

Coronavirus Disease 2019 (COVID-19)

Situation Report – 93

Timor-Leste

Data as reported by 31 March 2021

HIGHLIGHTS

- The Ministry of Health (MoH) reported **232** new cases of COVID-19 since the last time of reporting (24.03.2021) – bringing the total number of COVID-19 cases to **604**. The cases are restricted to clusters still. All patients are admitted to the designated isolation and treatment facilities at Vera Cruz and Tasi Tolu.

- Currently, there are seven clusters of cases in Baucau, three clusters in Viqueque, and one cluster in Lautem municipality which are linked to the **48** clusters in Dili. The epidemiology surveillance team is carrying out contact tracing as per the national surveillance and contact tracing guideline for COVID-19.

As on 30.03.2021 – the National Health Laboratory (NHL) performed **41,368** COVID-19 tests including samples collected through mass screenings in the affected municipalities.

- 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](#).
- As the numbers of case increase in the country, the Government appeals to everyone not to panic and indulge in spreading unverified information and rumours. The authorities appeal that everyone must continue to practice COVID-19 appropriate behaviour for everyone's safety and recovery.
- As part of the national COVID-19 vaccine deployment plan, the MoH – Risk Communication and Community Engagement Pillar 2, with technical support from WHO and partners continues to conduct vaccine sensitization sessions at the municipality level, to religious leaders, municipal authorities, districts health office staff, and community leaders.
- The MoH with technical support from WHO Country Office Timor-Leste and in collaboration with UNICEF Timor-Leste and other partners has completed a three-day training of trainers (ToT) in all municipalities ahead of the COVID-19 vaccine rollout. Currently, over 1,000 health workers are being training in all CHC and Health Post level on several topics including pre-campaign activities, such as listing of target population, and micro planning and hands-on demonstration of injection safety, waste disposal, and reporting adverse events following immunization (AEFI).

SITUATION IN NUMBERS

604 confirmed (**232** new)
189 recovered (**65** new)
415 active cases
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

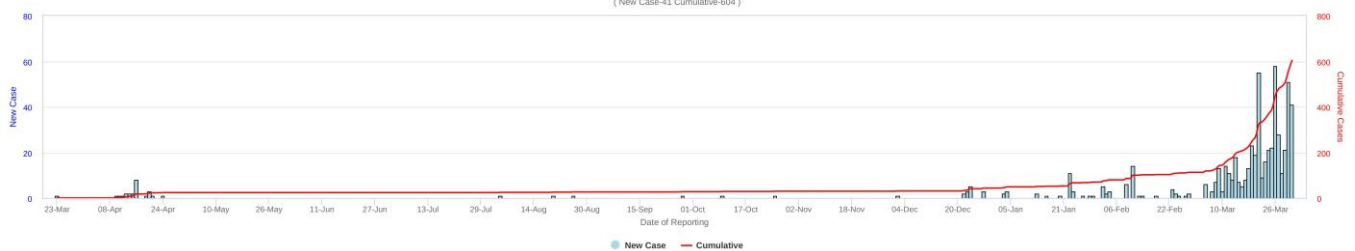
Total (new) cases in last seven days

Globally
126 372 442 confirmed (**3 802 314**)
2 769 696 deaths (**64 187**)

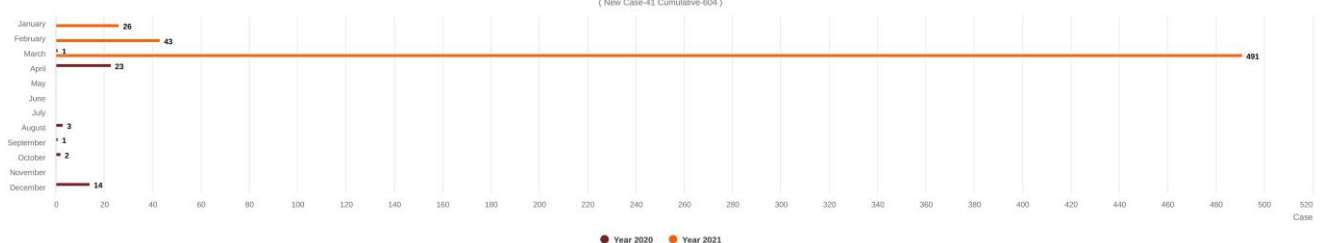
- The government has approved home-isolation and home-quarantine upon recommendation from the Ministry of Health. The government also renewed the imposition of sanitary fence in Baucau and Viqueque until 2 April 2021.
- The National Parliament, through the extraordinary plenary session, approved the government's request for the State of Emergency's extension until 2 May 2021.
- WHO continuous to extend all-round technical support in the development of guidelines and SOPs for home quarantine, home isolation and review and updation of SOPs/guidelines for transfer of cases by ambulances.
- Discussions between specialist at the national hospital and WHO critical care specialist are underway to develop a roster of health workers and refresher training for quality clinical management of severe and critical care of COVID-19 cases.



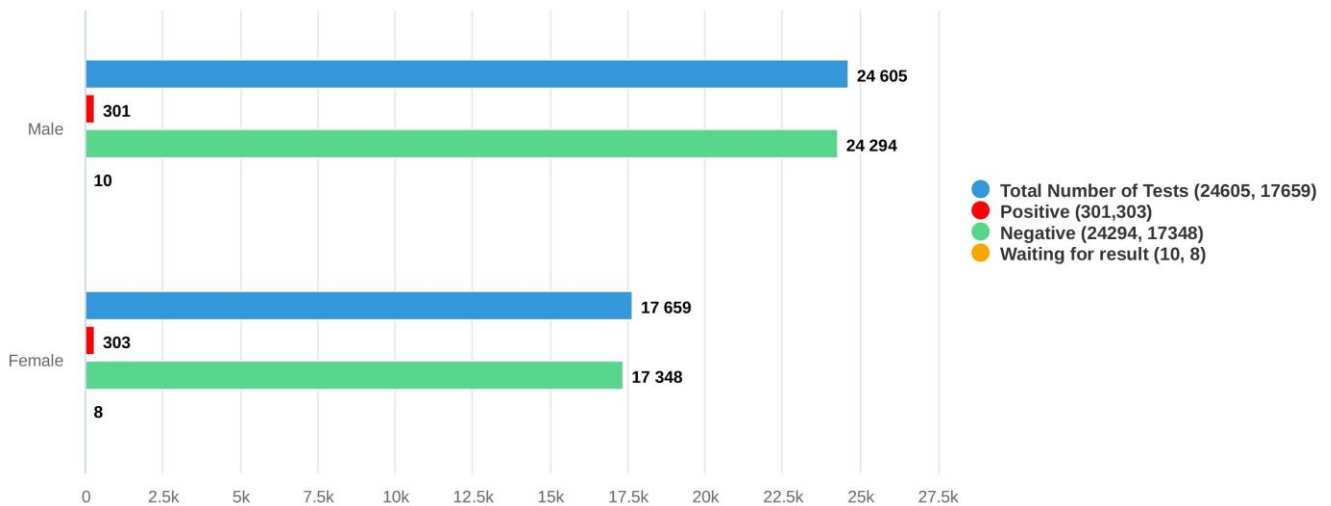
New and cumulative COVID-19 cases in Timor-Leste by date of reporting
(New Case-41 Cumulative-604)



New and cumulative COVID-19 cases in Timor-Leste by Month of reporting
(New Case-41 Cumulative-604)



Laboratory Test Results : COVID-19 Timor-Leste
(Cumulative figures)



District wise: Positive case
 Dili : 532 | Other Districts : 72



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
-