



NATIONAL PUBLIC HEALTH EMERGENCY OPERATION CENTER (PHEOC), ETHIOPIA

COVID-19 PANDEMIC PREPAREDNESS AND RESPONSE IN ETHIOPIA

WEEKLY BULLETIN

Epi-Week- 12 (March 21 – 27, 2022)

BULLETIN №: 100

I. Highlights

- Integrated supportive supervision is being conducted in Addis Ababa city administration COVID-19 response coordination centers and facilities.
- A total of 35,358 laboratory samples were tested in the Epi-Week-12 bringing the total number of samples tested to 4,637,343.
- A total of 166 new confirmed COVID-19 cases and 3 COVID-19 related deaths were reported during the Epi-Week-12 bringing the total cases and death to 469,621 and 7,492 respectively.
- In this week the maximum number of daily cases in severe condition is 36 which is lower than the maximum number of daily cases in severe condition in the previous week (53).
- A total of 352,362 COVID-19 confirmed cases have been managed at Home Based Isolation and Care so far; 84 of these were enrolled in the Epi-Week-12.
- National PHEOC has conducted Advocacy Meeting and Experience Sharing Visit in collaboration with Africa CDC and National Disaster Risk Management Commission, Emergency Coordination Center



II. Vaccination against COVID-19

- In Ethiopia, a total of 29,373,478 doses of COVID-19 vaccine (either AstraZeneca, Sinopharm, Johnson and Johnson or Pfizer) are administered so far. Out of these, 157,709 doses are administered in this week. Among the vaccinated individuals 21,009,179 (72%) people are fully vaccinated.

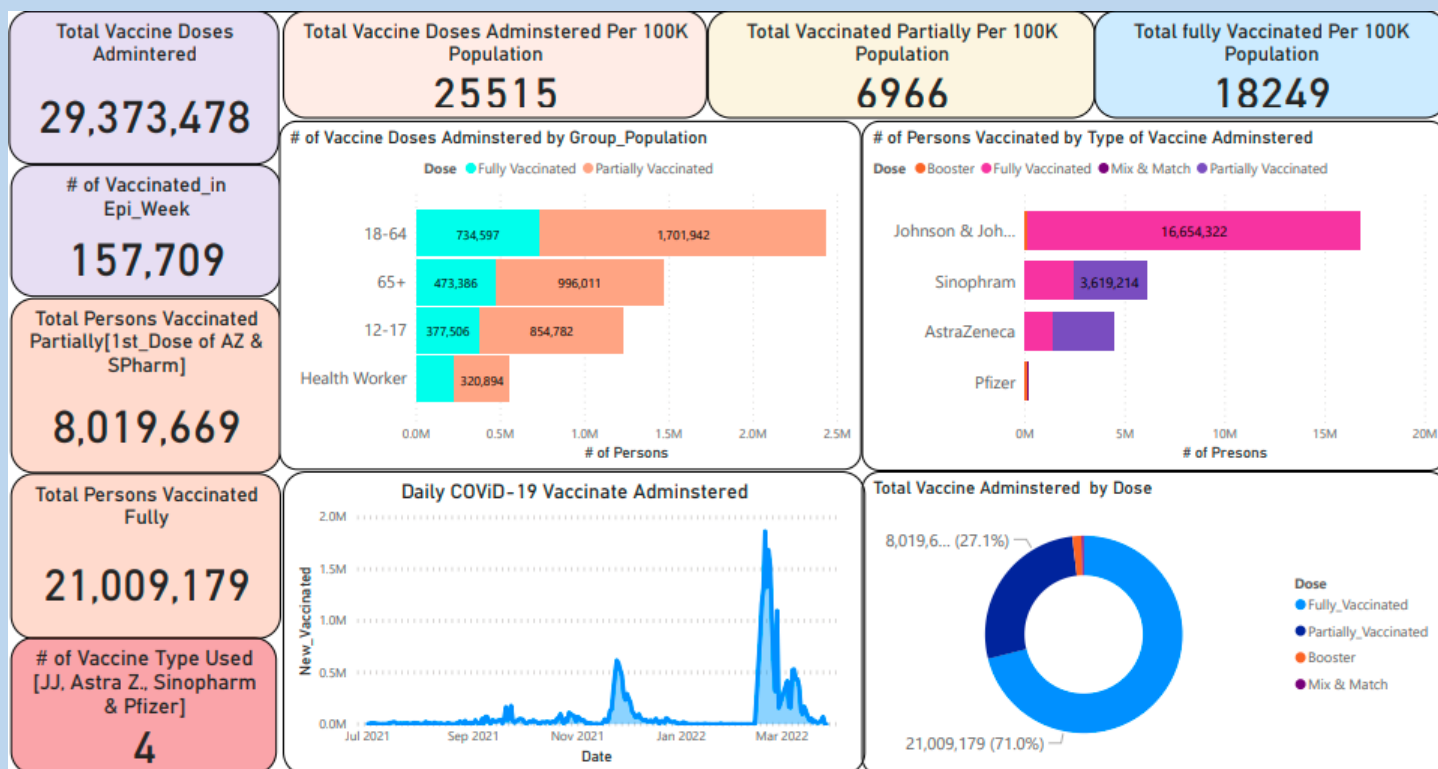


Figure 1: Summary of vaccination against COVID-19 in Ethiopia as of March 27, 2022

III. Epidemiological Situation

a. Global Situation

- Globally, during the week of 21 to 27 March 2022, the number of new COVID-19 cases and deaths decreased by 2% and 34% respectively, compared to the previous week.
- Across the six WHO regions, over 10 million new cases and over 67 000 new deaths were reported. As of 20 February 2022, over 449 million confirmed cases and over 5.7 million deaths have been reported globally.
- Republic of South Korea, Germany, Veitnam, France and Italy are the top five countries globally with high COVID-19 confirmed case report in the Epi-week-12.
- In Africa, Reunion and South Africa are the two top countries in new confirmed case report during the last epidemiologic week.
- Overall, Ethiopia stands in the sixth place by total COVID-19 confirmed cases and in the fifth place by death due to COVID-19 in Africa.

