

Outbreak Brief #30: Coronavirus Disease 2019 (COVID-19) Pandemic

Date of Issue: 11 August 2020

19,727,117 cases and 728,340 deaths

Data sources: World Health Organization and African Union Member States

Outbreak Update: Since the last brief (4 August 2020), 1,798,419 new confirmed¹ coronavirus disease 2019 (COVID-19) cases and 41,329 new deaths have been reported globally. To date, a total of 19,727,117 COVID-19 cases and 721,340 (CFR: 4%) related deaths have been reported from 215 countries and territories. The distribution of cumulative cases (proportion of global cases) from the World Health Organization (WHO) reporting regions (excluding Africa) are as follows: Eastern Mediterranean Region 1,489,423 (8%), European Region 3,582,911 (18%), Region of the Americas 10,590,929 (54%), South-East Asia Region 2,632,773 (13%) and Western Pacific Region 371,362 (2%). For more detailed information on cases and deaths being reported outside of Africa, refer to the WHO daily situation reports².

As of 9 am EAT 11 August 2020, a total of 1,055,964 COVID-19 cases and 23,582 deaths (CFR: 2%) have been reported in 55 African countries. This is 5% of all cases reported globally. Since the last brief, 87,944 new COVID-19 cases have been reported, which is an increase of 9% compared to the 4 August 2020 report. The proportion of new COVID-19 cases reported by region is as follows: Southern region 59% (51,768), Northern region 16% (14,459), Eastern region 12% (10,730), Western region 11% (9,689), and Central region 2% (1,298).

Six countries account for 80% of the new COVID-19 cases reported since the last brief: South Africa (53%), Morocco (9%), Kenya (5%), Ethiopia (5%), Algeria (4%), and Ghana (4%). South Africa (970), Djibouti (535), Cabo Verde (481), Sao Tome and Principe (439), and Gabon (381) are reporting the most cumulative COVID-19 cases per 100,000 in Africa. Twelve countries are reporting case fatality rates comparable to or higher than the global case fatality rate of 4%. These are: Sahrawi Arab Democratic Republic (14%), Chad (8%), Sudan (7%), Liberia (6%), Niger (6%), Egypt (5%), Mali (5%), Burkina Faso (5%), Angola (5%), Algeria (4%), Sierra Leone (4%) and Tanzania (4%).

Table 1 highlights the reported cases, deaths, and recoveries from COVID-19 in all countries in Africa. In addition, the table reports the current phase of the epidemic for each. Africa CDC is working with

¹ WHO COVID-19 surveillance guidance and case definition: <https://www.who.int/emergencies/diseases/novel-coronavirus-2019/technical-guidance/surveillance-and-case-definitions>

² WHO coronavirus disease (COVID-19) situation reports: <https://www.who.int/emergencies/diseases/novel-coronavirus-2019/situation-reports>

all affected countries and is mobilizing laboratory, surveillance, and other response support where requested.

Table 1. Confirmed COVID-19 Cases Reported in Africa³ 4 - 11 , 2020, 9 am EAT

Country	No. of cases (new)	No. of deaths (new)	No. of recovered	Epidemic phase ⁴
Central Region	50,518 (1,298)	963 (19)	37,732	
Burundi	408 (13)	1 (0)	315	2
Cameroon	17,586 (331)	393 (6)	16,060	3
Central African Republic	4,641 (27)	60 (1)	1,721	3
Chad	945 (9)	76 (1)	843	3
Congo	3,745 (199)	60 (2)	1,625	3
DRC	9,488 (355)	224 (9)	8,363	3
Equatorial Guinea	4,821 (0)	83 (0)	2,182	3
Gabon	8,006 (360)	51 (0)	5,823	3
Sao Tome and Principe	878 (4)	15 (0)	800	2
Eastern Region	91,833 (10,730)	2,028 (193)	53,064	
Comoros	399 (13)	7 (0)	369	3

³ New numbers reported since last weekly report (4 August 2020, 9am EAT)

⁴ Phases defined according to Africa CDC's Recommendations for a stepwise COVID-19 response -

