



NATIONAL PUBLIC HEALTH EMERGENCY OPERATION CENTER (PHEOC), ETHIOPIA

COVID-19 PANDEMIC PREPAREDNESS AND RESPONSE IN ETHIOPIA

WEEKLY BULLETIN

Epi-Week- 09 (February 28 – March 06, 2022)

BULLETIN No. 97

I. Highlights

- A total of 33,965 laboratory samples were tested in the Epi-Week-09 bringing the total number of samples tested to 4,535,438.
- A total of 292 new confirmed COVID-19 cases and 16 COVID-19 related deaths were reported during the Epi-Week-09 bringing the total cases and death to 468,966 and 7,476 respectively.
- In this week the maximum number of daily cases in severe condition is 87 which is lower than the maximum number of daily cases in severe condition in the previous week (125).
- A total of 351,820 COVID-19 confirmed cases have been managed at Home Based Isolation and Care so far; 1,845 of these were enrolled in the Epi-Week-09.
- Vaccination campaign against COVID-19 has been being conducted throughout the country starting from February 07, 2022. To date, COVID-19 vaccine is administered for more than 20 million people during the campaign. In Ethiopia, a total of 26,178,996 doses of COVID-19 vaccine (either AstraZeneca, Sinopharm, Johnson and Johnson or Pfizer) are administered so far. Out of these, 2,185,363 doses are administered in this week. Among the vaccinated individuals 18,060,829 (69%) people are fully vaccinated.

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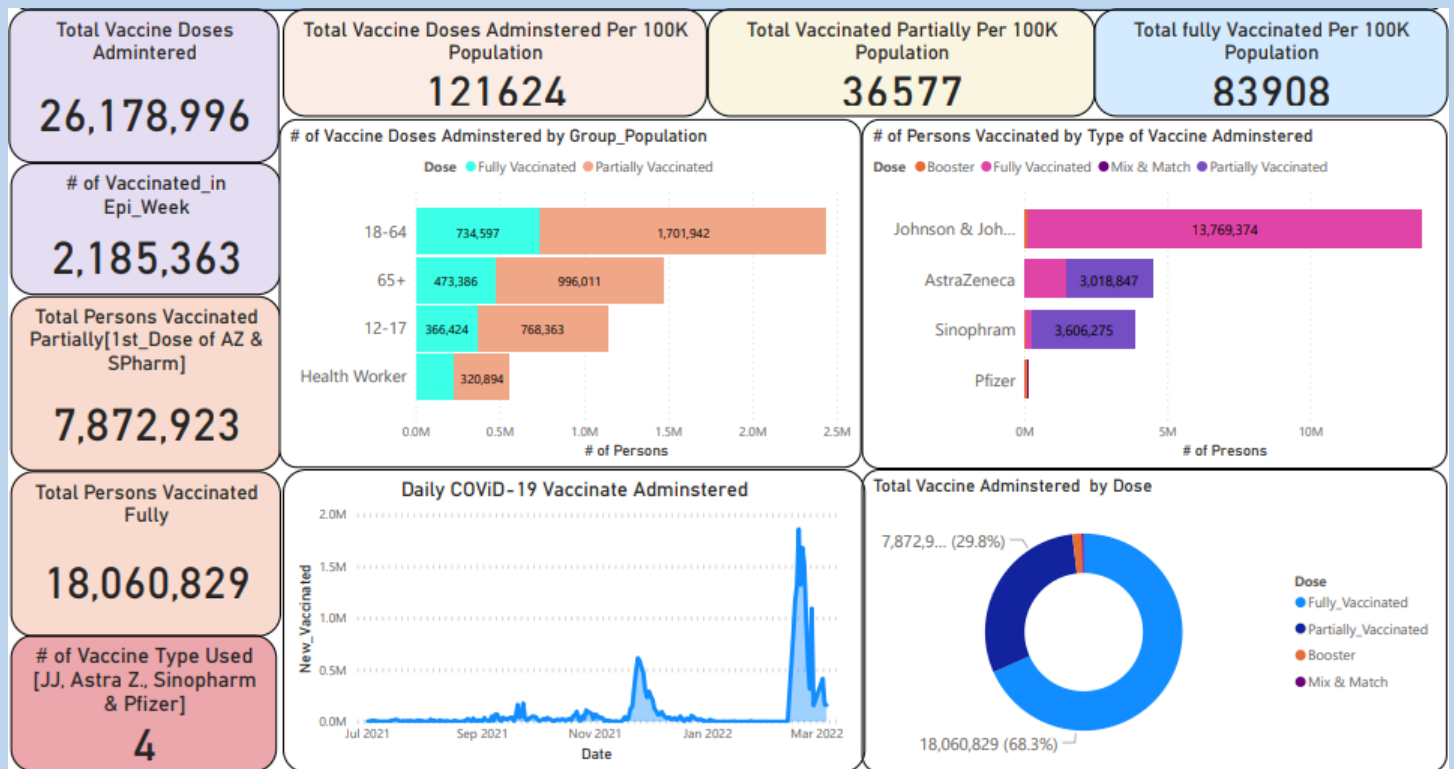


Figure 1: Summary of vaccination against COVID-19 in Ethiopia as of March 06, 2022

II. Epidemiological Situation

a. Global Situation

- Globally, during the week of February 28 to 06 March 2022, the number of new COVID-19 cases decreased by 29% and the number of new deaths decreased by 41% compared to the previous week.
- Across the six WHO regions, over 7 million new cases and over 35 000 new deaths were reported.
- As of March 06, 2022, a total of 414,743,637 COVID-19 cases and 5,623,143 deaths (CFR=1.36%) have occurred globally. Of the total cases and deaths reported since the beginning of the outbreak, 7,032,492 cases and 35,350 deaths were reported during the Epi-Week-09.
- The highest numbers of new cases in the last seven days were reported from the Republic of Korea (963,496 new cases), Germany (799,132 new cases), Vietnam (666,454 new cases), Russian Federation (483,908 new cases) and Brazil (263,513 new cases).
- In Africa, as of March 06, 2022, a total of 11,222,491 cases and 241,054 deaths were reported across the continent (CFR=2.15%). Of these, 39,006 cases and 782 deaths were reported during the Epi-Week-09.
- 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.