Total Number of COVID-19 Confirmed Cases Globally

449,515,741

New Confirmed Cases_of Epi_Week Globally

10,466,913

Total Number of Deaths with COVID-19 Globally

5,740,217

New COVID-19 Deaths Globally in the Epi_Week

44,498

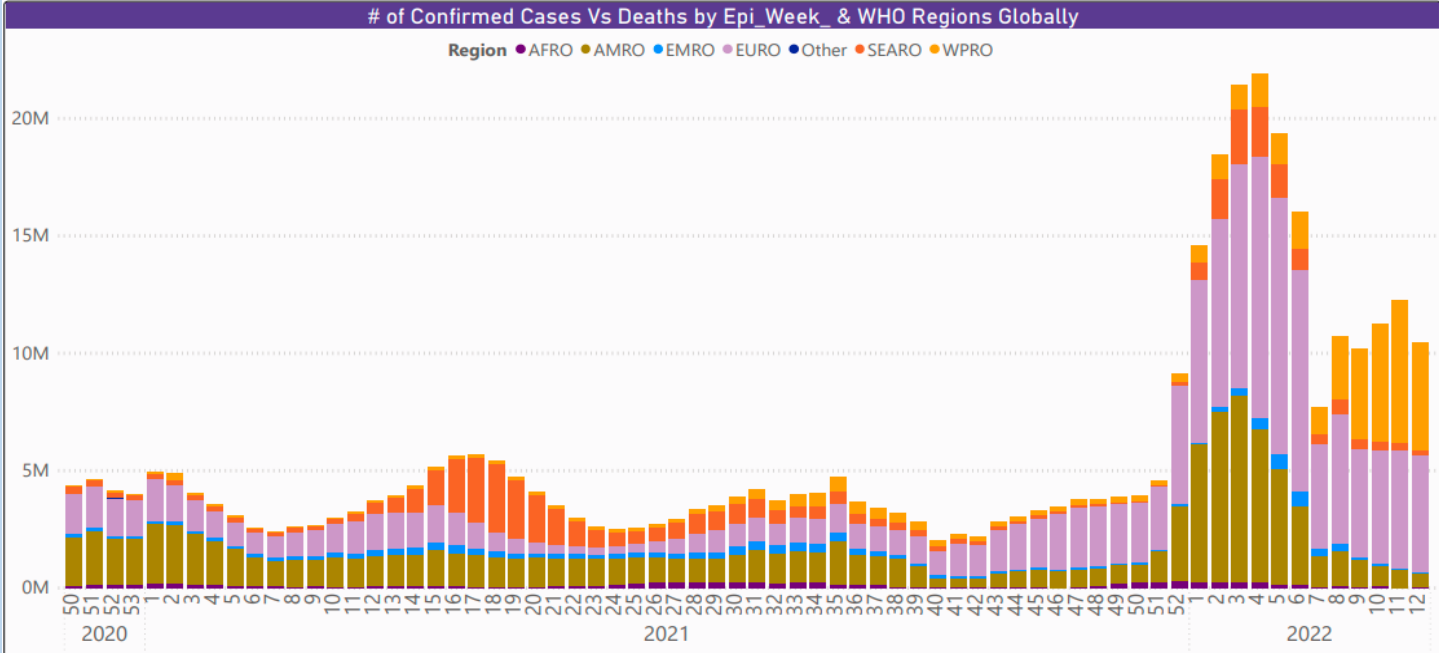
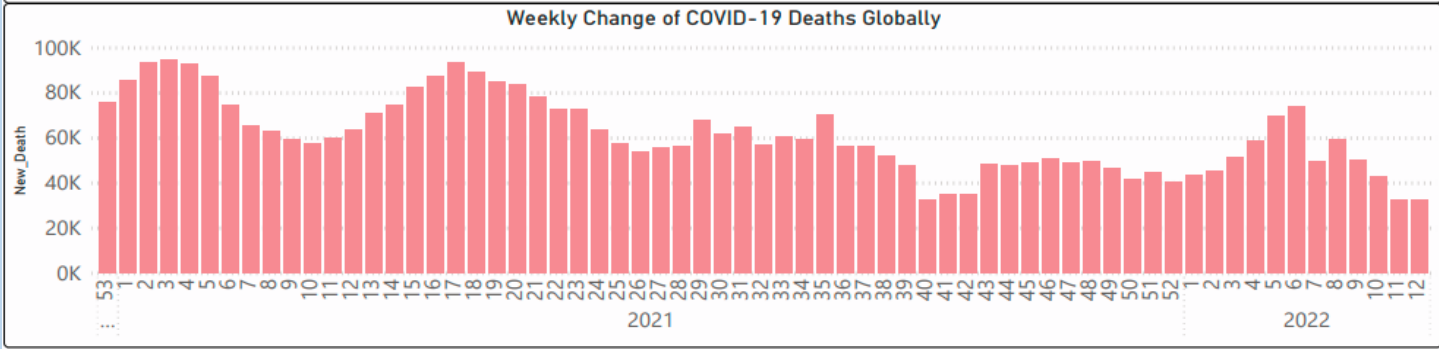
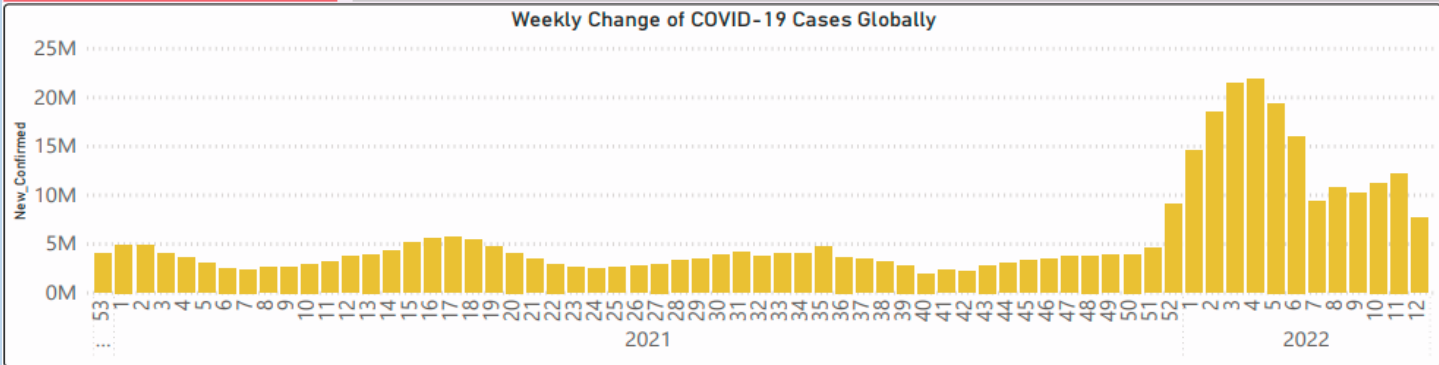
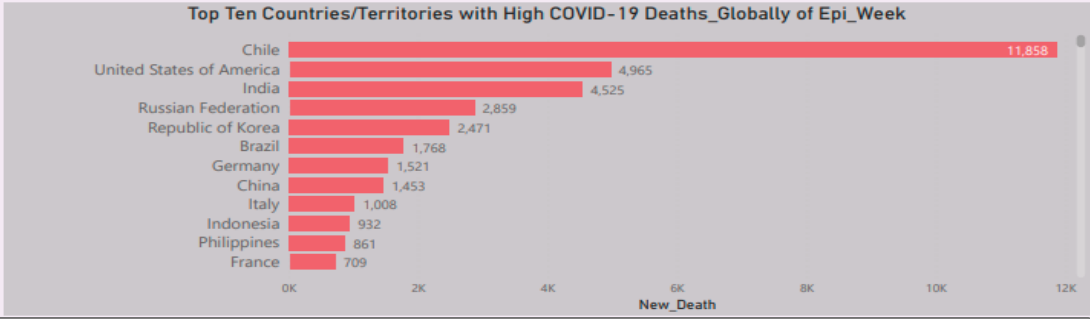
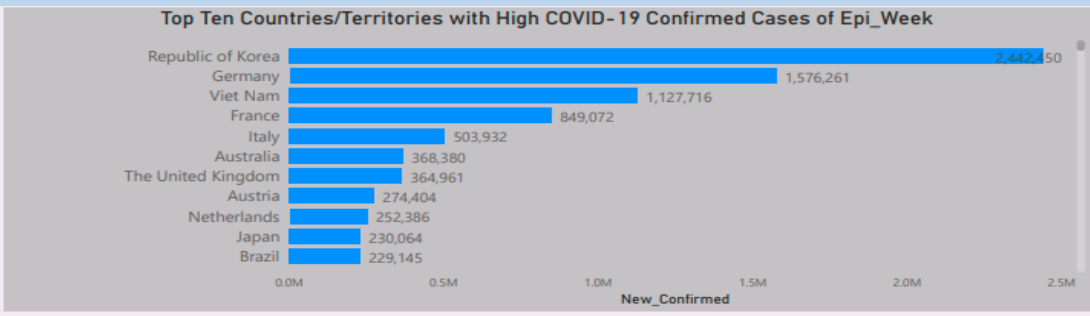


