



Epidemiology and Surveillance

Cases

- 39 cases confirmed in Week 7, a 15.2% decrease in reported cases compared to Week 6, the eighth consecutive week of observed decrease in weekly case incidence
- Majority of new cases came from traveler screening (61.5%) and alerts (38.5%), and from Central Equatoria (71.8%), and Ruweng Administrative Area (25.6%)
- No new imported cases reported this week from Nimule land crossing
- No new confirmed cases among healthcare workers this week
- Case tally for Week 7 represents 0.2% of cumulative case tally
- 0.8% 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 decreasing (after increasing steeply in epi weeks 50 and 51)
- 35.8% decrease in 7-day moving average for new cases in the last seven days, with a 48.2% 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
- 52.9% of cases are South Sudanese, 20.8% are foreigners, and 26.3% are of unknown nationality
- The Omicron [B.1.1.529] predominates the last batch of samples sequenced at Uganda Virus Research Institute
- 79.5% of cases detected in Juba compared to 20.5% outside of Juba
- Cumulatively, 64.9% of cases came from pre-travel screening, 14.4% alerts/suspected cases, 7.3% contact tracing, 5.9% point of entry screening, and 4.9% sentinel surveillance (2.5% have unknown source)

Deaths

- No new reported death in Week 7 (last COVID-19 death was reported on 19 January 2022)
- 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

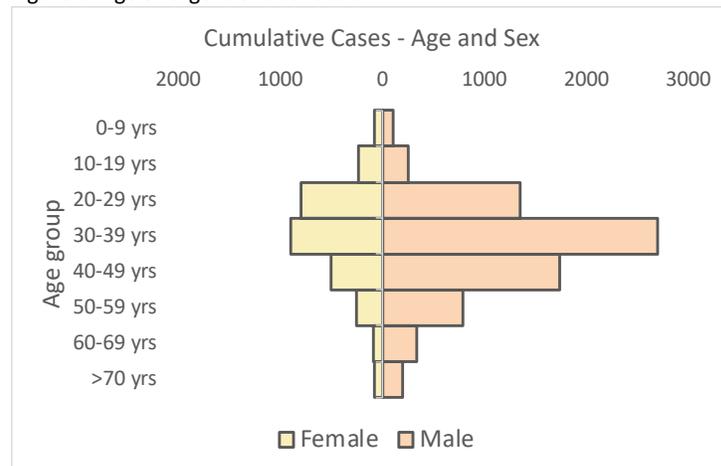
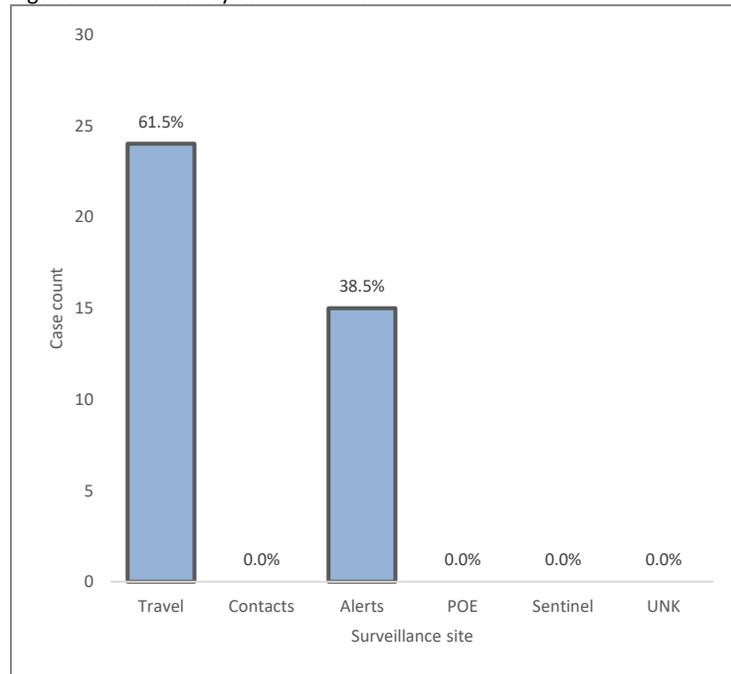


