

COVID-19 Vaccine Rollout in the European region

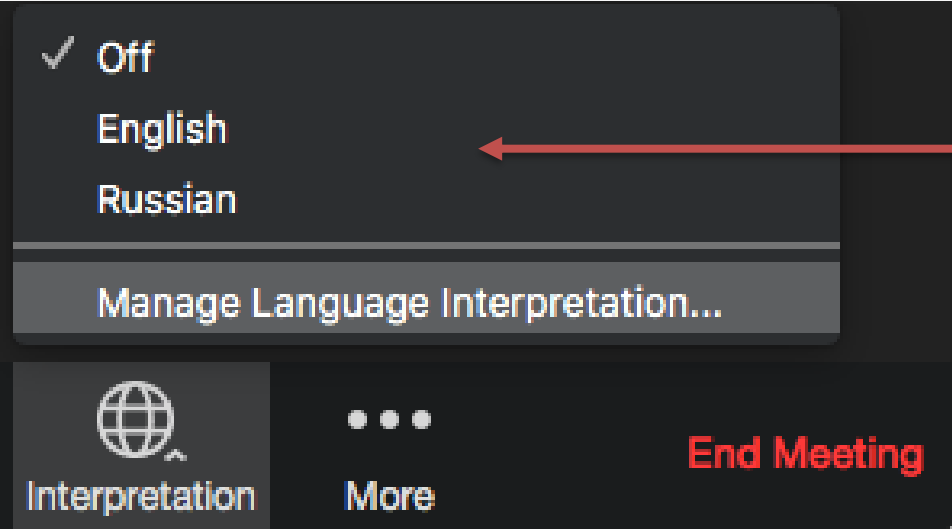
Experience of Azerbaijan, Armenia, Georgia, Moldova and Uzbekistan

18 May, 2021

LNCT regional webinar

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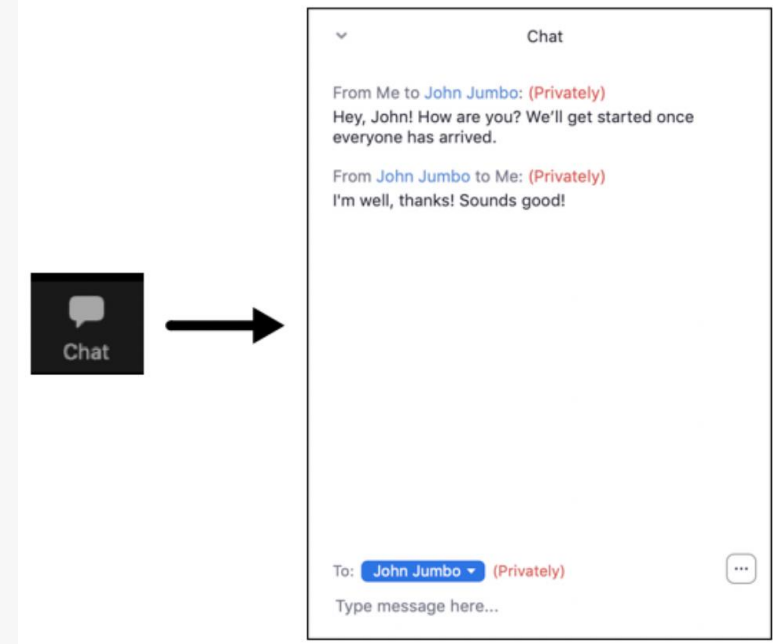
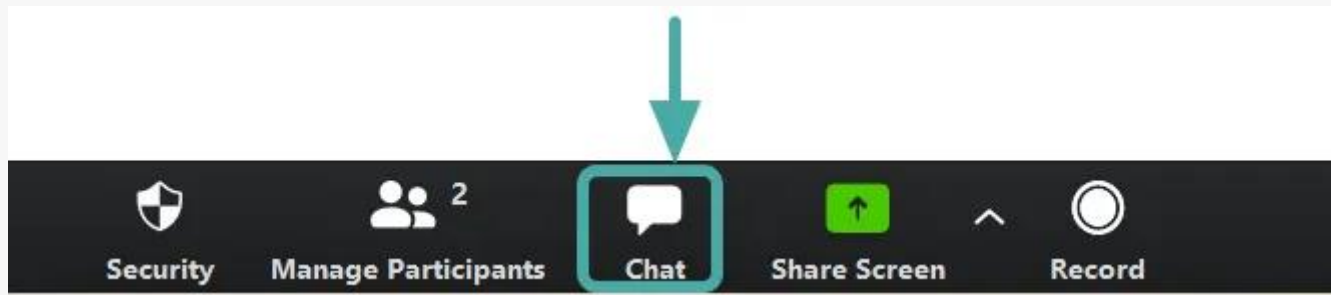


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How to Pose Questions?

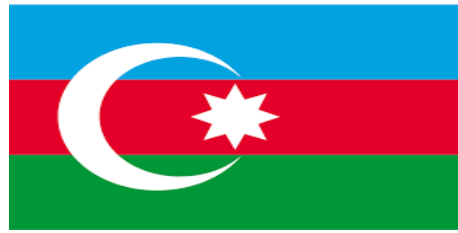
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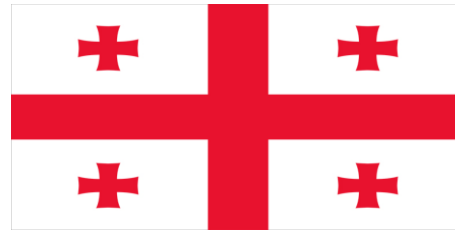
- Country Presentation and Q&A Session



Armenia



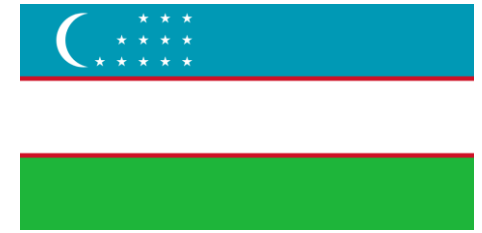
Azerbaijan



Georgia



Moldova



Uzbekistan

- Partners' Perspectives and Q&A Session



COVID-19 Vaccination Rollout in Armenia

Karapetyan Lilit

A doctor, Immunoprophylaxis Department
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18 May, 2021

COVID-19 Vaccination Program in Figures

- The Republic of Armenia joined the COVAX Facility initiative in September 2020. As part of the initiative, various vaccines against coronavirus disease are regularly offered to the country.
- In early 2021, Armenia received 1,000 doses of Sputnik vaccine from the Russian Federation as aid, which was used for the vaccination of healthcare workers involved in the treatment of COVID-19.
- In April 2021, within the framework of the COVAX Facility, Armenia procured 24,000 doses of the Anglo-Swedish AstraZeneca vaccine. The vaccination with the vaccine was launched in April this year. The country also purchased 21,000 doses of Sputnik vaccine. In May, Armenia received 100,000 doses of CoronaVac vaccine from the Republic of China as humanitarian aid. Vaccination by this vaccine started just a few days ago.
- Medical workers, people with chronic diseases aged 16 to 64, people over 65, residents of nursing homes and employees of these institutions, public officers, teachers, and police officers were selected in a risk group for vaccination.
- As of May 15, vaccination coverage among medical workers made up 16%, while among the adult population - 18%.
- Vaccination is carried out both in health care institutions and by mobile vaccination groups in Yerevan and several regional cities.