Figure 2: COVID-19 Global Situation Update as of March 27, 2022 (Source: WHO)

Total Number of Cases Confirmed in Africa

11,352,740

New Confirmed Cases in Africa with COVID-19_of Epi_Week

32,230

New Cases in Last 7Days Per 100K Popn. in Africa

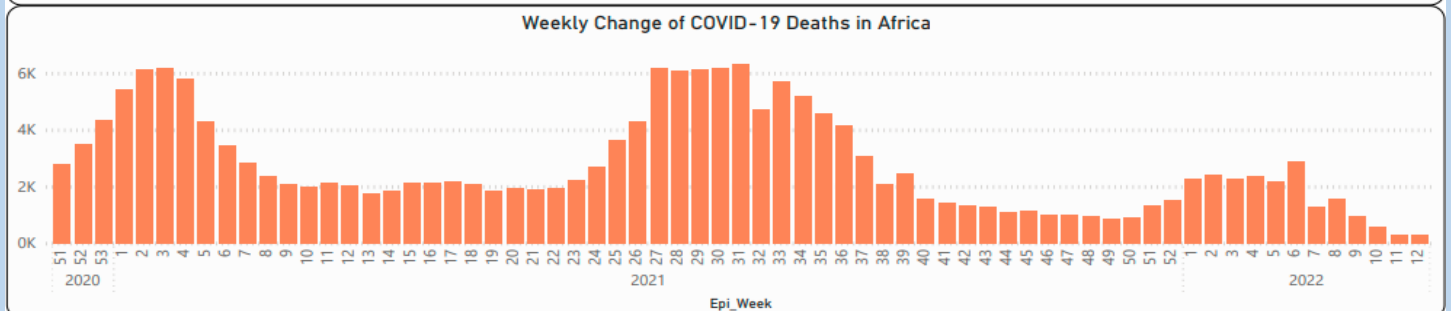
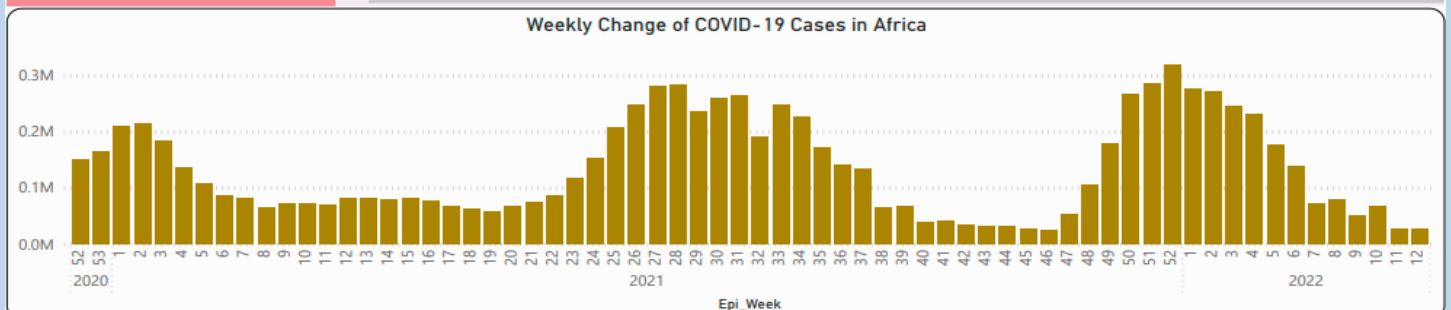
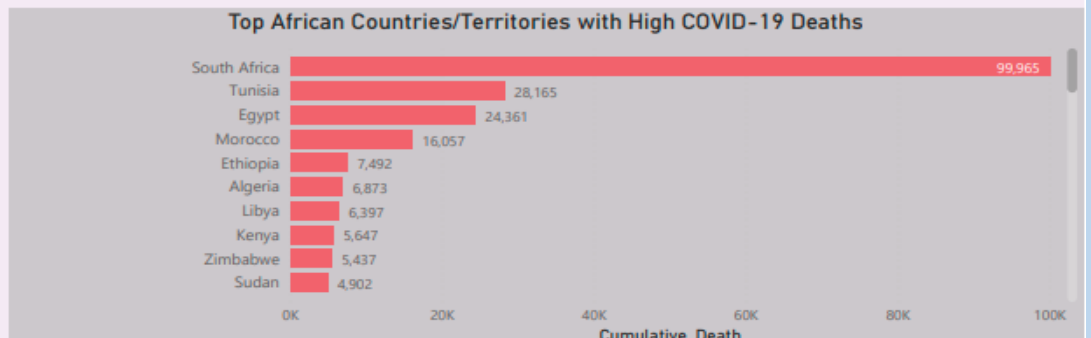
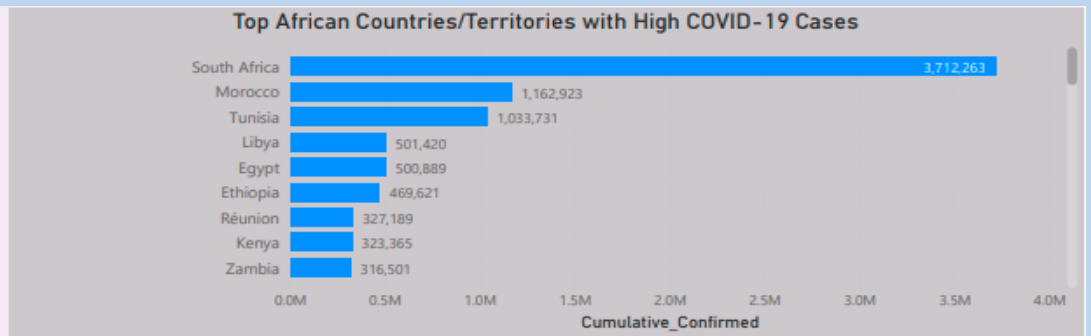
1728

