

# COVID-19 Epidemiological Bulletin, Afghanistan

Epidemiological Week 20, 2021 (16-22 May 2021)

## Highlights of the week

As of week 20, 2021, **446,456** samples tested in both private and public laboratories, while **271,997** samples tested only in public laboratories in the country.

Cumulatively, **66,275** COVID-19 confirmed cases and **2,812** associated deaths (**CFR=4.2**) have been reported in Afghanistan to date. During this week, **2,414** new cases and **67** new deaths were reported, a **57%** increase in the cases and **46%** increase in deaths compared to week 19 was observed (**Table 1**).

**Table 1: COVID-19 epidemiological situation in Afghanistan as of week 20**

Indicators	New number in week 20	% of change compared to week 19	Cumulative number
# of COVID-19 samples tested in both public & private labs	15,596	45%	446,456
# of COVID-19 samples tested in public labs	7,544	33%	271,997
# of COVID-19 lab confirmed cases (both public and private)	2,414	57%	66,275
# of COVID-19 hospitalized cases	141	228%	6,909
ICU admission	32	146%	2,257
Recovered/discharged	1,349	197%	56,035(84.5%)
# of COVID-19 associated death	67	46%	2,812 (CFR=4.2)

The highest number of cases have been reported in the Central East and South regions (**788** cases, **529** cases, respectively (**Table 2**). During the current week, the top five provinces for COVID-19 were Kabul (**597** cases), Kandahar (**399** cases), Nangarhar (**178** cases), Logar (**141** cases), and Wardak (**137** cases).

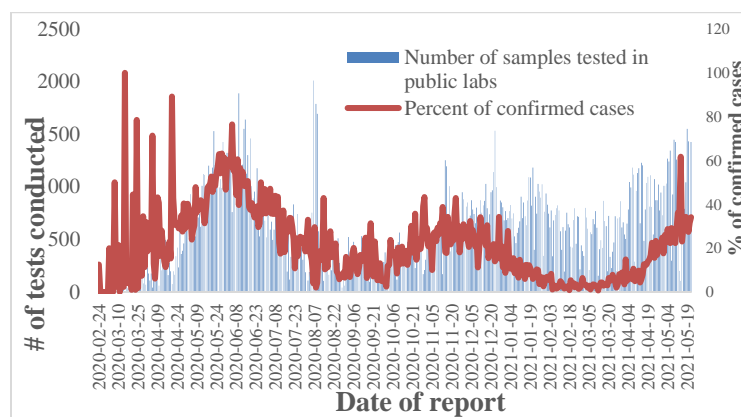
Overall, **4,380** COVID-19 confirmed cases and **91** associated deaths have been reported among healthcare

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 20**

Region	# of new cases in week 20 (%)	% of change compared to week 19	Cumulative number (%)
Central East	788(33%)	77%	23079(34.8%)
Central West	197(8%)	66%	3909(5.9%)
East	261(11%)	-12%	6960(10.5%)
North	141(6%)	55%	5126(7.7%)
North East	294(12%)	765%	5358(8.1%)
South	529(22%)	35%	6184(8.9%)
South East	77(3%)	10%	3825(5.8%)
West	127(5%)	44%	11834(17.9%)
National	2414	57%	66275(100%)

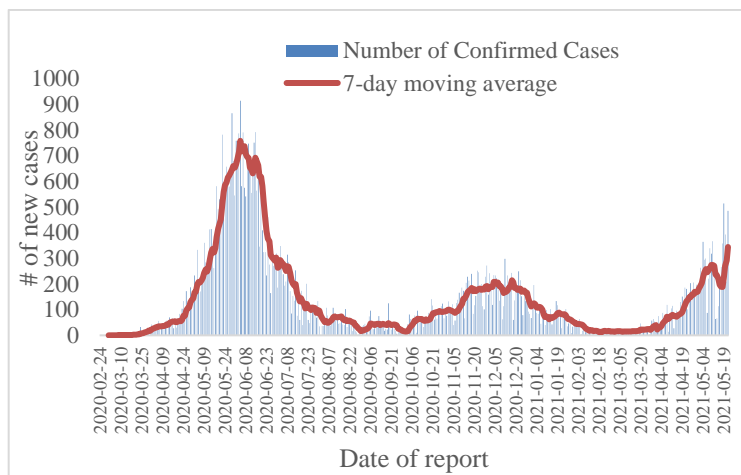
**Figure 1: Number of PCR tests conducted and percent of confirmed cases as of 22<sup>nd</sup> May 2021**



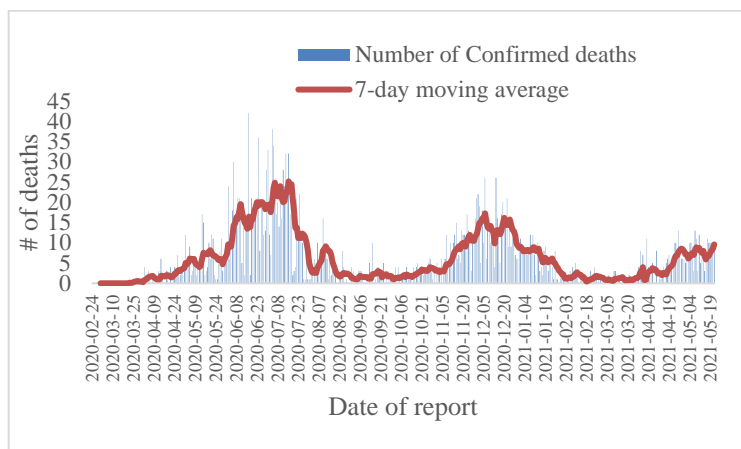
### COVID-19 vaccination highlights:

