

MALDIVES RESPONSE TO COVID-19

SITREP: 6 October 2020

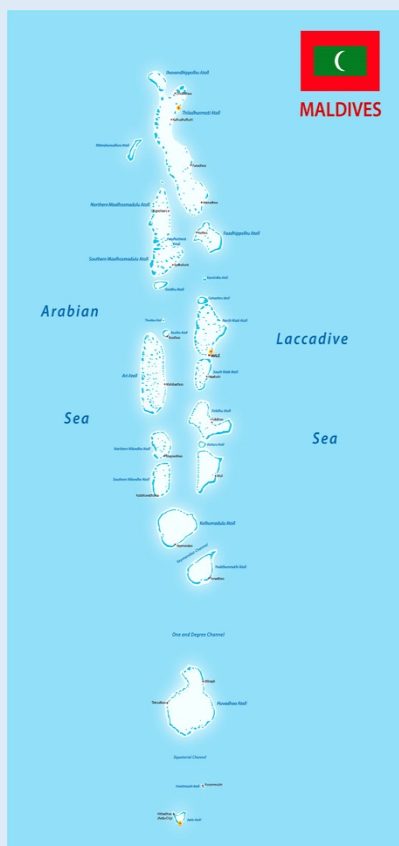


World Health
Organization

Maldives

SUMMARY OF SITUATION

Update



Confirmed Cases	10,567
Recoveries	9427 (88.21%)
Deaths	34 (0.34%)
Active Cases	1,099
Hospitalized Cases	61

Active cases: Geographical distribution

Greater Male' Area	1,006
Haa Alif Hoarafushi	4
Haa Alif Dhidhdhoo	1
Haa Alif Kelaa	1
Haa Dhaal Kulhudhuffushi	7
Shaviyani Kanditheem	1
Raa Ungoofaaru	1
Baa Eydhafushi	1
Baa Dharavandhoo	1
Kaafu Dhiffushi	1
Kaafu Guraidhoo	1
Alif Alif Thoddoo	1
Alifu Dhaal Maamingili	2
Alifu Dhaalu Kunburudhoo	2
Thaa Veymandoo	1
Thaa Madifushi	1
Laamu Kahdhoo	35
Gaafu Alifu Villingili	1
Gaafu Alifu Maamendhoo	2
Gaafu Dhaalu Thinadhoo	2
Gaafu Dhaalu Hoadedhdhoo	1
Seenu Gan	53

Public health risk alert levels

National	Level 2	YELLOW
Male' City	Level 4	RED
Hoadeddhoo	Level 4	RED

Key updates

COVID-19 transmission in the Maldives

The COVID-19 transmission in the Maldives is on decreasing trend. Compared to August, the total number of cases have decreased by 60 percent in September 2020. As a result, currently there are 1099 active cases with recoveries reaching 88.21%. Flu clinic positivity rate has decreased to 10 percent currently from 20 percent at the end of August. The doubling time of cases improved from 39 days in August to 102 days at the end of September 2020.



Majority of cases continue to be observed from Greater Male' region. 17 front line workers in Male tested positive for COVID-19 in September. They are all stable or recovered. Linkage has been established to existing clusters for almost all of them.

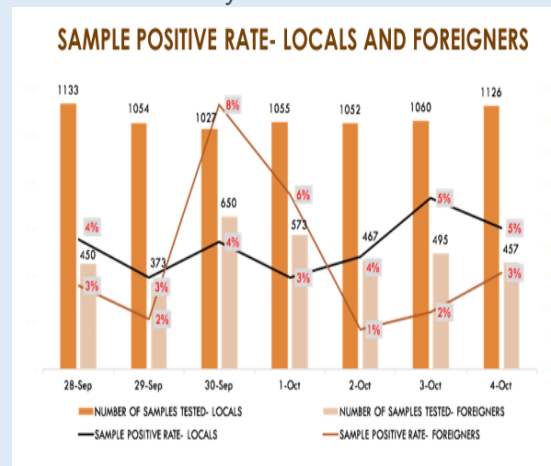
Outside of Greater Male' Region, 122 active cases have been reported in 20 inhabited islands during the last week. 57 of the infected people were local Maldivians and 65 expats. In the north of the country, Kulhudhuffushi island in Haa Dhaalu Atoll 7 active cases were detected. The island is currently under monitoring and contact tracing is ongoing. Similarly in Gadhdhoo Island, Laamu atoll recently detected 35 active cases are under isolation.

Over the first week of October, 53 additional cases were reported in Addu, the southernmost atoll of the country. They were all expat workers under quarantine on arriving to the Maldives. All the active cases in the peripheral part of the country were identified during the mandatory 14-day quarantine period on entering the islands. As a result, community transmission in the respective islands have been prevented. All cases in the atolls have link to travel from greater Male' area or abroad.