Figure 4: New cases by source – Week 7





Laboratory

- Average positivity yield is 0.9% this week compared to 1.0% in Week 6 (seventh consecutive week of observed decrease in positivity rate)
- Highest yields reported in 5 GXP and Ag-RDT sites (Hakima Yacoub PHCC, Pamir PHCC, IOM-Juba, MSF-Juba, and Gorom PHCC)
- Positivity yields by testing site were as follows in Week 7: Crawford (0.2%), Med Blue (0.1%), NPHL (3.1%), Queens Medical Complex (0.1%), Catherine Medical Centre (0.0%), PIC Diagnostic Centre (0.0%), Nojum (3.9%), Biolab (0.0%), Check Ups (0.3%), Life Link (0.5%), Yambio (0.0%), Makpandu (1.3%), Hakima Yacoub (8.3%), Bor (0.0%), Maban (0.0%), Ikwotos (0.0%), Juba International Airport (0.0%), Mapourdit (0.0%), Juba Contact Tracing (0.0%), IOM-Juba (33.3%), IOM-Bentiu (0.0%), IOM-Malakal (0.0%), IOM-Wau (0.0%), IOM-Nimule (0.0%), MSF-Juba (50.0%), IMC-Juba (0.0%), Gorom PHCC (16.7%), Pariang (2.4%), Nzara (0.0%), and Pamir (15.8%)
- Positivity yield from GXP sites is 5.1%, 2.7% in the Ag-RDT sites, 3.1% at the NPHL, and 0.3% in the private laboratories

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

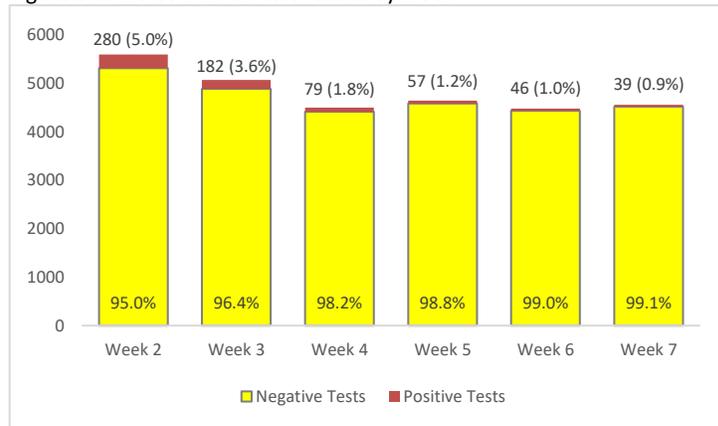


Figure 6: SARS CoV-2 PCR test results and positivity by site (Juba & Nimule)

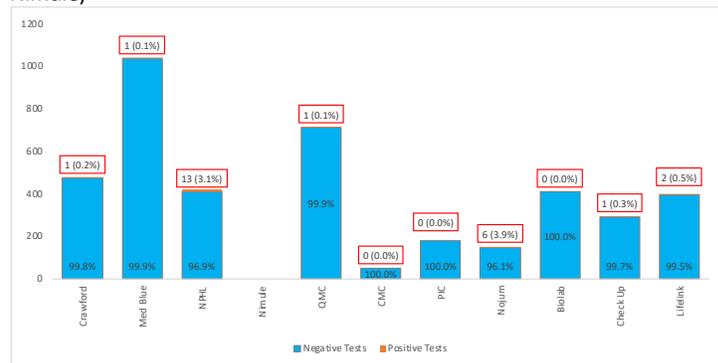
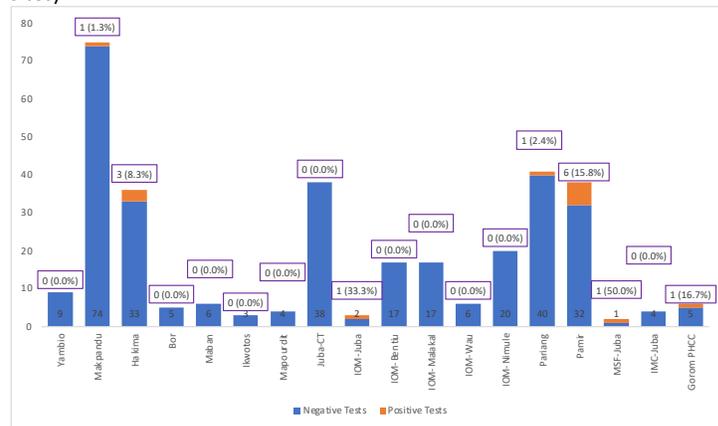


