

Coronavirus Disease 2019 (COVID-19)

Situation Report – 113

Timor-Leste



World Health
Organization

Timor-Leste

Data as reported by 18 August 2021

HIGHLIGHTS

- The Ministry of Health (MoH) reported **1285** new cases of COVID-19 since the last time of reporting (11.08.2021) – this takes the total tally of COVID-19 cases to **13,155**. 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, [Palacio das Cinzas](#).
- WHO and UNICEF continue to support advocacy actions, including at the community level. The two agencies and several national and international partners also continue to support awareness on COVID-19 prevention and vaccine uptake on community radio and social media.
- As the number of cases of COVID-19 Delta variant in Ermera rises, SNAEM, the Ministry of Health, and WHO are jointly conducting a two-day training for the critical care staff in Ermera municipality. On the first day of training, the topics covered were Respiratory Therapy, COVID-19 Patient management and Transfer of patient and IPC on the second day.
- On 13 August, a UNICEF chartered aircraft brought in 168,000 doses of COVID-19 vaccines donated by the Government of Japan to Timor-Leste through the COVAX Vaccine Sharing Facility initiative.
- Ahead of the arrival of the ultra-cold freezers for storage of the Pfizer BioNTech vaccines, UNICEF is supporting ultra-cold chain management training to SAMES and the bio-medical technician at the MoH. UNICEF and WHO are also working with six sub-technical working groups on planning for the vaccine rollout and messaging development.
- UNICEF handed over 15 oxygen concentrators to the MoH on 18 August. These are being distributed urgently to the Vera Cruz centre, national hospital and referral hospitals for preparedness and response to the increasing number of COVID-19 cases.

SITUATION IN NUMBERS

13155 confirmed (**1285** new)
10608 recovered (**439** new)
2507 active cases
40 deaths

