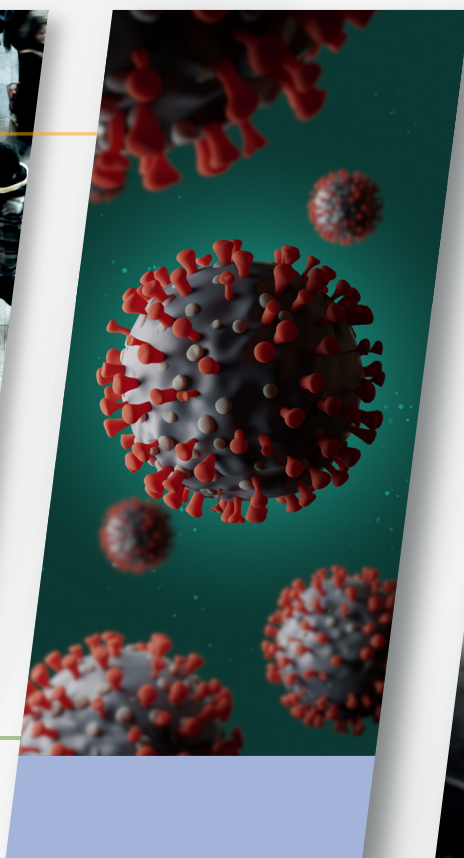


IRAQ SITUATION REPORT

A monthly situation report aimed at combating
COVID-19 rumors to debunk the infodemic



MAY, 2022

About Rooted in Trust

Rooted in Trust is collecting, analyzing, and responding to rumors in 10 countries with generous support from USAID's Bureau of Humanitarian Affairs (BHA). We focus on equipping journalists and humanitarian communicators with the tools they need in the languages they prefer, to combat rumors and misinformation during the COVID - 19 crisis.

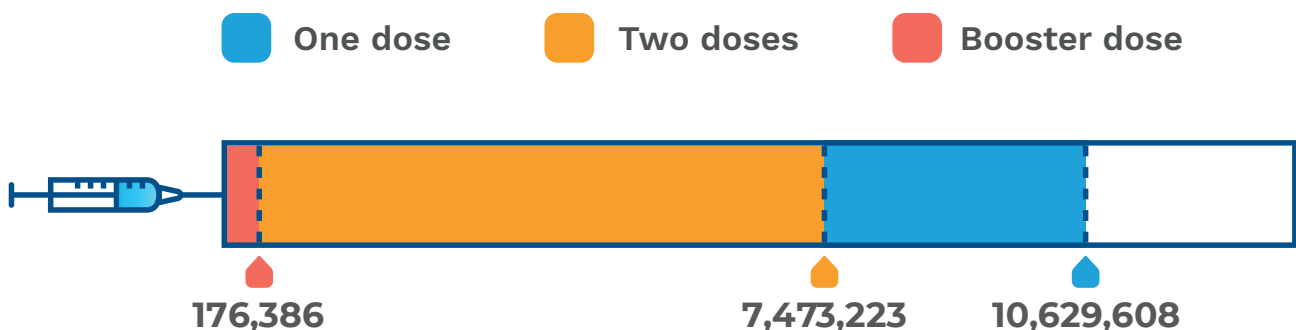
How we do it?

We identify and analyze rumors to help humanitarian actors and health workers better inform their Risk Communication & Community Engagement (RCCE) strategies.

Situation by numbers (WHO)

- Positive COVID-19 cases reported during May 2022: **3037**
- Number of total COVID-19 cases: **2,328,019**
- Total of vaccine doses administrated until May 2022: **18,279,217**
- Total number of fully vaccinated people: **7,473,223**

