PATTERN OF COVID-19 TESTS AND CASES
COUNTRY OF INFECTION FOR UGANDAN TRUCK DRIVERS
EAC COVID-19 CURVES
NATIONAL NEWS ROUNDUP

MALARIA CONTINUES TO BITE ALONGSIDE COVID-19
As of July 11, 2020, Uganda has contributed 0.2% of the cases in Africa while Africa has contributed 4.5% of the global cases that have doubled since May 2020.
The number of tests done daily has increased progressively and to date, Uganda has carried out 226,403 COVID-19 sample tests, of which 1,025 have been confirmed positive. Figure 1 shows that Uganda’s COVID-19 curve has flattened around the 1,000 mark during the month of July after going through an incremental phase in the month of May.

**Figure 1: Cumulative COVID-19 Tests and Confirmed Cases**

![Graph showing cumulative COVID-19 tests and confirmed cases from March 22, 2020, to July 12, 2020.](image-url)
Ever since Uganda started screening and testing for coronavirus in March 2020, the number of daily tests has progressively increased and peaked at the beginning of the month of May 2020, took a downward trend in June and later went on a steep rise in the month of July. There is no clear pattern on the number of daily samples tested. On July 11, 2020, 2,292 tests were carried out and 12 Ugandan cases were found positive, of which 7 were truck drivers. Another 17 truck drivers tested positive and were sent back to their countries of origin.

**Figure 2: Number of Daily Tests Conducted**

On July 11, 2020; it was exactly 55 days since May 18, 2020, when it was decided that all foreign truck drivers who are found positive should be denied entry into Uganda. **Figure 3** shows that on the overall, across all the days, there were more foreign truck drivers confirmed positive in a day except for a few days where there were more Ugandans being confirmed compared to the foreigners.

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This Analytical Compilation is per COVID-19 national data available up to Saturday, July 11, 2020.
Since May 20, 2020, Uganda confirmed 382 Ugandans truck drivers as being positive COVID-19. Of these, about seven in every ten (64%) came in from South Sudan. The reasons as to why the majority are from South Sudan yet the traffic is highest among those from Kenya could be attributed to the failure to observe the standard Operating procedures in South Sudan such as carrying so many unknown persons in a vehicle.

Figure 4: Distribution of Confirmed Cases by Point of Entry
Kenya ranks highest with 9,726 confirmed cases in the East African community and 10th within Africa. It is followed by South Sudan with 2,021 confirmed cases and Rwanda with 1,299 cases. South Sudan is now the major source of infection for Ugandan truck drivers as seen earlier (figure 4).

**Figure 5: Comparison across the EAC countries**

*NOTE:* Tanzania is excluded because it has not reported its official COVID-19 figures since April 29, 2020.
As we battle against the COVID-19 pandemic, malaria remains a major public health problem in Uganda. In order to control and eliminate malaria, the Government of Uganda has implemented several interventions that include Long-Lasting Insecticide treated Nets (LLINs), Testing and Treatment, Intermittent Preventive Treatment in Pregnancy (IPTp) and Indoor Residual Spraying (IRS).

- Effective July 10, 2020 the Ministry of Health started the distribution of free treated mosquito nets in Acholi, Lango and parts of the Eastern region as part of Government
of Uganda initiatives to protect the population from Malaria. The mosquito distribution campaign now dubbed “Under the Net” will see out the distribution of 27.5 million long-lasting insecticide treated nets through out the country with a main objective of increasing access to and ownership of mosquito nets in the communities across the country.

Figure 6 shows that according to the 2018-19 Uganda malaria Indicator Survey, Karamoja region had the lowest percentage of households with at least one treated mosquito net.

Figure 6: Households with at least one insecticide Treated mosquito net (%)
According to the global burden of disease for Uganda, more children under the age of five die due to malaria compared to the older persons aged 70 plus years as seen in figure 7; hence the need to target households with children under 5 years for mosquito net distribution.

**Figure 7: Malaria Deaths by Age Group**

**NOTE:** Tanzania is excluded because it has not reported its official COVID-19 figures since April 29, 2020
JULY IS WORLD HEPATITIS MONTH! REMEMBER, HEPATITIS IS PREVENTABLE! JUST LIKE YOU CAN PREVENT COVID-19 BY WASHING YOUR HANDS FREQUENTLY WITH SOAP AND WATER OR USING A HAND SANITIZER, YOU CAN PROTECT YOURSELF FROM HEPATITIS A, CHOLERA, TYPHOID ETC #NOHepUg

TUNE IN LATER TODAY TO APPRECIATE UGANDA’S JOURNEY IN DELIVERING ON THE SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOALS (SDGs)

GOVERNMENT OF UGANDA PRESENTATION

THE VNR REPORT ON SDGS PROGRESS AT THE 2020 UN HIGH-LEVEL POLITICAL FORUM

Monday | 13th July | 16:00 - 19:00 (EAT)
LIVE UBC (→) webtv.un.org.

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UGANDA BUREAU OF STATISTICS (UBOS) GETS GREEN LIGHT TO CONTINUE WITH ITS DATA COLLECTION ROUTINES ACROSS THE COUNTRY AMIDST THE COVID-19 PANDEMIC

• UBOS is the principal statistical agency charged with collecting, analyzing and dissemination of key indicators across sectors in the country. It is also the coordinator of the National Statistical System (NSS). It derives its mandate from the UBOS Act (1998).
• The COVID-19 pandemic among other effects; put to a halt most of the routine and critical activities that were on going and / or scheduled by UBOS.
• However, owing to the importance of statistical data and information in critical planning, decision making and measuring development progress, government has given a green light to UBOS, to commence its data collecting routines across the country in order to avail the much needed data.
• Our data collecting teams will henceforth be traversing the country to collect data, to among others inform the post COVID-19 national recovery initiatives.
• To ensure safety of our teams, respondents and all our stakeholders, we shall avail all the protective and sanitizing facilities in due process. We shall also strictly observe the Standard Operating Procedures (SOPs) as laid down by the ministry of health, presidential guidelines and all other requirements from authorities.
• Upon commencement of our data collection phases, we urge all our stakeholders and communities to accord the usual support to our field teams.
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• Due to the ravaging effects of COVID-19 on the economy, in April 2020, BOU reduced the Central Bank Rate (CBR) from 9% to 8% and further slashed it to 7% in June 2020.

• In so doing (slashing the CBR), BOU had a target on reducing the cost of credit with low levels of interest rates to a level consistent with the reigning monetary policy.

• However, commercial banks have since not followed suit to lower the interest to a level desired by BOU’s monetary policy undertaking.

• BOU has now reacted and threatened to invoke section 39 (1) of the BOU Act (2000), which mandates the regulator to prescribe the minimum or maximum level of interest rates to be charged by commercial banks on loans.

• BOU insists the capped (reduced) interest rates are necessary to avail cheap credit to facilitate domestic economic production and recovery in this era of the COVID-19 pandemic.
MONDAY, JULY 20, 2020

BULLETIN

ISSUE

GRAB OUR NEXT ISSUE...

MONDAY, JULY 20, 2020

SEND US YOUR VIEWS:

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