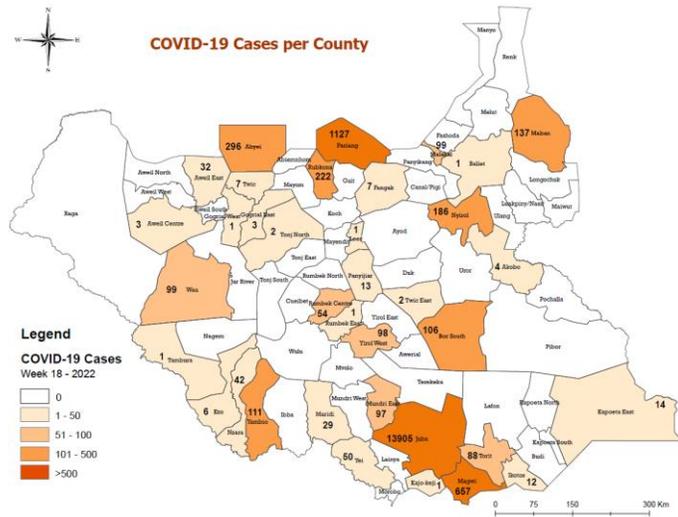




Highlights (as of Week 18)

- 17,511 confirmed cases with 138 deaths, 13,514 recoveries, and 3,859 active cases
- 0.79% case fatality rate (CFR)
- 293 healthcare workers confirmed as cases
- 28 new confirmed cases during the week with pre-travel screening (64.3%) and alerts (35.7%) accounting for all the cases
- 498 imported cases (0 new cases this week) mostly from South Sudanese returnees (322), 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 3.7 cases and 0.7% at the end of Week 18 compared to 5.1 cases and 0.7% at the end of Week 17 respectively
- 2,389 in-bound travellers tested at JIA to-date (9 tested positive, a yield of 0.4%)



