



## NATIONAL PUBLIC HEALTH EMERGENCY OPERATION CENTER (PHEOC), ETHIOPIA

### COVID-19 PANDEMIC PREPAREDNESS AND RESPONSE IN ETHIOPIA

## WEEKLY BULLETIN

Epi-Week - 20 (May 16 – 22, 2022)

BULLETIN №: 108

## I. Highlights

- After persistent decrease in the number of COVID-19 cases in the country, there is a slight increment in the number of new cases since the last three weeks.
- A total of 424 new confirmed COVID-19 cases and 2 deaths due to COVID-19 were detected in the week bringing the total cases to 471,373 and the total number of deaths due to COVID-19 to 7512.
- A total of 28,801 laboratory samples were tested in the Epi-Week-20 bringing the total number of samples tested to 4,867,783.
- In this week the maximum number of daily cases in severe condition is 10 which is a bit higher than the maximum number of daily cases in severe condition in the previous week (8).
- A total of 387,299 COVID-19 confirmed cases have been managed at Home Based Isolation and Care so far; 55 of these were enrolled in the Epi-Week-20.
- African leaders discuss how to boost access of homemade COVID-19 vaccines.



Figure 1: African leaders on video conferencing regarding COVID-19 vaccines production in Africa

## **II. Epidemiological Situation**

### **a. Global Situation**

- Globally, the number of new weekly cases has continued the declining trend observed since a peak in January 2022. During the week of 16 through 22 May 2022, over 3.7 million cases were reported, a 3% decrease as compared to the previous week.
- The number of new weekly deaths also continues to decline, with over 9000 fatalities reported, representing an 11% decrease as compared to the previous week.
- As of 22 May 2022, over 522 million confirmed cases and over six million deaths have been reported globally.

