UGANDA BUREAU OF STATISTICS

UBOS STAFF COVID_19 INFORMATION SERIES NO. 14 (2020)
THURSDAY, APRIL 23, 2020

63 CONFIRMED CASES
45 RECOVERED
02 REPATRIATED
0 DECEASED
16 ACTIVE

UGANDA ON THE ‘WINDWARD’ SIDE OF VICTORY AGAINST CORONA VIRUS

- National news round up
- Current state of COVID 19 in Uganda
- Rate of recovery from COVID 19
- Follow up of contacts and alerts
- Testing for Corona virus
- Rates across the East African Community

This Analytical Compilation is per COVID-19 national data available up to April 22, 2020
Schools and Institutions that were tentatively slated to re-open on April 27, 2020 and May 02, 2020 respectively will wait indefinitely as the country battles the COVID-19 pandemic.

While addressing the nation on Ministry’s response and preparedness, Hon. Janet Kataha Museveni (Minister for Education and Sports) reiterated that the focus remains on maintain the health and safety of learners and all other stakeholders. That the institutions and schools will reopen upon the advice of the national taskforce on COVID-19.

The minister encouraged learners, parents, teachers and all leaders to utilize home schooling solutions through the media i.e radios and television. A programme has developed by the ministry and rolled out to the districts to fulfill the same.

The National Curriculum Development Centre (NCDC) has also since developed harmonized and standardized self-study lesson packages for all core subjects for Primary and Secondary school learners. These will be distributed to schools and learners in liaison with the Chief Administrative Officers.

Early this week, Prof. Barnabas Nawangwe (Vice Chancellor) addressed local and international media via zoom on the role the University is playing against the COVID-19 pandemic.

Through the its College of Health Sciences, the University is building on its wide R & D experience in pathogen diagnostics spanning over 15 years to develop low cost testing kits, and the much needed COVID-19 ventilators.

The home grown testing kits will cost <US$1, will be easy to use (requiring minimal expertise, user guide) with rapid result yielding capabilities of 2 – 5 minutes.

The University is also working and exploring mechanisms to commence COVID-19 screening and testing.

The home-grown solutions will enable Uganda and other African countries to cost effectively respond to this pandemic. To enable this initiative, a host of local entities have joined in to financially support the University.

Figure 1 shows the revised total number of confirmed cases from 56 as earlier reported to 63 including the foreign truck drivers had not been included. This is in line with the WHO international Health Regulations, which among others require that every case is counted and treated in a country where it was tested and confirmed. Two of the truck drivers had already been repatriated to their respective home countries of Tanzania and Kenya and as such, they will continue to be counted among Uganda’s total confirmed cases though not in the total of the country’s active cases.
Figure 2 shows that the cumulative curve of confirmed cases was on a steep raise before the lockdown and thereafter, it started flattening and after the extension of the lockdown it has increased a little more to 63 from 55 cases. The increase can among others, be attributed to the increased testing of truck drivers at border posts where a number of the tests have turned out positive.

Figure 2: Trend of Cumulative Confirmed COVID-19 Cases

![Figure 2: Trend of Cumulative Confirmed COVID-19 Cases](image)

Figure 3 shows that three quarters (72%) of the confirmed cases that were admitted and treated in Uganda recovered and have since been discharged leaving a total of 16 active cases. This shows that the health care system has been successful in treatment and management of cases. It is worth noting that Uganda has not registered any COVID-19 related death.

Figure 3: Trend of Confirmed Active Cases

![Figure 3: Trend of Confirmed Active Cases](image)

Figure 4 shows that as of April 22, 2020, there are 1,466 contacts to confirmed cases that have been identified and tested. Of these, 1,143 have completed the mandatory 14 days of quarantine leaving 323 contacts that are still under follow up. This is an increase from what was reported on April 16, 2020 (refer to our previous bulletin series). It is important to note that some of the people in quarantine spend more than 14 days since the moment a positive case is identified in an area of quarantine; the remaining population restarts the process of quarantine.

Figure 4: Follow up of Contacts to Confirmed Cases

![Figure 4: Follow up of Contacts to Confirmed Cases](image)

Figure 5: Distribution of Tests Done

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A total of 18,860 travelers entering Uganda between 7th and 22nd March 2020 were identified as a potential risk group, to-date 16,570 tests have been carried out. This implies that not all of the risk population was tested to confirm their status.

Testing of cargo truck drivers through the land border posts started on April 14, 2020. To-date, the truck drivers constitute 45% of the samples tested as seen in figure 5. Out of 7,155 truck drivers tested, 7 have tested positive since the addition of 21 days lockdown and one national from Burundi, a refugee that entered through the Tanzanian border.

![Figure 5: Distribution of Tests Done](image)
However, figure 6 shows that the daily number of tests for COVID 19 has increased gradually from 11 cases on March 21, to 1,296 cases on April 22, 2020. Relatedly, there have been unexplained drops in the number(s) tested on certain days. It is worth noting that the numbers reported are samples not individuals since some individuals may be tested more than once.

*Figure 6: Number of Tests done daily by Week*

![Graph showing daily number of tests for COVID-19 from March 21 to April 22, 2020.]

*RATES ACROSS THE EAST AFRICAN COMMUNITY*

According to the corona virus world-meter as of April 22, 2020, within the EAC member states, Kenya ranked highest by confirmed cases (303) followed by Tanzania (284). Although, Rwanda had the highest number of recoveries (84) followed by Kenya (83). Uganda however, boosts of the highest rate of recovery (45 out of 61 treated in Uganda making 74%).

*Figure 7: Comparison across the EAC Countries*

![Graph comparing confirmed cases, recoveries, and fatalities across EAC states.]

**READERS VIEWS**

"Truck drivers brought us HIV and made small towns like Lyantonde shut down. These towns have never been the same again. If government is really keen on keeping cargo moving, then all logistics companies should get a second set of crew members, - first leg crew terminates at the border point of entry and second crew takes over from there after the truck is dis-infected. Any cargo company that cannot afford that, can wait until the situation normalizes. Kenya and Tanzania are likely to be our source of fresh infections as COVID-19 cases now reach 303 and 250+ respectively."

Anonymous UBOS Staff
Figure 7 shows that the cumulative curve of confirmed cases was on a steep rise before the lockdown and thereafter it started flattening and after the extension of the lockdown it has remained fairly steady at 55 cases.