Total Number of COVID-19 Confirmed Cases Globally

414,743,637

New Confirmed Cases_of Epi_Week Globally

7,032,492

Total Number of Deaths with COVID-19 Globally

5,623,143

New COVID-19 Deaths Globally in the Epi_Week

35,350

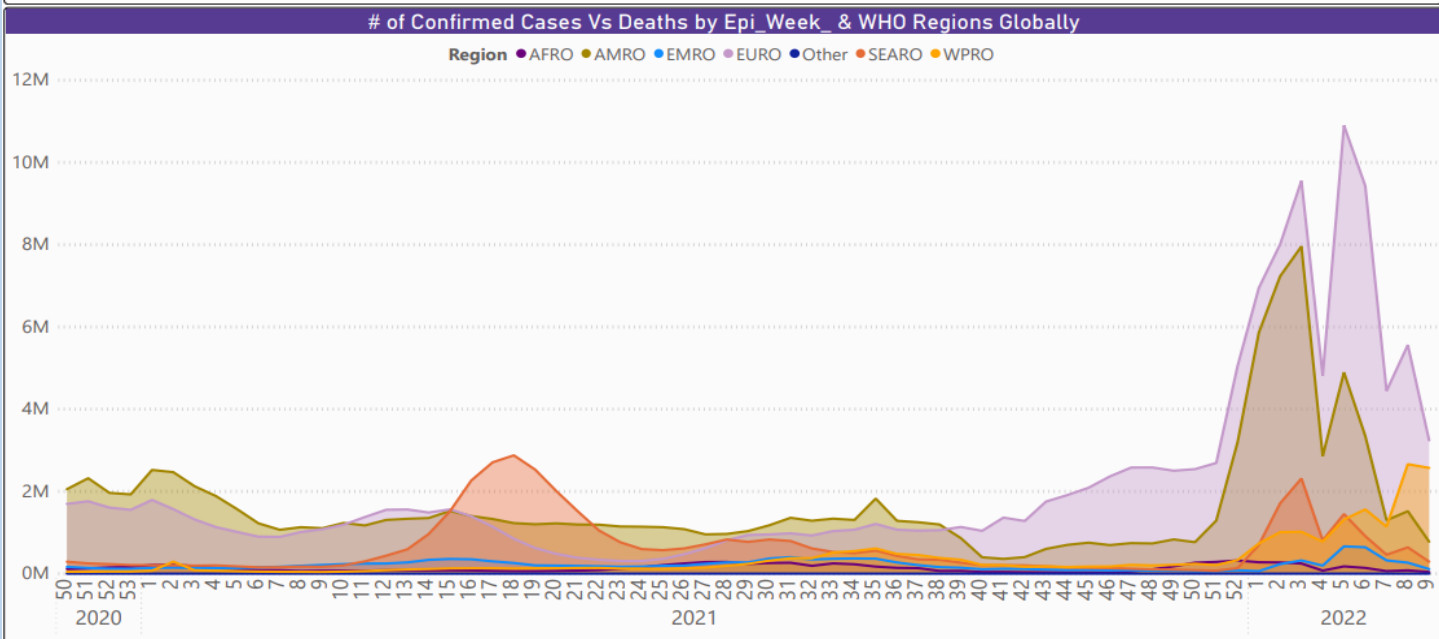
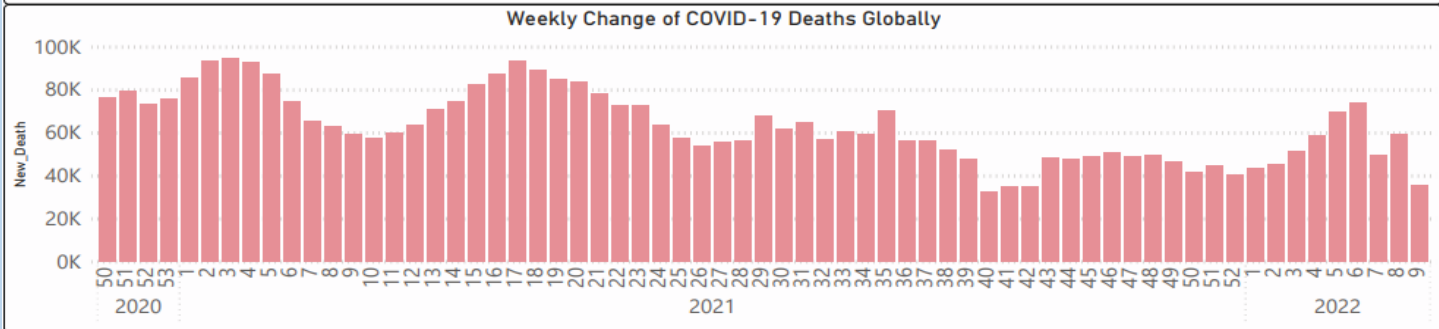
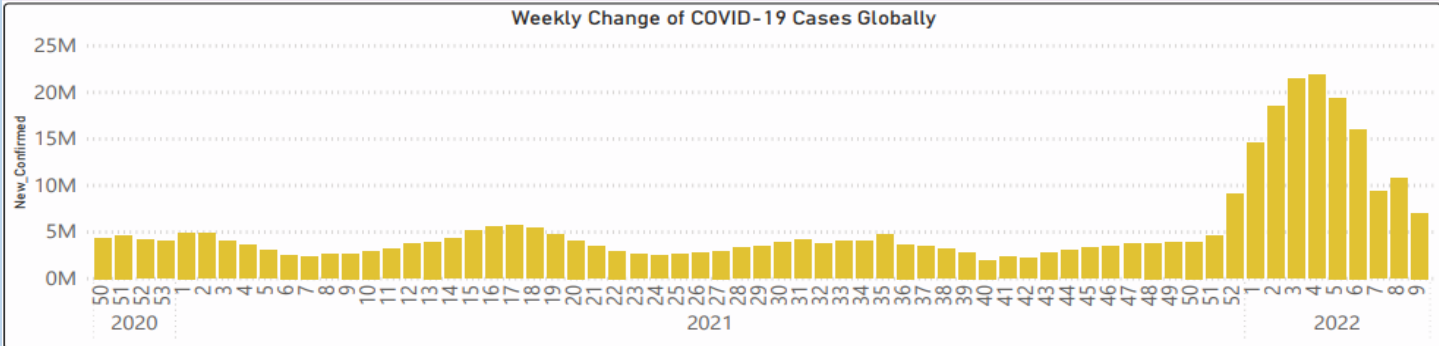
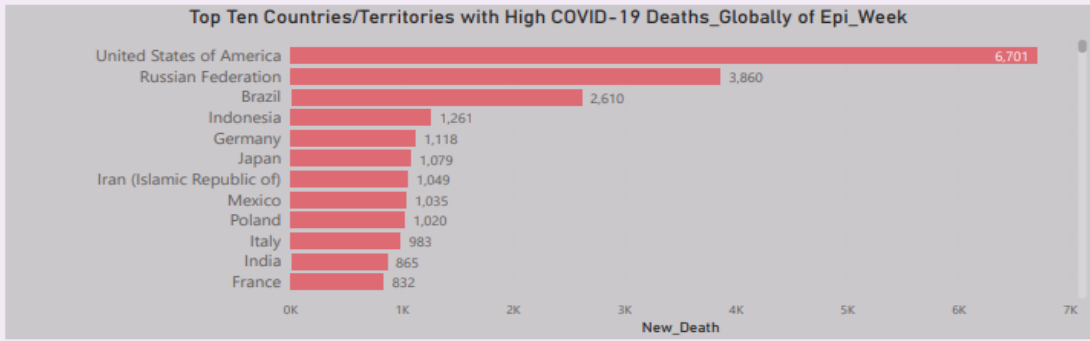
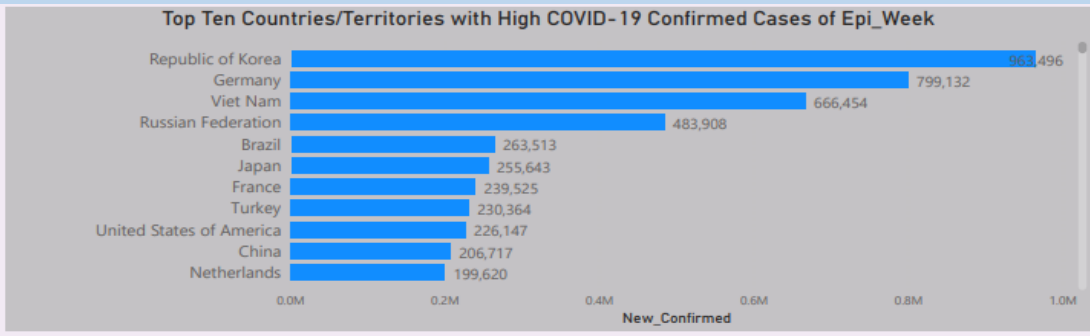


