



NATIONAL PUBLIC HEALTH EMERGENCY OPERATION CENTER (PHEOC), ETHIOPIA

COVID-19 PANDEMIC PREPAREDNESS AND RESPONSE IN ETHIOPIA

WEEKLY BULLETIN

Epi-Week- 10 (March 07 – 13, 2022)

BULLETIN №: 98

I. Highlights

- A total of 31,872 laboratory samples were tested in the Epi-Week-10 bringing the total number of samples tested to 4,567,310.
- A total of 218 new confirmed COVID-19 cases and 10 COVID-19 related deaths were reported during the Epi-Week-10 bringing the total cases and death to 469,184 and 7,486 respectively.
- In this week the maximum number of daily cases in severe condition is 66 which is lower than the maximum number of daily cases in severe condition in the previous week (87).
- A total of 352,278 COVID-19 confirmed cases have been managed at Home Based Isolation and Care so far; 458 of these were enrolled in the Epi-Week-10.
- Vaccination campaign against COVID-19 has been being conducted throughout the country starting from February 07, 2022. In Ethiopia, a total of 28,705,008 doses of COVID-19 vaccine (either AstraZeneca, Sinopharm, Johnson and Johnson or Pfizer) are administered so far. Out of these, 2,526,012 doses are administered in this week. Among the vaccinated individuals 20,481,066 (71%) people are fully vaccinated.

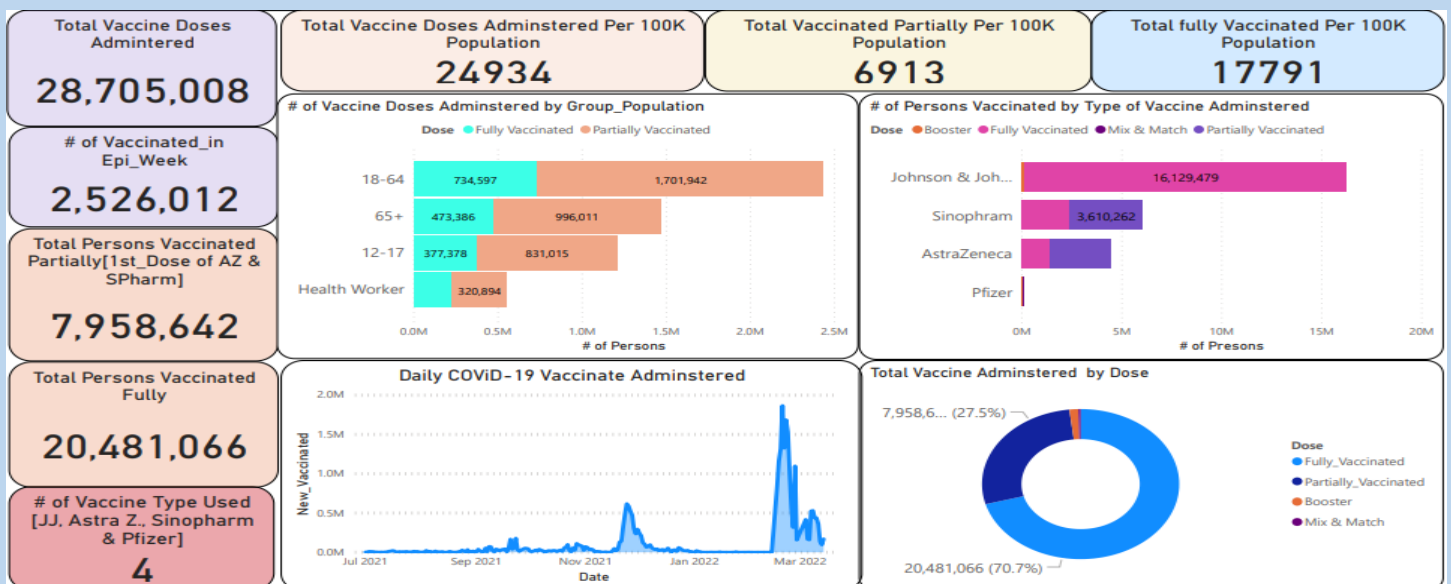


Figure 1: Summary of vaccination against COVID-19 in Ethiopia as of March 13, 2022

II. Epidemiological Situation

a. Global Situation

- After a consistent decrease in the number of new COVID-19 cases reported globally since the end of January 2022, during the week of 7 through 13 March 2022, the number of new weekly cases has increased by 8% as compared to the previous week. Across the six WHO regions, over 11 million new cases and just over 43,000 new deaths were reported. As of 13 March 2022, over 455 million confirmed cases and over 6 million deaths have been reported globally.
- At the regional level, the Western Pacific Region, the African Region and the European Region reported an increase in new weekly cases of 29%, 12% and 2%, respectively, as compared with the previous week; while a decrease has been reported by the Eastern Mediterranean Region (-24%), the South-East Asia Region (-21%) and the Region of the Americas (-20%).
- The number of new weekly deaths decreased globally by 17%. At the regional level, the Western Pacific Region reported an increase in new weekly deaths (+12%), while decreases were reported by the Eastern Mediterranean Region (-49%), the African Region (-41%), Europe Region (-23%), the Region of the Americas and South-East Asia Region (both -15%).

