

Common Market for  
Eastern and Southern Africa



# COVID-19

in **COMESA**  
Situational Update N° 11

28<sup>th</sup> April 2020

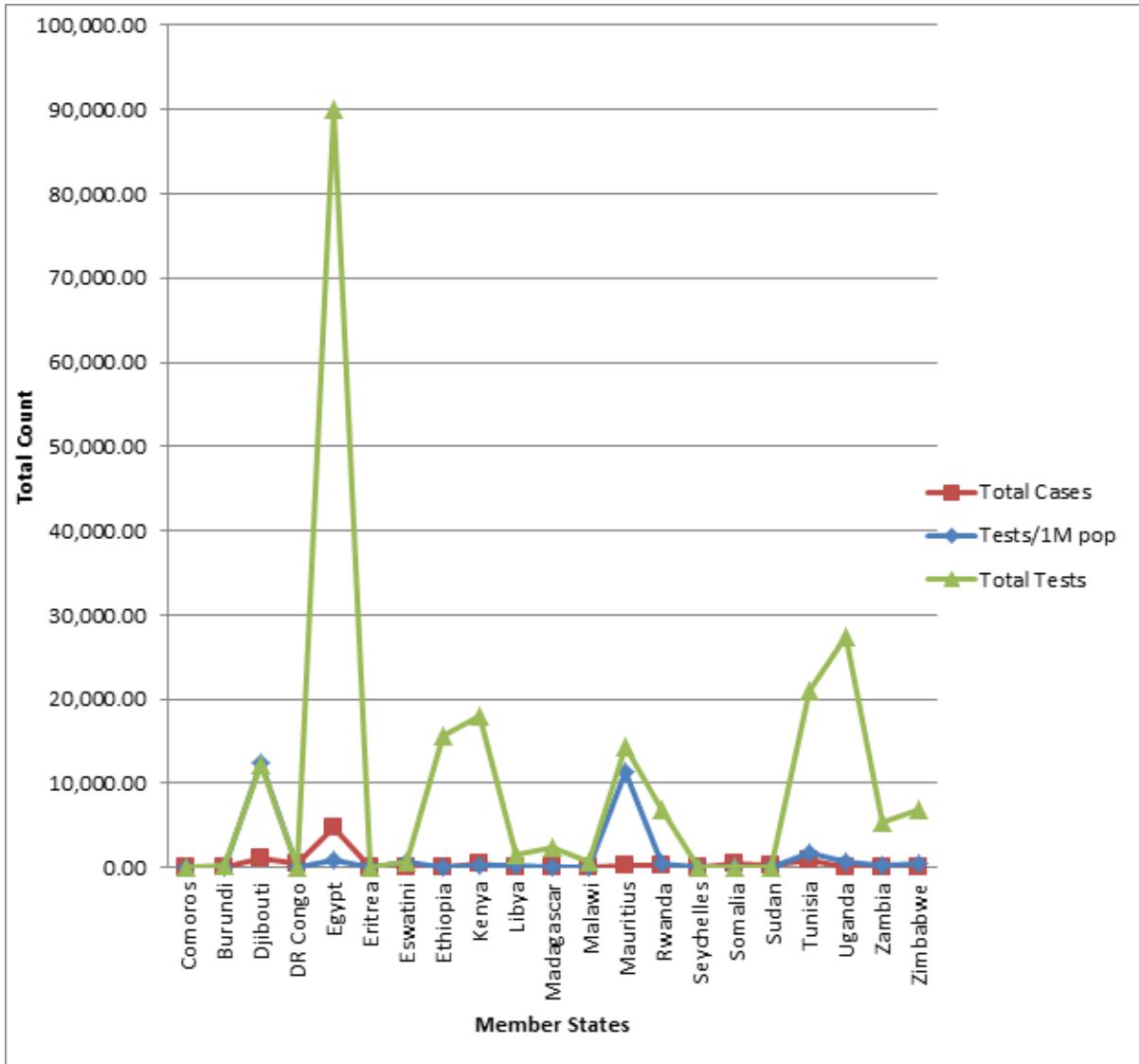


## Region has Low Levels of Testing for COVID-19 Pandemic

The level of testing of COVID-19 infections in COMESA Member State is generally low, according to recent data. This is linked to inadequate testing kits and limited health personnel. The estimated total number of COVID-19 tests carried out in the region stands at 223,613. Out of these, Egypt has the highest at 90,000, Uganda (27,432), Tunisia (21,081), Kenya (17,992), Ethiopia (15,628), Mauritius (14,445) and Djibouti (12,250) (see table).

When the total number of tests conducted are normalized (pro rata basis) against the population (per one million), these numbers become negligible for the majority of the countries in the region. For instance, while Egypt has conducted around 90,000 tests, when the tests are normalized, the figures come down to a paltry 879. On the other hand, the tests conducted in Mauritius and Djibouti when normalized against the population, they show that a significant proportion has been tested.

