



NATIONAL PUBLIC HEALTH EMERGENCY OPERATION CENTER (PHEOC), ETHIOPIA

COVID-19 PANDEMIC PREPAREDNESS AND RESPONSE IN ETHIOPIA

WEEKLY BULLETIN

Epi-Week- 04 (January 24 – 30, 2022)

BULLETIN No. 92

I. Highlights

- A total of 43,952 laboratory samples were tested in the Epi-Week-04 bringing the total number of samples tested to 4,341,818.
- A total of 2,823 new confirmed COVID-19 cases and 87 COVID-19 related deaths were reported during the Epi-Week-04 bringing the total cases and death to 464,930 and 7,331 respectively.
- In this week the maximum number of daily cases in severe condition is 361 which is lower than the maximum number of daily cases in severe condition in the previous week (421).
- A total of 341,015 COVID-19 confirmed cases have been managed at Home Based Isolation and Care so far; 1,659 of these were enrolled in the Epi-Week-04.

II. Vaccination against COVID-19 in Ethiopia

- In Ethiopia, a total of 10,973,077 doses of COVID-19 vaccine (either AstraZeneca, Sinopharm, Johnson and Johnson or Pfizer) are administered so far. Out of these, 7,598 doses are administered in this week. Among the vaccinated individuals 4,033,094 (37%) people are fully vaccinated.

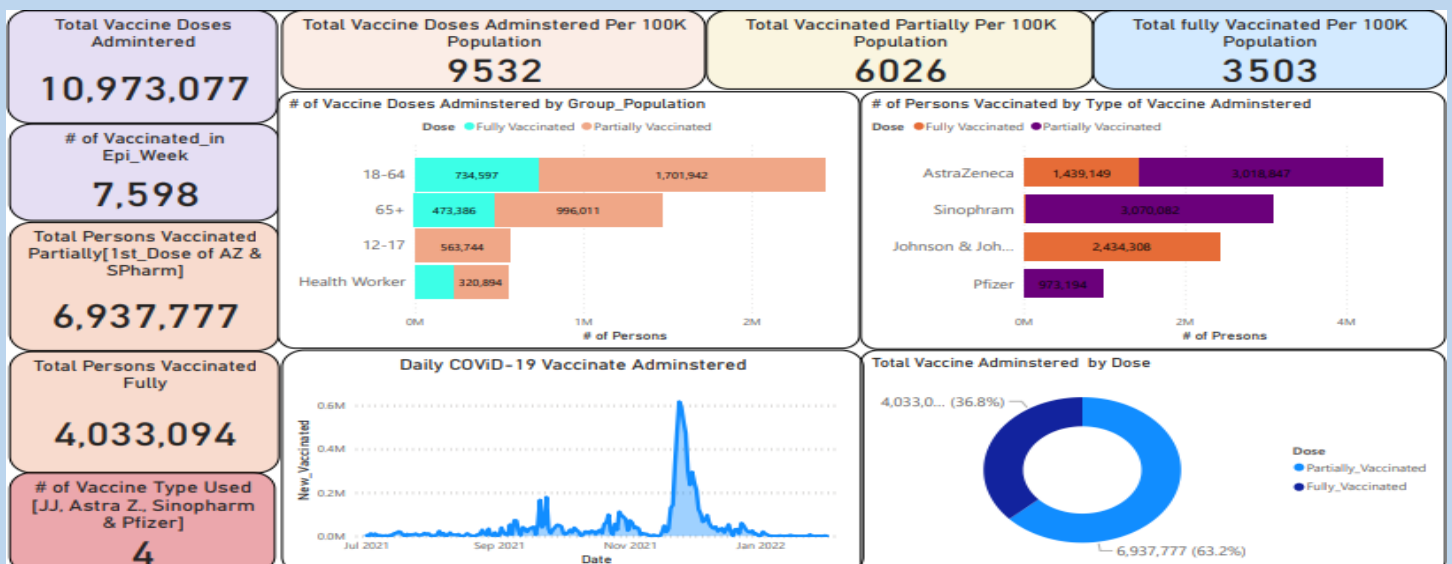


Figure 1: Summary of vaccination against COVID-19 in Ethiopia as of January 30, 2022

III. Epidemiological Situation

a. Global Situation

- Globally, during the week of 24 to 30 January 2022, the number of new COVID-19 cases remained similar to that reported during the previous week, while the number of new deaths increased by 9%.
- Across the six WHO regions, over 21 million new cases and over 58 000 new deaths were reported.
- As of January 30, 2022, a total of 339,812,312 COVID-19 cases and 5,303,385 deaths (CFR=1.56%) have occurred globally. Of the total cases and deaths reported since the beginning of the outbreak, 21,888,622 cases and 58,692 deaths were reported during the Epi-Week-04.
- The highest numbers of new cases in the last seven days were reported from the United States of America (3,279,226 new cases), France (2,357,129 new cases), India (1,855,258 new cases), Brazil (1,283,024 new cases) and Germany (1,055,768 new cases).
- In Africa, as of January 30, 2022, a total of 10,556,400 cases and 230,906 deaths were reported across the continent (CFR=2.19%). Of these, 231,880 cases (6% decrease compared to the previous week) and 4,542 deaths (2% increase compared to previous week) were reported during the Epi-Week-04.
- In Africa, the highest number of confirmed cases are reported from South Africa followed by Morocco.
- Ethiopia reported the highest number of COVID-19 confirmed cases in East Africa.