Figure 2: COVID-19 Global Situation Update as of March 06, 2022 (Source: WHO)

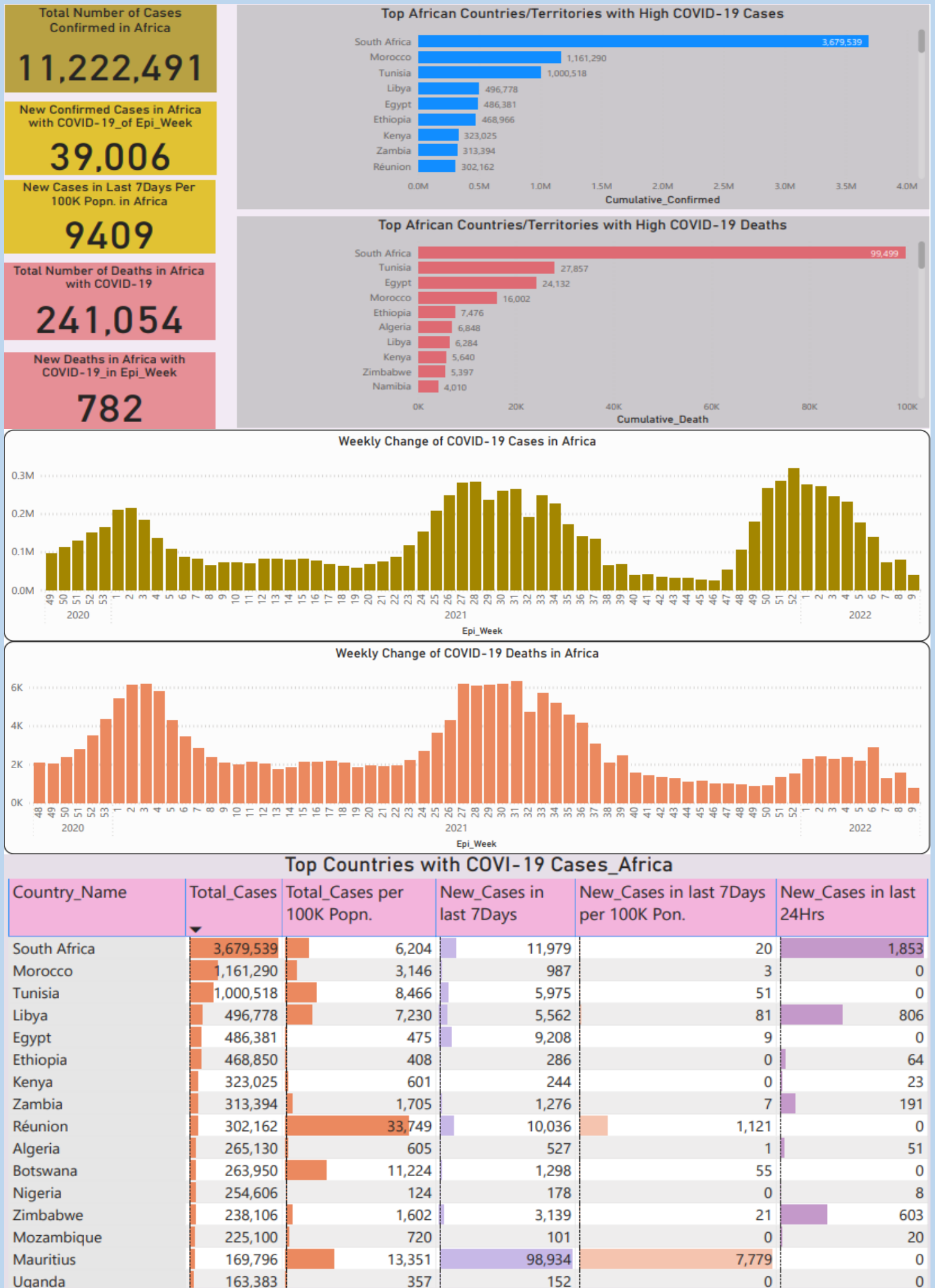


Figure 3: COVID-19 Situation Update in Africa as of March 06, 2022 (Source: WHO)

b. National COVID-19 situation:

- As of March 06, 2022, a total of 468,966 confirmed COVID-19 cases and 7,476 deaths were recorded in the country with a case fatality rate of 1.59%.
- Two-hundred-ninety-two (292) newly confirmed COVID-19 cases and 16 COVID-19 related deaths were reported during the Epi-Week-09.
- In this week, there is 11% decrease in the number of COVID-19 confirmed cases and 27% 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-09 of 2022

Regions	New_Tested	New_Case	New_HF_Admission	New_Deaths	Positivity Rate
Addis Ababa	20,632	201	5	5	0.9
SNNPR	4,207	14	4	1	0.1
Oromia	3,730	40	117	4	1.1
Afar	970	16	0	0	1.4
Amhara	970	2	11	6	0.0
Dire Dawa	944	2	0	0	0.1
Harari	668	4	0	0	0.7
Sidama	609	8	0	0	1.3
Somali	559	4	0	0	0.8
Benishangul G	514	0	0	0	0.0
SWEP	148	1	0	0	1.5
Gambella	14	0	0	0	0.0
Tigray	0	0	0	0	
Total	33,965	292	137	16	0.7

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

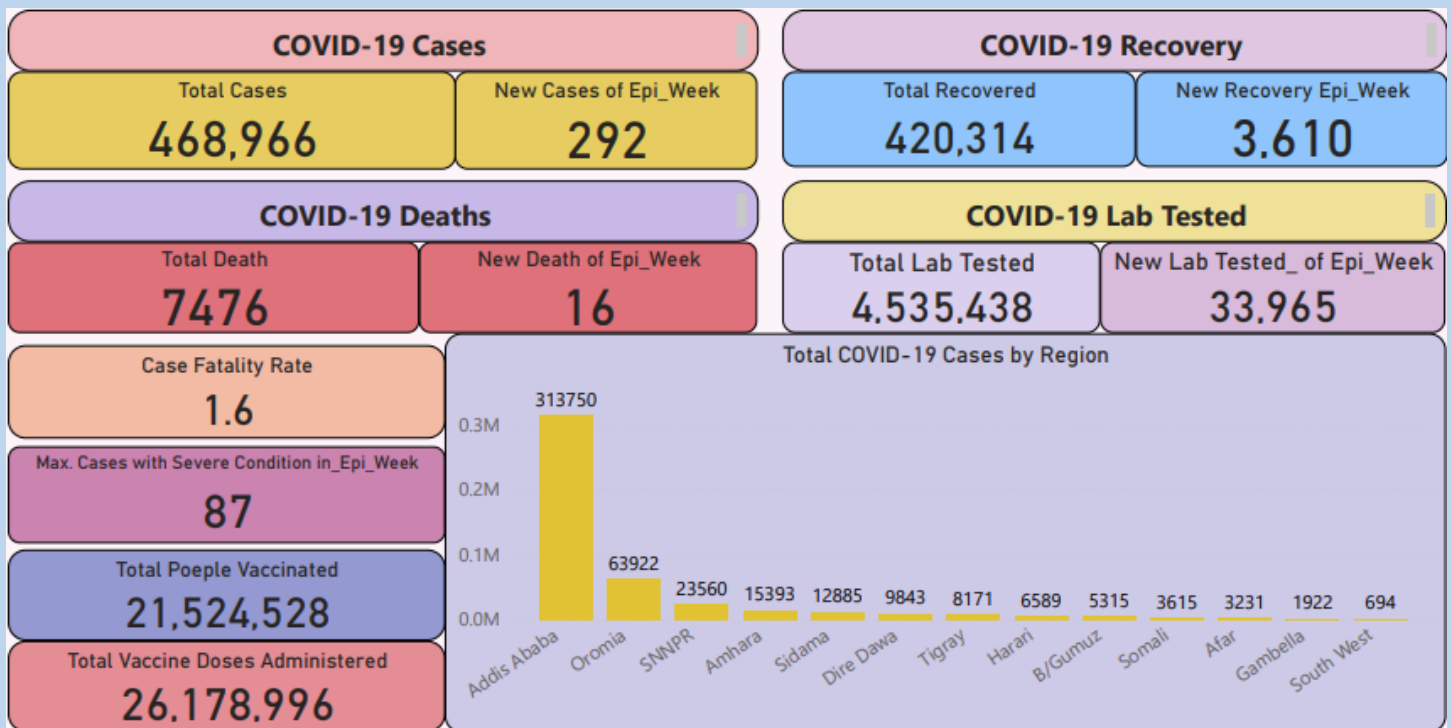


Figure 4: Summary of the COVID-19 situation in Ethiopia as of March 06, 2022, Ethiopia

