



# SITUATION REPORT #P11

11 August 2020

CONFIRMED CASES<sup>1</sup>



14,708

244<sup>BD</sup>

RS ENTITY

5694

FBIH ENTITY

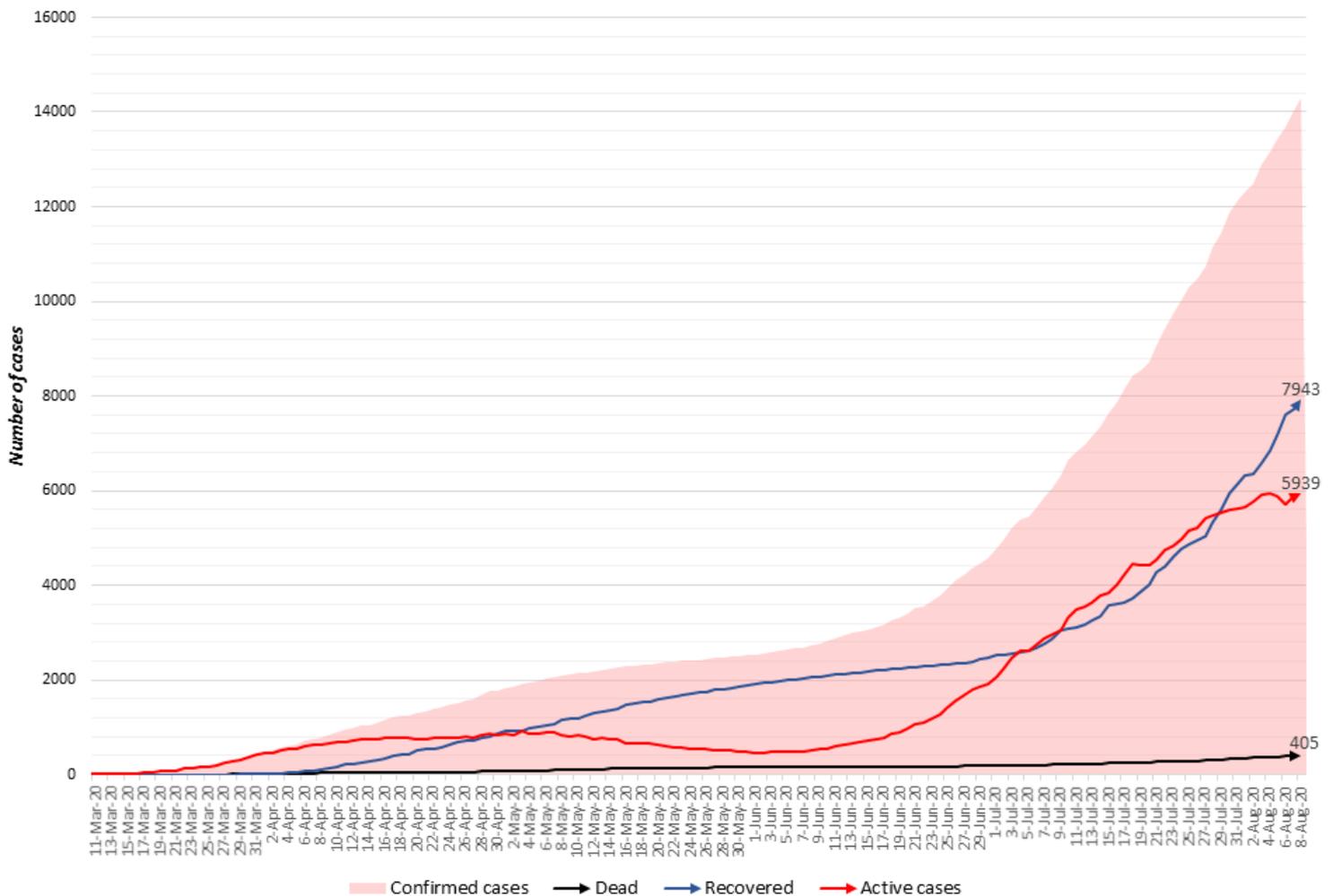
8770

DEATHS REPORTED AS  
ASSOCIATED  
WITH COVID-19

447

## SITUATION SNAPSHOT AND RESPONSE

Overview of the ongoing COVID-19 epidemic situation in Bosnia and Herzegovina, August 9<sup>th</sup>



