

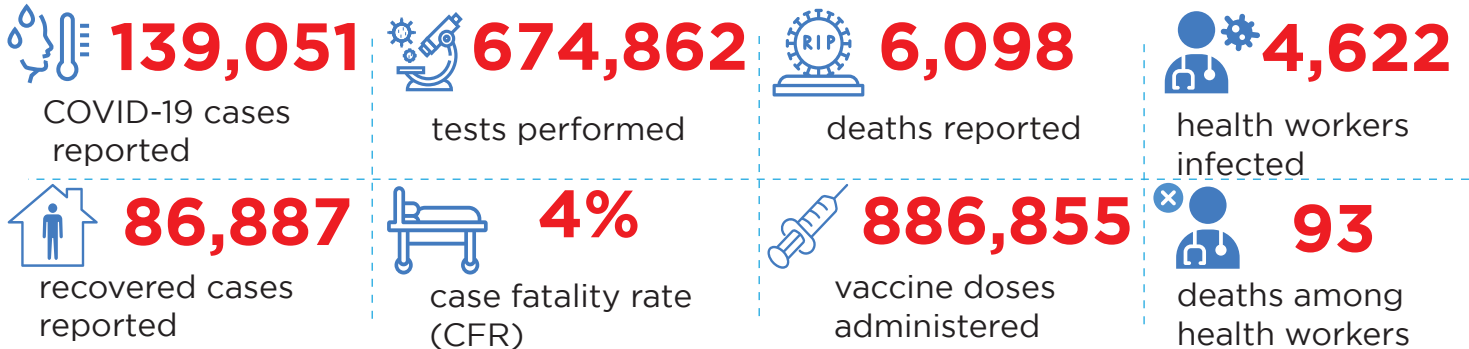


COVID-19 bi-weekly situation report

Afghanistan (1 - 15 July 2021)



Situation in numbers: (Feb 2020 to 15 July 2021)



Key highlights

- During the reporting period, new COVID-19 cases appear to have stabilized after a sharp rise during the month of June.
- **57,244** new cases and 1050 deaths have been reported. This is a -29% decrease in cases and -19% decrease in deaths compared to the same duration in June.
- High positivity rate among health care workers reported.
- Almost 1,500 cases are currently hospitalized. (60% male and 40% female).
- **7,000+** health workers at the national and provincial levels trained on a variety of COVID-19 topics including critical and severe case management (ventilator use, anesthesia, intubation), infection prevention and control, and nursing.
- Circulation of Delta variant was confirmed in **11** out of **19** tests, and the National Public Health Laboratory confirmed capacity to conduct gene sequencing.
- **31** COVID-19 testing labs are currently functional across **24** provinces, with a total daily testing capacity of **8,700** and more than **300** trained technicians. 9 more labs will be added by the end of August 2021.
- **1,024,168** vaccine doses have been administered, with **253,939** persons fully vaccinated as of 15 July 2021.
- **\$18,470,460** worth of supplies and equipment have been provided to various health facilities since the start of the pandemic.
- WHO supports **6** mobile health clinics in remote areas providing primary health care services to IDPs and returnees, including COVID-19 testing.



Through CERF funding, WHO plans to install 500 wash basins in 127 health facilities in 25 provinces by end of July 2021. So far, 412 hand-washing basins have been installed in 105 HF in 21 provinces.

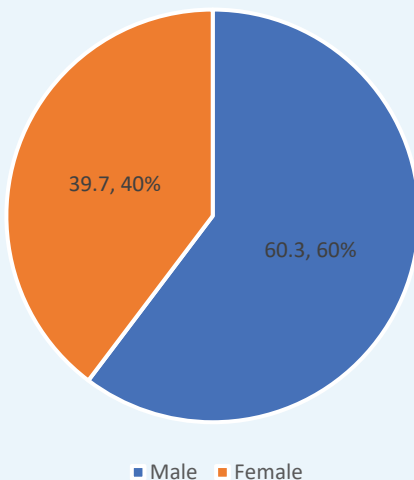
In Feb 2020, Afghanistan had no labs with COVID-19 confirmatory capacities. With support from Asian Development Bank, WHO inaugurated the 31st testing lab in Bdghis province.