Challenges with Vaccination Rollout

- At the moment, there is a problem with the cold chain in the country, not all health care institutions have the refrigerators, where they can store Sputnik-V vaccine at -20 degrees.
- Like all over the world, there is an active anti-vaccination campaign against all vaccines in Armenia, which we try to counter through active awareness campaign among healthcare workers and the population.
- All post-vaccination reactions are discussed by a Special Commission for Post-Vaccination Reactions.
- Currently, the country does not have any problems with the vaccine supply.

Financing of COVID-19 Vaccination Programs

Vaccine procurement, logistics, delivery of vaccination services are carried out by the state budget funds.

Lessons Learned

The country has used the international good practice in the process of organizing the COVID-19 vaccination process, we have actively cooperated with all stakeholders, conducted an active awareness campaign, held meetings, discussions with healthcare specialists, number of online courses-conferences, including with the involvement of foreign specialists.

Way Forward

In the near future, the country plans to expand its cooperation with the COVAX Facility and with other international partners. The country is also working to replenish the cold chain equipment.

COVID-19 Vaccination Rollout in Azerbaijan

Oleg Salimov

The Ministry of Health
The Republic of Azerbaijan

18 May, 2021

COVID-19 Vaccination Rollout in Azerbaijan

Vaccine introduction:

CoronaVac, 2 512 880 doses, Sinovac, China, from 18.01.2021

AstraZeneca, 84 000 doses, Weatherall Institute of Molecular Medicine and Oxford Vaccine Group, from 10.05.2021

Sputnik V, 80 000 doses (2 components), N.F. Gamaleya Research Institute of Epidemiology and Microbiology.

As of 16.05.2021 the vaccination coverage by the first dose made up 1030510 persons, two doses – 764222 persons. Of which:

Healthcare workers – 121 200 persons

65+ - 165 220 persons

50-65 лет - 480 307 persons

40+ - 220 495 persons

18-39 лет - 164 700 persons

Population immunization by CoronaVac vaccines is carried out in primary health care facilities.

Population vaccination stages:

Healthcare workers;

People aged 65 and over;

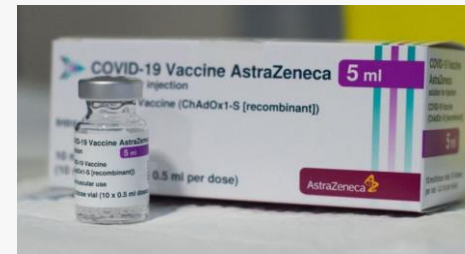
People with chronic diseases;

People aged 50 and over;

People aged 40 and over;

Currently people aged 18 and over.

Since 03 May 2021 people aged over 60 years have been vaccinated by AstraZeneca vaccine at 16 public and private medical facilities of the Republic of Azerbaijan.



Vaccination Process in Certain Cities and Districts of the Country



VAKSİNASIYA PROSESİ DAVAM EDİR
AZƏRBAYCANDA PEYVƏND OLUNANLARIN SAYI 1 MİLYON YARIMA ÇATIR

Challenges with Vaccination Rollout

There are no problems in rendering of vaccination services to the population against COVID-19, storage of the vaccine and its continuous supply to the cities and districts of the republic.

At the same time, initially Azerbaijan faced some hesitancy from its fellow-citizens with respect to COVID-19 vaccination. There was a huge flow of misinformation on this topic, in particular :

- Unreliability of the vaccine (low level of effectiveness);
- Serious post-vaccination side-effects and complications;
- Any negative information in mass media on vaccination against COVID-19 was related with vaccine CoronaVac.

However, the population confidence in the vaccine gradually increased.

This happened as a result of:

- Dedication to their professional duties by the medical personnel involved in the vaccination process;
- lack of information about serious post-vaccination reactions from the vaccinated population;
- Use of a similar vaccine in other countries (Turkey, China etc.), its effectiveness and lack of negative information with respect to its administration;
- Developing and showing awareness programs to the population with mass media support.

Financing of COVID-19 Vaccination Campaign

COVID-19 vaccination is funded from the state budget.

This includes:

- Vaccine procurement (2 512 880 doses of CoronaVac, 84 000 doses of AstraZeneca and 80 000 doses of Sputnik V);
- Cold chain equipment: Central and district vaccine storages (procurement of WHO prequalified refrigerators and freezers), additional cold chain equipment for primary health care facilities involved in the COVID-19 immunization program, uninterrupted supply of vaccines to cities and districts of the republic (refrigerated transport for vaccines - 10 vehicles);
- The vaccination services is rendered mainly by the medical staff of public health care institutions;
- It should be separately noted that in order to support healthcare, three local telecommunication companies Azercell, Bakcell and Nar provide medical workers with a monthly package of free services rendered as part of combating COVID-19.

Lessons Learned

- This is not the first pandemic suffered by the population of the Earth, however, it is the first one which has had such a big scale, number of cases and mortality rates in the 21 century.
- The experience from this pandemic has shown that we need to be always ready for the worst scenarios.
- People tend to underestimate the danger and this irresponsibility effects everyone, backlashing in the form of an aggravated epidemiological situation.
- It was necessary to make changes to the regulatory and legislative bases, make sanctions stricter for their violations.
- Quarantine and distance working have proved efficient.
- Orchestrated actions in all public and non-public institutions, as well as an understanding of each person's responsibility, guarantees a success in any activity.

Way Forward

We can already say that COVID-19 has come for a long time, if not forever, therefore it is necessary that the state change its policy to the vaccination of the population:

- Internationally address the possibility of lowering prices for the COVID-19 vaccine and make it available to all countries;
- Study the duration of the preservation of the obtained antibodies in persons vaccinated with various COVID-19 vaccines, go ahead with the vaccination of the population at the expense of the state
- Along with COVID-19 vaccination, continue to prioritize seasonal influenza immunization among healthcare workers and risk groups.

