

Outbreak Brief #125: Coronavirus Disease 2019 (COVID-19) Pandemic

Date of Issue: 7 June 2022

Global count: 529,180,850 cases and 6,296,025 deaths

Data sources: World Health Organization and African Union Member States

Outbreak Update: As of 6 June 2022, a total of 529,180,850 COVID-19 cases and 6,296,025 deaths (case fatality ratio [CFR]: 1.2%) have been reported globally by 232 countries and territories to the World Health Organization (WHO). The distribution of cumulative cases (percentage of global cases) from the WHO regions (excluding Africa) are as follows: **Eastern Mediterranean Region** 18,456,849 (3%), **European Region** 221,511,859 (42%), **Region of the Americas** 157,730,311 (30%), **South-East Asia Region** 58,172,873 (11%) and **Western Pacific Region** 61,014,636 (12%). In the last seven days, the five countries reporting the highest number of new cases are the China (513,982), United States of America (431,565), Germany (212,350), Australia (160,963) and France (134,916). As of 6 June 2022, over 4.6 billion people (59% of the global population) have been fully vaccinated. For more detailed information on cases and deaths reported outside of Africa, refer to the [WHO COVID-19 dashboard](#).

As of 6 p.m. East African Time (EAT) 6 June 2022, a total of **11,669,206** COVID-19 cases and **253,427** deaths (CFR: **2.2%**) have been reported by the 55 African Union (AU) Member States (MS). This represents 2% of all cases and 4% of all deaths reported globally. Thirty-six (65%) AU MS are reporting CFRs higher than the global CFR. Since the detection of COVID-19 on the African continent (in February 2020), 53 (96%) AU MS have experienced three distinct COVID-19 waves, 47 (72%) MS have experienced four waves, 14 MS have experienced five waves, and one MS (Mauritius) has experienced a sixth wave.

Fifty-three MS have reported COVID-19 cases infected with the Alpha (50 MS), Beta (45), Delta (50), Gamma (3) and Omicron (49) variants of concern (VOC). Additionally, 22 MS have detected the Omicron BA.2 sub-variant, while 6 MS detected the Omicron BA.4 and 5 MS detected the Omicron BA.5 sub-variants. More information on SARS-COV-2 sequencing and the breakdown of variants reported by AU MS is available on the [Africa Pathogen Genomics Initiative Dashboard](#).

Fifty-four (98%) MS are currently providing COVID-19 vaccination to the general population. Cumulatively, 577.8 million doses have been administered on the continent. Of these doses administered, 311.5 million people have been partially vaccinated, 242 million have been fully vaccinated, and 24.2 million have received a booster dose. Overall, 17.2% of the continental population is fully vaccinated. Eritrea is the only AU MS yet to start COVID-19 vaccination roll out. More information on COVID-19 vaccination can be found on the [Africa CDC COVID-19 vaccine dashboard](#).

