

Coronavirus Disease 2019 (COVID-19)

Situation Report – 70

Timor-Leste

Data as reported by 21 October 2020

HIGHLIGHTS

- The Ministry of Health (MoH) with technical and financial support from WHO and UNICEF held an advocacy meeting on immunization coverage in 2020 at Liquiça Municipality. Despite the challenges posed by the COVID-19 pandemic, Liquiça municipality surpassed the immunization coverage in 2020 by 1% reaching 70% compared to the previous year – 2019. These numbers were shared in the immunization performance review held in the presence of community members of Liquiça municipality.
- The MoH with support from WHO and UNFPA Timor-Leste and the Laboratório Nacional da Saúde da RDTL conducted refresher training for surveillance and quarantine staff under Pillar 3 of the COVID-19 Strategic Preparedness and Response Plan (SPRP). The topics covered during the latest round of training are gender-based violence (GBV) & code of conduct designed and imparted by UNFPA. As many as 80 health care workers attended the two-day training.
- St. John of God with technical support from WHO conducted a two-day IPC training for ten INS focal points with the topic Cleaning General IPC overview and management of bodies.
- The MoH, WHO, UNICEF and partners commemorated Handwashing Day – organized a mobile concert around Dili – 10 different stops – to promote the importance of hand hygiene in preventing diseases, especially during the COVID-19 pandemic. A sizeable number of IEC materials were also distributed among community members at each stop along the way.
- After 14 cases of malaria were reported, mainly from Naktuka, RAEOA Oecusse, a high-level MoH delegation led by the Vice Minister of Health visited Oecusse. The team held outbreak intervention advocacy in Naktuka. This was followed by vector-breeding sites identification and measure to ensure no-breeding. A water reserve in the community used for irrigational purposes was identified as the main source of the vector. The team undertook a two-day intensive site cleaning to ensure there is no further breeding.
- The Ministry of Health (MoH) in collaboration with WHO and UNICEF provided necessary feedback against the issues, comments and feedback raised by UNICEF's Supply Division in Copenhagen on the immunization vaccine forecast for 2021.

SITUATION IN NUMBERS

29 confirmed (0 new)
0 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

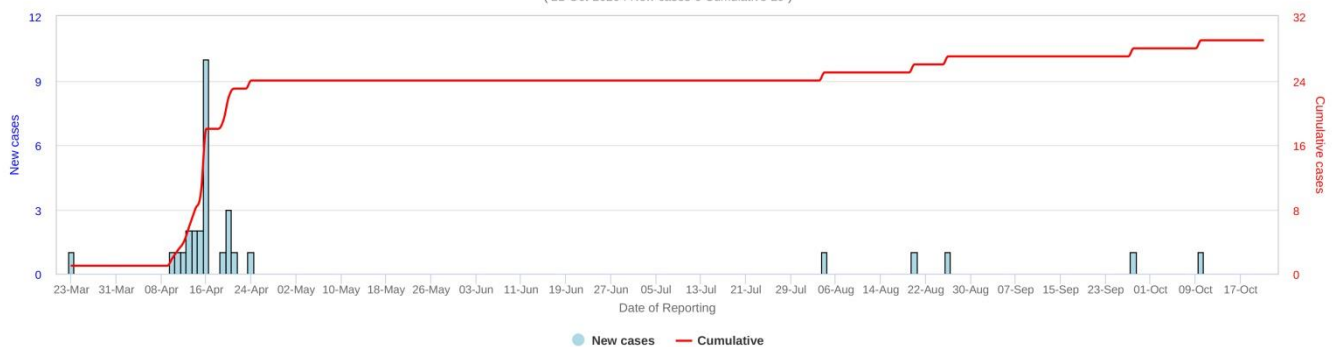
Total (new) cases in last seven days

Globally
40 118 333 confirmed (2 443 594)
1 114 749 deaths (36 547)

- UNICEF in coordination with WHO, Instituto Nacional Saude (INS) and the MoH conducted a follow-up meeting with the SENAI Training Centers to plan and organize the cold chain equipment maintenance and repairs training for MoH technical staff to address issues related to cold chain failure.
- UNICEF's reviewed the prioritization list of health facilities for the improvement of WASH provisions in five municipalities namely Ermera, Covalima, Dili, Baucau and Manatuto municipalities.
- UNICEF and WHO supported the MoH to produce a video message featuring the Minister of Health, H.E Dr. Odete Maria Freitas Belo, on Global Handwashing Day, which focused on the importance of handwashing and hand hygiene as a means of preventing many diseases, including COVID-19.

