

EPIDEMIOLOGICAL SITUATION OF THE COVID-19 PANDEMIC EQUATORIAL GUINEA

Data August 13, 2020

TECHNICAL COMMITTEE FOR SURVEILLANCE AND RESPONSE TO COVID-19

SITREP N° 32 published on August 18, 2020



Ministry of Health
and Social Welfare



www.guineasalud.org



1 KEY DATA

Total test	Test Entrada	Confirmado	Negativo	Invalido/Indeterminado/Repetir	Pendiente	Provincias afectadas	Distritos afectados
908	884	17	859	8			
49215	46840	4892	41055	869	24	7	12

Isolemento/Hospitalización	Curado	Fallecido	Fugado	Repatriado
4	189			
3633	2713	83	2	136

Personal Sanitario Hosp	Personal Sanitar. Fallecido
429	3

Note: This test number does not include control tests. Numbers in yellow indicate new tests and cases from the last 7 days.

The figure shows that as of August 13, 2020, 49,215 PCR tests have been performed (46,840 not counting control tests) of which 4,892 have been confirmed as positive for COVID-19, with a positivity rate of 10.4%.

4,892 confirmed cases, 3,633 have been placed in isolation in hotels or hospitals; of them 2,713 recovered and 83 died (fatality rate 1.7) close to the average for the region and Africa. Isolated active cases (in hospitals or hotels) amounted to 699 and the total number of active cases (including asymptomatic isolated cases in homes) amounted to 1958. A total of 429 health personnel affected and 3 deaths.

The update of the COVID-19 situation in Equatorial Guinea will now take place between 24-48 hours on the new institutional website of the Ministry of Health and Social Welfare: www.guineasalud.org

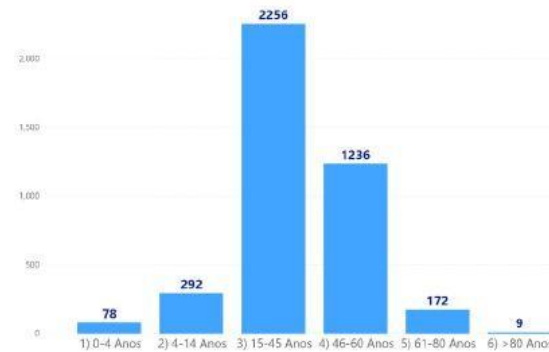
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2 INDICATORS

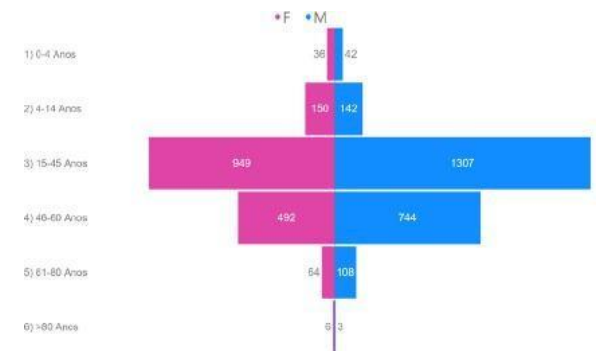
1. Laboratory data analysis

Distribution of positive cases by gender and by age groups

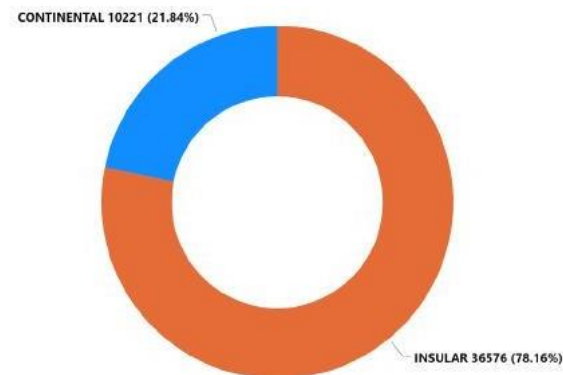
Graph 1: Confirmed cases by age group



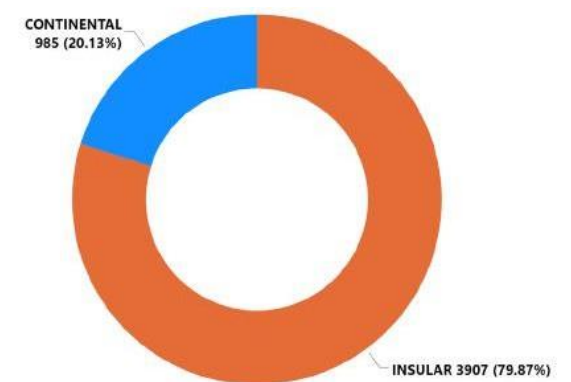
Graph 2: Confirmed cases by age and gender



