

## Situation Overview

Cox's Bazar District:

- Host Community -  
A total of 859 COVID-19 confirmed cases were reported in the district from 12- 18 July 2021. Currently, a total of 6,171 contacts are in home quarantine as of 18 July 2021.
- FDMN/ Rohingya Refugees -  
During 12- 18 July 2021, a total of 184 COVID-19 cases were reported. Presently, 977 contacts are in home quarantine in the camps and 163 in facility quarantine as of 18 July 2021.

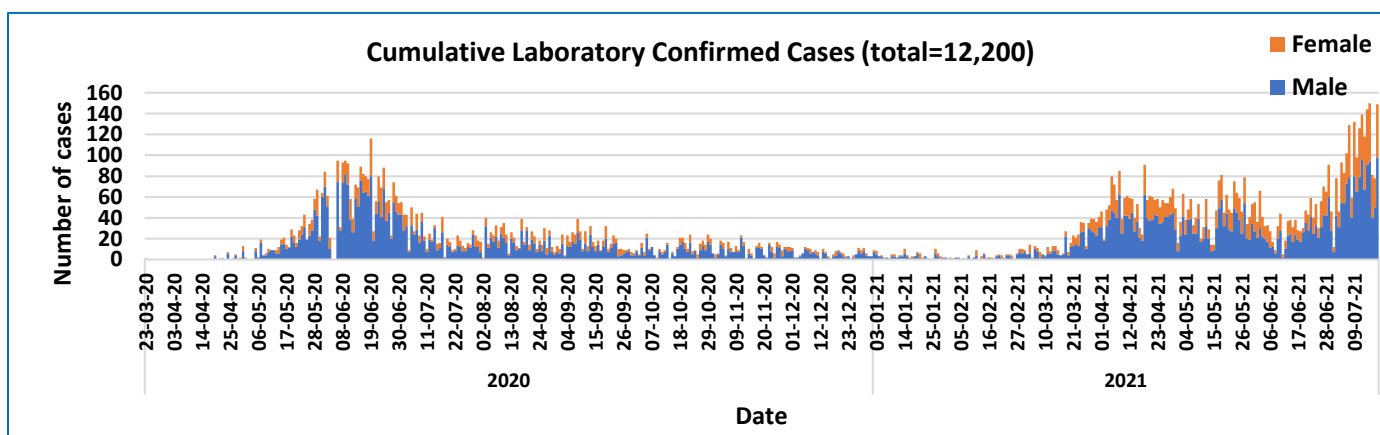
## Surveillance, Rapid Response Teams, and Case Investigation

COVID-19 Update among Host Population and FDMN/Rohingya Refugees<sup>1</sup> (as of 18 July 2021):

Number of Tests Conducted <sup>2</sup> (last 7 days)	163,980 (4957) <sup>2</sup>	Host Population	FDMN/Rohingya Refugees
Number of Confirmed Cases (last 7 days)	14,487 (1,044)		
Number of Tests Conducted (last 7 days)		111,888 (3,711)	52,092 (1,246)
Number of Confirmed Cases (last 7 days)		12,200 (859)	2,287 (184)
Deaths (last 7 days)		126 (9)	25 (1)
Cases in Isolation (last 7 days)		700 (860)	419 (184)
Cases Recovered (last 7 days)		11,374 (561)	1,843 (130)
Quarantine (Currently)		33,735 (6,171) <sup>3</sup>	7,673 (1,140)

COVID-19 Update of Laboratory Confirmed Cases among Host Population –

- As of 18 July 2021, 12,200 COVID-19 cases and 126 COVID-19 deaths have been reported from the host community in Cox's Bazar. Of these, a total of 859 cases were recorded from 12- 18 July 2021.



