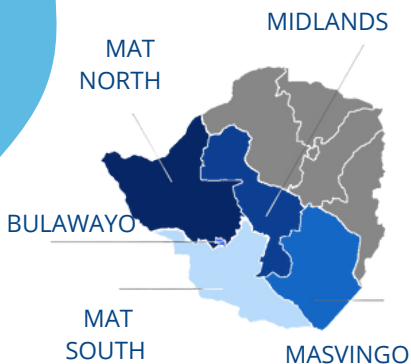
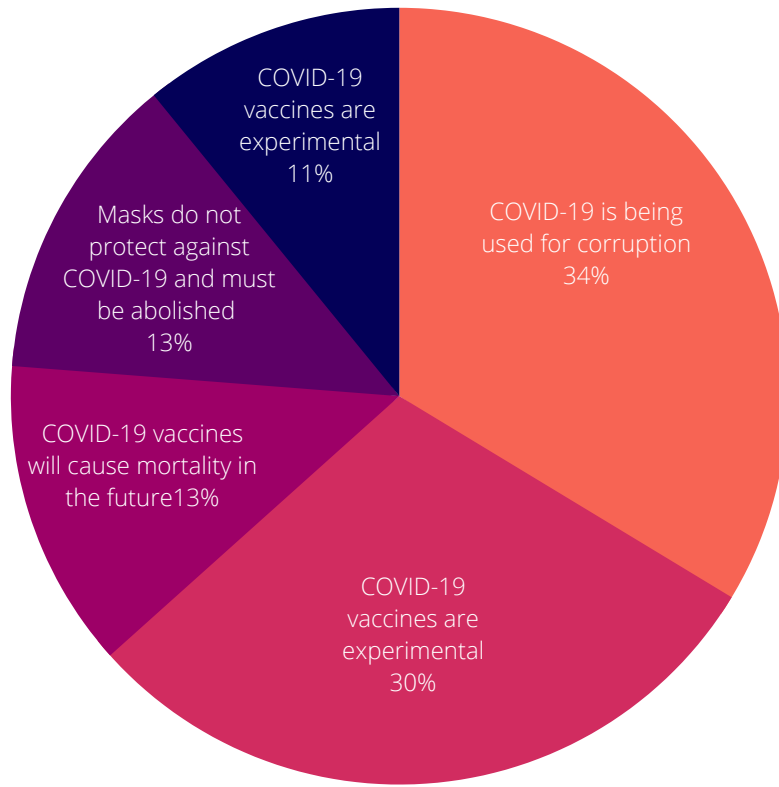


Rooted in Trust 2.0 in Zimbabwe is a global information program funded by USAID Bureau for Humanitarian Assistance (USAID-BHA) working with media, community-based organizations, health and humanitarian actors to counter rumors and misinformation about COVID-19 among migrant communities in Southern Zimbabwe particularly in: Matabeleland North, Matabeleland South, Bulawayo, Midlands and Masvingo Provinces.



COVID-19 Rumor Themes



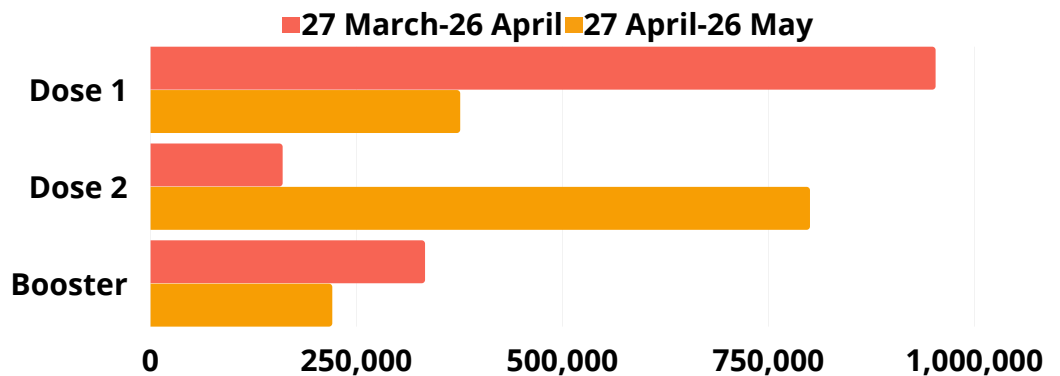
350

Total rumors collected between April 27, 2022 and May 26, 2022

Source:
Internews' Social Media Monitors.