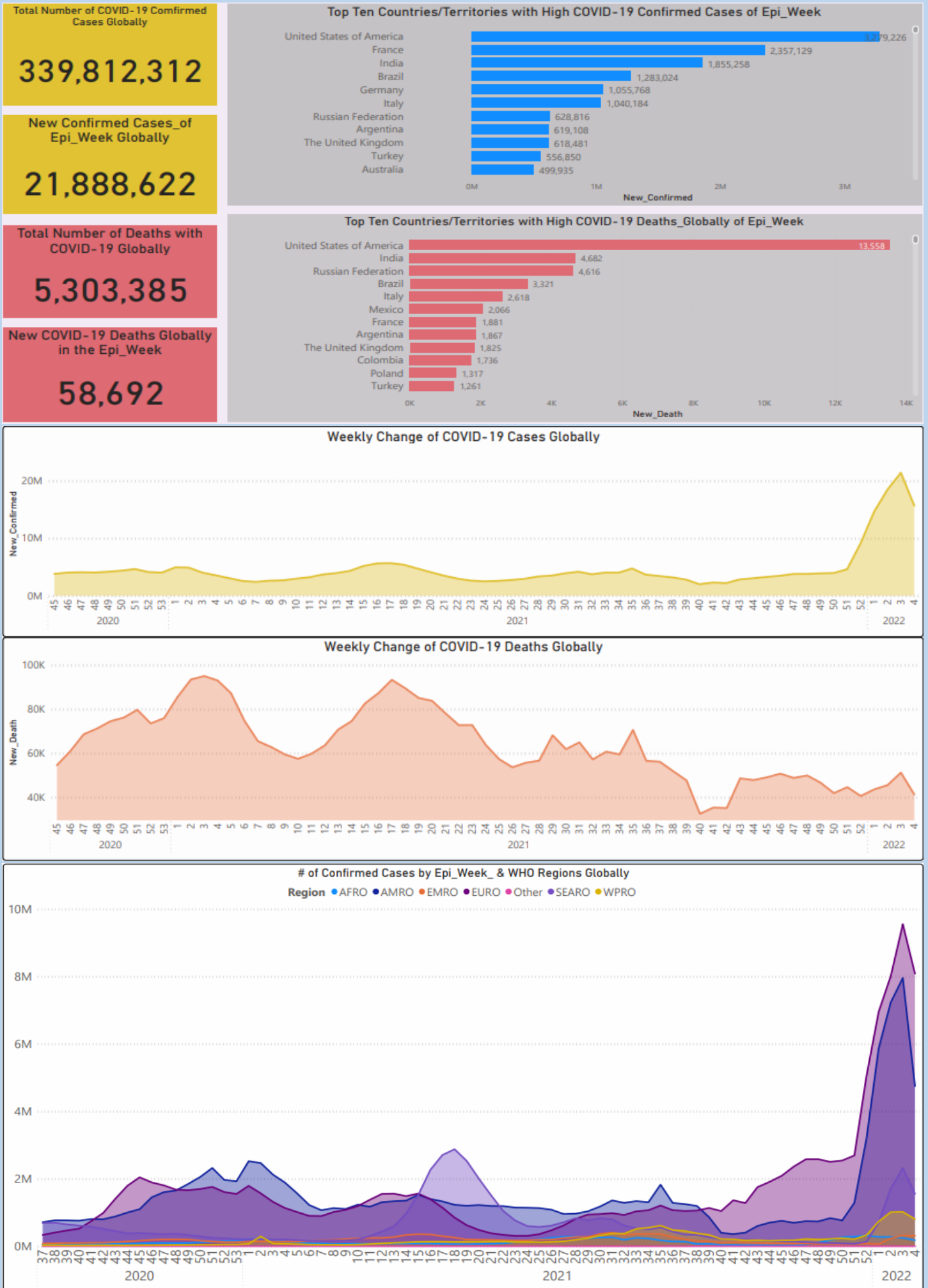


Figure 2: COVID-19 Global Situation Update as of January 30, 2022 (Source: WHO)

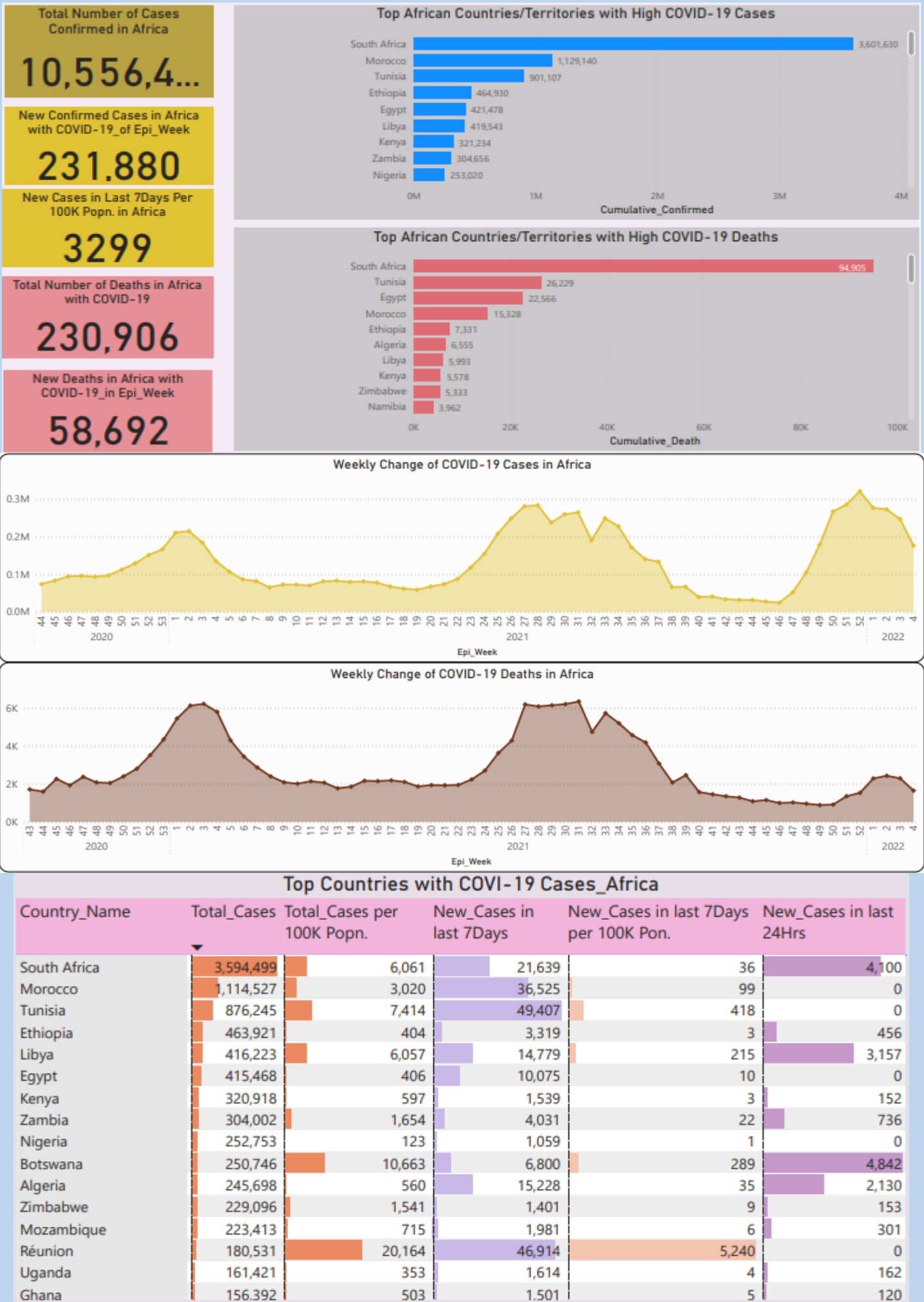


Figure 3: COVID-19 Situation Update in Africa as of January 30, 2022 (Source: WHO)

b. National COVID-19 situation:

- As of January 30, 2022, a total of 464,930 confirmed COVID-19 cases and 7,331 deaths were recorded in the country with a case fatality rate of 1.58%.
- Two-thousand-eight-hundred-twenty-three (2,823) newly confirmed COVID-19 cases and 87 COVID-19 related deaths were reported during the Epi-Week-04.
- In this week, there is 41% decrease in the number of COVID-19 confirmed cases and 10% decrease in the number of deaths due to COVID-19 compared to the previous week.
- For detail, see the summary dashboard below.

