

## Outbreak Brief #147: Coronavirus Disease 2019 (COVID-19) Pandemic

Date of Issue: 9 November 2022

**Global count: 630,387,858 cases and 6,583,163 deaths**

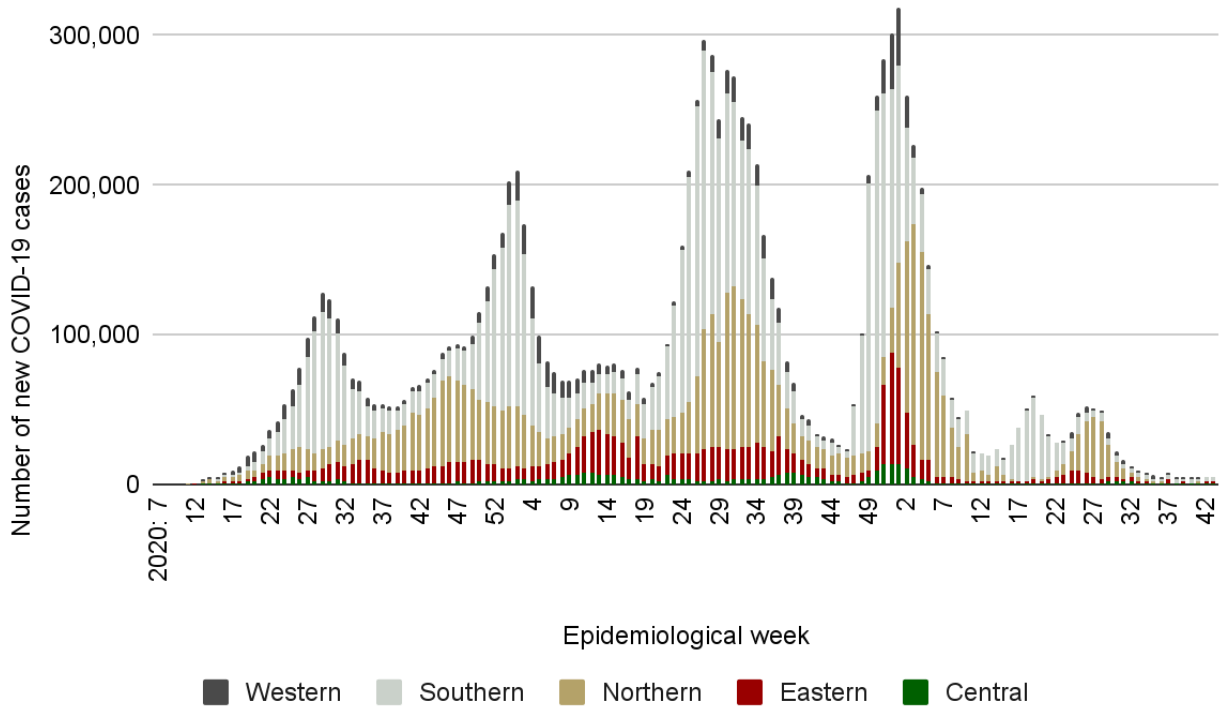
*Data sources: World Health Organization and African Union Member States*

**Outbreak Update:** As of 8 November 2022, a total of 630,387,858 COVID-19 cases and 6,583,163 deaths (case fatality ratio [CFR]: 1%) 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** 23,168,524 (4%), **European Region** 262,088,023 (42%), **Region of the Americas** 180,429,028 (29%), **South-East Asia Region** 60,507,835 (10%) and **Western Pacific Region** 94,824,020 (15%). In the last seven days, the five countries reporting the highest number of new cases are Japan (379,352), Republic of Korea (299,601), Germany (216,564), China (211,636) and France (110,041). As of 7 November 2022, over 4.9 billion people (62% 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) 8 November 2022**, a total of **12,103,931** COVID-19 cases and **256,066** deaths (CFR: **2.1%**) 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-one (75%) 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, 28 MS have experienced five waves, and five MS (Algeria, Burundi, Kenya, Mauritius and Tunisia) have experienced a sixth wave.

Fifty-three MS have reported COVID-19 cases infected with the Alpha (50 MS), Beta (45), Delta (52), Gamma (3) and Omicron (51) variants of concern (VOC). Additionally, 35 MS have detected the Omicron BA.2 sub-variant, while 21 MS detected the Omicron BA.4, 18 MS detected the Omicron BA.5 and 3 MS detected the Omicron XBB 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, 759.4 million doses have been administered on the continent. Of these doses administered, 377 million people have been partially vaccinated, 351 million have been fully vaccinated, and 25.1% 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 - 6 November 2022.**

For Epi week 44 (31 October - 6 November 2022),<sup>1</sup> 5,325 new COVID-19 cases were reported, which is a 10% decrease in the number of new cases reported compared to the previous week (week 43) (Figure 1). The Southern region accounted for 35% of the new COVID-19 cases reported this week, followed by the Eastern (31%), Northern (18%), Western (11%) and Central (5%) regions. Cabo verde (41) had the highest number of new daily COVID-19 cases per 1 million population among all MS.

