Coronavirus Disease 2019 (COVID-19)

Situation Report – 115 Timor-Leste



Data as reported by 01 September 2021

HIGHLIGHTS

• The Ministry of Health (MoH) reported 1618 new cases of COVID-19 since the last time of reporting 26.08.2021) – this takes the total tally of COVID-19 cases to 16,914. All patients are admitted to the designated isolation and treatment facilities at Vera Cruz, Tasitolu, Tibar, and other government identified isolation hotels. The MoH has also granted permission in some cases for home isolation.

For more details, please see the epidemiological update section. The surveillance team, as per the national guideline is conducting further investigation and contact tracing. More details about the new cases can be found at the MoH's Facebook page, <u>Palacio das Cinzas</u>.

- UNICEF and WHO continue to support COVID-19 prevention messaging and supported the MoH to provide prevention messaging to a network of civil society partners supporting the response. These are used in the ongoing awareness drive in several municipalities and through vehicle-based messaging in communities. WHO and UNICEF also continue messaging on social media and through support to mass media engagement.
- WHO continues to provide vehicles in addition to a technical focal point to support municipalities during the COVID-19 immunization drive in the country.
- UNICEF and WHO continue to support the COVAX Secretariat and six sub-technical working groups under the MoH to design and implement the ongoing national COVID-19 vaccination drive.
- UNICEF, UNFPA and WHO are supporting the MoH to monitor COVID-19 positive pregnant women admitted in the isolation centres, and the number and severity of COVID-19 infection in the under 18 age group.
- The 15 oxygen concentrators provided to MOH by UNICEF in the past week are now placed in critical care centres in the capital and distributed to municipal level hospitals and health centres.

SITUATION IN NUMBERS

16,914 confirmed (1618 new)12,363 recovered (1171 new)4,479 active cases72 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

216,867,420 confirmed cases

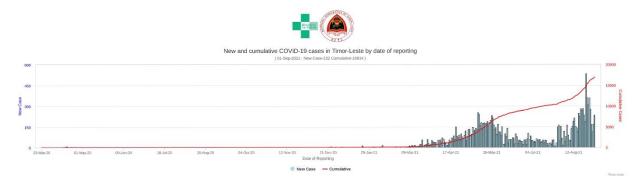
4,507,837 deaths

5,019,907,027 vaccine doses administered

- To support children housed in isolation facilities and ensure their psychosocial needs are met, the Ministry of Social Solidarity and Inclusion, with support from UNICEF, delivered packages of UNICEF blue bags with 16 different recreational items to 91 children in isolation centres in Ermera municipality. In addition, two family hygiene kits, two mother and infant kits to help mothers and infants, one pregnant mother and one vulnerable adolescent girl were also distributed. Furthermore, over 300 similar recreational kits have been prepared for distribution to children in isolation facilities in other municipalities.
- The MoH reported COVID-19 **20** more deaths since the last time of reporting (25.08.2021). The COVID-19 death toll now stands at **72**.

EPIDEMIOLOGICAL UPDATES

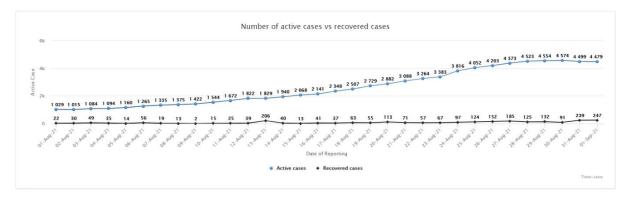
• The cumulative number of confirmed COVID-19 cases stand at 16,914, of which 12,363 have recovered, including 1171 cases recovered within the last seven days.



• As of 01 September 2021, there are 4480 active cases, in which 1618 were reported within the last seven days (compared to 2140 cases from the previous reporting period).



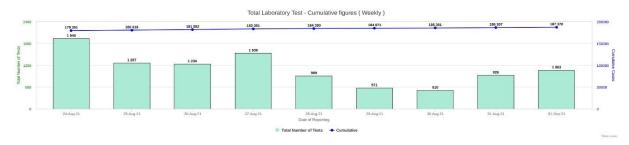
 The graph below shows the cumulative active and recovered cases reported daily. With a low number of daily recovery cases and the continuous increase in new daily cases; the need for moderate or critical care will also increase. This will further stretch the capacity of Lahane and Vera-Cruz.