Total Number of COVID-19 Confirmed Cases Globally

429,139,174

New Confirmed Cases_of Epi_Week Globally

11,252,339

Total Number of Deaths with COVID-19 Globally

5,681,364

New COVID-19 Deaths Globally in the Epi_Week

43,260

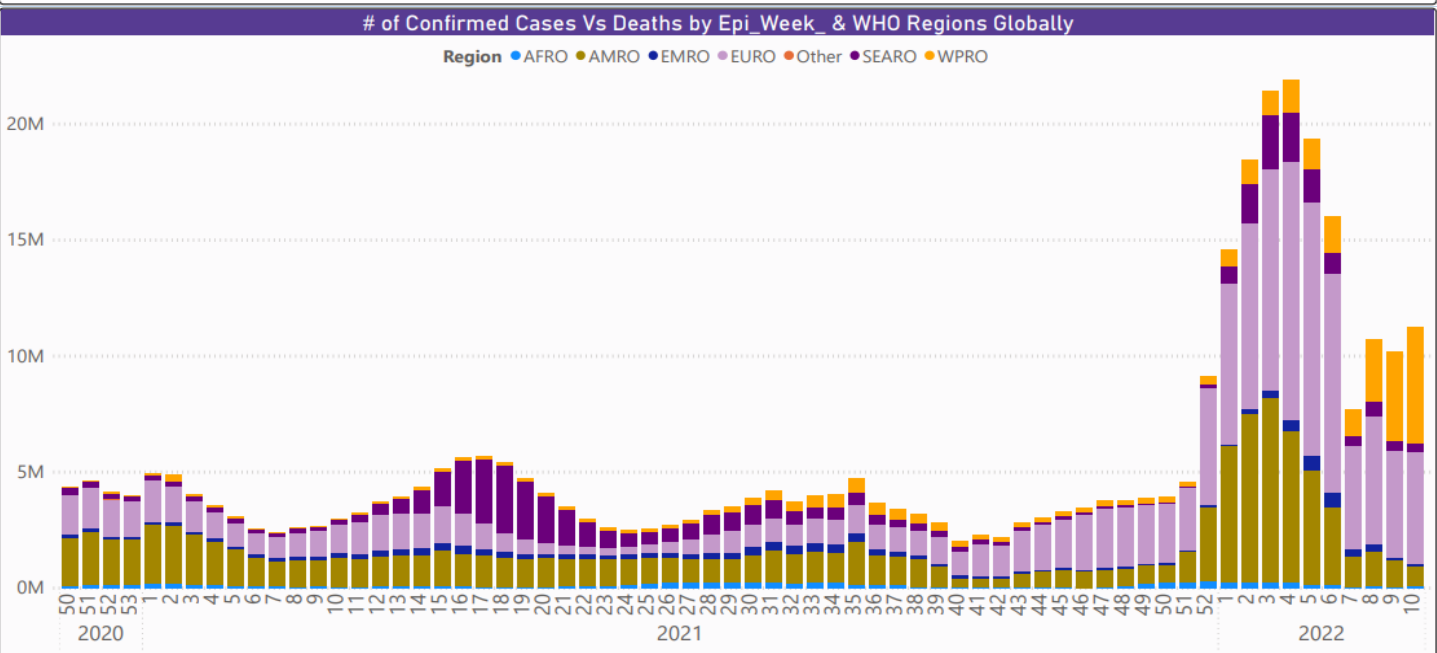
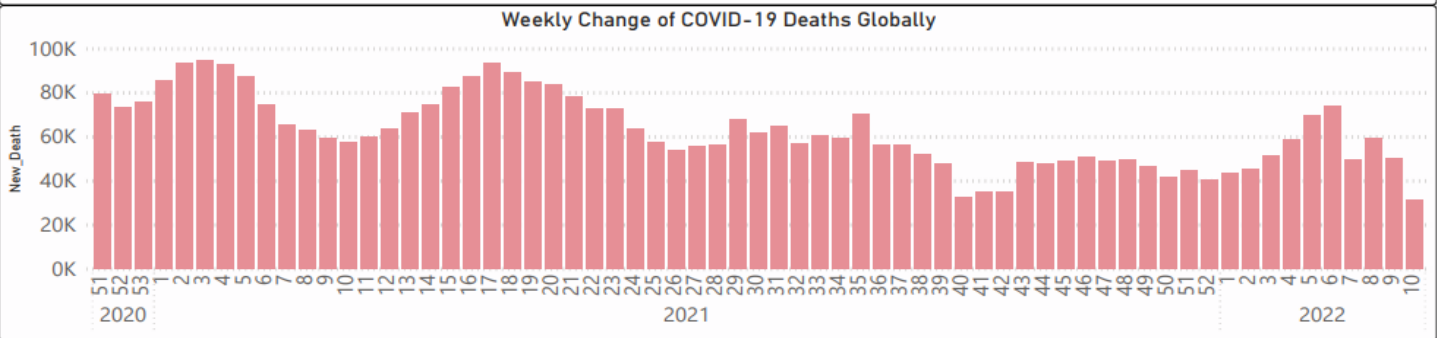
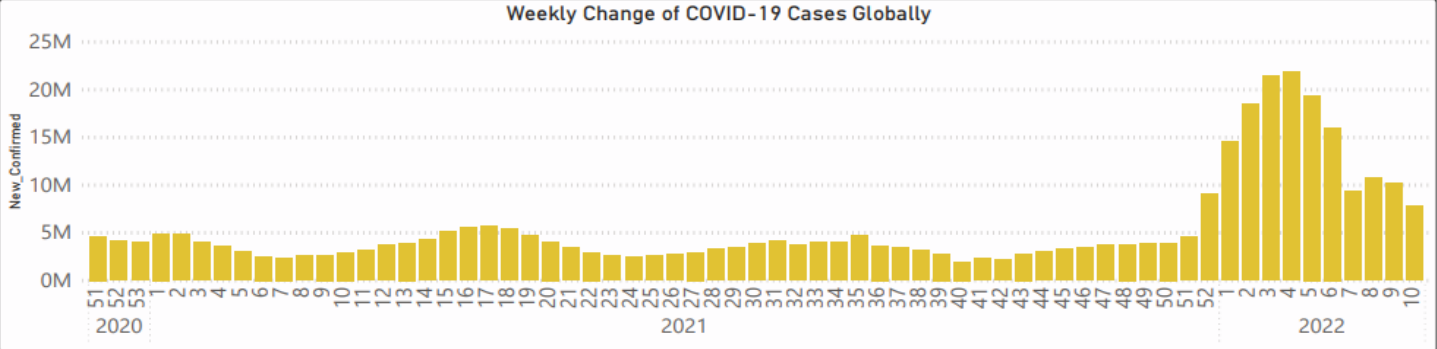
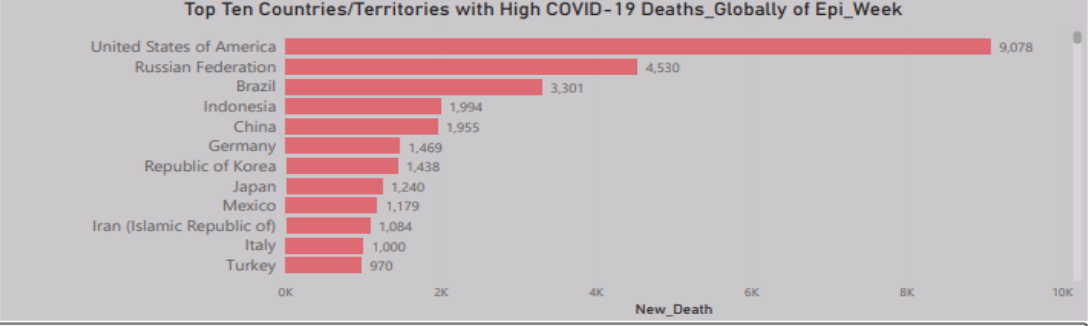
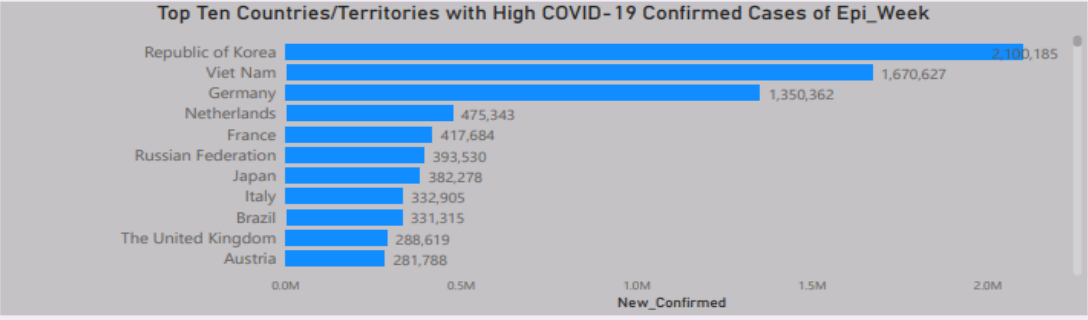