COVID-19 Vaccination Rollout in Georgia

Lia Jabidze

EPI manager, National Center for Disease Control and Public Health

18 May, 2021

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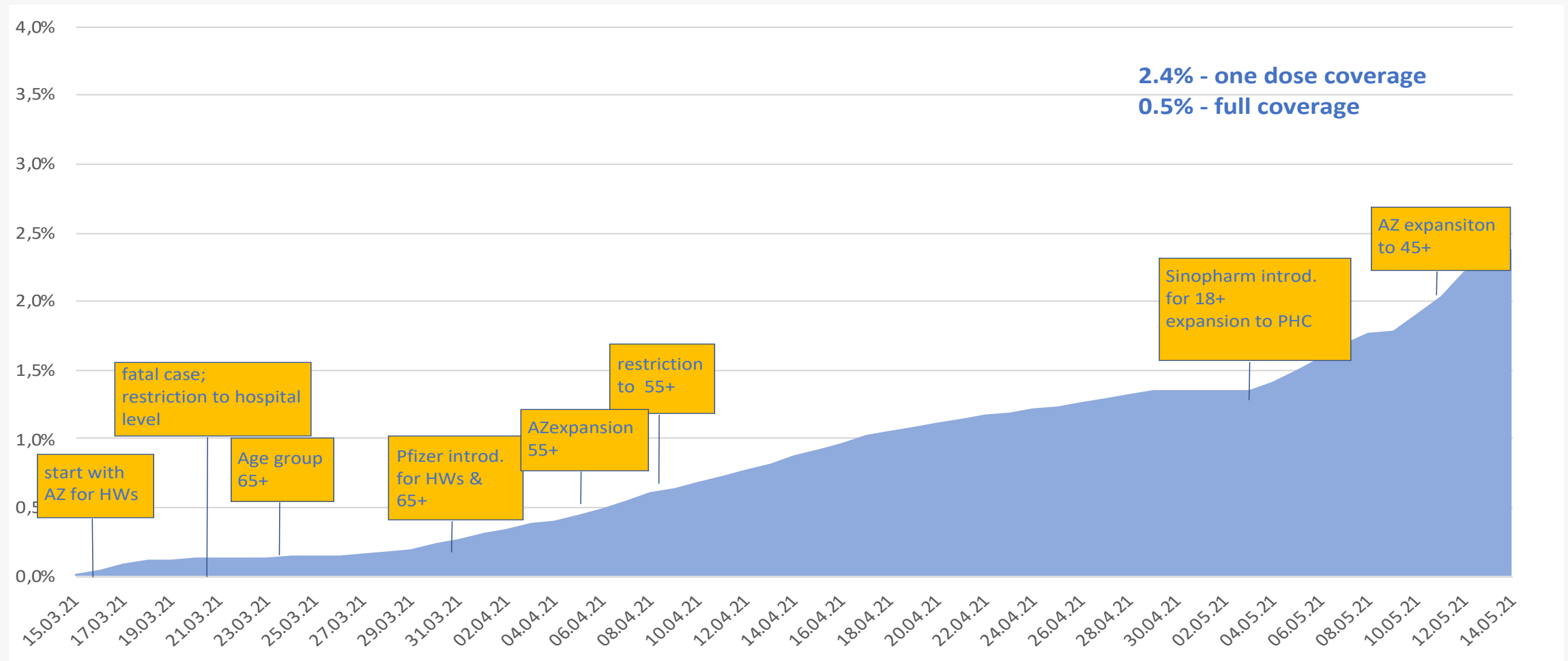
COVID-19 Vaccination Program - Target & Introduced Vaccines

| Source | Vaccine | Vaccination start date | Doses in country | Doses reserved | Note |
|-----------|-------------|------------------------|------------------|----------------|---|
| COVAX | AstraZeneca | 15 March | 86,400 | 43,200 | Delivery expected in June/July |
| | Pfizer | 31 March | 29,250 | 1100 | Delivery expected in June |
| Bilateral | Sinopharm | 4 May | 100,000 | 250,000 | Expected in June, exact date unknown |
| Donation | Sinovac | | 100,000 | | Donation from PRC |
| | Sinopharm | | | 100,000 | Donation from Chinese Red Cross Foundation, delivery date unknown |

According to the National Vaccination Deployment Plan:

- 60% of adult population should be covered
- In total 3,979,000 doses should be deployed in the country
- About 1,324,440 doses are expected from COVAX

COVID-19 Vaccination Milestones and Challenges



Financing of the COVID-19 Vaccination Program

| Component | Source of Funding |
|---|---------------------------|
| Vaccines Syringes and other supplies and consumables | State Budget, Donors (WB) |
| Cold Chain and Logistics | WHO |
| Trainings | WHO, Global Fund project |
| Service delivery | State budget |
| Demand generation and communication | WB, UNICEF, USAID |
| Information system, operational planning | State budget, WHO |

Lessons Learned

- *Generating demand among HWs is key for successful start of the program*
- *Strong coordinating body with executing power and well-defined responsibilities is essential*
- *Local governments should be actively involved in vaccine promotion and facilitating access to vaccination for their communities*

Way Forward

- *Expanding vaccine-eligible population as more vaccines become available*
 - *Expanding vaccination sites in urban areas (mainly Tbilisi)*
 - *Interlocution of vaccination at rural ambulatories*
 - *Introduction of Mass Vaccination Centers in main urban areas from mid summer (the process in underway)*
- *Combating Vaccine hesitancy with effective communication campaign*
- *Increase uptake among population by different incentives*
- *Continue monitoring on AEFI*

