



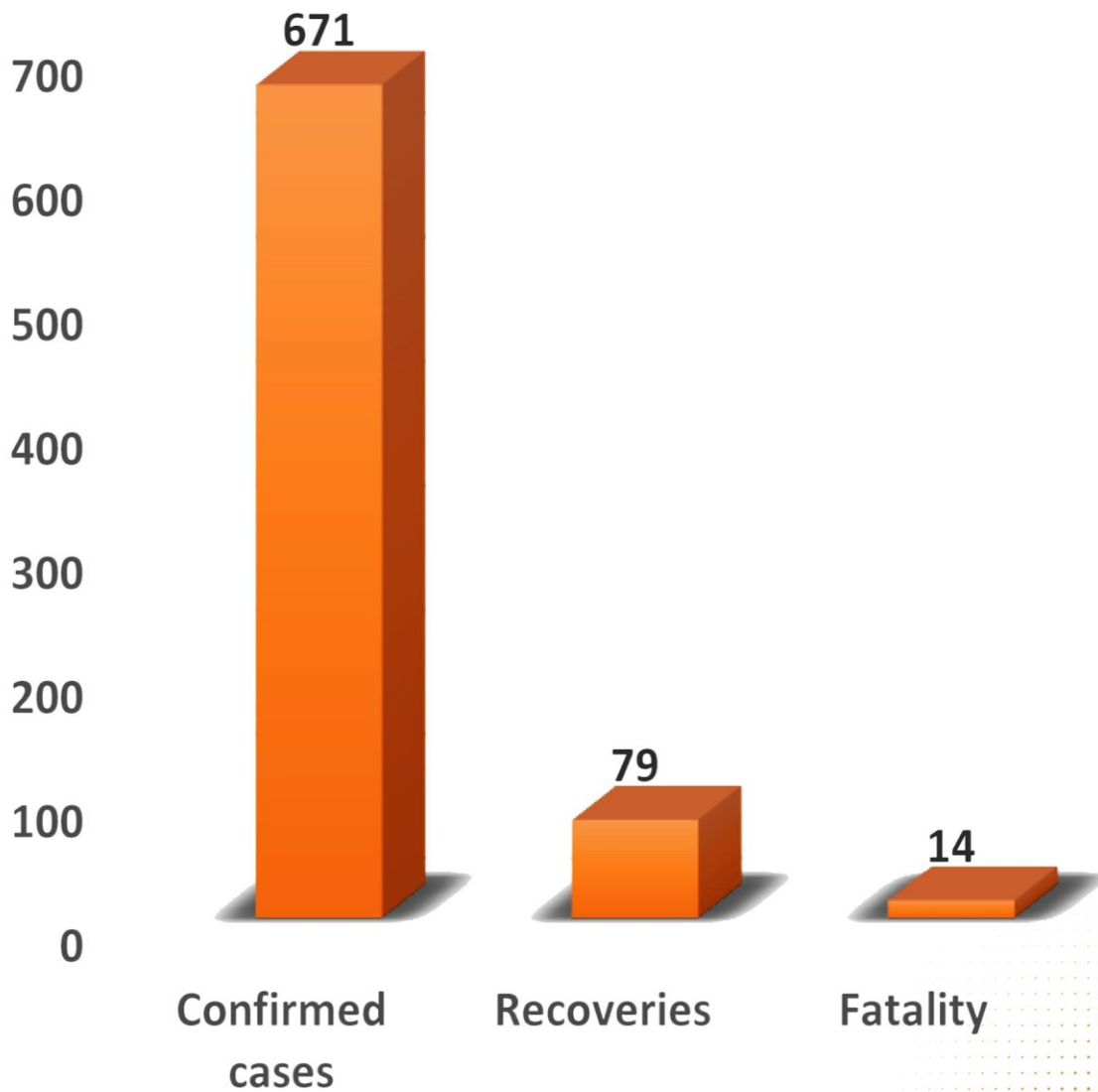
# SITREP

ISSUE: 03

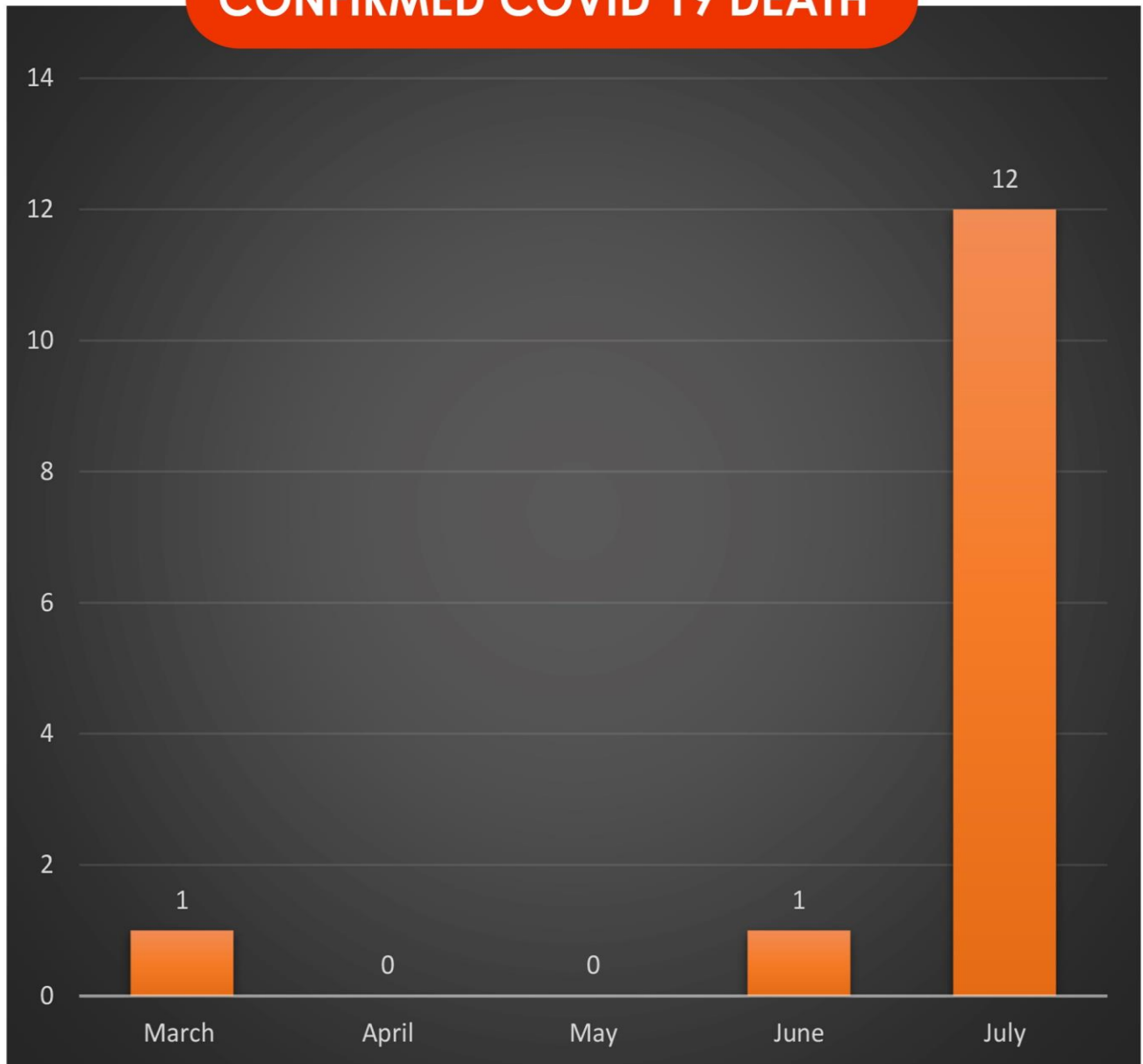
JULY 2020



# HIGHLIGHTS



## CONFIRMED COVID 19 DEATH



The chart above shows that only two deaths were recorded from March to June however, the Ministry of Health confirmed 12 COVID- 19 deaths in July.

