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HEALTHIER CITIZENS FOR PROSPEROUS NATION



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NATIONAL PUBLIC HEALTH EMERGENCY OPERATION CENTER (PHEOC), ETHIOPIA

COVID-19 PANDEMIC PREPAREDNESS AND RESPONSE IN ETHIOPIA

WEEKLY BULLETIN

Dates covered by this Bulletin: June 29–July 05, 2020

BULLETIN No: 10
Issue Date: July 06, 2020

I. HIGHLIGHTS

- Eight-hundred-seventy-five new confirmed COVID-19 cases and twenty COVID-19 related deaths were reported during the WHO Epi-Week-27.
- As of July 05, 2020, a total of 6,564 COVID-19 confirmed cases and 118 deaths have been reported in Ethiopia so far.
- One-thousand-two cases have been newly recovered from COVID-19 during the WHO Epi-Week-27, bringing the total number of recovered cases to 3,134.
- A total of 39,659 contacts of confirmed cases have been identified as of July 05, 2020. Of these, 1,583 contacts are identified during the WHO Epi-week-27.
- Number of COVID-19 related death in Ethiopia surpass 100 and number of global COVID-19 confirmed cases surpass 10 million.
- Alarming increased number of COVID-19 cases is being reported each week in Africa.

II. BACKGROUND

The Ministry of health (MOH) and Ethiopian Public Health Institute (EPHI) in collaboration with partners have intensified response efforts to prevent the spread and severity of Corona Virus Disease 2019 (COVID-19) in Ethiopia. The central and the regional Public Health Emergency Operation Centers (PHEOC) have been activated and laboratory diagnosis capacity has been expanded to other national institutions, subnational and private laboratories.

The national and regional PHEOC are playing a pivotal role in coordinating resources from different responding agencies and coordinating COVID-19 related information through a regular EOC meetings and partners' coordination forums. The MOH and EPHI are providing information to the general public and stakeholders on a regular and uninterrupted manner using different means of communication modalities.

The WHO and other partners are currently supporting in scaling-up preparedness and response efforts and implementation of related recommendations suggested by the IHR Emergency Committee.

III. EPIDEMIOLOGICAL SITUATION

Global Situation

- The number of global COVID-19 confirmed cases surpassed 10 million.
- Between December 2019 to July 05, 2020, COVID-19 pandemic affected 216 countries/territories causing 11,210,445 cases and 533,728 deaths (CFR=4.76%) globally.
- Of the total cases and deaths reported since the beginning of the outbreak, 1,359,158 (1.22% increment compared to Epi-Week-26) cases and 32,846 (1.02% increment compared to Epi-Week-26) deaths were reported during the WHO Epi-Week-27.
- The United States of America (USA) reported the highest number of cases 2,776,366 and deaths 130,254 with CFR of 4.69% followed by Brazil 1,539,081 cases and 63,174 deaths with a CFR of 4.11%). Among the confirmed cases the highest proportion of death occurred in the United Kingdom with CFR of 12.80%.
- In Africa, 56 countries/territories have reported COVID-19 cases.
- As of July 05, 2020, a total of 464,858 cases and 11,128 deaths were reported across the continent (CFR=2.39%).
- During the WHO-Epi-Week-27, a total of 90,797 (1.21% increment compared to Epi-Week-26) cases and 1,623 (1.02% increment compared to Epi-Week-26) deaths were reported across the continent.
- Alarming increased number of COVID-19 cases is being reported each week in Africa. More than half of the COVID-19 cases (56%) and deaths (57%) in Africa is reported from South Africa and Egypt. See the summary dashboard below.