COVID-19 Vaccination Rollout in the Republic of Moldova

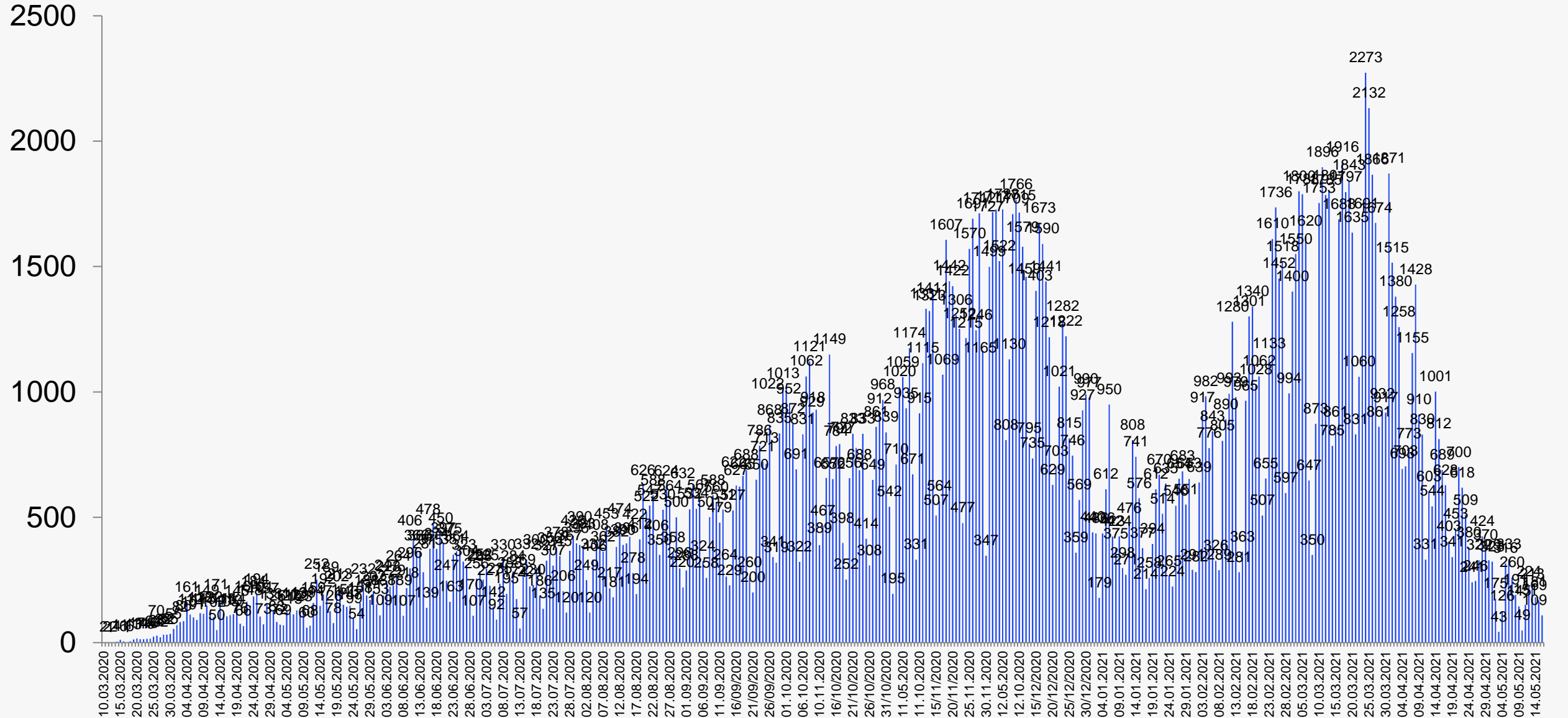
Anatoly Melnik

An epidemiologist, National Agency for Public Health

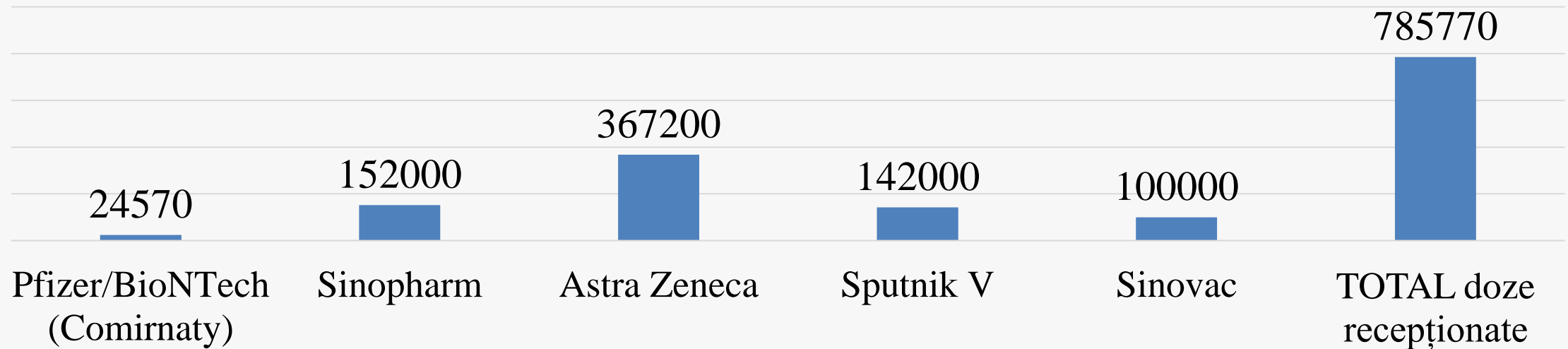
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Dynamics of COVID-19 Cases in the Republic of Moldova



Number of COVID-19 Vaccine Doses Received by the Republic of Moldova



1. Pfizer/BioNTech (Comirnaty) - 24.570 doses (COVAX)
2. Sinopharm - 2.000 doses – gratis aid by UAE
3. Astra Zeneca (Vaxzevria) total - 367.200 doses:
 - Gratis aid by Romania: 21.600 + 50.400 + 132.000 + 100.800 = 304.800 doses
 - COVAX: 14.400 + 48.000 = 62.400 doses

4. Sputnik V – 142.000 doses gratis aid by Russia
5. Sinovac - 100.000 doses (state procurement)
6. Sinopharm – 150.000 doses gratis aid by China

