# **Coronavirus Disease 2019 (COVID-19)**

# Situation Report – 85 Timor-Leste



Data as reported by 03 February 2021

# **HIGHLIGHTS**

- The Ministry of Health (MoH) reported 9 new cases of COVID-19 since the last time of reporting (27.01.2021) bringing the total number of COVID-19 cases in Timor-Leste to 77. All patients were in quarantine upon their arrival from overseas and are now admitted to the designated isolation and treatment facility at Vera Cruz.
- The surveillance team, as per the national guideline is working on further investigation and contact tracing. More details about the new cases can be found at the Ministry of Health's (MoH) Facebook page, Palacio das Cinzas.
- After the National Parliament approved the extension State of Emergency upon request from the Government, the President, Francisco Guterres Lú Olo declared new state of emergency for another 30 days starting 2 February until 3 March 2021. The new restrictive measures include mandatory institutional quarantine; ending the provision of home quarantine option, which was subject to approval from the MoH.

#### **SITUATION IN NUMBERS**

77 confirmed (9 new)53 recovered (3 new)24 isolation0 deaths

(As per data released by the Ministry of Health)

Follow WHO Timor-Leste on Facebook and Twitter.

More information and guidance by WHO regarding the current COVID-19 outbreak can be found here.

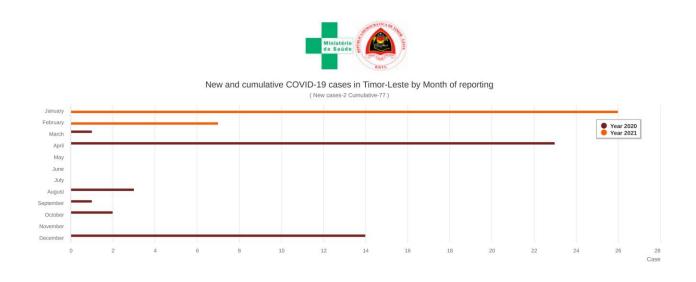
GLOBAL SITUATION IN NUMBERS Total (new) cases in last seven days

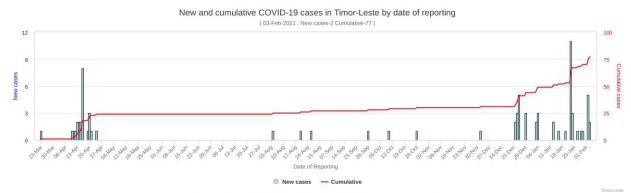
Globally

98 280 844 confirmed (4 104 947) 2 122 759 deaths (95 991)

- As the number of cases continue to increase in the country, the Government decided to
  reactivate the Integrated Centre for Crisis Management (ICCM) effective immediately from 2
  February until the end of the State of Emergency. The reactivation of ICCM is to support the MoH
  work in keeping COVID-19 in check and to update daily situation.
- WHO and UNICEF have continued to support the MoH in development of National Deployment Plan for COVID-19 vaccine to access COVID-19 vaccine through COVAX (20% for target priority group) and broader plan for mobilizing resources for balance 80% population.
- WHO continue to enhance support for surveillance, contact tracing and laboratory testing in the country as part of COVID-19 response in the country.
- Besides responding to COVID-19, the MoH is also committed to maintaining essential health services. The MoH, with technical and financial support from WHO conducted a two-day orientation for Health Professionals and community leaders on gender-based violence, disability and Human Rights in Dili. The overall objective of the two-day activities is to enrich health professionals skills on better care for people with disabilities.

- To commemorate the World Leprosy Day, MoH with the support from WHO conducted one-day workshop to present the data on leprosy in Timor-Leste and the progress made by the programme during the past year. Leprosy was eliminated as a public health problem at the national level in 2011.
- As part of emergency preparedness and response, the MoH with financial support from WHO
  conducted two-day orientation on healthcare waste management for healthcare facility cleaners
  and nurses. As many as 30 nurses and cleaners participated in the two-day orientation.
- UNICEF helped boost capacity of the cold-chain system by installing a cold room at SAMES ahead of the COVID-19 vaccine introduction in the country.
- UNICEF and engineers from MoH Infrastructure and Logistics department undertook inspection
  of the construction of new WASH facilities and renovation of existing WASH facilities at 6 critical
  locations in Bobonaro, Covalima and Ainaro municipalities. These facilities will help improve
  infection prevention and control at these border locations (2 points of entry, 2 quarantine
  centers and 2 isolation centers). The new toilets and hand washing stations are now ready for
  hand over to the government of Timor-Leste.