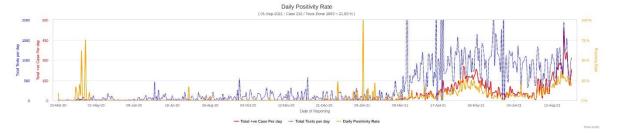
- During the last seven days, 20 deaths were reported, resulting in 72 deaths since March 2020.
- Distribution of newly reported, recovered and active cases by municipalities, as of 01 September 2021.

Municipality	New Case	Cumulative	New	Cumulative	New	Cumulative	Active Case	
Municipality	New Case	Case	Recovered	Recovered	Deceased	Deceased	Active Case	
Aileu	2	115	0	73	0	0	42	
Ainaro	0	179	0	100	1	3	76	
Baucau	12	1125	0	777	0	1	347	
Bobonaro	6	422	0	311	0	6	105	
Covalima	14	701	67	376	1	1	324	
Dili	169	12079	165	9496	2	54	2529	
Ermera	1	1063	0	355	0	1	707	
Lautem	12	99	0	60	0	0	39	
Liquiça	0	105	0	72	1	2	31	
Manatuto	4	140	0	92	0	0	48	
Manufahi	0	223	5	142	0	0	81	
Oecusse	4	217	0	158	0	1	58	
Viqueque	8	446	10	351	0	3	92	
Total	232	16914	247	12363	5	72	4479	

• As of 01 September 2021, **187,370** PCR tests were done by the National Health Laboratory and referral hospital laboratories since the beginning of the response.



• The last figures show that the national 7-day average daily test is 965 or 0.74 test/1000 population. In addition, the national 7-day average positivity rate stands at 24% (1618/6752), compared to 27% (2140/7929) from the previous reporting period.



- There are active cases in all the municipalities; however, Dili remains the epicentre of the outbreak where 56% of the active cases are reported, followed by Ermera, Baucau, Covalima, Bobonaro, Viqueque, Manufahi & Ainaro.
- Delta variant is a VoC that WHO is tracking as it has increased transmissibility. Timor-Leste has reported 57 cases of Delta variant from 65 samples that were successfully sequenced in August. In Total, 977 sample samples have been sent for sequencing since March 2020; 719 were successfully sequenced.

VACCINATION UPDATES

At the time of writing this report (morning of 01st September 2021), in total, 592,471 COVID-19 vaccine doses comprising 391,723, first doses (coverage 49.8%) and 200,748-second doses (coverage 26.5%) were administered in Timor-Leste. The breakdown of the number of doses administered and coverage by vaccine type and vaccine dose is given 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 01/09/2021

	Dose	AZ	SV	Total	Coverage
	1 st Dose	346,267	45,456	391,723	49.8%
Timor-Leste	2 nd Dose	168,745	32,003	200,748	26.5%
	Total	515,012	77,459	592,471	
	1 st Dose	114,036	44,756	158,792	73.1%
Dili	2 nd Dose	92,164	31,541	123,705	57.8%
	Total	206,200	76,297	282,497	

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Table 2: Number of individuals vaccinated and AEFI by sex as of 10:00 hrs 01/08/2021

			AEFI						
Municipality		First Dose		S	econd Dos	e	Male	Female	Total
	Male	Female	Total	Male	Female	Total	iviale	remale	
Dili	89,997	68,795	158,792	70,138	53,567	123,705	14	19	33
Aileu	4,934	3,352	8,286	2,325	1,395	3,720	1	0	1
Ainaro	4,949	3,606	8,555	2,280	1,577	3,857	0	0	0
Baucau	20,479	16,693	37,172	8,326	5,979	14,305	0	0	0
Bobonaro	12,953	10,235	23,188	3,613	2,350	5,963	4	6	10
Covalima	13,504	11,777	25,281	3,690	2,861	6,551	7	6	13
Ermera	12,877	8,203	21,080	4,278	2,591	6,869	0	0	0
Lautem	7,731	6,684	14,415	2,951	2,495	5,446	2	0	2
Liquica	8,588	6,920	15,508	3,672	2,719	6,391	0	1	1
Manatuto	8,157	6,131	14,288	2,861	2,017	4,878	2	0	2
Manufahi	7,079	4,719	11,798	2,974	1,709	4,683	0	0	0
Viqueque	13,676	12,600	26,276	4,584	3,571	8,155	2	0	2
ZEEMS (Oecusse)	14,168	12,916	27,084	3,535	2,690	6,225	0	0	0
Total (without Dili)	129,095	103,836	232,931	45,089	31,954	77,043	18	13	31
Total (Timor-Leste)	219,092	172,631	391,723	115,227	85,521	200,748	32	32	64

