

COVID-19 Epidemiological Bulletin, Afghanistan

Epidemiological Week 18, 2021 (2-8 May 2021)

Highlights of the week

As of week 18, 2021, **420,135** samples tested in both private and public laboratories, while **258,780** samples tested only in public laboratories in the country.

Cumulatively, **62,063** COVID-19 confirmed cases and **2,699** associated deaths (CFR=4.3) have been reported in Afghanistan to date. During this week, **1,763** new cases and **57** new deaths were reported, a **38%** increase in the cases and **14%** increase in deaths compared to week 17 was observed (Table 1).

Table 1: COVID-19 epidemiological situation in Afghanistan as of week 18

Indicators	New number in week 18	% of change compared to week 17	Cumulative number
# of COVID-19 samples tested in both public & private labs	13246	16%	420135
# of COVID-19 samples tested in public labs	7120	14%	258780
# of COVID-19 lab confirmed cases (both public and private)	1763	38%	62063
# of COVID-19 hospitalized cases	47	38%	6725
ICU admission	12	-20%	2212
Recovered/discharged	841	-7%	54,232(88.7%)
# of COVID-19 associated death	57	14%	2699 (CFR=4.3)

The highest number of cases have been reported in East and Central East regions (**558** cases, **440** cases, respectively (Table 2). During the current week, the top five provinces for COVID-19 were Nangarhar (**452** cases), Kabul (**375** cases), Kandahar (**212** cases), Balkh (**73** cases), and Laghman (**71** cases).

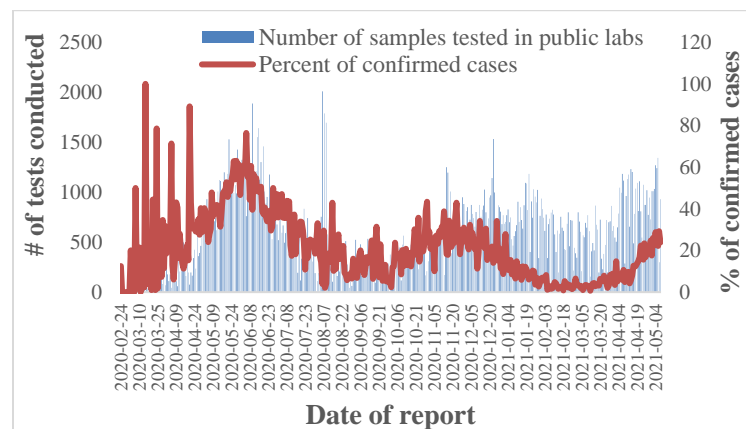
Overall, **4,358** COVID-19 confirmed cases and **91** associated deaths have been reported among healthcare

workers (HCWs) in the country. Among the provinces, Herat, Kabul, Nangarhar and Balkh reported the highest number of cases among HCWs.

Table 2: COVID-19 cases by region as of week 18

Region	# of new cases in week 18 (%)	% of change compared to week 17	Cumulative number (%)
Central East	440(25%)	33%	21628(34.8%)
Central West	84(5%)	-28%	3593(5.8%)
East	558(32%)	26%	6402(10.3%)
North	75(4%)	88%	4872(7.9%)
North East	48(3%)	-24%	5030(8.1%)
South	315(18%)	77%	5244(8.4%)
South East	128(7%)	45%	3678(5.9%)
West	115(7%)	475%	11616(18.7%)
National	1763	38%	62063 (100%)

Figure 1: Number of PCR tests conducted and percent of confirmed cases as of 8th May 2021



COVID-19 vaccination highlights:

- As of 8th May 2021, **497,402** individuals were vaccinated against COVID-19, among whom **444,192** individuals received first dose of vaccine, and **53,210** second dose.
- Of those vaccinated, **65%** were males and **35%** females
- Of the vaccinated, **108,511 (21.8%)** were HCWs, **6,692 (1.3%)** living in IDP camps, and **3,549 (0.7%)** were returnees from neighboring countries.

Figure 2: Epidemiological curve of COVID-19 cases in Afghanistan as of 8th May 2021