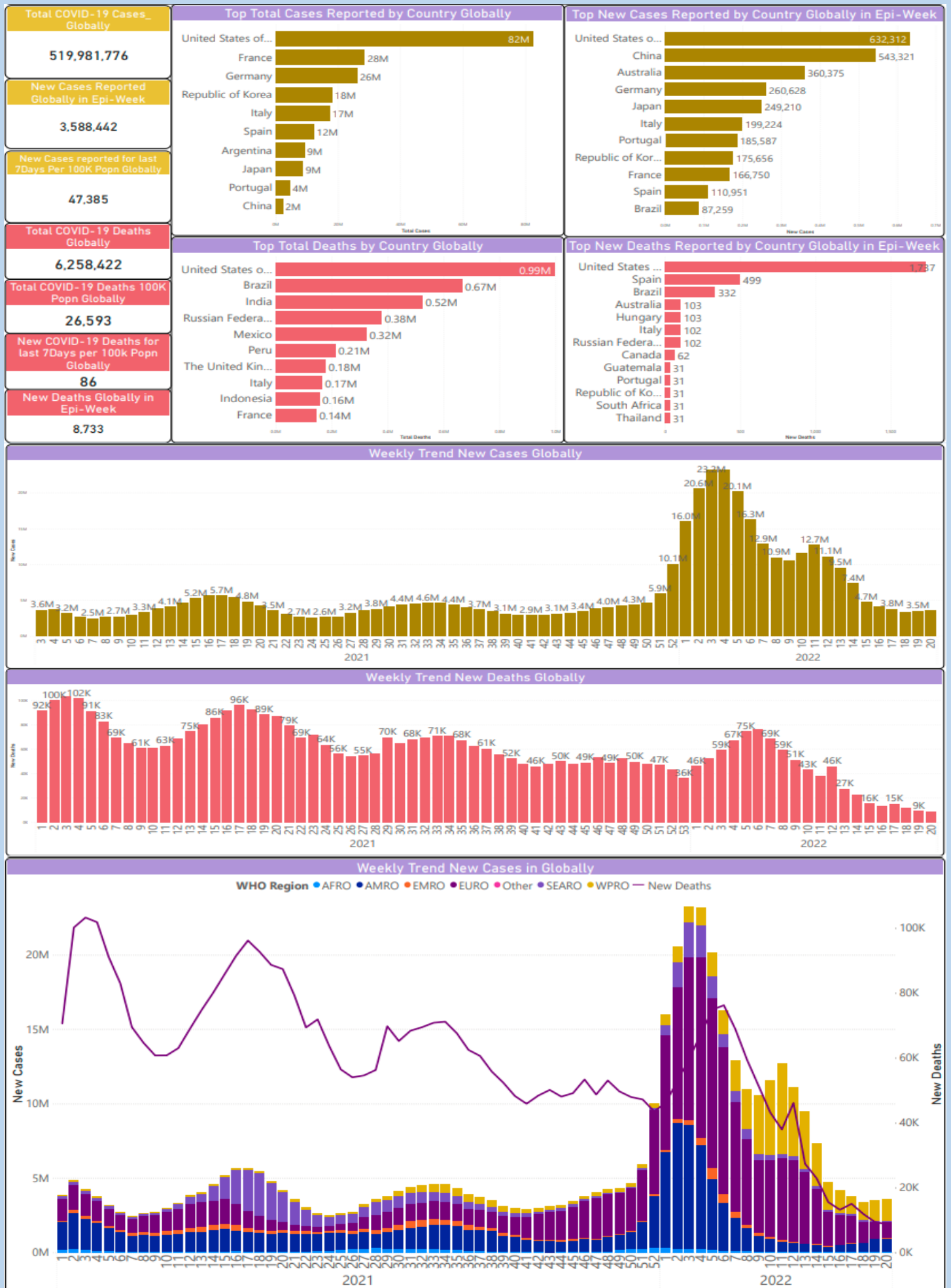
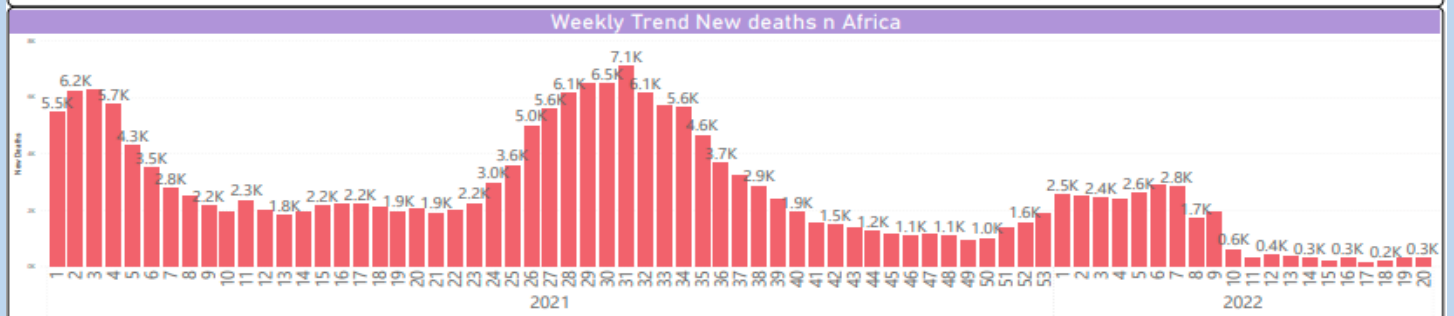
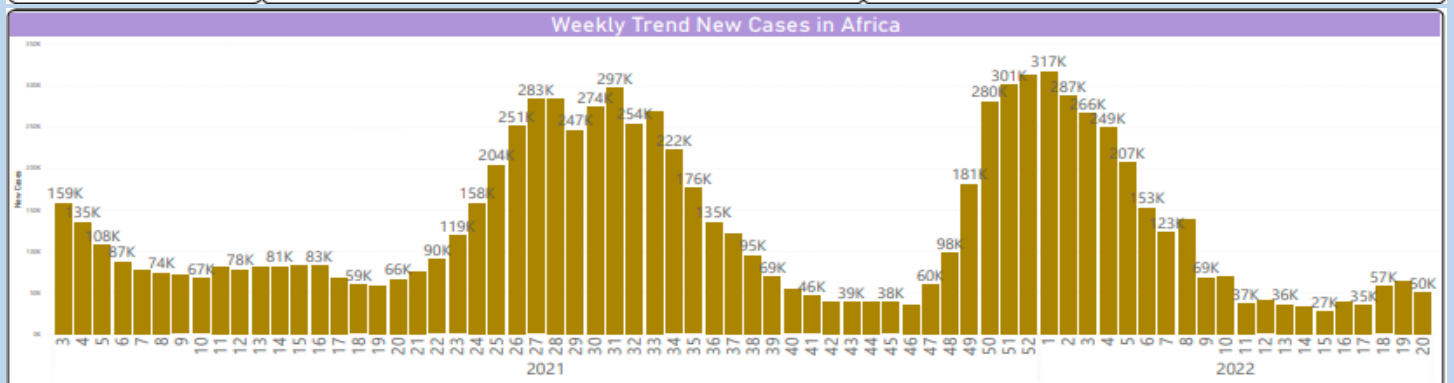
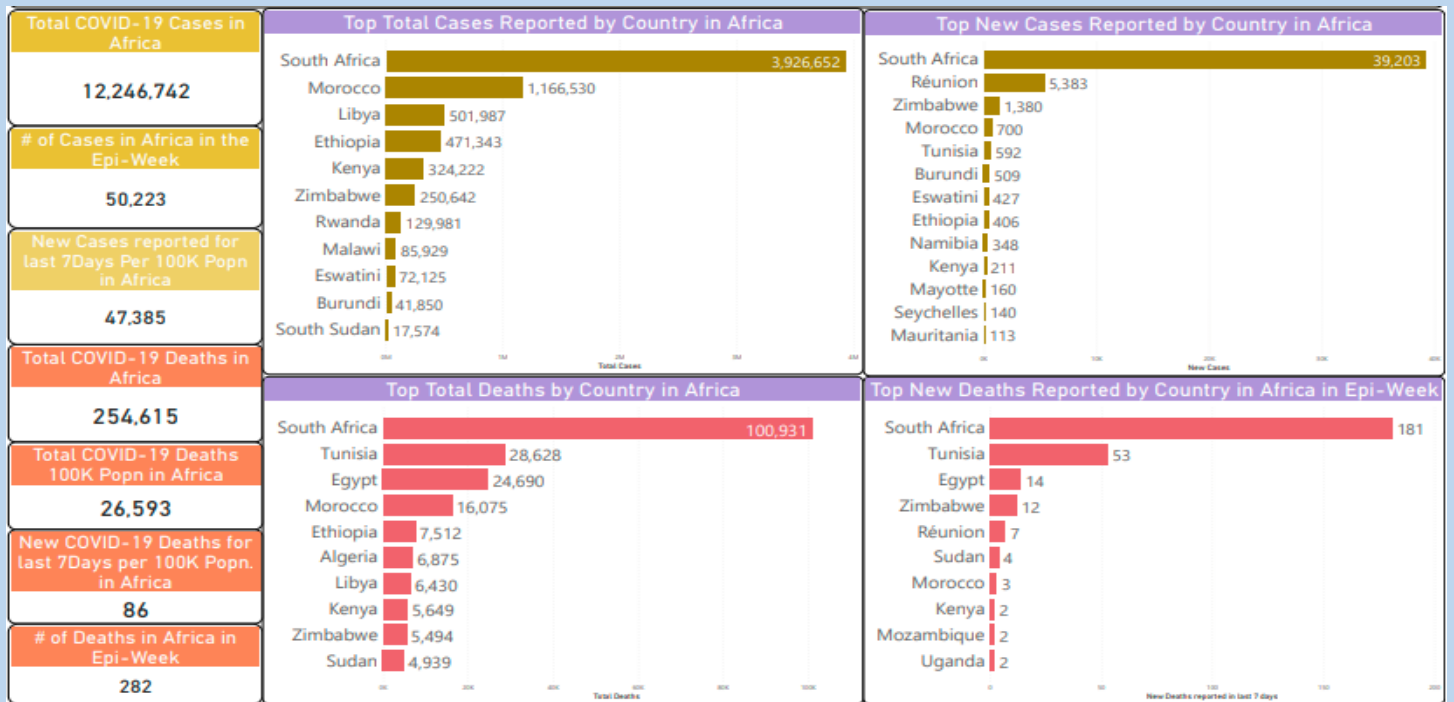