Summary Statistics



Cases 17,511



Deaths 138



Cases in IDU 0



Samples tested 390,186



Fully vaccinated 631,092

New cases 28

New deaths 0

Discharged 0

Crude positivity 4.5%

Epi Curve

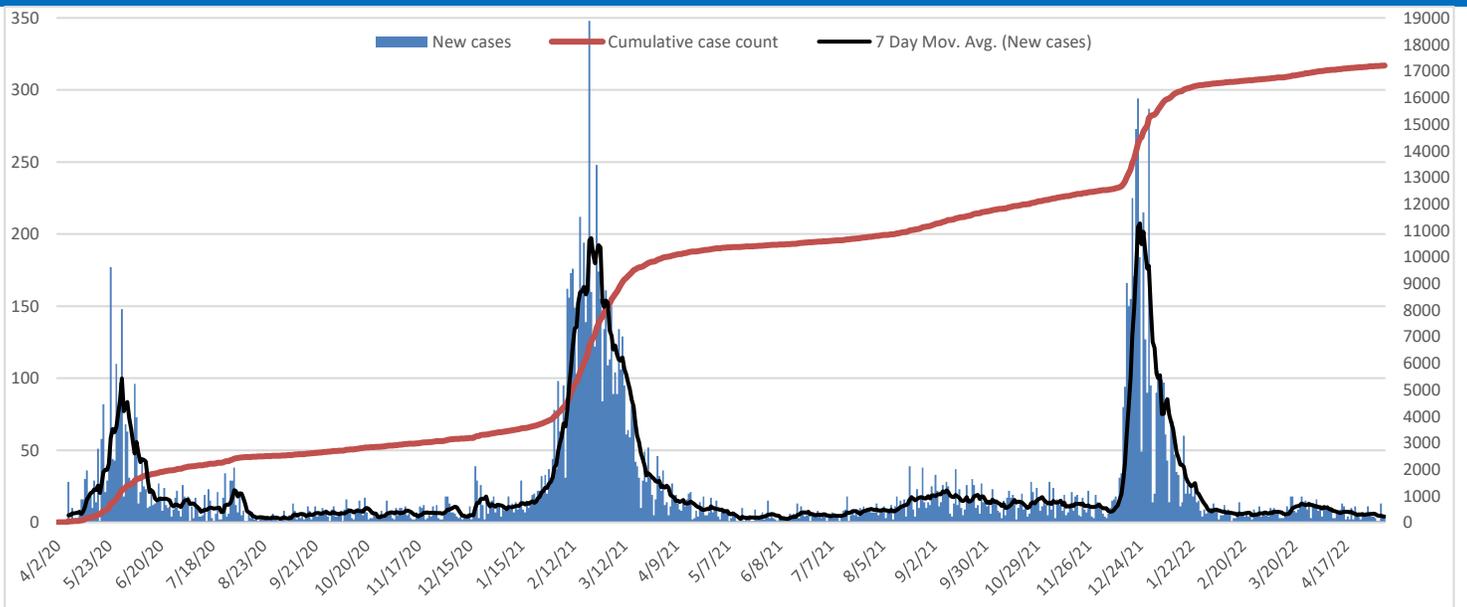


Figure 2. Epidemiological curve of reported cases through Week 18



Epidemiology and Surveillance

Cases

- 28 cases confirmed in Week 18, a 30.0% decrease in reported cases compared to Week 17
- Majority of new cases came from pre-travel screening (64.3%) and alerts (35.7%), and from Central Equatoria (64.3%) and Eastern Equatoria (28.6%)
- No new imported cases reported this week through Nimule land crossing
- No new confirmed cases among healthcare workers this week
- Case tally for Week 18 represents 0.2% of cumulative case tally
- 0.7% crude positivity for samples tested during the week (highest yields came from sites using antigen rapid diagnostic tests)
- Moving averages for yield, case count, and proportional daily case change have been decreasing in the last 14 days
- 38.3% decrease in 7-day moving average for new cases in the last seven days, with a 30.2% 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
- 52.8% of cases are South Sudanese, 21.0% are foreigners, and 26.2% are of unknown nationality
- The last batch of samples sequenced at Uganda Virus Research Institute were all the Omicron variant
- 79.1% of cases detected in Juba compared to 20.9% outside of Juba
- Cumulatively, 64.9% of cases came from pre-travel screening, 14.7% alerts/suspected cases, 7.0% contact tracing, 6.3% point of entry screening, and 4.8% sentinel surveillance (2.4% have unknown source)

Deaths

- No new deaths were reported in Week 18 (last confirmed COVID-19 death was reported on 7 March 2022)
- 0.79% 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

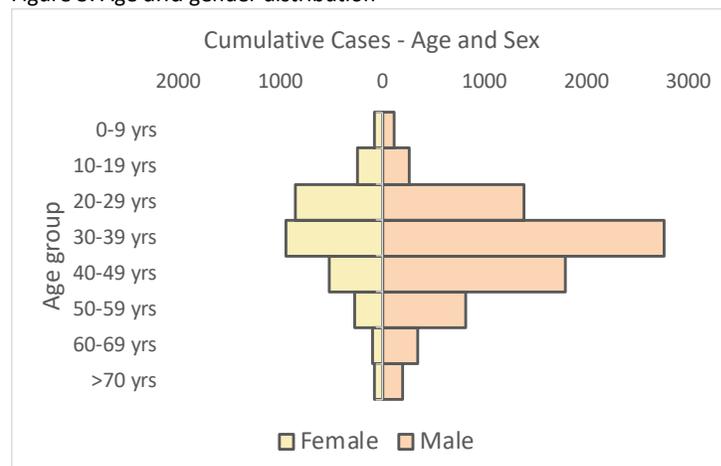
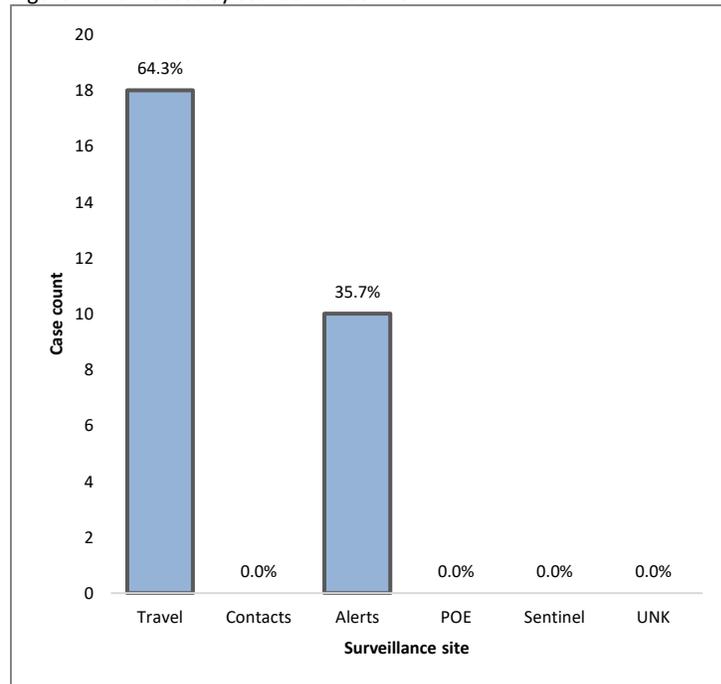