<https://africacdc.org/download/recommendations-for-stepwise-response-to-covid-19/>: **Phase 0 (No COVID-19 case):** no reported case in-country; **Phase 1 (Early stage outbreak):** one or more imported cases, limited local transmission related to imported cases; **Phase 2 (Expanding outbreak):** increasing number of imported cases, increased local spread but all cases linked to known transmission chains, outbreak clusters with a known common exposure; **Phase 3 (Advancing outbreak):** localized outbreaks start to merge, one or more cases or deaths occur outside known transmission, multiple generations in transmission chains, cases are detected among severe acute respiratory illness (SARI) case with no known exposure; **Phase 4 (Large outbreak with nationwide transmission):** widespread sustained community transmission, multiple generation transmission chains can be identified but most cases occurring outside of chains, community-wide transmission throughout all or nearly all of the country

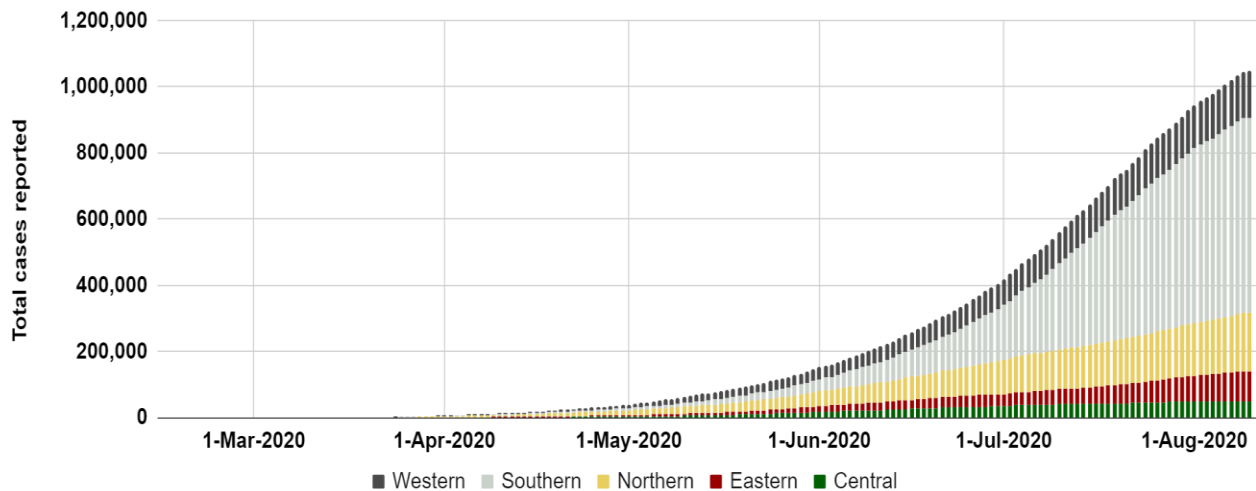
Djibouti	5,347 (107)	59 (0)	5,120	2
Eritrea	285 (3)	0	248	1
Ethiopia	23,591 (4,302)	420 (84)	10,411	3
Kenya	26,928 (4,331)	423 (41)	13,495	3
Madagascar	13,202 (1,542)	151 (33)	11,011	3
Mauritius	344 (0)	10 (0)	332	1
Rwanda	2,152 (60)	7 (2)	1,392	3
Seychelles	126 (12)	0	125	1
Somalia	3,227 (7)	93 (0)	1,728	1
South Sudan	2,470 (33)	47 (0)	1,252	3
Sudan	11,956 (218)	781 (29)	6,266	3
Tanzania ⁵	509 (0)	21 (0)	178	3
Uganda	1,297 (102)	9 (4)	1,137	3
Northern Region	178,667 (14,459)	7,180 (363)	110,377	
Algeria	35,156 (3,740)	1,299 (73)	24,920	3
Egypt	95,666 (1,026)	5,035 (147)	53,779	2
Libya	5,541 (1,478)	120 (27)	710	2
Mauritania	6,510 (187)	157 (0)	5,174	3
Morocco	34,063 (7,867)	516 (115)	24,524	2
Tunisia	1,717 (152)	51 (0)	1,265	1
Sahrawi Arab	14 (9)	2 (1)	5	1

⁵ Last report received 7-May-2020.