Table 3. Number of individuals among eligible population (18 years and above*) vaccinated in Timor-Leste with COVID-19 vaccine and coverage as of 10:00hrs

Municipality	Eligible Population			Number vaccinated & Coverage											
				First Dose					Second Dose						
	High Risk Groups (20% Pop.)	18-59y no comorbidi ty (80% Pop.)	Total	High Risk Groups (20% Pop.)	Coverage	18-59y no comorbid ity (80% Pop.)	Coverage	Total	Coverage	High Risk Groups (20% Pop.)	Coverage	18-59y no comorbid ity (80% Pop.)	Coverage	Total	Coverage
Dili	29,980	183,822	213,802	50,915	169.8%	107,877	58.7%	158,792	74.3%	30,660	102.3%	93,045	50.6%	123,705	57.9%
Aileu	6,292	24,943	31,235	3,794	60.3%	4,492	18.0%	8,286	26.5%	2,021	32.1%	1,699	6.8%	3720	11.9%
Ainaro	7,410	27,726	35,136	2,548	34.4%	6,007	21.7%	8,555	24.3%	1,617	21.8%	2,240	8.1%	3857	11.0%
Baucau	18,141	55,175	73,316	11,501	63.4%	25,671	46.5%	37,172	50.7%	5,675	31.3%	8,630	15.6%	14305	19.5%
Bobonaro	13,268	43,476	56,744	7,854	59.2%	15,334	35.3%	23,188	40.9%	3,174	23.9%	2,789	6.4%	5963	10.5%
Covalima	8,725	31,503	40,228	7,809	89.5%	17,472	55.5%	25,281	62.8%	3,626	41.6%	2,925	9.3%	6551	16.3%
Ermera	14,350	60,793	75,143	5,960	41.5%	15,120	24.9%	21,080	28.1%	2,071	14.4%	4,798	7.9%	6869	9.1%
Lautem	8,455	27,963	36,418	4,690	55.5%	9,725	34.8%	14,415	39.6%	2,293	27.1%	3,153	11.3%	5446	15.0%
Liquica	9,588	35,597	45,185	3,584	37.4%	11,924	33.5%	15,508	34.3%	1,937	20.2%	4,454	12.5%	6391	14.1%
Manatuto	6,701	21,718	28,419	4,274	63.8%	10,014	46.1%	14,288	50.3%	1,981	29.6%	2,897	13.3%	4878	17.2%
Manufahi	7,595	25,766	33,361	5,028	66.2%	6,770	26.3%	11,798	35.4%	2,649	34.9%	2,034	7.9%	4683	14.0%
Viqueque	11,034	32,534	43,568	8,577	77.7%	17,699	54.4%	26,276	60.3%	3,765	34.1%	4,390	13.5%	8155	18.7%
ZEEMS (Oecusse)	9,408	32,905	42,313	10,197	108.4%	16,887	51.3%	27,084	64.0%	3,529	37.5%	2,696	8.2%	6,225	14.7%
Total (without Dili)	120,967	420,098	541,065	75,816	62.7%	157,115	37.4%	232,931	43.1%	34,338	28.4%	42,705	10.2%	77,043	14.2%
Total (Timor-Leste)	150,947	603,920	754,867	126,731	84.0%	264,992	43.88%	391,723	51.9%	64,998	43.1%	135,750	22.5%	200,748	26.6%

^{*}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)

Figure 1: Weekly progress of vaccination in Timor-Leste during as of 10:00 hrs 01/09/2021

