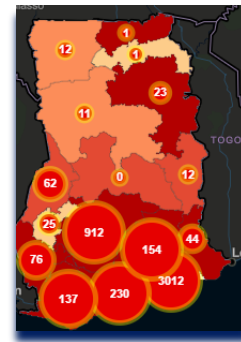




COVID-19 UPDATE GHANA

Ref No: C19/226
Confirmed Cases: 152,243
Death: 1,332
Recovered: 139,508

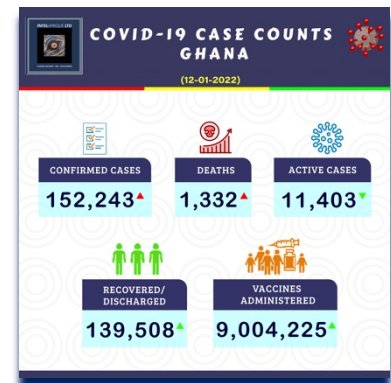


CURRENT SITUATION

1,369 new C-19 infections have been reported by the Ghana Health Service in the last 48 hours. These infections have increased the cumulative case count to 152,243. Seven new deaths reported over this period has increased the total death toll to 1,332 while recoveries/ discharges increased to 139,508. The number of active cases as a result of the recent GHS update has decreased to 11,403 from 13,007 with 39 and 9 patients reporting severe and critical symptoms respectively.

COMMENTARY

According to the recent update, by the GHS, the health crisis is improving as the number of daily infections and active cases have reduced for the 2nd time in the last 5 days. Despite such improvement, the health crisis remains precarious as high numbers of daily infections are being reported. The positivity rate is relatively high—7%, which suggests the continuous risk of high numbers of infections in the next 4-6 weeks. This risk is also compounded with the opening of learning institutions—high schools and universities.



Surveillance Type	Total Number Tested	Total number positive	Positivity rate
Routine Surveillance	469,298	56,614	12.1
Enhanced Contact Tracing	964,575	89,415	9.3
International Travels	734,130	6,214	0.8
Total	2,168,003	152,243	7.0

With an average rate of 685 cases per day, a projection of **12,996** new infections could be reported by the end of the month. This number could be higher given the opening up of the day-to-day activities, particularly academic activities. The death toll could also cross the 2000 threshold by the end of January 2022. Reintroduction of restrictions is unclear but possible especially in a situation that infection number exceeds these 160,000 at month's end. Vaccination continues to be the major strategy the government seeks to employ to reduce the risk of infections given it has failed to enforce other prevention measures. Over 9m—9,004,225 vaccines have been administered by health officials despite the skepticism by some members of the public, 33.4% of which are partially inoculated and 14.6% fully vaccinated. The government implemented vaccine mandates to encourage more participation but the results have been subpar. According to Africa Centre for Disease Control, Ghana has received over 25m doses of vaccines (25,146,351) since 2021. The stock is scheduled to increase with the arrival of additional vaccines from the United States government this month.