Figure 2: COVID-19 Global Situation Update as of 22 May 2022 (source: WHO)



Country	Total Cases	Total Cases per 100K popn	Cases in last 7Days	Cases in last 7Days per 100K Popn	New Cases
South Africa	3,931,534	6,629	36,789	62	1,662
Morocco	1,166,716	3,161	867	2	88
Tunisia	1,041,789	8,815	592	5	0
Egypt	513,916	502	35	0	0
Libya	501,987	7,306	33	0	0
Ethiopia	471,423	410	432	0	50
Réunion	414,615	46,310	3,252	363	3,252
Kenya	324,242	603	196	0	0
Zambia	319,755	1,739	0	0	0
Botswana	306,696	13,042	0	0	0
Algeria	265,855	606	32	0	1
Nigeria	255,937	124	48	0	0
Zimbabwe	250,929	1,688	1,667	11	227
Mozambique	225,586	722	83	0	9
Mauritius	224,722	17,670	0	0	0
Uganda	164,331	359	98	0	0

Figure 3: COVID-19 Situation Update in Africa as of May 22, 2022 (Source: WHO)

## **b. National COVID-19 situation:**

- As of May 22, 2022, a total of 471,373 confirmed COVID-19 cases and 7,512 deaths were recorded in the country with a case fatality rate of 1.60%.
- Two new COVID-19 related deaths were reported during the Epi-Week-20.
- Four-hundred-twenty-four (424) newly confirmed COVID-19 cases were reported during the Epi-Week-20.
- In this week, there is 100% increase in the number of COVID-19 confirmed cases compared to the previous week.
- For detail, see the summary dashboard below.