All cases reported in Atolls have a link to Male and mainly identified during their quarantine period after reaching an island. Currently there are 47 active cases in 22 inhabited islands. Mechanisms are in place to control imported cases in inhabited islands.

The COVID-19 response in the Maldives is built around early detection of cases and appropriate management. To achieve so, Maldives maintains high samples testing rate. Till date more than 163,000 tests have been performed. Around 1500 samples are tested daily in Male and in peripheral parts of the country and the test to result time is around 24 hours.

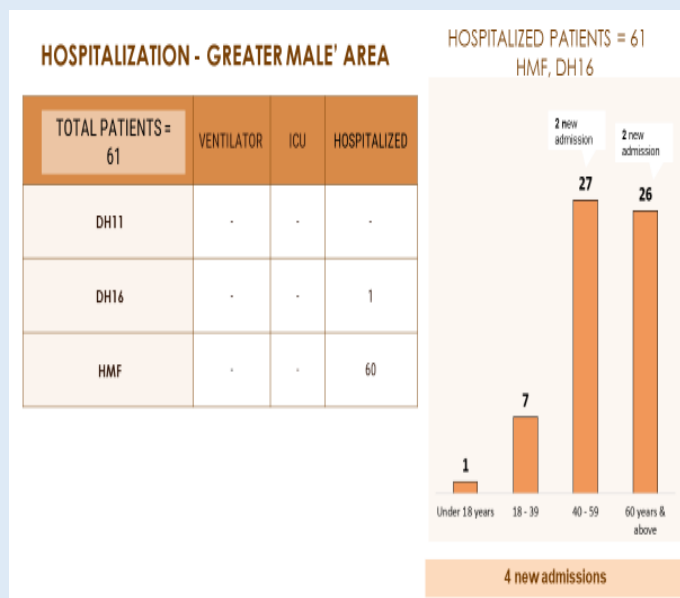
Sample positivity rates have decreased significantly during September compared to 12-18 percent during August 2020. The positivity rates are decreasing both amongst locals and expats and stands at 2 percent on 6 October 2020.



61 COVID-19 cases are being managed in the country. 26 of them are above 60 years of age and 27 between 40-60 years. All of them are stable and no cases in ICU or ventilator.

With the decline in cases during the month of September, some of the restrictive measures were alleviated in the greater Male' region, with vehicles being allowed for 2 additional hours of the day. Curfew still stands from 10pm to 5am for the greater Male' area, in addition to the ongoing mass inspections by the HEOC in partnership with the Male' City Council and Maldives Police Services.

The Ministry of Education has finalized SOPs and guidelines in partnership with the technical advisory group to prepare for holding final exams for A levels. The Ministry also has plans to resume classes in phases. This week on campus education has been started for class 9-11.



The ministry of tourism is also gearing up for the guesthouse reopening from 15th of October. Discussions are ongoing with all relevant parties such as the local government authority to ensure continuity of essential services in the islands.

More than 18,500 tourists have arrived in the country. The resorts are following standard procedures for COVID-19 management. Currently there are 26 active cases in 20 resorts. 10 cases amongst tourists have been identified and are being managed as per the national protocol.

COVID-19 Weekly Spending Report – 1 October 2020

As of 01 October 2020, total spending towards COVID-19 health and social efforts stood at MVR 1,287.7 million (USD 83.5 million), which is an increase of 0.3% from the week before. In this review period 50.8 % of total health and social spending was committed-spending. In terms of week-on-week spending, MoH registered the largest spending amongst its peers with MVR 1.5 million. The bulk of this spending was allocated to Operational Services such as payment of rent on Covid-19 facilities and catering for those in such facilities. IGMH followed with the second largest spending for the review week with MVR 0.8 million. Other noteworthy expenditures included NSPA's spending to support local medical treatments through Grants, Contributions and Subsidies. To date, NDMA, MoH and IGMH account for 88.3% of all COVID-19 spending on health and social efforts.

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By Type of Spending

In millions MVR



"COVID-19 Frontline Allowance" was introduced to incentivize frontline workers exposed to different levels of risk associated with the COVID-19 health protection efforts. These frontline workers have been grouped into 3 risk categories, which determine the value of allowance paid out. Till date MVR 33.5 million has been disbursed to 2,948 front line

Similarly, the total disbursements made to Economic Response Plan (ERP) schemes showed an increase of 2.1% from the previous week. As of 01 October 2020, total disbursements made to ERP schemes stood at MVR 1035.3 million (USD 67.1 million), which includes disbursements made towards the Income Support scheme, COVID-19 Recovery Loan scheme to support businesses and Discount on Utility Bills (Electricity and Water).