(Credit: WHO Country Office in Bosnia and Herzegovina; Sources: IPH FBIH, IPH RS, FMoH, MoCA)

<sup>1</sup> As reported on 11 August 2020 by 13:00hrs

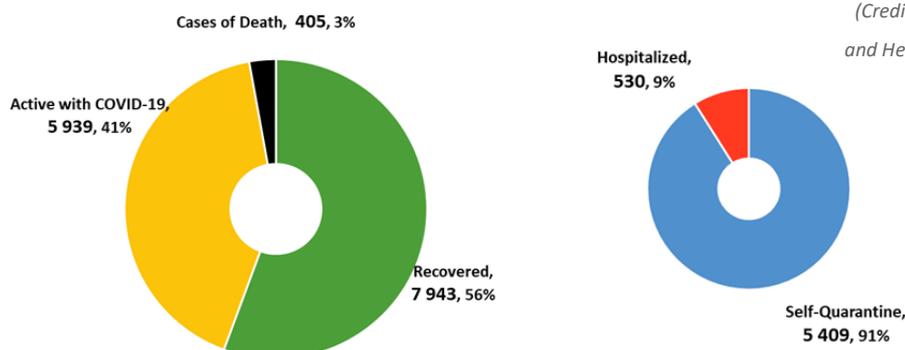
## SITUATION OVERVIEW

The BiH Council of Ministers decision on State of Natural or Other Disaster (BiH's equivalent of „State of Emergency“) remains in place. At the entity levels, however, the previously declared State of Emergency in the RS was terminated on 20 May, and the State of Natural Disaster in FBiH was, likewise, lifted on 29 May. Curfews have been lifted across the entire territory of BiH, however mandatory requirement that everyone wear face masks in enclosed spaces/areas is still in place. BiH citizens entering into the country no longer need to observe self-isolation, while BiH now allows entry of EU and Schengen area citizens, with a negative COVID-19 test not older than 48 hours. Due to the recent rise in numbers of new cases across the region, stricter measures upon entry apply for anyone coming from BiH into Croatia, Montenegro and Slovenia. Flights to and from Austria resumed for Western Balkan countries as of 1 August.

New cases continue to appear throughout BiH, raising the overall daily reports to new records past week (405 on 8 August), however with a note – in some instances – higher daily numbers occur due to backlog in testing. Reportedly four private clinics applied thus far to the call in the FBiH Entity for official verification which would enable them to process COVID-19 tests in support of the public health sector. Media covers there is also rise in requests for testing from citizens who are traveling abroad and need it to cross borders. Unfortunately, weekly high numbers come with a continued reporting on cases of death associated with Covid19, including young people. Sarajevo and wider region were stunned and alarmed with the death of a young mother, a known activist, who passed away due to COVID-19 induced complications days after giving birth. In Sarajevo, over 500 citizens initiated a call to action – urging citizens to write directly to the cantonal authorities with four requests: (i) enable conditions for a rigorous applications of fines for all those not respecting face mask instructions, (ii) enable conditions for restricting any gatherings with over 10 people, (iii) enable and strictly define cooperation, responsibilities and authority of line health institutions, (iv) call upon those responsible on all other levels, cantons, entities, Brcko District, to do the same.

In FBiH Entity, the Prime Minister called for an emergency meeting on 10 August with all the cantonal Prime Ministers, representatives of the FBiH Parliament, FBiH Ministry of Healthcare, Crisis Headquarters and the FBiH Civil Protection Administration to discuss the deterioration of the epidemiological situation. The meeting concluded with the announcement that all available hospitals will be asked to activate COVID-19 quarantine areas, while work will be initiated to develop a single COVID-19 database covering all the cantons. Cantonal authorities were also reminded that they can introduce specific measures reflecting the changing epidemiological situation, while FBiH Inspection Affairs announced stricter presence and fining. With the approach of the new school year, decisions on re-opening of the schools and possible scenarios for managing it are still awaited on all levels, though some places – such as Banja Luka – are already considering opening up separate COVID-19 health units for school children. All Crisis HQs urge citizens to limit their movements and avoid any unnecessary public gatherings.