Figure 2: COVID-19 Global Situation Update as of March 13, 2022 (Source: WHO)

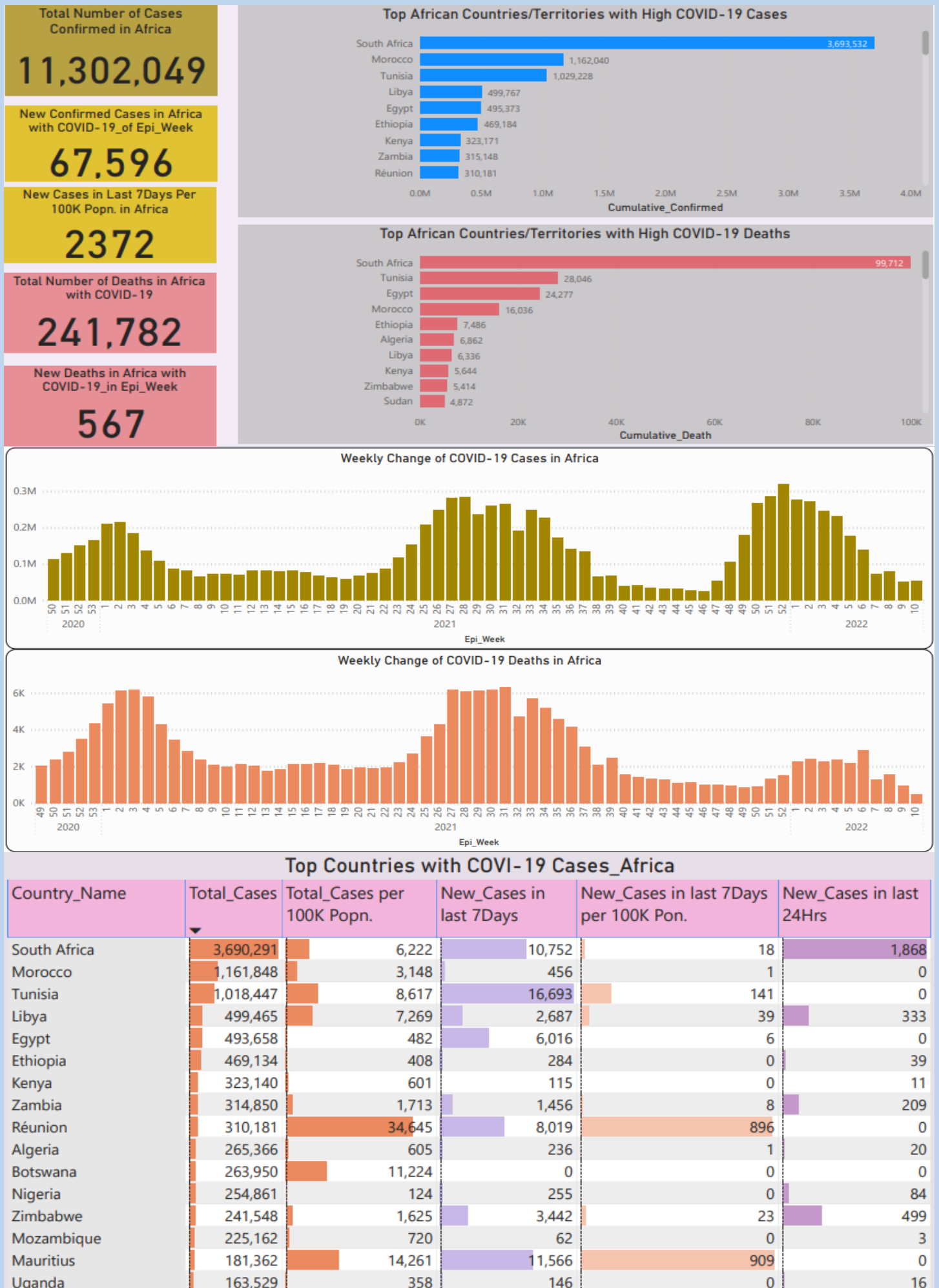


Figure 3: COVID-19 Situation Update in Africa as of March 13, 2022 (Source: WHO)

b. National COVID-19 situation:

- As of March 13, 2022, a total of 469,184 confirmed COVID-19 cases and 7,486 deaths were recorded in the country with a case fatality rate of 1.60%.
- Two-hundred-eighteen (218) newly confirmed COVID-19 cases and 10 COVID-19 related deaths were reported during the Epi-Week-10.
- In this week, there is 25% decrease in the number of COVID-19 confirmed cases and 37% 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-10 of 2022

Regions	New_Testeds	New_Case	New_HF_Admission	New_Deaths	Positivity Rate
Addis Ababa	20,062	174	13	5	0.7
SNNPR	3,604	8	1	0	0.0
Oromia	1,771	9	17	2	0.4
Benishangul G	1,390	6	0	0	0.5
Afar	959	2	0	0	0.3
Dire Dawa	951	2	2	0	0.0
Somali	807	11	0	0	1.3
Sidama	665	2	0	0	0.3
Harari	588	0	0	0	0.0
Amhara	491	0	5	3	0.0
SWEP	330	0	0	0	0.0
Gambella	254	4	0	0	0.6
Tigray	0	0	0	0	
Total	31,872	218	38	10	0.3

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

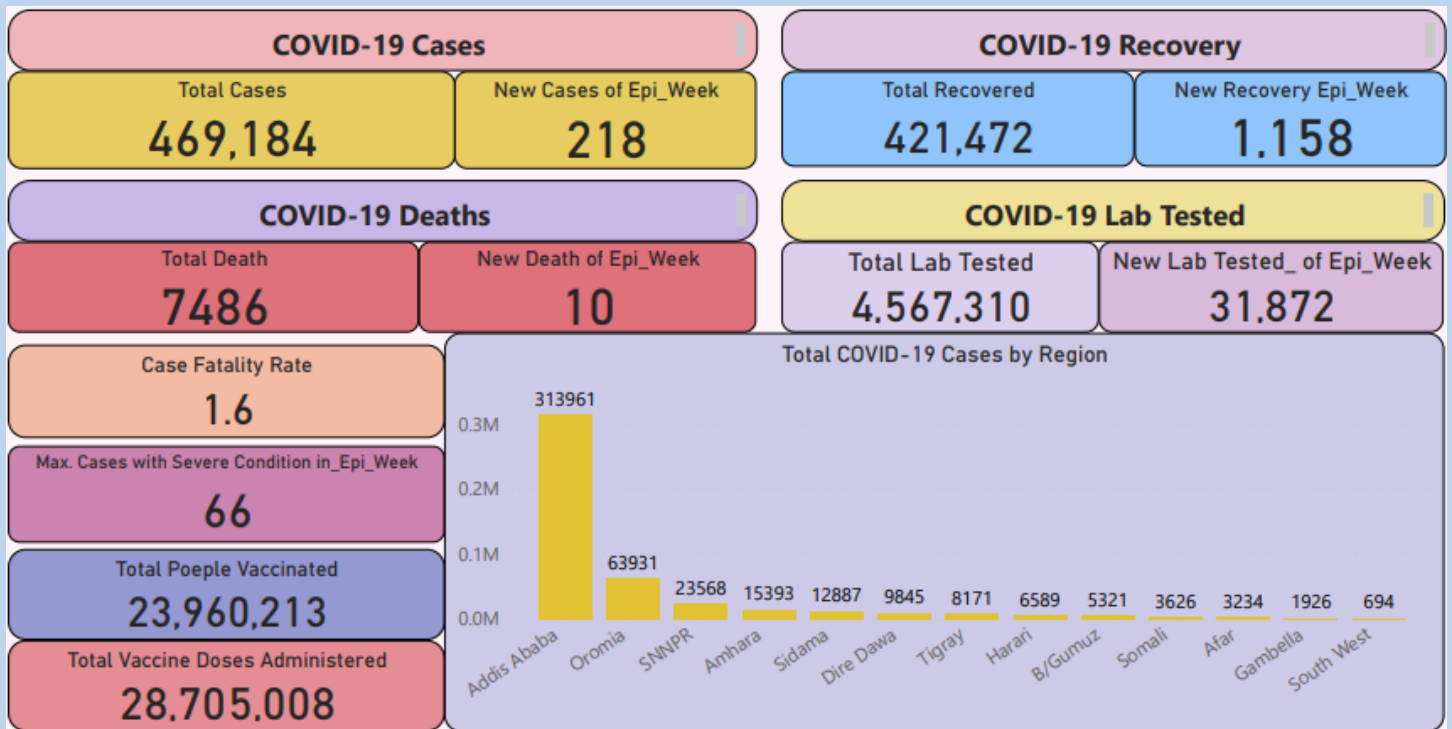


Figure 4: Summary of the COVID-19 situation in Ethiopia as of March 13, 2022, Ethiopia