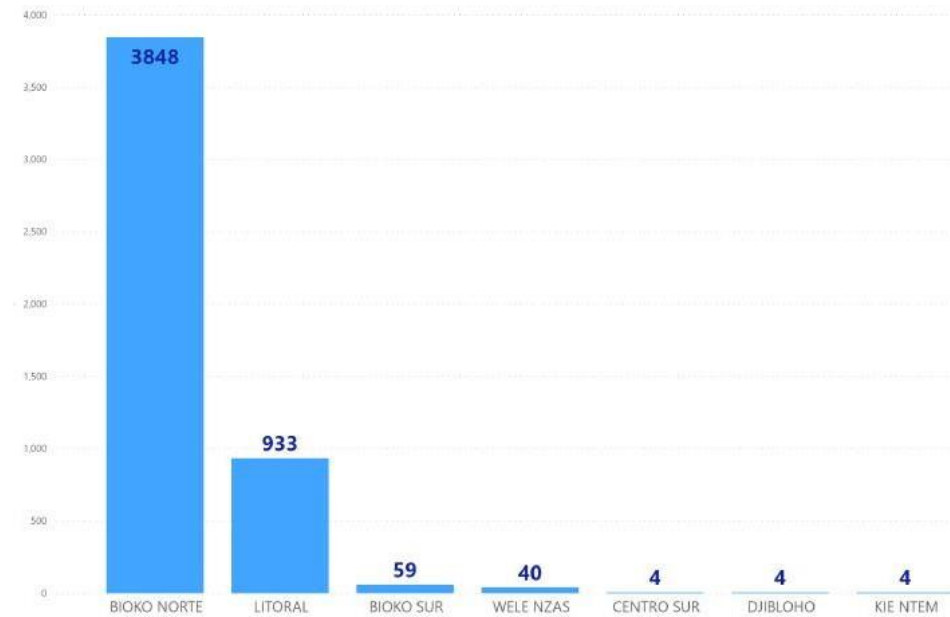
Graph 3: Tests by region



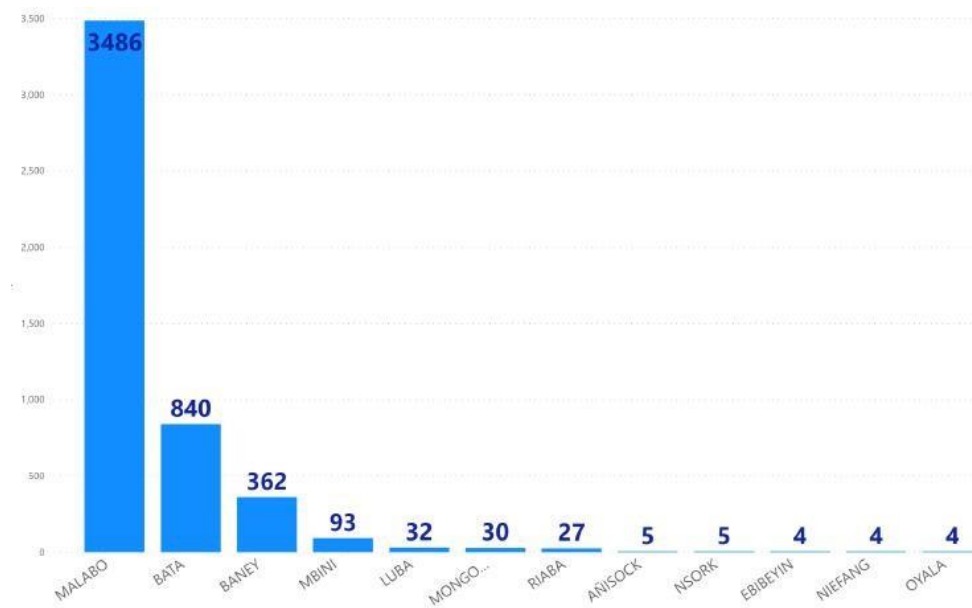
Graph 4: Confirmed cases by region



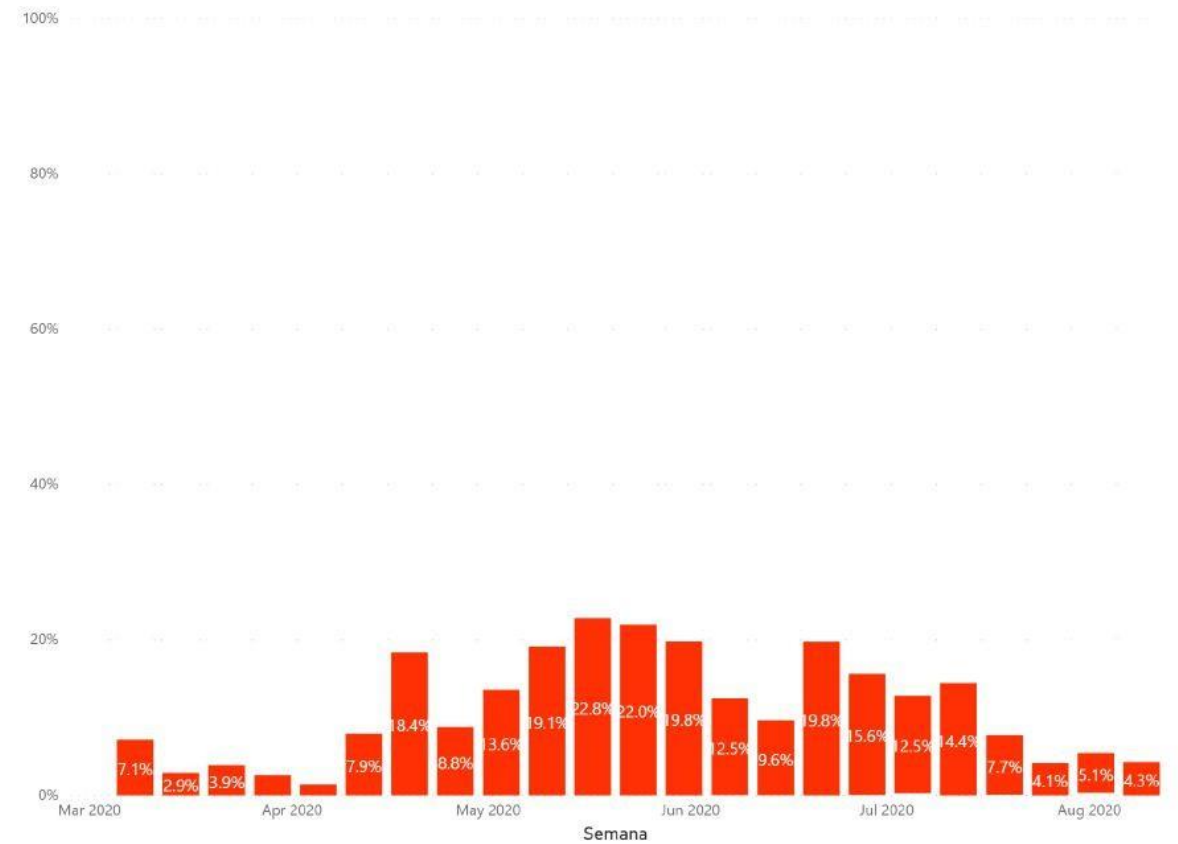
Graph 5: Confirmed cases by province



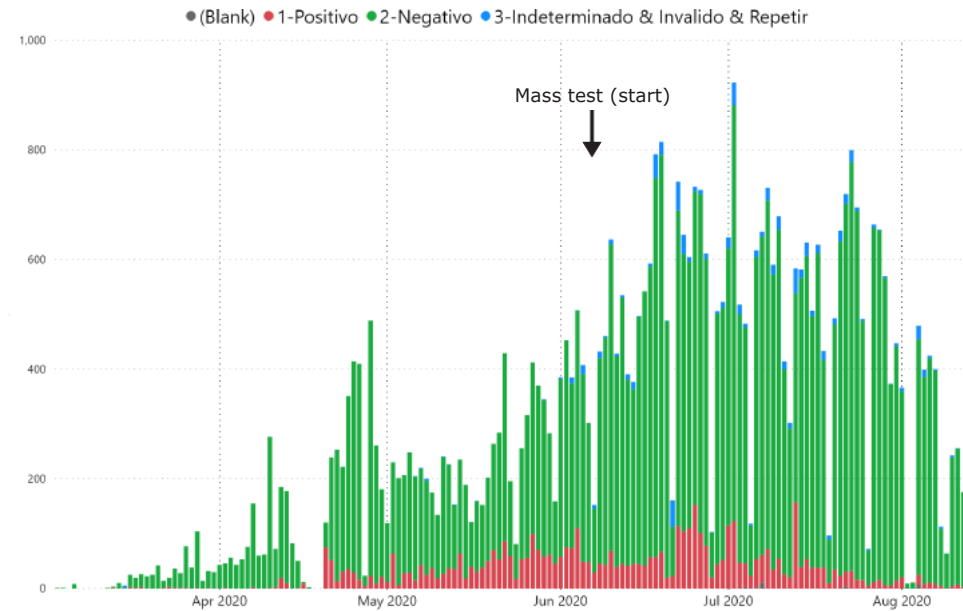
Graph 6: Confirmed cases by districts