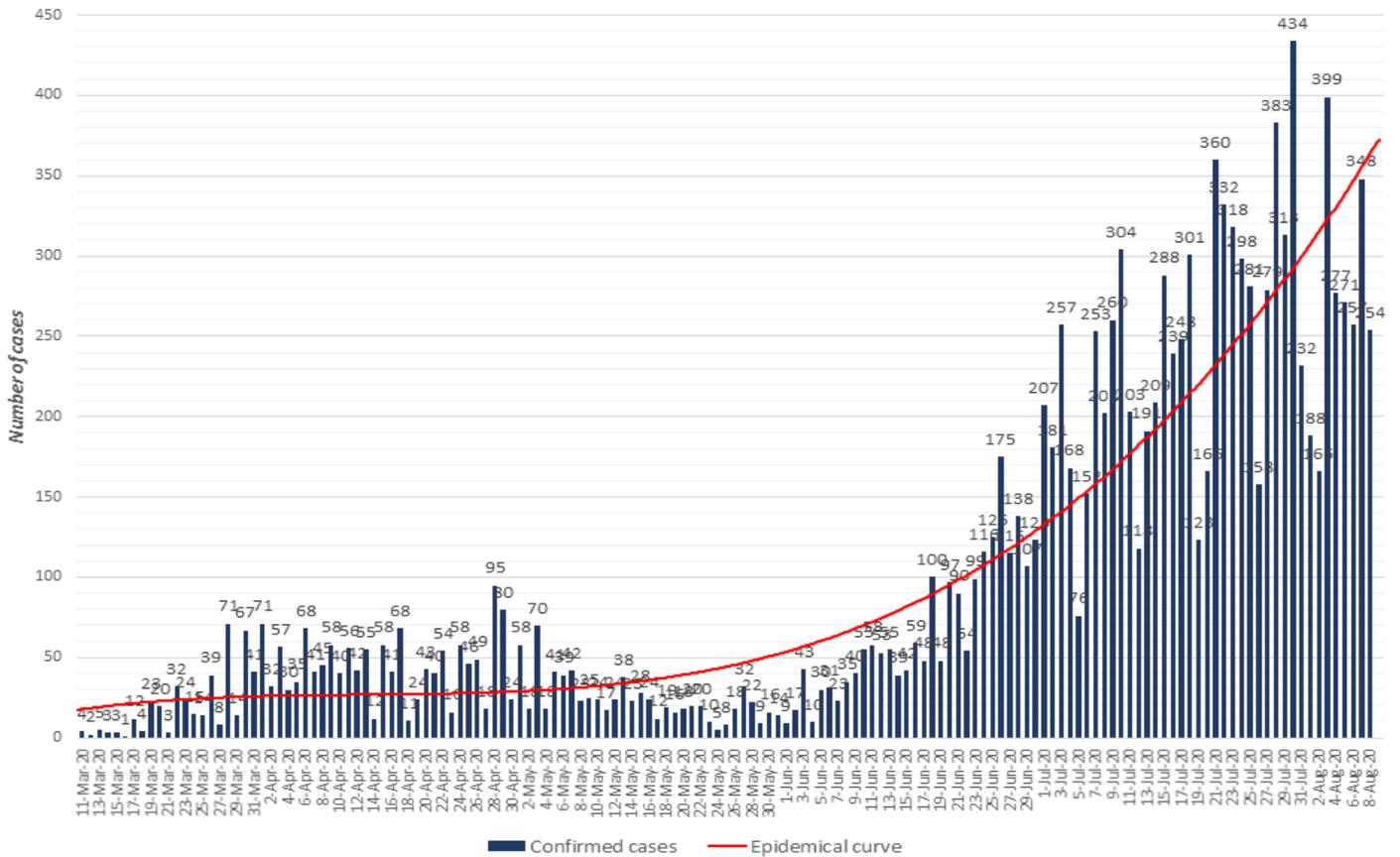
**Distribution of COVID-19 confirmed cases in Bosnia and Herzegovina, August 9<sup>th</sup>**