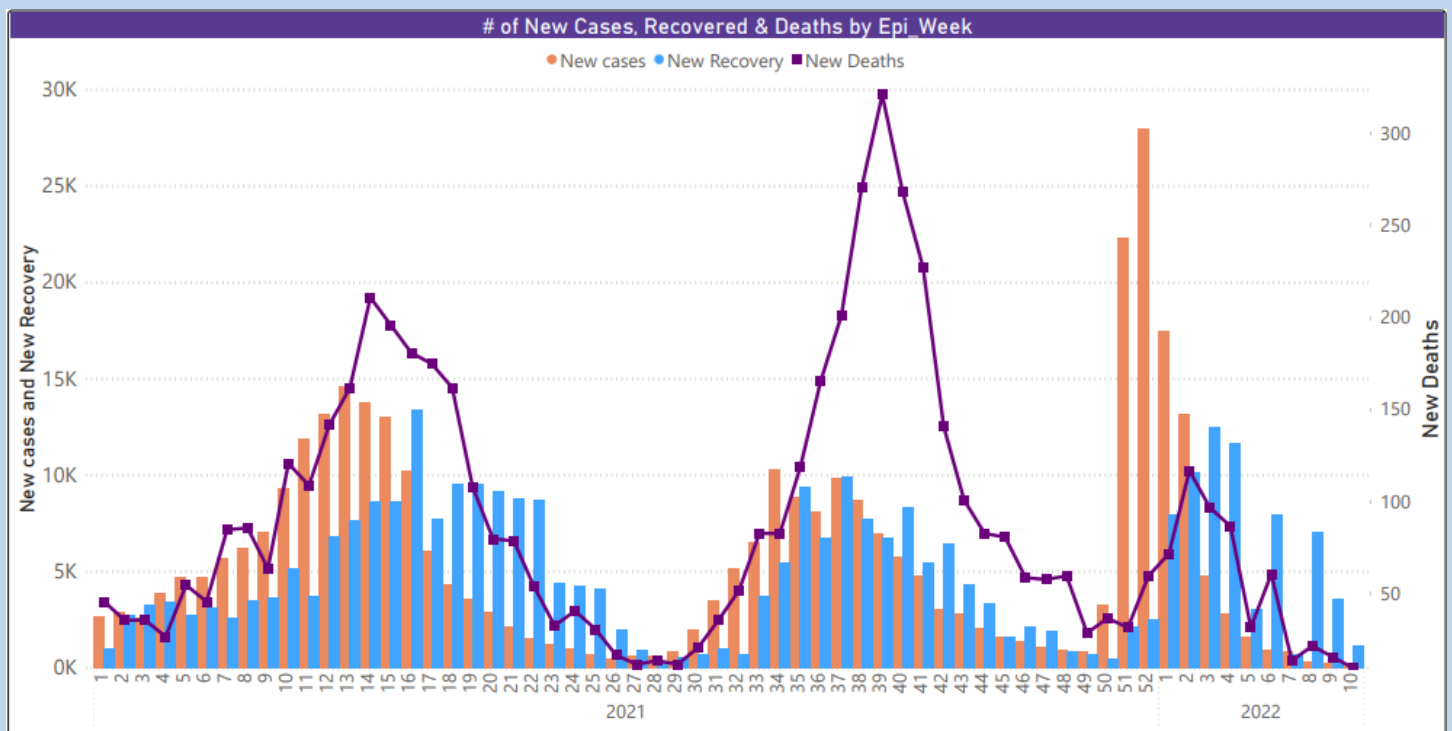


Figure 5: COVID-19 confirmed cases, recovery and death by Epi-Week as of March 13, 2022, Ethiopia

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 39674	Total Tests Last 7 Days 31872	Total Cases /1 M Population 4076	Cumulative Positivity Rate 10.3	Total Recovered Last 7 Days 1158	Total Deaths /1 M Population 65
Tested /1 M Population_Epi_Week 278	# of Tests done to get One (1) Case_in the Epi_Week 212	Total Cases Confirmed Last 7 Days 218	Positivity Rate_Epi_Week 0.7	% of Increase or Decrease of Cases_Epi_Week -25.3	Total Deaths Last 7 Days 10

