

Coronavirus Disease 2019 (COVID-19)

Situation Report – 88

Timor-Leste

Data as reported by 24 February 2021

HIGHLIGHTS

- The Ministry of Health (MoH) reported **7** new cases of COVID-19 since the last time of reporting (18.02.2021) – bringing the total number of COVID-19 cases in Timor-Leste to **109**. All patients are now admitted to the designated isolation and treatment facility at Vera Cruz.

Six of the seven new cases are all from aldeia Klauhalek, suku Belulik Leten from Covalima municipality. These cases were detected through mass sample screening on 20 February 2021. Following these cases, the epidemiology surveillance team carried out contact tracing as per the national surveillance and contact tracing guideline for COVID-19. The government has placed a sanitary health fence to contain any further transmission at the local level. Through the Integrated Center for Crises Management, the government and the MoH request everyone not to panic and indulge in spreading unverified information and rumours. The authorities also ask everyone to follow the COVID-19 preventive measures for everyone's safety.

- 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 Government endorsed the Oxford-AstraZeneca COVID-19 vaccine, the MoH, WHO and UNICEF conducted the first media interface on vaccine deployment. The objective was to inform and equip the media with authentic information and tools on COVID-19 vaccine deployment so that the wider public has correct information too.
- As a part of the COVID-19 vaccination deployment strategy, the MoH with support from WHO and UNICEF conducted the first advocacy orientation on the COVID-19 vaccine for the first set of the frontline group - FALINTIL-Forças de Defesa de Timor-Leste (FFDTL) and Polícia Nacional de Timor-Leste (PNTL). The objective of this orientation is to increase awareness of the COVID-19 vaccine including the benefits and advantages of the vaccine and to reduce vaccine hesitancy.

SITUATION IN NUMBERS

109 confirmed (**7** new)
88 recovered (**25** new)
21 isolation
0 deaths

(As per data released by the
[Ministry of Health](#))

Follow WHO Timor-Leste on
[Facebook](#) and [Twitter](#).

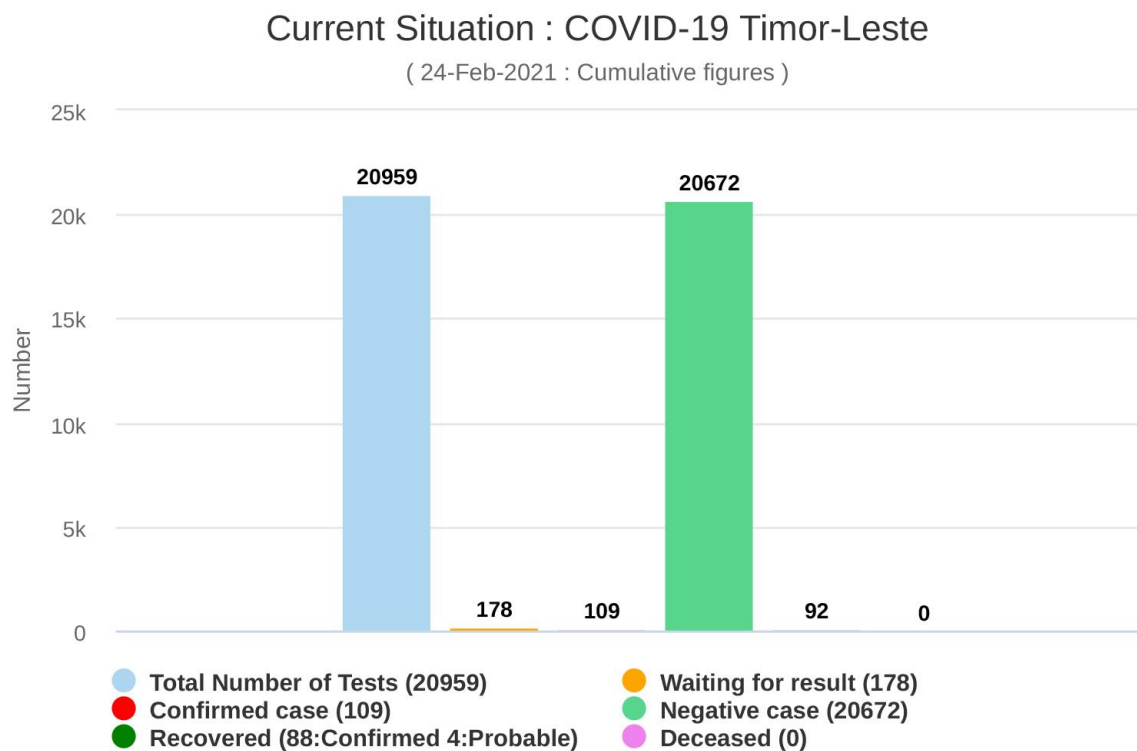
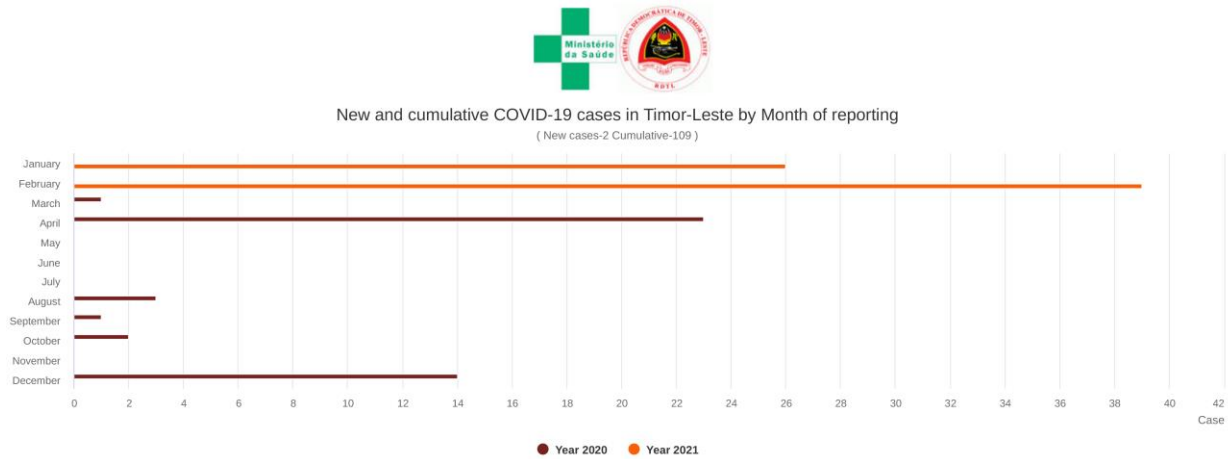
More information and guidance by
WHO regarding the current COVID-
19 outbreak can be found [here](#).

