



Highlights of the week

As of week 21, of 2021, a total of **469,682** samples have been tested for COVID-19 through both public and private laboratories. Of this, **285,413** samples have been tested only through public COVID-19 confirmatory laboratories.

Cumulatively, **72,692** cases of COVID-19 have been confirmed and **2,949** associated deaths (**CFR=4.0**) have been reported in Afghanistan since Feb 2020. In week 21, some **4,800** new cases of COVID-19 and **137** new deaths were reported. This is a **99%** increase in cases and **104%** increase in deaths compared to week 20. (**Table 1**).

Table 1: Afghanistan's COVID-19 epidemiological overview as of week 21

Indicator	New number in week 21	% of change compared to week 20	Cumulative number
# of COVID-19 samples tested in both public & private labs	23,226	49%	469,682
# of COVID-19 samples tested in public labs	13,415	78%	285,413
# of COVID-19 lab confirmed cases (both public and private)	4,800	99%	72,692
# of COVID-19 hospitalized cases	155	10%	6,909
# of ICU admission	51	59%	2,308
# of Recovered/discharged cases	1,382	2%	57,417(79.0%)
# of COVID-19 associated deaths	137	104%	2,949 (CFR=4.0)

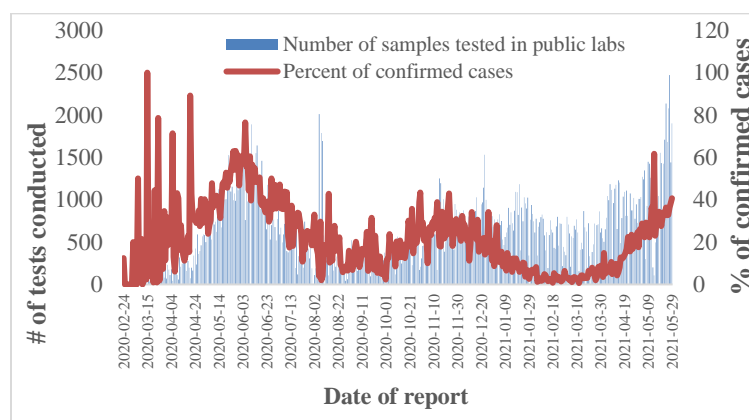
In week 21, the highest number of cases were reported in the central east, and south regions (**1,644** cases, **1,039** cases, respectively) (**Table 2**). The top five provinces that reported positive COVID-19 cases included Kabul (**1,188**

cases), Kandahar (**655** cases), Balkh (**378** cases), Kunduz (**356** cases), and Logar (**259** cases). Overall, **4,397** confirmed cases of COVID-19 and **91** associated deaths have been reported among healthcare workers (HCWs) in the country since 2020. To date, Herat, Kabul, Nangarhar and Balkh reported the highest number of positive cases among HCWs.

Table 2: COVID-19 cases by region as of week 21

Region	# of new cases in week 21 (%)	% of change compared to week 20	Cumulative number (%)
Central East	1,644(34%)	109%	25,284(34.8%)
Central West	326(7%)	65%	4,312(5.9%)
East	362(8%)	39%	80,95(11.1%)
North	405(8%)	187%	5,631(7.7%)
North East	719(15%)	145%	6,087(8.4%)
South	1,039(22%)	96%	7,266(10.0%)
South East	170(4%)	121%	4,040(5.6%)
West	135(3%)	6%	11,981(16.5%)
National	4,800	99%	72,692(100%)

Figure 1: Number of PCR tests conducted and percent of confirmed cases as of 29 May 2021



COVID-19 vaccination highlights:

609,440 individuals have been vaccinated against COVID-19 as of 29 May 2021. Of this, **480,709** individuals have received the first dose of the vaccine, and **128,731** have received the second dose. Of the total people vaccinated, **65%** are males and **35%** are females, **118,428 (19.4%)** are HCWs, **8,147 (1.3%)** are those living in IDP camps, and **4,157 (0.6%)** are returnees from neighboring countries.

Figure 2: Epidemiological curve of COVID-19 cases in Afghanistan as of 29 May 2021

