



UPDATE

Situation Overview

Cox's Bazar District:

- Host Community -
A total of 441 COVID-19 confirmed cases were reported in the district during 16- 22 August 2021. Currently, a total of 8,135 contacts are in home quarantine as of 22 August 2021.
- FDMN/ Rohingya Refugees -
During 16- 22 August 2021, a total of 101 COVID-19 cases were reported. Presently, 274 contacts are in home quarantine in the camps and 89 in facility quarantine as of 22 August 2021.

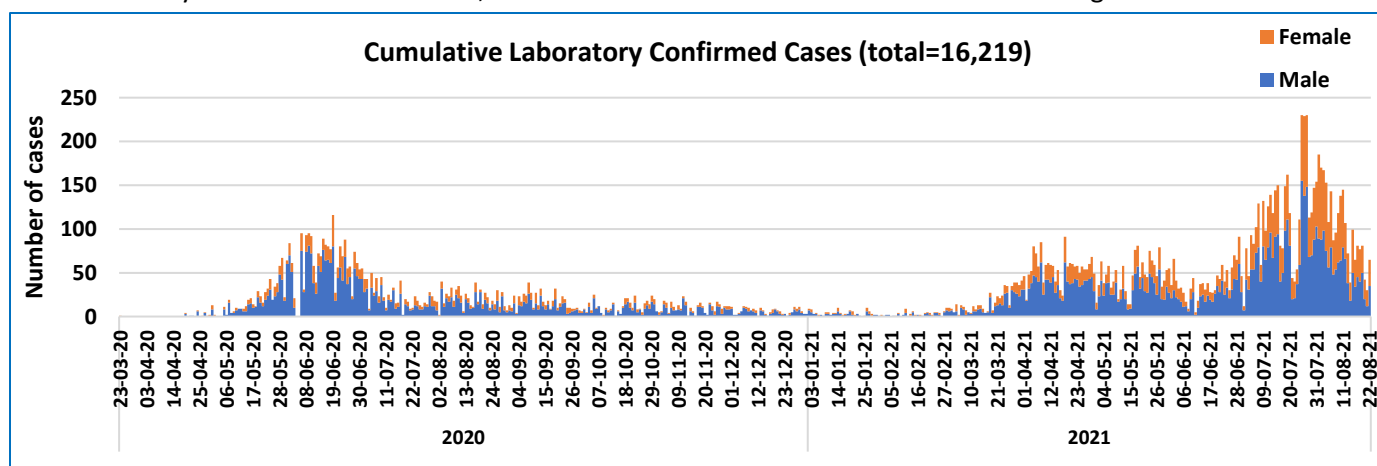
Surveillance, Rapid Response and Case Investigation

Summary of COVID-19 Response (as of 22 August 2021):

Number of Tests Conducted ² (last 7 days)	187,946 (4,255) ²	Host Population	FDMN/Rohingya Refugees ¹
Number of Confirmed Cases (last 7 days)	18,997 (542)		
Number of Tests Conducted (last 7 days)		130,575 (2,993)	57,371 (1,262)
Number of Confirmed Cases (last 7 days)		16,219 (441)	2,778 (101)
Deaths (last 7 days)		223 (11)	30 (0)
Cases in Isolation (last 7 days)		100 (441)	216 (101)
Cases Recovered (last 7 days)		15,896 (1,468)	2,532 (122)
Quarantine (last 7 days)		43,502 (8,135) ³	9,402 (363)

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

- As of 22 August 2021, 16,219 COVID-19 cases and 223 COVID-19 deaths have been reported from the host community in Cox's Bazar. Of these, a total of 441 cases were recorded from 16- 22 August 2021.