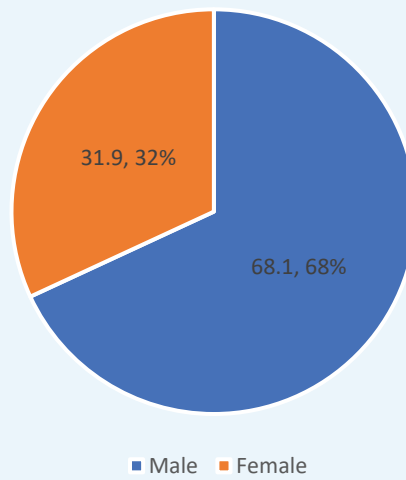


Health Information Management & Surveillance

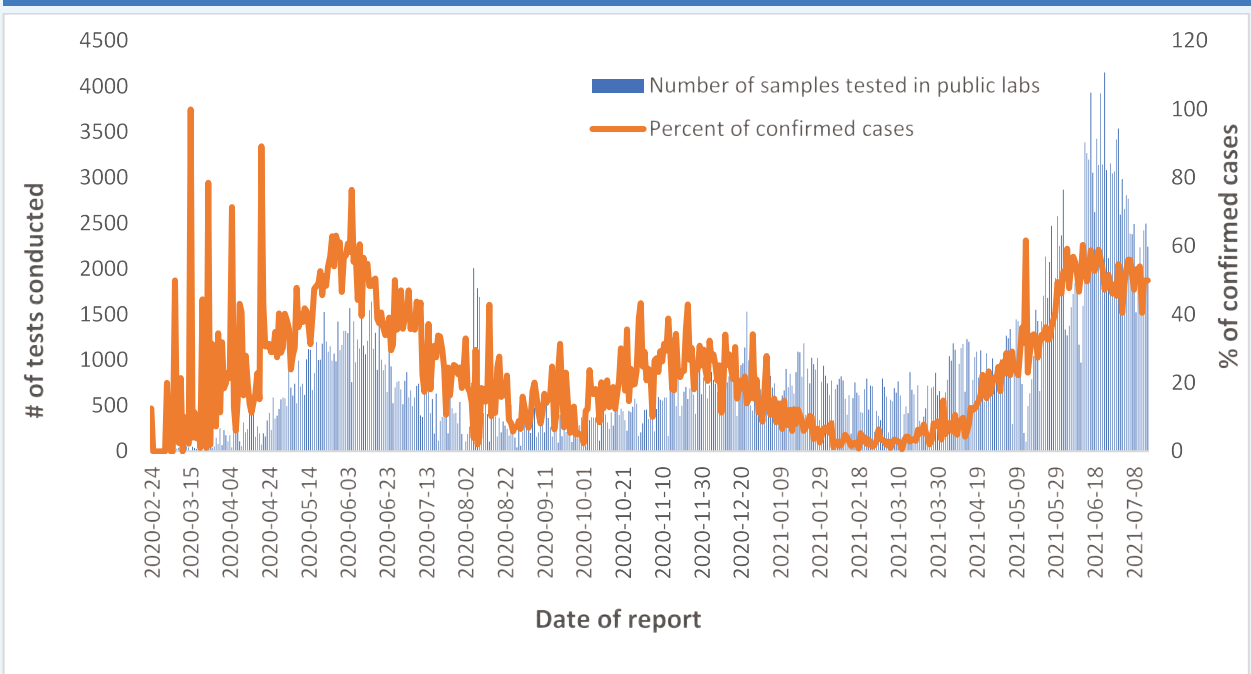
Percentage of cumulative **cases** by gender



Percentage of cumulative **deaths** by gender



Number of PCR tests conducted and percentage of positivity rate, as of 15 July 2021



Arrival of 1.4 m doses of J&J vaccine on 11 July 2021. ©WHO



Vaccines

- A total **3 million doses** of vaccines received: 500,000 AZ India; 700,000 Chinese Sinopharm; 468,000 COVAX; 1.4 m J&J.
- Expected vaccines in July: 124,000 AZ from Sweden; 468,000 AZ from COVAX; remaining 1.5 m J&J doses.