Figure 4: New cases by source – Week 18





Laboratory

- Average positivity yield is 0.7% this week (like in Week 17), the first observed labelling off after four consecutive weeks of observed decrease in the weekly positivity yield
- Highest yields reported in 3 Ag-RDT sites (IOM-Nimule, Pamir PHCC, and Sector 5 PHCC in Rubkona)
- Positivity yields by testing site were as follows in Week 18: Crawford (1.3%), Med Blue (0.0%), NPHL (0.3%), Nimule (0.0%), Queens Medical Complex (0.4%), Catherine Medical Centre (1.5%), PIC Diagnostic Centre (0.0%), Nojum (1.0%), Biolab (0.4%), Check Ups (0.3%), Life Link (1.1%), IOM-Nimule Ag-RDT (5.9%), Hakima Yacoub Ag-RDT (0.0%), Pariang Ag-RDT (0.0%), MSF Office Ag-RDT (0.0%), Juba International Airport (0.0%), Gorom PHCC Ag-RDT (0.0%), IOM-Wau Ag-RDT (0.0%), Old Fangak Ag-RDT (0.0%), JTH Ag-RDT (0.0%), Sector 5 PHCC Rubkona Ag-RDT (100.0%), and Pamir Ag-RDT (4.5%)
- Positivity yield is 0.0% from the GXP sites (no tests done in Week 18), 5.1% in the Ag-RDT sites, 0.3% at the NPHL, 0.0% in Nimule, and 0.5% in the private laboratories

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

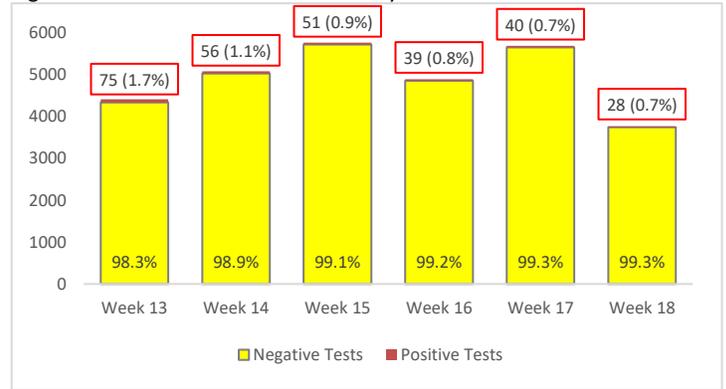


Figure 6: SARS CoV-2 PCR test results and positivity by site (Juba & Nimule)