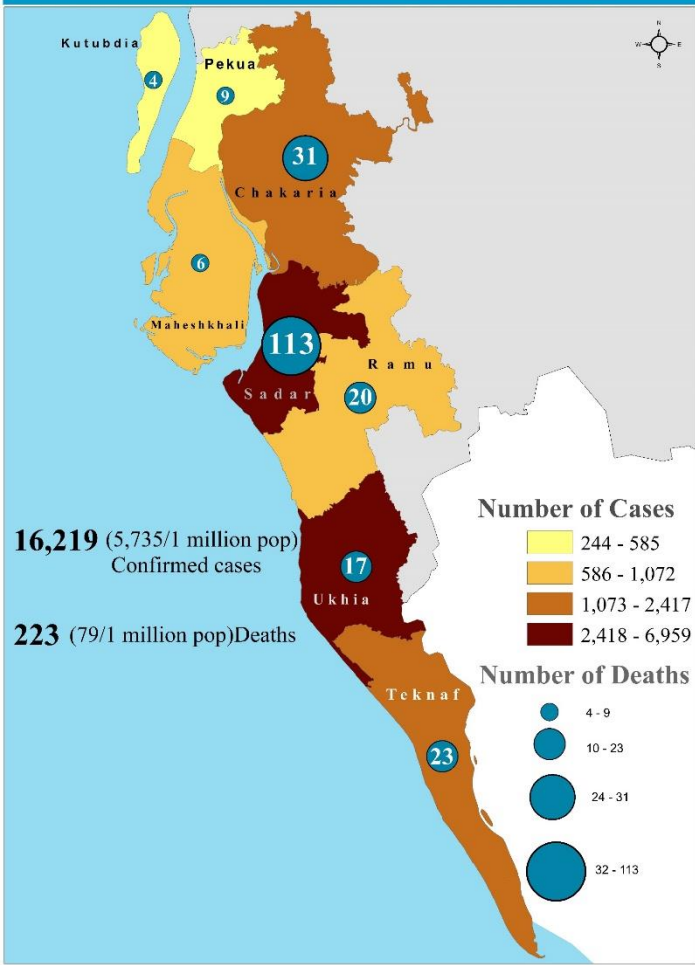


¹The Government of Bangladesh refers to Rohingya as "Forcibly Displaced Myanmar Nationals". The UN system refers to this population as Rohingya refugees, in line with the applicable international framework. In this document both terms are used, as appropriate, to refer to the same population.

²Total test done in IEDCR Field Lab, Cox's Bazar 208,504. In last 7 days the number was 4,401, out of those 146 from other districts in particular Bandarban and Chittagong.

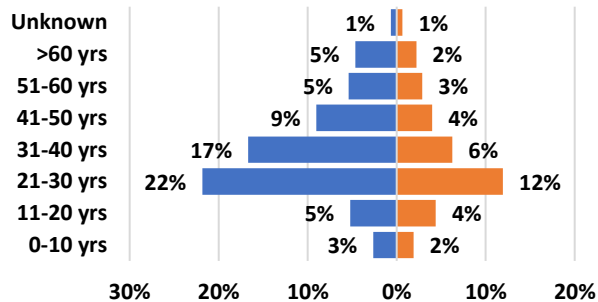
³In last 7 days, 376 new contacts have been identified among FDMN/Rohingya Refugees and 1,412 from host community. Cumulative number of contacts quarantined is 9,402 among refugees and 43,502 in host population.

COVID-19 Cases & Deaths in Cox's Bazar (March 2020 - 22 August 2021)



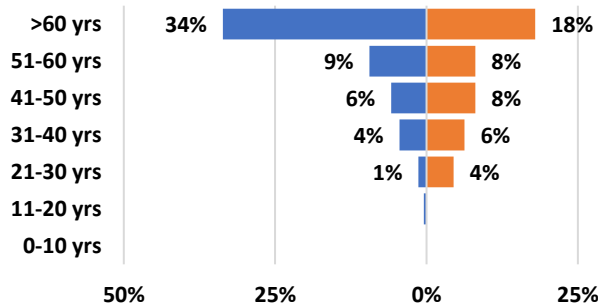
66% 34%

Age & Sex Distribution of Cases (%) (total=16,219)