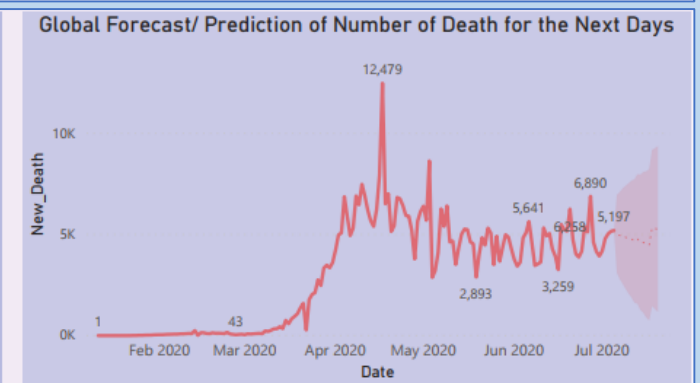
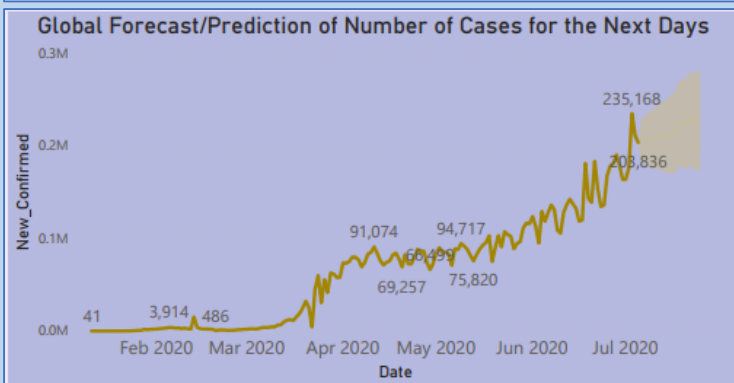