NB: Data from Tigray regional state is as of June 28, 2021.

Table 1: Summary of National COVID-19 situation in the Epi-Week-04 of 2022

Regions	New_Tested	New_Case	New_HF_Admission	New_Deaths	Positivity Rate
Addis Ababa	20151	1021	87	41	5.3
SNNPR	8535	411	17	3	4.6
Oromia	7449	993	252	37	11.2
Tigray	1564	0	0	0	0.0
Dire Dawa	1479	45	14	0	3.0
Harari	1077	57	9	5	5.1
Afar	912	30	0	0	3.1
Benishangul G	809	97	2	0	9.8
Sidama	539	58	1	1	10.9
Somali	525	23	0	0	4.5
Amhara	483	66	0	0	15.0
South West	235	22	0	0	10.3
Gambella	194	0	0	0	0.0
Total	43952	2823	382	87	6.8

**** Positivity Rate is the Averages of Regional Distributions

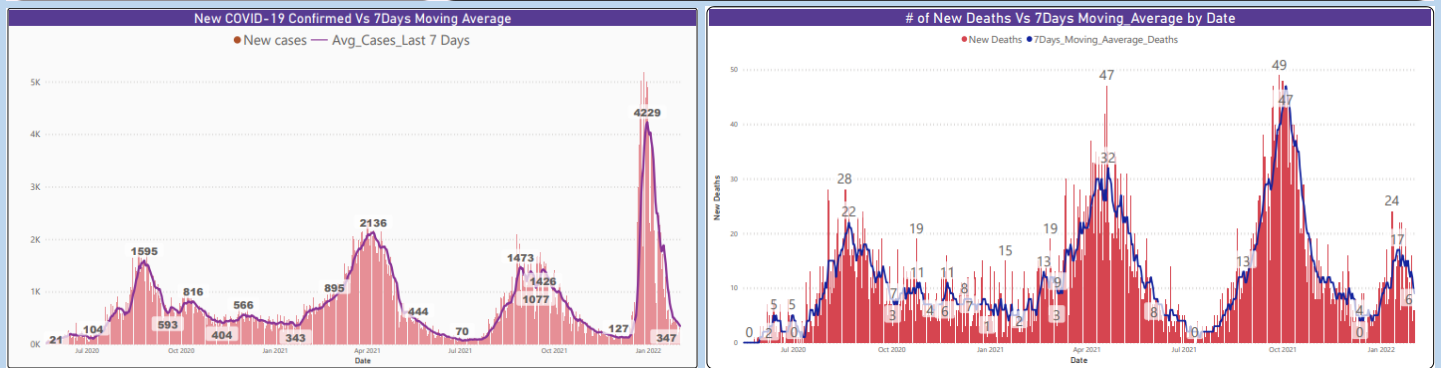
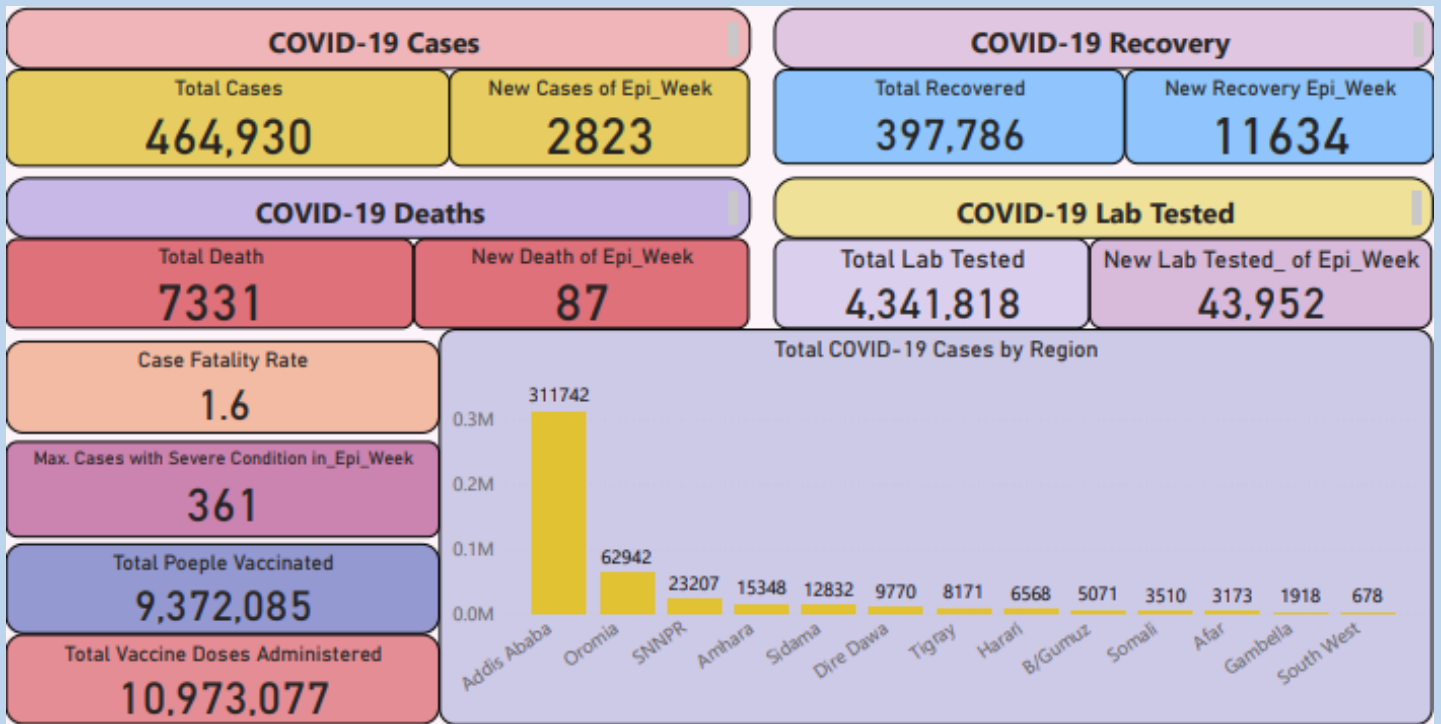


Figure 4: Summary of the COVID-19 situation in Ethiopia as of January 30, 2022, Ethiopia