Democratic Republic				
Southern Region	593,577 (51,768)	11,312 (2,249)	432,003	
Angola	1,679 (399)	78 (20)	569	2
Botswana	1,066 (262)	2 (0)	80	2
Eswatini /Swaziland	3,309 (471)	61 (16)	1,634	2
Lesotho	781 (63)	24 (5)	189	2
Malawi	4,674 (401)	146 (23)	2,430	2
Mozambique	2,411 (438)	16 (2)	860	3
Namibia	3,101 (695)	19 (7)	715	2
South Africa	563,598 (46,736)	10,621 (2,082)	417,200	3
Zambia	8,210 (1,630)	241 (70)	6,802	3
Zimbabwe	4,748 (673)	104 (24)	1,524	2
Western Region	141,369 (9,689)	2,099 (146)	111,262	
Benin	1,914 (144)	38 (3)	1,600	3
Burkina Faso	1,211 (58)	54 (0)	990	3
Cape Verde	2,883 (300)	32 (7)	2,128	2
Côte d'Ivoire	16,798 (578)	105 (3)	13,052	3
Gambia	1,235 (737)	23 (14)	221	1
Ghana	41,212 (3,400)	215 (24)	38,727	3
Guinea	7,930 (566)	50 (4)	6,898	3
Guinea-Bissau	2,052 (20)	29 (2)	978	3

Liberia	1,240 (26)	79 (1)	725	3
Mali	2,573 (30)	125 (1)	1,969	3
Niger	1,158 (6)	69 (0)	1,062	3
Nigeria	46,867 (2,738)	950 (54)	33,346	3
Senegal	11,312 (926)	236 (25)	7,390	3
Sierra Leone	1,917 (69)	69 (2)	1,447	3
Togo	1,067 (91)	25 (6)	729	3
Total	1,055,964 (87,944)	23,582 (2,970)	744,438	

Chart 1: Cumulative number of confirmed COVID-19 cases reported by region, 15 Feb - 11 August 2020



NEW Africa CDC Response Activities:

General:

1. Africa CDC held a webinar titled Public Health Emergency Operations Centres (PHEOCs) and “logistics and supply chain management in emergencies and sharing of South Africa’s experience” on Thursday 6 August 3.00-4.10 PM EAT.

Healthcare Preparedness and Medical Countermeasures:

Case Management

1. Africa CDC held its 22nd webinar on Clinical Community of Practice entitled “Effectiveness of COVID-19 vaccine” on Thursday 8 August 2020, 1:00 EAT. Link: <http://bit.ly/2WTP9Lp>.
2. Africa CDC has completed procurement of oxygen concentrators and ventilators and will be distributed to ten MS which are identified to be at highest risk.

3. Africa CDC will hold its 22nd webinar on Clinical Community of Practice webinar on Thursday, 13th August 2020. link for the webinar: <http://bit.ly/2WTP9Lp>.

Infection Prevention and Control

1. Africa CDC held its series III session I webinar on infection prevention and control focused on the transmission of SARS-COV-2 and clinical ventilation, where; 354 participants attended in the French session.
2. Africa CDC held an Infection Prevention and Control (IPC) Webinar series on Wednesday 5 August 2020 for English and Friday 7 August 2020 for French sessions. The next series webinar will be held on August 12, 2020 13.00 EAT for English and August 14, 2020 14.00 EAT for French sessions. link: English https://zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_97hF6iqdQHOP3ieF7xQT4Q and French https://zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_r4KmA2bKRrmBsV11aH2Dwg

Laboratory:

1. Africa CDC held its 3rd weekly webinar series on COVID-19 genomic surveillance in Africa titled “Strengthening Bioinformatics in Public Health” on Thursday 5 August 2020. A total of 120 participants joined in last week’s webinar.
2. Africa CDC has commenced advanced training on the use of GeneXpert for COVID-19 testing in French for the Central region of Africa on 6th August 2020. Twelve experts from four Member States (MS) of the region (Burundi, Central Africa Republic, Democratic Republic of Congo and Gabon) have been trained.
3. Africa CDC has distributed 54,000 RT-PCR testing kits and 5,000 Pan-African Veterinary Center of the African Union Commission (PANVAC) to Ethiopia. Besides, 240, 000 test kits, 250, 000 extraction kits (at Bole International Airport) and 601 000 enzymes (at Senegal Pasteur Institute) will be distributed to AU MS.

