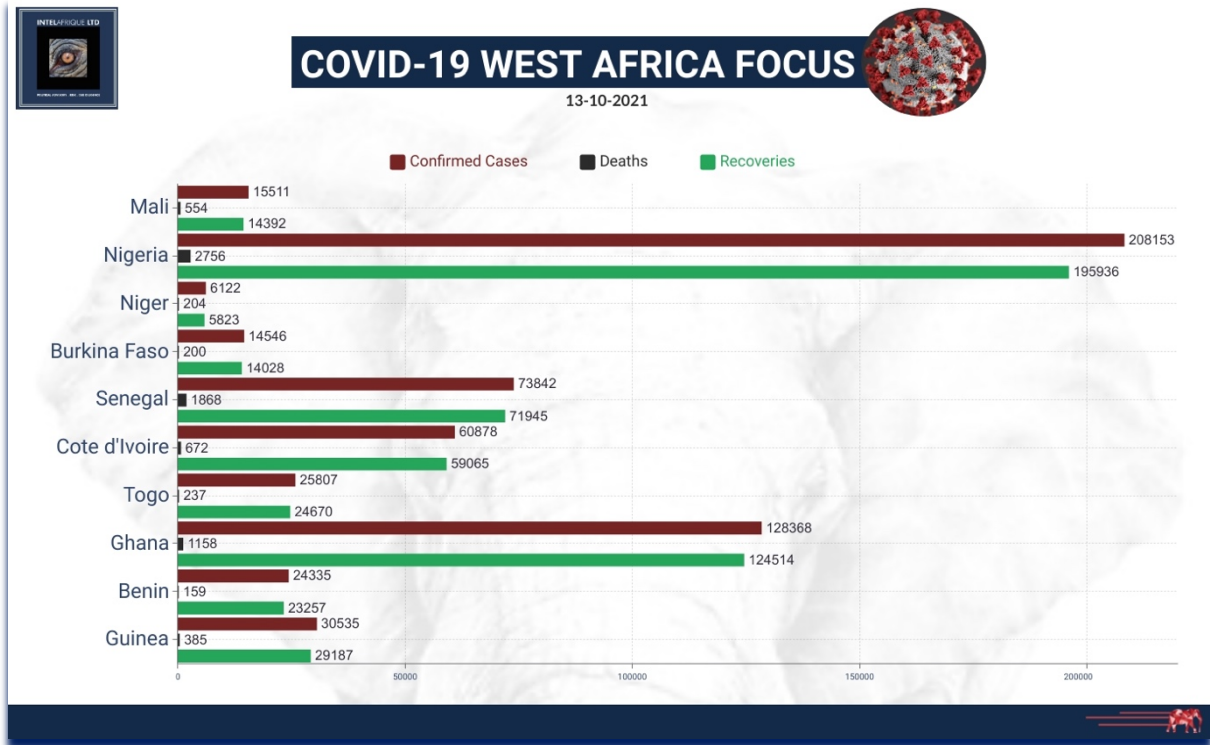




COVID-19 WEST AFRICAN REPORT

13th October 2021.



Prepared

IntelAfrique Risk Department



COVID-19 UPDATE

Ref No: C19/WA/34

TOGO

Confirmed Cases: 25,807

Death: 237

Recovered: 24,670



CURRENT SITUATION

The case count in Togo has increased to 25,807 after 184 new cases were reported in the last 7 days. 4 new deaths have increased total fatalities to 237—0.9% of total infections reported since March 2020. The recovery rate has increased to 96% (24,670) after 874 new recoveries were recorded this week. These figures have left the cases at 900—a decrease from last week’s 1,593. The infection rate decreased by 38% as the number of new cases dropped from 300 to 184 this week. Fatalities per week also dropped by 57% as the number of new mortalities reduced from 4 as against last week’s 7 new deaths. The health crisis continues to improve as the number of new infections, deaths and active cases have dropped continuously in the last 3 weeks. Restrictions have been eased following the progress made in the past few weeks. Clubs, bars, religious spaces are now allowed to operate. These locations of large social gatherings are required to have up mobile vaccination units nearby. Vaccination pass/certificates are still required to access administrative and public buildings. Future infections are still probable given the presence of the Delta variant. The risk is also heightened by the public attitude towards the pandemic particularly disregard for the required health and safety protocols. Vaccination has been encouraging as Togo remains the most vaccinated country in the WAEMU region ahead of the likes of Senegal and Cote d’Ivoire¹. Over 1.25m vaccines have been administered, covering 9.7% of the population, 4.9% of which are fully immunized.