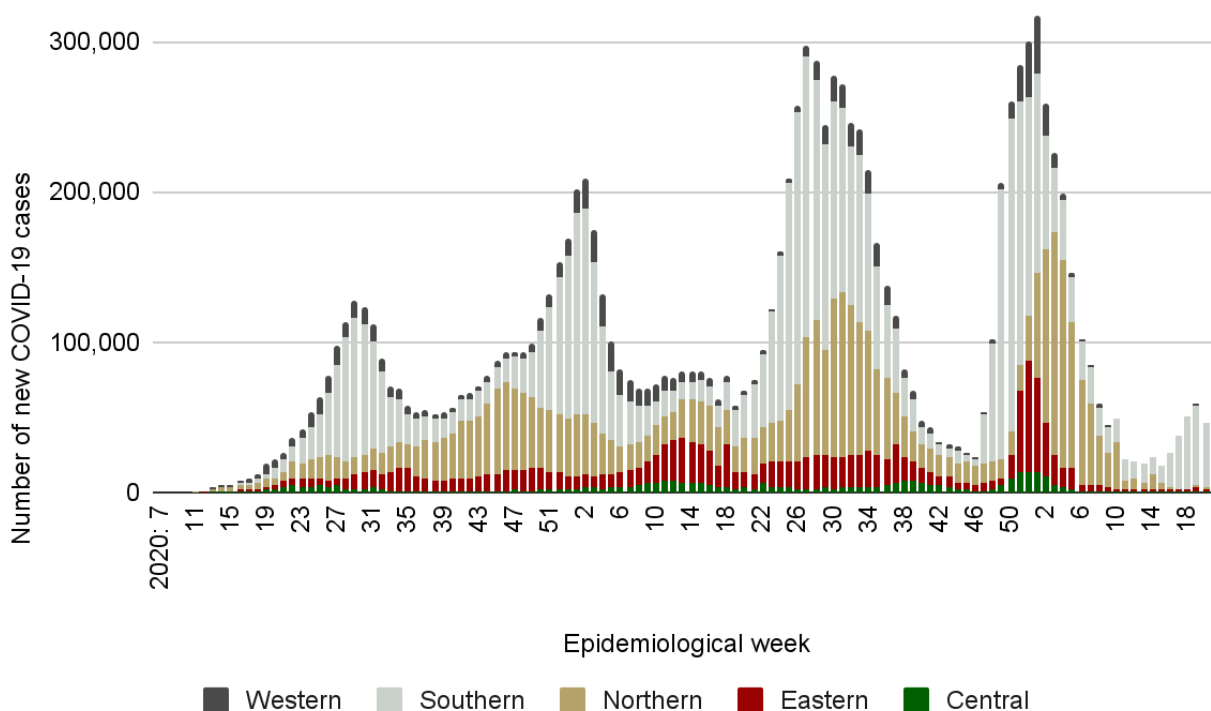


Figure 1: New COVID-19 cases reported in Africa by African Union region and epidemiological week, 15 February 2020 - 5 June 2022.

For Epi week 22 (30 May - 5 June 2022), 26,963 new COVID-19 cases were reported, which is a 19% decrease in the number of new cases reported compared to the previous week (21) (Figure 1). The Southern region accounted for 68% of the new COVID-19 cases reported this week, followed by the Eastern (17%), Northern (9%), Central (3%) and Western (3%) regions. Seychelles (596) had the highest number of new daily COVID-19 cases per 1 million population among all MS, followed by Namibia (84) and Cabo Verde (65).

Last week, 208 new COVID-19 deaths were reported in Africa, a 12% decrease in the number of new deaths reported compared to the previous week. Approximately 94.9% of these deaths were reported from the Southern region. The remaining deaths were reported from the Eastern (2.8%), Northern (1.9%) and Western (0.4%) regions. There were no deaths reported from the Central region. Cumulative COVID-19 case and death totals and new COVID-19 cases and deaths reported during week 22~~21~~ by AU Member State are summarized in Table 1.

More than 482 000 tests were conducted during the past week, reflecting a 20% increase in the number of tests compared to the previous week. The weekly % test positivity has decreased from 8% to 6%, indicating that testing has increased over the past week. Since February 2020, over 109 million COVID-19 tests have been conducted in Africa. **For more information on the COVID-19 situation in Africa,** please see the Africa CDC [daily dashboard](#) and [hotspot dashboard](#).

Table 1: Number and percentage change of confirmed COVID-19 cases and deaths reported in Africa since February 2020 and for Epidemiological Week 22 (30 May - 5 June 2022) by African Union Member States.

Country by AU Region	Cumulative number of cases (new cases)	% change in new cases since week 21	Cumulative number of deaths (new deaths)	% change in new deaths since week 21
Central Region	367,444 (857)	46%	4,534 (0)	-100%
Burundi	42,129 (95)	332%	15 (0)	NA*
Cameroon	119,947 (0)	-100%	1,930 (0)	NA*
Central African Republic	14,373 (0)	NA*	113 (0)	NA*
Chad	7,417 (0)	NA*	193 (0)	NA*
Congo	24,128 (76)	NA*	385 (0)	NA*
Democratic Republic of Congo	89,858 (656)	379%	1,338 (0)	NA*
Equatorial Guinea	15,924 (3)	-97%	183 (0)	-100%
Gabon	47,677 (27)	NA*	304 (0)	NA*
Sao Tome and Principe	5,991 (0)	NA*	73 (0)	NA*
Eastern Region	1,412,351 (4,479)	92%	27,351 (6)	50%
Comoros	8,126 (18)	800%	160 (0)	NA*
Djibouti	15,675 (20)	NA*	189 (0)	NA*
Eritrea	9,765 (8)	NA*	103 (0)	NA*
Ethiopia	475,012 (2,666)	2033%	7,515 (2)	NA*
Kenya	325,554 (786)	NA*	5,651 (0)	NA*
Madagascar	64,337 (23)	-97%	1,395 (2)	NA*
Mauritius	38,060 (0)	NA*	904 (0)	NA*
Rwanda	125,278 (71)	545%	1,459 (0)	NA*
Seychelles	44,145 (416)	13767%	167 (0)	NA*
Somalia	26,565 (30)	-88%	1,361 (0)	-100%

