

# SITUATION OF COVID-19 & RESPONSE IN THE GAMBIA



THE REPUBLIC THE GAMBIA

MINISTRY OF HEALTH

15<sup>th</sup> OCTOBER 2020



# Current Situation, 12th October 2020

First case confirmed on 17<sup>th</sup> March

Tests  
19,355

Cases  
3,644

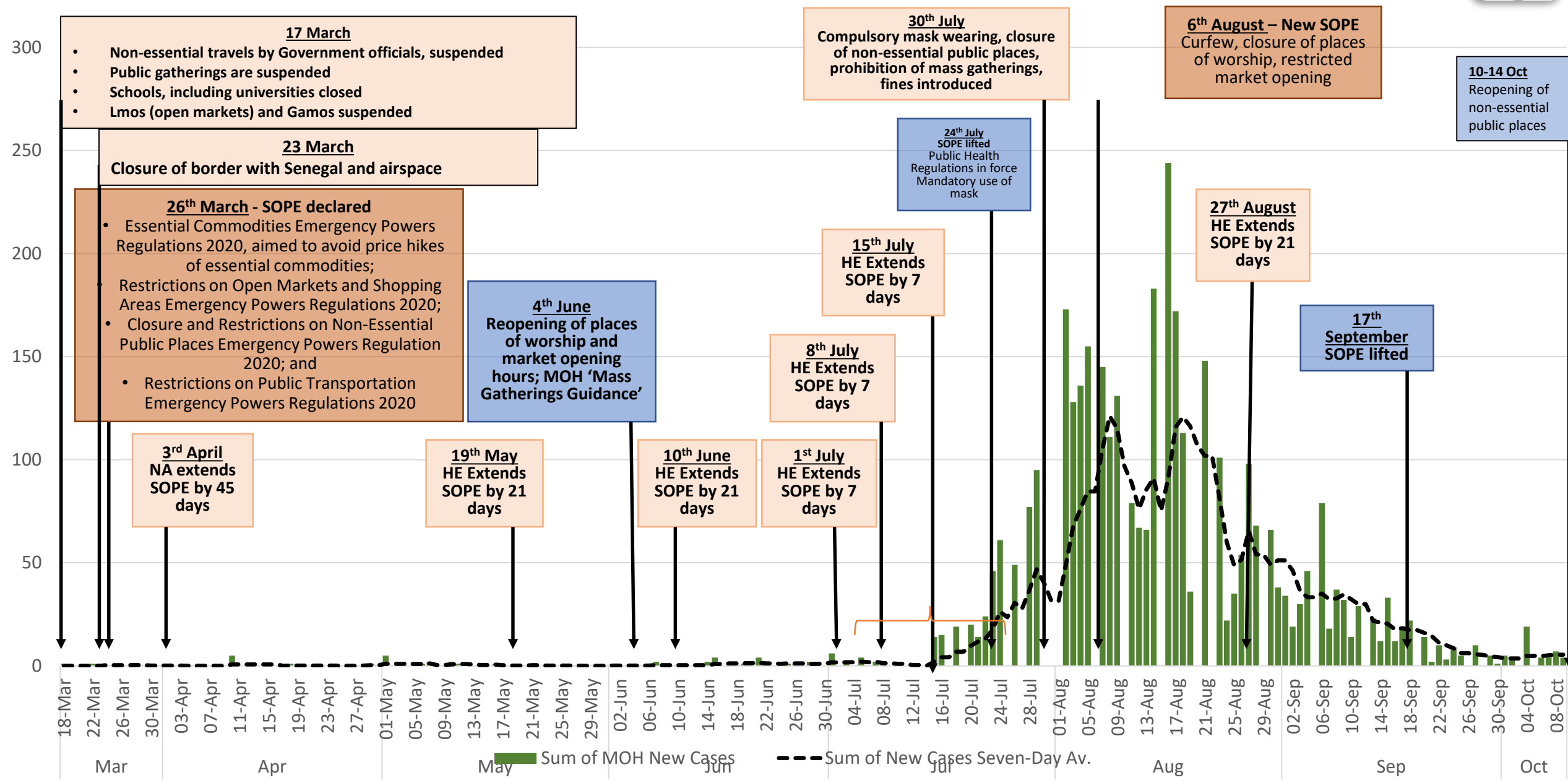
Recovered  
2,645

Deaths  
118  
(CFR 3.2%)

