Coronavirus Disease 2019 (COVID-19)

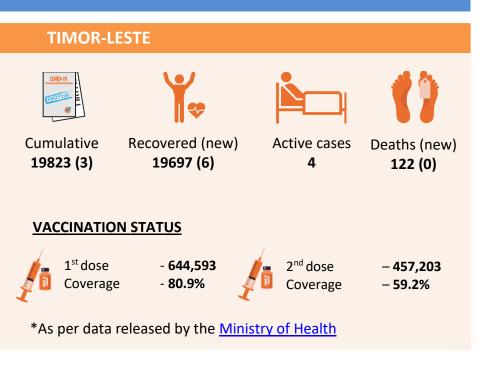
Situation Report – **128**

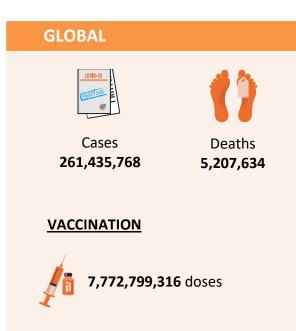
Timor-Leste



*Data as reported on 30 November 2021

SITUATION IN NUMBERS





HIGHLIGHTS

- Since the last edition of the weekly situation report, the Ministry of Health (MoH) reported 3 new cases of COVID-19, 6 recoveries and 0 deaths. The number of new cases and deaths has been remaining low.
- WHO Timor-Leste continues to extend support to pillar 3 through 20 recruited health workers for contact tracing, screening, and swabbing. In addition, WHO Timor-Leste also provided the logistic support of rental vehicle. This activity is financially supported by the European Union.
- To strengthen the surveillance work at the municipality, the Ministry of Health with the support from WHO Timor-Leste conducted refresher training on integrated influenza/COVID-19 surveillance at Maliana Referral Hospital. As many as 20 health workers participated in this training.
- WHO's implementing partner SABEH, under leadership of Ministry of Health, from 23-28 November 2021, has reached a total of 1,031 individuals in remote areas of Manatuto, Baucau and Dili: Males 463 (45%) and 568 (55%). Of these, 629 patients received integrated

medical assistance through outreach and domiciliary visits; first dose vaccination (78); second dose vaccination (198) and health promotion on COVID-19 vaccinations (99). Among 629 patients, 14 were veterans (13 male and 1 female) and 2 were pregnant mothers. Majority of patients presented with Acute Respiratory infections (ARI), gastritis, low back pain, arthritis, pediculosis capitais and pityriasis.

- To maintain essential health services, WHO Timor-Leste supported the Ministry of Health conduct a 4-days consultative workshop on System Thinking for strengthening districts health systems. It was to enhance health professionals' ability in problem analysis and mapping, building blocks frameworks, and a more holistic understanding of districts health system challenges. About 50 community health centres focal points from health posts and Dili districts health offices participated in this workshop.
- The Ministry of Health with the financial and technical support from WHO Timor-Leste, conducted weeklong Training of Trainers of WHO package of essential noncommunicable (PEN). The ToT aims to enhance the health professional's skill on the implementation of PEN and to assist the Ministry of Health in strengthening the PEN-HEART strategy. About 20 health professionals from district health services, medical doctors, laboratory technicians, district public health officers for NCD participated in this training.
- WHO support daylong workshop on 22nd November 2021 of INS and development partners to consult and validate the development of Annual Plan of National Institute of Health as part of the National Strategic Plan of INS, 2020-2024.

EPIDEMIOLOGICAL UPDATES

1. Distribution of cases and deaths by municipalities

Distribution of newly reported, recovered, and active cases by municipalities, as of 30 November 2021)

Municipality	New case (24 – 30 Nov. 2021)	Last 7-day % change (case)*	Cumulative case	New recovered (24 – 30 Nov. 2021)	Cumulative recovered	New death (24 - 30 Nov. 2021)	Cumulative death	Active Cases (30 Nov. 2021)
Aileu	0	0	126	0	125	0	1	0
Ainaro	0	0	227	0	224	0	3	0
Baucau	1	100	1541	0	1533	0	7	1
Bobonaro	1	-50	606	0	596	0	9	1
Covalima	0	-100	788	0	785	0	3	0
Dili	1	-80	13734	6	13651	0	81	2
Ermera	0	0	1113	0	1111	0	2	0
Lautem	0	0	183	0	178	0	5	0
Liquica	0	0	125	0	124	0	1	0