Last week (week 44), 60 new COVID-19 deaths were reported in Africa, a 0%<sup>2</sup> change in the number of new deaths reported compared to the previous week. Approximately 90% of these deaths were reported from the Southern region. The remaining deaths were reported from the Eastern (5%), Western (2%), and Central (1%) regions. There were no new deaths reported from the Northern region. Cumulative COVID-19 case and death totals and new COVID-19 cases and deaths reported during week 44 by AU Member State are summarized in Table 1.

<sup>1</sup> The number of new cases and deaths are updated as Africa CDC receives this information and may not be reflective of the total new cases and deaths as per the date of the outbreak brief report.

<sup>2</sup> Due to batched reporting of 52 new deaths from South Africa.

More than 135,000 tests were conducted during the past week, reflecting a 73% increase in the number of tests compared to the previous week. The weekly % test positivity is 4%, a 50% decrease compared to last week. Since February 2020, over 123.6 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 44 (31 October - 6 November 2022) by African Union Member States.**

Country by AU Region	Cumulative number of cases (New cases)	% Change in new cases since week 43	Cumulative number of deaths (new deaths)	% Change in new deaths since week 43
<b>Central Region</b>	<b>388,053 (353)</b>	<b>58.3%</b>	<b>4,598 (1)</b>	<b>-100%</b>
Burundi	50,517 (47)	161.1%	15 (0)	NA*
Cameroon	123,993 (0)	NA*	1,965 (0)	NA*
Central African Republic	15,296 (5)	-84.4%	113 (0)	NA*
Chad	7,627 (7)	0%	194 (0)	-100%
Congo	24,837 (0)	NA*	386 (0)	NA*
Democratic Republic of Congo	93,468 (268)	137.2%	1,359 (1)	NA*
Equatorial Guinea	17,081 (7)	-61.1%	183 (0)	NA*
Gabon	48,959 (14)	-54.8%	306 (0)	NA*
Sao Tome and Principe	6,275 (5)	25%	77 (0)	NA*
<b>Eastern Region</b>	<b>1,475,937 (1,637)</b>	<b>-17.6%</b>	<b>27,647 (3)</b>	<b>NA*</b>
Comoros	8,762 (90)	-52.9%	160 (0)	NA*
Djibouti	15,960 (0)	NA*	189 (0)	NA*
Eritrea	10,189 (2)	NA*	103 (0)	NA*
Ethiopia	494,042 (102)	56.9%	7,572 (0)	NA*
Kenya	339,671 (524)	31.7%	5,678 (0)	NA*
Madagascar	66,746 (59)	NA*	1,411 (1)	NA*

Country by AU Region	Cumulative number of cases (New cases)	% Change in new cases since week 43	Cumulative number of deaths (new deaths)	% Change in new deaths since week 43
Mauritius	40,620 (0)	-100%	1,014 (0)	NA*
Rwanda	132,567 (0)	NA*	1,466 (0)	NA*
Seychelles	49,035 (0)	-100%	171 (2)	NA*
Somalia	27,237 (12)	NA*	1,361 (0)	NA*
South Sudan	18,318 (535)	NA*	138 (0)	NA*
Sudan	63,509 (63)	NA*	3,909 (0)	NA*
Tanzania	40,054 (250)	100%	845 (0)	NA*
Uganda	169,227 (0)	-100%	3,630 (0)	NA*
<b>Northern Region</b>	<b>3,771,705 (948)</b>	<b>126.8%</b>	<b>84,567 (0)</b>	<b>-100%</b>
Algeria	270,847 (18)	-65.4%	6,881 (0)	NA*
Egypt	515,667 (0)	NA*	24,624 (0)	NA*
Libya	507,060 (26)	NA*	6,437 (0)	NA*
Mauritania	63,392 (37)	-50.7%	997 (0)	NA*
Morocco	1,265,998 (426)	132.8	16,281 (0)	-100%
Tunisia	1,146,593 (441)	308.3%	29,257 (0)	NA*
Sahrawi Arab Democratic Republic	2,148 (0)	-NA*	90 (0)	NA*
<b>Southern Region</b>	<b>5,582,465 (1,906)</b>	<b>-35.9%</b>	<b>127,761 (54)</b>	<b>-2%</b>
Angola	103,131 (0)	NA*	1,917 (0)	NA*
Botswana	263,950 (0)	NA*	2,739 (0)	NA*
Eswatini	73,618 (60)	87.5%	1,422 (0)	NA*
Lesotho	34,847 (0)	-100%	707 (0)	NA*
Malawi	88,009 (10)	900%	2,685 (2)	NA*
Mozambique	230,543 (44)	83.3%	2,224 (0)	NA*
Namibia	166,662 (0)	NA*	4,077 (0)	NA*