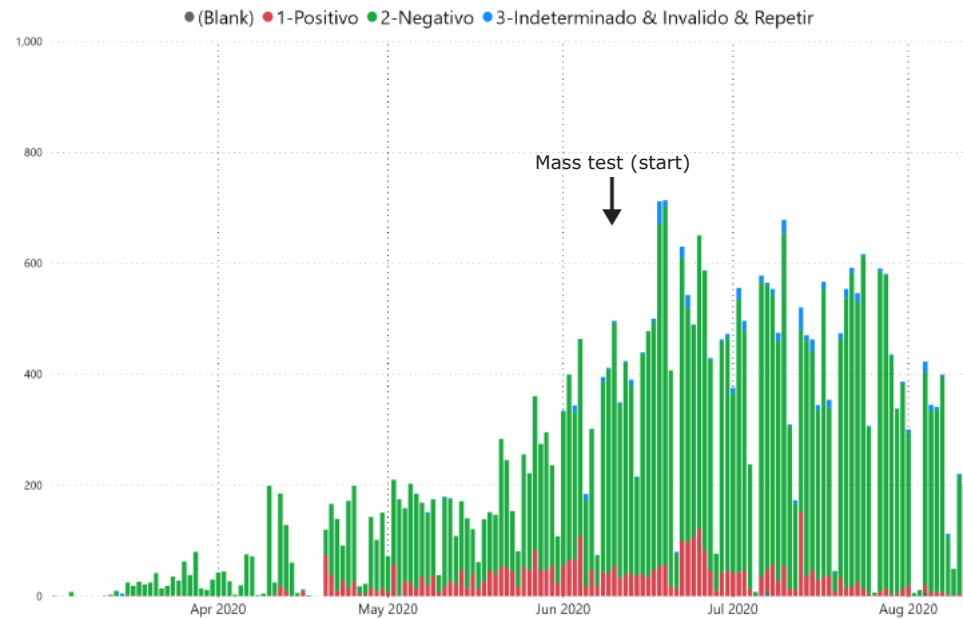
Graph 7: Evolution of the proportion of positive cases per week



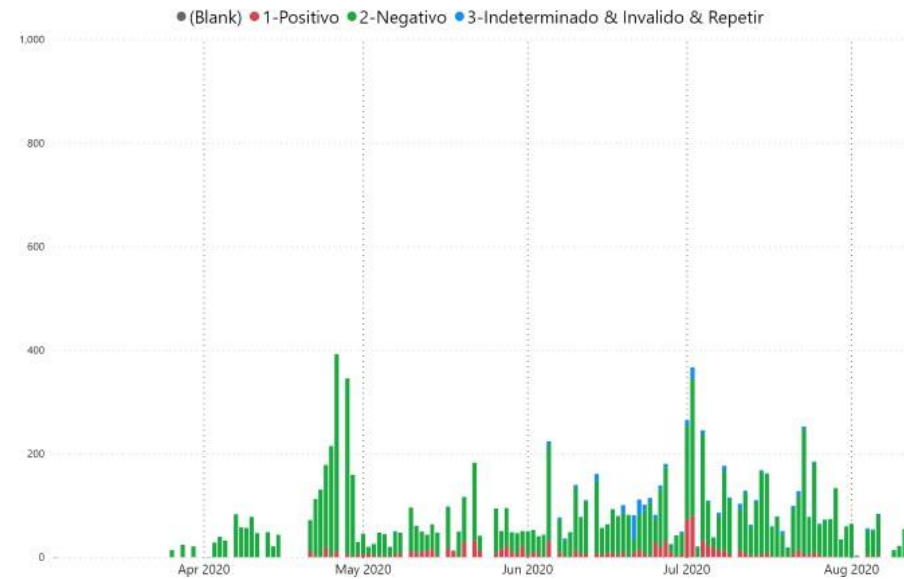
Graph 8: Comparison of tests carried out against confirmed positive cases



Graph 9: Comparison of tests performed / confirmed positive cases in the Insular Region