Visualisation by
RiT Data from MoHCC statistics

COVID-19 Vaccination Statistics



There was a sharp increase in second dose vaccination due to the second round vaccination blitz targeting children aged 12-15 years. The Ministry of Health and Child Care (MOHCC) intends to vaccinate 10 million Zimbabweans with 2 doses by December 31, 2022 to achieve herd immunity. Against the set target, to date only 45% of the population has been fully vaccinated with two doses.



3,536 new infections
2588 active cases



251 646
Cumulative COVID-19
Cases



58 people
hospitalized
as at May 26, 2022.

“ The person or people who started this Covid issue is more than a trillionaire now for 3 years still under this monster. God knows the truth. Right now, SA has finished with building of Covid medication that if any country in Africa Continent need vaccine SA will supply. Guys do you think this monster Covid will end. I do not think so. May GOD fight for us this battle. We have lost many souls from 2020 till now we cannot manage this again. ”

#Rumor

1

RUMOR THEME:
Transmission

Facts

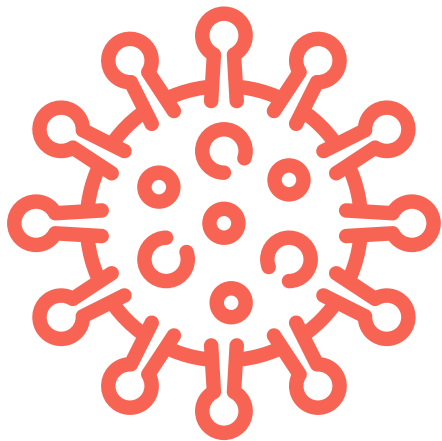
South Africa's Aspen Pharmacare, the first factory to produce COVID-19 vaccines in Africa, says it has not received enough orders and may stop production within weeks, in what a senior World Health Organization official has described as a "failure" in efforts to achieve vaccine equity. This is on the backdrop of poor vaccination levels in the SADC region evidenced by 2% of people living in SADC low-income countries, and 17% of Africa's 1.3 billion people having been fully vaccinated. About 1% of vaccines used in Africa are currently manufactured on the continent and the rest are imported.

According to Director of Epidemiology & Disease (Ministry of Health and Child Care) control Dr Portia Manangazira, members of the public must continue abiding by World Health Organization (WHO) guidelines on the prevention of Covid-19 that include hand washing with soap and clean water, practising social distancing, wearing face masks covering the mouth and nose, and getting vaccinated.

Claims that the COVID-19 pandemic is a planned human invention aimed at benefitting certain individuals or organizations are a rehash of conspiracy theories that have been proven false.

Recommendations for outreach workers and communities

- Religious leaders in communities can be engaged by local health authorities to give church members correct & accurate information during church services on the origins of COVID-19 and how it has evolved so that communities understand the science behind COVID-19.
- During community meetings such as field days, village development meetings, village savings, lending's club, community nurse and village health workers can take time to sensitize women, men & youth on the approved COVID-19 prevention measures to debunk myths & misconceptions, and these measures can be accessed at the nearest health centre before going into the community and they should keep an eye out for new messages for any changes in prevention measures on the MoHCC Twitter page and website.



#Rumor
2

**RUMOR THEME:
Endemic**

Facts

- According to Professor Munodawafa, from the Midlands State University (MSU), Zimbabwe, Faculty of Medicine “countries bordering Zimbabwe like South Africa may have already been hit by the fifth wave of COVID-19, following the rise in infections driven by the BA.4 and BA.5 Omicron sub-variants. This, therefore, places Zimbabwe at risk of experiencing the fifth wave of COVID-19 because of movement between borders”.
- WHO Health Emergencies Executive Director Michael Ryan said Zimbabwe is among several African countries at risk of experiencing a fifth wave of COVID-19 owing to underfunding and continued failure to vaccinate marginalized communities.