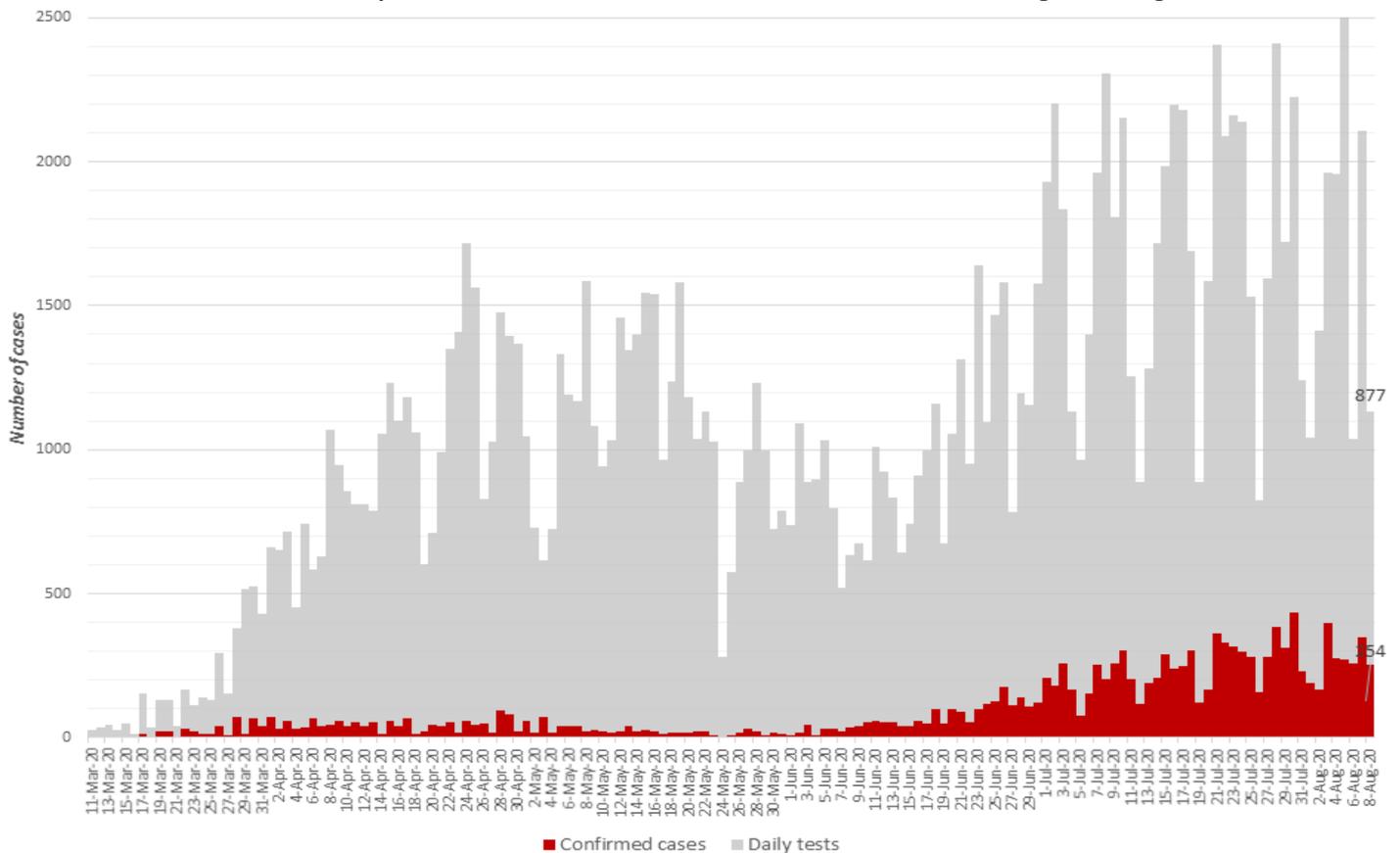
(Credit: WHO Country Office in Bosnia and Herzegovina; Sources: IPH FBiH, IPH RS, FMOH, MoCA)



Distribution of COVID-19 positive cases and trendline in Bosnia and Herzegovina, August 9<sup>th</sup>