COVID-19 Vaccination Program Implementation

Vaccination launched on 2 March 2021

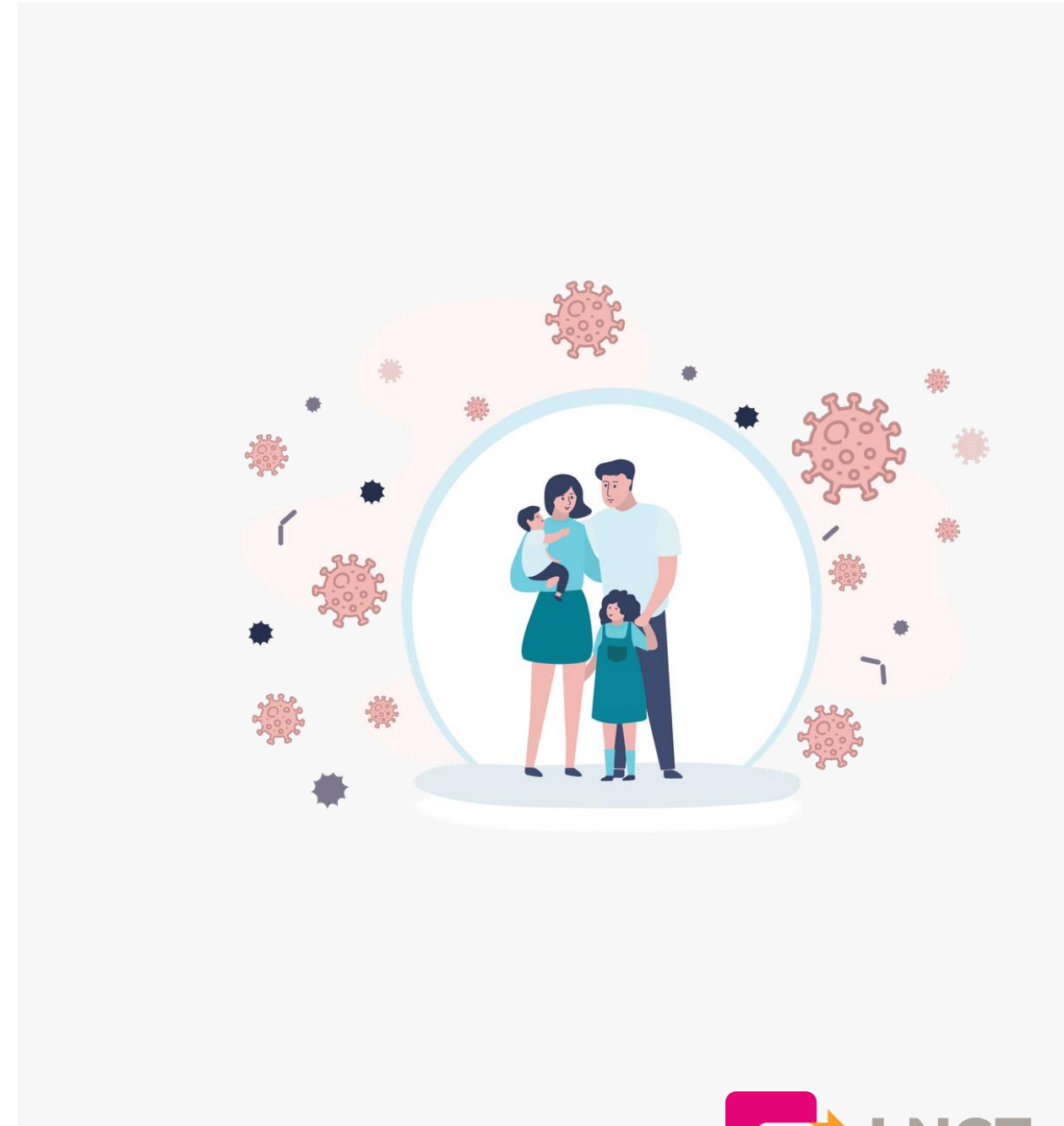
Total number of doses introduced: 222.791

Vaccination Coverage:

Total population: 5,86% first dose, 0,92% - the second dose.

Republican and city hospitals: 80%

Health care workers: the first dose, 73,1%, - the second dose – 46%.