Manatuto	0	0	203	0	201	0	2	0
Manufahi	0	0	265	0	265	0	0	0
RAEOA	0	0	393	0	390	0	3	0
Viqueque	0	0	519	0	514	0	5	0
TOTAL	3	-63	19823	6	19697	0	122	4

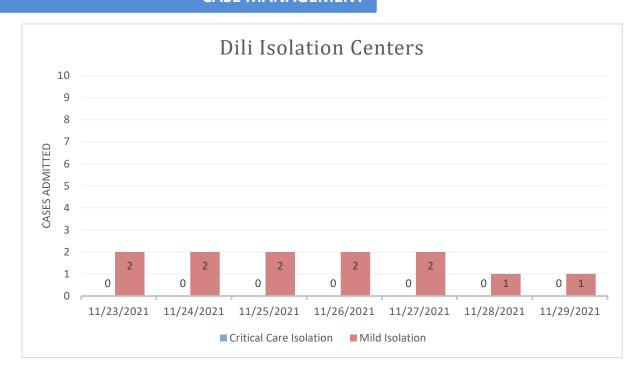
^{*}Change in new COVID-19 cases as compared with the previous 7 days

- There are 3 new cases reported during the current reporting period (24 30 Nov. 2021). The number of new cases has decreased from 8 of the previous reporting period (17 23 Nov. 2021). Incident cases are reported from Dili, Baucau and Bobonaro municipalities.
- No death has been reported from Timor-Leste during this reporting period, which is the fourth consecutive reporting period with no death reported.
- The number of active cases dropped to 4 as of 30 Nov. 2021.

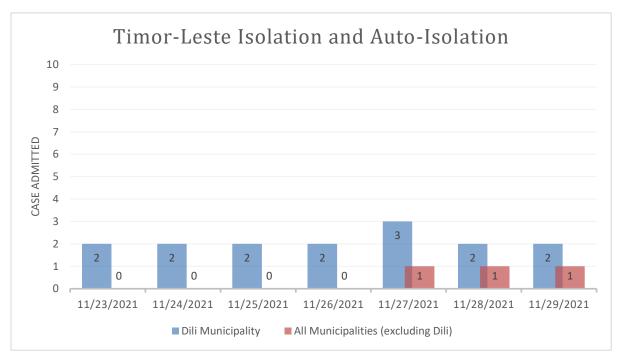
Number of test and test positivity rates

- During the current reporting period from 24 to 30 November, 1,558 tests were conducted, as compared to 1,262 tests in the previous 7 days.
- The test positive rates of this reporting period averaged to 0.2%, a 70% reduction as compared with the previous reporting period.

CASE MANAGEMENT



The isolation centre admissions in Dili continued to decrease steadily throughout November 2021. The numbers admitted to critical care isolation centres (Lahane and Vera Cruz) have been maintained at zero.



This chart shows the total number of people admitted to isolation centres and auto-isolation (at home) in 12 municipalities compared to Dili. Throughout Timor-Leste, patients admitted to isolation centres have steadily decreased to a minimal level.

VACCINATION

At the time of writing this report (30/11/2021 morning), in total, 1,101,796 COVID-19 vaccine doses comprising 644,593 first doses (coverage 80.9% among population aged 18 years and above and 18.6% among the population aged 12 years to <18 years) and 457,203 second doses (coverage 59.2% among population aged 18 years and above and 5.7% among the population aged 12 years to <18 years) were administered in Timor-Leste. The breakdown of the number of doses administered and coverage by vaccine product and vaccine dose is illustrated in Table 1.