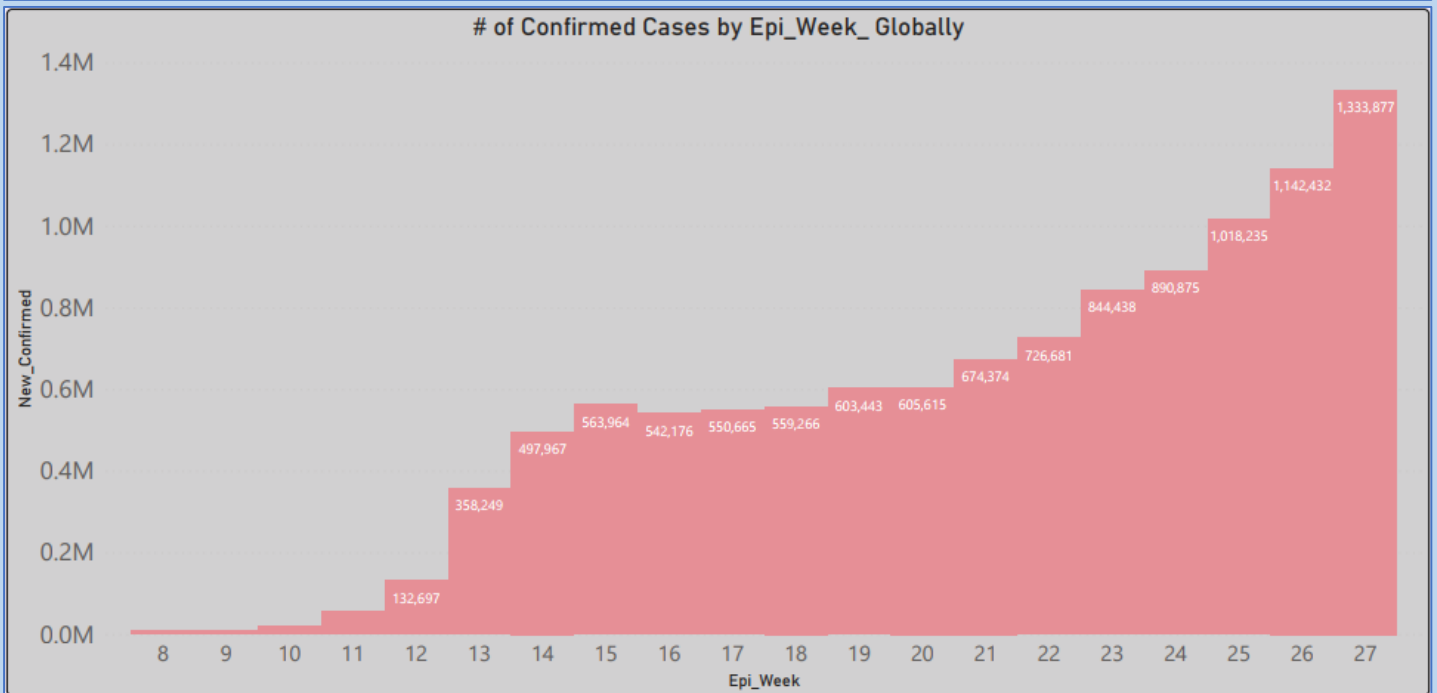
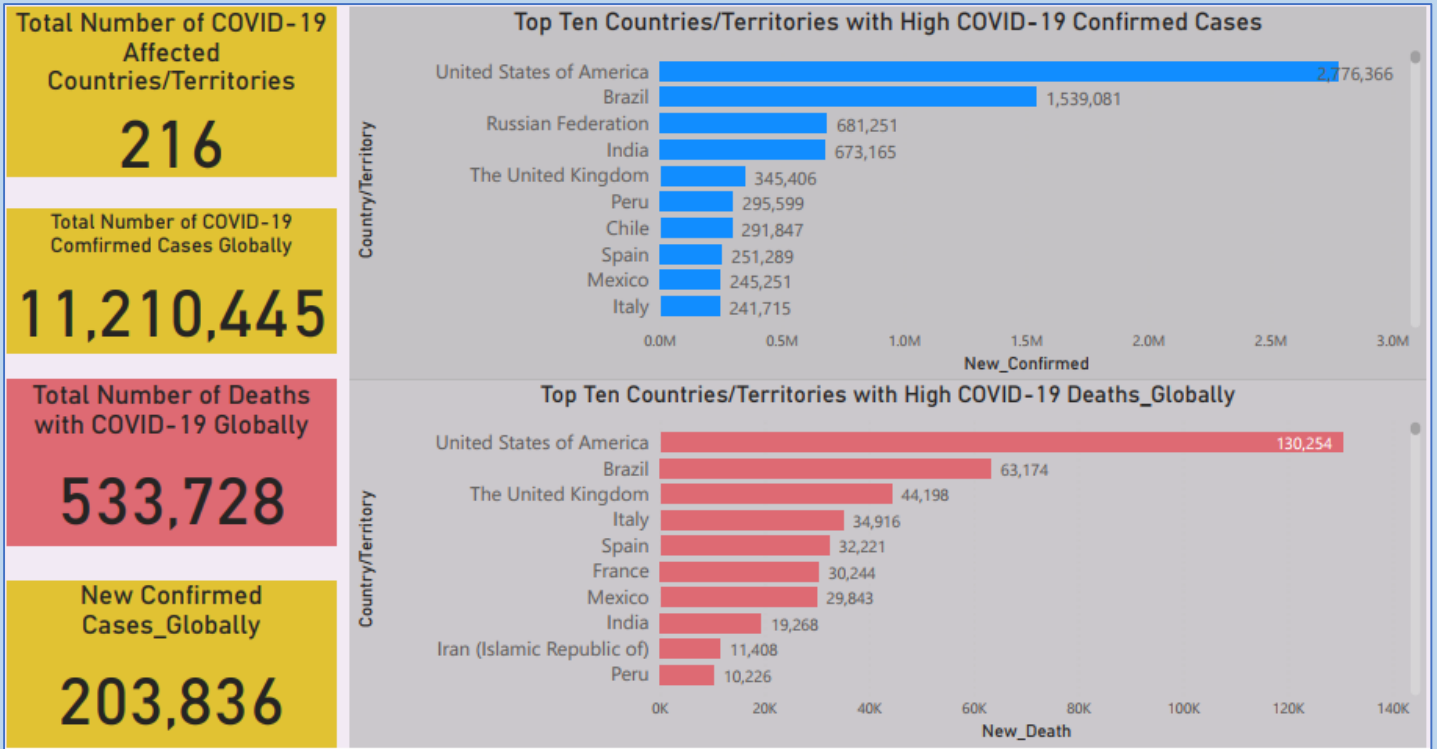