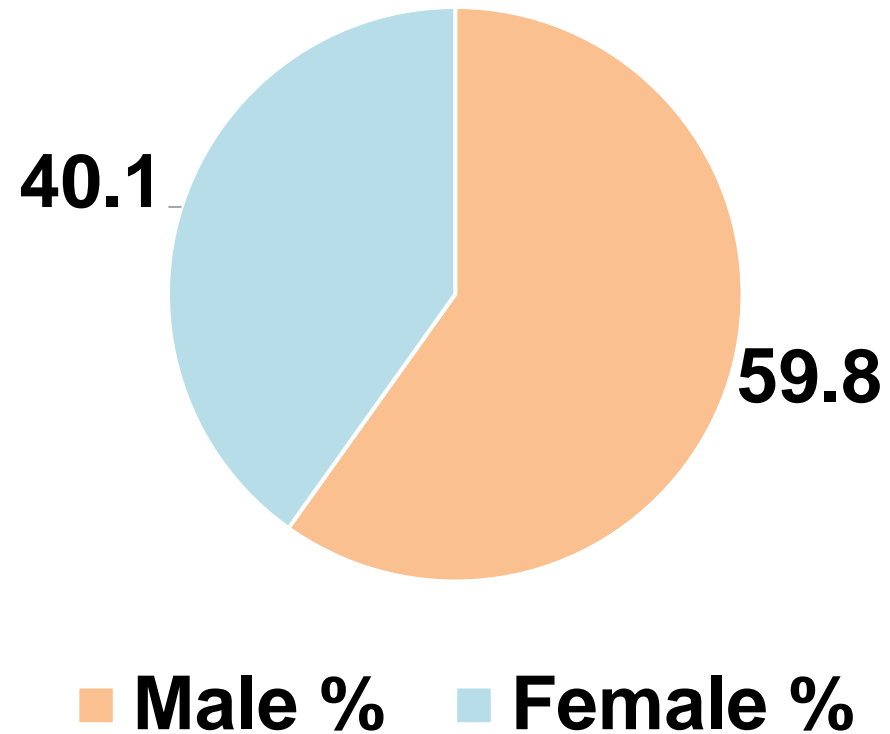


Uptake of Received COVID 19 Vaccine Doses

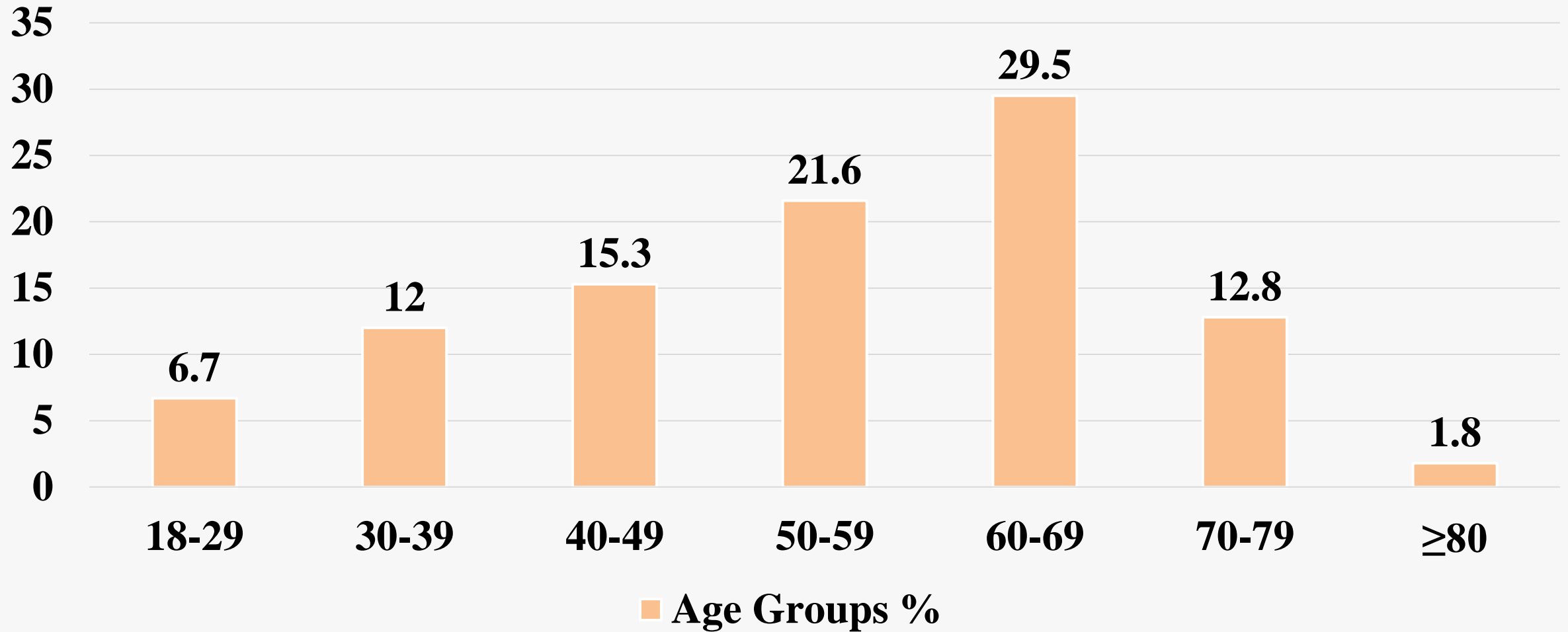


| Manufacturer | First Dose | Second Dose | Total Number of Doses |
|-----------------------------|----------------|---------------|-----------------------|
| Astra Zeneca | 146,695 | 18,880 | 165,575 (45%) |
| Gam-COVID-VAC (Sputnik-V) | 40,396 | 0 | 40,396 (57%) |
| Pfizer/BioNTech - Comirnaty | 12,440 | 12,056 | 24,496 (100%) |
| Sinopharm | 886 | 836 | 1,722 (86%) |
| Sinovac | 2,698 | 0 | 2,698 (2,7%) |
| Total | 190,675 | 32,116 | 222,791 (28%) |

COVID-19 Vaccination of Male and Female Population

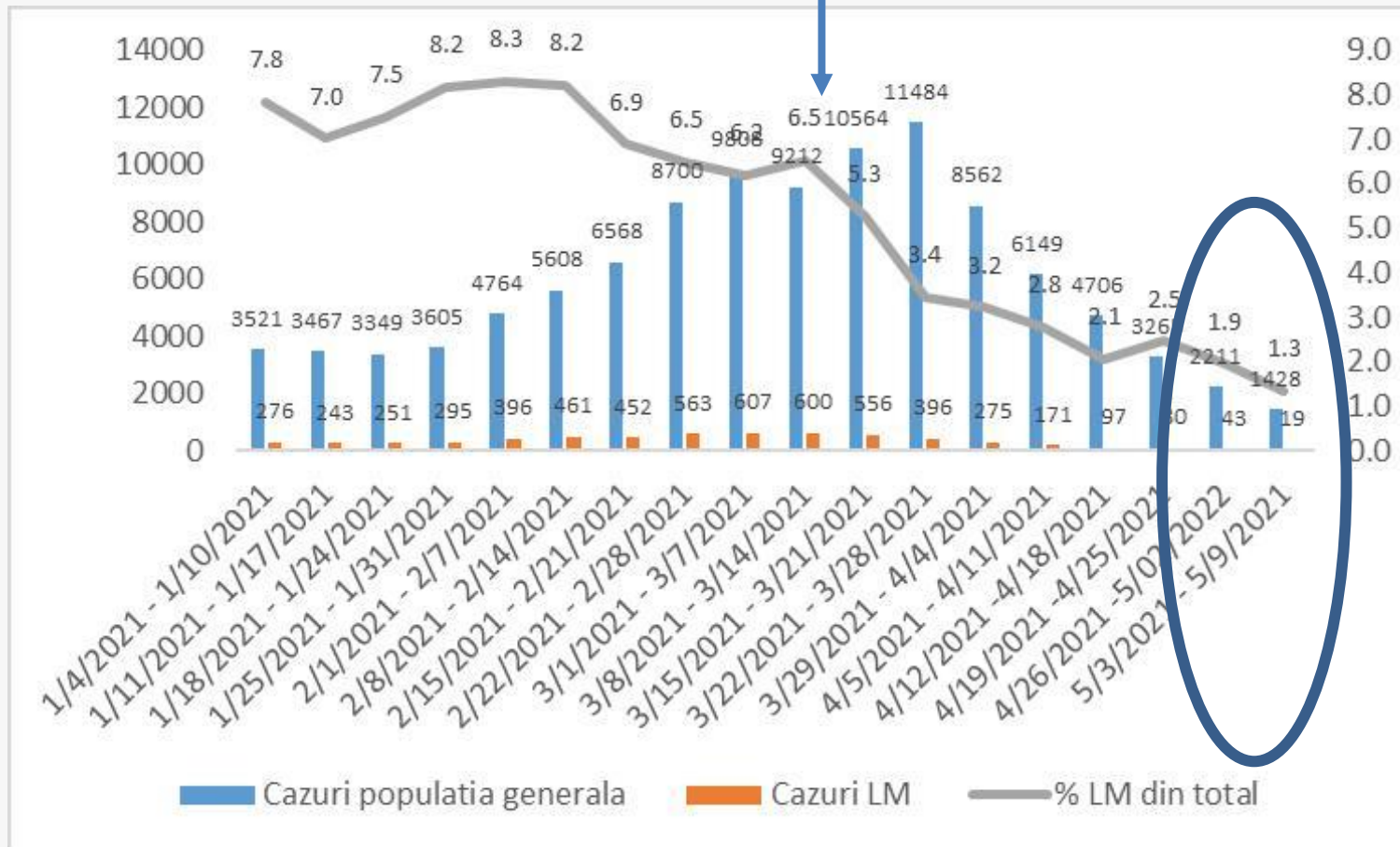


Age Groups of COVID-19 Vaccinated Population



Impact of COVID-19 Vaccination on COVID-19 Cases in Healthcare Workers

Launch of vaccination – 2 March 2021



The average weekly share of healthcare workers among COVID-19 patients in the total number of cases was :

- Total period - 12% CI [10,02 - 13,97]
- Week 18 - 1,3%

Dropped by 89.2%

COVID-19 Cases among the Vaccinated



0.17% of patients tested positive for SARS-CoV-2 PCR test after vaccination (**335 of 202.883 vaccinated**)

The average interval from the day of vaccination to the day of the onset of the disease is 12 days.