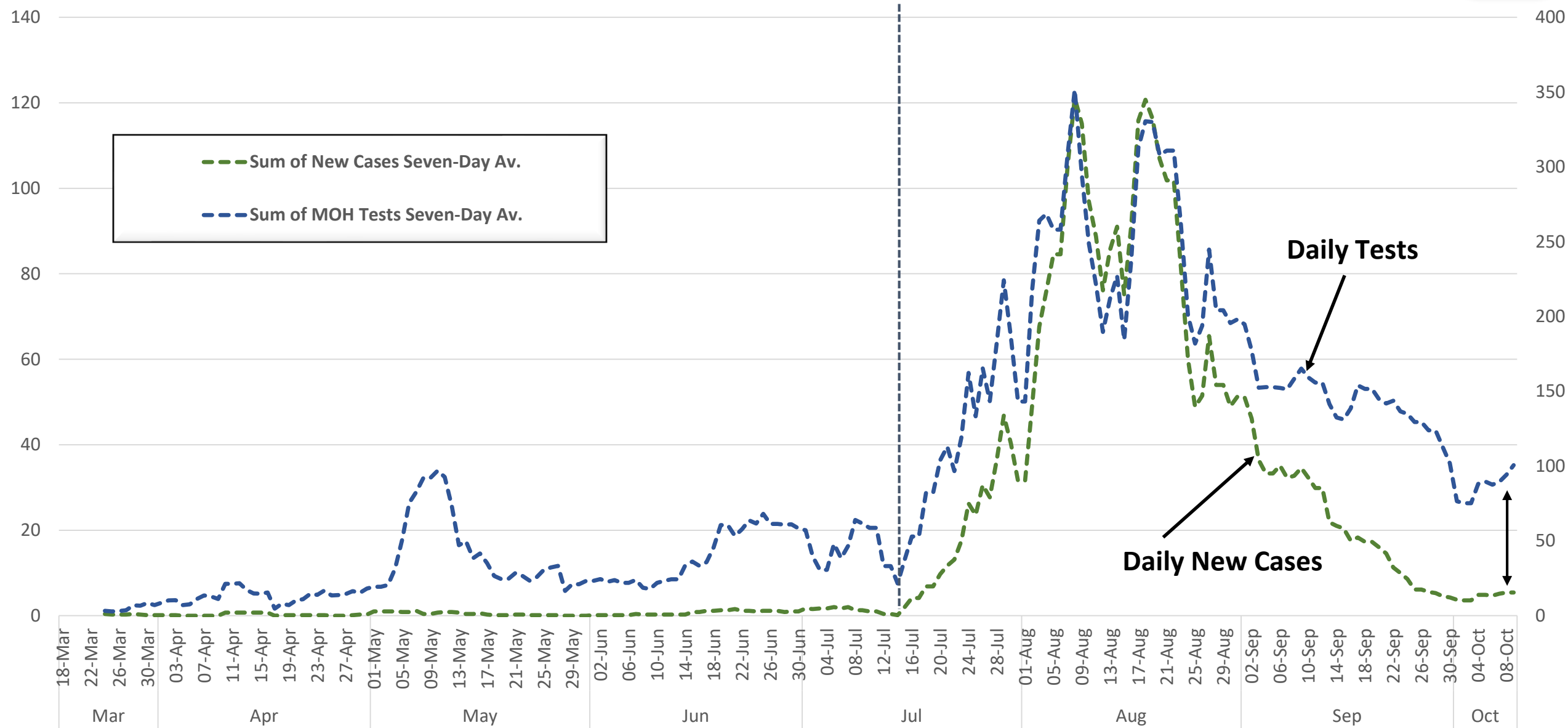




# Timeline of PHSMs in The Gambia



# Seven-day Average Testing (R) vs New Cases (L)



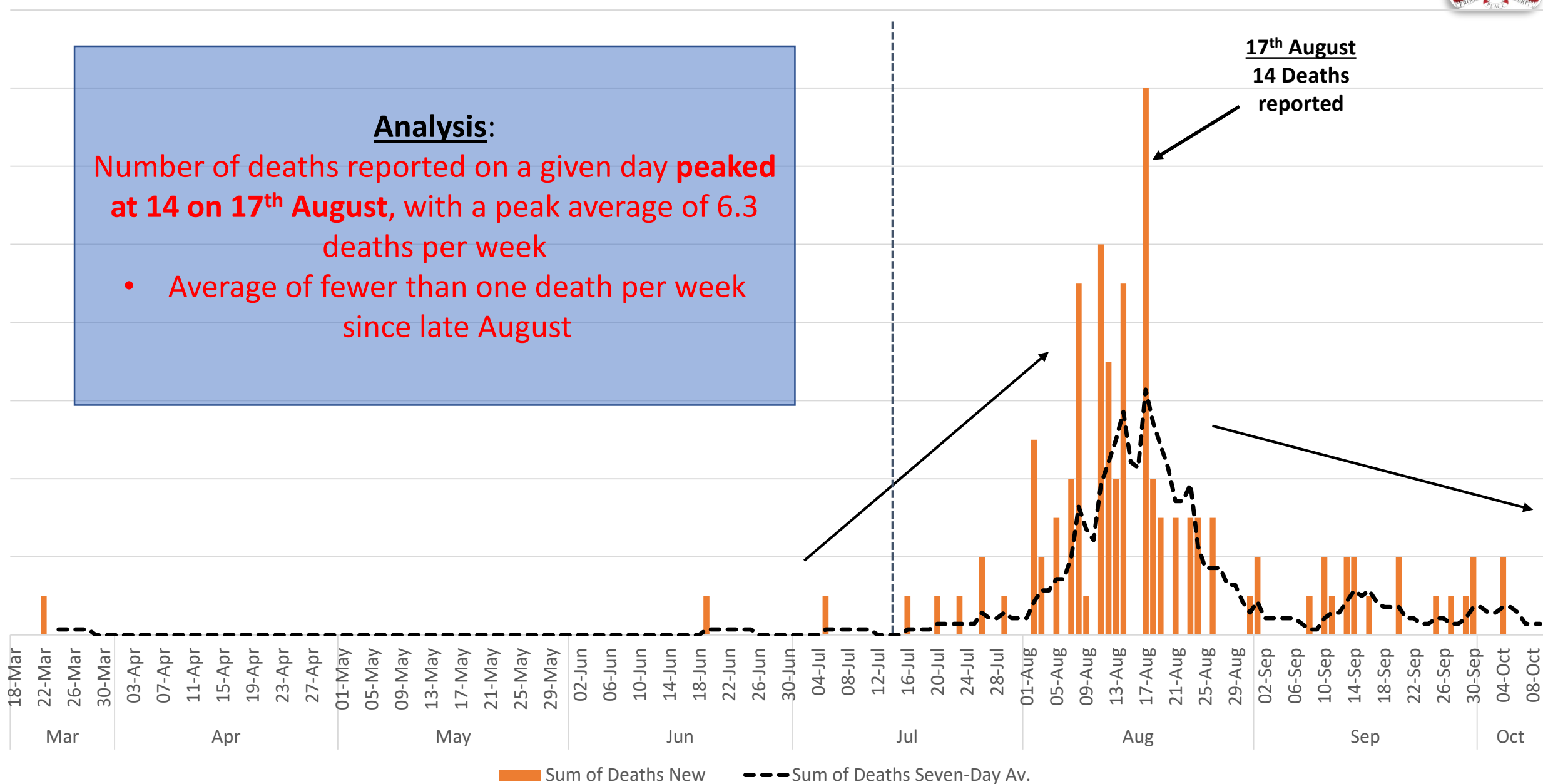


# Deaths and Seven-day Rolling Average

## Analysis:

Number of deaths reported on a given day **peaked at 14 on 17<sup>th</sup> August**, with a peak average of 6.3 deaths per week