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

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

GLOBAL SITUATION IN NUMBERS

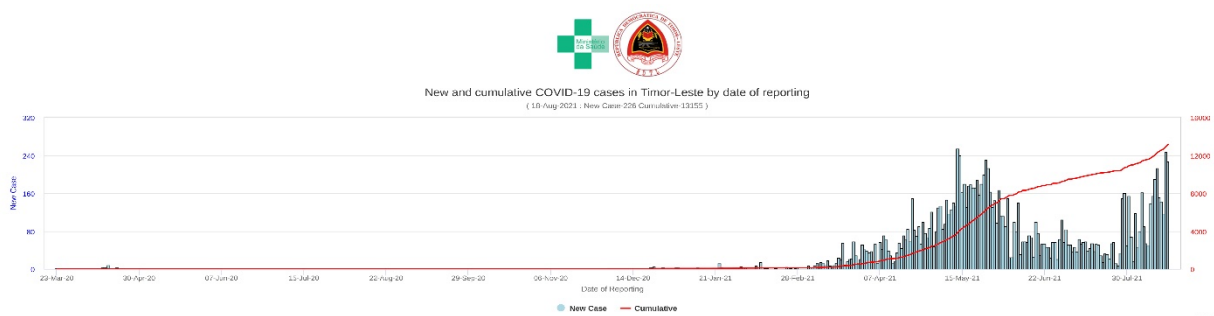
Total (new) cases in last seven days

Globally
207,784,507 confirmed
4,370,424 deaths

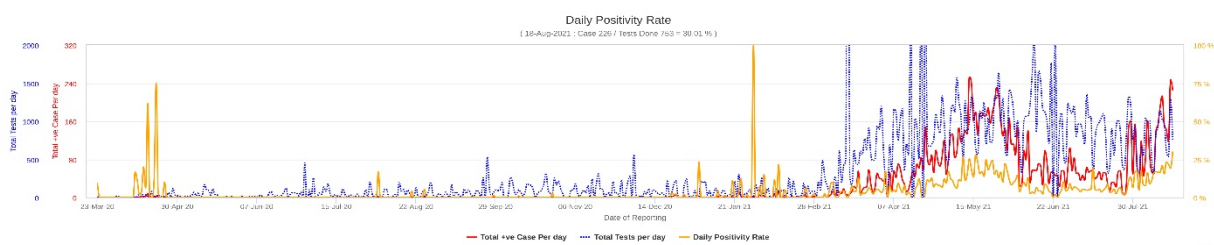
- UNICEF and WHO continue to raise awareness on COVID-19 prevention and vaccine uptake using radio, social media and television.
- The MoH reported COVID-19 11 more deaths since the last time of reporting (18.08.2021). The COVID-19 death toll now stands at **40**.
- The Ministry of Health (MoH), with financial and technical assistance from WHO is conducting refresher training to strengthen the service delivery of Severe Acute Malnutrition Management and Inpatient Treatment Management. The refresher training is being held in six referral hospitals and six CHCs with beds. So far, one referral hospital and two CHCs have undergone the training, namely Baucau Referral Hospital, CHC Lautem and CHC Same. Approximately 86 health staff – medical doctors, nurses, midwives, nutritionists – have received the training.

EPIDEMIOLOGICAL UPDATES

- The cumulative number of confirmed COVID-19 cases stand at 13155. As of 18 August 2021, there are 2507 active cases, with a daily incidence rate of 11.2/100,000 population.



- Cases were noted to gradually decrease within June -July; however, the latest figures from the last 7 days showed a significant increase, with 1285 new cases reported compared to the 725 cases for the same period the previous week. In addition, the national 7-day average daily test positivity rate has increased from 12% since the previous reporting period to 19%;

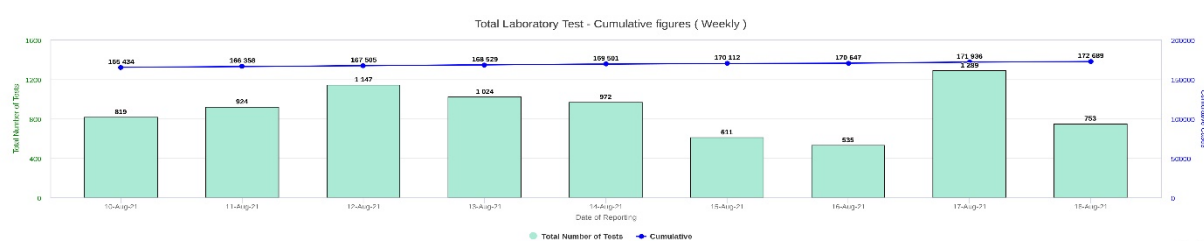


- The number of new cases reported per day from the municipalities such as Ermera, Covalima, and Bobonaro has decreased; however, daily test numbers are also dropping due to low testing capacity and lack of screening activities.
- While most deaths have been among the elderly, there is also death among younger Timorese being reported recently.

- The increase of new infections in Dili is seen after the recent outbreak in Ermera caused by the Delta variant of COVID-19.
- Although the recent batch for genome sequencing results is yet to be released, this rapid increase in COVID-19 cases and hospitalization indicates that the current outbreak is most likely due to the Delta variant circulating in Dili and possibly in other municipalities.
- Vaccination remains the primary strategy of the government response, with the rollout being scaled up in all municipalities. However, preliminary data indicate that a proportion of unvaccinated individuals are more likely to get infected than those who are partially or fully vaccinated.
- Distribution of newly reported, recovered and active cases by municipalities, as of 18 August 2021.

Municipality	New Case	Cumulative Case	New Recovered	Cumulative Recovered	New Deceased	Cumulative Deceased	Active Case
Aileu	0	84	0	52	0	0	32
Ainaro	3	96	0	57	0	0	39
Baucau	9	793	0	723	0	1	69
Bobonaro	3	344	5	255	0	4	85
Covalima	18	435	20	261	0	0	174
Dili	167	9561	26	8341	2	33	1187
Ermera	7	1031	0	305	0	0	726
Lautem	0	60	0	60	0	0	0
Liquiça	0	62	0	26	0	1	35
Manatuto	1	91	0	88	0	0	3
Manufahi	10	104	0	78	0	0	26
Oecusse	5	147	0	32	0	0	115
Viqueque	3	347	12	330	0	1	16
Total	226	13155	63	10608	2	40	2507

- As of 18 August 2021, **171,936** PCR tests were done by the National Health Laboratory and referral hospital laboratories since the beginning of the response. The NHL now can return results within 24 hours of collecting the samples.