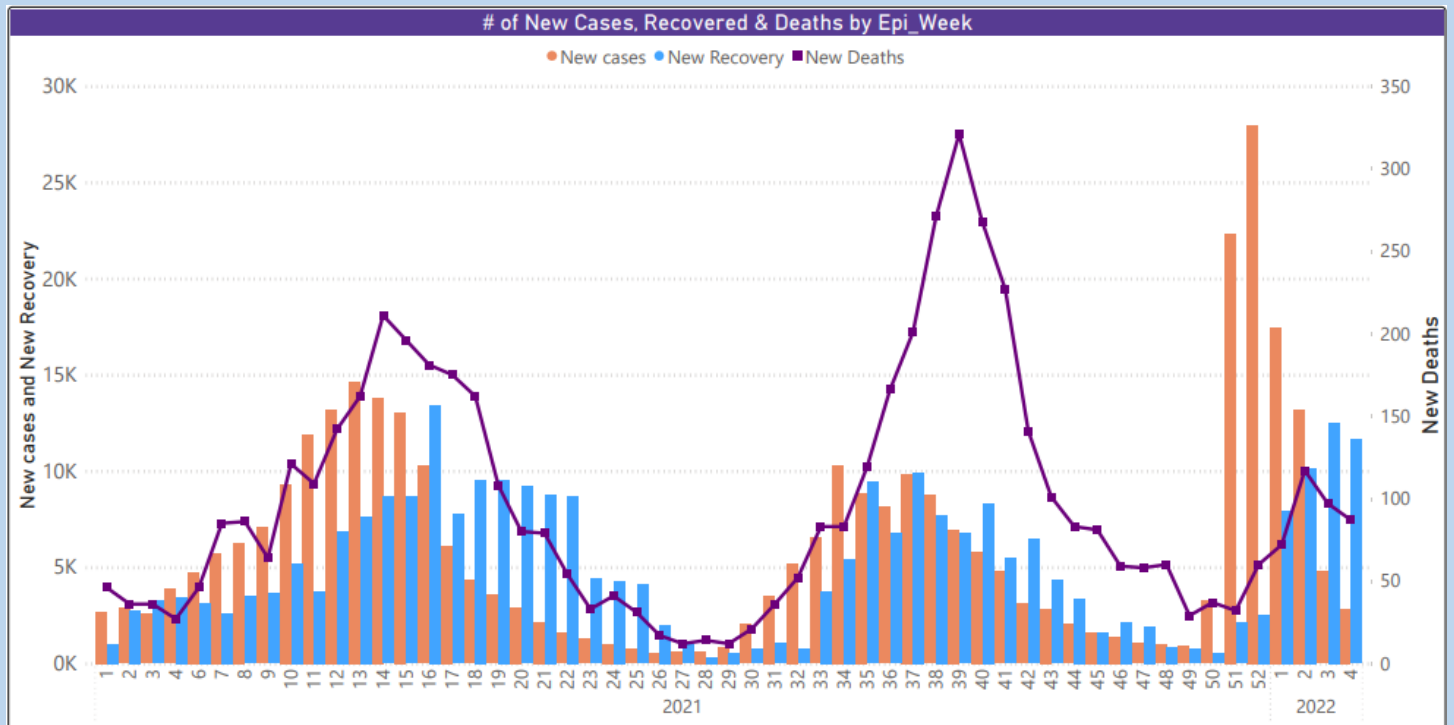


Figure 5: COVID-19 confirmed cases, recovery and death by Epi-Week as of January 30, 2022, Ethiopia

c. Other Epi-Surveillance Related Activities

There is ongoing travelers' health screening at point of entries (POEs), rumor collection, verification, investigation and information provision via toll free call center and follow-up of persons who had contact with confirmed cases. There is also laboratory investigation of suspected cases, contacts of confirmed cases, SARI/pneumonia cases and community members, surveillance and assessment in school and congregated setting communities.

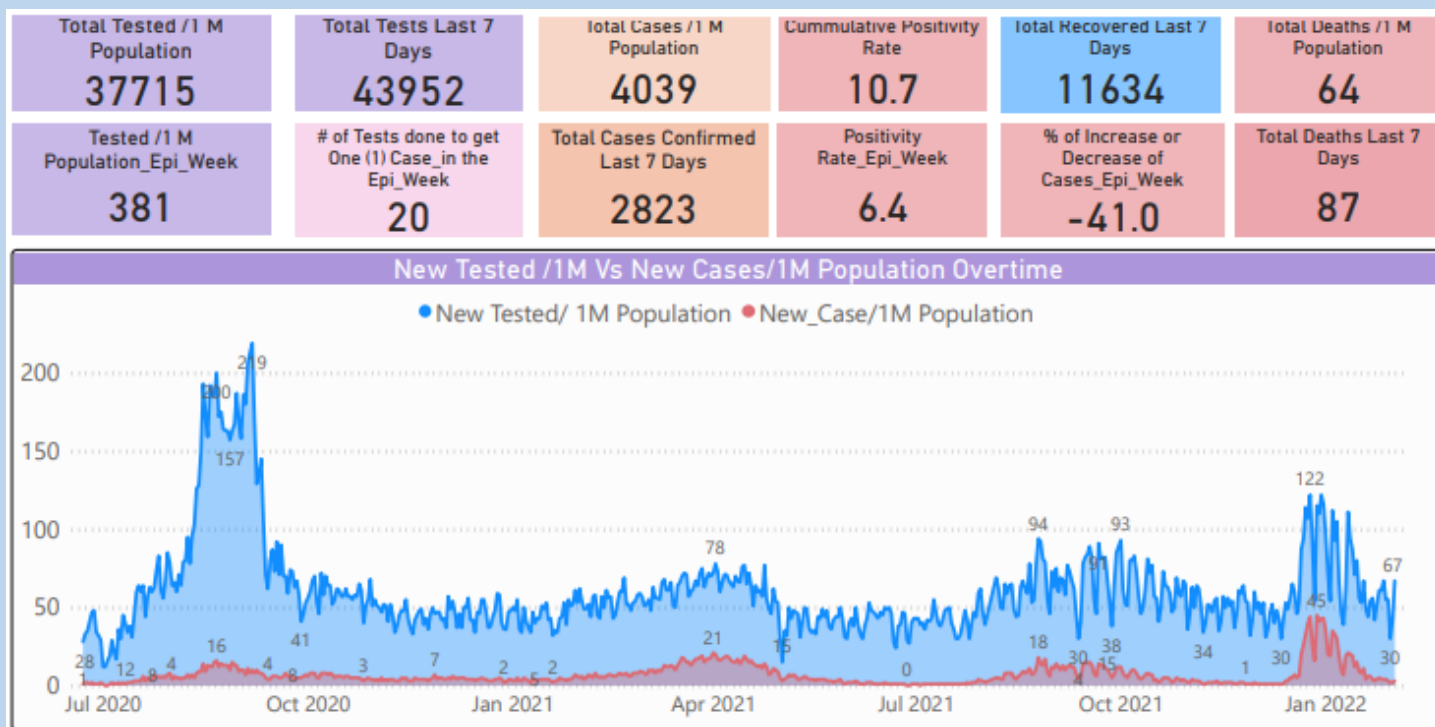


Figure 6: Summary of COVID-19 situation in Ethiopia as of January 30, 2022.

i. Rumors collection and verification from all sources

- COVID-19 related rumors are received from different sources: Call centers, Health facilities, Contact follow up, Self-report, Point of Entry (PoE), Community surveillance and Special Settings.
- As of January 30, 2022:
 - 393,067 rumors/alerts have been received and investigated.
 - 279,089 (71%) of the rumors/alerts have fulfilled the suspected case definition.
- 48,078 COVID-19 related calls are received through call centers in this Epi-week.