Table 1: Number of COVID-19 vaccine doses administered and coverage in Dili and Timor-Leste by vaccine brand and doses as of 10:00hrs 30/11/2021

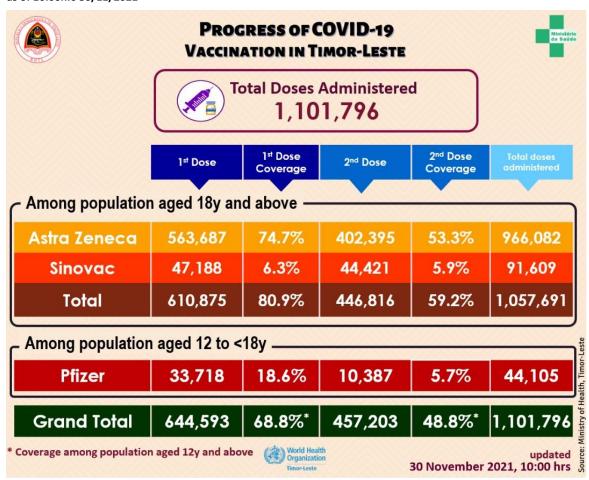


Figure 1: Coverage of COVID-19 vaccination by municipality in Timor-Leste as of 10:00hrs 30/11/2021

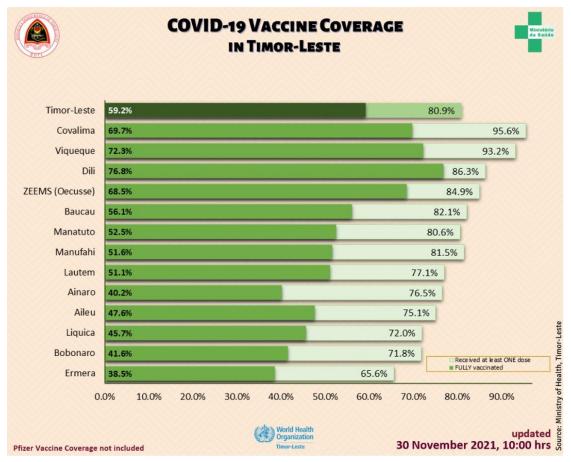


Table 2: Total number of individuals vaccinated with all the vaccine products (AstraZeneca, Sinovac, and Pfizer) and AEFI by sex by district in Timor-Leste as of 10:00 hrs 30/11/2021

			AEFI						
Municipality		First Dose		S	econd Dose	2	Male	Female	Tetal
	Male	Female	Total	Male	Female	Total	Ividie	remale	Total
Dili	118,324	99,982	218,306	95,403	79,242	174,645	14	26	40
***	40.470	44.077	22.455	7.055	5.043	44.070			
Aileu	12,179	11,277	23,456	7,965	6,913	14,878	1	1	2
Ainaro	13,782	13,111	26,893	7,558	6,558	14,116	0	0	0
Baucau	30,008	30,219	60,227	21,681	19,418	41,099	0	0	0
Bobonaro	20,786	19,930	40,716	12,767	10,817	23,584	4	6	10
Covalima	19,186	19,267	38,453	14,423	13,617	28,040	7	6	13
Ermera	25,905	23,377	49,282	15,817	13,134	28,951	0	0	0
Lautem	13,535	14,534	28,069	9,077	9,520	18,597	2	0	2
Liquica	16,364	16,155	32,519	10,811	9,823	20,634	0	1	1
Manatuto	11,892	11,027	22,919	7,958	6,975	14,933	2	0	2
Manufahi	14,060	13,113	27,173	9,273	7,956	17,229	1	2	3
Viqueque	19,991	20,964	40,955	15,664	16,086	31,750	6	0	6
ZEEMS (Oecusse)	17,367	18,258	35,625	14,217	14,530	28,747	0	0	0
Total (without Dili)	215,055	211,232	426,287	147,211	135,347	282,558	23	16	39
Total (Timor-Leste)	333,379	311,214	644,593	242,614	214,589	457,203	37	42	79

Figure 2: Weekly progress of vaccination in Timor-Leste during as of 10:00 hrs 28/11/2021