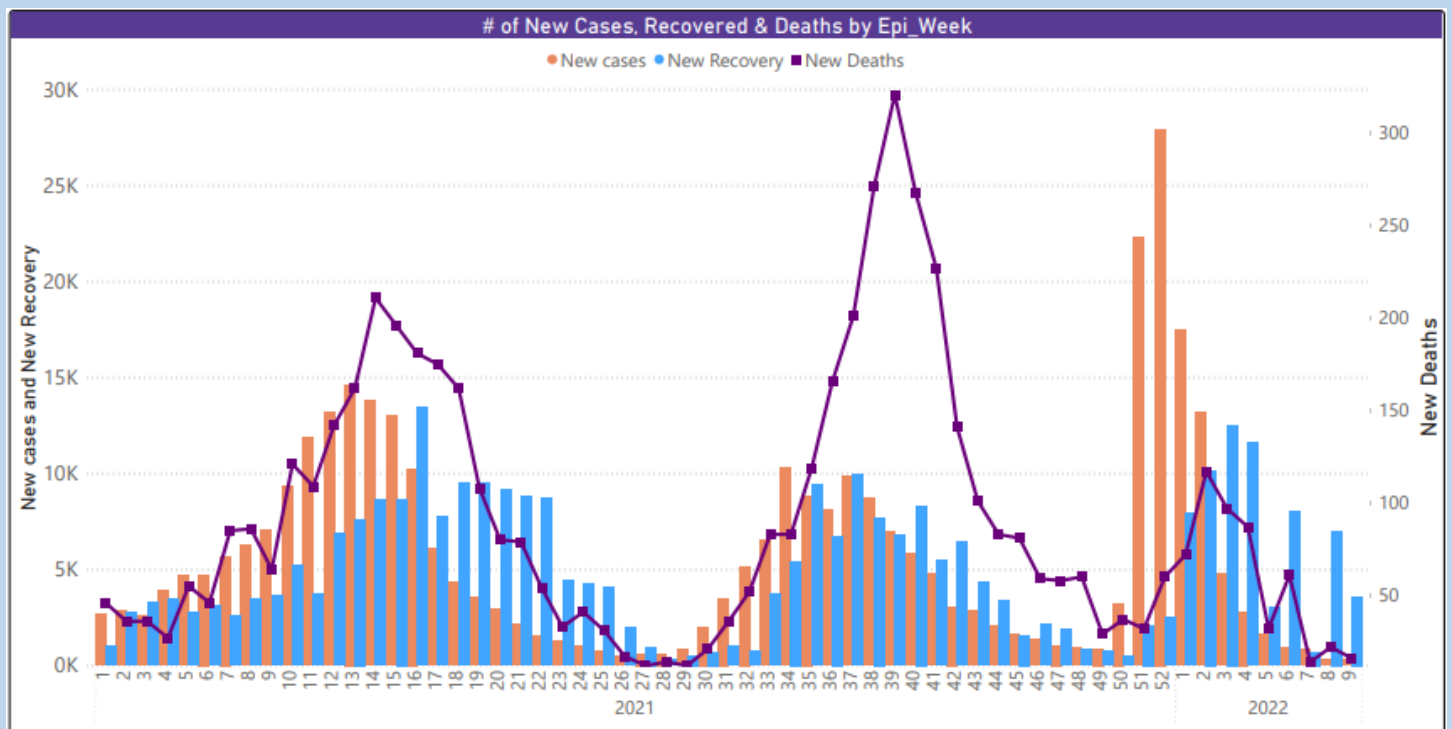


Figure 5: COVID-19 confirmed cases, recovery and death by Epi-Week as of March 06, 2022, Ethiopia

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.

Total Tested /1 M Population 39397	Total Tests Last 7 Days 33965	Total Cases /1 M Population 4074	Cummulative Positivity Rate 10.3	Total Recovered Last 7 Days 3610	Total Deaths /1 M Population 65
Tested /1 M Population_Epi_Week 296	# of Tests done to get One (1) Case_in the Epi_Week 95	Total Cases Confirmed Last 7 Days 292	Positivity Rate_Epi_Week 0.9	% of Increase or Decrease of Cases_Epi_Week -11.2	Total Deaths Last 7 Days 16

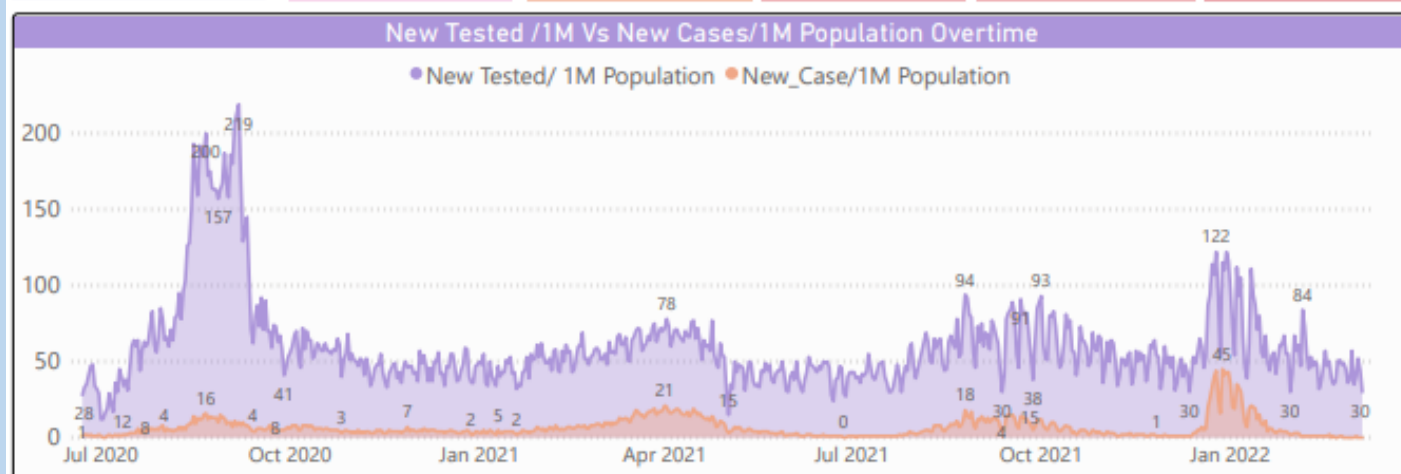


Figure 6: Summary of COVID-19 situation in Ethiopia as of March 06, 2022.