Figure 7: SARS CoV-2 test results and positivity by site (GXP & Ag-RDT sites)

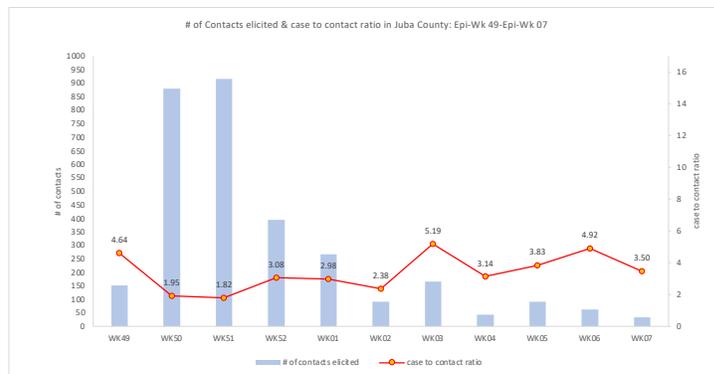




Contact Tracing

- None of the 39 cases recorded this week came from contact tracing
- 28 cases confirmed in Juba County were distributed to ICAP for contact listing and tracing during this week
- 20 (71.4%) of the 28 cases were eligible for contact listing (i.e., had valid phone numbers), 10 (50.0%) of whom provided 35 contacts, providing a case to contact ratio of 1:3.5
- 2,374 contacts were under active follow-up during the week while 45 contacts completed their follow-up period this week
- Samples were collected from 15 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 49 -Week 7



Hotline/Alerts

- Five potential COVID-19 alerts through hotline in Week 7, a 37.5% decrease from alerts reported in Week 6
- All 5 alerts (100.0%) were verified and interviewed by the rapid response team (RRT), and all provided samples
- All 5 (100.0%) alerts came from Central Equatoria
- The other nine states and the three administrative areas did not report any alerts this week
- 15 alerts and suspected cases tested positive for COVID-19 this week
- Cumulatively, 3,517 alerts have been reported, 3,386 (96.3%) were verified, and 3,303 (97.5%) 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 7