Fig. 1: Global Situation Update as of May July 05, 2020 (Source: WHO)

of African Countries/Territories with COVID-19 Confirmed Cases

56

Total Number of Cases Confirmed in Africa

464,858

New Confirmed Cases in Africa with COVID-19

16,230

Total Number of Deaths in Africa with COVID-19

11,128

New Deaths in Africa with COVID-19

205

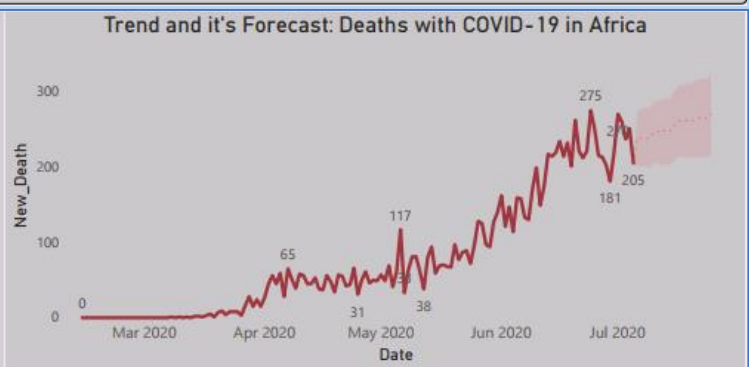
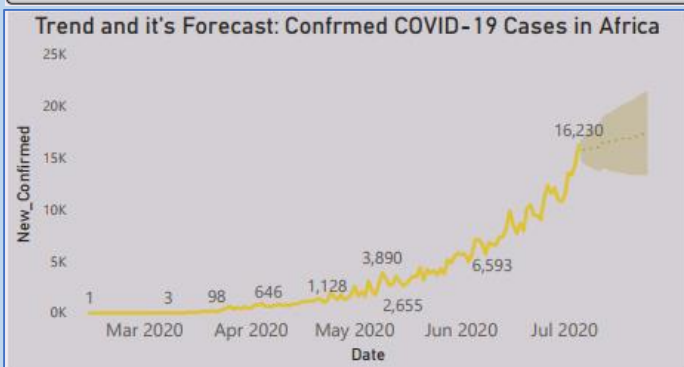
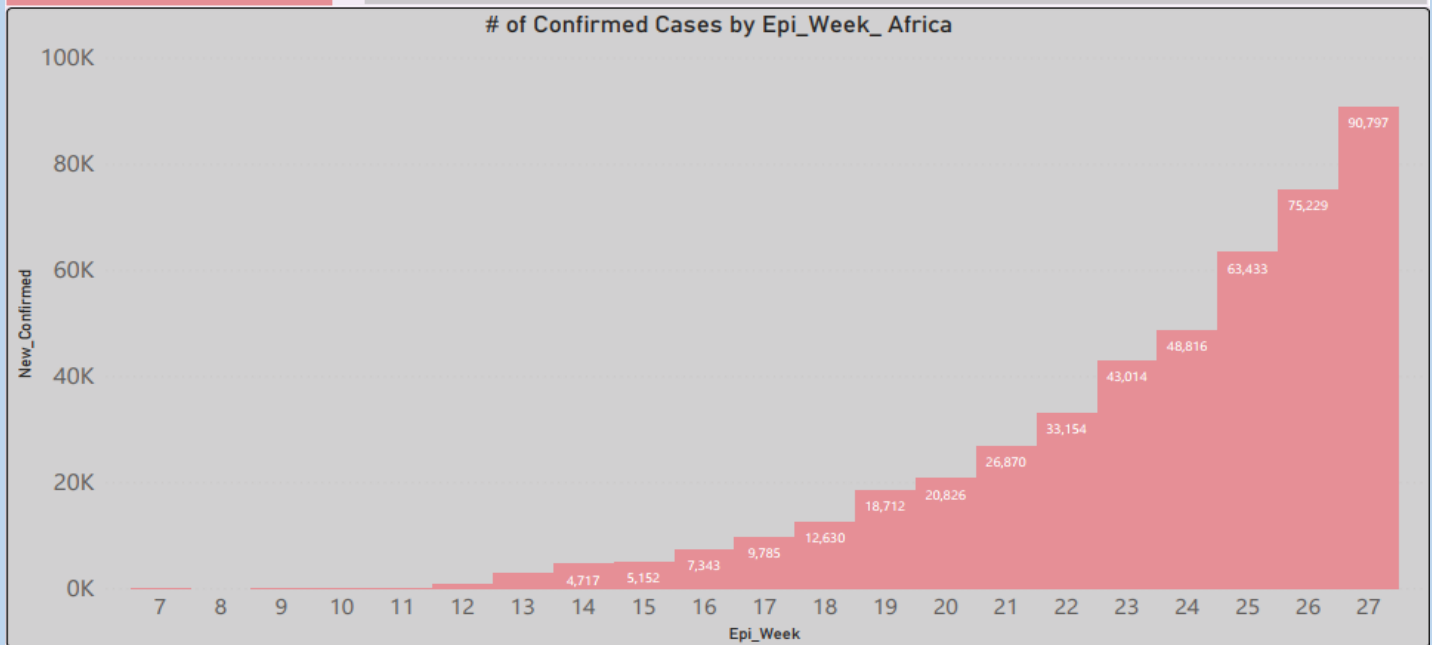
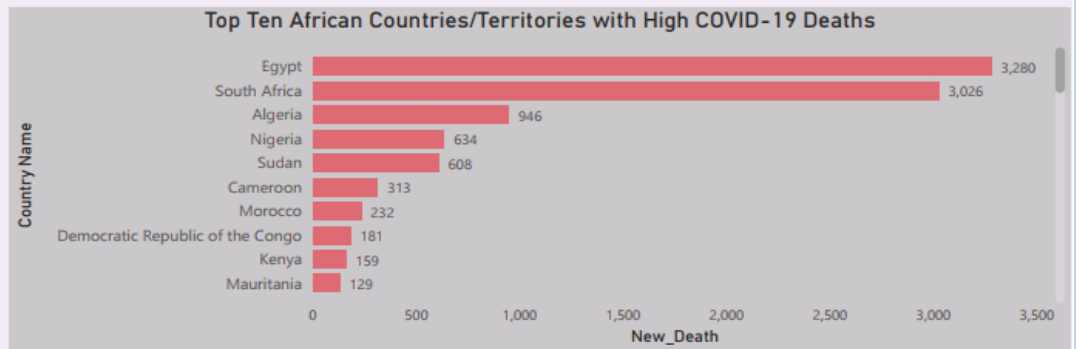
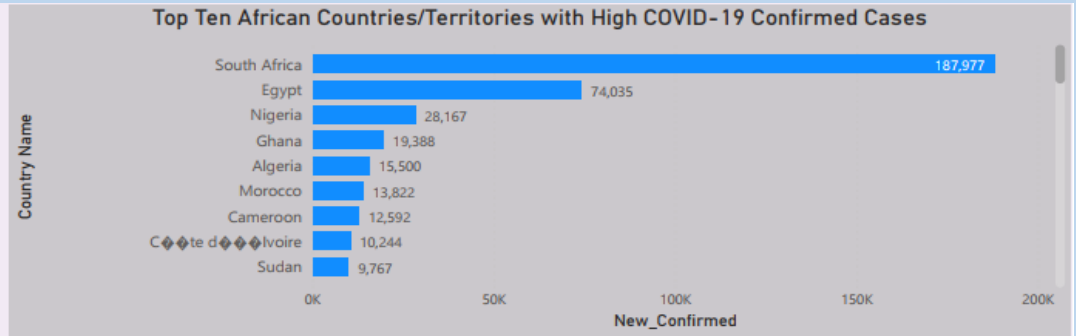