Surveillance:

1. Africa CDC held its 15th surveillance webinar titled “Resumption of travel and reopening of borders: Implication for cross border surveillance” on Wednesday 5 August 2020 at 4:00 EAT. Three and seventy three participants from 40 African Union Member States (AU MS), and 10 non-AU MS attended the webinar. This week’s webinar will be held on Wednesday, 12 August 2020 at 4:00 PM EAT.
2. Africa CDC has published two documents: high level policy recommendation for the resumption of travel and Generic protocol for community based sero-survey studies.

Sciences, standards and regulations:

1. The biweekly COVID-19 Scientific and Public Health Policy Update can be accessed at <https://africacdc.org/resources/>.

Risk Communication:

1. Africa CDC held its regular weekly press briefings to update the public on the trend of COVID-19 on the continent, Africa CDC response activities and provide clarifications to journalists

and relevant stakeholders on Thursday 6 August 2020 at 11:00 AM EAT. The institute of Pasteur of the Kingdom of Morocco shared its updates and experiences on COVID-19 response activities.

2. Africa CDC held a specialized training for journalists titled “Infection prevention essentials for journalists ” on Thursday 6 August 2020 from 6.00-8.00 PM EAT. A total of 112 participants from Africa and outside attended the training.

Recommendations for Member States:

1. All Member States should enhance their surveillance⁶ to include COVID-19⁷ and for severe acute respiratory infections (SARI)⁸. Examples of enhanced surveillance include:
 - a. Adding questions about travel, contact history, and testing for coronaviruses to existing influenza surveillance systems;
 - b. Notifying healthcare facilities to immediately inform local public health officials about persons who meet the case definition for COVID-19, SARI and/or have recent travel to a country with local transmission or history of contact with a case.
2. Member States should continue to enhance surveillance at the borders to screen incoming travelers for severe respiratory illness and a history of recent travel to affected countries or territories reporting local or community transmission.
3. Member States should perform contact tracing of confirmed cases based on transmission type and country capacity.⁹
4. Notify and routinely share with WHO and Africa CDC data regarding suspected or confirmed COVID-19 cases, deaths, recoveries, tests conducted and healthcare workers infected to continually inform these and other updates. Africa CDC should be notified by emailing AfricaCDCEBS@africa-union.org.
5. Provide guidance to the general public about seeking immediate medical care and informing healthcare providers about recent travel or contact history in anyone who develops symptoms of severe respiratory illness.

Resources for more information:

Africa CDC Resources

- Africa CDC COVID-19 updates: <https://africacdc.org/covid-19/>
- Multimedia: <https://africacdc.org/covid-19-multimedia/>
- Resources, policy guidelines, and infographics: <https://africacdc.org/covid-19/covid-19-resources/>

⁶Africa CDC Protocol for enhanced surveillance for COVID-19 in Africa: <https://africacdc.org/download/protocol-for-enhanced-severe-acute-respiratory-illness-and-influenza-like-illness-surveillance-for-covid-19-in-africa/>

⁷WHO COVID-19 surveillance guidance and case definition: <https://www.who.int/emergencies/diseases/novel-coronavirus-2019/technical-guidance/surveillance-and-case-definitions>

⁸WHO SARI case definition: anyone with an acute respiratory infection with a history of fever (or measured fever of $\geq 38\text{ }^{\circ}\text{C}$) and cough with symptom onset within the last 10 days that requires hospitalization.

https://www.who.int/influenza/surveillance_monitoring/ili_sari_surveillance_case_definition/en/

⁹Africa CDC Guidance on Contact Tracing for COVID-19 Pandemic: <https://africacdc.org/download/guidance-on-contact-tracing-for-covid-19-pandemic/>

Other Resources

- European Centre for Disease Prevention and Control. <https://www.ecdc.europa.eu/en/novel-coronavirus-china>
- US Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. Coronavirus disease 2019 (COVID-19). <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/novel-coronavirus-2019.html>
- WHO. Technical Guidance. <https://www.who.int/emergencies/diseases/novel-coronavirus-2019/technical-guidance>