III. Laboratory related activities

- As of 06 March 2022, a total of 4,535,438 samples have been tested for COVID-19 by laboratories across the country.
- 33,965 laboratory tests were processed during the Epi-Week-09 which is a 6.53% decrease compared to number of tests performed in the previous week.
- The laboratory test positivity rate for the Epi-Week-09 is 0.86%, which is lower than that of the preceding week (0.91%).
- Afar, South West Peoples, Sidama, Oromia and Somali regional states and Addis Ababa city administration 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 813,404 laboratory tests are performed by Ag-RDT among which 7,361 is performed in the Epi-week-09 (figure 7 below).

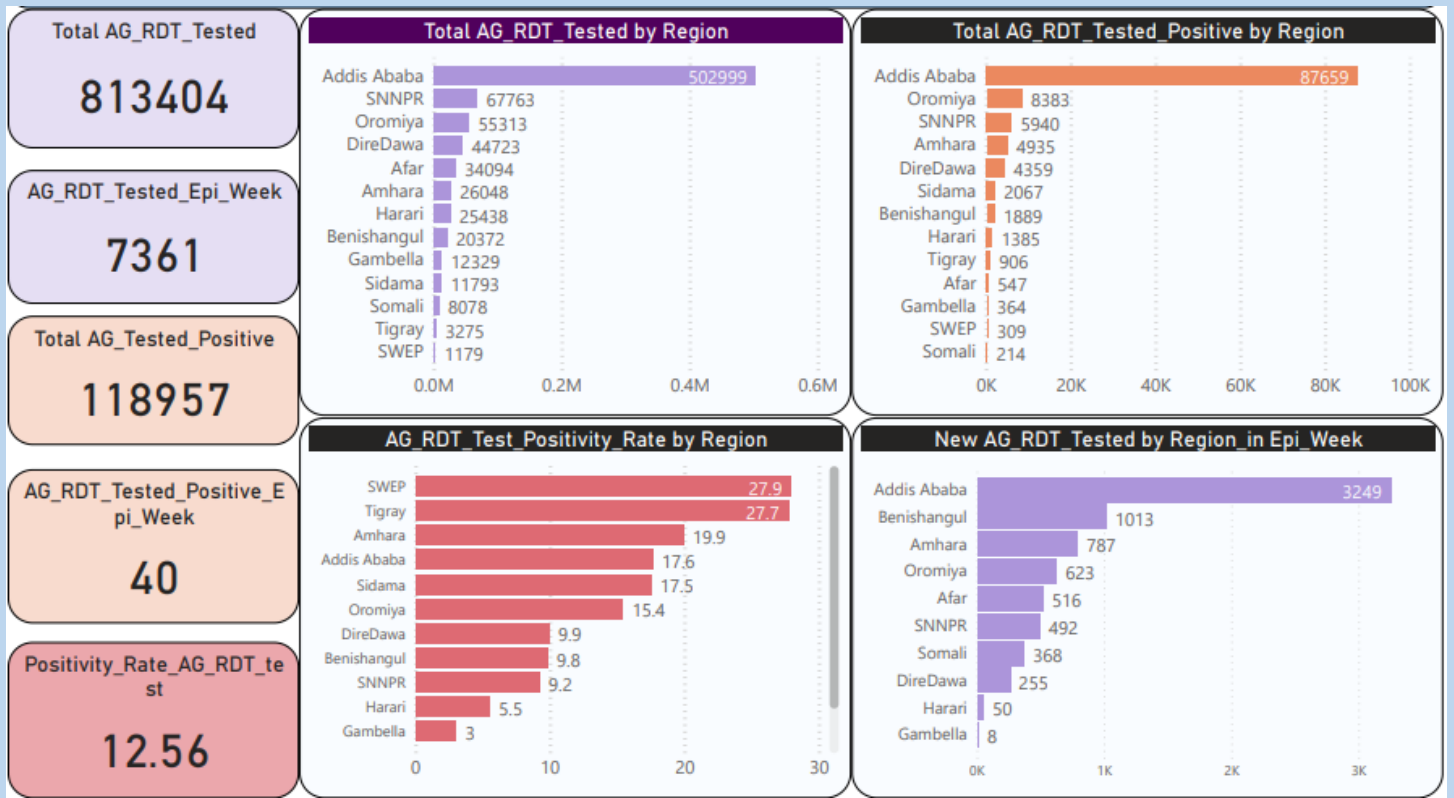
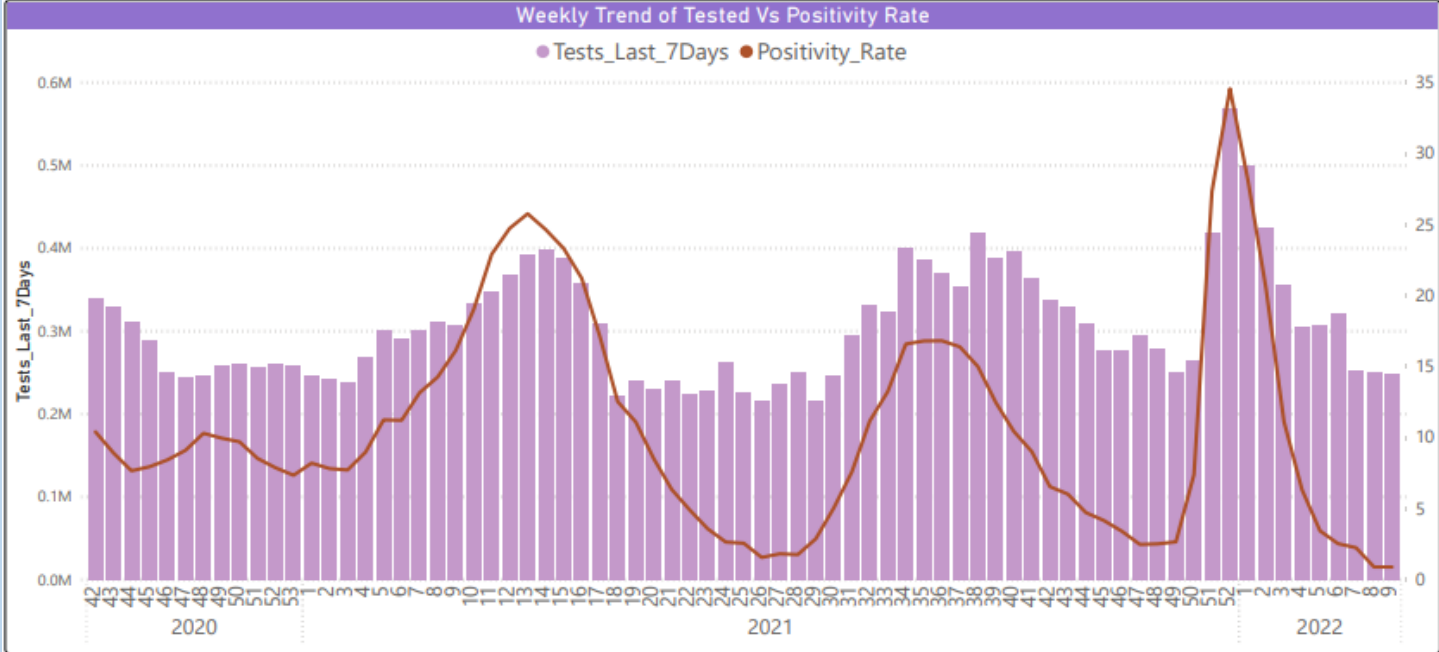
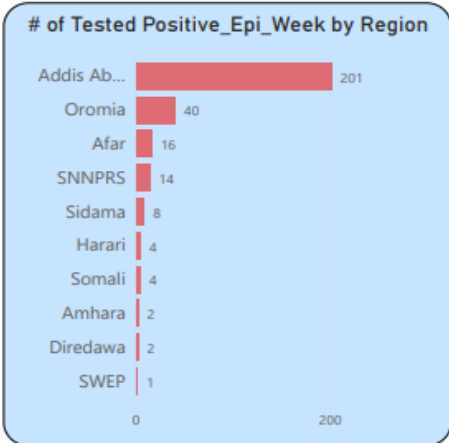
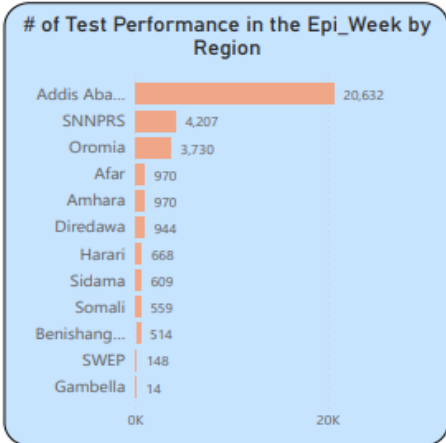
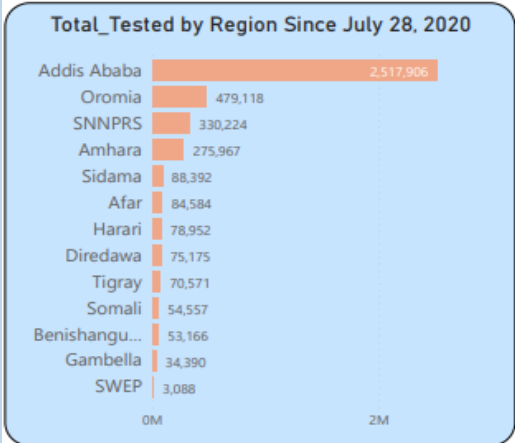
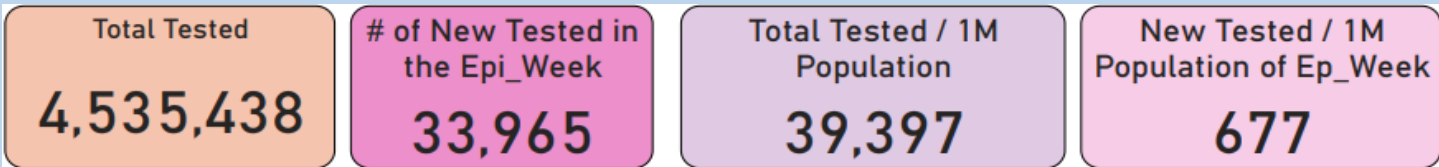


Figure 7: Update on laboratory tests performed by Ag-RDT, as of March 06, 2022



Region/City Admn	New_Testeds	Tested_Positive	New_Deaths	Positivity_Rate
Addis Ababa	20,632	201	5	1.0
SNNPRS	4,207	14	0	0.3
Oromia	3,730	40	4	1.2
Afar	970	16	0	1.6
Amhara	970	2	7	0.1
Diredawa	944	2	0	0.2
Harari	668	4	0	0.7
Sidama	609	8	0	1.3
Somali	559	4	0	1.0
Benishangul Gumuz	514	0	0	0.0
SWEP	148	1	0	1.4
Gambella	14	0	0	0.0
Tigray	0	0	0	0.0
Total	33,965	292	16	0.8