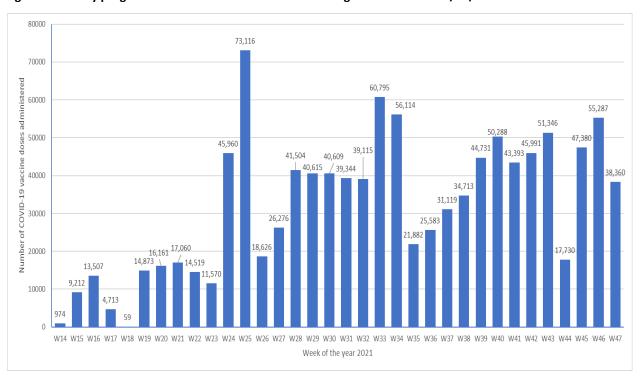


Table 3. Number of individuals among population aged 12 years to <18 years and above* vaccinated with Pfizer vaccine and coverage by district in Timor-Leste as of 10:00hrs 30/11/2021

*			First D	ose	Second Dose				
Municipality	12to <18y Population	12 to <18y Students	12 to <18y Non-students	Total	Coverage	12 to <18y Students	12 to <18y Non-students	Total	Coverage
Dili	41,822	33,708	10	33,718	80.6%	10,387		10,387	24.8%
Aileu	7,770	-	+	-	0.0%	-	-	-	0.0%
Ainaro	10,253	-	147	-	0.0%	•		-	0.0%
Baucau	18,189	-	(4)	-	0.0%	+	-	-	0.0%
Bobonaro	14,466	- 3	1.5		0.0%	7.	15		0.0%
Covalima	9,729	-	(4)	-	0.0%	+	-	-	0.0%
Ermera	20,564	3	17.	-	0.0%	7.			0.0%
Lautem	10,447	-	(4)	-	0.0%	*	-	-	0.0%
Liquica	11,137	- 3	155	-	0.0%	5			0.0%
Manatuto	7,108	-	(4)	-	0.0%	*		-	0.0%
Manufahi	8,267	3	157	-	0.0%	7.			0.0%
Viqueque	11,490	-	14	-	0.0%	*	-	-	0.0%
ZEEMS (Oecusse)	10,565	-	- 5	-	0.0%	5		-	0.0%
Total (without Dili)	139,985	+		+	0.0%	*		-	0.0%
Total (Timor-Leste)	181,807	33,708	10	33,718	18.5%	10,387	31	10,387	5.7%

^{*}Based on 2021 population projections

Table 4. Number of individuals among eligible population (18 years and above*) vaccinated with AstraZeneca and Sinovac in Timor-Leste with COVID-19 vaccine and coverage as of 10:00hrs 30/11/2021

	El	igible Population	n	Number vaccinated & Coverage											
	High Risk 18-5	18-59y no		First Dose						Second Dose					
Municipality	Groups (20% Pop.)	s (20% comorbidity	norbidity Total	High Risk Groups (20% Pop.)	Coverage	18-59y no comorbidity (80% Pop.)	Coverage	Total	Coverage	High Risk Groups (20% Pop.)	Coverage	18-59y no comorbidity (80% Pop.)	Coverage	Total	Coverage
Dili	29,980	183,822	213,802	53,319	177.8%	131,269	71.4%	184,588	86.3%	33,490	111.7%	130,768	71.1%	164,258	76.8%
Aileu	6,292	24,943	31,235	11,770	187.1%	11,686	46.9%	23,456	75.1%	7,672	121.9%	7,206	28.9%	14878	47.6%
Ainaro	7,410	27,726	35,136	6,420	86.6%	20,473	73.8%	26,893	76.5%	3,403	45.9%	10,713	38.6%	14116	40.2%
Baucau	18,141	55,175	73,316	17,166	94.6%	43,061	78.0%	60,227	82.1%	10,760	59.3%	30,339	55.0%	41099	56.1%
Bobonaro	13,268	43,476	56,744	10,589	79.8%	30,127	69.3%	40,716	71.8%	6,365	48.0%	17,219	39.6%	23584	41.6%
Covalima	8,725	31,503	40,228	10,104	115.8%	28,349	90.0%	38,453	95.6%	6,796	77.9%	21,244	67.4%	28040	69.7%
Ermera	14,350	60,793	75,143	10,521	73.3%	38,761	63.8%	49,282	65.6%	5,052	35.2%	23,899	39.3%	28951	38.5%
Lautem	8,455	27,963	36,418	8,210	97.1%	19,859	71.0%	28,069	77.1%	5,575	65.9%	13,022	46.6%	18597	51.1%
Liquica	9,588	35,597	45,185	8,353	87.1%	24,166	67.9%	32,519	72.0%	4,822	50.3%	15,812	44.4%	20634	45.7%
Manatuto	6,701	21,718	28,419	6,602	98.5%	16,317	75.1%	22,919	80.6%	3,893	58.1%	11,040	50.8%	14933	52.5%
Manufahi	7,595	25,766	33,361	9,299	122.4%	17,874	69.4%	27,173	81.5%	7,264	95.6%	9,965	38.7%	17229	51.6%
Viqueque	11,034	32,905	43,939	12,395	112.3%	28,560	86.8%	40,955	93.2%	9,356	84.8%	22,394	68.1%	31750	72.3%
ZEEMS (Oecusse)	9,408	32,534	41,942	11,560	122.9%	24,065	74.0%	35,625	84.9%	7,810	83.0%	20,937	64.4%	28,747	68.5%
Total (without Dili)	120,967	420,098	541,065	122,989	101.7%	303,298	72.2%	426,287	78.8%	78,768	65.1%	203,790	48.5%	282,558	52.2%
Total (Timor-Leste)	150,947	603,920	754,867	176,308	116.8%	434,567	71.96%	610,875	80.9%	112,258	74.4%	334,558	55.4%	446,816	59.2%

