

12 August 2021

Highlights

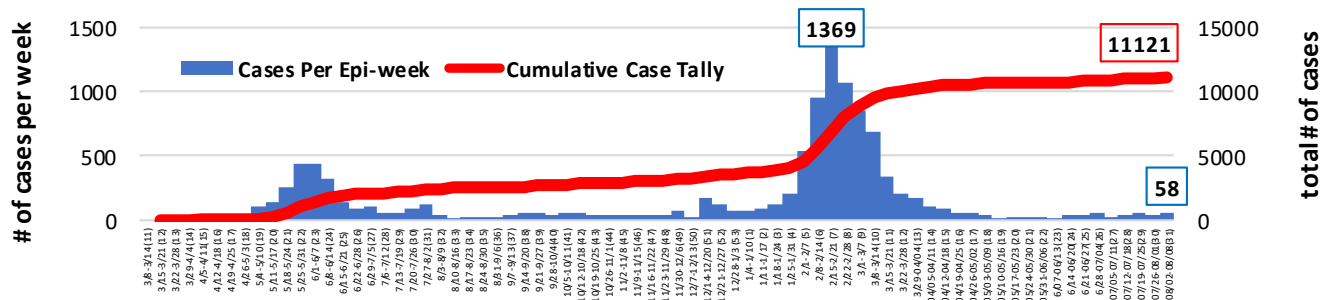
- Concerns about presence of more infectious Delta variant, confirmed through genomic sequencing conducted in Uganda in March 2021
- Urgent need to increase laboratory testing for swift detection of COVID-19
- 60,000 doses of Astra Zeneca vaccines expected before end August through COVAX facility.
- Oxygen generation plant being installed in Juba Teaching Hospital (*managed by International Medical Corps*)
- National Task Force for COVID-19 updating guidance for public measures to address low risk perception among the population
- Knowledge, Attitudes, and Practices (KAP) survey shows Ministry of Health as most trusted source of information on COVID-19

COVID-19 in South Sudan 11 August 2021

	Total
# positive cases	11,143
# active cases	106
# severe	3
# critical	0
# reported deaths	120
# samples tested	202,872
% positivity rate	1.3%
# 1 st dose vaccinated	52,387
# 2 nd dose vaccinated	4,763

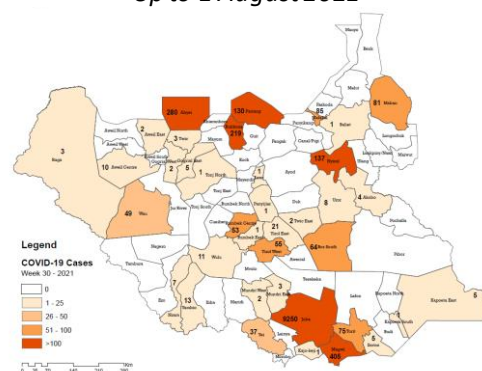
Current Situation

COVID-19 confirmed cases in South Sudan by epidemiological week
8 March 2020-8 August 2021



- Integrated Disease Surveillance system shows increase in Acute Respiratory Infections (ARI) in most states and PoCs in 2021 compared to 2020. *WHO to test for COVID-19 among ARI cases.*
- Adequate testing capacity for COVID-19 at the National Public Health Laboratory (NPHL), Nimule, and 6 private laboratories, plus 27 GeneXpert machines throughout South Sudan.
- Limited sample collection throughout the country. *WHO to work with health cluster partners to increase testing.*
- 75 samples were sent to Uganda end July 2021 for genomic sequencing. Results are pending.
- Rumor tracking shows no reports of unexplained deaths.

COVID-19 cases per country
Up to 1 August 2021



Way forward

- Pilot project with rapid antigen test kits in areas with high ARI increase to be kicked off soon.
- Preparations ongoing for sero-survey to check for natural immunity as a result of past infection among population.
- Additional vaccines in the pipeline through COVAX:
 - o 60,000 doses of Astra Zeneca (expected by Q4)
 - o 151,000 doses of one-shot Johnson & Johnson (date unknown)
- Work with community leaders to raise awareness on COVID-19 using health cluster partners and large network of WHO and UNICEF polio and immunization staff and volunteers.
- Continue to work with city councils, Chambers of Commerce and market places for risk messaging.
- Implement recommendations from Intra Action Review on COVID-19 response conducted on 5-6 August with Ministry of Health and partners

COVID-19 vaccination per country
Up to 11 August 2021