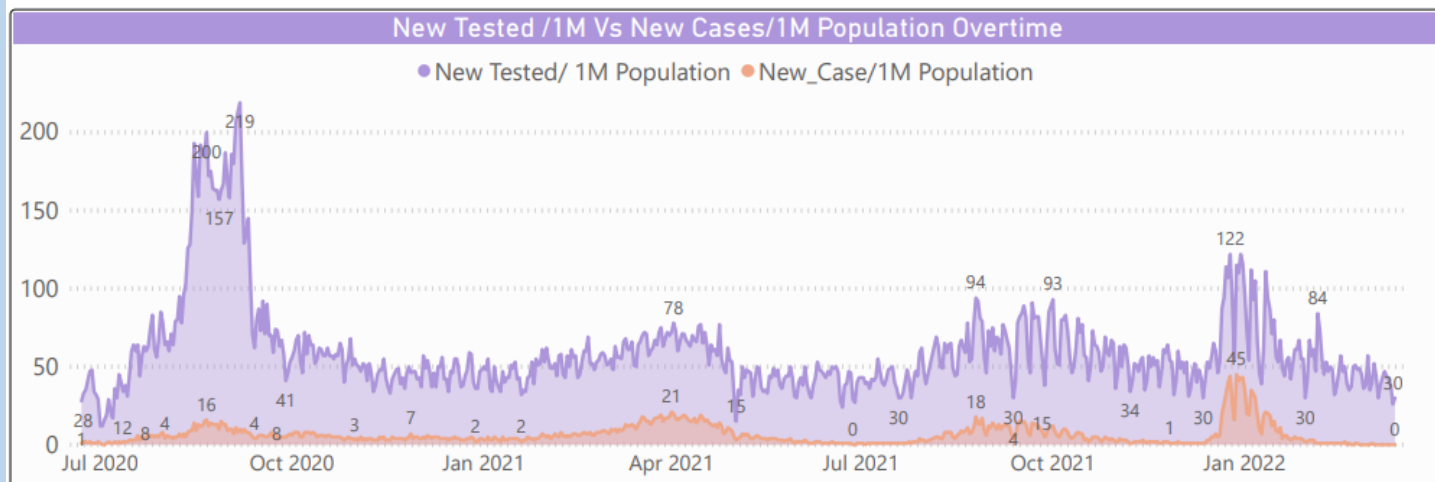


Figure 6: Summary of COVID-19 situation in Ethiopia as of March 13, 2022.

III. Laboratory related activities

- As of 13 March 2022, a total of 4,567,310 samples have been tested for COVID-19 by laboratories across the country.
- 31,872 laboratory tests were processed during the Epi-Week-10 which is a 6% decrease compared to number of tests performed in the previous week.
- The laboratory test positivity rate for the Epi-Week-10 is 0.68%, which is lower than that of the preceding week (0.86%).
- Somali, Gambella, Benishangul Gumuz and Oromia 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 831,033 laboratory tests are performed by Ag-RDT among which 9,006 is performed in the Epi-week-10 (figure 7 below).