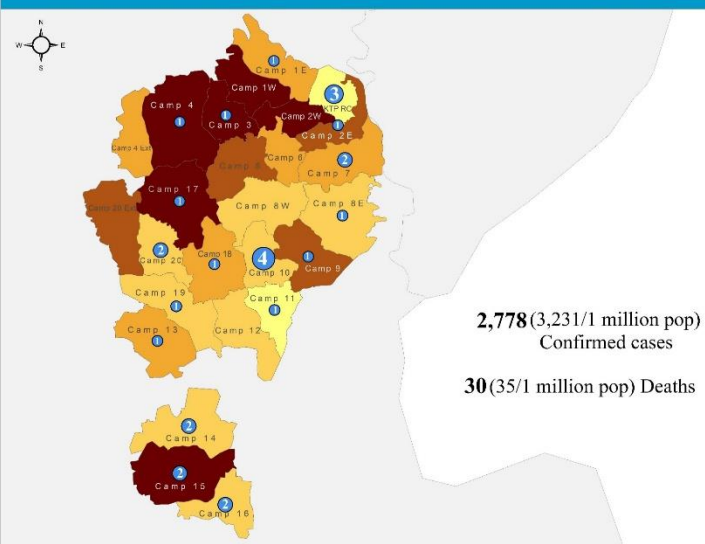


55% 45%

Age & Sex Distribution of Deaths (%) (total=223)

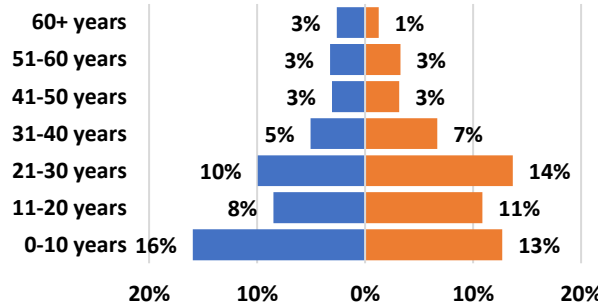


COVID-19 Cases in Rohingya Camps (March 2020 - 22 August 2021)



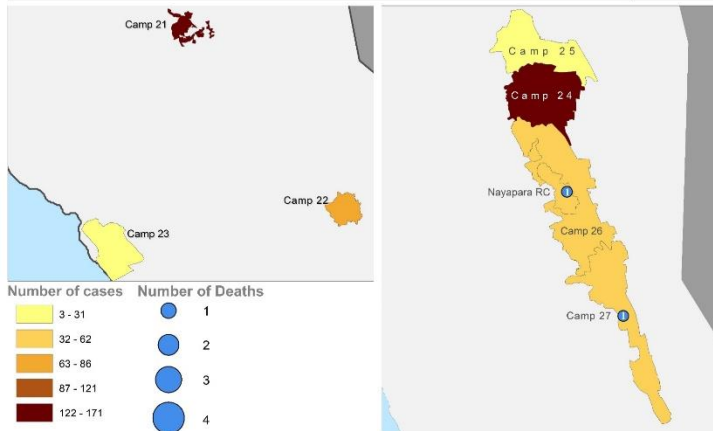
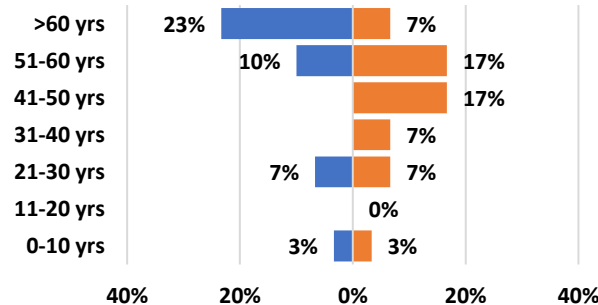
48% 52%

Age & Sex Distribution of Cases (%) (total=2,778)