Vaccine doses administered	Percentage of population vaccinated	Persons fully vaccinated
1,024,168	4%	253,939



Laboratories

Indicators	New cases	% of change compared to 15-30 June	Cumulative number
# of Samples tested	57,244	-29%	674862
# of lab confirmed cases	18,068	-34%	140224
Recovered / discharged	15,039	52%	86,887 (60.9%)
Associated deaths	1050	-19%	6,098 (CFR=4.3%)

COVID-19 diagnostic capacity as of 15 July 2021

28	3	15
rt-PCRs in 17 provinces	GeneXpert in 3 provinces	RDTs in 15 provinces



Essential Health Services & Systems

- All 34 provinces have allocated isolation wards for COVID-19 patients with a total of 2,000 beds and 200 ICU beds.
- Two training courses for 36 ICU nursing staff conducted.
- On-job training for 100 medical doctors on ICU/critical case management.



Operations Support & Logistics

- **\$3.4M** worth of supplies and equipment are currently in the pipeline including 500 oxygen concentrators.
- Distribution of medical supplies and equipment to hospitals at the national and provincial levels is ongoing, albeit with some delays due to road blockage and fighting in some areas.



Partnerships & Coordination

- Health cluster actively engaging partners in the response and providing support at national and provincial level.
- Health cluster coordination meeting held on 11 July with COVID-19 as standing agenda.



Risk Communications and Community Engagement

- 100,000 posters and 100,000 flyers for contact tracing and home-based care in print for MoPH.
- Eid al-Adha messaging developed and endorsed by MoPH.
- Training of trainers (ToT) on basic RCCE skills and concepts for COVID-19 response with a focus on rumors offered for Caritas DE partner.



Research Knowledge & Management

- Planning ongoing for the 2nd round of the COVID-19 prevalence survey covering 23,000 households to produce provincial level estimates.
- Sponsoring 2nd COVID-19 knowledge, attitude, practice and attributable death survey requested by MoPH. The 1st survey took place in June 2020.



Int'l Health Regulations & Social Measures

- MoPH and Ministry of Education to reopen schools and universities on 24 August 2021 considering updated public health and social measures, including:
 - o Vaccinating all teachers and students above 18.
 - o Enforcing mandatory mask wearing at schools.
- 124,937 people screened at points of entry, in coordination with health partners.

Challenges



Poor availability of consumables and difficulty to maintain a steady level of supplies and equipment due to volatile political situation.



Limited supplies of personal protective equipment (PPE) impacting protection of health care workers.



Rising number of IDPs limits possibility to apply public health measures and pushes rise in COVID-19 infections.

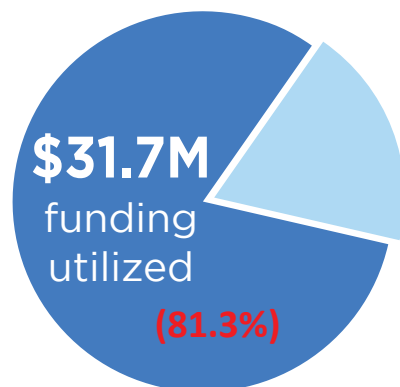


Huge oxygen shortage. WHO supporting with urgent procurement of 500 oxygen concentrators.

Funding

Total funding received

\$39 million



Funding received by



USAID
FROM THE AMERICAN PEOPLE



For more information:

WHO Afghanistan website: <http://www.emro.who.int/countries/afg/>
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