Recommendations for outreach workers and communities

- Community outreach workers working with women & youth can engage community nurses from their nearest Ministry of Health and Child Care Clinic to deliver sessions focusing on defining COVID-19 waves, what they mean and the implication on the community.
- Community Based Organizations can conduct road shows coupled with mobile outreach vaccination facilities, advertised through posters at shops, clinics, dip tanks, schools and local extension offices in remote communities to emphasize the importance of adhering to COVID-19 prevention measures and acquiring vaccines.

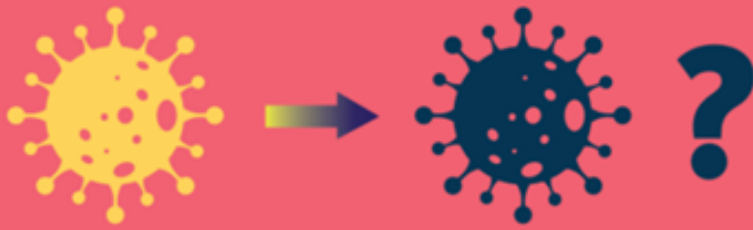
Outreach workers who need correct and accurate information on COVID-19 latest trends to inform communities can access the following: -

Ministry of Health and Child Care Platforms
Whats app Hub send HI: +263 714 734 593
Tollfree Hotline: Dial 2019 or 393

Contact details

Senziwani Ndlovu | Project Manager: Rooted in Trust Zimbabwe
sndlovu@internews.eu | Cell: +263 713 423 723
Address | 45 Moffat Avenue | Hillside, Bulawayo, Zimbabwe





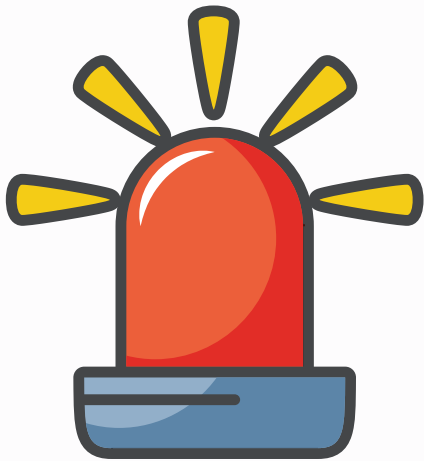
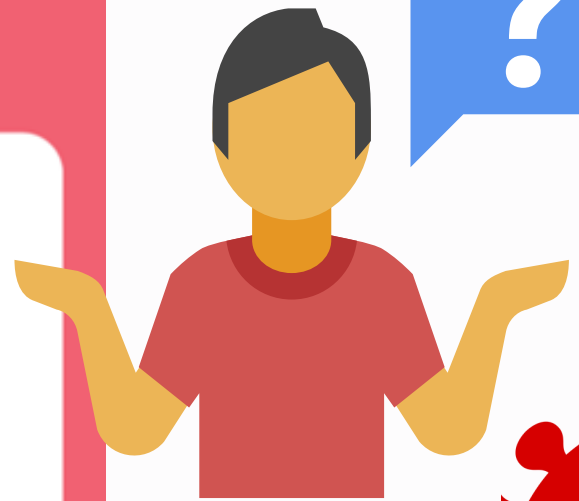
Why should we vaccinate for #COVID19,
including with the **booster dose**?

To **reduce circulation** and prevent further
mutations of the SARS-CoV-2 virus.

To help keep **others safe**.

And because **#VaccinesSaveLives**.

#LongLifeForAll



CORONAVIRUS PREVENTION



Wash hands



Use Hand
Sanitizer



Use Face
Shield



Keep
Distance



Vaccinate

ORIGINS OF COVID-19

**Originating
Host**



CoV Reservoir

**Intermediate
Host**



SARS-CoV



MERS-CoV



SARS-CoV-2

**Common
Host**

Droplet
Transmission

Contact
Transmission

Nosocomial
Transmission

Surface
Transmission



**Community
Transmission**