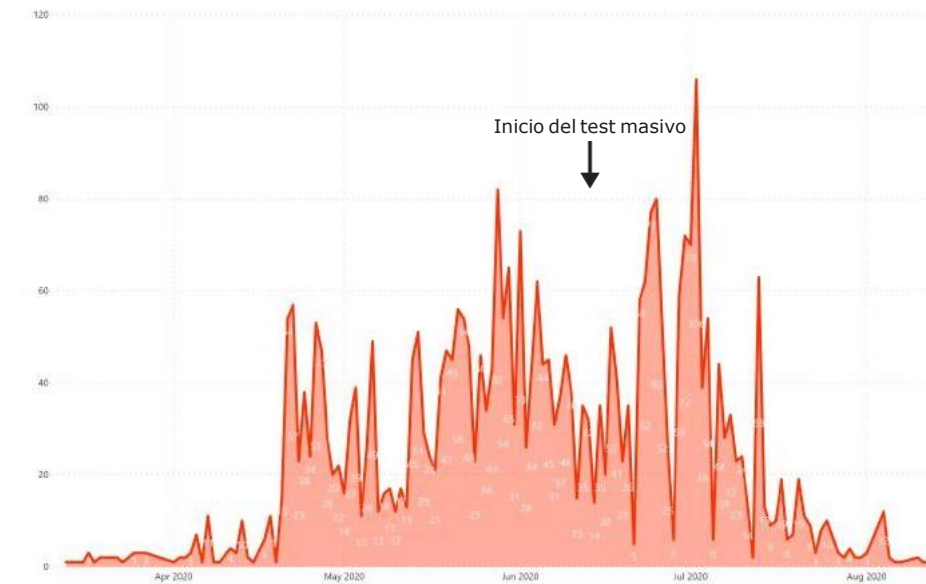


Graph 10: Test compared with positive cases in the continental region

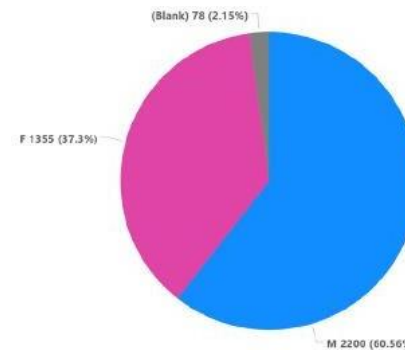


2. Analysis of isolation and hospitalized cases

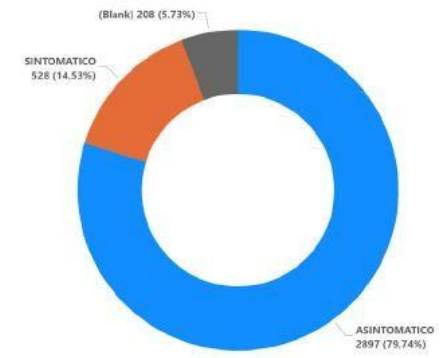
Graph 11: Evolution of the number of isolated or hospitalized cases



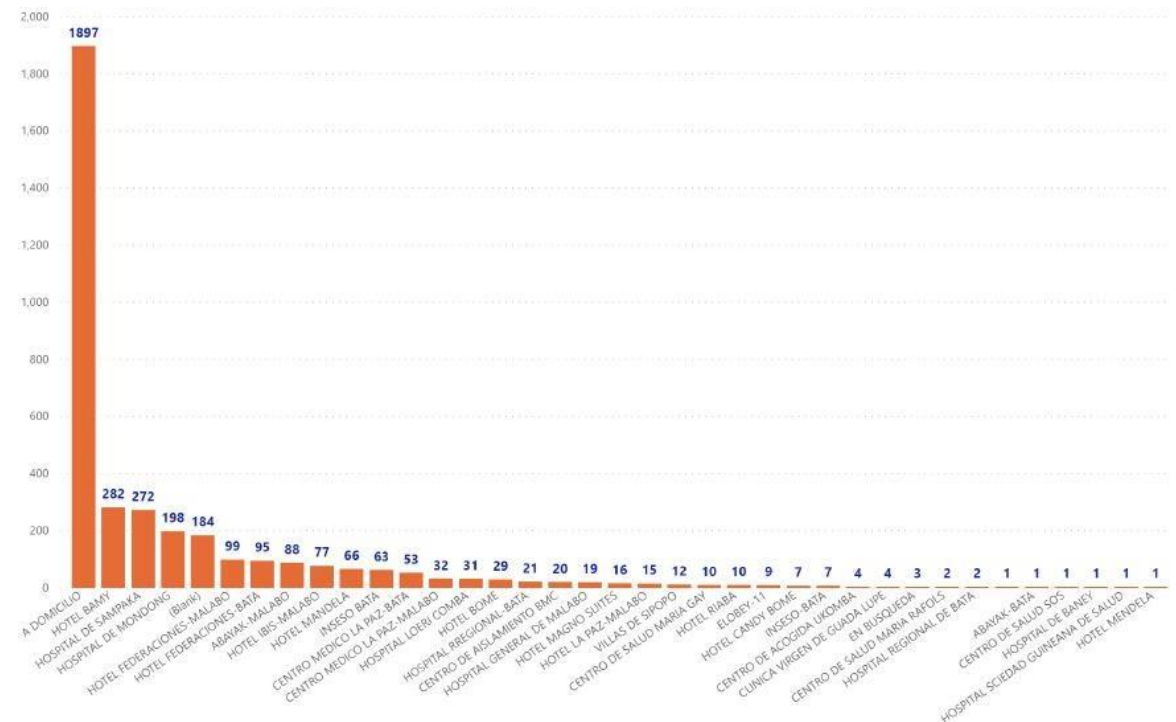
Graph 12: Distribution by sex



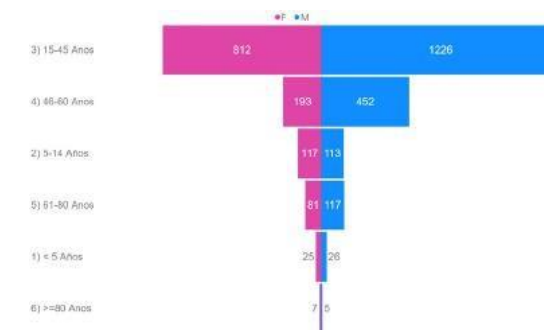
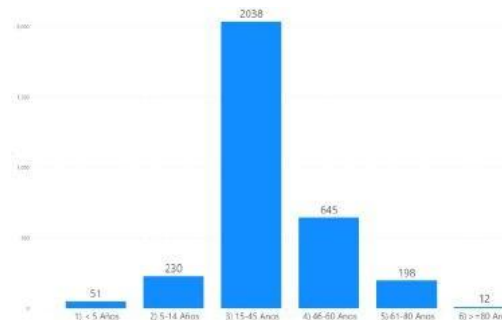
Graph 13: Distribution by state



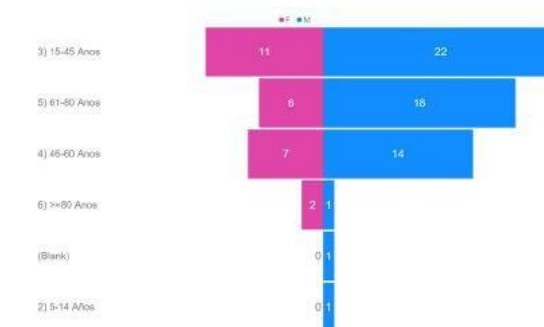
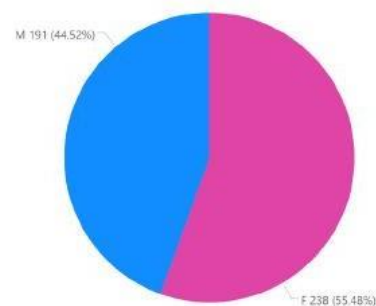
Graph 14: Location of isolation / hospitalization