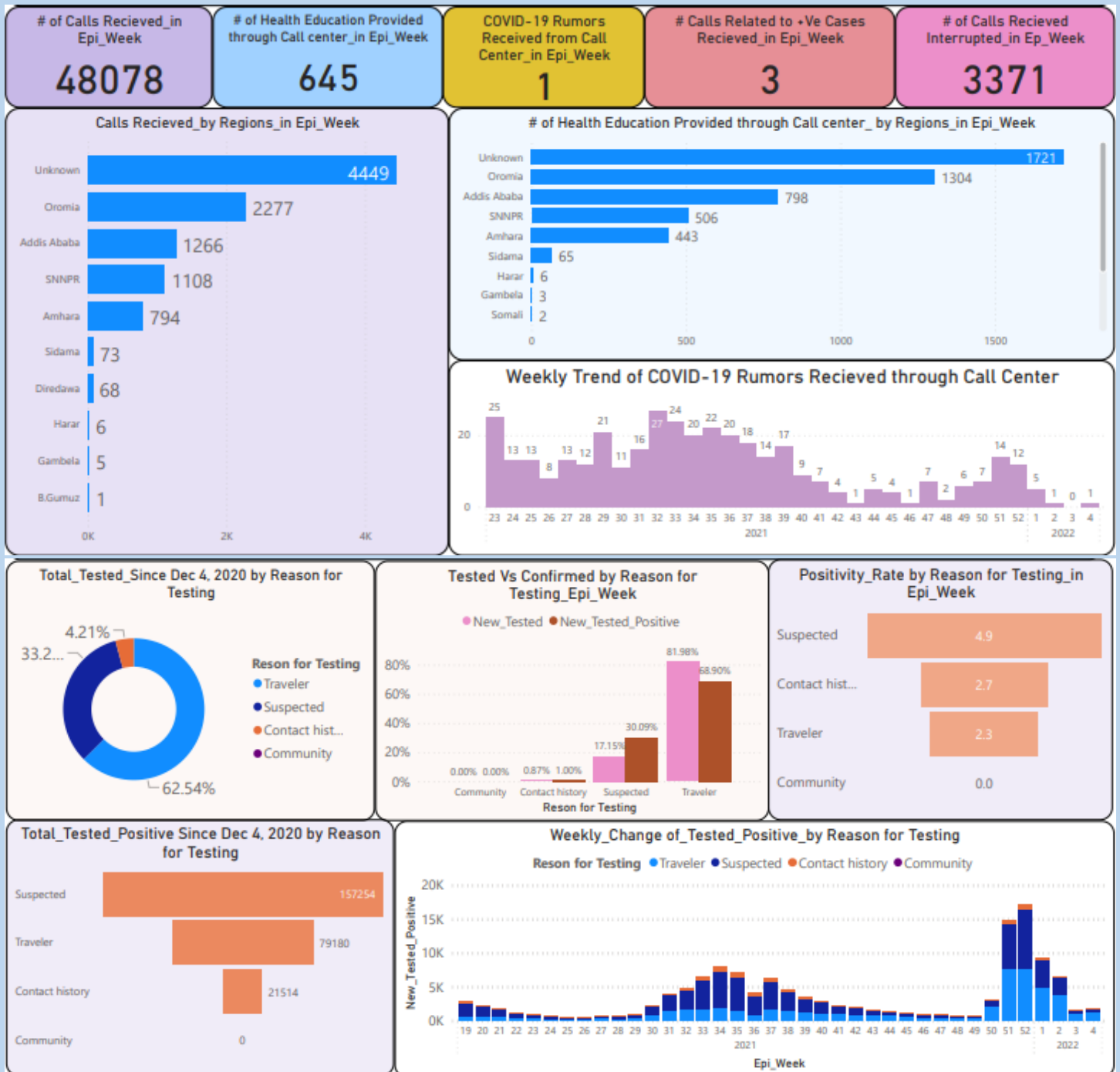


Figure 7: Summary of COVID-19 rumor/alert investigation as January 30, 2022, Ethiopia.

ii. Point of entry and Quarantine related activities

- Since the start of the outbreak, 3,071,185 passengers have been screened at the Point of Entries of Ethiopia and 881,146 (29%) of them were screened at Bole International Airport.
- Of the total passengers screened, 7,636 were screened for COVID-19 in the Epi-Week-04.
- A total of 73,852 returnees were received through Bole International Airport since April 28, 2021. A total of 30 returnees were received in the Epi-week-03. The returnees are admitted to Wosen, Kotebe, Gurdsholla, Megenagna, Kirkos, Nifasilk Lafto, Gerji and Entoto returnee centers. 72,576 (98%) returnees are discharged and there are 1,276 returnees currently in returnees' centers as of January 30, 2022.

IV. Laboratory related activities

- As of 30 January 2022, a total of 4,341,818 samples have been tested for COVID-19 by laboratories across the country.
- 43,952 laboratory tests were processed during the Epi-Week-04 which is a 5% increase compared to number of tests performed in the previous week.
- The laboratory test positivity rate for the Epi-Week-04 is 6.42%, which is lower than that of the preceding week (11.38%).
- Amhara, Oromia, Sidama, South West and Benishangul Gumuz regional states have reported positivity rates higher than the national weighted average (figure 9 below). There is no report from Tigray regional state since June 29, 2021.
- Among the total COVID-19 laboratory tests performed in Ethiopia, a total of 716,019 laboratory tests are performed by Ag-RDT among which 6,761 is performed in the Epi-week-04 (figure 8 below).