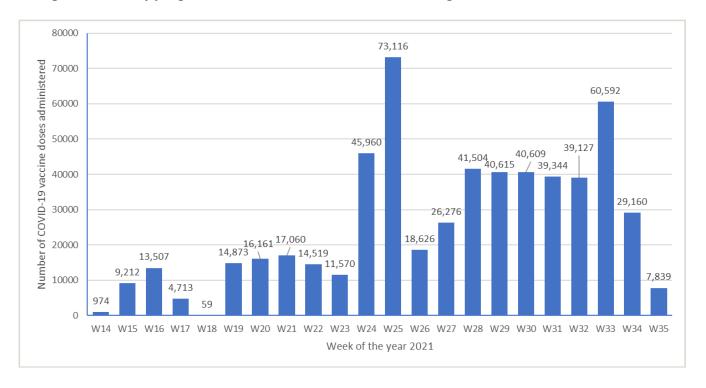
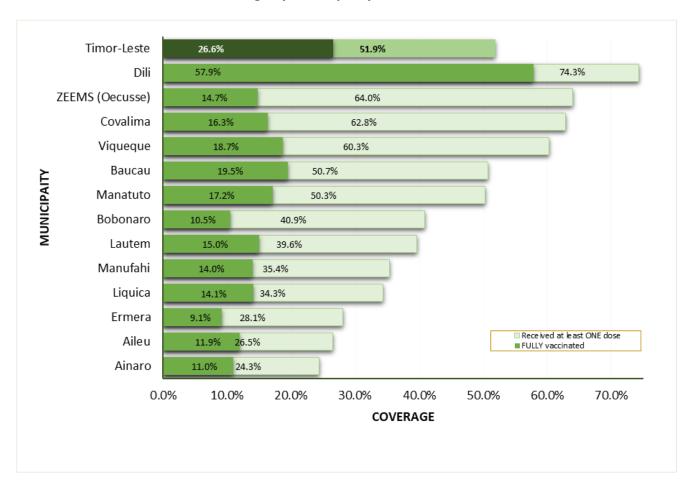


Table 4: COVID-19 vaccine coverage by municipality in Timor-Leste as of 10:00hrs 01/09/2021



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.

PUBLIC HEALTH AND SOCIAL MEASURES

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 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 Vaccine

Vaccine efficacy, effectiveness, and protection

- COVID-19 vaccines have proven to be safe, effective and lifesaving. Like all vaccines, they do
 not fully protect everyone who is vaccinated, and we do not yet know how well they can
 prevent people from transmitting the virus to others. So, as well as getting vaccinated, we
 must also continue with other measures to fight the pandemic.
- Equitable access to safe and effective vaccines is critical to ending the COVID-19 pandemic.
- Safe and effective vaccines are a game-changing tool: but for the foreseeable future we must continue wearing masks, cleaning our hands, ensuring good ventilation indoors, physically distancing and avoiding crowds.
- Being vaccinated does not mean that we can throw caution to the wind and put ourselves and others at risk, particularly because research is still ongoing into how much vaccines protect not only against disease but also against infection and transmission.

- Being vaccinated does not mean that we can throw caution to the wind and put ourselves and others at risk, particularly because research is still ongoing into how much vaccines protect not only against disease but also against infection and transmission.
- But it's not vaccines that will stop the pandemic, it's vaccination. We must ensure fair and equitable access to vaccines, and ensure every country receives them and can roll them out to protect their people, starting with the most vulnerable.

Delta Variant of SARS-CoV-2

- Delta variant is a variant of concern that WHO is tracking and monitoring around the world.
 It's a variant of concern because we know it has increased transmissibility. This has been demonstrated by several countries. And we know that where the Delta variant is identified, it rapidly takes off and spreads between people more efficiently than even the Alpha variant that was first detected around December, January 2021. The world remains largely susceptible to infection, including any variants of concern, including the Delta variant.
- There are many things that you can do yourself that can keep yourself protected and keep your loved ones protected against this virus, including the Delta variant. This includes making sure you have clean hands and wearing a mask, making sure that mask covers your nose and your mouth and that you have clean hands when you put on your mask, and you take off your mask. It involves avoiding crowded spaces, keeping your distance from others, making sure that if you are indoors, you are in a room that has good ventilation. And in many respects, that's as simple as opening a window or two windows so that you have good airflow. Taking all of those measures will reduce the possibility of exposure to the virus and reduce the possibility of you getting infected.

COVID-19 Information and media gueries:

- 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 singhsho@who.int and hasane@who.int