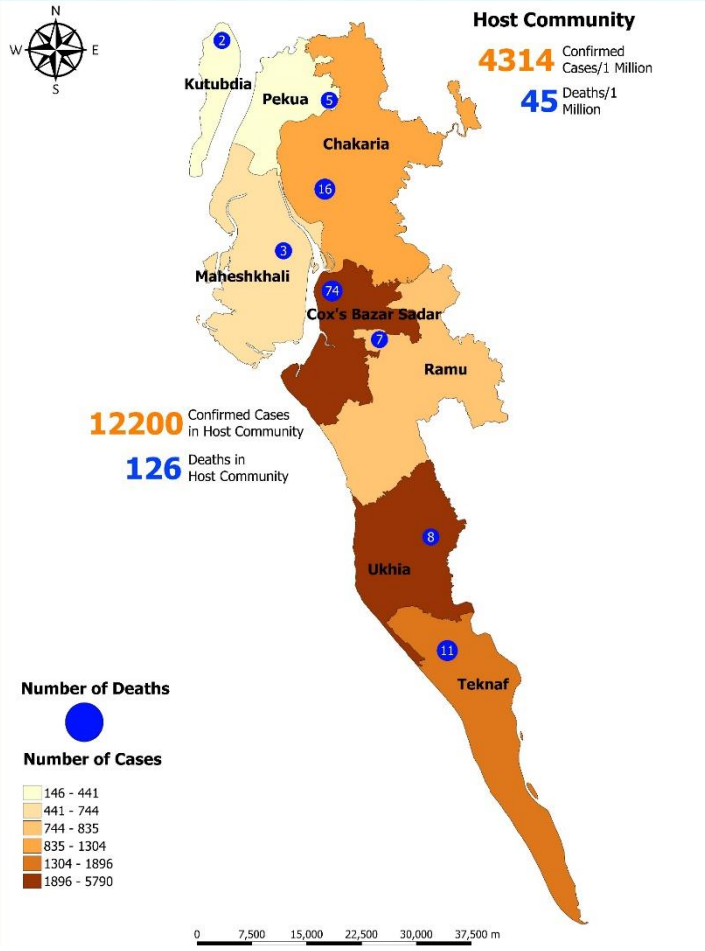
<sup>1</sup>The Government of Bangladesh refers to Rohingya as "Forcibly Displaced Myanmar Nationals". The UN system refers to this population as Rohingya refugees, in line with the applicable international framework. In this document both terms are used, as appropriate, to refer to the same population.

<sup>2</sup>Total test done in IEDCR Field Lab, Cox's Bazar 183,535. In last 7 days the number was 5,018, out of those 61 from other districts in particular Bandarban and Chittagong.

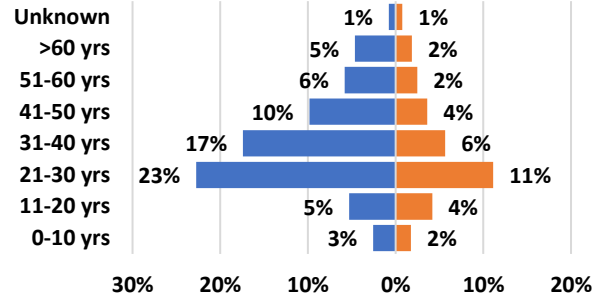
<sup>3</sup>In last 7 days, 665 new contacts have been identified among FDMN/Rohingya Refugees and 2,363 from host community. Cumulative number of contacts quarantined is 7,673 among refugees and 33,735 in host population.

COVID-19 Cases & Deaths in Cox's Bazar District (14 March 2020 - 18 July 2021)

69% 31%

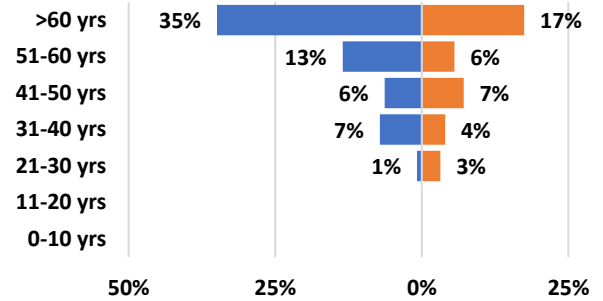


Age & Sex Distribution of Cases (%) (n=12,200)



