

Outbreak Brief #128: Coronavirus Disease 2019 (COVID-19) Pandemic

Date of Issue: 28 June 2022

Global count: 540,678,866 cases and 6,324,914,804 deaths

Data sources: World Health Organization and African Union Member States

Outbreak Update: As of 27 June 2022, a total of 540,678,866 COVID-19 cases and 6,324,914 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** 18,587,687 (3%), **European Region** 226,208,458 (42%), **Region of the Americas** 161,484,285 (30%), **South-East Asia Region** 58,487,043 (11%) and **Western Pacific Region** 63,667,163 (12%). In the last seven days, the five countries reporting the highest number of new cases are the Germany (492,209), United States of America (434,054), Italy (355,082), France (342,504) and China (323,187). As of 27 June 2022, over 4.7 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) 27 June 2022, a total of **11,775,084** COVID-19 cases and **254,003** 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. Forty (73%) 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, 48 (87%) MS have experienced four waves, 22MS have experienced five waves, and two MS (Kenya and Mauritius) have 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 eight MS detected the Omicron BA.4 and ten 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, 592.6 million doses have been administered on the continent. Of these doses administered, 318.3 million people have been partially vaccinated, 248.5 million have been fully vaccinated, and 27 million have received a booster dose. Overall, 17.7% 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.](#)

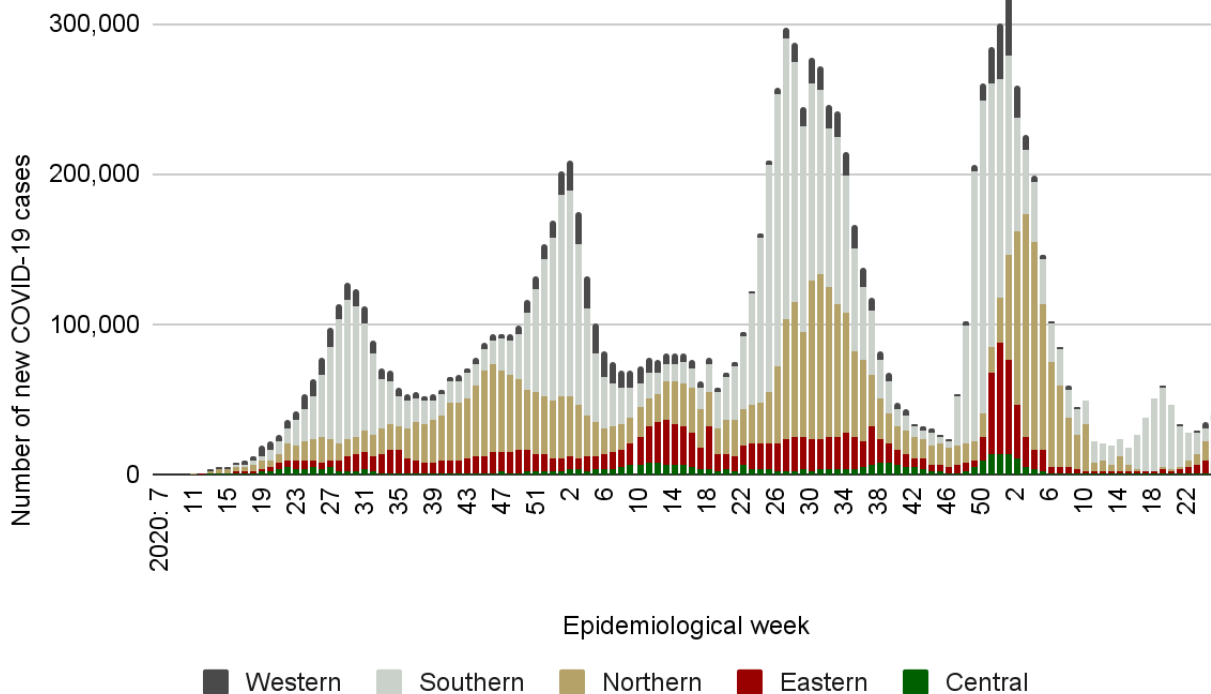


Figure 1: New COVID-19 cases reported in Africa by African Union region and epidemiological week, 15 February 2020 - 26 June 2022.