Country by AU Region	Cumulative number of cases (new cases)	% change in new cases since week 21	Cumulative number of deaths (new deaths)	% change in new deaths since week 21
South Sudan	17,626 (53)	-95%	138 (0)	-100%
Sudan	62,374 (123)	339%	3,909 (0)	NA*
Tanzania	35,354 (0)	NA*	800 (0)	NA*
Uganda	164,480 (265)	139%	3,600 (2)	NA*
Northern Region	3,557,909 (2,400)	177%	83,777 (4)	300%
Algeria	265,897 (24)	-50%	6,875 (0)	NA*
Egypt	515,667 (0)	-100%	24,624 (0)	NA*
Libya	502,040 (0)	-100%	6,485 (0)	NA*
Mauritania	59,199 (76)	-45%	982 (0)	-100%
Morocco	1,170,194 (2,300)	NA*	16,080 (4)	NA*
Tunisia	1,042,872 (0)	-100%	28,641 (0)	NA*
Sahrawi Arab Democratic Republic	2,040 (0)	-100%	90 (0)	NA*
Southern Region	5,490,540 (18,361)	584%	126,409 (197)	3183%
Angola	99,839 (0)	-100%	1,900 (0)	-100%
Botswana	263,950 (0)	-100%	2,697 (2)	NA*
Eswatini	72,688 (291)	197%	1,410 (3)	NA*
Lesotho	33,630 (23)	-78%	699 (0)	NA*
Malawi	86,011 (38)	-97%	2,642 (2)	100%
Mozambique	225,968 (267)	115%	2,204 (1)	NA*
Namibia	164,645 (1,556)	79%	4,040 (5)	67%
South Africa	3,968,205 (14,238)	NA*	101,317 (171)	NA*
Zambia	322,207 (643)	356%	3,988 (2)	NA*
Zimbabwe	253,397 (1,305)	NA*	5,512 (11)	NA*

Country by AU Region	Cumulative number of cases (new cases)	% change in new cases since week 21	Cumulative number of deaths (new deaths)	% change in new deaths since week 21
Western Region	840,328 (866)	-97%	11,355 (1)	-100%
Benin	26,952 (0)	NA*	163 (0)	NA*
Burkina Faso	20,899 (0)	-100%	384 (0)	NA*
Cape Verde	56,556 (262)	649%	402 (0)	NA*
Côte d'Ivoire	82,305 (112)	-77%	799 (0)	NA*
Gambia	12,002 (0)	NA*	365 (0)	NA*
Ghana	161,795 (314)	528%	1,445 (0)	NA*
Guinea	36,843 (32)	-100%	780 (0)	-100%
Guinea-Bissau	8,283 (23)	NA*	171 (0)	NA*
Liberia	7,456 (1)	-98%	294 (0)	NA*
Mali	31,110 (14)	NA*	735 (1)	NA*
Niger	9,031 (0)	-100%	310 (0)	NA*
Nigeria	256,148 (35)	-91%	3,143 (0)	-100%
Senegal	86,135 (27)	NA*	1,966 (0)	NA*
Sierra Leone	7,682 (0)	-100%	125 (0)	-100%
Togo	37,131 (46)	-97%	273 (0)	-100%
Total	11,668,572 (26,963)	-19%	253,426 (208)	-11%

*No new cases/deaths reported in the previous week.

New Africa CDC Response Activities

General:

1. Dr. Ahmed E. Ogwel Ouma, Acting Director of Africa CDC, attended the Africa Health Excon 2022 which was held in Cairo, Egypt, from 5 - 7 June 2022. In his opening remarks, he emphasized the need for Africa to be better prepared for future epidemics and pandemics.
2. Africa CDC will host a virtual conference with the theme, "SARS-CoV-2 Sequencing in Africa: Lessons from the 100,000 Genomes" on 10 June 2022. Register [here](#)

Laboratory:

1. Africa CDC held a workshop on the National Laboratory Quality Framework in Johannesburg, South Africa, for 56 participants from 14 MS from 30 May - 3 June 2022.
2. Africa CDC's Pathogen Genomic Initiative (PGI) team, in collaboration with the West African Health Organization (WAHO), held a regional workshop on "Implementation of Public Health Pathogen Genomics in West Africa" from 31 May - 2 June 2022 in Accra, Ghana.