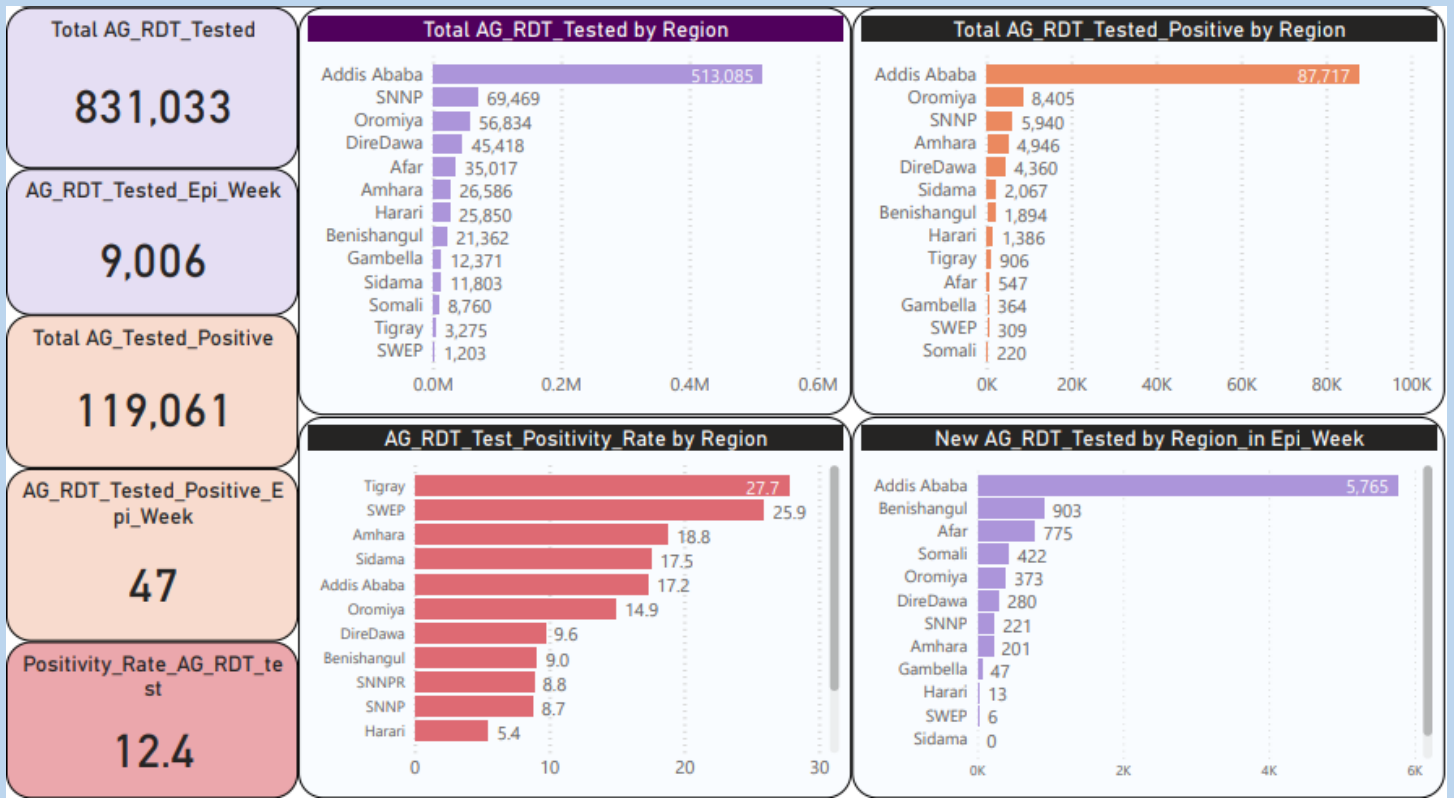
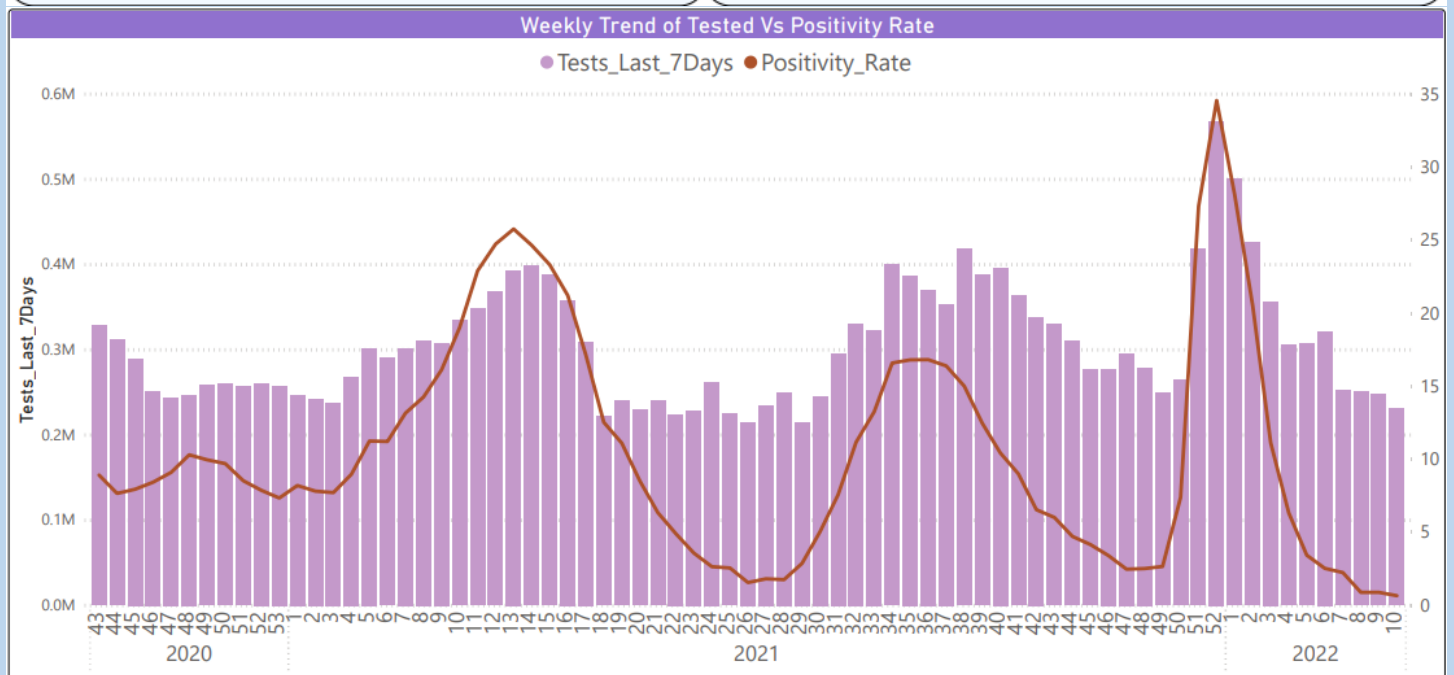
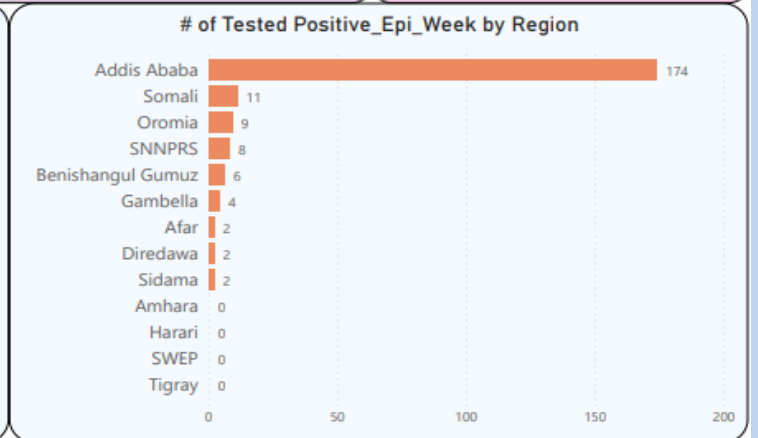