Total Number of Deaths in Africa with COVID-19

242,335

New Deaths in Africa with COVID-19_in Epi_Week

349



Top Countries with COVI-19 Cases_Africa

Country_Name	Total_Cases	Total_Cases per 100K Popn.	New_Cases in last 7Days	New_Cases in last 7Days per 100K Pon.	New_Cases in last 24Hrs
South Africa	3,709,209	6,254	8,725	15	2,120
Morocco	1,162,686	3,150	364	1	0
Tunisia	1,033,731	8,747	3,969	34	0
Libya	501,379	7,297	619	9	83
Egypt	500,889	489	5,516	5	0
Ethiopia	469,544	408	151	0	21
Réunion	327,189	36,545	8,494	949	0
Kenya	323,333	601	96	0	14
Zambia	316,312	1,721	689	4	224
Algeria	265,599	606	88	0	14
Botswana	263,950	11,224	0	0	0
Nigeria	255,244	124	152	0	0
Zimbabwe	245,467	1,652	1,455	10	273
Mozambique	225,223	721	23	0	3
Mauritius	204,200	16,056	4,763	375	0
Uqanda	163,751	358	117	0	13

Figure 3: COVID-19 Situation Update in Africa as of March 27, 2022 (Source: WHO)

b. National COVID-19 situation:

- As of March 27, 2022, a total of 469,621 confirmed COVID-19 cases and 7,492 deaths were recorded in the country with a case fatality rate of 1.60%.
- One-hundred-sixty-six (166) newly confirmed COVID-19 cases and 3 COVID-19 related deaths were reported during the Epi-Week-12.
- In this week, there is 39% decrease in the number of COVID-19 confirmed cases and an equivalent in 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-12 of 2022

Regions	New_Tested	New_Case	New_HF_Admission	New_Deaths	Positivity Rate
Addis Ababa	20,938	139	1	1	0.4
SNNPR	4,561	5	0	0	0.3
Oromia	4,352	7	8	1	0.0
Amhara	993	1	1	1	0.0
Afar	913	1	0	0	0.1
Somali	828	1	0	0	0.1
Dire Dawa	810	3	0	0	1.3
Sidama	640	1	0	0	0.1
Benishangul G	478	5	0	0	1.0
SWEP	366	3	0	0	0.8
Harari	265	0	0	0	0.0
Gambella	214	0	0	0	0.0
Tigray	0	0	0	0	
Total	35,358	166	10	3	0.3

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

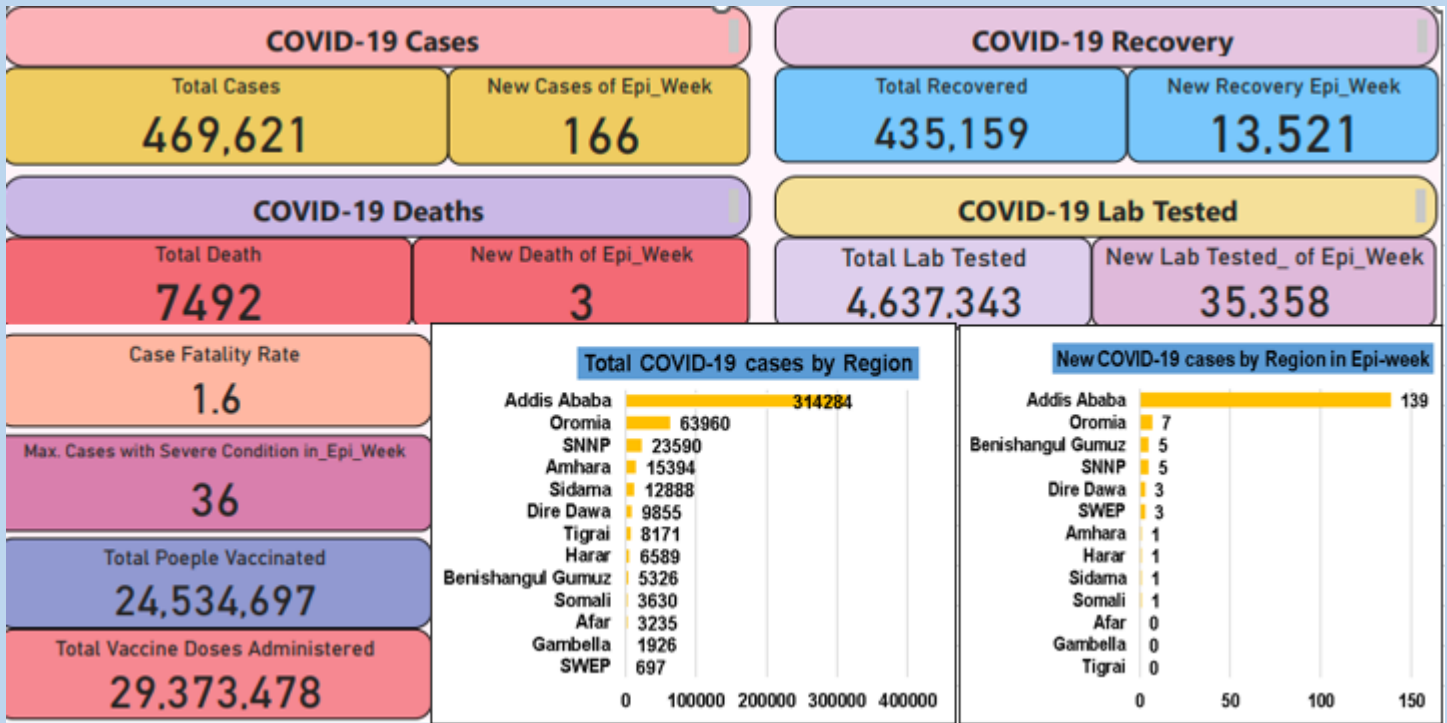


Figure 4: Summary of the COVID-19 situation in Ethiopia as of March 27, 2022, Ethiopia