VACCINATION UPDATES

- At the time of writing this report (morning of 18th August 2021), in total, 492,476 COVID-19 vaccine doses comprising 348,740, first doses (coverage 46.2%) and 143,736, second doses (coverage 19.0%) have been 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 18/08/2021

	Dose	AZ	SV	Total	Coverage
Timor-Leste	1 st Dose	306,503	42,237	348,740	46.2%
	2 nd Dose	119,717	24,019	143,736	19.0%
	Total	426,220	66,256	492,476	
Dili	1 st Dose	111,307	41,537	152,844	71.5%
	2 nd Dose	86,068	23,835	109,903	51.4%
	Total	197,375	65,372	262,747	

Table 2: Number of individuals vaccinated and AEFI by sex as of 10:00 hrs 18/08/2021

Municipality	Number Vaccinated						AEFI		
	First Dose			Second Dose			Male	Female	Total
	Male	Female	Total	Male	Female	Total			
Dili	86,727	66,117	152,844	62,652	47,251	109,903	14	19	33
Aileu	4,646	3,101	7,747	1,288	730	2,018	1	0	1
Ainaro	4,342	3,192	7,534	1,250	853	2,103	0	0	0
Baucau	15,484	12,236	27,720	3,773	2,232	6,005	0	0	0
Bobonaro	12,317	9,662	21,979	2,307	1,290	3,597	4	6	10
Covalima	12,977	11,291	24,268	1,741	1,173	2,914	7	6	13
Ermera	8,023	4,790	12,813	1,841	985	2,826	0	0	0
Lautem	6,752	5,834	12,586	914	571	1,485	2	0	2
Liquica	7,512	6,015	13,527	1,667	1,096	2,763	0	1	1
Manatuto	6,233	4,582	10,815	1,079	634	1,713	2	0	2
Manufahi	6,698	4,457	11,155	1,317	715	2,032	0	0	0
Viqueque	12,810	11,696	24,506	2,732	1,695	4,427	2	0	2
ZEEMS (Oecusse)	11,304	9,942	21,246	1,310	640	1,950	0	0	0
Total (without Dili)	109,098	86,798	195,896	21,219	12,614	33,833	18	13	31
Total (Timor-Leste)	195,825	152,915	348,740	83,871	59,865	143,736	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 18/08/2021