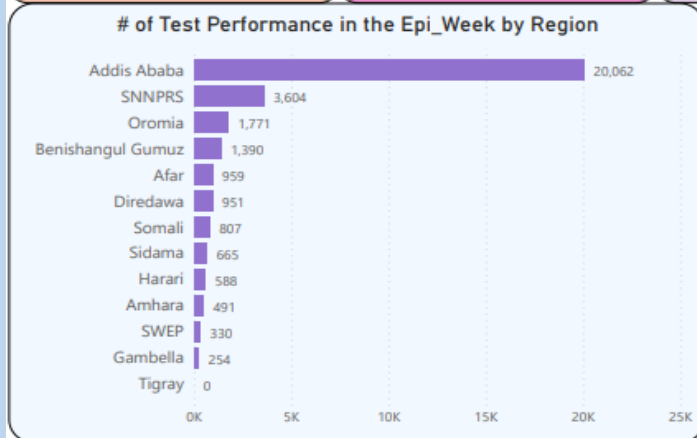
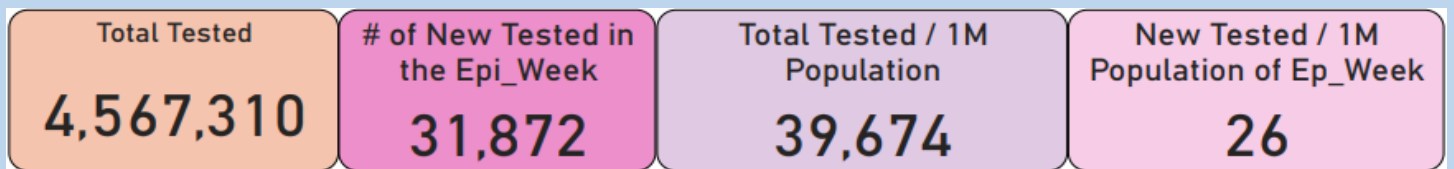