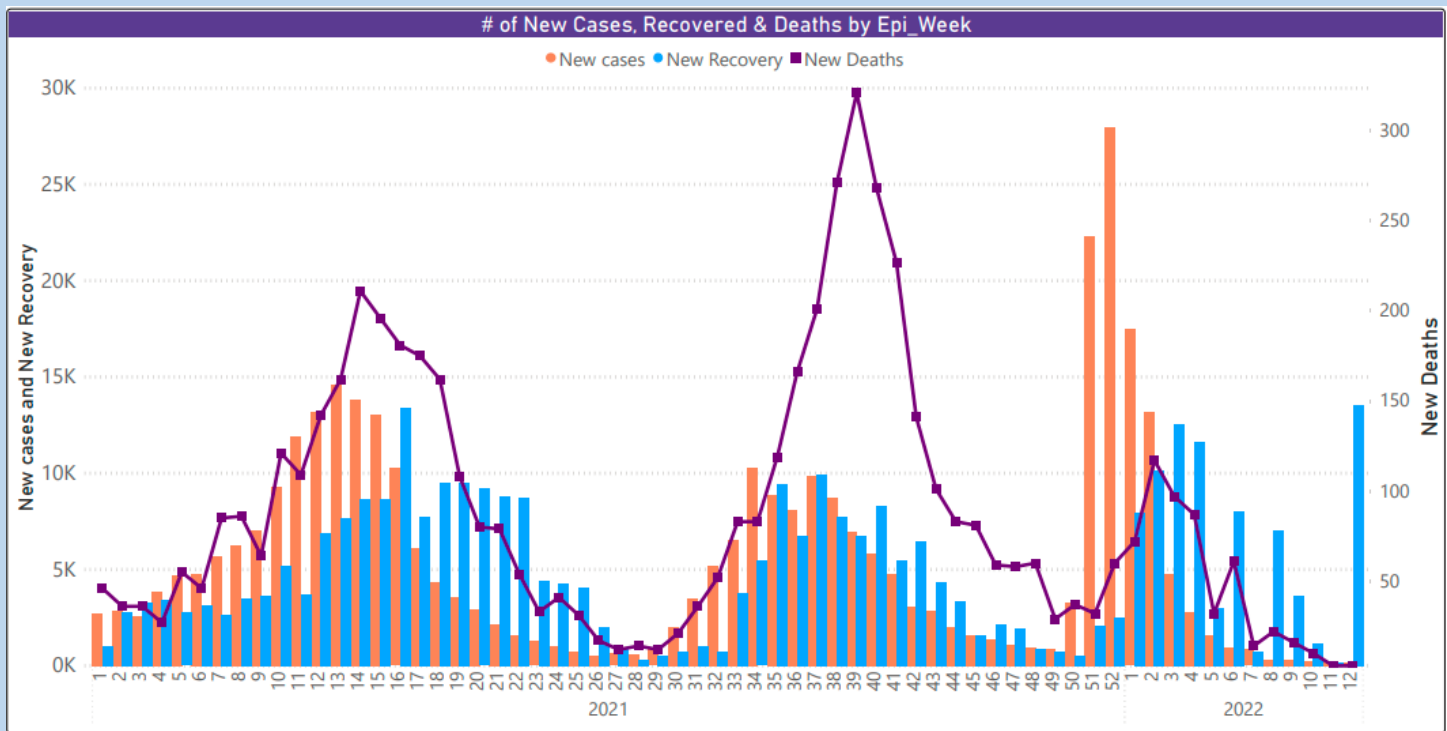


Figure 5: COVID-19 confirmed cases, recovery and death by Epi-Week as of March 27, 2022, Ethiopia

c. Other Epi-Surveillance Related Activities

There is ongoing travelers' health screening at point of entries (POEs), 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.

Total Tested /1 M Population 40282	Total Tests Last 7 Days 35358	Total Cases /1 M Population 4079	Cumulative Positivity Rate 10.1	Total Recovered Last 7 Days 13521	Total Deaths /1 M Population 65
Tested /1 M Population_Epi_Week 307	# of Tests done to get One (1) Case_in the Epi_Week 434	Total Cases Confirmed Last 7 Days 166	Positivity Rate_Epi_Week 0.5	% of Increase or Decrease of Cases_Epi_Week -38.7	Total Deaths Last 7 Days 3

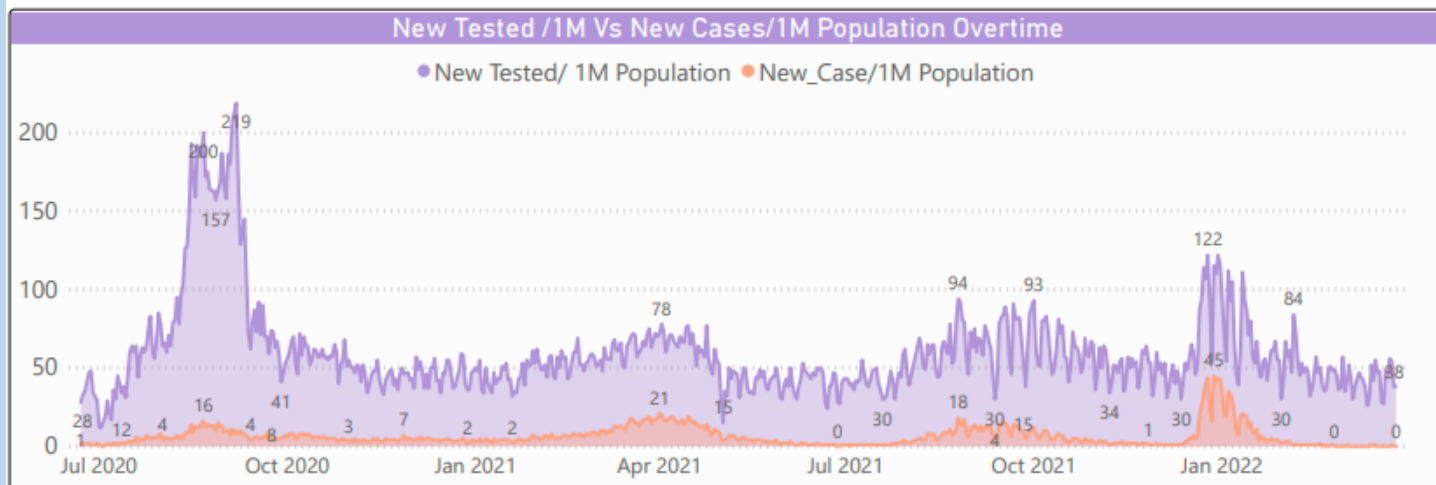


Figure 6: Summary of COVID-19 situation in Ethiopia as of March 27, 2022.

IV. Laboratory related activities

- As of 27 March 2022, a total of 4,637,343 samples have been tested for COVID-19 by laboratories across the country.
- 35,358 laboratory tests were processed during the Epi-Week-12 which is a 2% increase compared to number of tests performed in the previous week.
- The laboratory test positivity rate for the Epi-Week-12 is 0.47%, which is lower than that of the preceding week (0.78%).
- Benishangul Gumuz and South West Ethiopia regional states and Dire Dawa and Addis Ababa city administrations have reported positivity rates higher than the national weighted average (figure 8 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 1,675,439 laboratory tests are performed by Ag-RDT among which 18,170 is performed in the Epi-week-12 (figure 7 below).