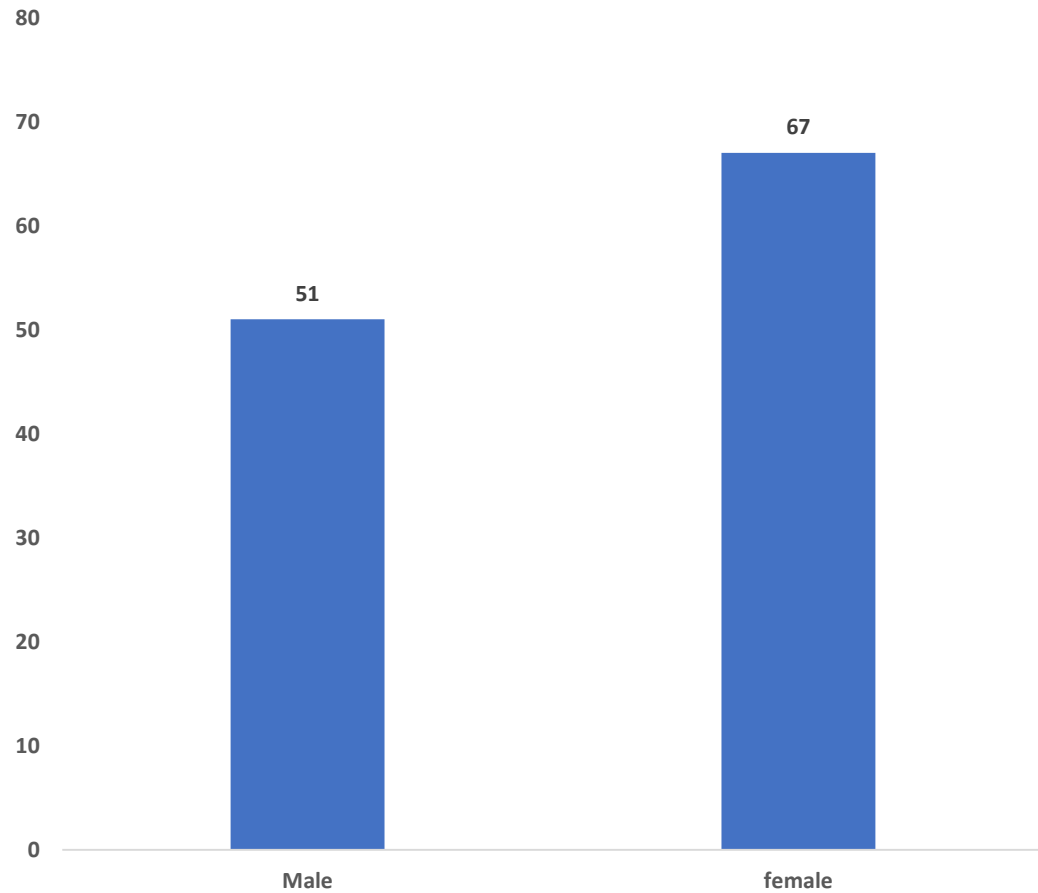
- Average of fewer than one death per week since late August