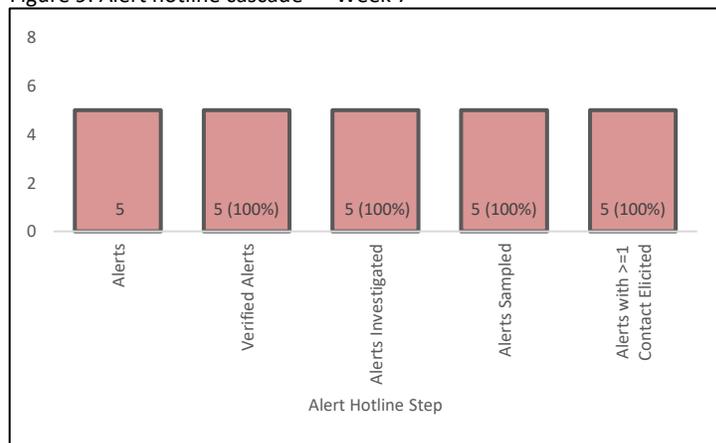
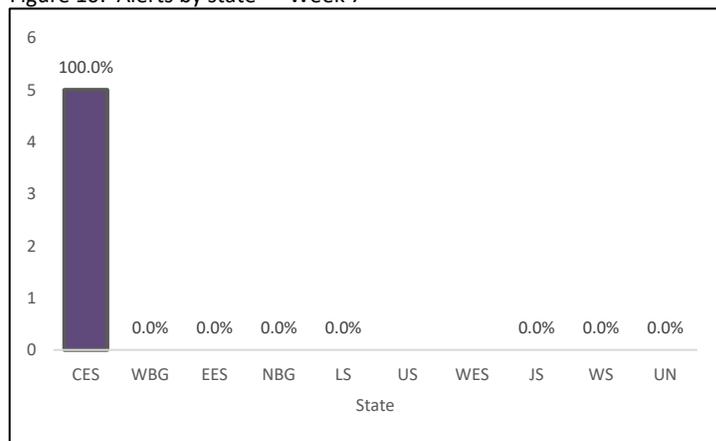


Figure 10: Alerts by state — Week 7



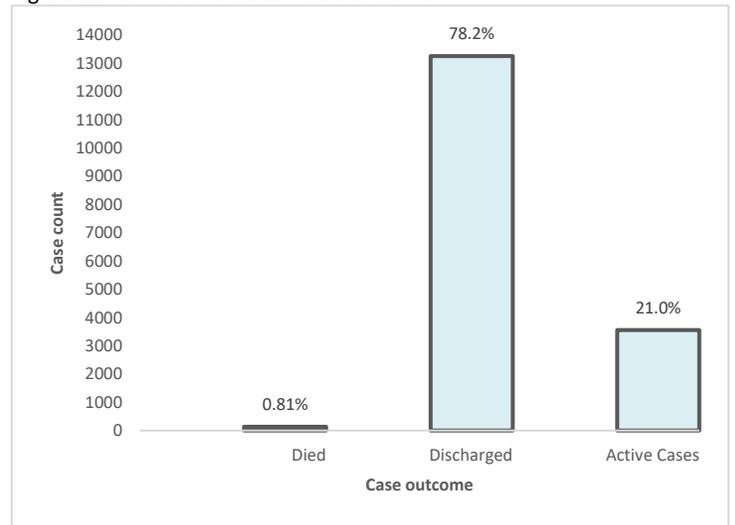


Case Management

- 27.2% of cases managed at home, with 0.1% at health facilities
- 72.5% of cases are missing case management type at first contact although almost all of these were likely managed at home
- 13,250 (78.2%) of cases were discharged as of Week 7, with 3,549 cases (21.0%) under active follow-up
- 137 cases died, a CFR of 0.81%

Case management at first detection	#	% of total cases
Home management	4,581	27.2%
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	12,216	72.5%

Figure 11: Cumulative cases - case outcome



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

- The following achievements were registered during Week 7 under the risk communication and community engagement (RCCE) pillar:
 - Community-based contact tracers supported by ICAP, provided information about COVID-19 to 604 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
- 4,035 (3,093 males; 942 females) were screened this week
- Most of the travelers screened were truck drivers (1,827), returnees (1,126), and other nationals other than truck drivers (1,082)
- 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 500 health facilities
- 448,687 doses administered as of 22 February 2022
 - 350,782 fully vaccinated (49,671 with two AZ doses, 301,111 with single dose of J&J)
- 27,597 healthcare workers fully vaccinated
- Gender disparity in vaccine uptake where only 43.3% female received the vaccine, but this has improved in Phase 3
- 745 cumulative adverse events following immunization (AEFI) reported
 - 700 minor AEFI
 - 45 severe AEFI

Figure 12: Vaccination dashboard – South Sudan





Epi week: 7

Date: 14 — 20 Feb 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