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

*SWEP: South West Ethiopia Peoples' Regional State*

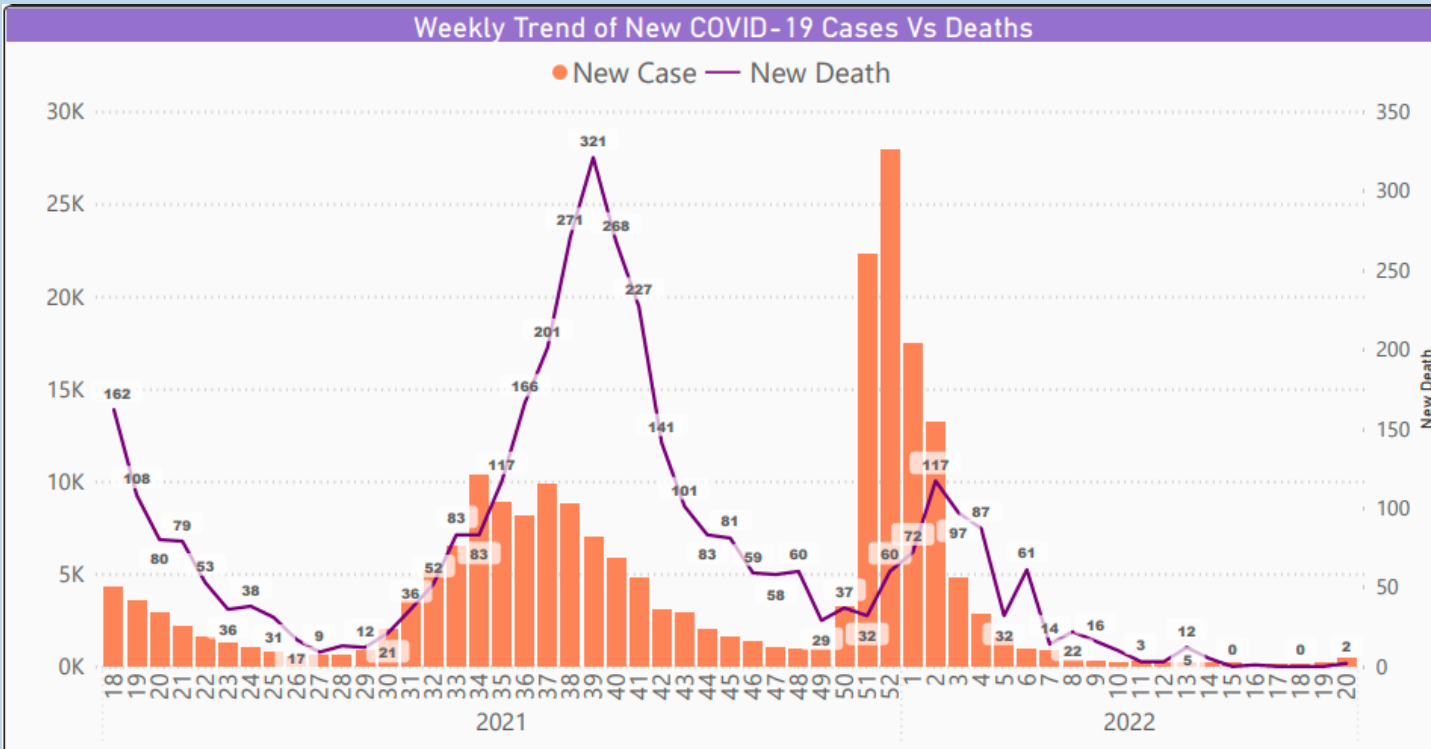
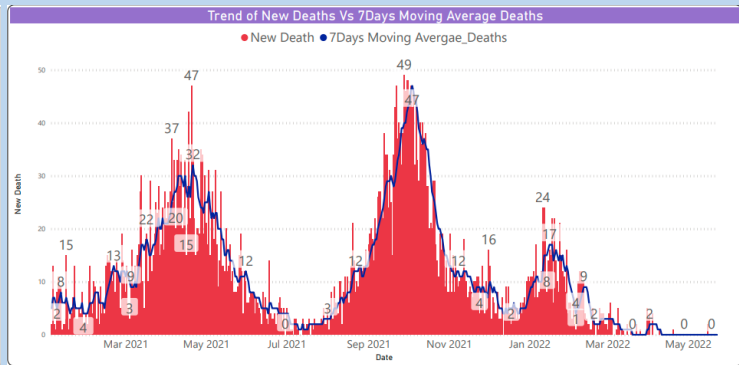
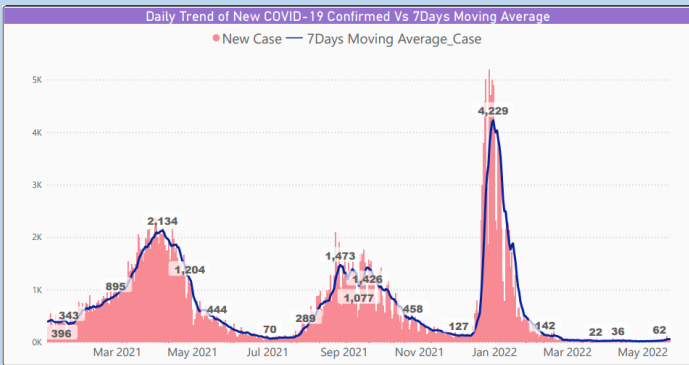
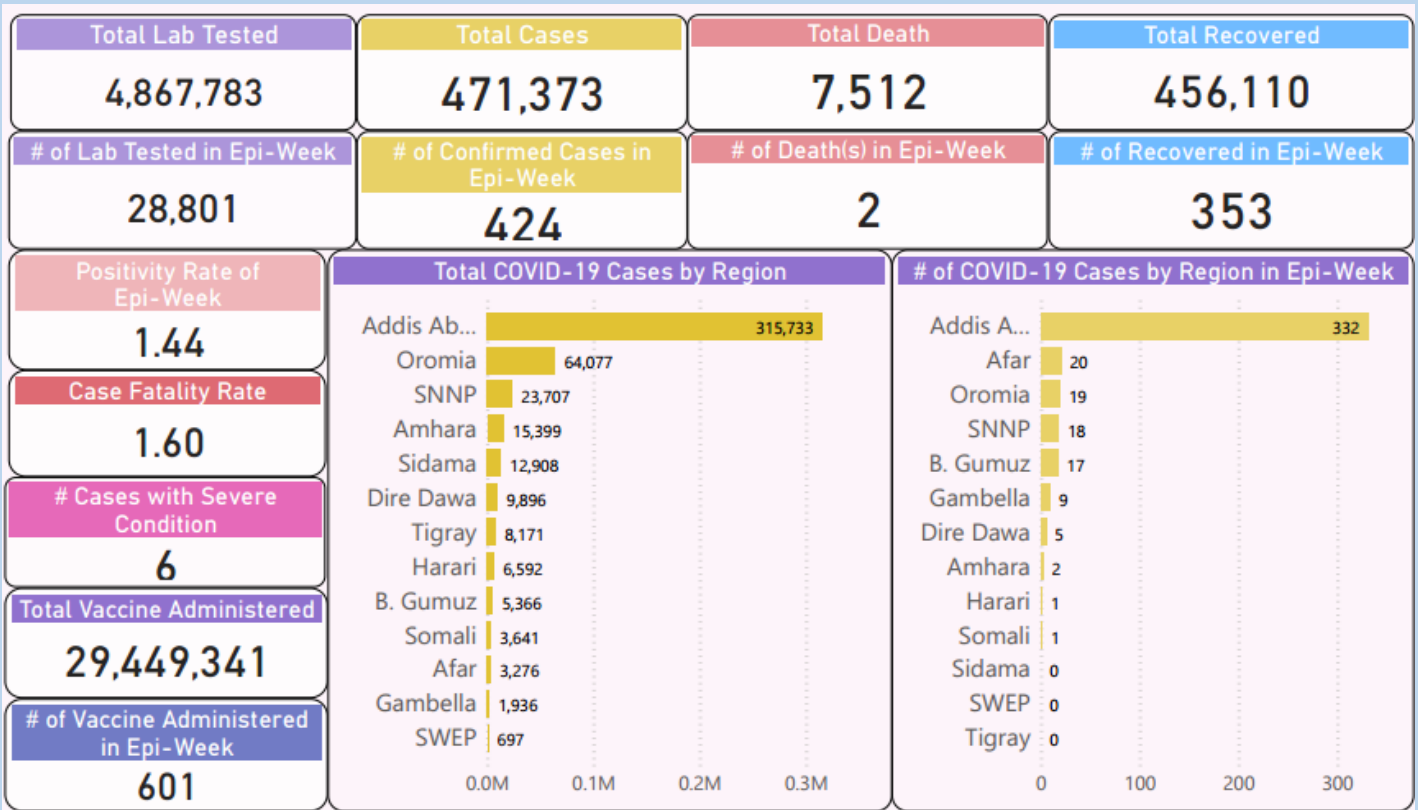