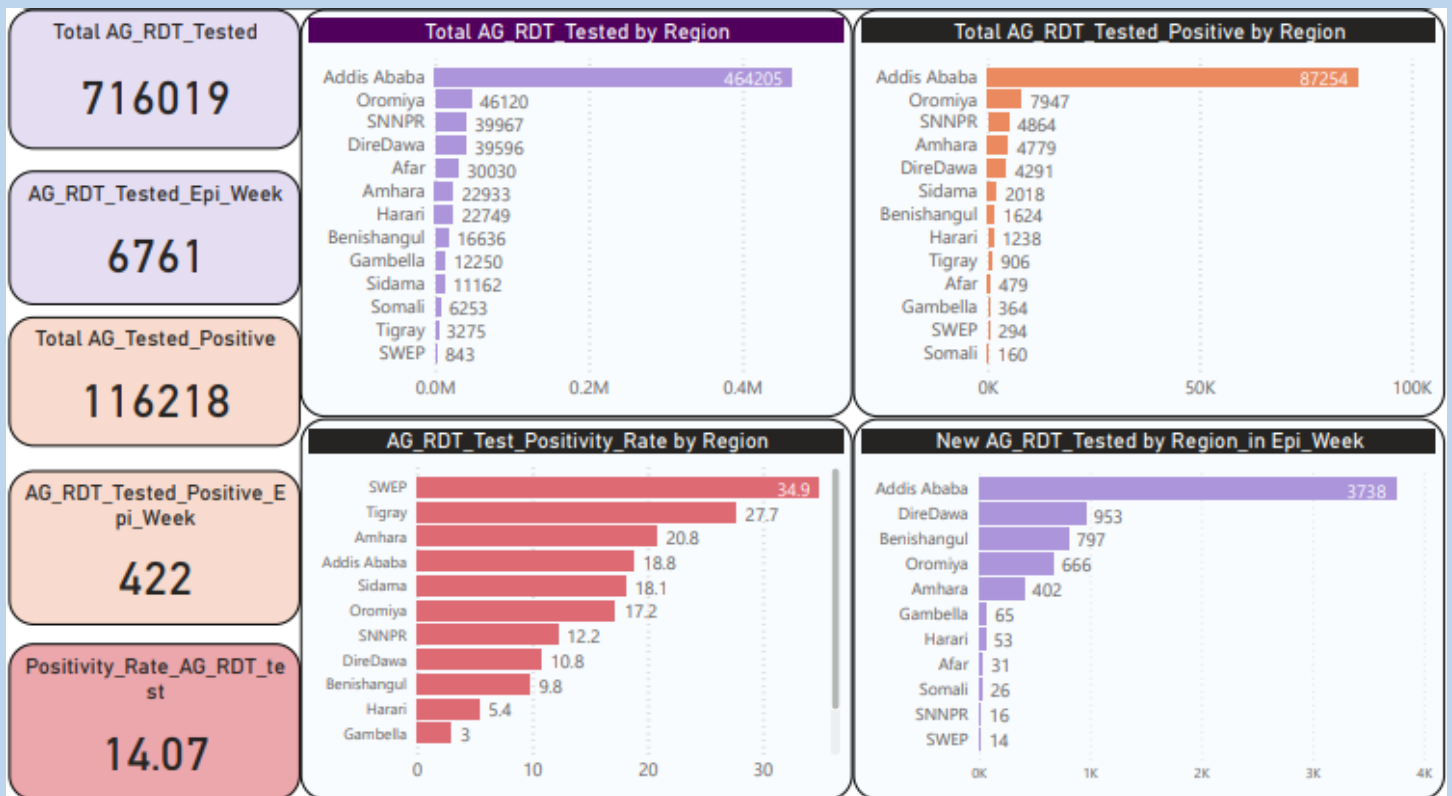
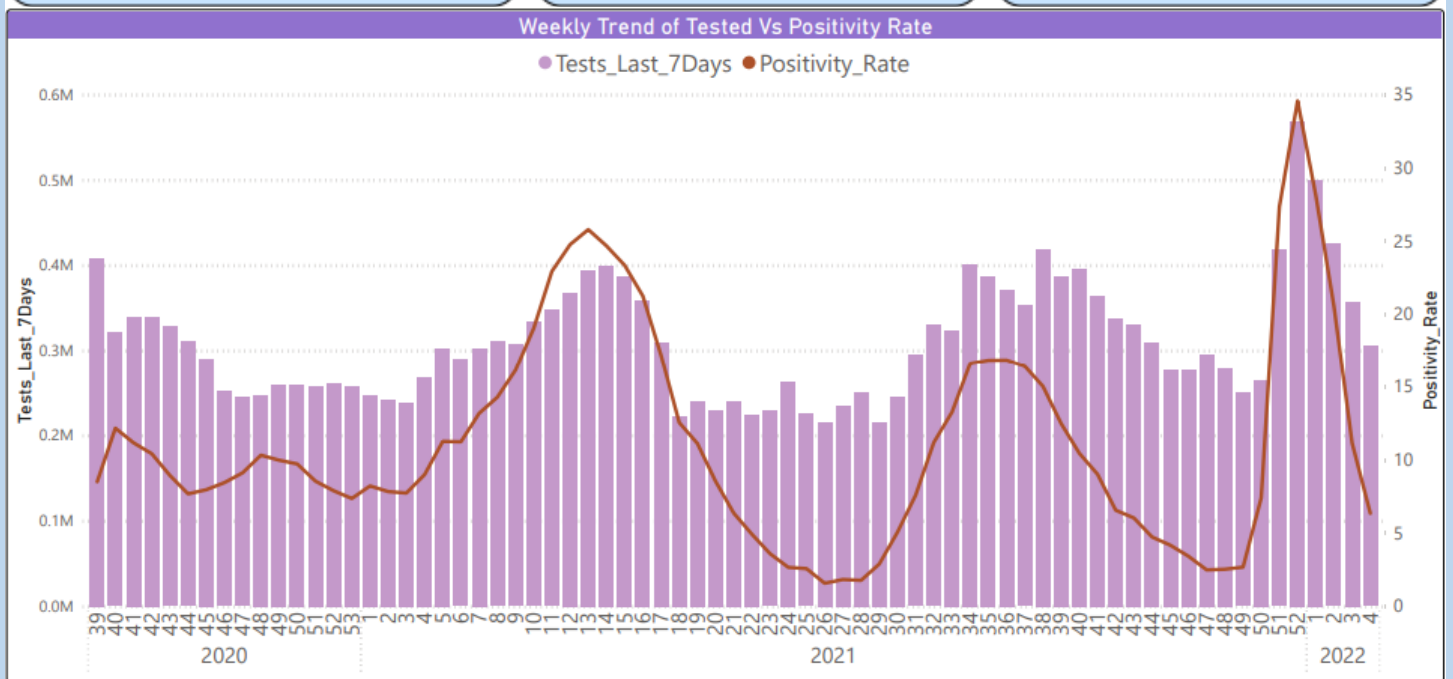
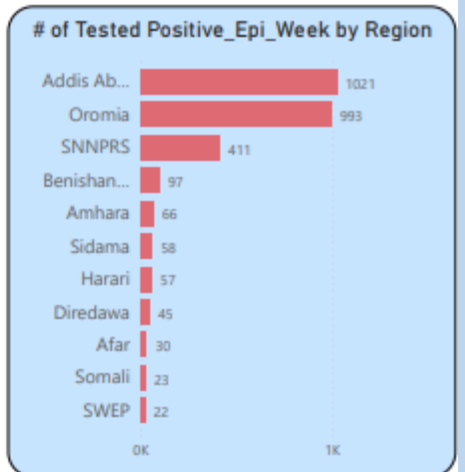
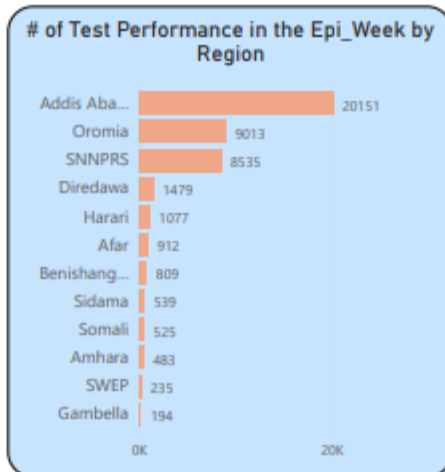
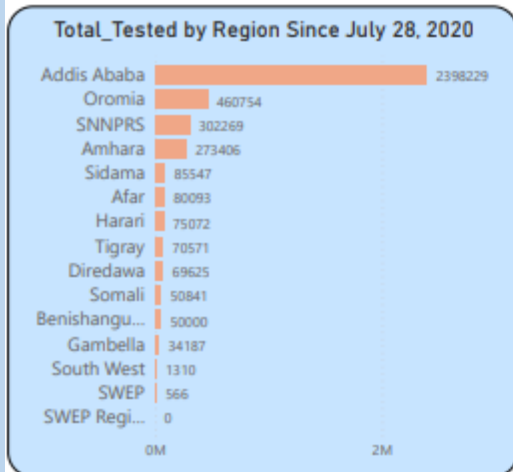
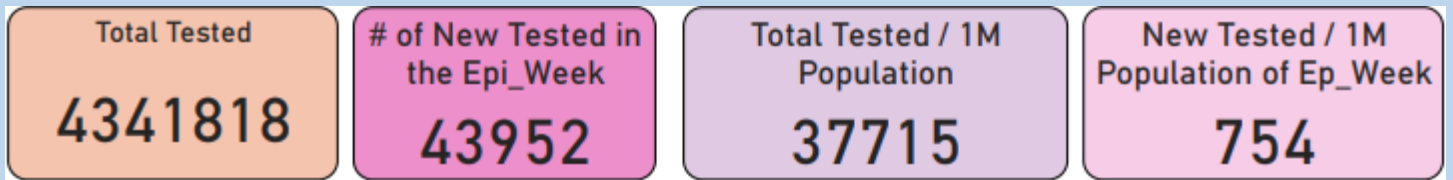