Fig. 2: Africa Situation Update as of July 05, 2020 (Source: WHO)

National COVID-19 situation

- Eight-hundred-seventy-five new confirmed COVID-19 cases and twenty COVID-19 related deaths were reported during the WHO Epi-Week-27.
- So far, a total of 6,564 confirmed COVID-19 cases and 118 deaths are recorded in the country.

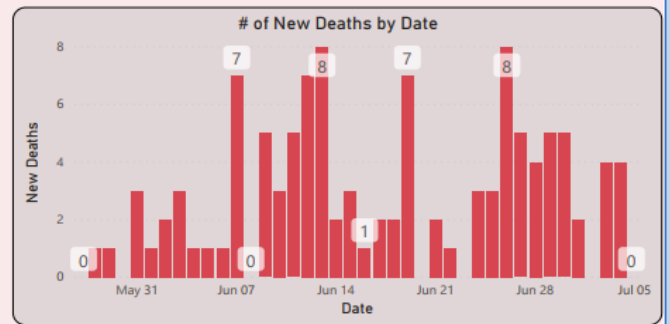
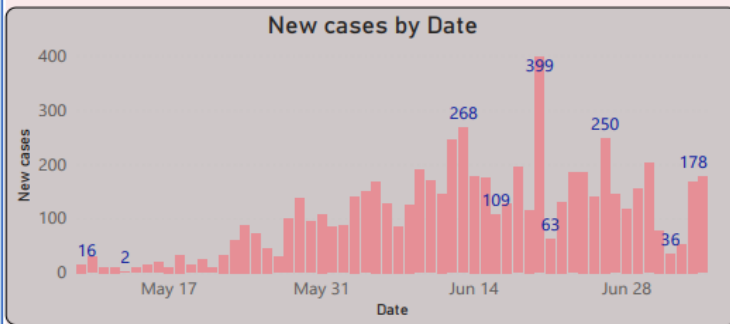
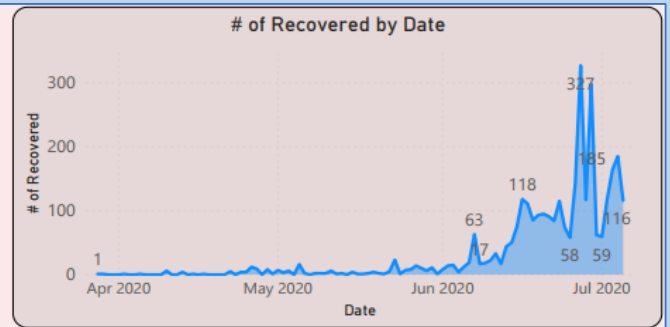
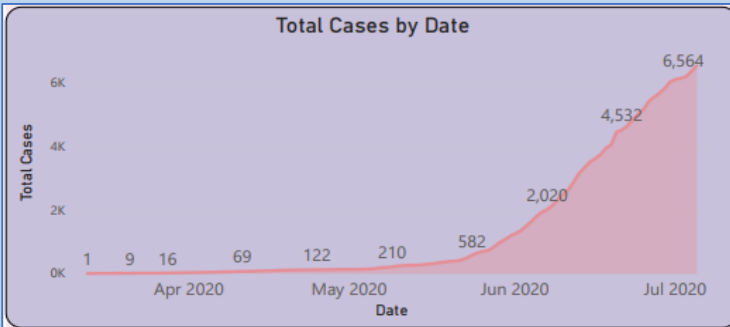
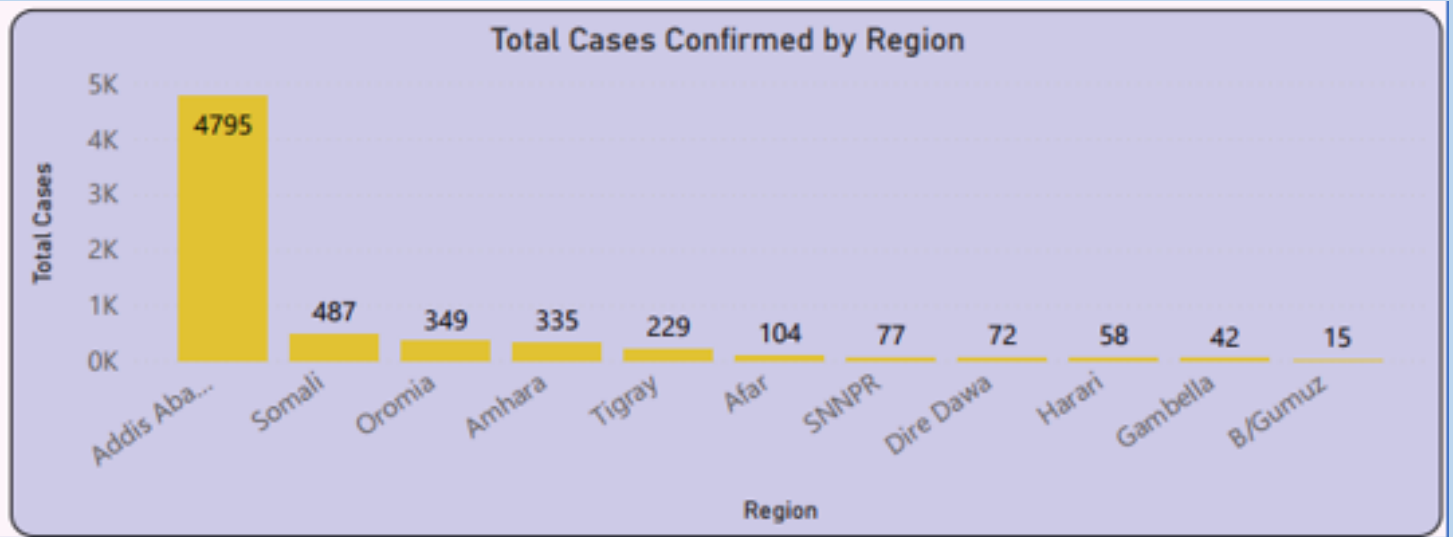