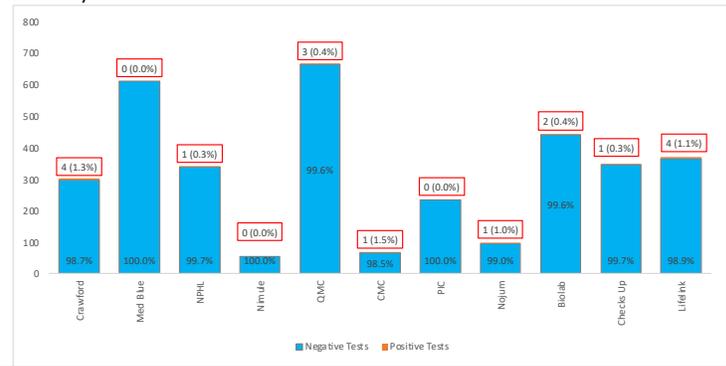
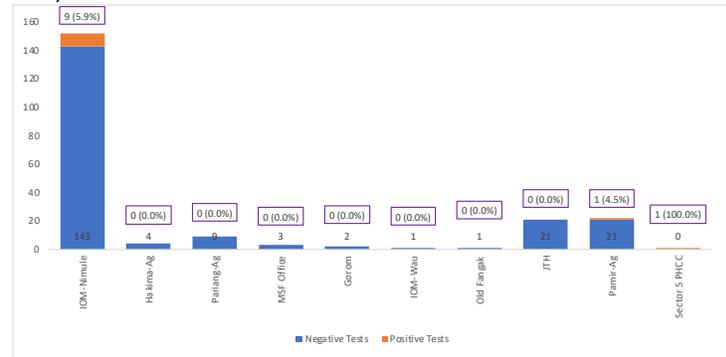


Figure 7: SARS CoV-2 test results and positivity by site (GXP & Ag-RDT sites)

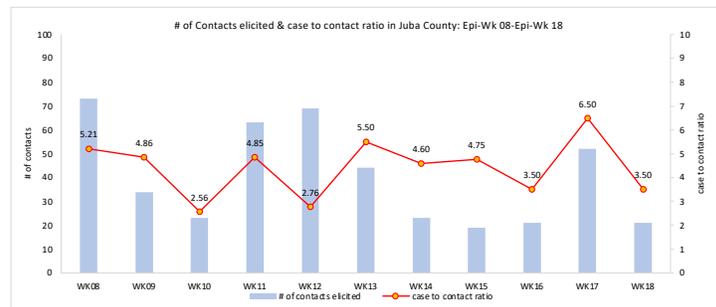




Contact Tracing

- None of the 28 cases recorded this week came from contact tracing
- 18 cases confirmed in Juba County were distributed to ICAP for contact listing and tracing during this week
- 12 (66.7%) of the 18 cases were eligible for contact listing (i.e., had valid phone numbers), 6 (50.0%) of whom provided 21 contacts, providing a case to contact ratio of 1:3.5
- 1,502 contacts were under active follow-up during the week while 48 contacts completed their follow-up period this week
- Samples were collected from 39 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 8 -Week 18



Hotline/Alerts

- Three potential COVID-19 alerts through hotline in Week 18 (down from 10 alerts in Week 17)
- The alerts came from Central Equatoria (2) and Upper Nile (1). All 3 alerts were verified, and interviewed by the rapid response team (RRT), and samples were collected
- 10 alerts and suspected cases tested positive for COVID-19 this week
- Cumulatively, 3,574 alerts have been reported, 3,443 (96.3%) were verified, and 3,360 (97.6%) sampled
- Alerts to the hotline account for 0.9% of total samples tested in the country
- Alerts outside of Central Equatoria are limited