GLOBAL SITUATION IN NUMBERS

Total (new) cases in last seven
days

Globally
110 763 898 confirmed (**2 457 026**)
2 455 331 deaths (**66 359**)

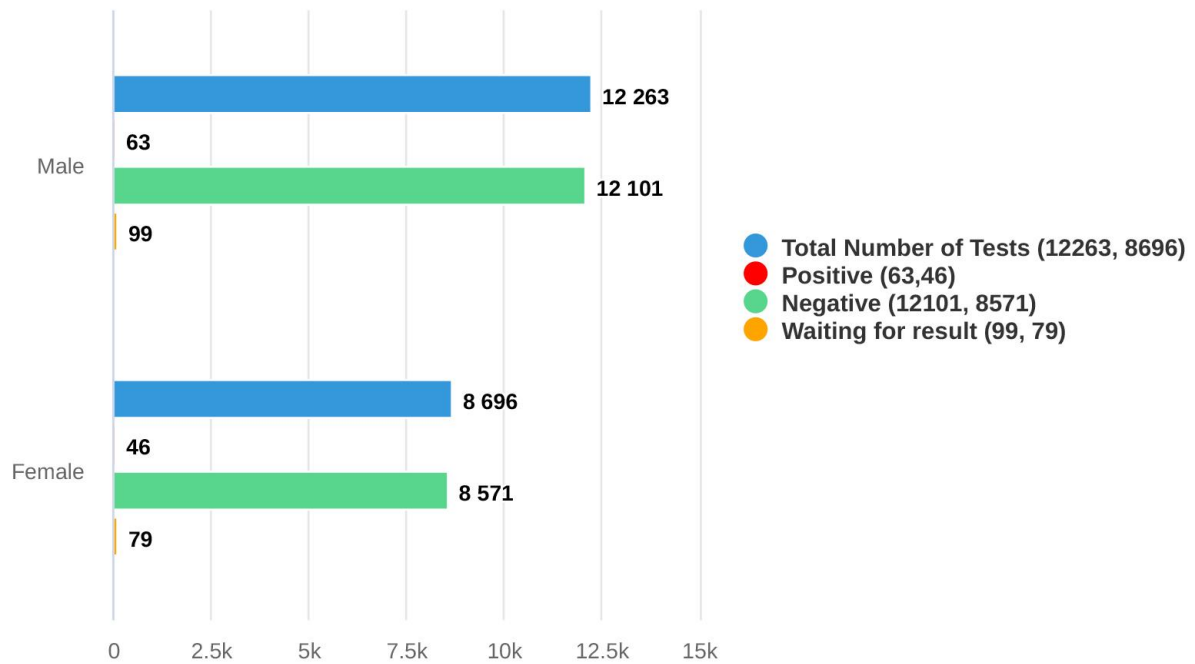
- On the COVID-19 vaccine deployment front, the MoH, with technical support from WHO conducted training on adverse effect following immunization (AEFI) for the second batch of medical doctors and health workers from all community health centres from all over the country.



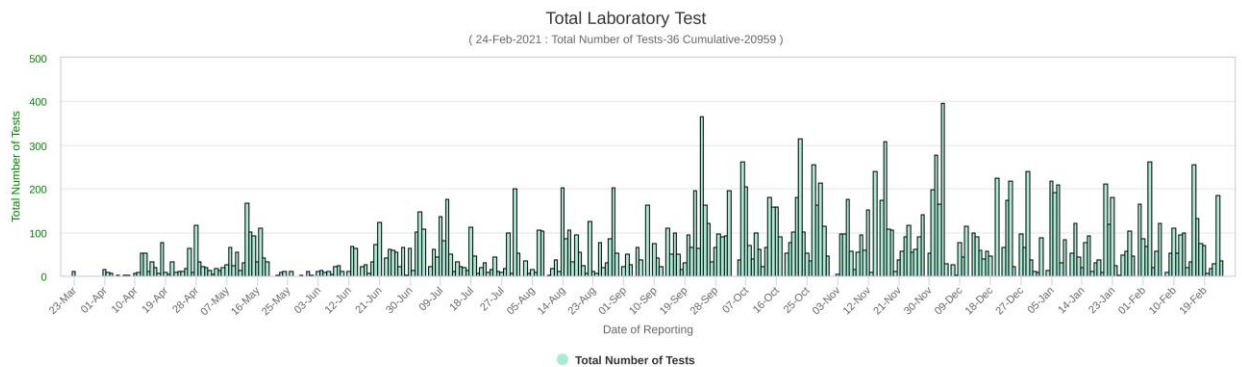
Source : National Directorate of Disease Control - Department of Epidemic Surveillance

Laboratory Test Results : COVID-19 Timor-Leste

(24-Feb-2021 : Cumulative figures)



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



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

Timor-Leste

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 [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
-