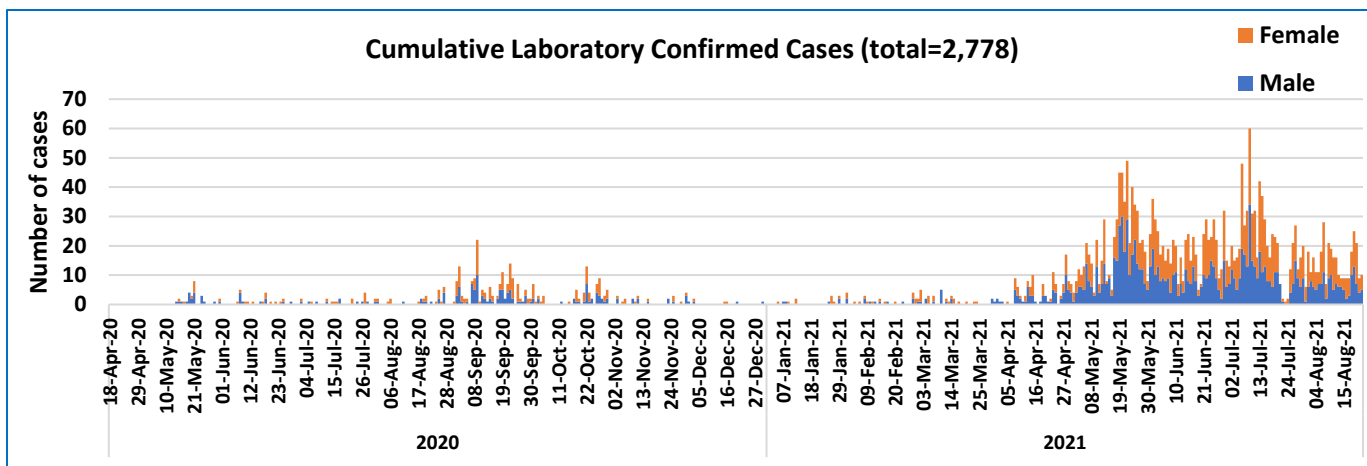


43% 57%

Age & Sex Distribution of Deaths (%) (total=30)



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



- As of epidemiological week 32 (16- 22 August 2021), 2,778 COVID-19 cases were confirmed among the Rohingya refugees from 57,371 samples tested since the beginning of the outbreak. In week 33, of the 1,262 samples tested, 101 were positive; Test Positivity Rate (TFR) is 8.0%- slightly higher than 7.6% recorded in the preceding week. To date, a total of 30 COVID-19 deaths were recorded- Case Fatality Rate (CFR) of 1.1%.
- Rapid Investigation and Response Teams (RIRT) investigated a total of 2,578 (93%) out of 2,778 COVID-19 confirmed cases among FDMN/Rohingya refugees. Contact Tracing Supervisors have traced 9,402 contacts so far; Of which, 5,832 contacts are registered in GO.DATA. Out of these, 3,393 (58%) contacts have completed their quarantine period and 273 household contacts were tested positive within the incubation period.
- During week 32 (09- 15 August 2021), no suspected Severe Acute Respiratory Infection (SARI) death was recorded; the sum remained the same- 60 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

- The first round of COVID-19 vaccination campaign (including mop-up) for Rohingya refugees aged 55 years and older was carried out from 10- 23 August 2021- with 86% vaccinated among the target population. The second round is awaiting the government directives.
- Currently, Civil Surgeon Office is reviewing the 'Referral SOP' and Health Sector partners are finalizing a 'General Health Card'. This card will be the gateway to access the health services at camp level; its generalization will follow a pilot evaluating its functionality.
- The Government of Bangladesh is planning an Oral Cholera Vaccine (OCV) campaign covering both the host and Rohingya community in Ukhia and Teknaf Upazillas.
- At present, Community Health Workers (CHW) are undertaking active case finding for AWD, referring persons with symptoms, disseminating key health messages and distributing ORS/Zinc in households reporting symptoms. In addition, enhanced surveillance is ongoing utilizing EWARS and 22 sentinel testing sites. At field, Joint Assessment Team (JAT)s are investigating in and around the household of any Cholera case and ensuring necessary public health measures. At present, 72 active and 400 standby beds are dedicated for AWD management. A coordination meeting among Health, WASH & CwC actors takes place twice a week.