Figure 9: Alert hotline cascade — Week 18

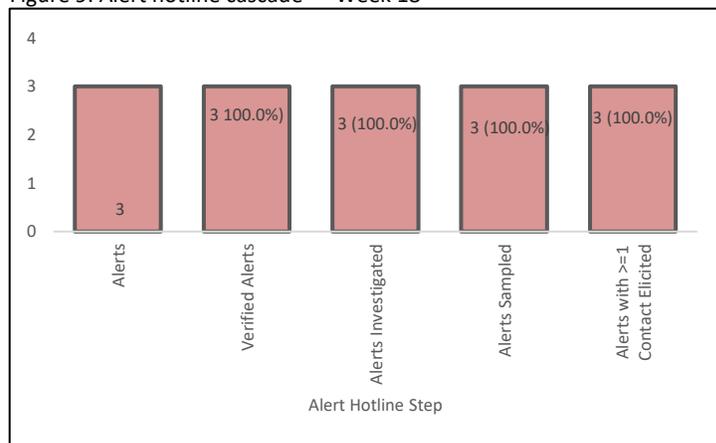


Figure 10: Alerts by state — Week 18



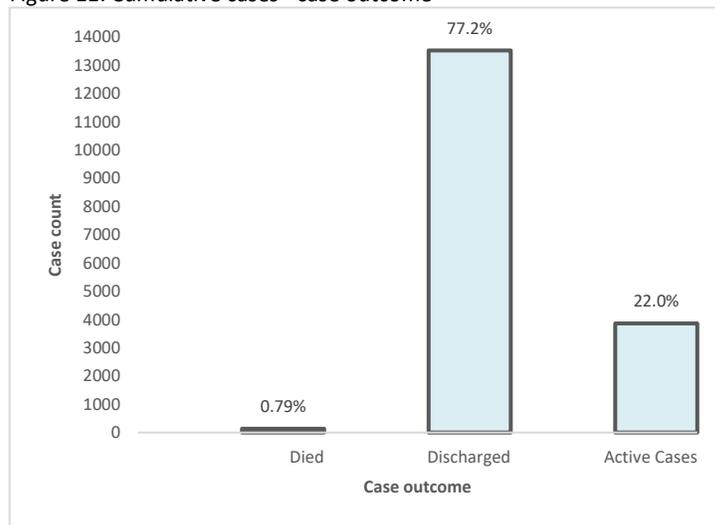


Case Management

- 26.3% of cases managed at home, with 0.1% at health facilities
- 73.4% of cases are missing case management type at first contact although almost all of these were likely managed at home
- 13,514 (77.2%) of cases were discharged as of Week 18, with 3,859 cases (22.0%) under active follow-up
- 138 cases died, a CFR of 0.79%

Case management at first detection	#	% of total cases
Home management	4,581	26.3%
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	12,791	73.4%

Figure 11: Cumulative cases - case outcome



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

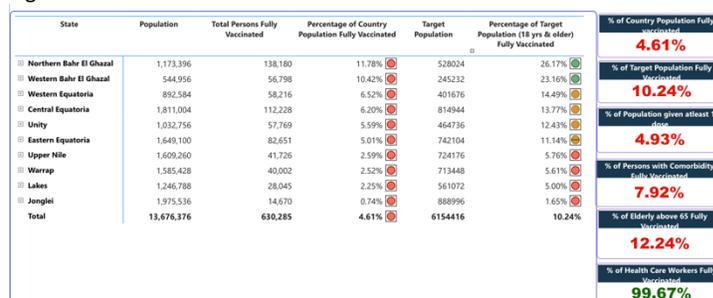
- The following achievements were registered during Week 18 under the risk communication and community engagement (RCCE) pillar:
 - Community-based contact tracers supported by ICAP, provided information about COVID-19 to zero persons this week
- Main challenges for the RCCE pillar include:
 - Community 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
- 3,683 (2,589 males; 1,094 females) were screened this week
- Most of the travelers screened were truck drivers (1,289), returnees (1,496), and other nationals other than truck drivers (898)
- 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

- 2,121,370 vaccine doses received to-date
- Vaccination is currently ongoing for the J&J vaccine in 80 counties and 695 health facilities
- 723,333 doses administered as of 12 May 2022
 - 631,092 fully vaccinated
- 34,757 healthcare workers fully vaccinated
- 48.6% vaccine uptake in the eligible female population
- 905 cumulative adverse events following immunization (AEFI) reported
 - 805 minor AEFI
 - 100 severe AEFI

Figure 12: Vaccination dashboard – South Sudan





Epi week: 18

Date: 2— 8 May 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