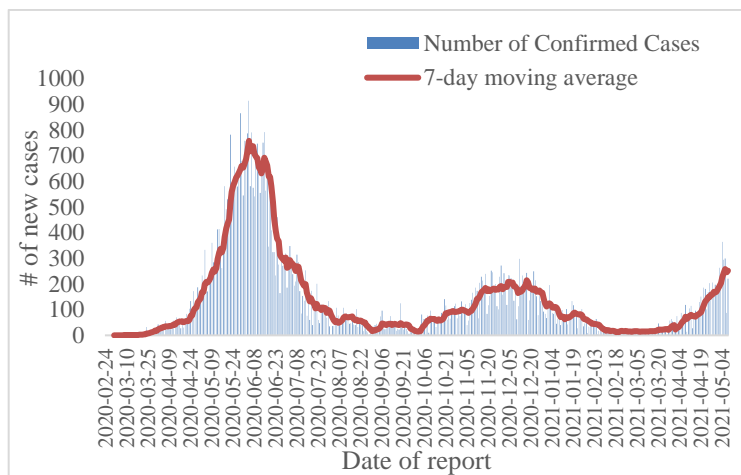


Figure 3: Epidemiological curve of COVID-19 associated deaths as of 8th May 2021

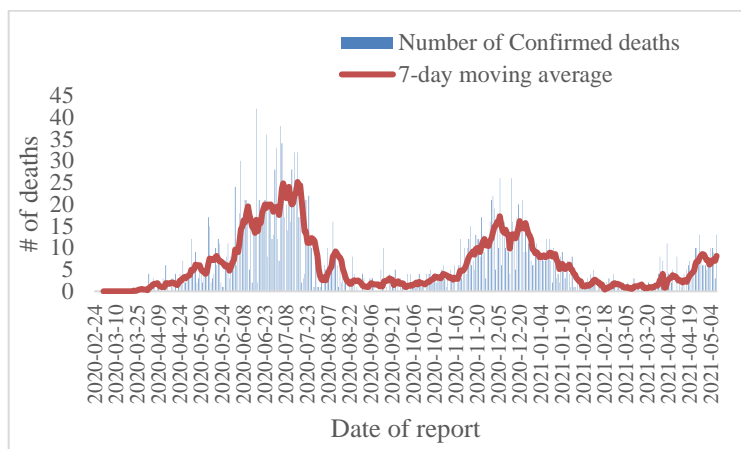
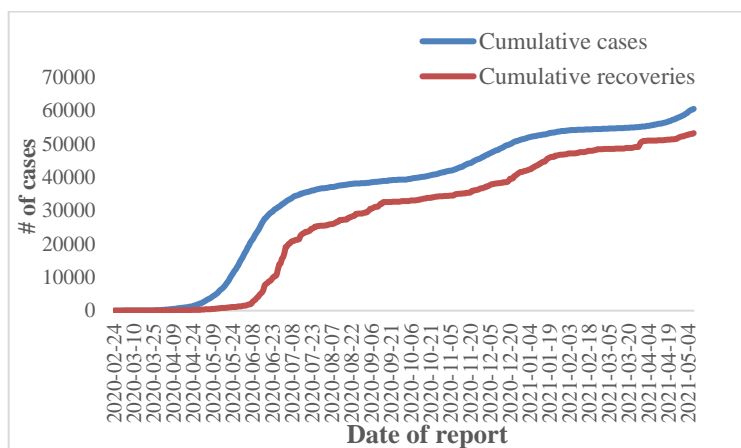
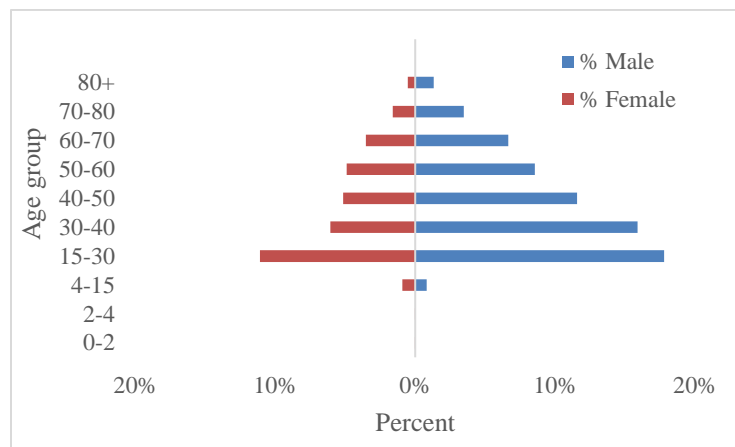


Figure 4: Cumulative COVID-19 confirmed cases and recoveries as of 8th May 2021



Of the confirmed cases, **66%** has been reported among males and **34%** among females. Majority of cases has been reported among those aged 15-30 years.

Figure 5: Percentage age distribution of COVID-19 cases, 24 Feb 2020 to 8th May 2021



Of the COVID-19 associated deaths, **72%** were reported among males and **28%** among females. The deaths increase by age group with most reported among 60-70 years old.

Figure 6: Percentage age distribution of COVID-19 associated deaths, 24 Feb 2020 to 8th May 2021

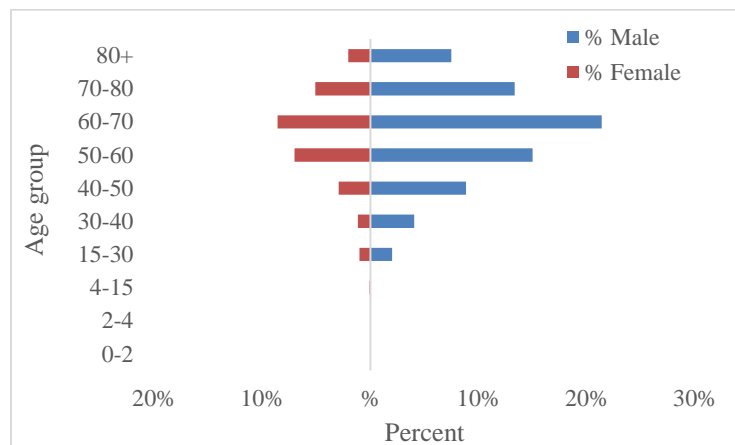


Figure 7: Proportion underlying conditions among COVID-19 associated deaths, as of 8th May 2021

