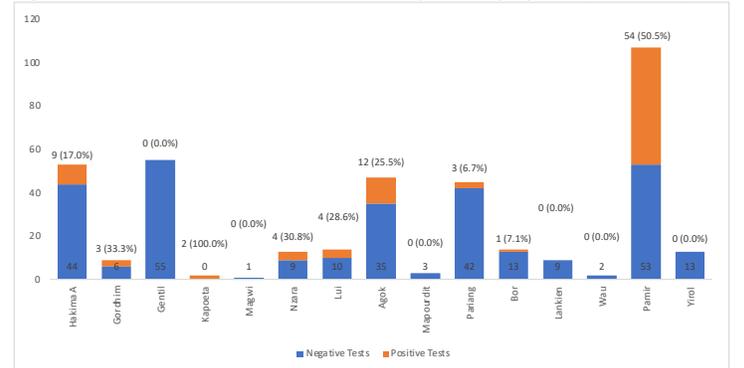


Figure 6: SARS CoV-2 PCR test results and positivity by site (Juba & Nimule)



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

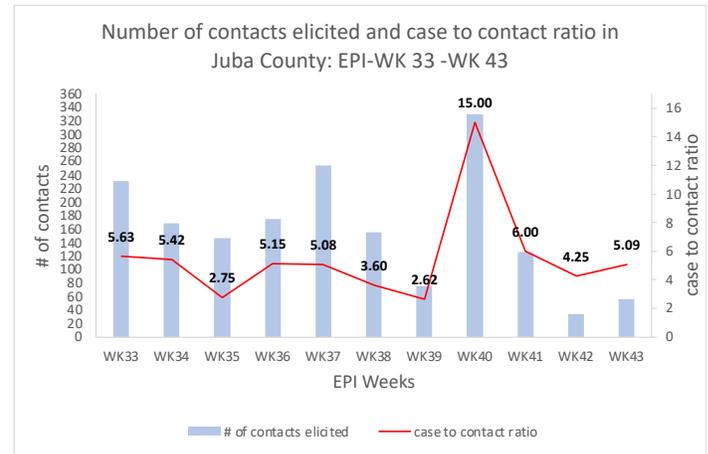




Contact Tracing

- One of the 117 cases this week came from contact tracing
- All 17 cases confirmed in Juba County this week were distributed to ICAP for contact listing and tracing
- 13 (76.5%) of the 17 cases were eligible for contact listing (i.e., had valid phone numbers), 11 (84.6%) of whom provided 56 contacts, providing a case to contact ratio of 1:5.1
- 375 contacts were under active follow-up during the week while 17 contacts completed their follow-up period this week
- None of the 375 contacts followed up this week reported any COVID-19 related symptoms
- Samples were collected from 26 contacts in Juba this week, one 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 33 -Week 43



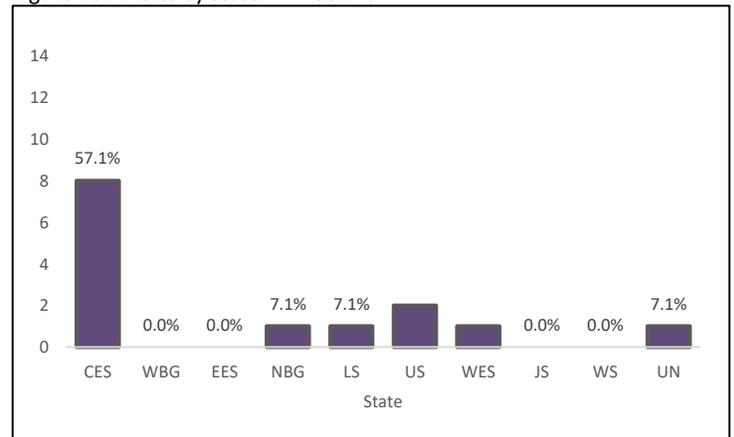
Hotline/Alerts

- 14 potential COVID-19 alerts through hotline in Week 43, a 12.5% decrease from alerts reported in Week 42, and a fifth consecutive week of decrease in reported alerts
- All 14 alerts (100.0%) were verified and interviewed by the rapid response team (RRT), and all (100%) provided samples
- 8 (57.1%) of the potential alerts came from Central Equatoria followed by Unity (14.3%), and Northern Bahr el Ghazal, Lakes, Western Equatoria, and Upper Nile (7.1%)
- Western Bahr el Ghazal, Eastern Equatoria, Jonglei, and Warrap did not report any alerts this week
- 92 alerts and suspected cases tested positive for COVID-19 this week
- Cumulatively, 3,287 alerts have been reported, 3,156 (96.0%) were verified, and 3,075 (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 43