Figure 4: Summary of the COVID-19 situation in Ethiopia as of May 22, 2022, Ethiopia

### 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.

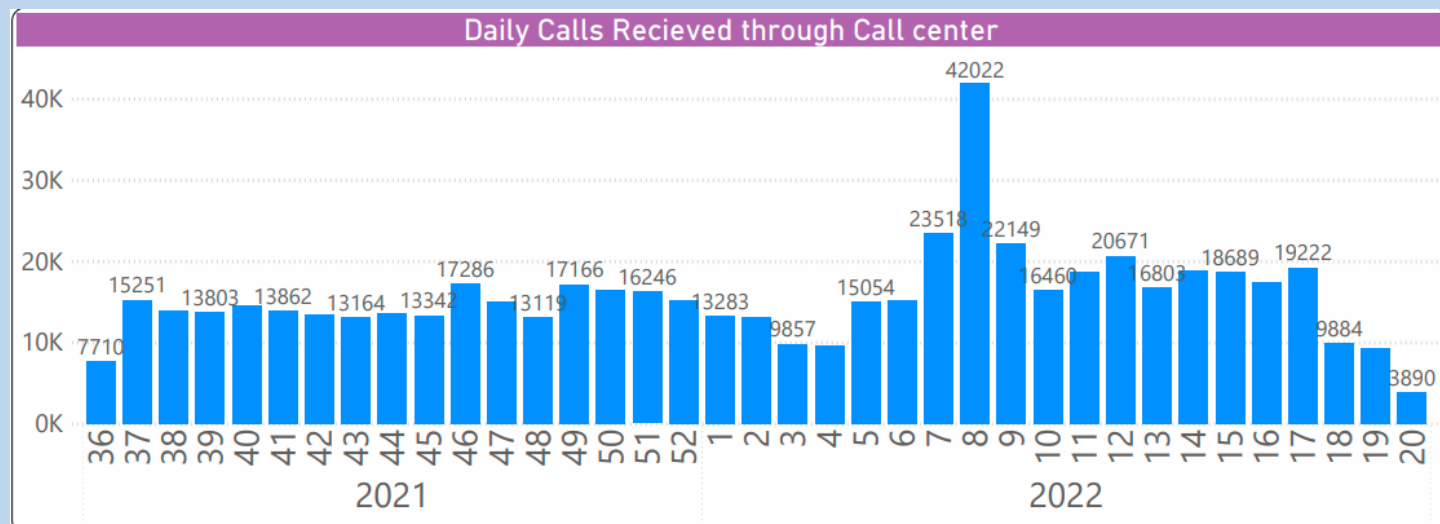
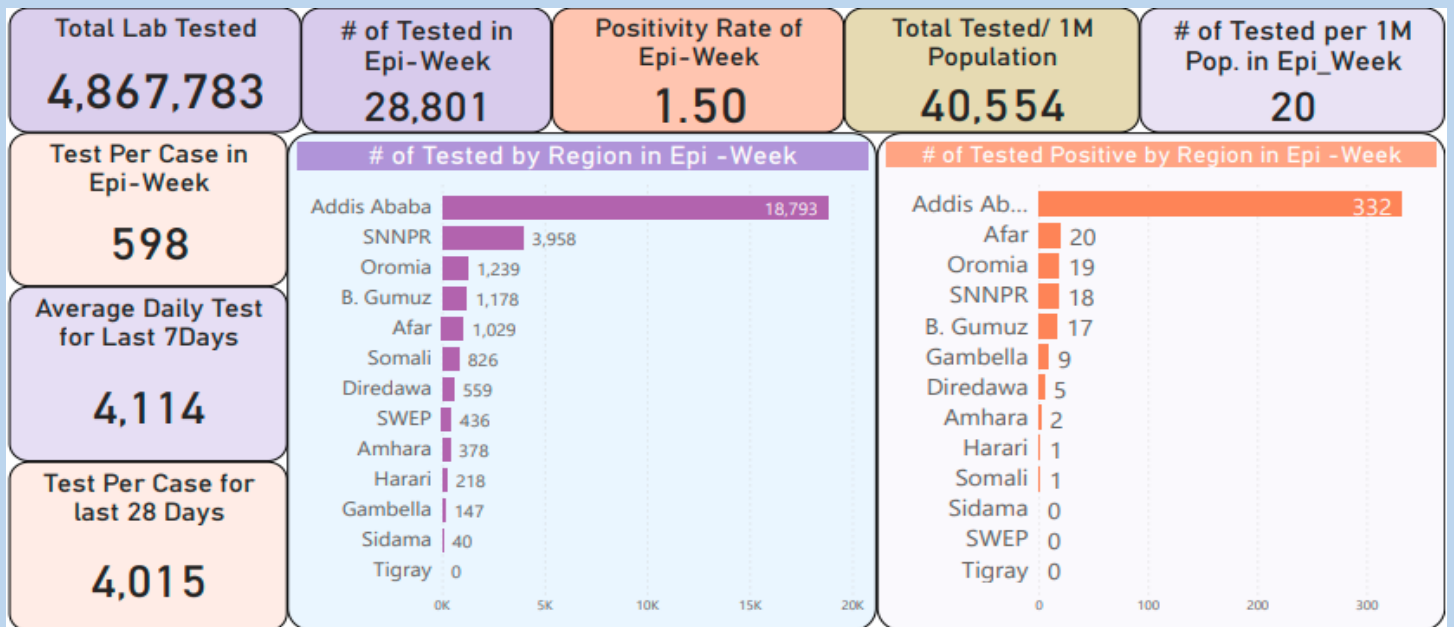


Figure 5: Trend of daily calls received through the call center (8335)

### III. Laboratory related activities

- As of 22 May 2022, a total of 4,867,783 samples have been tested for COVID-19 by laboratories across the country.
- 28,801 laboratory tests were processed during the Epi-Week-20 which is an 9% increase compared to number of tests performed in the previous week.
- The laboratory test positivity rate for the Epi-Week-20 is 1.47%, which is higher than that of the preceding week (0.79%).