Fig. 3: Weekly Summary of the COVID-19 situation of in Ethiopia, July 05, 2020

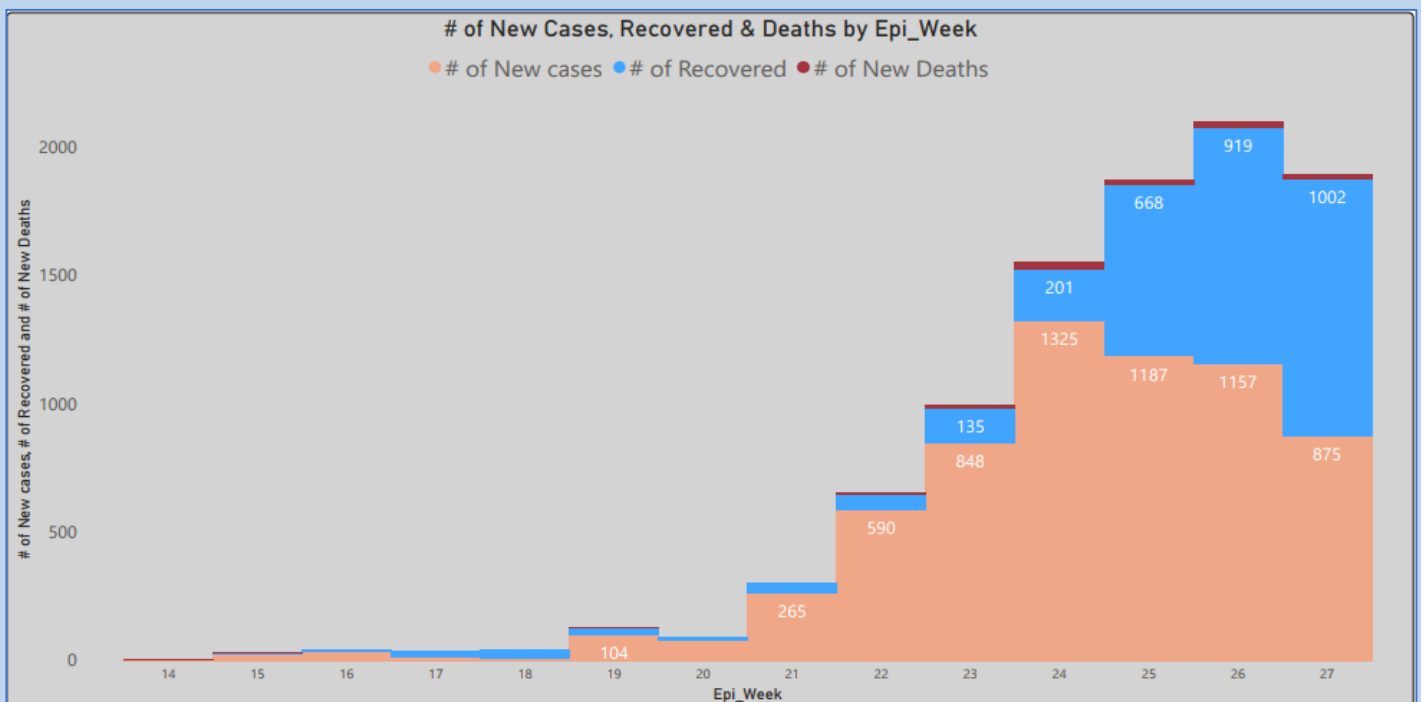


Fig. 5: COVID-19 confirmed cases, recovery and death by WHO Epi-Week as of July 05, 2020, Ethiopia

Epi Surveillance and Laboratory Related Activities

There is ongoing travelers' health screening at point of entries (POEs), follow-up of international travelers, mandatory quarantine of passengers coming to Ethiopia, rumor collection, verification and investigation and information provision via toll free call center, active case detection by house to house search, contact listing, tracing and follow-up of persons who had contact with confirmed cases and laboratory investigation of suspected cases, quarantined individuals, SARI/pneumonia cases and community members.

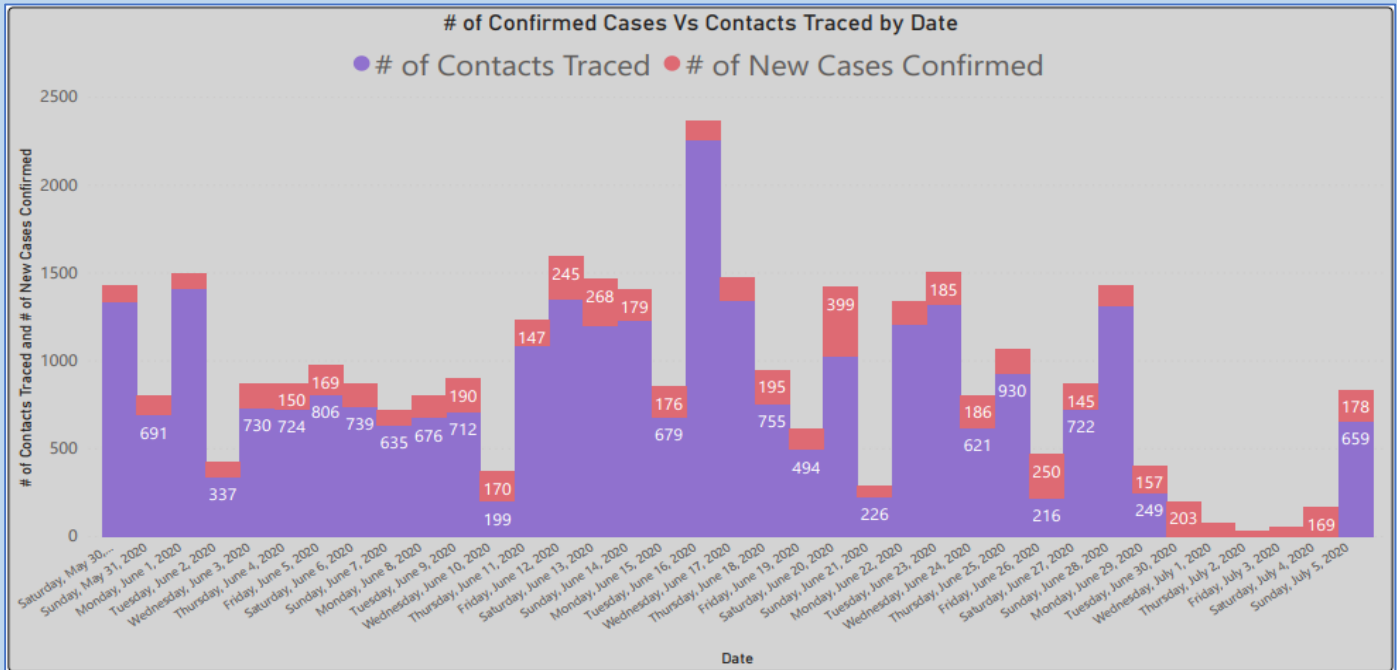


Fig. 6: Contact tracing summary dashboard as of July 05, 2020

Laboratory related activities

- As of July 05, 2020, a total of 263,897 samples has been tested for COVID-19 by laboratories in the country.
- A total of 17,099 of the total laboratory tests are done during the WHO Epi-Week-27.