IVORY COAST

Confirmed Cases: 60,878

Death: 672

Recovered: 59,065



CURRENT SITUATION

397 new infections were reported in Cote d'Ivoire this week increasing the total case count to 60,878. 20 new deaths increased the total death toll to 672. Recoveries also increased to 59,065 leaving active case count at 1,141, a 15% decrease from last week’s 1,355. The health sector of Cote d’Ivoire has come under some criticism and could spell doom for its fight against the Covid-19. Health workers have indicated that from October 19, they will be embarking on 5-day renewable strike action following allegations of embezzlement of covid-19 premiums meant for health workers. It is noted that since the beginning of the year, health workers have not received any premium. This is coming at a

¹ <https://www.togofirst.com/fr/sante/0710-8634-covid-19-le-togo-pays-le-plus-vaccine-de-luemoa-financial-times>

time where government effort has increased vaccine acceptability and more people are interested to get vaccinated. This effort will amount to nothing if no action is taken in the short term. The British Foreign Ministry on October 8 announced the lifting of the travel ban to Côte d'Ivoire and other 10 destinations in the world due to the Covid-19 health crisis. This will go a long way in boosting commerce and tourism and the overall revenue of the country.

SENEGAL

Confirmed Cases: 73,818
Death: 1,862
Recovered: 71,901



CURRENT SITUATION

The pandemic in Senegal continued to improve rapidly after a record low of 24 new cases were reported by health authorities nationwide—3 cases per day. Death toll increased to 1,868 after 6 new fatalities succumbed to the virus. Recovery rate increased to 97% after 44 patients recovered. This leaves the number of active cases at 29, 5 of which are in critical condition. The infection rate has decreased by 53% although the risk of infection is still considerable. The number of fatalities reported this week on the other hand increased by 2 i.e from 4 to 6. Active cases also dropped to a record low—29 resulting in the West African country been listed as a green(safe) country in the subregion by the French government. This implies that passengers travelling to and from Senegal are not subject to restrictive measures to enter or leave the French borders. The Ministry of Tourism and Air Transport has also signed a circular that exempts vaccinated travellers from presenting an RT-PCR test. Other restrictions are expected to be lifted in the next few weeks if the current trend is maintained. Vaccination is still ongoing with health authorities already administering 1,828,842 vaccines—covering 7.5% of the total population.

BURKINA FASO

Confirmed Cases: 14,356
Death: 191
Recovered: 13,957



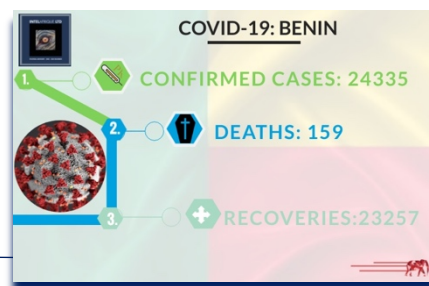
CURRENT SITUATION

The cumulative case count has increased to 14,546 following the detection of 190 new cases nationwide. Death toll and recoveries have increased to 200(9 new deaths) and 14,028 respectively. The figures reported this week has resulted in an increase in active cases i.e from 208 to 318—2% of the total case count. The figures over the last 7 days indicate a further deterioration of the health crisis. The number of new infections increased by 32%, new deaths increased by 12.5% and a 52% increase for active cases. Poor adherence to safety protocols stemming from ignorance and denial of the C-19 virus are among

the factors responsible for the recent increase in infections. Testing and contact tracing remains the major strategies implemented to manage the health crisis. Vaccination has also been introduced by the government but its progress has been slow because of the hesitancy among the public to receive the vaccine. Efforts have been made by the government to increase participation with the traditional health practitioners being the latest target group participating in the vaccination exercise. Over 290,000 vaccines have been administered in Burkina Faso, representing 1.3% of the country's population.

BENIN

Confirmed Cases: 24,335
Death: 159
Recovered: 23,257



CURRENT SITUATION

Total COVID-19 case count has reached 24,335 after 445 new infections were reported last week. Death toll remained at 159 while recoveries increased to 23,257. Active cases, as a result, dropped to 919. In the last 7 days, 2 critical decisions were taken by Benin authorities. Firstly, Benin has reduced the cost of Covid-19 tests for travellers arriving and departing the country. This action is in line with francophone West Africa's policy on harmonization of Covid-19 tests cost for easy flow of people among member states. Effective October 12, 2021, travellers departing from and going to Cotonou will therefore have to pay the sum of 25,000 FCFA instead of 50,000 FCFA previously received for the standard service (result between 48 and 72 hours) and the sum of 50,000 FCFA for the VIP service (result in 24h) against 75,000 Fcfa previously received. The much-anticipated move is expected to reduce the financial burden of travellers. Also, on October 1, Minister Benjamin Hounkpatin in charge of Public Health informed the public of the availability of Pfizer vaccines at the 115 vaccination sites². The Minister of Health specified that in addition to people aged 18 and over, the Pfizer vaccine can also be given to children aged 12 to 18.

SITUATIONAL SUMMARY W/A

COUNTRY	NO. OF CASES	DEATH	RECOVERIES	NO. OF TESTS
MALI	15,511	554	14,392	433,257
NIGERIA	208,153	2,756	195,936	3,090,114
NIGER	6,122	204	5,823	162,726
GUINEA	30,535	385	29,187	561,618

GLOBAL SITUATION

Confirmed Cases: 239,562,875 **Death: 4,883,606**

² <https://www.gouv.bj/actualite/1322/campagne-nationale/>