Figure 7: Update on laboratory tests performed by Ag-RDT, as of March 13, 2022



Region/City Admn	New Tested	New Case	New Death	Positivity Rate
Addis Ababa	24,856	244	6	1.00
Afar	1,222	3	0	0.26
Amhara	640	0	3	0.00
Benishangul Gumuz	1,876	9	0	0.40
Diredawa	962	2	0	0.11
Gambella	254	4	0	0.52
Harari	964	0	0	0.00
Oromia	2,104	10	2	0.39
Sidama	785	2	0	0.19
SNNPRS	4,617	12	0	0.18
Somali	919	11	0	1.04
SWEP	498	0	0	0.00
Tigray	0	0	0	
Total	39,697	297	11	0.33

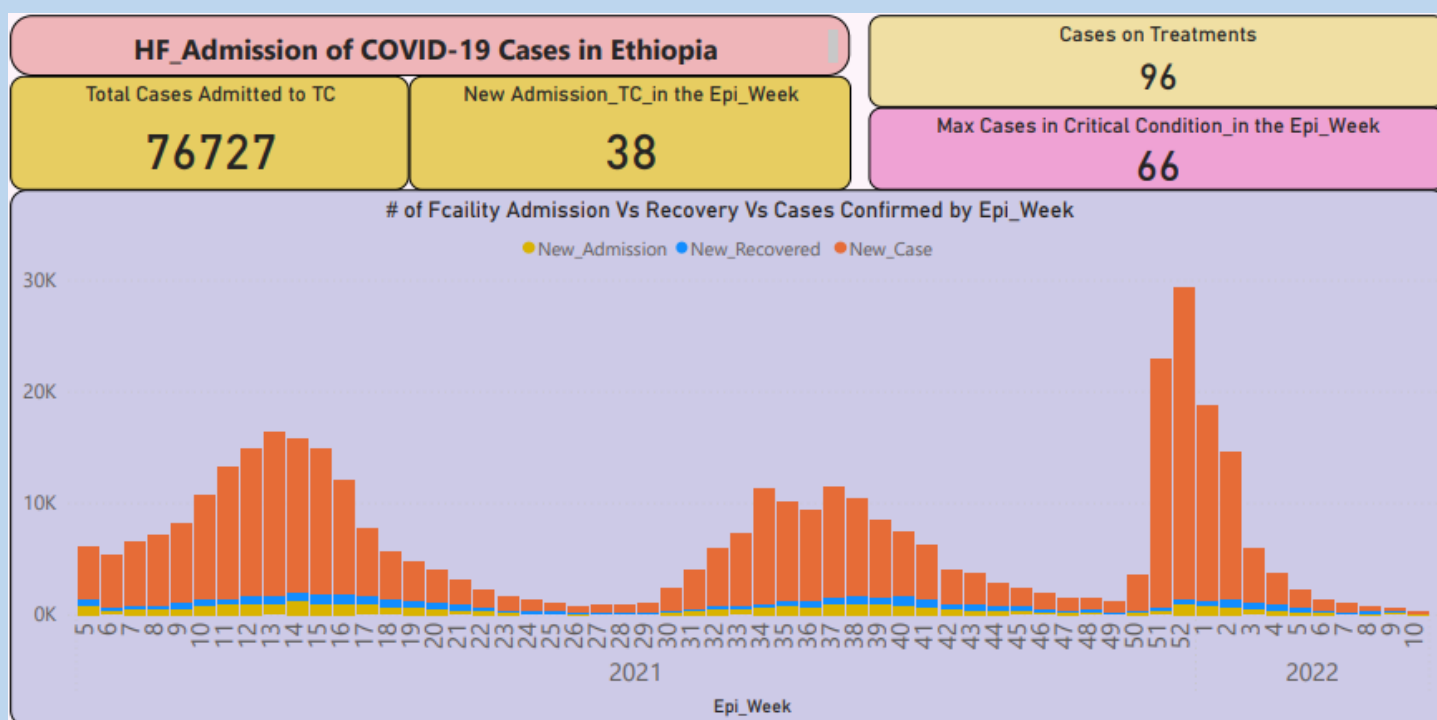
***** Positivity Rate is average of Regional Distn of Rates

Figure 8: Summary of COVID-19 laboratory testing as of March 13, 2022, Ethiopia.

IV. Case Management and Facility Readiness

a. COVID-19 treatment center

- There were total of 1,158 newly recovered COVID-19 cases during the Epi-Week-10, bringing the total number of recovered cases to 421,472 (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 66 which is lower than the maximum number of daily cases in severe condition in the previous week (87).



HF=Health Facilities TC=Treatment Center

Figure 9: Summary of COVID-19 cases in Health Facilities/Treatment centers, as of March 13, 2022.

Table 2: Summary of COVID-19 cases at treatment centers as of March 13, 2022

Regions	Total_Case	New_Case	Total_Admission	New_Admission	Total_Death	Total_Recovered	On_Treatment	Severe 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, 353,278 COVID-19 confirmed cases have been on HBIC. Of them 352,471 (99%) have recovered and 50 (0.014%) died.
- Of these, 458 cases have been enrolled to HBIC and 1,090 cases have recovered in the Epi-Week-10.
- As of March 13, 2022, there are 855 cases on HBIC.
- So far, 2,426 (99 in the Epi-week-10) of the cases have been transferred from treatment centers to HBIC after improvement.
- So far, 1,321 (none in the Epi-week-10) 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 13, 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.
- Generating scientific evidence and forecast regarding COVID-19 progress.

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 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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