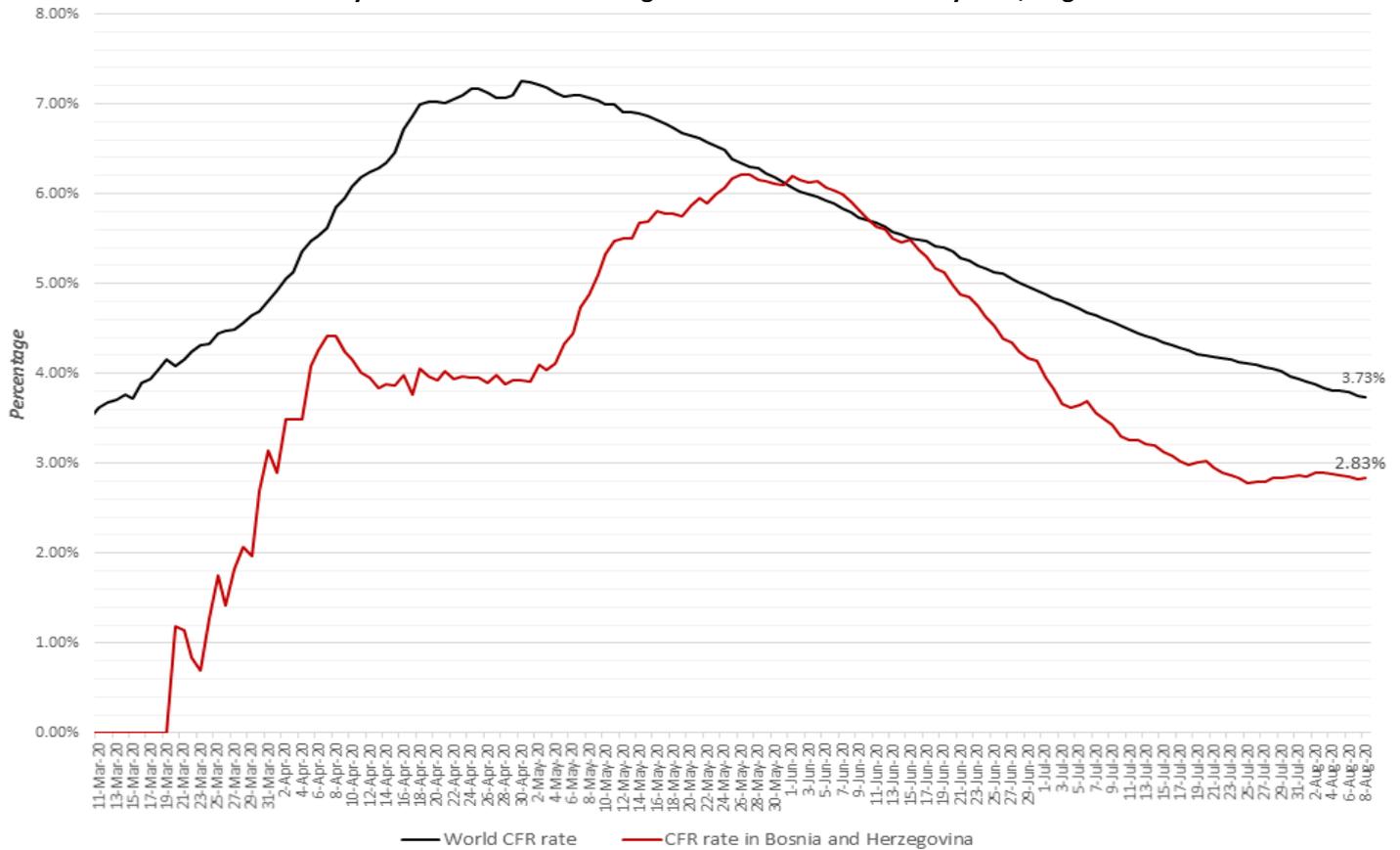


Total number of tests performed vs confirmed COVID-19 cases in Bosnia and Herzegovina, August 9<sup>th</sup>





Case Fatality Rate in Bosnia and Herzegovina vs Global Case Fatality Rate, August 9<sup>th</sup>



(Credit: WHO Country Office in Bosnia and Herzegovina; Sources: IPH FBiH, IPH RS, FMoH, MoCA, ECDC)

## UN SUPPORT IN RESPONSE – LATEST

The United Nations Team in BiH, supported by the international community partners, launched a #ShowYouCare #WearAMask social media challenge raising awareness on the basics of protection against COVID19 and responsible social behavior during the pandemics. Partners, including the BiH Council of Ministers, Ministry of Foreign Affairs, ministers across different levels of governance, journalists, activists and citizens joined in with their selfie-photographs showcasing use of face masks and spreading the message further.