Vaccination Uptake Per Dose Until May 2022



Introduction

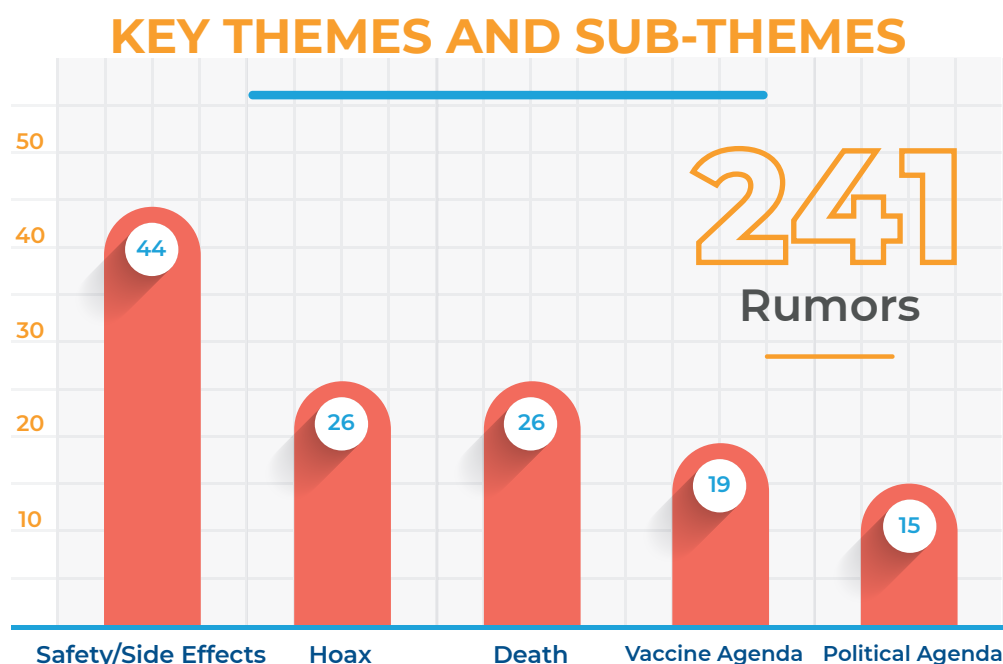
In Iraq, World Health Organization (WHO) in coordination with Iraqi Ministry of Health initiated a COVID-19 vaccine rollout process including Kurdistan region, started from March 2nd, 2021, continuing to this day.

Based on WHO Iraq Covid-19 dashboard , 18.64% of total population are fully vaccinated, and 26.6 % have received at least one dose. Additionally, 0.45% have received a booster or additional dose.

The Ministry of Health in Iraq including Kurdistan region and WHO continuously urging the citizens to get vaccinated through their COVID-19 vaccination campaign to be immunized against the disease.

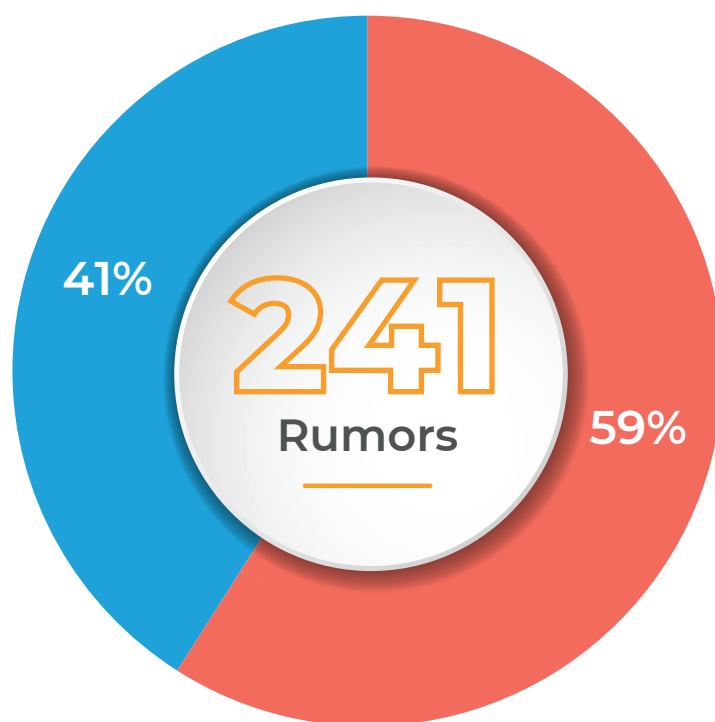
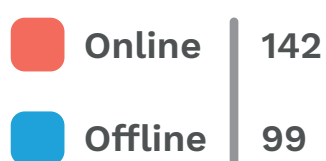
Data Overview

In May 2022, Internews collected rumors, misperceptions and community concerns and beliefs about COVID-19 virus and vaccines through online social media platforms and offline by listening group activities. The fluctuation of rumors was depending on the daily health trends on social media mainly focusing on safety / side effect factors of COVID-19 vaccines such as death. for instance, Hemorrhagic fever cases have been reported in different areas of Iraq, the community linked it with COVID-19 vaccines claiming that is a side effect of the COVID-19 vaccines. Same scenario was applied to Monkeypox disease after a report of some cases in other countries such as UK. Addition claims, that any new disease appears are nothing, but a hoax and it is part of vaccine/political agenda to control the population. The risk levels of the reported rumors mild from low to medium.