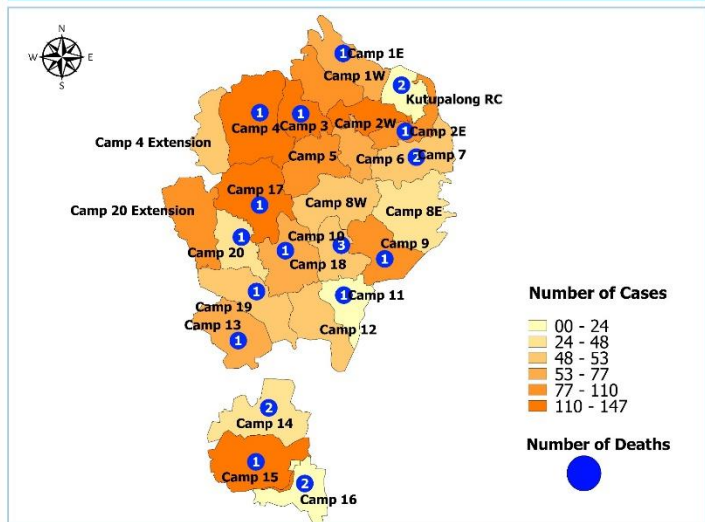
63% 37%

Age & Sex Distribution of Deaths (%) (total=126)

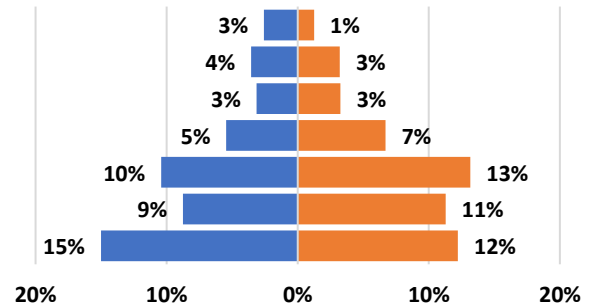


COVID-19 Cases and Deaths in Rohingya Camps (14 March '20 - 18 July '21)

49% 51%

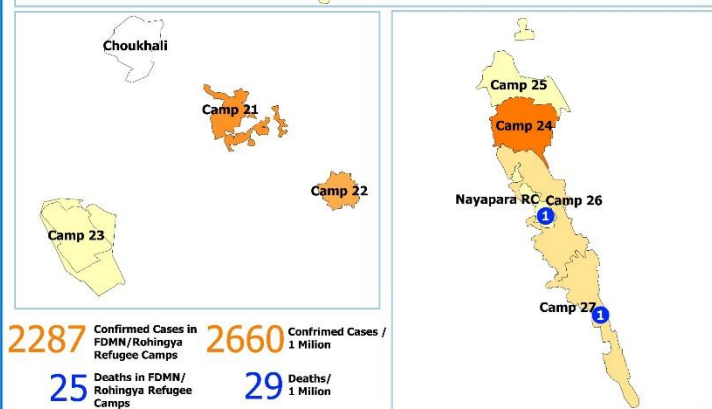
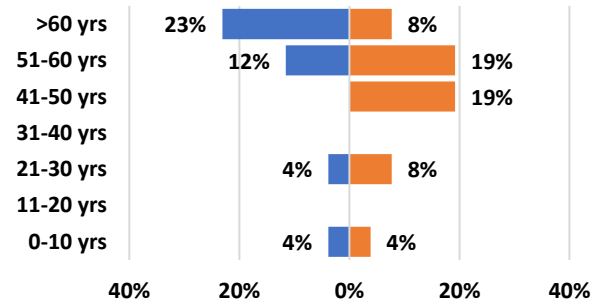


Age & Sex Distribution of Cases (%) (total=2,287)