The average interval from the day of vaccination to the day of a positive PCR test is 16 days.

Side-Effects after Immunization

Ratio of side effects = **0,68%**

Mild forms= 96%:

Moderately serious forms = 4% (fever over 38,5, allergic reactions)

Severe forms = 0%



COVID-19 Vaccination Program in Moldova

- Target groups at the moment (from 04/05/2021) - all population aged over 18
 - The first stage covers the healthcare workers at a high risk of infection
 - The second stage covers people aged over 60 with concurrent chronic conditions.
- Vaccination is carried out mainly at primary health care facilities (family medicine) of health care institutions. Additional vaccination rooms have been by hospitals to vaccinate their own staff. A vaccination center with a capacity of up to 1000 people / day opened in Chisinau.

Challenges with Vaccination Rollout

In the first place, the lack of vaccines and limited internal resources for their procurement.

Service delivery - lack of staff to provide COVID 19 vaccination services amid high incidence of COVID 19, and the same need for routine medical care and preventive measures

In terms of the cold chain, there have been and remain logistics problems for the vaccine Sputnik – many primary health care facilities do not have conditions for the vaccine storage.

- Many citizens and healthcare workers were and some of them are still hesitant to get a COVID-19 vaccine, especially with respect to AstraZeneca. Initially, it was the only available vaccine in the country given the resolution of using it in many European countries.

Financing of COVID-19 Vaccination

Funding Sources

Vaccine: COVAX, gratis aid from the government of Romania, China, Russia, UAE etc., a World Bank credit, as well as the state procurements of the country.

- Cold chain and logistics - COVAX, credit from the World Bank, UNICEF, as well as state procurements of the country:
- Demand generation and communication - UNICEF, WHO and government funds of the country
- Service delivery and operational planning - the government funds of the country and health insurance funds.

Lessons Learned

Like the whole world, the country found itself not ready for such a large-scale pandemic.

Only the orchestrated activities of all state and international institutions, as well as the involvement of the majority of population might lead to the success in combating pandemic spread of the infection.

Way Forward

So far not defined. It is highly likely the COVID-19 has come for a long time, if not forever.

It is necessary to improve vaccines and vaccination practices, to develop effective means for treating patients with COVID-19.

The task of all health care institutions is continuous surveillance of infectious diseases and prompt response.

Needs and expectations from partners - to work together and assist poor countries.

COVID-19 Vaccination Rollout in Uzbekistan

Dilorom Tursunova

18 May, 2021

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COVID-19 Vaccination Program in Figures

Vaccine introduction (*COVAX, bilateral agreements, manufacturers, date of introduction*)

Astra Zeneca (Covisheld)-660 doses, COVAX, 17 March;

ZF-UZ-VAC 2001 -1 000 000 doses, 27 March, 1 000 000 -27 April;

Sputnik V - 50 000 doses, 23 April ;