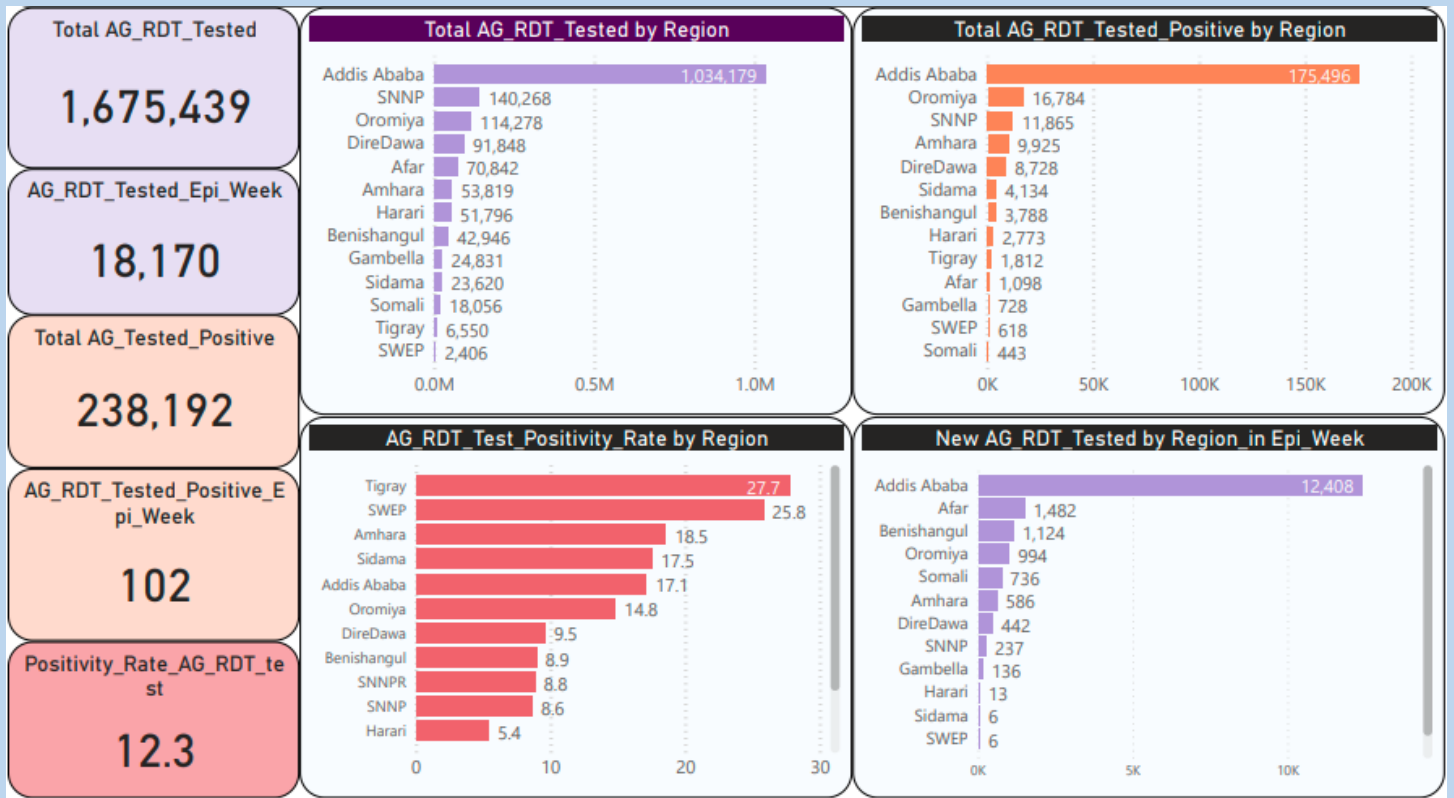
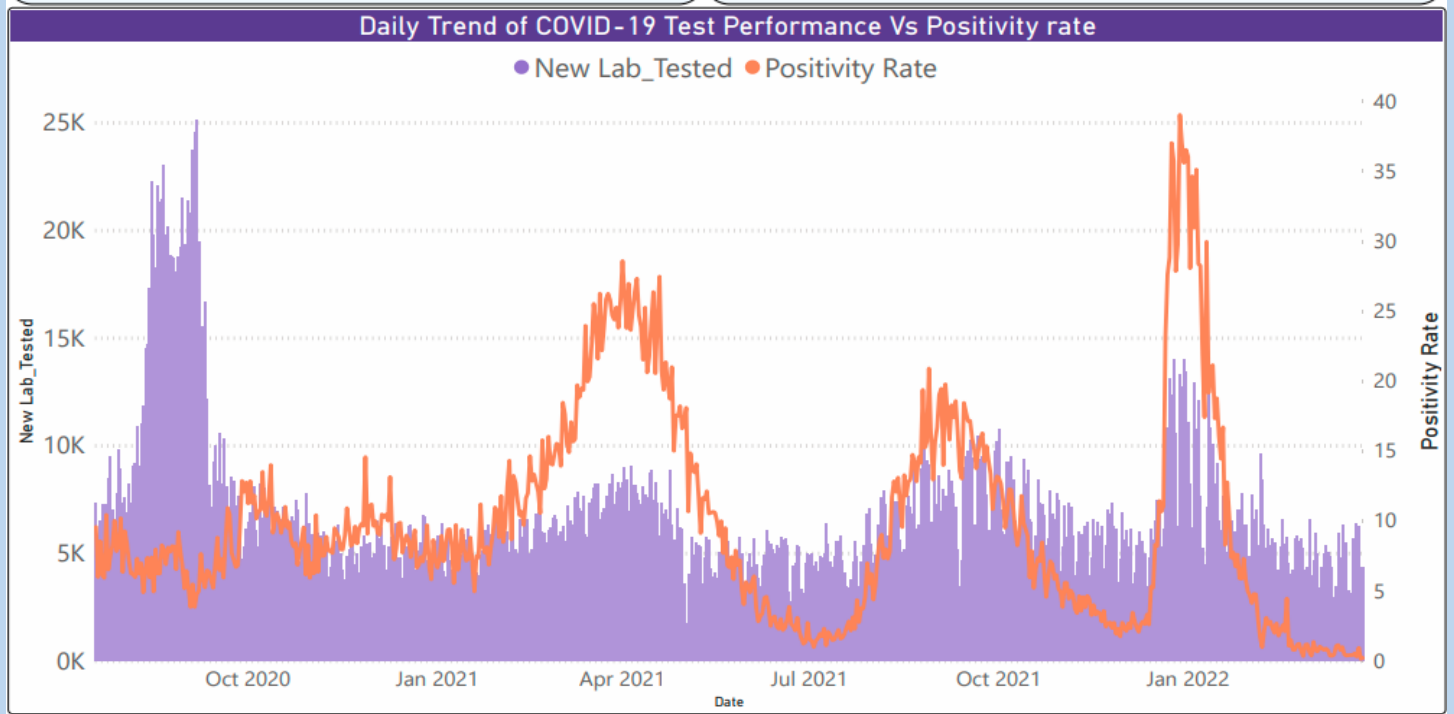
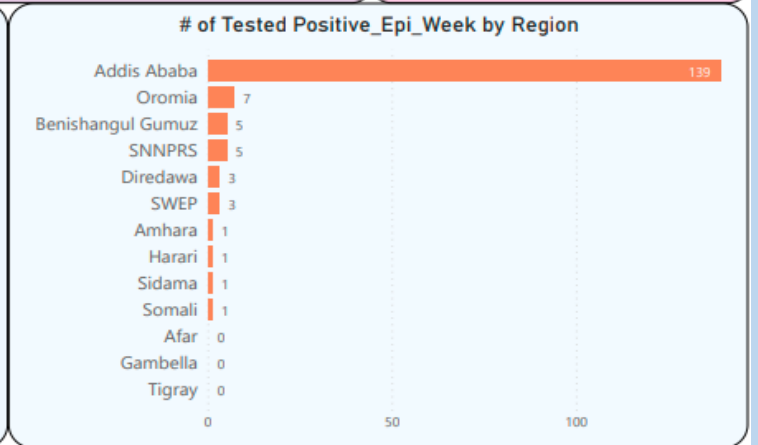
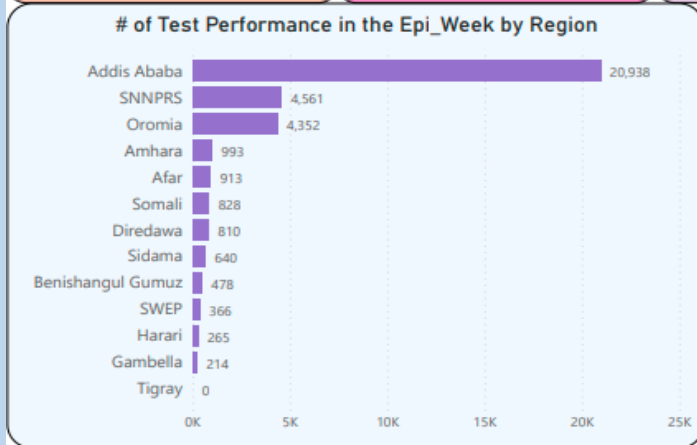
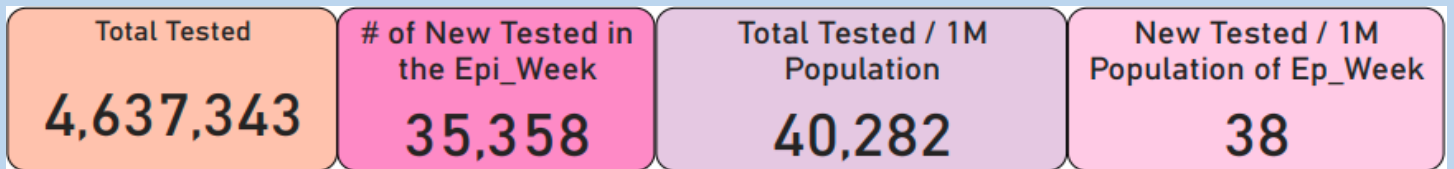