## NATIONAL SITUATION

The Gambia has reported a total of **671** confirmed cases of COVID-19, with 79 recoveries and **14** fatalities as of August 2nd 2020. Sixty-eight per cent of the confirmed cases are below the age of 40. Fifty-six per cent of the confirmed cases are males. The number of reported cases surged by over 100 per cent, with 1 in 6 samples tested returning positive in July. All **7** health regions in the country have reported cases of COVID-19 however, most of the cases are concentrated in the Western Health Region.





## HELPING WOMEN SAY “MY BODY, MY CHOICE!” IN THE FACE OF COVID-19

Providing the needed resources and services to build a conducive environment for women and girls to make informed choices about their lives, bodies and well-being is at the heart of UNFPA's work. With projections of an increase in unintended pregnancies and violence against women and girls during this COVID-19 period, UNFPA re-iterates the need to focus on the immediate needs of women.

On 3 July 2020, UNFPA The Gambia presented essential reproductive health commodities to The Gambia Central Medical Store to support the country's response to COVID-19. These products handed over by Mr. Alieu Jammeh, UNFPA's Programme Analyst, Reproductive Health Commodity Security will help prevent unintended pregnancies and protect women from sexual and reproductive health complications.

As women are forced to stay at home because of COVID19, UNFPA will continue to invest in efforts to enable them live in dignity and health by ensuring that their safety and well-being is catered for.

Read more: 



**EVERYONE SHOULD SMILE: ENSURING SAFE  
PREGNANCIES AND MOTHERHOOD AMIDST COVID-19**

As the world navigates these trouble times to ensure safety and protection of everyone, every day comes with added risks especially for women and girls. With every new reported COVID-19 case, a beating heart breaks, a smile is wiped off and the fear grows thicker.

The vulnerability of pregnant women especially during this period is enormous and of great concern to us at UNFPA. Delivering our mandate to ensure every pregnancy is secure and wanted and every child birth is safe is greater today.

Following the receipt of a request for support from the COVID-19 National Treatment Center in The Gambia to support a pregnant woman for the provision of care and nutrition items to ensure the wellbeing of a pregnant woman currently undergoing COVID-19 supervision and her unborn child, the UNFPA country team did an urgent situation analysis and on 21 July 2020 delivered food supplies and baby items to support the upkeep of the said woman.