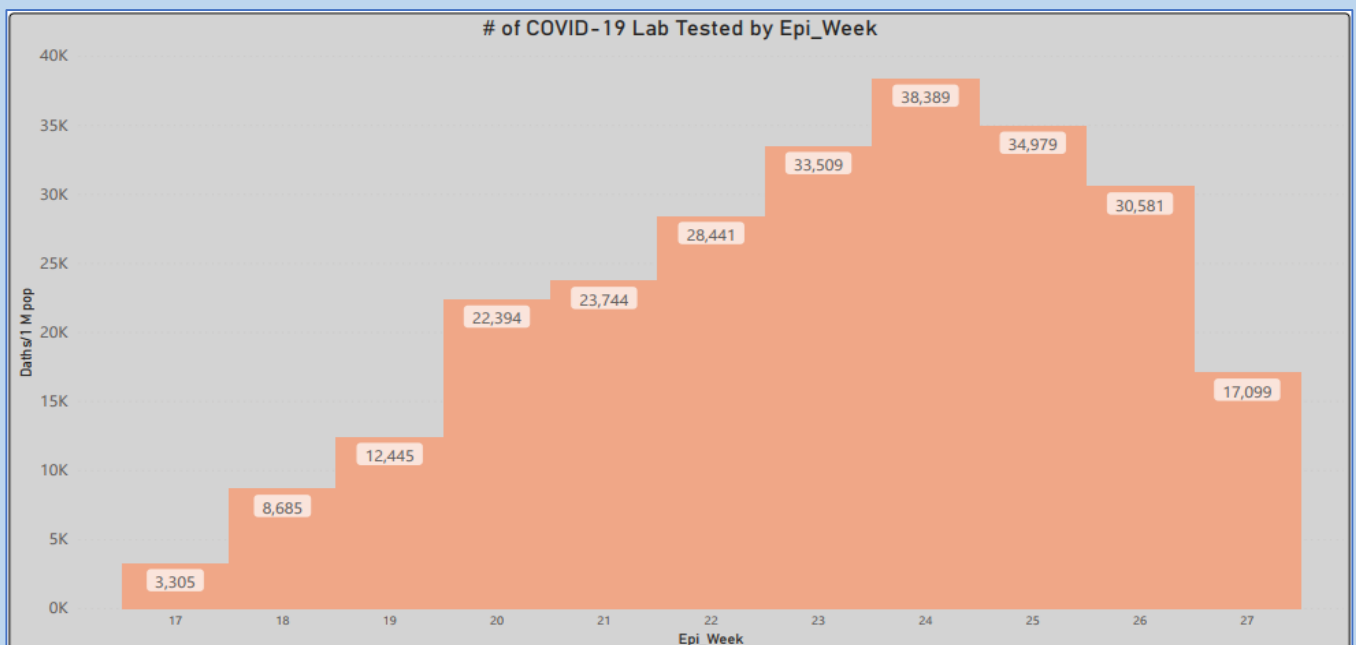


Fig. 7: Trend COVID-19 laboratory testing by WHO Epi-Week as of July 05, 2020, Ethiopia

IV. Coordination and Leadership

- Since its activation, the national PHEOC is collaboratively working with stakeholders: government agencies, partner organizations, UN agencies, embassies, hospitality sector, Industrial parks and others.
- Morning briefing of IMS core staffs and key partners' representatives is being conducted on daily basis.
- Weekly virtual (zoom) meeting being conducted with technical working group members, which comprises members from subnational level focal, key partners and stakeholders.
- Weekly leadership and strategic virtual (zoom) meeting, chaired by the H.E MOH Minster being conducted.
- Supports (financial, logistic and technical) are being received from partners, private institutions, individuals and donors.

V. Case Management and IPC

- There is a total of 3,310 active COVID-19 cases in the country currently.
- There are twenty-six patients in severe condition and all the other patients are on medical care in stable condition.

VI. Risk Communication and Community Engagement (RCCE)

- Different poster, brochures, audio and video messages focusing on COVID-19 risk perception and practice developed.
- Daily press statement is being provided on COVID-19 situation on daily basis through Mass Media.
- There is ongoing production of COVID-19 informative audio and video messages.

VII. Logistic and Supplies

- There are ongoing distribution of pharmaceuticals and medical supplies to quarantine, isolation and treatment centers.
- Number of governmental and Non-Governmental organizations, individuals and partners have donated different medical supplies and infrastructures for COVID-19 response.
- Customs clearance for donations' shipment is ongoing.

VIII. Training and Orientation Activities

- There is ongoing virtual and in person training and orientation the public and health professionals on COVID-19.
- Mobile based training for Health Extension Workers (HEWs) is ongoing.
- WASH and IPC TOT is provided for health professionals in Oromia, Amhara, Afar and Somali regions. Currently, the training is ongoing in Benishangul Gumuz, Tigray, Gambella and SNNPR.