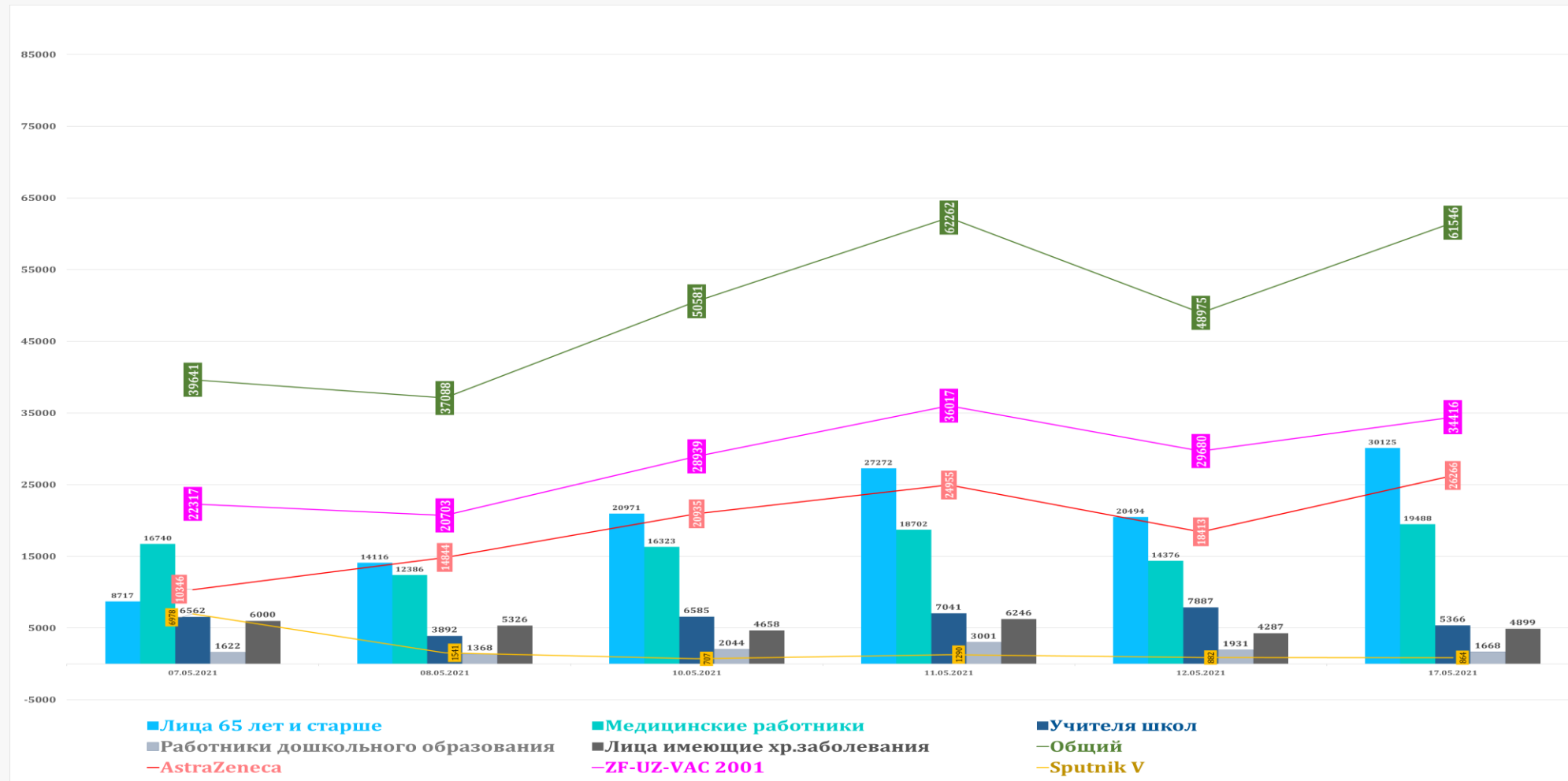
Target groups at the moment

Healthcare workers

Adult population aged 65 and over

Means of vaccination (*3138 – vaccination stations of family polyclinics, 820 – mobile brigades*)

Daily Dynamics of Mass Vaccination against Coronavirus Infection (as of May 17, 2021)



Dynamics of Mass Vaccination against Coronavirus Infection from 01.04. to 17.05.2021

| № | Administrative Territory | Total N of Vaccinated | Total | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
|-------|----------------------------|-----------------------|----------------------------|---------|--------|--------|------------------------------|-------------|--------|--------|------|----------------|--------|--------|--------|--------------|-----------|--------|--------|------|
| | | | Total | | | | % | Of which | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| | | | N of vaccinated population | | | | | AstraZeneca | | | | ZF-UZ-VAC 2001 | | | | | Sputnik V | | | |
| | | | Total | 1-dose | 2-dose | 3-dose | Ratio of total N of vaccines | Total | 1-dose | 2-dose | In % | Total | 1-dose | 2-dose | 3-dose | в процентрах | Total | 1-dose | 2-dose | In % |
| 1 | Republic of Karakalpakstan | 172698,6 | 67809 | 54601 | 13208 | 0 | 39,3% | 24212 | 15869 | 8343 | 36% | 42886 | 38021 | 4865 | 0 | 63% | 711 | 711 | 0 | 1% |
| 2 | Andijan region | 297056,6 | 165488 | 144758 | 20730 | 0 | 55,7% | 41986 | 29710 | 12276 | 25% | 123012 | 114558 | 8454 | 0 | 74% | 490 | 490 | 0 | 0% |
| 3 | Bukhara region | 186171,6 | 66850 | 56616 | 10234 | 0 | 35,9% | 29351 | 22785 | 6566 | 44% | 37412 | 33744 | 3668 | 0 | 56% | 87 | 87 | 0 | 0% |
| 4 | Jizzakh region | 150187,4 | 60618 | 47280 | 13338 | 0 | 40,4% | 24858 | 15978 | 8880 | 41% | 35276 | 30818 | 4458 | 0 | 58% | 484 | 484 | 0 | 1% |
| 5 | Kashkadarya region | 280539,4 | 96572 | 82349 | 14223 | 0 | 34,4% | 37707 | 28949 | 8758 | 39% | 58568 | 53103 | 5465 | 0 | 61% | 297 | 297 | 0 | 0% |
| 6 | Navoiy Region | 93824 | 39396 | 30580 | 8816 | 0 | 42,0% | 16440 | 10860 | 5580 | 42% | 22572 | 19336 | 3236 | 0 | 57% | 384 | 384 | 0 | 1% |
| 7 | Namangan Region | 236586,4 | 146623 | 119615 | 27008 | 0 | 62,0% | 43073 | 28078 | 14995 | 29% | 103280 | 91267 | 12013 | 0 | 70% | 270 | 270 | 0 | 0% |
| 8 | Samarkand region | 308482,8 | 131268 | 110334 | 20934 | 0 | 42,6% | 49814 | 36956 | 12858 | 38% | 80635 | 72559 | 8076 | 0 | 61% | 819 | 819 | 0 | 1% |
| 9 | Surkhandarya region | 196108,6 | 96262 | 80580 | 15682 | 0 | 49,1% | 29956 | 19778 | 10178 | 31% | 66078 | 60574 | 5504 | 0 | 69% | 228 | 228 | 0 | 0% |
| 10 | Syrdarya region | 74311,4 | 32587 | 26516 | 6071 | 0 | 43,9% | 9593 | 6000 | 3593 | 29% | 22428 | 19950 | 2478 | 0 | 69% | 566 | 566 | 0 | 2% |
| 11 | Tashkent region | 309954,2 | 93367 | 81359 | 12008 | 0 | 30,1% | 29558 | 23460 | 6098 | 32% | 63267 | 57357 | 5910 | 0 | 68% | 542 | 542 | 0 | 1% |
| 12 | Fergana region | 353150 | 181285 | 140720 | 40565 | 0 | 51,3% | 74947 | 47403 | 27544 | 41% | 105441 | 92420 | 13021 | 0 | 58% | 897 | 897 | 0 | 0% |
| 13 | Khorezm region | 163485,4 | 68659 | 51930 | 16729 | 0 | 42,0% | 29389 | 18558 | 10831 | 43% | 38420 | 32522 | 5898 | 0 | 56% | 850 | 850 | 0 | 1% |
| 14 | Tashkent city | 327247,6 | 99977 | 82863 | 17114 | 0 | 30,6% | 26585 | 18120 | 8465 | 27% | 43542 | 34893 | 8649 | 0 | 44% | 29850 | 29850 | 0 | 30% |
| Total | | 3149804 | 1346761 | 1110101 | 236660 | 0 | 42,8% | 467469 | 322504 | 144965 | 35% | 842817 | 751122 | 91695 | 0 | 63% | 36475 | 36475 | 0 | 3% |

Challenges with Vaccination Rollout

What problems the country is experiencing now or expects in the near future?

- Service delivery, cold chain and logistics
- Vaccine hesitancy (levels of hesitancy, if applicable, misinformation, infodemic)
- AEFI (events, which have a significant impact on the vaccination)
- Availability of vaccines
- Other

Financing of COVID-19 Vaccination Program

Funding Sources: (data in figures if available)

- Vaccine:
- Cold chain and logistics:
- Demand generation and communication:
- Service delivery:
- Operational planning:
- Other:

Questions?

Ask the experts



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