Figure 7: Update on laboratory tests performed by Ag-RDT, as of March 27, 2022



Region/City Admn	New Tested	New Case	New Death	Positivity Rate
Addis Ababa	20,938	139	1	0.63
Afar	913	0	0	0.00
Amhara	993	1	1	0.07
Benishangul Gumuz	478	5	0	1.00
Diredawa	810	3	0	1.34
Gambella	214	0	0	0.00
Harari	265	1	0	0.16
Oromia	4,352	7	1	0.14
Sidama	640	1	0	0.09
SNNPRS	4,561	5	0	0.24
Somali	828	1	0	0.11
SWEP	366	3	0	0.62
Tigray	0	0	0	
Total	35,358	166	3	0.32

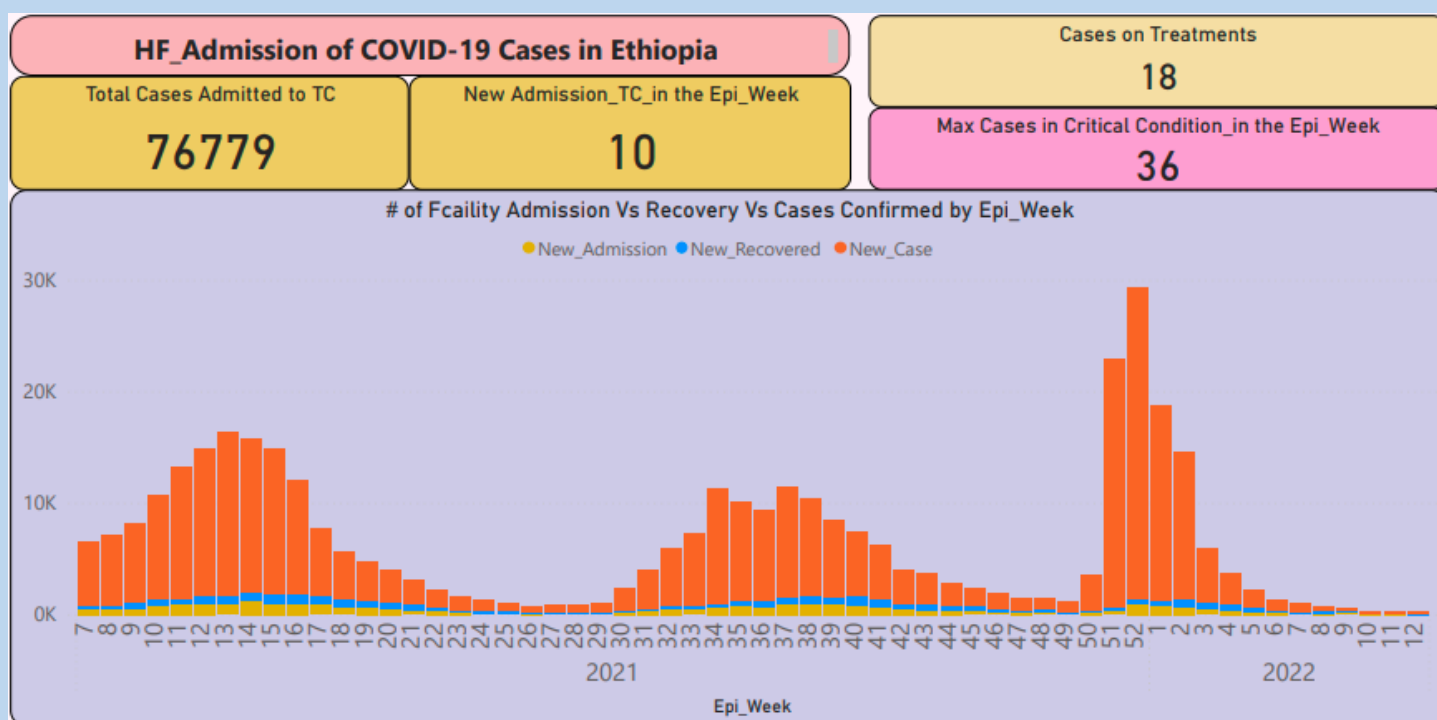
***** Positivity Rate is average of Regional Distn of Rates

Figure 8: Summary of COVID-19 laboratory testing as of March 27, 2022, Ethiopia.