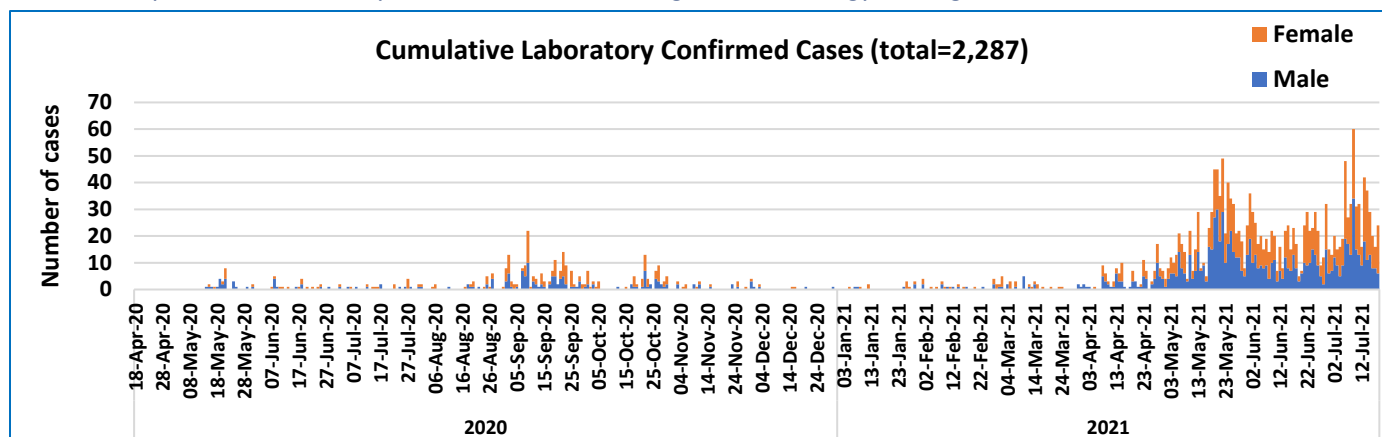


42% 58%

Age & Sex Distribution of Deaths (%) (total=25)



## COVID-19 Update of Laboratory Confirmed Cases among FDMN/Rohingya Refugees –



- As of epidemiological week 28 (12- 18 July 2021), 2,287 cases of COVID-19 were confirmed among the Rohingya refugees from 52,092 samples tested since the beginning of the outbreak, giving a Test Positivity Rate (TPR) of 4.4%. In week 28, of the 1,246 samples tested, 184 were positive. To date, a total of 25 COVID-19 deaths were recorded- CFR of 1.1%.
- Rapid Investigation and Response Teams (RIRT) investigated a total of 1,854 (out of 2,287) COVID-19 confirmed cases among FDMN/Rohingya refugees. Contact Tracing Supervisors conducted contact tracing for 4,104 contacts registered in Go.Data. Out of these, 2,517 (61%) contacts have completed their quarantine period and 221 household contacts were tested positive within the incubation period.
- During week 27 (05- 11 July 2021), 01 suspected Severe Acute Respiratory Infection (SARI) death was recorded; the sum increased to 54 in 2021. All deaths were investigated by RIRT as a part of COVID-19 response and of these, 09 came out as probable COVID-19 deaths.