IX. Challenges and Way Forward

Challenges

- Low stock of face masks
- Interruption of information sharing and reporting among national and regional Emergency Operations Centers due to internet connection interruption.
- Failure to adhere to physical distancing and other preventions advised among the public.
- Competing priorities due to superimposed disease outbreaks like cholera in some areas of the countries.
- Increasing number of community deaths and late confirmation of COVID-19 during dead body investigation.

Way Forward

- Emergency procurement and stockpiling IPC materials
- Find out alternative reporting mechanisms to sustain the reporting and information sharing among the Public Health Emergency Operations Centers nationally and regionally.
- Intensify testing of high-risk areas for COVID-19.
- Enhance technical support, coordination and timely and accurate information sharing at all levels.
- Strengthened collaboration and coordination with key stakeholders and partners.
- Intensify risk communication and community engagement activities.
- Enhance active surveillance for COVID-19 such as house-to-house case search in the community.
- Intensification of a capacity building trainings and orientation including through virtual/online platforms.
- Identify and establish additional case treatment centers and quarantine sites, especially in regions.
- Strengthen and sustain essential health services other than COVID-19.

X. Public Health Policy Recommendation

Advice for the Public:

- The number of COVID-19 cases are increasing rapidly due to the presence of community transmission. Anyone of Can be the next person to acquire COVID-19, but we can prevent it if we act now. We need to practice all of the COVID-19 prevention methods in order to stay alive and healthy.

- It is important to be informed of the situation and take appropriate measures to protect yourself and your family.
 - Stay at home
 - Wash hands frequently
 - Don't touch your mouth, nose or eye by unwashed hands
 - Keep physical distancing; avoid mass gathering, shaking hands and
- For most people, COVID-19 infection will cause mild illness however, it can make some people very ill and, in some people, it can be fatal.
- Older people, and those with pre-existing medical conditions (such as cardiovascular disease, chronic respiratory disease or diabetes) are at risk for severe disease.
- If anybody had contact with a COVID-19 confirmed patient, he/she should call 8335 or 952 or report to regional toll-free lines or to the nearby health facilities.

National/Regional official websites, social media pages and toll free hotline for COVID-19 information

MOH/EPHI/Region	Facebook page	Toll-free hotline
Ethiopian Public Health Institute Main Website	https://www.ephi.gov.et/	8335
Ethiopian Public Health Institute COVID-19 Website	https://covid19.ephi.gov.et/	
Ethiopian Public Health Institute Facebook Page	https://www.facebook.com/ephipage/	
Ethiopian Public Health Institute Twitter Page	https://twitter.com/EPHIEthiopia	
Ministry of Health, Ethiopia Website	www.moh.gov.et	952
Ministry of Health, Ethiopia Facebook Page	https://www.facebook.com/EthiopiaFMoH/	
Afar Regional Health Bureau	https://www.facebook.com/afarrhb.org/	6220
Amhara Regional Health Bureau	https://www.facebook.com/Amhara-Healthbureau-682065755146948/	6981
Benishangul Gumuz Regional Health Bureau	https://www.facebook.com/Benishangul-Gumuz-Health-Bureau-1676282159265517/	6016
Gambela Regional Health Bureau	https://fb.me/gambellaregionhealthbureau	6184
Harari Regional Health Bureau	https://www.facebook.com/Harari-Regional-Health-Bureau-1464182130355007/	6864
Oromia Regional Health Bureau	https://www.facebook.com/OromiaHealth/	6955
Somali Regional Health Bureau	https://www.facebook.com/srhbdotcom/...	6599
SNNP Regional Health Bureau	https://www.facebook.com/snnprhealthbureau/?ref=br_rs	6929
Tigray Regional Health Bureau	https://www.facebook.com/tigrayrhb/	6244
Dire Dawa city Administration Health Bureau	https://www.facebook.com/Dire-Dawa-Administration-Health-Bureau-1371606266279524/	6407

Addis Ababa City Administration Health Bureau	https://www.facebook.com/aahb.gov.et/	6406
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COVID-19 updates and sources of evidence:

Source	Link
WHO Coronavirus (COVID-19) dashboard	https://covid19.who.int/
Africa CDC Dashboard, COVID-19 Surveillance Dashboard	https://au.int/en/covid19
WHO COVID-19 daily situation reports	https://www.who.int/emergencies/diseases/novel-coronavirus-2019/situation-reports
WHO Academy mobile learning app for health workers, COVID-19 information	Android- https://play.google.com/store/apps/details?id=org.who.WHO.A Apple- https://apps.apple.com/us/app/who-academy/id1506019873

8335 / 952



Call-Centers
FOR MORE INFO and
ALERT NOTIFICATION on
COVID-19



The above presented Quick Reader (QR) code takes you to a portal that you can access updates and all COVID-19 related information available (<https://www.ephi.gov.et/index.php/public-health-emergency/novel-corona-virus-update>)

DISCLAIMER

This weekly bulletin is produced based on figures pulled from official releases of the World Health Organization and activities and reports of all the sections under the Incident management System. This Weekly Bulletin series of publications is published by the Ethiopian public health Institute (EPHI), public health emergency operation center (PHEOC). The aim of this bulletin is to inform decision makers within the institute and FMOH, UN agencies and NGOs about COVID-19 preparedness and response activities. All interested health and other professionals can get this bulletin at the Institute website; www.ephi.gov.et

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