- As of 22<sup>nd</sup> May 2021, **573,277** individuals were vaccinated against COVID-19, among whom **476,367** individuals received first dose of vaccine, and **96,910** second dose.
- Of those vaccinated, **65%** were males and **35%** females
- Of the vaccinated, **115,482 (20.1%)** were HCWs, **7,667 (1.3%)** living in IDP camps, and **3,910 (0.6%)** were returnees from neighboring countries.

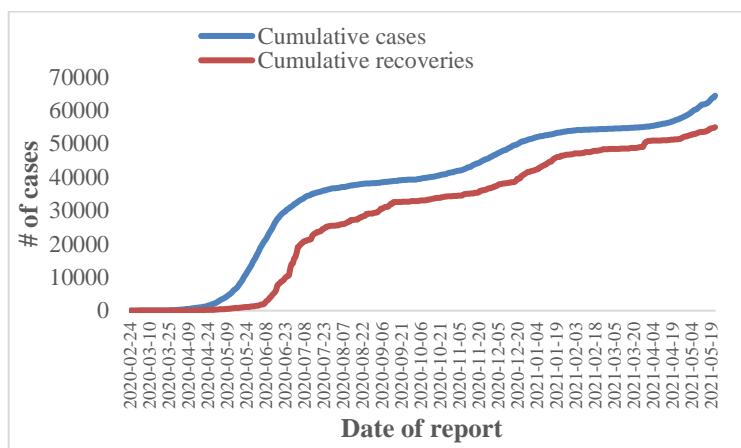
**Figure 2: Epidemiological curve of COVID-19 cases in Afghanistan as of 22<sup>nd</sup> May 2021**



**Figure 3: Epidemiological curve of COVID-19 associated deaths as of 22<sup>nd</sup> May 2021**

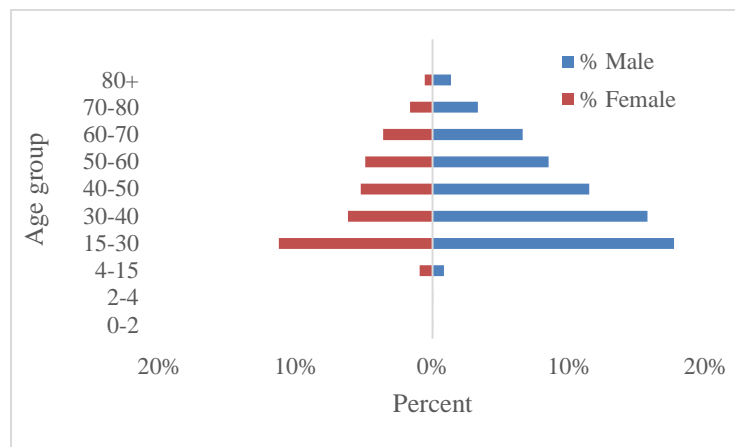


**Figure 4: Cumulative COVID-19 confirmed cases and recoveries as of 22<sup>nd</sup> May 2021**



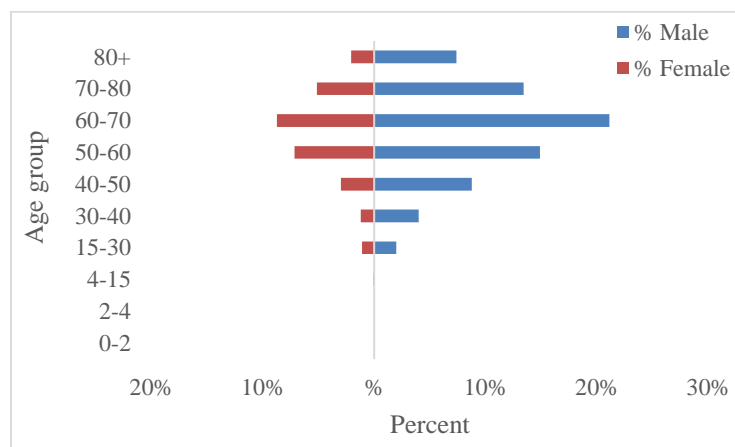
Of the confirmed cases, **65.5%** has been reported among males and **34.5%** among females. Majority of cases has been reported among those aged 15-30 years.

**Figure 5: Percentage age distribution of COVID-19 cases, 24 Feb 2020 to 22<sup>nd</sup> May 2021**



Of the COVID-19 associated deaths, **71.5%** were reported among males and **28.5%** 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 22<sup>nd</sup> May 2021**



**Figure 7: Proportion underlying conditions among COVID-19 associated deaths, as of 22<sup>nd</sup> May 2021**