**Read more:** 



## MENTAL HEALTH AND PSYCHOSOCIAL SUPPORT

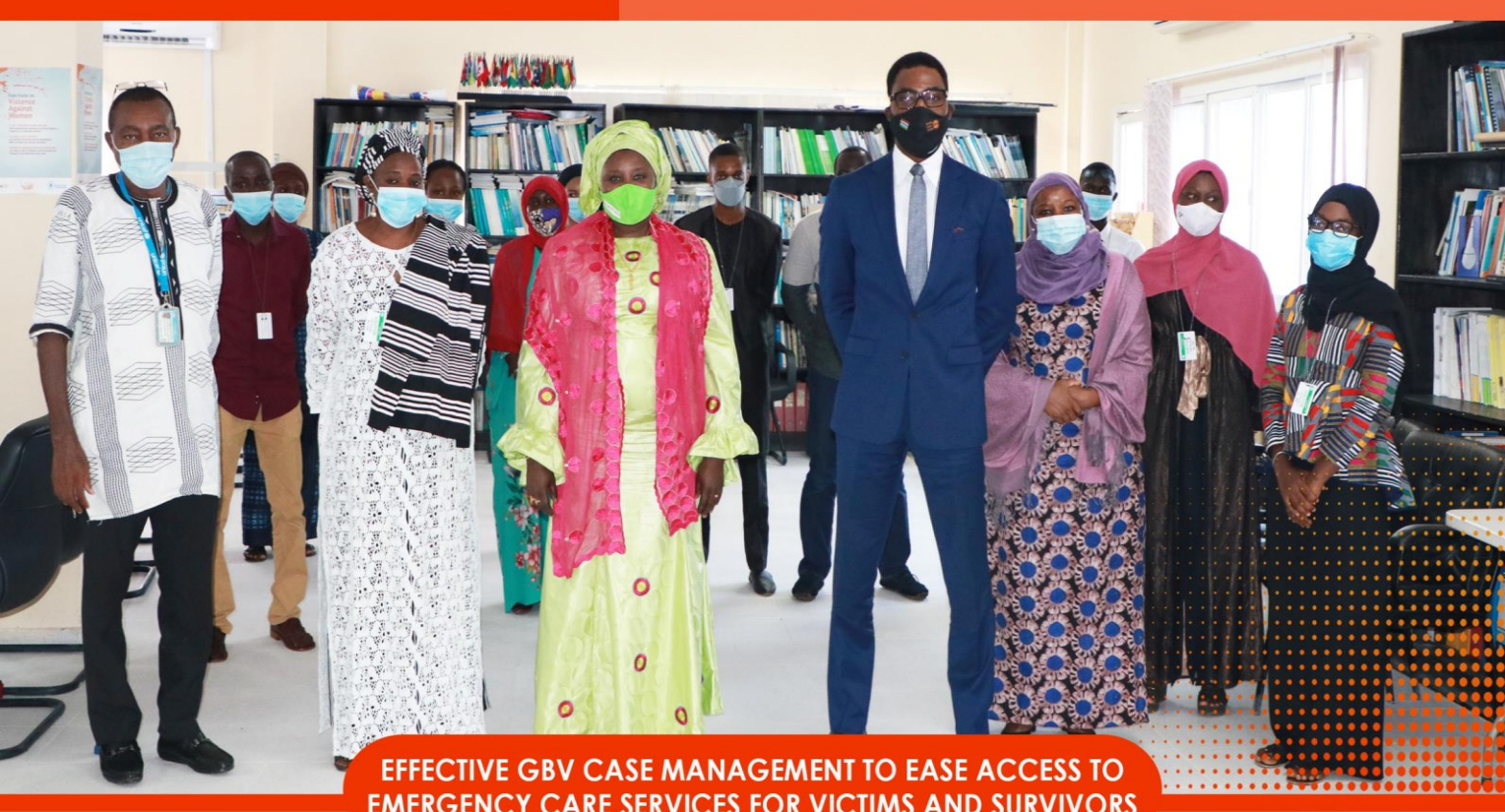


### **NATIONAL PSYCHOSOCIAL SUPPORT SERVICES REFERRAL PATHWAY TO ADVANCE MENTAL HEALTH AND WELLNESS DURING COVID-19 PANDEMIC**

Due to the evolving situation of the COVID-19 pandemic and its impact on lives and livelihoods, countries all over the world including The Gambia are challenged with new realities that threaten health, wellness and security of all people. Among these, frontline health workers, persons in quarantine and treatment centres as well as families living in fear and anxiety resulting from the uncertainties perpetuated by the pandemic are most affected and must be provided with Mental Health and Psychosocial Support Services (MHPSS), to ease daily life and help in mitigating the impact of the pandemic.

As a result, the Ministry of Health with support from UNFPA The Gambia on 14 July 2020 as part of the agency's contributions to the National COVID-19 response organised a training of institutions and organisations that provide MHPSS on The Gambia's Psychosocial Support Referral Pathway. The referral pathway is meant to streamline mental health and psychosocial support service provision and reporting during the COVID-19 pandemic by creating a close and coordinated relationship between all actors in the MHPSS response mechanism and ensuring the provision of the best possible care to those who need it.

**Read more:** 



Gender-Based Violence (GBV) is one of the most prevalent human rights violations in the world with at least 1 in every 3 women alive today having experienced some form of physical or sexual violence in their lifetime. As such, there is a need to put in place effective measures that adequately address GBV and its resulting implications on victims and survivors.

With the emergence of the COVID-19 pandemic, studies predict that there is a high likelihood of increased incidences of GBV everywhere. This is because pandemics such as COVID-19 result in restrictions on movement thus forcing some women and girls to stay at home with their abusers, among other factors.

To respond to some of these challenges, the UN Gender Technical Working Group led by UNFPA on 21 July 2020 commenced a 5-day training of trainers on Gender-Based Violence Case Management to support social workers, GBV case managers and Civil Society Organizations that provide GBV response services. The training was aimed at building the skills and capacity of participants to effectively employ a survivor-centered approach to care provision for GBV victims and survivors in The Gambia.

Read more: 





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