Cases and test (per one million pop)



**Cases In The Region**

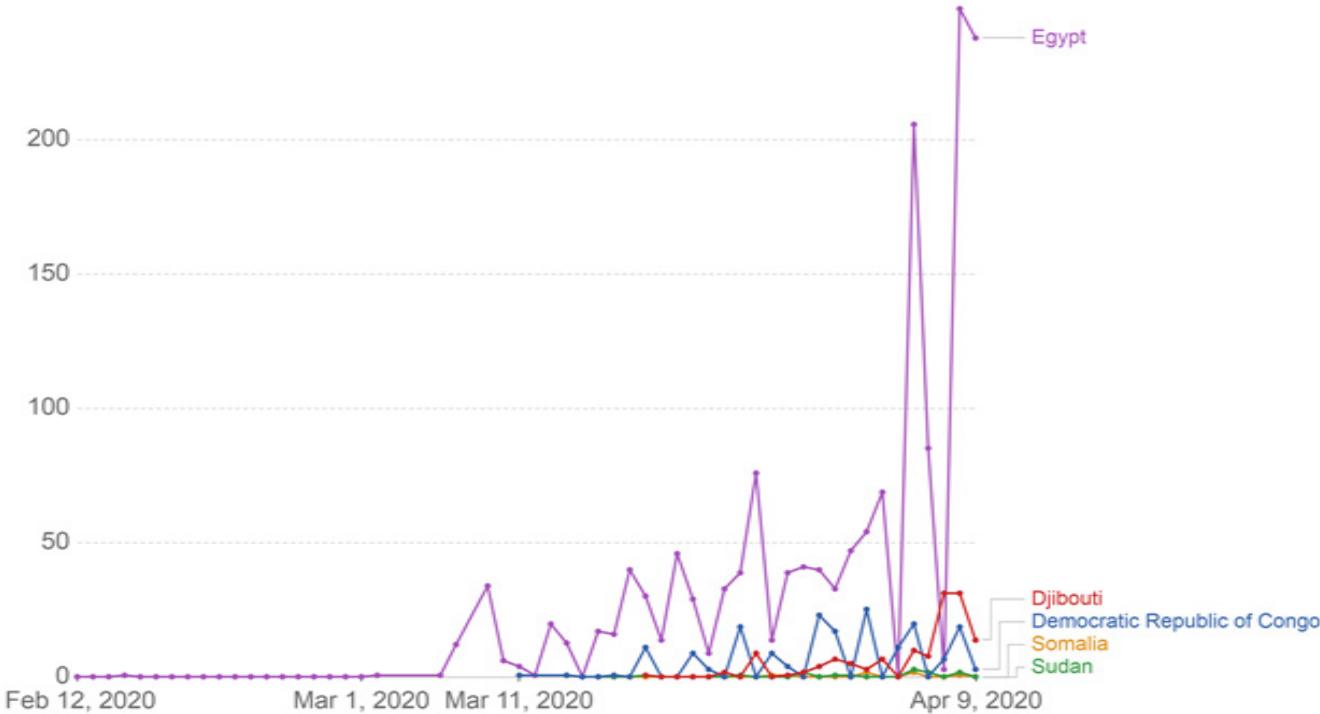
The total regional cases stand at 9,581. The region has also recorded 2,866 recoveries and 497 deaths. The numbers of recoveries and deaths have had a spiral effect on the number of active cases that stands at 6,228. Since the last situational update on 24 April 2020, the COMESA region has reported 1,493 new COVID-19 cases.

The countries in the region that have recorded a high number of cases are Egypt (4,782), Djibouti (1,035), Tunisia (967) and Somalia (480). While Egypt, Djibouti and Somalia have recorded high numbers of new cases in the past few days, in Tunisia, they have reduced significantly.

**Member States with High numbers of daily COVID-19 cases**

**Daily confirmed COVID-19 cases**

The number of confirmed cases is lower than the number of total cases. The main reason for this is limited testing.