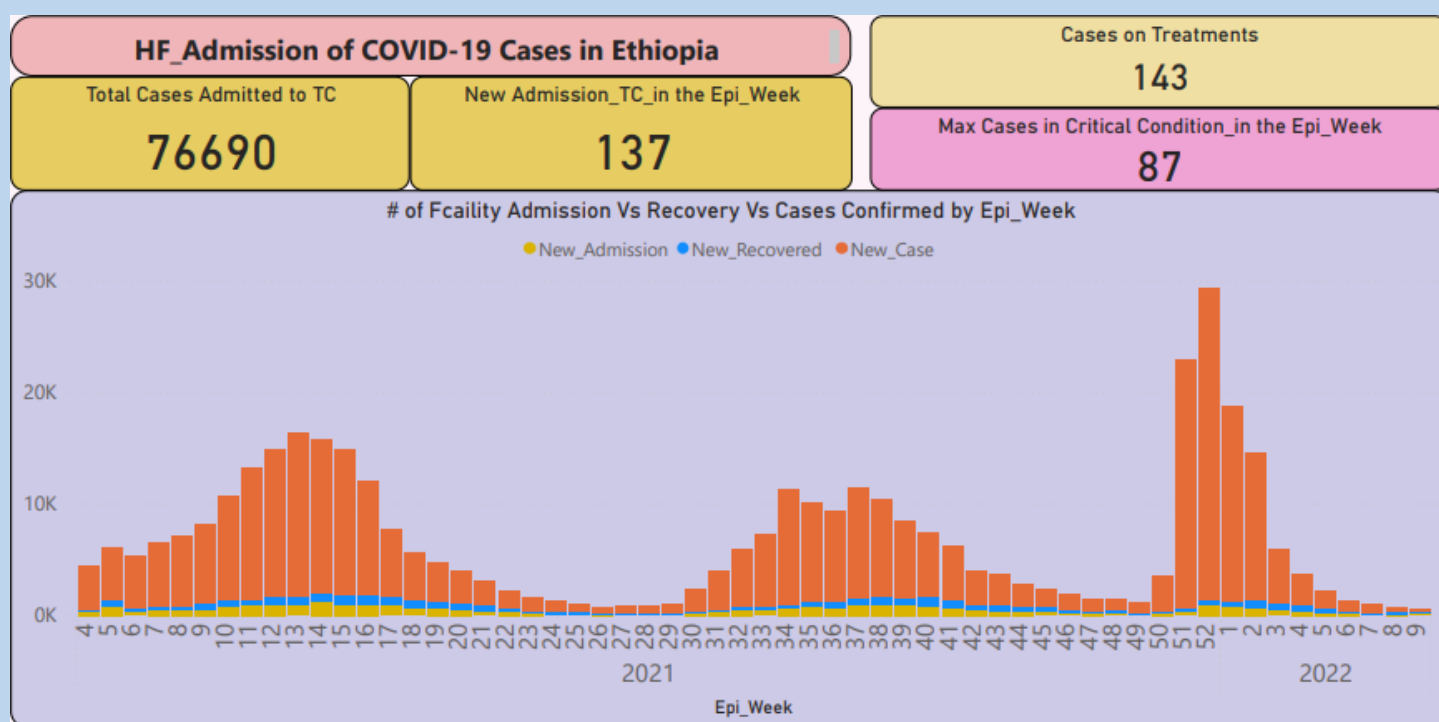
***** Positivity Rate is average of Regional Distn of Rates

Figure 8: Summary of COVID-19 laboratory testing as of March 06, 2022, Ethiopia.

IV. Case Management and Facility Readiness

a. COVID-19 treatment center

- There were total of 3,610 newly recovered COVID-19 cases during the Epi-Week-09, bringing the total number of recovered cases to 420,314 (both from COVID-19 treatment center and from HBIC). This brings the overall recovery rate to 90%.
- In this week the maximum number of daily cases in severe condition is 87 which is lower than the maximum number of daily cases in severe condition in the previous week (125).



HF=Health Facilities TC=Treatment Center

Figure 9: Summary of COVID-19 cases in Health Facilities/Treatment centers, as of March 06, 2022.

Table 2: Summary of COVID-19 cases at treatment centers as of March 06, 2022

Regions	Total_Case	New_Case	Total_Admission	New_Admission	Total_Death	Total_Recovered	On_Treatment	Critical_Case
Addis Ababa	313750	29	38554	1	4070	32717	32	31
Oromia	63922	2	11525	0	1132	10309	80	21
SNNPR	23560	2	5011	1	289	4718	4	2
Amhara	15393	1	5737	0	484	5227	23	15
Sidama	12885	0	3741	0	231	3445	0	0
Dire Dawa	9843	0	1539	0	144	1395	0	0
Tigray	8171	0	5290	0	59	5224	0	0
Harari	6589	2	1476	0	197	1275	0	0
Benishangul G	5315	0	1043	0	33	1008	4	0
Somali	3615	0	782	0	115	664	0	0
Afar	3231	0	826	0	5	812	0	0
Gambella	1922	0	682	0	8	674	0	0
SWEP	694	0	484	0	15	469	0	0

b. Home Based Isolation and Care (HBIC):

- So far, 351,820 COVID-19 confirmed cases have been on HBIC. Of them 351,381 (99%) have recovered and 50 (0.014%) died.
- Of these, 1,845 cases have been enrolled to HBIC and 5,473 cases have recovered in the Epi-Week-09.
- As of March 06, 2022, there are 1,491 cases on HBIC.
- So far, 2,426 (none in the Epi-week-09) of the cases have been transferred from treatment centers to HBIC after improvement.
- So far, 1,324 (three in the Epi-week-09) 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 10: COVID-19 situation update as of March 06, 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.

VII. 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.
- Enhancing performance and follow up on Antigen Rapid Diagnostic Test Kits from regional COVID-19 testing sites.

VIII. 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 group 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/UCvTzeY-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
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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