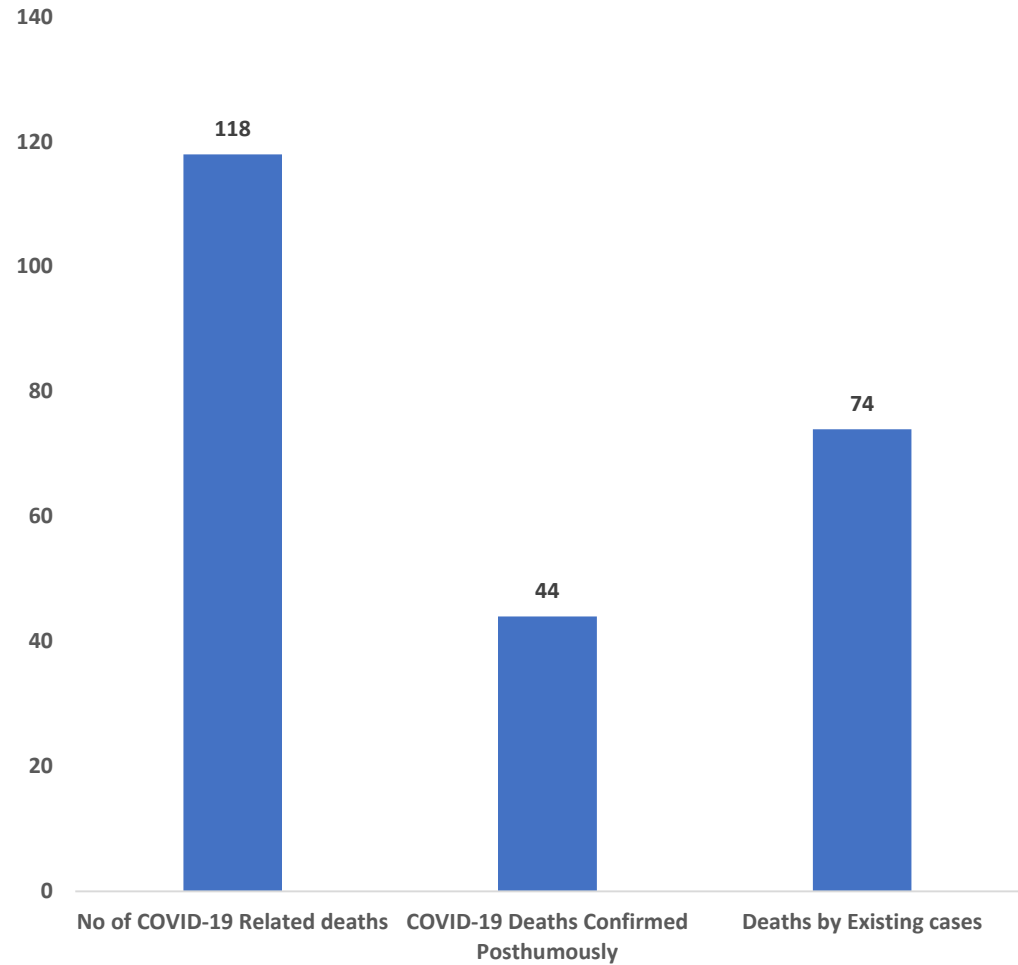


# Further Mortality Summary

COVID-19 Deaths by Sex



COVID-19 Related Deaths





# Achievements

- Government leadership and commitment
  - Dedicated funding for response
  - Imposition of strict PHSMs at the onset of the outbreak
- Whole-of-Government Approach
- Strong partner support and involvement of the private sector
- Mandatory facility based quarantine and isolation
- Establishment of national capacity for PCR testing subsequent expansion to two sites in the country making the total number to 4
- Local production of some PPEs, hand sanitizers, COVID19 specimen collection booths and fabrication of containers for treatment centers
- Training of critical response staff (case management, surveillance, etc)
- Strengthening of the Health Care System by the procurement of life-saving equipment and ambulances



# Challenges

- Low self-reporting of people with COVID19 symptoms for testing during low transmission period
- Scaling up and maintaining contact tracing activities during high transmission period
- Rumors, myths and denial of COVID19 particular in the regions
- Politicizing Covid-19 pandemic
- Inadequate community engagement and risk communication
- Decrease in turnout of clients/patients for routine essential health services
- Pandemic fatigue with low compliance of public to preventive measures.
- Case management challenges – few intensive care personnel
- Delays in procurement since most of what we need is not available locally





# Priorities

Operationalize regional treatment centers



Set up three additional PCR Sites and increase sample collection sites



Intensify risk communication to improve compliance to non-pharmaceutical measures



Improve subnational coordination and decentralization of response



Continuity of essential health services



Intensify surveillance at all levels



# Thank You