For Epi week 25 (20 - 26 June 2022), 40,239 new COVID-19 cases were reported, which is a 14% increase in the number of new cases reported compared to the previous week (24) (Figure 1). The Northern region accounted for 47% of the new COVID-19 cases reported this week, followed by the Southern (26%), Eastern (18%), Western (8%) and Central (1%) regions. Seychelles (568) had the highest number of new daily COVID-19 cases per 1 million population among all MS, followed by Cabo Verde (314).

Last week, 218 new COVID-19 deaths were reported in Africa, a 11% increase in the number of new deaths reported compared to the previous week. Approximately 85% of these deaths were reported from the Southern region. The remaining deaths were reported from the Northern (6%), Western (4%), Eastern (4%), and Central (4%), regions. Cumulative COVID-19 case and death totals and new COVID-19 cases and deaths reported during week 25 by AU Member State are summarized in Table 1.

More than 463,000 tests were conducted during the past week, reflecting a 22% increase in the number of tests compared to the previous week. The weekly % test positivity has decreased from 9% to 8%, indicating that testing has increased over the past week. Since February 2020, over 110

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 25 (20 - 26 June 2022) by African Union Member States.

Country by AU Region	Cumulative number of cases (new cases)	% change in new cases since week 24	Cumulative number of deaths (new deaths)	% change in new deaths since week 24
Central Region	369,893 (474)	-33%	4,547 (1)	No change
Burundi	42,593 (121)	-15%	15 (0)	NA*
Cameroon	120,068 (0)	NA*	1,930 (0)	NA*
Central African Republic	14,586 (0)	-100%	113 (0)	NA*
Chad	7,424 (0)	-100%	193 (0)	NA*
Congo	24,128 (0)	NA*	385 (0)	NA*
Democratic Republic of Congo	91,334 (309)	-33%	1,351 (1)	No change
Equatorial Guinea	15,995 (44)	633%	183 (0)	NA*
Gabon	47,742 (0)	-100%	304 (0)	NA*
Sao Tome and Principe	6,023 (0)	-100%	73 (0)	NA*
Eastern Region	1,434,517 (7,371)	-15%	27,372 (8)	-33%
Comoros	8,131 (0)	-100%	160 (0)	NA*
Djibouti	15,690 (0)	-100%	189 (0)	NA*
Eritrea	9,788 (11)	-8%	103 (0)	NA*
Ethiopia	487,430 (3,292)	-36%	7,530 (7)	No change
Kenya	332,227 (2,874)	30%	5,652 (1)	NA*
Madagascar	64,552 (0)	NA*	1,395 (0)	NA*
Mauritius	38,060 (0)	NA*	904 (0)	NA*
Rwanda	125,597 (108)	35%	1,459 (0)	NA*
Seychelles	44,759 (396)	82%	167 (0)	NA*
Somalia	26,803 (55)	-70%	1,361 (0)	NA*
South Sudan	17,683 (0)	-100%	138 (0)	NA*

Country by AU Region	Cumulative number of cases (new cases)	% change in new cases since week 24	Cumulative number of deaths (new deaths)	% change in new deaths since week 24
Sudan	62,475 (0)	-100%	3,909 (0)	NA*
Tanzania	35,354 (0)	NA*	800 (0)	NA*
Uganda	165,968 (635)	3%	3,605 (0)	-100%
Northern Region	3,596,616 (18,820)	47%	83,772 (14)	-30%
Algeria	266,039 (63)	24%	6,875 (0)	NA*
Egypt	515,667 (0)	NA*	24,624 (0)	NA*
Libya	502,138 (28)	NA*	6,430 (0)	NA*
Mauritania	59,451 (141)	124%	982 (0)	NA*
Morocco	1,204,578 (18,588)	79%	16,101 (14)	180%
Tunisia	1,046,703 (0)	-100%	28,670 (0)	-100%
Sahrawi Arab Democratic Republic	2,040 (0)	NA*	90 (0)	NA*
Southern Region	5,524,052 (10,218)	12%	126,935 (186)	22%
Angola	99,839 (0)	NA*	1,900 (0)	NA*
Botswana	263,950 (0)	NA*	2,719 (10)	-17%
Eswatini	73,073 (67)	-42%	1,415 (0)	-100%
Lesotho	34,033 (3)	-97%	700 (0)	-100%
Malawi	86,348 (144)	48%	2,645 (1)	-50%
Mozambique	227,660 (533)	-20%	2,212 (4)	33%
Namibia	166,069 (156)	-62%	4,061 (5)	-29%
South Africa	3,992,449 (7,803)	29%	101,731 (142)	35%
Zambia	325,248 (960)	-4%	4,003 (9)	80%
Zimbabwe	255,383 (552)	-18%	5,549 (15)	15%
Western Region	849,906 (3,356)	-18%	11,377 (9)	-18%
Benin	26,952 (0)	NA*	163 (0)	NA*
Burkina Faso	21,044 (0)	-100%	387 (0)	-100%
Cape Verde	59,533 (1,262)	7%	403 (1)	NA*
Côte d'Ivoire	83,049 (325)	37%	805 (3)	No change
Gambia	12,002 (0)	NA*	365 (0)	NA*

