

WEEKLY FACTSHEET #14

COVID-19: WEEK 20 - 26 JULY 2020

REGIONAL INDICATORS

SOUTH AFRICA

CONFIRMED 408,052
RECOVERED 236,260
DEATHS 6,093

ZAMBIA

CONFIRMED 3,789
RECOVERED 1,677
DEATHS 134

TANZANIA

CONFIRMED 509
RECOVERED 183
DEATHS 21

DRC

CONFIRMED 8,199
RECOVERED 4,248
DEATHS 193

IVORY COAST

CONFIRMED 15,001
RECOVERED 9,282
DEATHS 93

Source: strategix.co.za

DID YOU KNOW?

To make a habit of Hand Washing With Soap (HWWS) at critical times, people need regular, easy access to water and soap in their homes – and the knowledge and motivation to sustain the practice. One third of children in South Africa live in households without water on-site. UNICEF South Africa is encouraging young people to get directly involved in the COVID-19 response by making 'Tippy Taps' in areas where there is limited access to running water and soap for handwashing. Tippy Taps are easy-to-make and can

be used wherever people need to wash their hands. Help make handwashing a habit by joining the #TippyTapChallenge and building your own Tippy Tap. To earn @ZltoRewards and work experience for your Tippy Tap, go to <http://unicef.zlto.co.za>. You can also challenge your friends to build their own Tippy Taps, and when you share your pictures and videos, don't forget to use the hashtags #TippyTapChallenge and #UNICEFSouthAfrica.

Source: [UNICEF/Zlto](https://www.unicef.org/zlto)

YOUTH VOICES

This pandemic is affecting all of us and it helps to reach out and share ideas, stories and concerns with one another about all things COVID-19. Please keep sharing your questions with us weekly, and we'll do our best to find you the most accurate and relevant answers.

GBALET BIANGNE FRANK NAWA - IVORY COAST

QUESTION: "Why are we told that people are cured of COVID-19, when they have not yet found the cure?"

RESPONSE: There's no proven cure for COVID-19, but most people will recover fully without needing medical treatment. If you feel sick, you should rest, drink plenty of fluids, and eat nutritious food. Stay in a separate

room from other family members, and use a dedicated bathroom if possible. Clean and disinfect frequently touched surfaces. If your symptoms don't improve after seven days or if you have difficulty breathing and persistent pain in your chest, call or visit your local health service immediately.

Source: [Avert.org](https://www.avert.org)

KHANYA DWEBE (COSAT) - SOUTH AFRICA

QUESTION: "Can one get infected by touching their ears? Because it is also an open area but it is never mentioned."

RESPONSE: Most of the studies and articles show that it's possible to contract COVID-19 through the eyes, but not likely through the ears. As with the nose and mouth, doctors say the eyes may be a route of infection. Frequent hand washing, social distancing and the use of facial coverings in public are the recommended ways to keep

the virus from spreading. Ears, on the other hand, are not believed to be a route of COVID-19 infection, according to the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. The skin in the outer ear canal is more like regular skin, unlike the tissue in the mouth, nose and sinuses. That creates a barrier that makes it difficult for the virus to enter, according to Dr. Benjamin Bleier at Massachusetts Eye and Ear in Boston.

Source: [CBC News: The National](https://www.cbcnews.com/health/coronavirus/covid-19-eyes-eyes-1.551111)

LIYEMA RAFANI (KQ FM) - SOUTH AFRICA

QUESTION: "What makes the speed of COVID-19 spreading in South Africa faster than other countries in Africa?"

RESPONSE: The head of Amref Health Africa, an NGO which specialises in health matters, says the higher rates could come down to low levels of testing in other African countries. The fewer tests you carry out, the fewer cases you find, and so the number in SA may appear relatively high. Ten countries account for about 80% of the total tests conducted, these countries are: South Africa, Morocco, Ghana,

Egypt, Ethiopia, Uganda, Mauritius, Kenya, Nigeria and Rwanda. By 12 July, South Africa had done about 36 tests per 1,000 people, whereas Nigeria has only achieved 0.9 tests per 1,000 people, Ghana 11 and Kenya 4. For some African countries, it is impossible to know what exactly is happening due to a lack of any data or data being incomplete. The World Health Organization (WHO) has warned that Africa might be headed for a much larger outbreak than current numbers are suggesting.

Source: [BBC News World Africa](https://www.bbc.com/news/world-africa-55888888)

PATER CHARLES (HUHESO FM KAHAMA) - TANZANIA

QUESTION: "The Tanzanian President used papaya and goat as a sample to test for COVID-19 infection, and the Ugandan president declared people 'non-infected', but it turned out that they were infected. I'm confused about the testing equipment used for identifying the coronavirus infection. I need to know the truth about these tests."

RESPONSE: Two kinds of tests are available for COVID-19: viral tests and antibody tests. A viral test can tell you if you have a current infection. An antibody test may not show if you have a current COVID-19 infection because it can take 1-3 weeks after infection for your body to make antibodies. To

see if you are currently infected, you need a viral test. Testing for COVID-19 involves inserting a 6-inch long swab into the cavity between the nose and mouth (nasopharyngeal swab) for 15 seconds and rotating it several times. The swabbing is then repeated on the other side of the nose to make sure enough material is collected. The swab is then inserted into a container and sent to a lab for testing. There really is only one reliable form of testing. And it's only available from laboratories to people whose doctors say they really need the test.

Source: [Centers For Disease Control and Prevention](https://www.cdc.gov/media/releases/2020/s110720-covid-19-testing.html)

BEENZU M. MUZYAMBA (PAN AFRICA) - ZAMBIA

QUESTION: "Seeing that COVID-19 has changed the way we operate, and considering the fact that not everyone has access to the internet, how can we reach out to people who do not have access to the information that we share?"

RESPONSE: All the sites have received training on how to report remotely, in order to continue broadcasting your shows at your local radio stations. Radio still has the widest audience footprint, reaching millions who have no access to the internet. Radio's

power to educate and inform in everyday life and in emergencies is just as important today as it has always been, and possibly even more so today. Radio is proving to be invaluable during the current COVID-19 pandemic. Learners around the world are tuning into radio stations to receive academic tuition via the airwaves. Messages on how to prevent the spread of infection have saved countless lives already.

Source: [Lifeline Energy/ Children's Radio Foundation](https://www.lifelineenergy.org/)