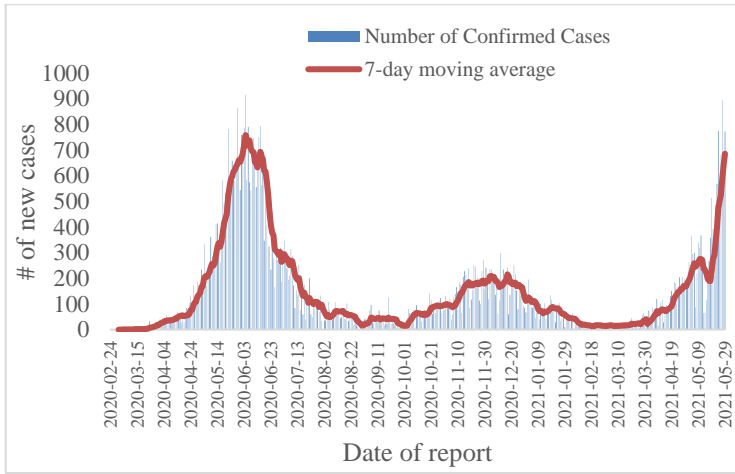


Figure 3: Epidemiological curve of COVID-19 associated deaths as of 29 May 2021

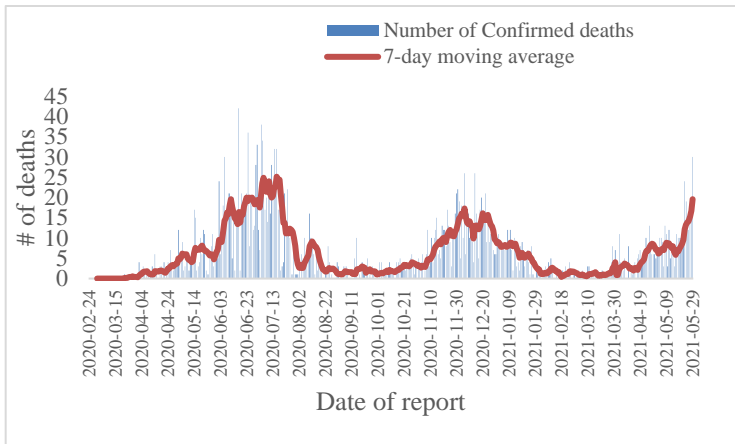
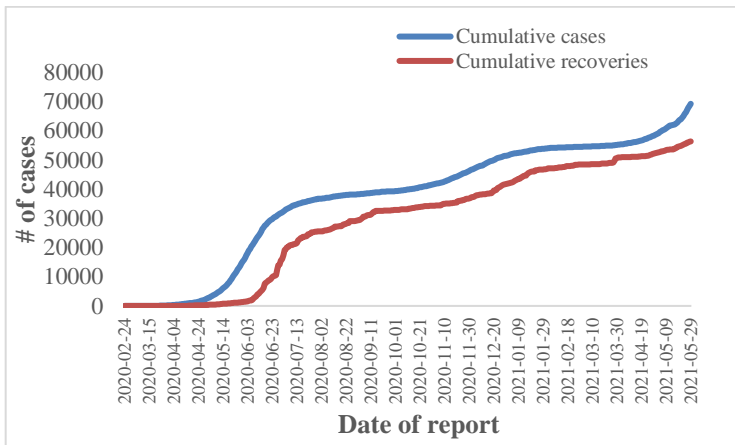
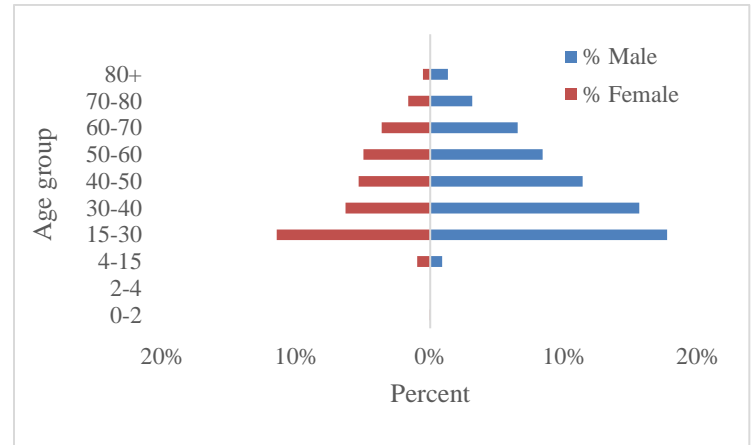


Figure 4: Cumulative COVID-19 confirmed cases and recoveries as of 29 May 2021



Of the confirmed COVID-19 cases, **65.0%** have been reported among males and **35.0%** among females. Majority of cases have been reported among those aged 15-30 years.

Figure 5: Percentage age distribution of COVID-19 cases, 24 Feb 2020 to 29 May 2021



Of the COVID-19 associated deaths, **71.4%** were reported among males and **28.6%** among females. The trend indicates that deaths increased 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 29 May 2021

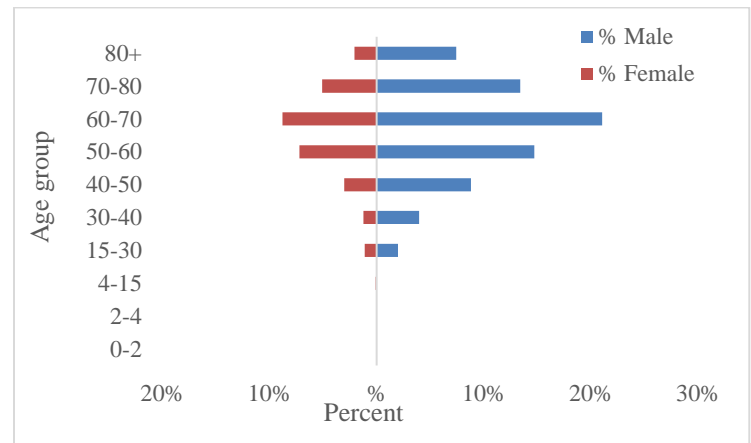


Figure 7: Proportion underlying conditions among COVID-19 associated deaths, as of 29 May 2021