^{*}Based on 2021 population projections. Population with Comorbidity 12.5% among 30-59y based on 2016 DHS data

High Risk Groups (20% of the popyulation) - Healthcare staff, other front line staff, aged 60y and above, and 18-59y with comorbidity

¹⁸⁻⁵⁹y with no comorbidity (80% of the population)

Table 5: COVID-19 Coverage among TOTAL POPULATION by District as of 10:00 hrs 30/11/2021

		Number Vaccinated & Coverage							
Municipality	Total	First Dos	se	Second Dose					
	Popultion •	Number Vaccinated	Coverage	Number Vaccinated	Coverage				
Dili	352,553	218,306	61.9%	174,645	49.5%				
Aileu	56,242	23,456	41.7%	14,878	26.5%				
Ainaro	65,509	26,893	41.1%	14,116	21.5%				
Baucau	126,996	60,227	47.4%	41,099	32.4%				
Bobonaro	99,932	40,716	40.7%	23,584	23.6%				
Covalima	70,194	38,453	54.8%	28,040	39.9%				
Ermera	139,692	49,282	35.3%	28,951	20.7%				
Lautem	66,938	28,069	41.9%	18,597	27.8%				
Liquica	81,293	32,519	40.0%	20,634	25.4%				
Manatuto	49,417	22,919	46.4%	14,933	30.2%				
Manufahi	57,831	27,173	47.0%	17,229	29.8%				
Viqueque	72,042	40,955	56.8%	31,750	44.1%				
ZEEMS (Oecusse)	79,141	35,625	45.0%	28,747	36.3%				
Total (without Dili)	965,227	426,287	44.2%	282,558	29.3%				
Total (Timor-Leste)	1,317,780	644,593	48.9%	457,203	34.7%				

^{*}Based on 2021 population projections

Table 6: Number of individuals TO BE VACCINATED by District as of 10:00 hrs 30/11/2021

		Number TO BE VACCINATED and Percentage							
Municipality	Total	First Dos	se	Second Dose					
, , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , ,	Popultion •	Number to be Vaccinated	Percentage	Number to be Vaccinated	Percentage				
Dili	352,553	134,247	38.1%	177,908	50.5%				
Aileu	56,242	32,786	58.3%	41,364	73.5%				
Ainaro	65,509	38,616	58.9%	51,393	78.5%				
Baucau	126,996	66,769	52.6%	85,897	67.6%				
Bobonaro	99,932	59,216	59.3%	76,348	76.4%				
Covalima	70,194	31,741	45.2%	42,154	60.1%				
Ermera	139,692	90,410	64.7%	110,741	79.3%				
Lautem	66,938	38,869	58.1%	48,341	72.2%				
Liquica	81,293	48,774	60.0%	60,659	74.6%				
Manatuto	49,417	26,498	53.6%	34,484	69.8%				
Manufahi	57,831	30,658	53.0%	40,602	70.2%				
Viqueque	72,042	31,087	43.2%	40,292	55.9%				
ZEEMS (Oecusse)	79,141	43,516	55.0%	50,394	63.7%				
Total (without Dili)	965,227	538,940	55.8%	682,669	70.7%				
Total (Timor-Leste)	1,317,780	673,187	51.1%	860,577	65.3%				