Municipality	Eligible Population			Number vaccinated & Coverage											
	High Risk Groups (20% Pop.)	18-59y no comorbidity (80% Pop.)	Total	First Dose						Second Dose					
				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	50,375	168.0%	102,469	55.7%	152,844	71.5%	29,415	98.1%	80,488	43.8%	109,903	51.4%
Aileu	6,292	24,943	31,235	3,545	56.3%	4,202	16.8%	7,747	24.8%	1,274	20.2%	744	3.0%	2018	6.5%
Ainaro	7,410	27,726	35,136	2,350	31.7%	5,184	18.7%	7,534	21.4%	1,136	15.3%	967	3.5%	2103	6.0%
Baucau	18,141	55,175	73,316	9,440	52.0%	18,280	33.1%	27,720	37.8%	3,012	16.6%	2,993	5.4%	6005	8.2%
Bobonaro	13,268	43,476	56,744	7,736	58.3%	14,243	32.8%	21,979	38.7%	2,145	16.2%	1,452	3.3%	3597	6.3%
Covalima	8,725	31,503	40,228	7,677	88.0%	16,591	52.7%	24,268	60.3%	2,058	23.6%	856	2.7%	2914	7.2%
Ermera	14,350	60,793	75,143	4,481	31.2%	8,332	13.7%	12,813	17.1%	1,132	7.9%	1,694	2.8%	2826	3.8%
Lautem	8,455	27,963	36,418	4,299	50.8%	8,287	29.6%	12,586	34.6%	864	10.2%	621	2.2%	1485	4.1%
Liquica	9,588	35,597	45,185	3,190	33.3%	10,337	29.0%	13,527	29.9%	1,061	11.1%	1,702	4.8%	2763	6.1%
Manatuto	6,701	21,718	28,419	3,589	53.6%	7,226	33.3%	10,815	38.1%	959	14.3%	754	3.5%	1713	6.0%
Manufahi	7,595	25,766	33,361	4,909	64.6%	6,246	24.2%	11,155	33.4%	1,230	16.2%	802	3.1%	2032	6.1%
Viqueque	9,408	32,534	41,942	8,195	87.1%	16,311	50.1%	24,506	58.4%	2,354	25.0%	2,073	6.4%	4427	10.6%
ZEEMS (Oecusse)	11,034	32,905	43,939	8,972	81.3%	12,274	37.3%	21,246	48.4%	1,660	15.0%	290	0.9%	1,950	4.4%
Total (without Dili)	120,967	420,098	541,065	68,383	56.5%	127,513	30.4%	195,896	36.2%	18,885	15.6%	14,948	3.6%	33,833	6.3%
Total (Timor-Leste)	150,947	603,920	754,867	118,758	78.7%	229,982	38.08%	348,740	46.2%	48,300	32.0%	95,436	15.8%	143,736	19.0%

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

High Risk Groups (20% of the population) - 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 18/08/2021