Country by AU Region	Cumulative number of cases (new cases)	% change in new cases since week 24	Cumulative number of deaths (new deaths)	% change in new deaths since week 24
Ghana	165,749 (1,137)	-42%	1,449 (1)	-67%
Guinea	37,264 (156)	79%	781 (1)	NA*
Guinea-Bissau	8,348 (41)	4000%	171 (0)	NA*
Liberia	7,493 (4)	-87%	294 (0)	NA*
Mali	31,156 (19)	58%	737 (1)	No change
Niger	9,031 (0)	NA*	310 (0)	NA*
Nigeria	256,958 (247)	-20%	3,144 (0)	NA*
Senegal	86,286 (59)	-6%	1,968 (0)	-100%
Sierra Leone	7,693 (5)	25%	125 (0)	NA*
Togo	37,348 (101)	98%	275 (2)	NA*
Total	11,774,984 (40,239)	14%	254,003 (218)	11%

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

New Africa CDC Response Activities

General:

1. Dr. Ahmed E. Ogwell Ouma, Acting Director of Africa CDC, hosted the Africa CDC weekly press briefing on Thursday 23 June 2022 at 12 p.m. EAT. He provided an update on the COVID-19 situation across the continent, including response efforts and progress on increasing COVID-19 vaccination coverage. The recording is available on the [Africa CDC Twitter page](#).

Laboratory:

1. As part of the Pathogen Genomics Initiative (PGI) webinar series, Africa CDC will hold a webinar on Pathogen Genomics in Africa titled “What did we learn and how can we bring that closer to high TB burden communities” on 29 June 2022 at 2 p.m. EAT. Register [here](#).
2. Africa CDC is holding an Eastern Africa regional workshop to pilot the newly developed Africa CDC curriculum on laboratory quality management systems training materials using a One Health approach in Nairobi, Kenya from 27 June – 1 July 2022. A total of 26 participants from Eastern African countries are attending the workshop.

Surveillance:

1. Africa CDC in collaboration with the Ministry of Health Uganda and Health Information Systems Program - South Africa is holding a workshop on developing an Event Management System to strengthen Event Based Surveillance (EBS) implementation from 23 June - 1 July 2022, in Kampala, Uganda.
2. Africa CDC in collaboration with the East, Central and Southern Africa Health Community (ECSA-HC) is conducting a workshop to support the establishment of EBS in Mozambique from 27 June - 8 July 2022. The activities will include the adaptation of the Africa CDC EBS Framework and Training of Trainers (ToT) at the national level.

Risk communication and community engagement:

1. Africa CDC in collaboration with UNAIDS and BMG is conducting a three-day training on strengthening response to COVID-19 and HIV at regional and country levels for Western Africa MS in Dakar, Senegal from 28 - 30 June 2022. The training aims to strengthen community engagement, rumor management and tackle vaccine hesitancy and misinformation.

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.
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.

Resources for more information

- Africa CDC COVID-19 updates <https://africacdc.org/covid-19/>

¹ [Vaccination Advocacy Infographics – Africa CDC](#)

² [WHO COVID-19 Case definition](#)

³ [Enhanced COVID-19 Surveillance at the Community Level in Africa](#)

⁴ [Interim Guidance on the Use of Rapid Antigen tests for COVID-19 Response – Africa CDC](#)

⁵ [Interim guidance on COVID-19 Rapid Antigen self-testing to African Union Member States – Africa CDC](#)

⁶ [Revealing the toll of COVID-19: A technical package for AU Member States – Africa CDC](#)

⁷ [Interim operational guidance on SARS-CoV-2 genomic surveillance in Africa: An updated guide](#)

⁸ [Protocol for Enhanced Severe Acute Respiratory Illness and Influenza-Like Illness Surveillance for COVID-19 in Africa – Africa CDC](#)

- 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>