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SITUATION ANALYSIS

- The transmission of COVID-19 remains at low level in Timor-Leste, as evidenced by continuing and record low level of incident cases, test positivity rates and zero deaths (for four consecutive reporting periods).
- On 26 November 2021, WHO designated the variant B.1.1.529 a variant of concern (VOC), named Omicron. For details please refer to the section "Current Concern" below. WHO recommended that countries should continue to implement the effective public health measures to reduce COVID-19 circulation overall. It is vitally important to expand the vaccination coverage. For the general public, we should continue to adhere the public health and social measures, particularly wearing masks, keeping hand hygiene, physical distancing and ventilation of rooms, and avoiding crowded places.
- In Timor-Leste, the State of Emergency is not extended beyond 29 Nov., which means the end of State of Emergency in the country. However, all the public health and social measures should and will continue to be implemented. Given the risk of introduction of Omicron into the country through international travel, more stringent quarantine and testing requirements should be imposed. The resume of commercial flights might be postponed until the situation gets clearer. Meanwhile, stricter border control should be implemented to curb the illegal migrations across the borders.

CURRENT CONCERN

Update on Omicron variant

(28 November 2021)

- On 26 November 2021, WHO designated the variant B.1.1.529 a variant of concern, named Omicron, on the advice of WHO's <u>Technical Advisory Group on Virus Evolution</u> (TAG-VE). This decision was based on the evidence presented to the TAG-VE that Omicron has several mutations that may have an impact on how it behaves, for example, on how easily it spreads or the severity of illness it causes. Here is a summary of what is currently known.
- Transmissibility: It is not yet clear whether Omicron is more transmissible (e.g., more easily spread from person to person) compared to other variants, including Delta. The number of people testing positive has risen in areas of South Africa affected by this variant, but epidemiologic studies are underway to understand if it is because of Omicron or other factors.
- **Severity of disease**: It is not yet clear whether infection with Omicron causes more severe disease compared to infections with other variants, including Delta. Preliminary data suggests that there are increasing rates of hospitalization in South Africa, but this may be due to increasing overall numbers of people becoming infected, rather than a result of specific infection with Omicron.

Effectiveness of prior SARS-CoV-2 infection

Preliminary evidence suggests there may be an increased risk of reinfection with Omicron (ie, people who have previously had COVID-19 could become reinfected more easily with Omicron), as compared to other variants of concern, but information is limited. More information on this will become available in the coming days and weeks.

Effectiveness of vaccines: WHO is working with technical partners to understand the potential impact of this variant on our existing countermeasures, including vaccines. Vaccines remain critical to reducing severe disease and death, including against the dominant circulating variant, Delta. Current vaccines remain effective against severe disease and death.

Effectiveness of current tests: The widely used PCR tests continue to detect infection, including infection with Omicron, as we have seen with other variants as well. Studies are ongoing to determine whether there is any impact on other types of tests, including rapid antigen detection tests.

Effectiveness of current treatments: Corticosteroids and IL6 Receptor Blockers will still be effective for managing patients with severe COVID-19. Other treatments will be assessed to see if they are still as effective given the changes to parts of the virus in the Omicron variant.

(Source: https://www.who.int/news/item/28-11-2021-update-on-omicron)

AVAILABLE RESOURCES

- For public and professionals on prevention, treatment, and vaccination etc.
- WHO Recommendations for COVID-19 Related Decisions
- WHO Free Courses in Tetum OpenWHO.org

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 hasane@who.int