Surveillance

1. Africa CDC in collaboration with the Ministry of Health and other stakeholders from the One Health sector in The Gambia, held a workshop on Event-based Surveillance and Training of Trainers (ToT) for 50 experts from 23 May - 3 June 2022 in Banjul, The Gambia.

Sciences, Standards and Regulations:

1. Subscribe [here](#) to receive the Partnership for Evidence-Based Response to COVID-19 (PERC) update and all other products, or visit the [PERC](#) and [Africa CDC websites](#).
2. Access the latest PERC report on "Responding to COVID-19 in Africa: Finding the Balance (Part IV) and Calls to Action" [here](#).

Recommendations for the Member States

1. AU Member States should continue to organize and implement COVID-19 vaccination campaigns, with a focus on increasing [eligibility](#)¹ and demand needed to achieve 70% vaccine coverage. Member States should also address vaccine misinformation with effective community-based risk communication and vaccine promotion activities.
2. AU Member States are encouraged to implement a tiered public health and social measures (PHSM) approach. This approach will ensure that measures are targeted and informed by the current COVID-19 situation.

¹ [Infographie sur la promotion de la vaccination - Africa CDC](#)

3. AU Member States should continue to **enhance COVID-19² surveillance** efforts to include:
 - a. [Community-based surveillance](#)³ to detect symptomatic cases early and minimize viral transmission. Where feasible, [rapid antigen tests](#)⁴ and [self-testing](#)⁵ can be used to enhance diagnostic screening efforts.
 - b. [Rapid mortality surveillance](#)⁶ that focuses on collection, analysis and use of all-cause mortality data captured from facility and/or community-based surveillance activities to improve knowledge of COVID-19 related outcomes.
 - c. [Genomic surveillance](#)⁷ to monitor the presence of variants and the spread and continuous evolution of the virus.
 - d. [Syndromic surveillance](#) for influenza-like illness (ILI) and severe acute respiratory infections (SARI)⁸ to monitor COVID-19 trends in comparison to other respiratory pathogens.
4. AU Member States are encouraged to:
 - a. Continue contact tracing activities where feasible based on the current epidemiological situation and country capacity.
 - b. Inform the general public about the importance of seeking immediate medical care for individuals who develop severe symptoms of COVID-19 (e.g. difficulty breathing).
 - c. Engage social scientists to help inform and enhance vaccination campaigns and PHSM implementation.
5. All AU Member States should notify and routinely share data with Africa CDC and WHO on confirmed COVID-19 cases, deaths, recoveries, tests conducted and infected healthcare workers to support data for action. Notify Africa CDC by emailing: AfricaCDCEBS@africa-union.org.

² [OMS COVID-19 Définition de cas](#)

³ [Surveillance renforcée de la COVID-19 au niveau communautaire en Afrique](#)

⁴ [Directives provisoires sur l'utilisation des tests rapides d'antigènes pour la réponse au COVID-19 - Africa CDC](#)

⁵ [Directives provisoires sur l'auto dépistage de l'antigène rapide COVID-19 à l'intention des Etats membres de l'Union Africaine - Africa CDC](#)

⁶ [Révéler le bilan du COVID-19 : Un paquet technique pour les Etats membres de l'UA - Africa CDC](#)

⁷ [Guide opérationnel provisoire sur la surveillance génomique du SRAS-COV-2 en Afrique: Un guide actualisé](#)

⁸ [Protocole de surveillance renforcée des maladies respiratoires aiguës sévères et des syndromes grippaux pour la COVID-19 en Afrique – Africa CDC](#)

Resources for more information

- Africa CDC COVID-19 updates <https://africacdc.org/covid-19/>
- Adapted Africa Joint Continental Strategy for COVID-19 Pandemic: <https://africacdc.org/download/adapted-africa-joint-continental-strategy-for-covid-19-pandemic/>
- Africa CDC Resources, policy guidelines, and infographics: <https://africacdc.org/covid-19/covid-19-resources/>
- Africa CDC Hotspot and PHSM Tiers dashboards: <https://africadccovid.org/>
- Africa CDC vaccination dashboard: <https://africacdc.org/covid-19-vaccination/>
- Africa CDC pathogen genomics dashboard: <https://africacdc.org/institutes/africa-pathogen-genomics-initiative/>
- Partnership for Evidence-Based Response to COVID-19 (PERC) <https://preventepidemics.org/covid19/perc/>
- WHO Technical Guidance. <https://www.who.int/emergencies/diseases/novel-coronavirus-2019/technical-guidance>