Figure 8: Update on laboratory tests performed by Ag-RDT, as of January 30, 2022



Region/City Admn New_Testeds Tested_Positive New_Deaths Positivity_Rate

Region/City Admn	New_Testeds	Tested_Positive	New_Deaths	Positivity_Rate
Addis Ababa	20151	1021	41	5.2
Oromia	9013	993	37	11.7
SNNPRS	8535	411	3	4.6
Diredawa	1479	45	0	2.8
Harari	1077	57	5	5.1
Afar	912	30	0	3.2
Benishangul Gumuz	809	97	0	9.6
Sidama	539	58	1	10.9
Somali	525	23	0	4.6
Amhara	483	66	0	14.9
SWEP	235	22	0	10.4
Gambella	194	0	0	0.0
Tigray	0	0	0	
Total	43952	2823	87	7.0

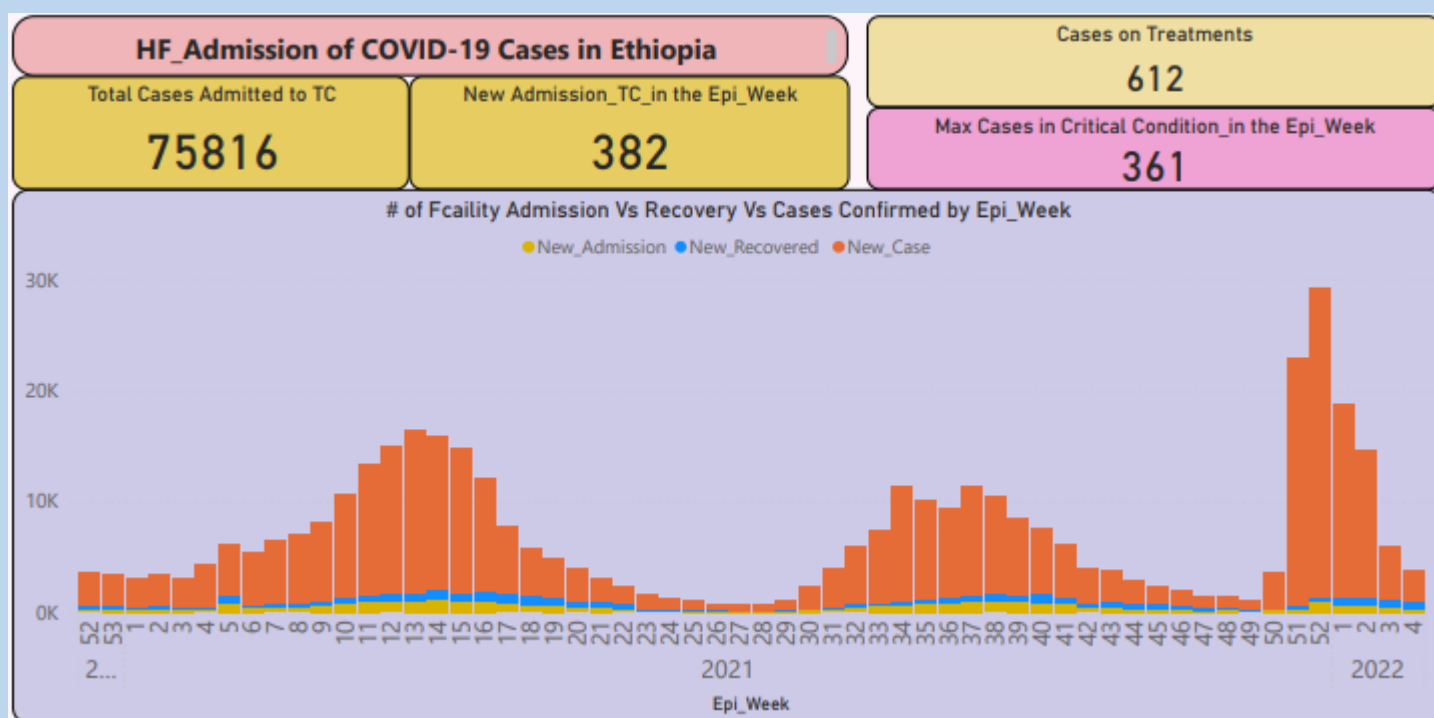
***** Positivity Rate is average of Regional Distn of Rates

Figure 9: Summary of COVID-19 laboratory testing as of January 30, 2022, Ethiopia.

V. Case Management and Facility Readiness

a. COVID-19 treatment center

- There were total of 11,634 newly recovered COVID-19 cases during the Epi-Week-04, bringing the total number of recovered cases to 397,786 (both from COVID-19 treatment center and from HBIC). This brings the overall recovery rate to 86%.
- In this week the maximum number of daily cases in severe condition is 361 which is lower than the maximum number of daily cases in severe condition in the previous week (421).



HF=Health Facilities TC=Treatment Center

Figure 10: Summary of COVID-19 cases in Health Facilities/Treatment centers, as of January 30, 2022.