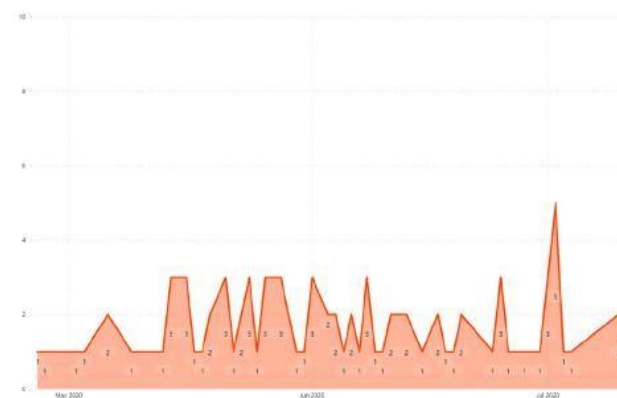
Graph 16: Distribution of isolated and hospitalized cases by age groups and sex



Graph 18: Deaths by age group and sex



Graph 19: Evolution of the national number of deaths



The chart displays the daily number of COVID-19 cases in the Netherlands from May 1, 2020, to July 1, 2020. The y-axis represents the number of cases, ranging from 0 to 10. The x-axis shows dates from May 1, 2020, to July 1, 2020. The chart shows a relatively flat line at 1 case per day until mid-May, followed by a sharp increase to 2 cases per day. This pattern continues with fluctuations, peaking at 2 cases per day in mid-June, and then declining back to 1 case per day by late June. The area under the line is shaded orange.

Date	Number of Cases
May 1, 2020	1
May 2, 2020	1
May 3, 2020	1
May 4, 2020	1
May 5, 2020	1
May 6, 2020	1
May 7, 2020	1
May 8, 2020	1
May 9, 2020	1
May 10, 2020	1
May 11, 2020	1
May 12, 2020	1
May 13, 2020	1
May 14, 2020	1
May 15, 2020	1
May 16, 2020	1
May 17, 2020	1
May 18, 2020	1
May 19, 2020	1
May 20, 2020	1
May 21, 2020	1
May 22, 2020	1
May 23, 2020	1
May 24, 2020	1
May 25, 2020	1
May 26, 2020	1
May 27, 2020	1
May 28, 2020	1
May 29, 2020	1
May 30, 2020	1
May 31, 2020	1
Jun 1, 2020	1
Jun 2, 2020	1
Jun 3, 2020	1
Jun 4, 2020	1
Jun 5, 2020	1
Jun 6, 2020	1
Jun 7, 2020	1
Jun 8, 2020	1
Jun 9, 2020	1
Jun 10, 2020	1
Jun 11, 2020	1
Jun 12, 2020	1
Jun 13, 2020	1
Jun 14, 2020	1
Jun 15, 2020	1
Jun 16, 2020	1
Jun 17, 2020	1
Jun 18, 2020	1
Jun 19, 2020	1
Jun 20, 2020	1
Jun 21, 2020	1
Jun 22, 2020	1
Jun 23, 2020	1
Jun 24, 2020	1
Jun 25, 2020	1
Jun 26, 2020	1
Jun 27, 2020	1
Jun 28, 2020	1
Jun 29, 2020	1
Jun 30, 2020	1
Jul 1, 2020	1

The chart displays the daily number of COVID-19 cases in the Netherlands from May 1, 2020, to July 1, 2020. The y-axis represents the number of cases, ranging from 0 to 10. The x-axis shows the timeline with labels for May 2020, Jun 2020, and Jul 2020. The chart shows a baseline of 1 case per day, with several peaks. The highest peak is 5 cases on July 1, 2020. Other notable peaks are 3 cases on May 15, 2020, and 3 cases on June 15, 2020. The chart is filled with a light orange color.

Date	Number of Cases
May 1, 2020	1
May 2, 2020	1
May 3, 2020	1
May 4, 2020	1
May 5, 2020	1
May 6, 2020	1
May 7, 2020	1
May 8, 2020	1
May 9, 2020	1
May 10, 2020	1
May 11, 2020	1
May 12, 2020	1
May 13, 2020	1
May 14, 2020	1
May 15, 2020	3
May 16, 2020	2
May 17, 2020	1
May 18, 2020	1
May 19, 2020	1
May 20, 2020	2
May 21, 2020	1
May 22, 2020	1
May 23, 2020	2
May 24, 2020	1
May 25, 2020	1
May 26, 2020	1
May 27, 2020	1
May 28, 2020	1
May 29, 2020	1
May 30, 2020	1
May 31, 2020	1
Jun 1, 2020	1
Jun 2, 2020	1
Jun 3, 2020	1
Jun 4, 2020	1
Jun 5, 2020	1
Jun 6, 2020	1
Jun 7, 2020	1
Jun 8, 2020	1
Jun 9, 2020	1
Jun 10, 2020	1
Jun 11, 2020	1
Jun 12, 2020	1
Jun 13, 2020	1
Jun 14, 2020	1
Jun 15, 2020	3
Jun 16, 2020	2
Jun 17, 2020	1
Jun 18, 2020	1
Jun 19, 2020	1
Jun 20, 2020	1
Jun 21, 2020	1
Jun 22, 2020	1
Jun 23, 2020	1
Jun 24, 2020	1
Jun 25, 2020	1
Jun 26, 2020	1
Jun 27, 2020	1
Jun 28, 2020	1
Jun 29, 2020	1
Jun 30, 2020	1
Jun 31, 2020	1
Jul 1, 2020	1
Jul 2, 2020	1
Jul 3, 2020	1
Jul 4, 2020	1
Jul 5, 2020	1
Jul 6, 2020	1
Jul 7, 2020	1
Jul 8, 2020	1
Jul 9, 2020	1
Jul 10, 2020	1
Jul 11, 2020	1
Jul 12, 2020	1
Jul 13, 2020	1
Jul 14, 2020	1
Jul 15, 2020	1
Jul 16, 2020	1
Jul 17, 2020	1
Jul 18, 2020	1
Jul 19, 2020	1
Jul 20, 2020	1
Jul 21, 2020	1
Jul 22, 2020	1
Jul 23, 2020	1
Jul 24, 2020	1
Jul 25, 2020	1
Jul 26, 2020	1
Jul 27, 2020	1
Jul 28, 2020	1
Jul 29, 2020	1
Jul 30, 2020	1
Jul 31, 2020	1

3 PUBLIC HEALTH ACTIONS / RESPONSE INTERVENTIONS

1. Coordination, planning and monitoring

- Holding regular meetings of the Political Committee chaired by the Vice President of the Republic.
- Regular coordination meetings at the island region and continental region level.
- Activation of the second de-escalation phase through Decree No. 54/2020 dated August 4.
- Monitoring the measures of the second de-escalation phase.
- Continuation of the publication of data through the SitRep report and the joint MINSABS-WHO press conference.
- Participation of representatives of three Ministries (Health and Social Welfare, Foreign Affairs and Finance, Economy and Planning) in the meeting of the Global Initiative for the Vaccine against Covid-19.
- Ongoing development of the official website of the Ministry of Health and Social Welfare, with a special section on Covid-19 in Equatorial Guinea.
- Joint supervision by four Subcommittees (Surveillance, Laboratory, PCI, and Entry Points) in the District of Luba.
- Daily update and analysis of data related to Covid-19.
- Ongoing update of the National Response Plan to Covid-19 for the period between August and December 2020.
- Availability of a smart screen for real-time monitoring of the Covid-19 indicator panel.