Campaign will continue with reminder videos covering basic protection, as well as fight against misinformation. All, including a series of Thank You videos, featuring participation in the challenge, are and will be featured on the [UN in BiH Twitter Account](#).

 [UN in BiH Twitter Content and Challenge](#)

 [UN in BiH YouTube Content and Campaign](#)

The UN Team also launched a wider public campaign focusing on COVID-19 recovery, adjustments to the new reality and identification of priorities for ensuring more sustainable and resilient society. Campaign seeks to initiate both expert and citizen discussion on the priorities (feeding directly into the UN75 global conversations via online survey for BiH), starting with twelve public champions identified from different sectors sharing their experiences. Activists, academics, artists, singers, sportists, owners of BiH companies which reacted quickly and adapted their work to respond to COVID-19 called for the conversations to carry further. First three video-talks were already shared via UN BiH social media, and can be found in full with English subtitles on the [UN in BiH YouTube Channel](#).

UNDP launched a pilot support scheme for interested private sector representatives to offer COVID-19 economic recovery assistance based on circular economy approaches. Support to selected companies will be provided in devising a longer-term roadmap towards circular and green approaches for their business, and piloting concrete short-term interventions towards circularity of the business operations. This intervention is supported by the UNDP Rapid Response Facility as part of the UNDP COVID-19 response and recovery framework, which focuses on innovative approaches for economic revival and job retention in Bosnia and Herzegovina. See the [Call for the Expression of Interest](#).

Preliminary [list of 29 potential recipients of the EU4Business grant](#) funding was announced last week. Considering that total number of high-quality applications exceeded available funds of the project (funds available for 15 applications), support to additional 14 applications will be provided through EU-funded project EU4Agri, implemented by UNDP jointly with the Czech Development Agency. The goal of the public call was to re-establish the commercial linkages, stabilize the supply networks and reopen existing access to agri-food sector market, thus additionally contributing to the EU support in COVID-19 response.

Within the Dialogue for the Future Initiative, 5 winning teams of UNICEF UPSHIFT programme (19 adolescents) started developing their project proposals that were awarded with funding, following a financial training delivered in the previous week. The programme in BiH was recognized as one of UNICEF's current global best practices in digitalization transformation process aiming to maximize the quality of the adaptation in processes and educational tools to the COVID-19 environment.

UNICEF - through its partnership with DRC - is working on provision of Health care services for children, through pediatric infirmaries in TRC Sedra and Borići, and provision of dental and ophthalmological services for children. In the previous week the pediatric team provided 42 specialized health care services. UNICEF/DRC held meetings with Cazin and Bihac Health Centers in order to define the immunisation process for children in the TRCs in Una-Sana Canton. UNICEF/DRC distributed a total of 97 copies of leaflets and informed children and parents on educational content on the topics of breastfeeding, prevention of COVID-19, scabies, diarrhea and importance of hand washing. UNICEF also procured 14,490 liters of liquid soap to support safe school re-opening which were distributed to 12 education authorities in BiH. UNICEF - with Save the Children and World Vision - continues facilitating non-formal education in TRCs. Workshops reached 321 children, with subjects covering Peer PSS Champions, school curricula subjects, everyday life, importance of education and personal development. In total 76 non-formal educational workshops were organized.

Office of the UN Resident Coordinator enabled an interactive chart which follows the COVID-19 trendline in BiH, including the effective reproduction factor (R). Standing page for the chart can be accessed [here](#) and [here](#).



**TRC Sedra and Borici  
pediatric team provided  
42 specialized health care  
services for  
child patients**

Source: UNICEF



**With the UNICEF-IOM  
support through Mother-  
Baby Corners more than  
300 FI and 1300 NFI  
were provided to children  
and their parents in the last  
week**

Source: UNICEF

Check the running list of United Nations resources at the UN in BiH [website](#).