### Coordination, Planning and Monitoring

- In response to high proportion (~80%) of mild cases isolated in the SARI ITCs for the last few weeks, an alternative of home- based Isolation for mild cases’ management was discussed with authorities. So far, such an alternative is not endorsed by authorities for the Rohingya population, although it is noted in national clinical case management guidelines.
- A COVID-19 vaccination campaign for Rohingya refugees >55 years will be taking place from 10 August 2021 starting with community leaders >55 years, followed by all persons over 55 years in the Rohingya camps. As a part of the preparedness, a mapping exercise of responsible Human Resources (HR) and facility preparedness has been recently completed.
- Indicators of the upcoming Multi-Sector Needs Assessment (MSNA) have been finalized for Health and training of enumerators has been completed. The findings will serve to guide response planning for 2022.
- At present, over 1400 Community Health Workers (CHW) are undertaking active case finding for AWD & COVID-19, referring persons with symptoms, disseminating key health messages and distributing ORS/Zinc in households reporting symptoms.
- For AWD preparedness and response, enhanced surveillance is ongoing utilizing EWARS and 22 sentinel testing sites. Meanwhile in the field, Joint Assessment Team (JAT) comprising of actors from Health and WASH sectors are investigating in and around the household of any RDT/culture-positive Cholera case and ensuring necessary public health measures, in line with the Multisectoral AWD Preparedness and Response Plan (August 2020). Coordination meetings take place daily with WASH and CWC actors to ensure collective action relating to the implementation of agreed interventions under the Multisectoral AWD Preparedness and Response Plan.

### District Laboratory

- During the reporting week, 02 training sessions on ‘Use and Analysis of COVID-19 Ag-RDT at Camp Level’ with the participation of 12 and 11 healthcare workers respectively from IOM SARI ITC (Camp-24) and MSF-OCBA

Goyalmara Hospital were conducted. In addition, a training on 'COVID-19 Sample Collection and Transportation' for 8 healthcare workers of IRC PHC was conducted in Camp- 23.

- Supportive supervision of laboratories in 45 World Bank (WB) funded health facilities has been completed in the last week.

### **Case Management**

- As of 18 July 2021, across 12 operational SARI ITCs in the camps, there are 625 functional and 292 standby beds. Of the functional beds, 71% were occupied; of these, 81% are mild cases. Additionally, at the 250 Bed District Sadar Hospital, 10 Intensive Care Unit (ICU), 15 High Dependency Unit (HDU), and 13 Severe Care Unit (SCU) beds are functional. Out of these, 31 (81%) beds are occupied at present.
- WHO conducted weekly online 'Case Conference Calls' for SARI ITC Partners and Cox's Bazar Sadar Hospital ICU staffs respectively on 13 & 14 July 2021. During these events, technical guidance from different international experts was shared with 18 physicians from SARI ITC and all physicians & nurses from Sadar Hospital ICU. Meanwhile, online 'Health Sector Case Management Working Group Meeting' was arranged on 18 July 2021 with the participation of 28 SARI ITC managers for better coherence to the COVID-19 response in Rohingya camps.

### **Essential Health Services**

- Health Sector and Child Protection Sub-sector have finalized the 'Guidance Note on Child Protection and Healthcare for Children in Health Facilities during COVID-19, Cox's Bazar'.
- Evaluation report on 'Training for Child Carers in SARI ITC' has been shared with all relevant actors.
- Analysis of Health Facility Quarterly Monitoring (Q2/2021) data is ongoing which aims to review adherence to the minimum package of essential health services, applicable for Health Posts and Primary Health Care Centers in the Rohingya camps. Revised Standard Operating Procedure (SOP) for Referrals and an Accountability to Affected Population (AAP) framework are expected to be released shortly as well.