Region	New Tested	New Cases	New Death	Positivity Rate	Test contribution	Case contribution
Addis Ababa	18,793	332		1.71	66%	78%
Afar	1,029	20		1.81	4%	4%
Amhara	378	2		2.67	1%	1%
B. Gumuz	1,178	17		2.90	4%	5%
Diredawa	559	5		0.65	2%	1%
Gambella	147	9		5.93	0%	2%
Harari	218	1		0.40	1%	0%
Oromia	1,239	19		1.54	4%	4%
Sidama	40	0		0.00	0%	0%
SNNPR	3,958	18		0.69	13%	6%
Somali	826	1		0.11	3%	0%
SWEP	436	0		0.00	1%	0%
Tigray	0	0				

\*\*\* Positivity Rate is the Average Rates of Regional Distn

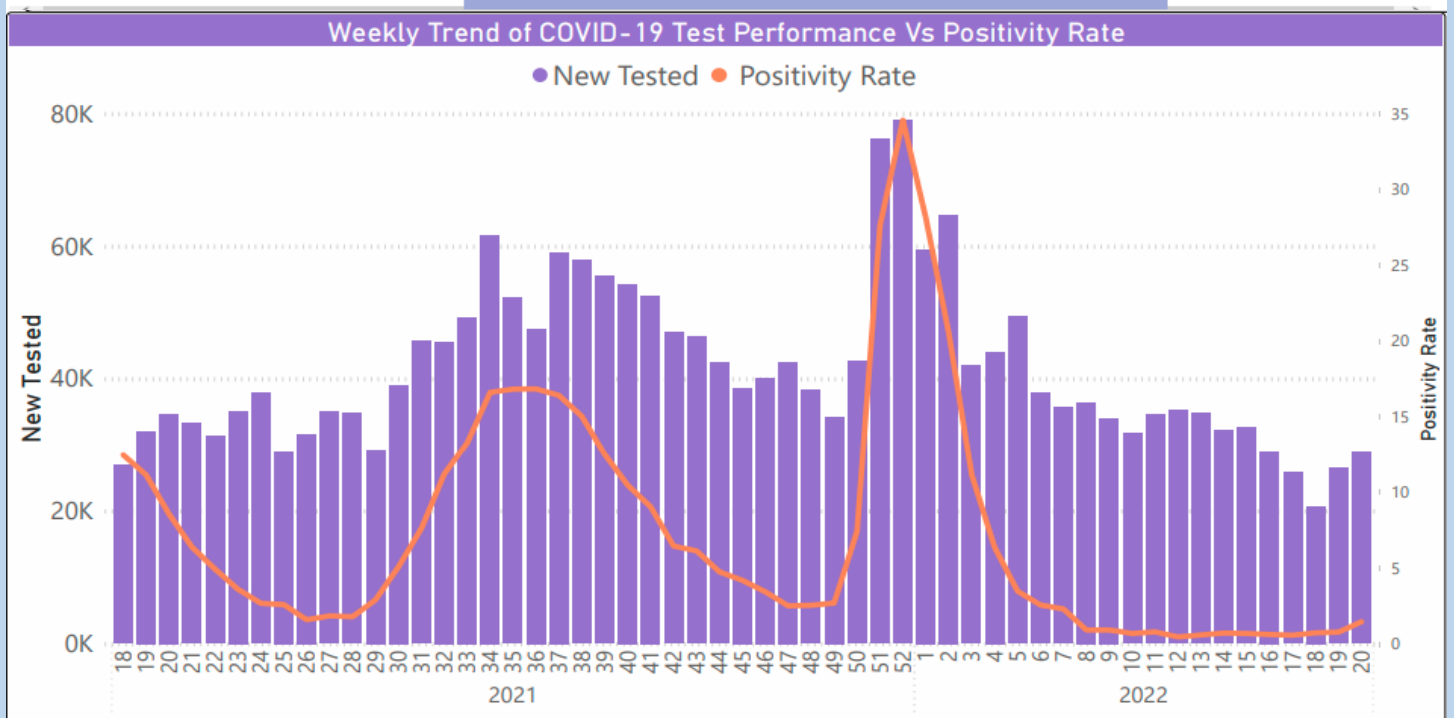


Figure 6: Update on laboratory tests performed as of May 22, 2022



## IV. Case Management and Facility Readiness

### a. COVID-19 treatment center

- There were total of 53 newly recovered COVID-19 cases during the Epi-Week-20, bringing the total number of recovered cases to 455,810 (both from COVID-19 treatment center and from HBIC). This brings the overall recovery rate to 97%.
- In this week the maximum number of daily cases in severe condition is 10 which is higher than the maximum number of daily cases in severe condition in the previous week (8).