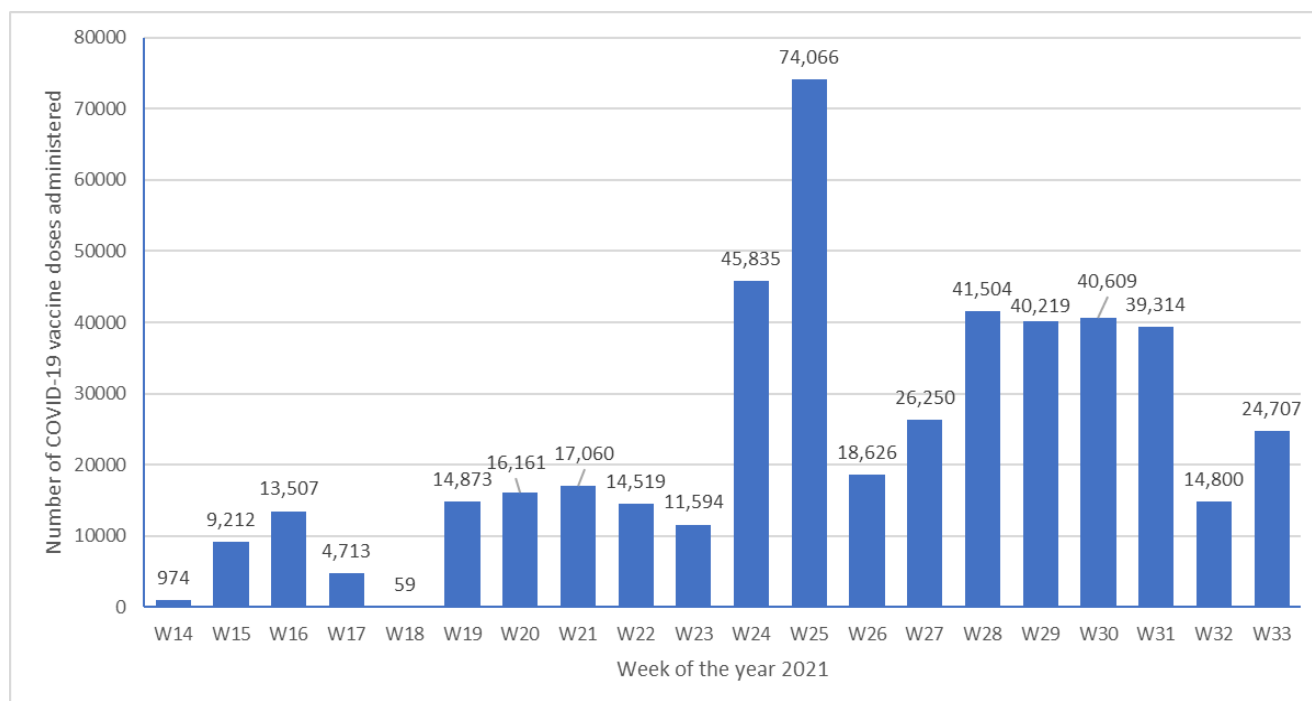
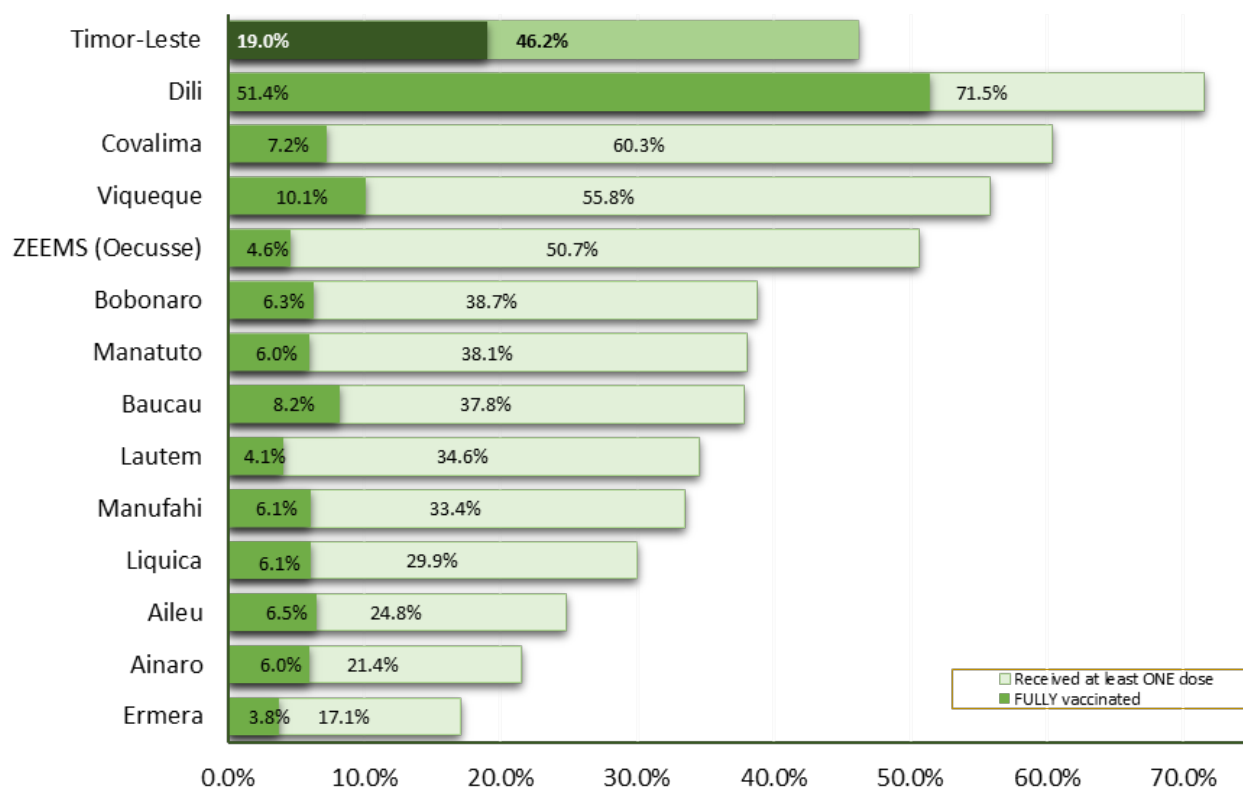


Table 4: COVID-19 vaccine coverage by municipality in Timor-Leste as of 10:00hrs 18/08/2021



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.

WHO TIMOR-LESTE STRATEGIC OBJECTIVES

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