Country by AU Region	Cumulative number of cases (New cases)	% Change in new cases since week 43	Cumulative number of deaths (new deaths)	% Change in new deaths since week 43
South Africa	4,029,942 (1,782)	-36%	102,363 (52)	NA*
Zambia	333,684 (10)	100%	4,017 (0)	NA*
Zimbabwe	258,079 (0)	-100%	5,610 (0)	NA*
<b>Western Region</b>	<b>882,517 (613)</b>	<b>80.8%</b>	<b>11,482 (2)</b>	<b>-50%</b>
Benin	27,782 (0)	NA*	163 (0)	NA*
Burkina Faso	21,631 (0)	NA*	387 (0)	NA*
Cape Verde	62,566 (169)	NA*	410 (0)	NA*
Côte d'Ivoire	87,830 (57)	-21.9%	829 (2)	NA*
Gambia	12,580 (0)	-100%	372 (0)	NA*
Ghana	170,894 (187)	39.6%	1,460 (0)	NA*
Guinea	38,173 (0)	-100%	796 (0)	-100%
Guinea-Bissau	8,831 (0)	NA*	176 (0)	NA*
Liberia	7,985 (0)	NA*	294 (0)	NA*
Mali	32,738 (7)	-53.3%	742 (0)	NA*
Niger	9,430 (4)	300%	314 (0)	NA*
Nigeria	266,192 (149)	NA*	3,155 (0)	NA*
Senegal	88,821 (27)	-64%	1,968 (0)	NA*
Sierra Leone	7,752 (0)	NA*	126 (0)	NA*
Togo	39,312 (13)	-13.3%	290 (0)	-100%
<b>Total</b>	<b>12,100,677 (5,457)</b>	<b>-8.2%</b>	<b>256,055 (60)</b>	<b>-2%</b>

\*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, hosted the Africa CDC weekly press briefing on Thursday 3 November 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](#).
2. Africa CDC in collaboration with MasterCard Foundation through its Implementing partner AKROS supported the supervision of the COVID-19 vaccination centres in Ethiopia on 31 October 2022. The aim of the supervision was to strengthen pharmacovigilance surveillance in Ethiopia.
3. Africa CDC and the MasterCard Foundation through the Saving Lives Livelihoods (SLL) programme administered over one million doses of COVID-19 vaccine in Tanzania from 31 October - 6 November 2022.

### Sciences, Standards and Regulations

1. Access 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](#)<sup>3</sup> 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-19<sup>4</sup> surveillance** efforts to include:
  - a. [Community-based surveillance](#)<sup>5</sup> to detect symptomatic cases early and minimize viral transmission. Where feasible, [rapid antigen tests](#)<sup>6</sup> and [self-testing](#)<sup>7</sup> can be used to enhance diagnostic screening efforts.
  - b. [Rapid mortality surveillance](#)<sup>8</sup> 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.

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<sup>3</sup> [Vaccination Advocacy Infographics – Africa CDC](#)

<sup>4</sup> [WHO COVID-19 Case definition](#)

<sup>5</sup> [Enhanced COVID-19 Surveillance at the Community Level in Africa](#)

<sup>6</sup> [Interim Guidance on the Use of Rapid Antigen tests for COVID-19 Response – Africa CDC](#)

<sup>7</sup> [Interim guidance on COVID-19 Rapid Antigen self-testing to African Union Member States](#) – Africa CDC

<sup>8</sup> [Revealing the toll of COVID-19: A technical package for AU Member States](#) – Africa CDC

- c. [Genomic surveillance](#)<sup>9</sup> 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)<sup>10</sup> 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](mailto:AfricaCDCEBS@africa-union.org).

#### 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://africacdc.org/covid-19-hotspot-and-phsm-tiers-dashboards/>
- 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>

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<sup>9</sup> [Interim operational guidance on SARS-CoV-2 genomic surveillance in Africa: An updated guide](#)

<sup>10</sup> [Protocol for Enhanced Severe Acute Respiratory Illness and Influenza-Like Illness Surveillance for COVID-19 in Africa – Africa CDC](#)