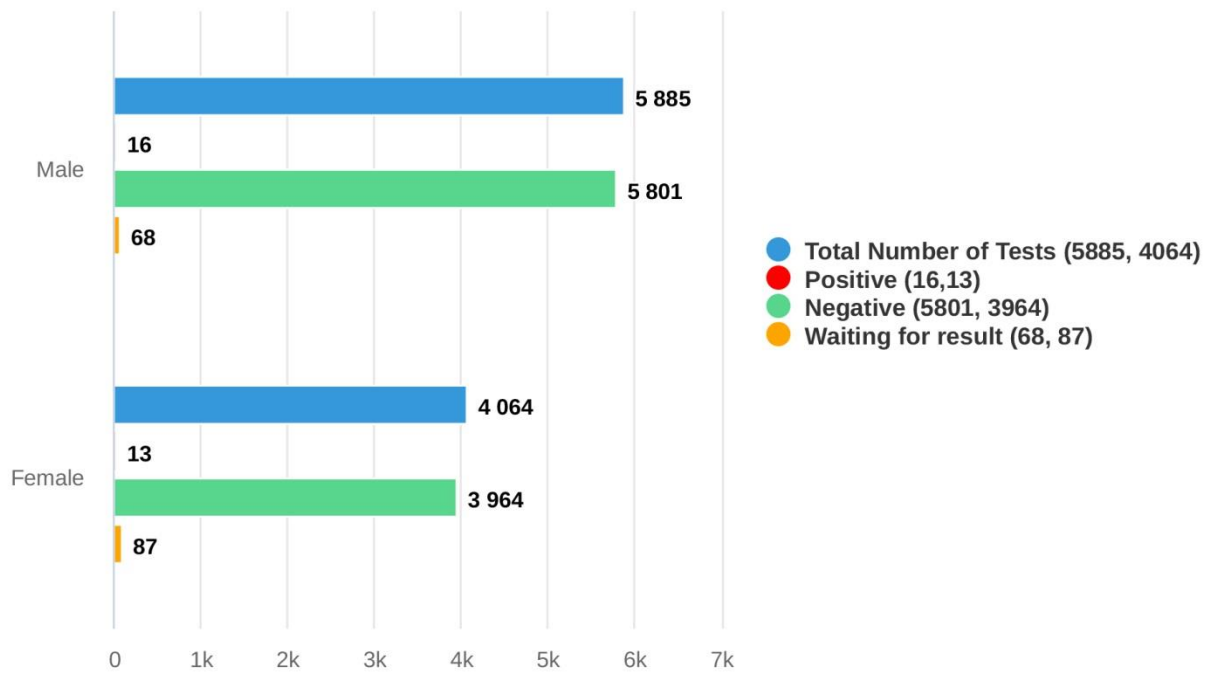


New and cumulative COVID-19 cases in Timor-Leste by date of reporting
(21-Oct-2020 : New cases-0 Cumulative-29)



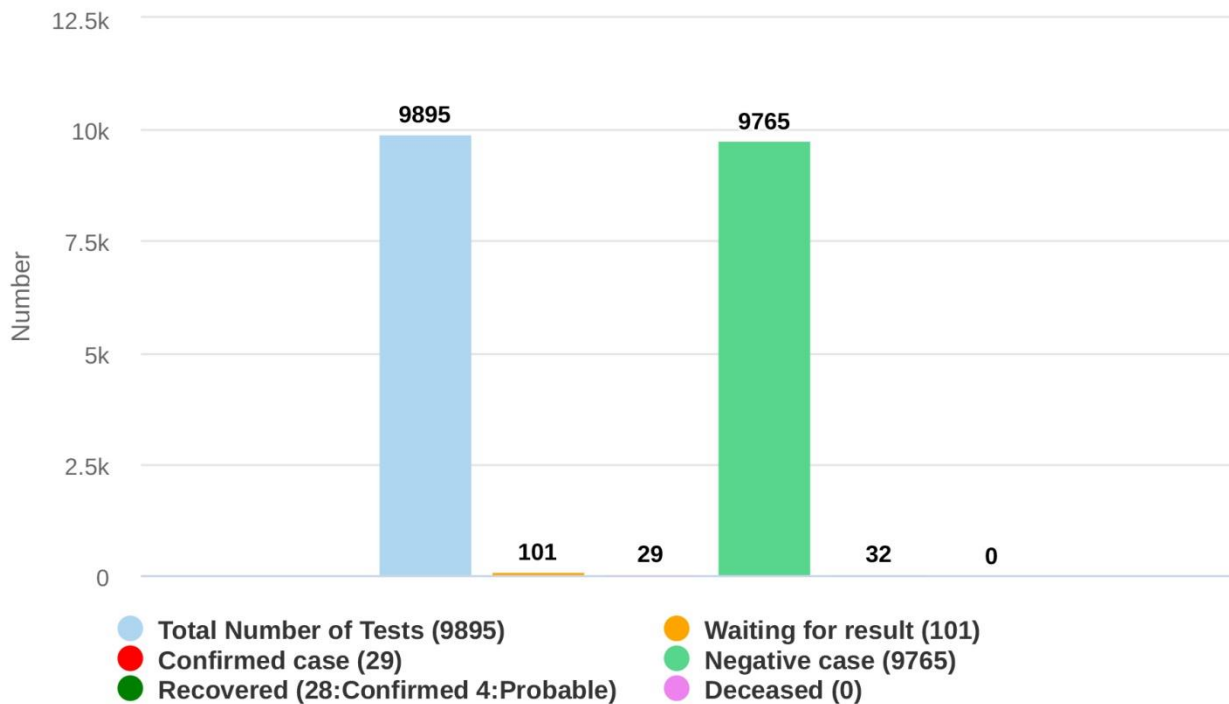
Laboratory Test Results : COVID-19 Timor-Leste

(21-Oct-2020 : Cumulative figures)



Current Situation : COVID-19 Timor-Leste

(21-Oct-2020 : Cumulative figures)



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.
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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 [here](#).

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, [MoH Facebook page](#) provides timely updates on COVID-19 developments in the country.
 - WHO Timor-Leste through its [Facebook page](#) and [Twitter handle](#) 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 singhsho@who.int and hasane@who.int
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