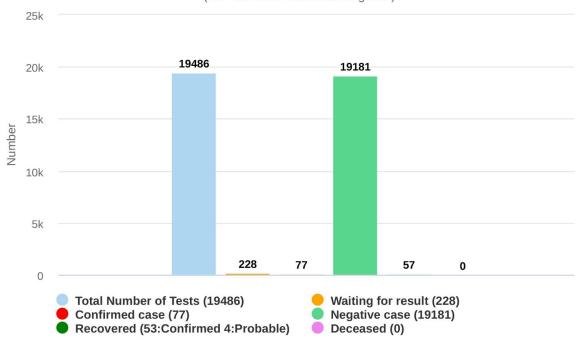




Source: National Directorate of Disease Control - Department of Epidemic Surveillance

# Current Situation: COVID-19 Timor-Leste

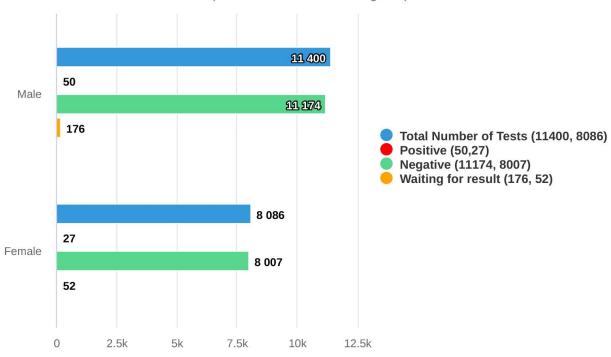
(03-Feb-2021: Cumulative figures)



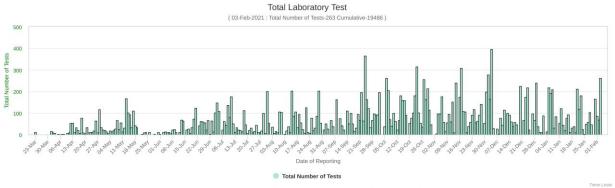
Source: National Directorate of Disease Control - Department of Epidemic Surveillance

# Laboratory Test Results : COVID-19 Timor-Leste

(03-Feb-2021: Cumulative figures)



Source: National Directorate of Disease Control - Department of Epidemic Surveillance



### WHO TIMOR-LESTE STRATEGIC OBJECTIVES

- Interrupt human-to-human transmission including reducing secondary infections among close contacts and health care workers, preventing transmission amplification events;
- Strengthening of surveillance systems and increasing laboratory capacity to detect COVID-19 cases;
- Ensuring adherence to the strictest standards of infection prevention and control (IPC) and increase capacity for IPC;
- Identify, isolate and care for patients early, including providing optimized care for infected patients;
- Communicate critical risk and event information to all communities and counter misinformation;
- Minimize social and economic impact through multisectoral partnerships.

### RECOMMENDATIONS AND ADVICE FOR THE PUBLIC

# Wash your hands frequently

Regularly and thoroughly clean your hands with an alcohol-based hand rub or wash them with soap and water.

**Why?** Washing your hands with soap and water or using alcohol-based hand rub kills viruses that may be on your hands.

# Maintain physical distancing

Maintain at least 1 metre (3 feet) distance between yourself and others.

**Why?** When someone coughs or sneezes they spray small liquid droplets from their nose or mouth which may contain virus. If you are too close, you can breathe in the droplets, including the COVID-19 virus if the person coughing is infected.

### Use face mask when physical distancing is not possible

**Why?** If when you're in a setting where maintaining the physical distance of 1 meter or more is not possible due to the space constraint, then it is imperative that you use a face mask as it can help in stopping the transmission of COVID-19

# Avoid touching eyes, nose and mouth

**Why?** Hands touch many surfaces and can pick up viruses. Once contaminated, hands can transfer the virus to your eyes, nose or mouth. From there, the virus can enter your body and make you sick.

### Practice respiratory hygiene

Make sure you, and the people around you, follow good respiratory hygiene. This means covering your mouth and nose with your bent elbow or tissue when you cough or sneeze. Then dispose of the used tissue safely immediately.

**Why?** Droplets spread virus. By following good respiratory hygiene you protect the people around you from viruses such as cold, flu and COVID-19.

If you have fever, cough and difficulty breathing, seek medical care early

Stay home if you feel unwell. If you have a fever, cough and difficulty breathing, seek medical attention and call in advance. Follow the directions of health authorities.

**Why?** Calling in advance will allow your health care provider to quickly direct you to the right health facility. This will also protect you and help prevent spread of viruses and other infections.

# Stay informed and follow advice given by your healthcare provider

Stay informed on the latest developments about COVID-19. Follow advice given by your healthcare provider, your national and local public health authority or your employer on how to protect yourself and others from COVID-19.

**Why?** National and local authorities will have the most up to date information on whether COVID-19 is spreading in your area. They are best placed to advise on what people in your area should be doing to protect themselves.

# Protect ourselves and our loved ones against #COVID19:

- Wash your hands frequently
- Cover coughs and sneezes
- Avoid touching your face
- Avoid crowded places and limit time in enclosed spaces
- Keep a distance of at least 1 metre from others
- Use of mask is imperative when physical-distancing is not possible.
- Regularly clean and disinfect frequently touched objects and surfaces
- Isolate yourself from others if feeling unwell and seek care, if needed

More guidance on preventive measures is available <u>here</u>.

### **COVID-19 Information and media queries:**

- The MoH has established a hotline number 119 for COVID-19 on which people can call to get any COVID-19 related information.
- Additionally, <u>MoH Facebook page</u> provides timely updates on COVID-19 developments in the country.
- WHO Timor-Leste through its <u>Facebook page</u> and <u>Twitter handle</u> also disseminates information on preventive measures, questions and answers, myth-busters and latest updates on COVID-19 globally and nationally. For media queries and interviews requests can be sent to <u>singhsho@who.int</u> and <u>hasane@who.int</u>