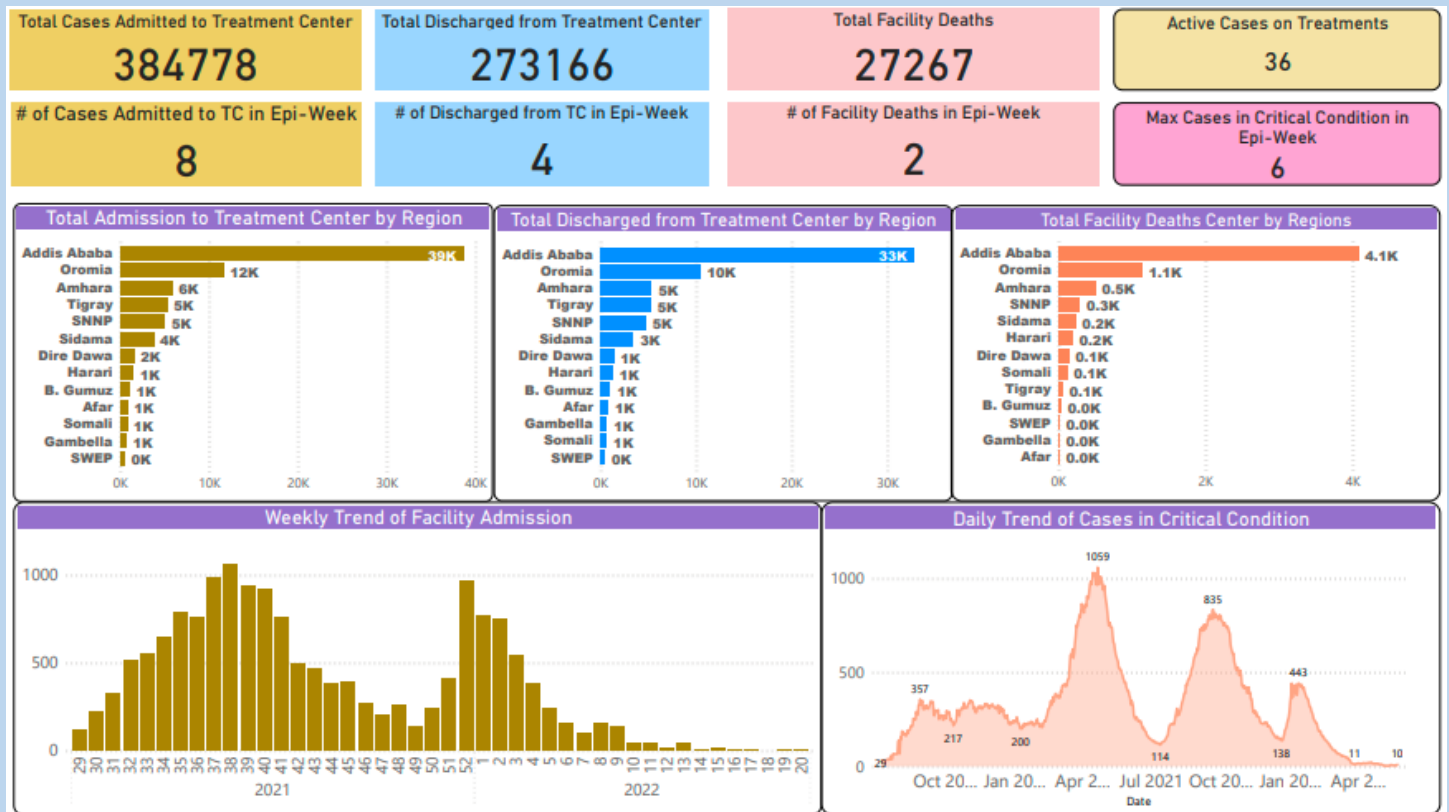


Figure 7: COVID-19 Situation Updates in COVID-19 treatment centers as of May 22, 2022

### b. Home Based Isolation and Care (HBIC):

- So far, 387,299 COVID-19 confirmed cases have been on HBIC. 386,485 of them (99%) have recovered and 50 (0.013%) died.
- Of these, 55 cases have been enrolled to HBIC and 58 cases have recovered in the Epi-Week-20.
- As of May 22, 2022, there are 229 cases on HBIC.
- So far, 2,525 (none in the Epi-week-20) of the cases have been transferred from treatment centers to HBIC after improvement.
- So far, 1,321 (none in the Epi-week-20) of the cases have been transferred from HBIC to treatment centers for better care.

## V. 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 8: COVID-19 situation update as of May 22, 2022 shared on social media.

## VI. 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.
- Leaders discuss how to boost access of homemade COVID-19 vaccines. African leaders including President of Federal Democratic Republic of Ethiopia, Sahle-Work Zewde explored ways how to boost access of vaccines manufactured in Africa in the international market. President Sahle-Work Zewde addressed the video conference organized by the Africa Union Commission. The discussion mainly focused on how to help made in Africa vaccines penetrate the distribution network and the wider market at a global level. On the occasion, the leaders also stressed need to seek African solutions to curb the socio-economic challenges caused by the Russia-Ukraine war. Only leaders of African countries capable of manufacturing COVID 19 vaccines participated in the meeting. Besides, President of France and President of European Union have also attended the meeting as guests.