Left: Videoconference with the Cuban scientific team.
Right: H.E. the Vice President of the Republic, Teodoro Nguema Obiang Mangué, presiding over one of the meetings of the Political Committee.



Left: Joint supervision carried out in Luba, together with the Governor of the province.
Right: Videoconference on the Covid-19 vaccine that included representatives from three ministerial departments.

2. Risk communication / community participation and social mobilization



Left: Meeting of the Communications Subcommittee and IEC in which the draft of the resource mobilization plan was presented. **Right:** the President of the same Subcommittee, Carmen Andeme Ela, in a television appearance.

- Organization of the second press conference for the publication of epistemological data with the presence of national and international media.
- Usage of the 3 available spaces (2 television and 1 radio) for the wide dissemination of messages on the prevention measures of Covid-19, as well as intermittent participation in television spaces such as "El Balcón de Domingo", "Matinales" and "A Fondo".
- TV participation of the members of the RCCE Committee (RTV-GE, Asonga).
- Continuation of the execution of the monthly work plan of the Subcommittee.
- Continuation of awareness-raising at the community level and the town councils of the Luba district.
- Preparation of the draft resource mobilization plan.
- Ongoing review of the communication strategy for its alignment with phase 2 de-escalation in Equatorial Guinea.



H.E. Deputy Minister of Health and Social Welfare, Mitoha Ondo O Ayekaba, at the press conference on the publication of the previous sitrep report together with the Incident.

3. Surveillance, rapid response team and investigation

- Preparation of the periodic work-plan (monthly and weekly).
- Daily supervision of the mass test posts in the island region.
- Tracking of direct contacts of positive cases for 14 days by health zones (5970 accumulated direct contacts have been systematically monitored; 125 are still active, of which 112 (90%) were followed the day before this report was written).
- Supervision to reinforce epidemiological surveillance at the Luba entry point.

4. Entry points

- Strengthening of the external health team with the implementation of triage at airports, ports, and land borders.
- Implementation and monitoring of isolation units for passengers with febrile and respiratory symptoms.
- Commissioning of the mobile equipment for taking samples of Covid-19 and controlling passengers at the Malabo airport.
- Designation of the Buena Esperanza health center as a fixed point for taking samples from travelers abroad.
- Between June 25 and August 13, 2020, a total of 1,167 passengers arrived, of which 887 (79%) had a negative PCR certificate. The remaining 280 underwent an immediate test upon arrival and went into quarantine, of which 12 (4%) tested positive for Covid-19. Regarding more specifically the period from July 29 to August 14, 2020, of the 626 passengers who arrived on 7 international flights, 495 had a valid PCR test while 131 (or 21% of the passengers) did not. They had to be examined on the spot and quarantined pending the result of their PCR test.



Left: Supervision of a massive test point.

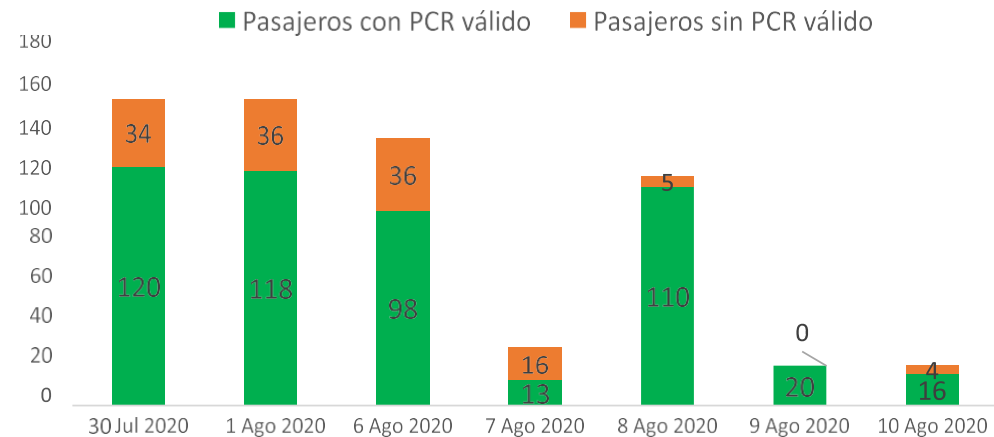
Right: One of the meetings during the joint supervision visit, with several Subcommittees of the Technical Committee, to the city of Luba.

Table 1. Points of entry - Malabo International Airport (passengers arrived)

Desglose de pasajeros llegados a Guinea Ecuatorial (del 29 de jul. al 13 de ago.)

Fecha	Vuelos	Ciudad de origen	País de origen	Pasajeros llegados	Pasajeros con PCR válido	Pasajeros sin PCR válido	Porcentaje sin PCR válido
30/07/20	Air France	Paris	Francia	154	120	34	22%
01/08/20	Ethiopian Airlines	Addis-Abeba	Etiopía	154	118	36	23%
06/08/20	Air France	Paris	Francia	134	98	36	27%
07/08/20	Cronos	Douala	Camerún	29	13	16	55%
08/08/20	Ethiopian Airlines	Addis-Abeba	Etiopía	115	110	5	4%
09/08/20	Cronos	Cotonou	Benín	20	20	0	0%
10/08/20	Luftansa	-	-	20	16	4	20%
TOTAL				626	495	131	21%

Graph no. 25: Breakdown of passengers arriving in Equatorial Guinea (from Jul 29 to Aug 13)



5. Laboratory

- Effective decentralization of the laboratory service with the start of testing at the Mongomo laboratory.
- Easy access to the Covid-19 detection test and increased daily test processing capacity with the addition of the new automated Eppendorf machine.
- Continuation of regular supervision of the 20 Covid-19 sampling points.
- Implementation of a checklist to improve the coordination between Surveillance, Essential Services and the Laboratory.
- Use of pool sampling technique as needed to increase capacity, speed and optimize testing time, while reducing costs.
- Regular acquisition of laboratory material by the Government.
- Strengthening of the waste management capacity at the sampling points with the acquisition of waste containers with covers to mitigate the risks of infection and protect the environment.