V. Case Management and Facility Readiness

a. COVID-19 treatment center

- There were total of 13,521 newly recovered COVID-19 cases during the Epi-Week-12, bringing the total number of recovered cases to 435,159 (both from COVID-19 treatment center and from HBIC). This brings the overall recovery rate to 93%.
- In this week the maximum number of daily cases in severe condition is 36 which is lower than the maximum number of daily cases in severe condition in the previous week (53).



HF=Health Facilities TC=Treatment Center

Figure 9: Summary of COVID-19 cases in Health Facilities/Treatment centers, as of March 27, 2022.

Table 2: Summary of COVID-19 cases at treatment centers as of March 27, 2022

Regions	Total_Case	New_Case	Total_Admission	New_Admission	Total_Death	Total_Recovered	On_Treatment	Severe Case
Addis Ababa	314284	6	38594	0	4078	32772	5	5
Oromia	63960	3	11564	1	1136	10411	11	5
SNNPR	23590	0	5014	0	289	4725	0	0
Amhara	15394	0	5743	0	488	5250	1	1
Sidama	12888	0	3741	0	231	3445	0	0
Dire Dawa	9855	0	1540	0	144	1395	1	0
Tigray	8171	0	5290	0	59	5224	0	0
Harari	6589	0	1476	0	197	1275	0	0
Benishangul G	5326	0	1043	0	33	1012	0	0
Somali	3630	0	782	0	115	664	0	0
Afar	3235	0	826	0	5	812	0	0
Gambella	1926	0	682	0	8	674	0	0
SWEP	697	1	484	0	15	469	0	0

b. Home Based Isolation and Care (HBIC):

- So far, 366,584 COVID-19 confirmed cases have been on HBIC. Of them 352,362 (99%) have recovered and 50 (0.014%) died.
- Of these, 14,027 cases have been enrolled to HBIC and 14,220 cases have recovered in the Epi-Week-12.
- As of March 27, 2022, there are 805 cases on HBIC.
- So far, 2,437 (none in the Epi-week-12) of the cases have been transferred from treatment centers to HBIC after improvement.
- So far, 1,344 (23 in the Epi-week-12) 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.

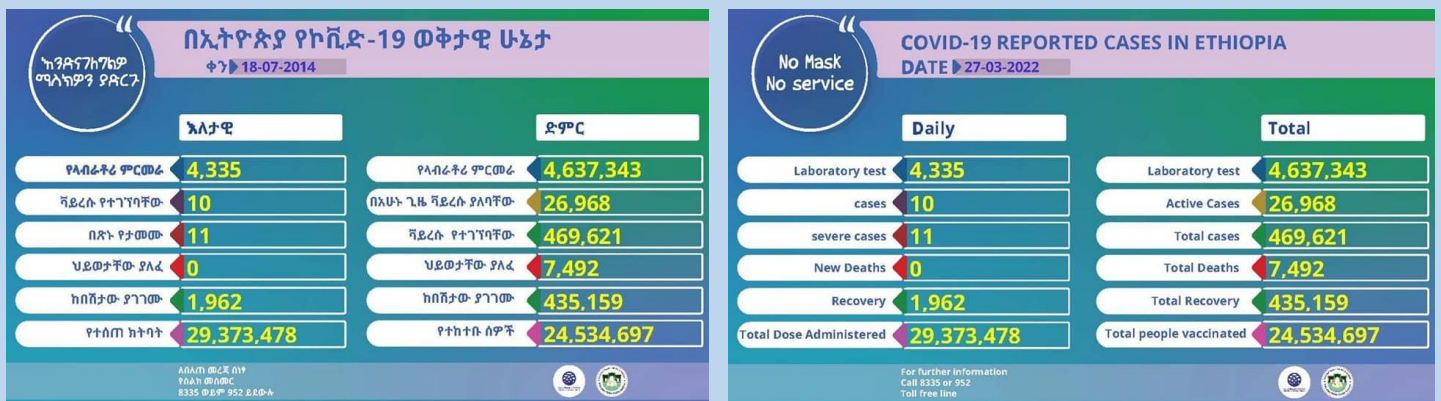


Figure 10: COVID-19 situation update as of March 27, 2022 shared on social media.

VII. Coordination and Leadership

- Integrated supportive supervision is being conducted in Addis Ababa city administration COVID-19 response coordination centers and facilities. Experts from each pillar under the national COVID-19 response Incident Management System from National PHEOC are deployed for the supportive supervision. Onsite training will be provided for the response staff in the city administration COVID-19 response coordination centers and facilities. Feedback and recommendations will also be provided to the city administration health bureau and COVID-19 response incident management system at City Administration Health Bureau Public Health Emergency Operation center. Similar supportive supervision will also be conducted in the other regional states in the coming weeks.

- 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.
- An advocacy meeting and experience sharing visit on Public Health Emergency Operation Center (PHEOC) coordinated by Early Warning and Information System Management Directorate, cPHEM was conducted from 21-23 March 2022 at Ethiopian Public Health Institute (EPHI) – National Public Health Emergency Operation Center (PHEOC) in collaboration with Africa CDC and National Disaster Risk Management Commission (NDRMC)/ Emergency Coordination Center (ECC). The objective is to create awareness by advocating emergency operation center concepts, to learn best practices among National PHEOC, NDRMC/ECC and Africa CDC PHEOCs, to apply the PHEOC framework and relevant tools for designing, developing, and strengthening PHEOC, to develop knowledge and skill required to prevent and respond to public health emergencies quickly and efficiently, to make national, regional, sub-regional, other PHE managers aware of how the different institutions are coordinating emergency management system using PHEOCs and to familiarize delegates with the PHEOC operationalization. Participants are high-level leaders from Regional Health Bureau (RHB), Public Health Institutes (PHI), Zonal Health Departments, Jimma University Institute of Health, National Defense Force and Federal Police Commission Health Departments.



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.

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.
- Enhancing technical support, coordination and timely and accurate information sharing at all levels.
- Generating scientific evidence and forecast regarding COVID-19 progress.

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 to priority groups 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.eph.gov.et/	8335	ephieoc@gmail.com
Ethiopian Public Health Institute COVID-19 Website	https://covid19.eph.gov.et/		
Ethiopian Public Health Institute Facebook Page	https://www.facebook.com/ephpage/		
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	hrrhpheoc@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/tigrayrhb/	6244	tigraypheoc@gmail.com
Sidama PHEM		7794	sidaamapheoc@gmail.com
South West Ethiopia RHB PHEM			swepheoc@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
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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.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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**National COVID-19 Response Incident Management system, Emergency Operation Center
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