## VII. Public Health Policy Recommendation

### Advice for the Public:

- 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 PHE information

MOH/EPHI/Region	Facebook page	Toll-free hotline	Email address (PHEOCs email)
Ethiopian Public Health Institute Main Website	<a href="https://www.ephi.gov.et/">https://www.ephi.gov.et/</a>	8335	<a href="mailto:ephieoc@gmail.com">ephieoc@gmail.com</a>
Ethiopian Public Health Institute COVID-19 Website	<a href="https://covid19.ephi.gov.et/">https://covid19.ephi.gov.et/</a>		
Ethiopian Public Health Institute Facebook Page	<a href="https://www.facebook.com/ephipage/">https://www.facebook.com/ephipage/</a>		
Ethiopian Public Health Institute Twitter Page	<a href="https://twitter.com/EPHIEthiopia">https://twitter.com/EPHIEthiopia</a>		
Ethiopian Public Health Institute Telegram Channel	<a href="https://t.me/EthPHI">https://t.me/EthPHI</a>		
Ethiopian Public Health Institute YouTube Channel	<a href="https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCvTzeY-IJiQfEFBULH9Mkw">https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCvTzeY-IJiQfEFBULH9Mkw</a>		
Ministry of Health, Ethiopia Website	<a href="http://www.moh.gov.et">www.moh.gov.et</a>	952	
Ministry of Health, Ethiopia Facebook Page	<a href="https://www.facebook.com/EthiopiaFMoH/">https://www.facebook.com/EthiopiaFMoH/</a>		
Afar Regional Health Bureau	<a href="https://www.facebook.com/afarrhb.org/">https://www.facebook.com/afarrhb.org/</a>	6220	<a href="mailto:afarpheoc@gmail.com">afarpheoc@gmail.com</a>

Amhara Regional Health Bureau	<a href="https://www.facebook.com/Amhara-Healthbureau-682065755146948/">https://www.facebook.com/Amhara-Healthbureau-682065755146948/</a>	6981	<a href="mailto:aphieoc@gmail.com">aphieoc@gmail.com</a>
Benishangul Gumuz Regional Health Bureau	<a href="https://www.facebook.com/Benishangul-Gumuz-Health-Bureau-1676282159265517/">https://www.facebook.com/Benishangul-Gumuz-Health-Bureau-1676282159265517/</a>	6016	<a href="mailto:bgpheoc@gmail.com">bgpheoc@gmail.com</a>
Gambela Regional Health Bureau	<a href="https://fb.me/gambellaregionhealthbureau">https://fb.me/gambellaregionhealthbureau</a>	6184	<a href="mailto:gambellapheoc@gmail.com">gambellapheoc@gmail.com</a>
Harari Regional Health Bureau	<a href="https://www.facebook.com/Harari-Regional-Health-Bureau-1464182130355007/">https://www.facebook.com/Harari-Regional-Health-Bureau-1464182130355007/</a>	6864	<a href="mailto:hrhbpheoc@gmail.com">hrhbpheoc@gmail.com</a>
Oromia Regional Health Bureau	<a href="https://www.facebook.com/OromiaHealth/">https://www.facebook.com/OromiaHealth/</a>	6955	<a href="mailto:oromiapheoc@gmail.com">oromiapheoc@gmail.com</a>
Somali Regional Health Bureau	<a href="https://www.facebook.com/srhbdotcom/">https://www.facebook.com/srhbdotcom/...</a>	6599	<a href="mailto:somalipheoc@gmail.com">somalipheoc@gmail.com</a>
SNNP Regional Health Bureau	<a href="https://www.facebook.com/snnprhealthbureau/?ref=br_rs">https://www.facebook.com/snnprhealthbureau/?ref=br_rs</a>	6929	<a href="mailto:snnppheoc@gmail.com">snnppheoc@gmail.com</a>
Tigray Regional Health Bureau	<a href="https://www.facebook.com/tigrayrhb/">https://www.facebook.com/tigrayrhb/</a>	6244	<a href="mailto:tigraypheoc@gmail.com">tigraypheoc@gmail.com</a>
Sidama PHEM		7794	<a href="mailto:sidaamapheoc@gmail.com">sidaamapheoc@gmail.com</a>
South West Ethiopia Regional Health Bureau			<a href="mailto:swepheoc@gmail.com">swepheoc@gmail.com</a>
Dire Dawa city Administration Health Bureau	<a href="https://www.facebook.com/Dire-Dawa-Administration-Health-Bureau-1371606266279524/">https://www.facebook.com/Dire-Dawa-Administration-Health-Bureau-1371606266279524/</a>	6407	<a href="mailto:ddpheoc@gmail.com">ddpheoc@gmail.com</a>
Addis Ababa City Administration Health Bureau	<a href="https://www.facebook.com/aahb.gov.et/">https://www.facebook.com/aahb.gov.et/</a>	6406	<a href="mailto:aapheoc@gmail.com">aapheoc@gmail.com</a>

### COVID-19 updates and sources of evidence:

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



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](http://www.ephi.gov.et)

**PREPARED BY**

Fantu Lombamo (MD, MPH in Field Epidemiology) – Planning Section, Situation Unit Leader  
Negusse Yohannes (PhD in Statistics) – Planning Section, Situation Unit Member

**REVIEWED BY**

Zewdu Assefa (MPH) – PHE Early Warning and Information System Management P/D/A/Director  
Ahimed Mohammed (MD, MPH) - Planning Section Chief  
Mikiyas Teferi (MD) - Deputy Incident Manager, Case Management Section Chief  
Aschalew Abayneh (RN, BSc, MPH) - DDG-EPHI, Incident Manager

**National COVID-19 Response Incident Management system, Emergency Operation Center  
FOR MORE INFORMATION and NOTIFICATION**

**Web:** [www.ephi.gov.et](http://www.ephi.gov.et)

**Follow us on Twitter:** @EPHIEthiopia

**Facebook:** <https://www.facebook.com/ephipage/>

**Telegram:** <https://t.me/EthPHI>

**Call:** 8335 (TOLL FREE LINE) or 011 276 5340

**Email:** [ephieoc@gmail.com](mailto:ephieoc@gmail.com) or [phemdatacenter@gmail.com](mailto:phemdatacenter@gmail.com)