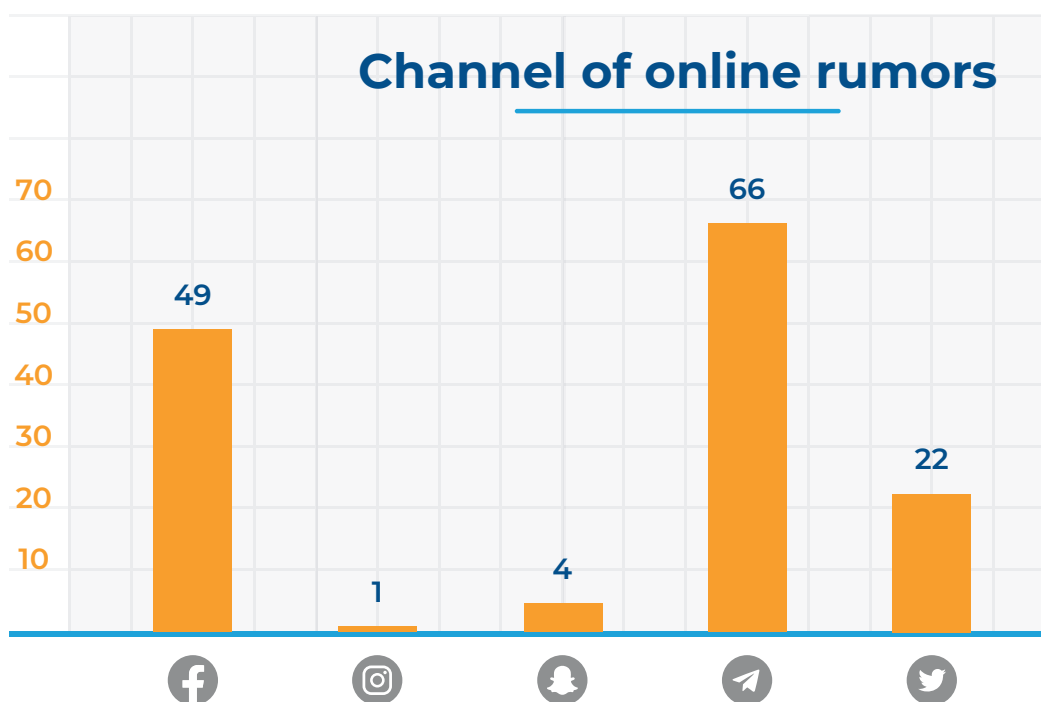


Channels

Online and Offline Rumors






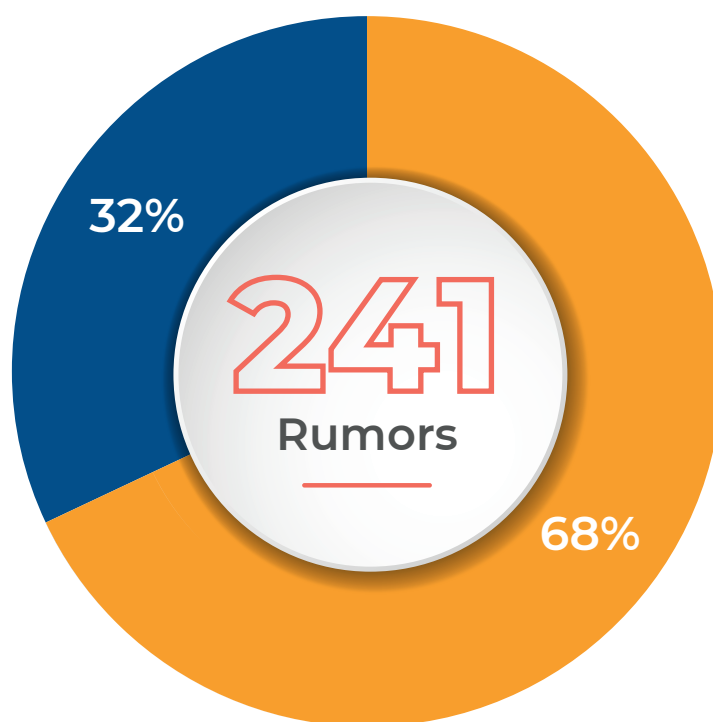
Channel of online rumors



Risk Levels

Risk Levels

	Low Risk	142	164
	Medium Risk	77	77
	High Risk	0	0



Analysis

The government continues COVID-19 vaccination campaign across Iraq, stressing on the importance of people to be fully vaccinated.

Contact

Project Manager
Sara Sofiwan (ssofiwan@internews.org)

Sources

1- COVID-19 Vaccine data: <https://covid19.who.int/table>

2- Hemorrhagic fever:

[https://www.cdc.gov/vhf/about.html#:~:text=Viral%20hemorrhagic%20fevers%20\(VHFs\)%20are,to%20function%20on%20its%20own.](https://www.cdc.gov/vhf/about.html#:~:text=Viral%20hemorrhagic%20fevers%20(VHFs)%20are,to%20function%20on%20its%20own.)

3- Monkeypox disease: <https://www.cdc.gov/poxvirus/monkeypox/about.html>

4-

<https://gds.gov.iq/ar/an-interview-with-who-emro-regional-director-dr-ahmed-al-mandhari/>

For more information on the project, please visit:

<https://internews.org/resource/rooted-in-trust-iraq-rumor-bulletins/>