### **Risk Communication and Community Engagement (RCCE)**

- The weekly English and Bangla radio script on COVID-19 update was aired through Bangladesh Betar 100.8 fm and Community Radio Naf 99.2 fm.
- FAQ and public health messages on COVID-19 vaccination program for the Rohingya refugees were reviewed and finalized.
- Community Health Working Group (CHWG) partners' update on COVID-19 for the period of 12- 18 July 2021:
  - Community Health Workers (CHWs) visited 128,787 households; of which 1,542 individuals with mild respiratory symptoms (fever, sore throat, cough) and 22 with moderate to severe COVID-like symptoms were identified. The cumulative number of persons identified with mild and moderate to severe symptoms are 159,235 and 932 respectively. A total of 1,077 individuals with COVID-like symptoms were referred to health facilities, whereas the cumulative figure of referral is 84,648.
  - During the reporting week, CHWs delivered messages on COVID-19 to 289,382 persons. Since the beginning of the response, CHWG partners conducted more than 8.8 millions household visits reaching over 22 millions adults.
  - In addition, CHWs conducted 14,805 small group sessions engaging 28,343 persons. Their messages were focused on signs and symptoms of COVID-19, risk factors, testing, infection prevention measures, and quarantine & isolation centers.
  - Community health partners are using an integrated RCCE approach focusing to raise awareness at the community level to reduce the vaccine hesitancy as well as building trust in health services in order to ensure the highest uptake of COVID-19 vaccines.
  - Community awareness program on 'Hygiene promotion and AWD Prevention' has been strengthened. In last week, CHWs identified 2,956 cases with AWD symptoms and referred 1,686 cases to the health facilities. As of 18 July 2021, 5,863 sachets of ORS and 5,413 Zinc tablets were distributed to the suspected AWD cases prior to referral to avoid further dehydration.

➤ Communication for Development (C4D) partners' update on COVID-19 for the period of 12- 18 July 2021:





Host Community:

- Loudspeaker messaging on COVID-19 including the importance of vaccinations & use of mask is continuing through CNGs (small cart) in Cox's Bazar sadar.
- A total of 04 radio magazines on AWD Prevention, Child Care & COVID-19 3<sup>rd</sup> wave as well as 03 Live Phone-In Programs on Proper Nutrition for Pregnant Women & COVID-19 3<sup>rd</sup> wave were broadcasted in Bangladesh Betar.

FDMN/Rohingya Refugees:

- 620 community volunteers conducted 9,852 IPC sessions on key messages for COVID-19 and AWD prevention reaching 43,456 people. Meanwhile, a total of 200 religious leaders reached approximately 200,00 people with public health messages through mosque-based loudspeaker messaging.
- 1,191 girls and 3,452 women were engaged in 1,162 religious group study sessions (Talim) by 50 female volunteers (hafeeza) exchanging dialogues on COVID-19 stigmatization and AWD.
- Revised key messages on AWD in English & Burmese and a comprehensive Information, Education & Communication (IEC) packages in English & Bengali were shared with all relevant partners.

## COVID-19 Highlights: National Level, as of 18 July 2021

			
<b>Total Tests</b>	<b>Total Cases</b>	<b>Total Deaths</b>	<b>Released/Recovered</b>
<b>7,255,387</b>	<b>1,103,989</b>	<b>17,894</b>	<b>932,008</b>

\*Source: Coronavirus COVID-19 Dashboard, Directorate General of Health Services (DGHS)

## IMPORTANT LINKS on COVID-19

- WHO Cox's Bazar Data Hub: <https://cxb-epi.netlify.app/>
- WHO Bangladesh awareness and risk communication materials in Bengali: [https://www.who.int/bangladesh/emergencies/coronavirus-disease-\(covid-19\)-update](https://www.who.int/bangladesh/emergencies/coronavirus-disease-(covid-19)-update)
- WHO global situation report: <https://www.who.int/emergencies/diseases/novel-coronavirus-2019/situation-reports>
- WHO interim guideline on Preparedness, prevention and control of coronavirus disease (COVID-19) for refugees and migrants in non-camp settings: [https://www.who.int/publications-detail/preparedness-prevention-and-control-of-coronavirus-disease-\(covid-19\)-for-refugees-and-migrants-in-non-camp-settings](https://www.who.int/publications-detail/preparedness-prevention-and-control-of-coronavirus-disease-(covid-19)-for-refugees-and-migrants-in-non-camp-settings)
- Institute of Epidemiology, Disease Control and Research (IEDCR) website for COVID-19 Bangladesh update: <https://www.iedcr.gov.bd/>

Write to [coord\\_cxb@who.int](mailto:coord_cxb@who.int) to receive [COVID-19 updates](#) and [situation reports](#) from Cox's Bazar with the subject "Add me to the situation reports and updates mailing list"