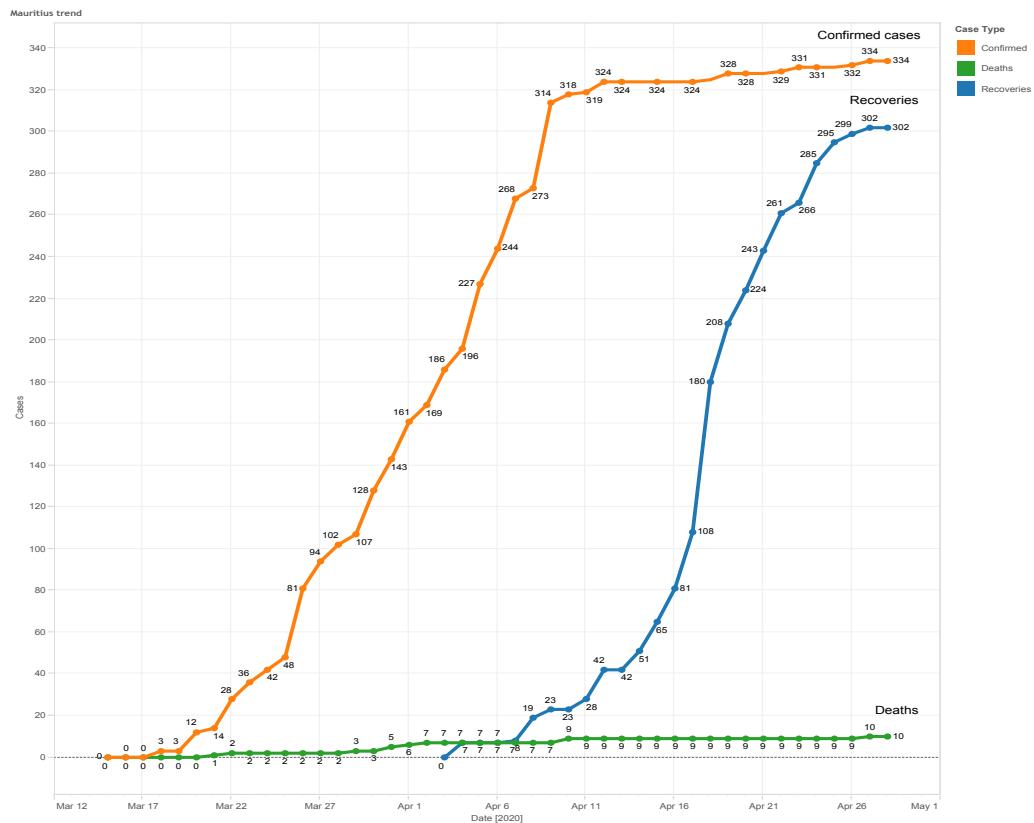


Source: European CDC – Situation Update Worldwide – Last updated 28th April, 11:30 (London time) OurWorldInData.org/coronavirus • CC BY

In the group of countries with less than 100 confirmed cases, Eswatini and Zambia, which initially recorded low cases, have the current numbers rising steadily. The increase in these two countries can be attributed to increased testing capacity. Burundi, Seychelles, Eritrea, Malawi Zimbabwe continue to record relatively low numbers of total cases. On the other hand, Uganda, Mauritius, Madagascar, Libya and Ethiopia have recorded low numbers of new cases in the past four days.

Overall, the numbers of new cases have significantly reduced. At the same time the numbers of recoveries have gone up 302. In Mauritius only 22 cases are currently active. The data on Mauritius may be an indication of the slow spread of the virus due to the preventive and containment measures. It also implies that the health systems are not overwhelmed, therefore, the few cases can be adequately dealt with.

### Trend lines for confirmed, cases and deaths in Mauritius



The trend of sum of Cases for Date1. Color shows details about Case Type (COVID\_19\_Cases\_20200414). The data is filtered on Country Region and Exclusions (Country Region,Date). The Country Region filter keeps Mauritius. The Exclusions (Country Region,Date) filter keeps 98 members. The view is filtered on sum of Cases and Date1. The sum of Cases filter includes values less than or equal to 4,610. The Date1 filter ranges from 3/15/2020 to 4/28/2020.

## Summary of regional figures

Country	Total Cases	New Cases	Total Tests	Tests/1M pop	Total cases/1M pop	Deaths	Deaths/1M pop	Recoveries	Total Active Cases
Comoros	0	0	-	-	0	0	0	0	0
Burundi	11	0	284	24	0.9	1	0.08	4	6
Djibouti	1035	49	12250	12399	1048	2	2	477	556
DR Congo	471	77	-	-	5	30	0.3	56	385
Egypt	4782	891	90000	879	47	337	3	1236	3209
Eritrea	39	0	-	-	11	0	0	13	26
Eswatini	65	34	714	615	56	1	0.9	10	54
Ethiopia	126	9	15668	136	1	3	0.03	50	73
Kenya	363	43	17992	335	7	14	0.3	114	235
Libya	61	1	1623	236	9	2	0.3	18	41
Madagascar	128	7	2357	85	5	0	0	75	53
Malawi	36	3	690	36	2	3	0.2	4	29
Mauritius	334	3	14445	11358	263	10	8	302	22
Rwanda	207	53	6959	537	16	0	0	93	114
Seychelles	11	0	-	-	112	0	0	6	5
Somalia	480	152	-	-	30	26	2	14	440
Sudan	275	101	-	-	6	22	0.5	21	232
Tunisia	967	49	21081	1784	82	39	3	279	649
Uganda	79	5	27432	600	2	0	0	47	32
Zambia	89	13	5284	287	5	3	0.2	42	44
Zimbabwe	32	3	6834	460	2	4	0.3	5	23
<b>Total</b>	<b>9,591.00</b>	<b>1,493.00</b>	<b>223,613.00</b>			<b>497.00</b>		<b>2,866.00</b>	<b>6,228.00</b>

Source: World Health Organisation, Worldometer, Johns Hopkins University (compiled by COMWARN)



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