Case Management

- As of 22 August 2021, across 13 operational SARI ITCs in the camps, there are 641 active and 276 standby beds. Of these active beds, 56% were occupied. 75% of the admitted cases complained of mild sign & symptoms. 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. 24 (63%) beds of these are occupied at present.
- WHO conducted weekly online 'Case Conference Calls' for SARI ITC Partners & Cox's Bazar Sadar Hospital ICU staffs respectively on 17 & 18 August 2021. During the event, international experts enlightened the participants with technical guidance on COVID-19 case management. Besides, an online 'Case Management Working Group

Meeting' was arranged on 22 August 2021- with participation of 23 SARI ITC managers- as a continuous effort to adhere to the best practices possible in camp setting.

Essential Health Services

- During reporting week, session monitoring visits to 32 vaccination centers were conducted to support COVID-19 Vaccination Campaign for Rohingya refugees aged 55 years and above.
- WHO organized 02 supportive supervision sessions in Ukha- as a part of continuing capacity building of health care professionals trained in mhGAP- to better integrate the Mental Health & Psychosocial Support (MHPSS) in primary health care services.
- In week 33, a total of 07 online supportive supervision to the mhGAP trained doctors and staffs took place by the psychiatrist, WHO providing active advice on patient management.

Risk Communication and Community Engagement (RCCE)

- WHO shared weekly English and Bangla radio script on COVID-19 update to air through Bangladesh Betar and Community Radio Naf. They also assisted RRRC and CS office to develop press release on COVID-19 vaccination for FDMN.
- In addition, RCCE focals are providing support to IVD team to document COVID-19 vaccination campaign.

Community Health Working Group (CHWG) partners' update on COVID-19 for the period of 16- 22 August 2021:

- Community Health Workers (CHWs) visited 132,178 households; of which 1,684 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 168,815 and 1,039 respectively. A total of 1,051 individuals with COVID-like symptoms were referred to health facilities, whereas the cumulative figure of referral is 90,789.
- During the reporting week, CHWs delivered messages on COVID-19 to 248,693 persons. Since the beginning of the response, CHWG partners conducted more than 9.3 millions household visits reaching over 24.9 millions adults.
- In addition, maintaining social distance CHWs conducted 14,932 small group sessions engaging 44,586 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 the last week, CHWs identified 885 cases with AWD symptoms and referred 412 cases to the health facilities. During 16-22 August 2021, 2,248 sachets of ORS and 1,909 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 16- 22 August 2021:





Host community:

- A total of 04 Radio Magazines and 03 Phone-in Live on COVID-19 vaccination & prevention were broadcasted on Bangladesh Betar and Radio Naf.
- Cox's Bazar District Information Office engaged vehicles to deliver COVID-19 messages through loudspeakers.

Rohingya Refugee/FDMN:

- A total of 26,348 (male- 18,022 and female- 8,326) persons were reached through 6,279 IPC sessions on COVID-19 vaccination.
- 2,552 adolescents (boy- 1,469 and girl- 1,083) were engaged in 393 Adolescents Radio Listener Clubs (ARLC) sessions on COVID-19 vaccination, AWD, and Use of Mask.
- A total of 1,832 females (girl- 496 and women- 1,336) attended 555 religious group study sessions (Talim) on COVID-19 vaccination with focus on key health & hygiene practices during pandemic.

COVID-19 Highlights: National Level, as of 22 August 2021

			
Total Tests	Total Cases	Total Deaths	Released/Recovered
8,649,517	1,461,998	25,282	1,363,874

*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 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"