Left: Baney's lab continues to increase its daily testing capacity.
Right: the President of the Subcommittee on Communication and IEC, Carmen Andeme Ela, during a visit to the laboratory.

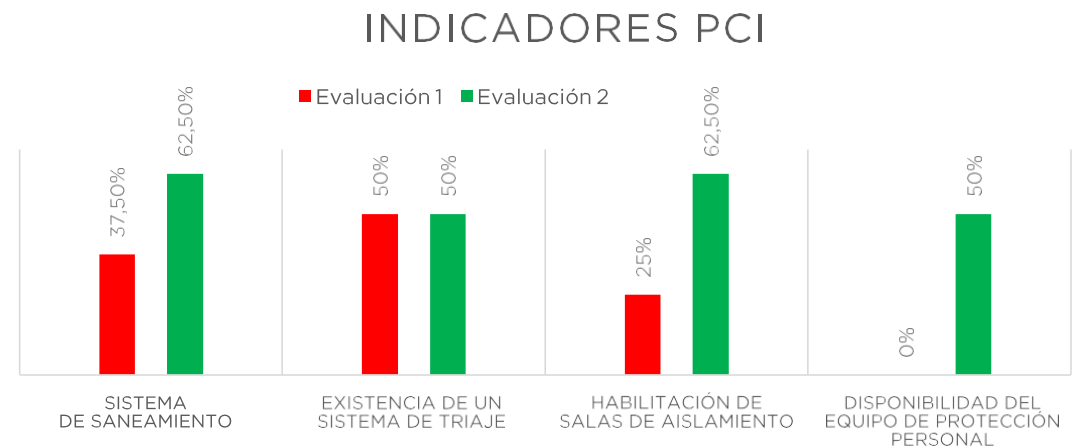
6. Infection Control and Prevention (PCI)

- Delivery of manuals for control and prevention.
- Harmonization of the new PCI tools (to standardize the PCI standards nationwide).
- Preparation of the operational plan for PCI activities until December 2020.
- PCI evaluative supervision of foreign health personnel at the international airport and the international port of Malabo (to ensure compliance with PCI recommendations and standards).
- Evaluative supervision at the mass testing points located in Ela Nguema, Buena Esperanza health center (CS) and the Federations hotel (to guarantee compliance with PCI recommendations at all mass testing points).
- Rapid evaluative supervision of 8 health establishments with the new Scorecard tool (CS Madre Bisila, Malabo Regional Hospital, Guadalupe Clinic, CS Campo Yaoundé, CS Buena Esperanza, Sampaka Hospital, Luba District Hospital, Covid Treatment Center -19 Polyclinic Dr. Loeri Comba).

Left: The supervision of health centers allows improvements in prevention measures.

Right: In Luba, the joint visit had the same objective


Graph no 26: Comparative evolution of PCI indicators in two consecutive supervisions in 8 health establishments in Malabo



- Meeting of the technicians to grant the endorsement of the new disinfection product of the company RAMNA (to ensure that the product contains the chemical elements recommended and certified by the WHO).
- Preparation of the protocol for cleaning and disinfection against Covid-19 in primary schools, secondary schools and universities, with the aim of providing information and advice to the educational community.

7. Case management

- Beginning of the preparation of the subcommission's operational plan for the period from July to December 2020, framed in the National Response Plan.
- Supervision and evaluation of 2 establishments dedicated to the management of Covid-19 cases (Hotel Federaciones and the Loeri Comba Polyclinic).
- Active search for positive cases lost during follow-up. To date, 766 cases have been located.
- Completion of the Procedures Guide of the Isolation Center of the Malabo Sports Center, for the management of asymptomatic cases of Covid-19 in said facility.
- Updating of the case management protocol and inclusion of the drug Remdesivir.
- Currently, the country has 44 respirators (22 in Malabo and 22 in Bata) distributed in 9 establishments (5 establishments in Malabo and 4 in Bata); 14 oxygen concentrators (7 in Malabo and 7 in Bata); 8 treatment centers (4 in Malabo and 4 in Bata); and 7 isolation centers (4 in Malabo and 3 in Bata).
- In terms of specialized technicians, the country also has 5 rescuers (3 in Malabo and 2 in Bata).
- The classification of confirmed hospitalized cases by level of severity in Malabo, as of August 12, 2020, is 9 mild-moderate cases, 3 severe cases and 4 critical cases.



As part of the management of Covid-19 cases, the arrival of beds that will be used for patients in the hospital or in isolation within the sports complex specially reconditioned for this.

8. Logistics

- Equipment of the isolation centers located in the Malabo and Bata sports centers, with a capacity of 216 beds.
- Distribution of laboratory material, medicines and consumables to the different service provision points.
- Guaranteed transport of Covid-19 samples from the continental region to the reference laboratory in the island region.
- Acquisition of 108 beds for the isolation center of the Malabo Sports Center.
- Acquisition of 7000 units of disinfectant gel for use in hospitals and isolation centers.
- Acquisition of 18 oxygen generators for distribution in district hospitals nationwide.



Left: Arrival of one of the multiple requests for materials at the Malabo airport.

Right: After completion of the works, the Malabo sports center is being equipped to offer all possible comforts during isolation.

9. Maintenance of essential services

- Guaranteed continuity of surveillance activities for other diseases.
- Continuity of the activities of the Malaria Control Project.
- Continuity of reproductive health activities.
- Strengthening of operations for epidemiological surveillance and for vaccination activities in the field.
- Supervision at the island regional level for advocacy and guidance of vaccination activities in the context of Covid-19.
- Continuity of sending samples of suspected cases of the diseases that are the object of the Expanded Vaccination Program to the reference laboratory in Yaoundé, Cameroon.
- Launching of epidemiological investigation missions of TNN and AFP cases reported in the continental part.



Both photographs show the training of technicians in HIV and TB diagnosis.

- Preparation of the national plan for the introduction of VAR2 and Penta4 in the PAV of Equatorial Guinea and the national campaign plan against measles.
- Completion of the training of laboratory technicians in HIV and TB diagnostic techniques.
- Evaluation of the stock of drugs (antiretroviral and antituberculous), diagnostic tests and laboratory consumables, and issuance of accelerated purchase orders to meet needs during the pandemic period.
- In coordination with the National Laboratory Service, approval of a national project designed to (I) safely reduce the number of visits by people with HIV / AIDS and tuberculosis and thus their exposure to Covid-19 in healthcare settings, (II) select safely patients who will receive antiretrovirals for more than 3 months and (III) avoid the need to refer patients to regional hospitals. The project is based on the use of new rapid tests in all TB and HIV / AIDS units in the country and on the decentralization of the GeneXpert system, which allows the diagnosis of TB in a single visit and detection of TB multidrogo-resistente in all provinces.
- Approval of training in each province associated with the previous Project.
- With technical assistance from UNICEF and WHO, approval and first steps of a project for the early diagnosis of HIV in newborns of seropositive mothers by detecting viral load.
- After an analysis of follow-up losses of the National Program to Fight Tuberculosis, design of a project for its recovery, which will work together with the tracing of contacts and the active search for new HIV and TB cases in the communities.