Table 2: Summary of COVID-19 cases at treatment centers as of January 30, 2022

Regions	Total_Case	New_Case	Total_Admission	New_Admission	Total_Death	Total_Recovered	On_Treatment	Critical_Case
Addis Ababa	311742	109	38352	4	4003	32366	280	158
Oromia	62942	29	11033	4	1106	9727	196	67
SNNPR	23207	25	4955	5	285	4636	34	12
Amhara	15348	4	5642	0	461	5117	61	33
Sidama	12832	0	3740	0	231	3442	2	1
Dire Dawa	9770	2	1535	0	140	1377	18	7
Tigray	8171	0	5290	0	59	5224	0	0
Harari	6568	1	1470	0	195	1268	3	3
Benishangul G	5071	0	1037	0	33	1005	1	1
Somali	3510	0	770	0	96	654	17	3
Afar	3173	6	826	0	5	812	0	0
Gambella	1918	0	682	0	8	674	0	0

b. Home Based Isolation and Care (HBIC):

- So far, 341,015 COVID-19 confirmed cases have been on HBIC. Of them 340,332 (93.99%) have recovered and 50 (0.015%) died.
- Of these, 1,659 cases have been enrolled to HBIC and 22,365 cases have recovered in the Epi-Week-04.
- As of January 30, 2022, there are 12,365 cases on HBIC.
- So far, 2,525 (none in the Epi-week-04) of the cases have been transferred from treatment centers to HBIC after improvement.
- So far, 1,320 (22 in the Epi-week-04) of the cases have been transferred from HBIC to treatment centers for better care.

VI. Risk Communication and Community Engagement (RCCE)

- Media (mass media and social media) monitoring on COVID-19 related information is ongoing.
- Risk communication and awareness creation activities are ongoing.
- COVID-19 related key messages and updates shared on social media.



Figure 11: COVID-19 situation update as of January 30, 2022 shared on social media.

VII. Coordination and Leadership

- The national PHEOC is collaboratively working with stakeholders: government agencies, partner organizations, UN agencies, embassies, hospitals, Industrial parks and others.
- Morning briefing of IMS is being conducted every day by core IMS staffs and key partners' representatives.
- Weekly joint meeting is ongoing, every Tuesday, among the national and regional Emergency Operations Centers COVID-19 response IMS (Incident Management System) to evaluate weekly COVID-19 situations, progress of response strategies, challenges faced and way forwards.
- The virtual meeting of Joint Steering Committee encompassing MOH, Agencies and RHB top leadership under the leadership of H.E Minister of Health is ongoing once in two weeks.

VIII. Challenges and Way Forward

a. Challenges

- Poor adherence to the public health and social measures by public figures and leaders.
- Poor attention given to COVID-19 at all levels by all responsible bodies.
- Weak law enforcement efforts to enhance adherence to COVID-19 prevention and control measures.
- COVID-19 vaccine related misinformation and hesitancy.
- Low utilization of Antigen-Rapid Diagnostic Test kits by facilities despite its distribution to all regions and capacity building activities.

b. Way Forward

- Enhancing COVID-19 vaccination
- Enhancing law enforcement to enhance public health and social measures by all responsible bodies.
- Intensifying risk communication and community engagement activities.
- Strengthening collaboration and coordination with key stakeholders and partners.
- Conducting intensive testing of high-risk population group and contacts of confirmed cases for COVID-19.
- Enhancing technical support, coordination and timely and accurate information sharing at all levels.
- Intensification of a capacity building trainings and orientation including through virtual/online platforms.
- Enhancing performance and follow up on Antigen Rapid Diagnostic Test Kits from regional COVID-19 testing sites.

IX. Public Health Policy Recommendation

Advice for the Public:

- COVID-19 vaccines should be provided to the public only at public health facilities and free of charge. According to the program developed by the Ministry of Health, COVID-19 vaccines are still being given at public health institutions at all levels.
- For any individual confirmed to have COVID-19 and who is candidate for Home Based Isolation and Care:
 - Properly isolate from other family members.
 - Take full responsibility in prevention of transmission
 - Strictly adhere to the National Directive of Home-Based Isolation & Care.
 - Provide reliable information during regular follow up either by phone or home visit.
 - Report to nearest health facilities/follow up team in case of any emergency, appearance of new symptoms or worsening of existing symptoms.

- It is important to be informed of the situation and act appropriately to protect yourself and your family.
 - Wash hands frequently;
 - Don't touch your mouth, nose or eye by unwashed hands;
 - Keep physical distancing; avoid mass gathering and shaking hands;
 - Get vaccinated against COVID-19.
- 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 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	Email address (PHEOCs email)
Ethiopian Public Health Institute Main Website	https://www.ephi.gov.et/	8335	ephieoc@gmail.com
Ethiopian Public Health Institute COVID-19 Website	https://covid19.ephi.gov.et/		
Ethiopian Public Health Institute Facebook Page	https://www.facebook.com/ephipa ge/		
Ethiopian Public Health Institute Twitter Page	https://twitter.com/EPHIEthiopia		
Ethiopian Public Health Institute Telegram Channel	https://t.me/EthPHI		
Ethiopian Public Health Institute YouTube Channel	https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCvvTzeY-IJiQfEFBULH9Mkw		
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	afarpheoc@gmail.com
Amhara Regional Health Bureau	https://www.facebook.com/Amhara-Healthbureau-682065755146948/	6981	aphieoc@gmail.com
Benishangul Gumuz Regional Health Bureau	https://www.facebook.com/Benishangul-Gumuz-Health-Bureau-1676282159265517/	6016	bgpheoc@gmail.com
Gambela Regional Health Bureau	https://fb.me/gambellaregionhealthbureau	6184	gambellapheoc@gmail.com
Harari Regional Health Bureau	https://www.facebook.com/Harari-Regional-Health-Bureau-1464182130355007/	6864	hrhbpheoc@gmail.com
Oromia Regional Health Bureau	https://www.facebook.com/OromiaHealth/	6955	oromiapheoc@gmail.com
Somali Regional Health Bureau	https://www.facebook.com/srhbdotcom/...	6599	somalipheoc@gmail.com
SNNP Regional Health Bureau	https://www.facebook.com/snnprhealthbureau/?ref=br_rs	6929	snnppheoc@gmail.com

Tigray Regional Health Bureau	https://www.facebook.com/tigrayrh/b/	6244	tigraypheoc@gmail.com
Sidama PHEM			sidamapheoc@gmail.com
Dire Dawa city Administration Health Bureau	https://www.facebook.com/Dire-Dawa-Administration-Health-Bureau-1371606266279524/	6407	ddpheoc@gmail.com
Addis Ababa City Administration Health Bureau	https://www.facebook.com/aahb.gov.et/	6406	aapheoc@gmail.com
South West Ethiopia Regional Health Bureau			swepheoc@gmail.com

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.WHOA Apple- https://apps.apple.com/us/app/who-academy/id1506019873



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://covid19.ephi.gov.et/covid-19/>)

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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