Figure 10: Alerts by state — Week 43



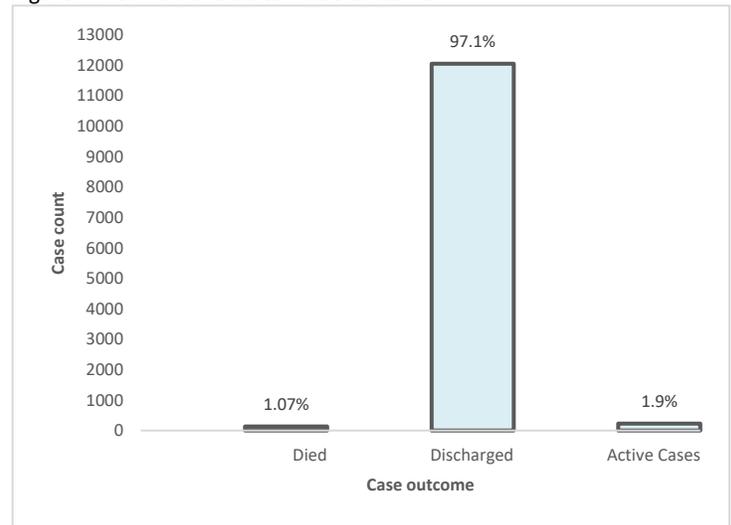


Case Management

- 37.2% of cases managed at home, with 0.2% at health facilities
- 62.4% of cases are missing case management type at first contact although almost all of these were likely managed at home
- 12,047 (97.1%) of cases were discharged as of Week 43, with 230 cases (1.9%) under active follow-up
- 133 cases died, a CFR of 1.07%

Case management at first detection	#	% of total cases
Home management	4,581	37.2%
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	7,687	62.4%

Figure 11: Cumulative cases - case outcome



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

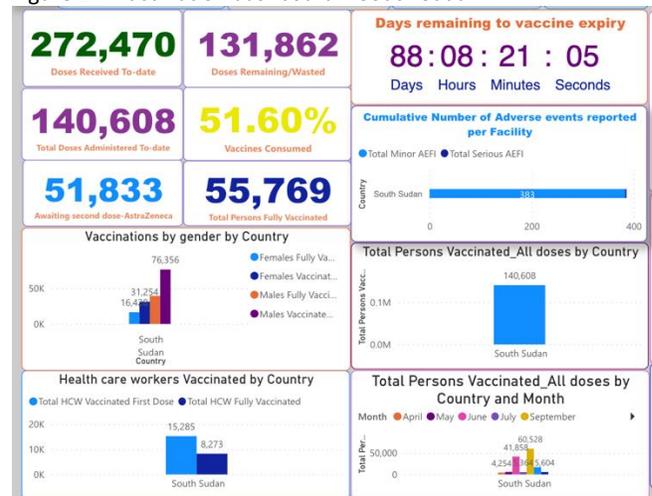
- The following achievements were registered during Week 43 under the risk communication and community engagement (RCCE) pillar:
 - Community-based contact tracers supported by ICAP, provided information about COVID-19 to 1,498 persons
- Main challenges for the RCCE pillar include:
 - Community non-compliance 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
- 3,555 (2,415 males; 1,140 females) were screened this week
- Most of the travelers screened were truck drivers (1,189), returnees (1,594), and other nationals other than truck drivers (772)
- 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. Additional AstraZeneca and J&J batches of vaccines expected later this month
- Vaccination is currently ongoing for the J&J batch of vaccines in all 80 counties in the country
- 140,608 people vaccinated as of 04 November 2021
 - 84,839 vaccinated first dose
 - 55,769 fully vaccinated
- 15,285 healthcare workers vaccinated
- Gender disparity in vaccine uptake where only 29.2% female received the vaccine
- 386 cumulative adverse events following immunization (AEFI) reported
 - 383 minor AEFI
 - 3 severe AEFI

Figure 12: Vaccination dashboard – South Sudan





Epi week: 43

Date: 25 — 31 October 2021

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

Email: sspheoc@gmail.com

Tel #: +211 928 799 005/ +211 917 611 031

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