Left: Classification meeting of suspected AFP cases at the PAV-Bata Office.

Right: Supervision of the Primary Care Service in the District of Bata.

4 STRENGTHS/OPPORTUNITIES



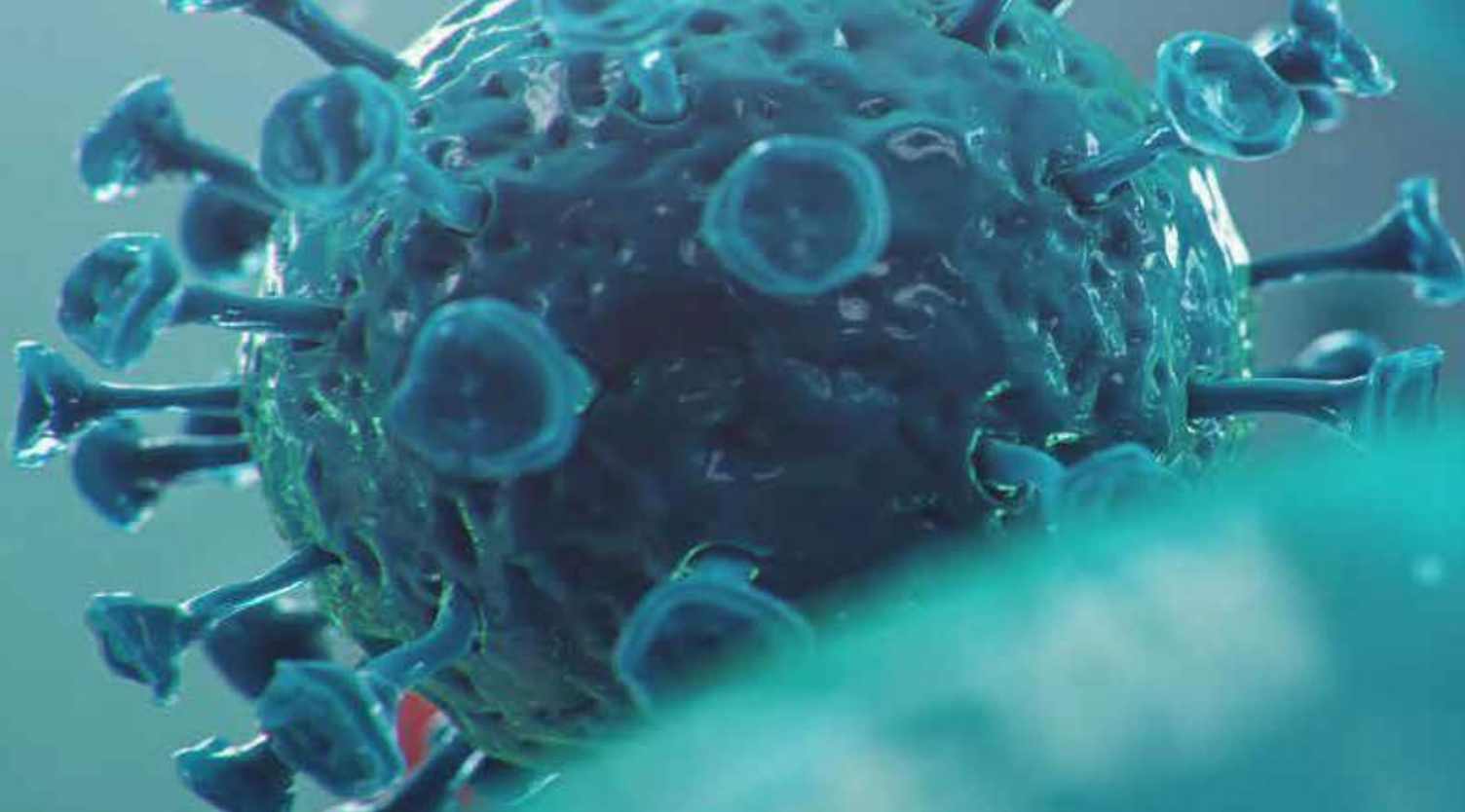
Voluntad política firme del Gobierno para frenar la pandemia



1. Strong political will of the Government to stop the pandemic, expressed through the mobilization of human, material and financial resources necessary for the response.
2. Support from WHO / AFRO with the presence of an Incident Manager and 4 international consultants and 13 national consultants, as well as other development partners in the fight against Covid-19.
3. Availability of a local laboratory for the analysis of samples from suspected Covid-19 cases.
4. Express will on the part of private companies and NGOs to support the Government in organizing the response to Covid-19.
5. Strengthening of capacity to handle Covid-19 cases.
6. Adherence of the population to the norms established by the Government to stop the contagion of Covid-19 at the community level.
7. Commitment by the personnel that makes possible the operation of the Technical Committee for Surveillance and Response to Covid-19, which amounts to more than 1,300 people, 760 in the island region and 540 in the continental region. This staff is made up of:
 - Health workers (doctors, nurses, laboratory and pharmacy technicians, health assistants).
 - Frontline workers and volunteers.
 - National Security Workers.
 - Staffs from the Ministry of the Interior and Local Corporations.
 - Church volunteers.
 - Civil Society (Red Cross and other NGOs involved in health promotion).

5CHALLENGE

- Maintenance of the downward trend of the epidemiological curve after the transition to the second de-escalation phase.
- Reinforcement and consolidation of prevention measures guaranteeing the availability of resources.
- Maintenance of the operational capacity of the laboratories for Covid-19 in both regions.
- Availability of PPE and consumables in health establishments.
- Availability of data management tools in isolation centers (adapted hospitals and hotels), quarantine and laboratory.
- Reinforcement of the follow-up of positive cases at home.
- Reinforcement of community-based surveillance.
- Multisector participation in national response efforts.
- Maintenance of international technical assistance.
- Strengthening the access and demand for essential health services by the population.
- Reduction to the lowest possible level of contamination of health personnel.



CONTACT

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