

Covid-19 in sub-Saharan Africa

Weekly Situation Report #03

April 27, 2020



African Population and Health Research Center

Introduction

The global community is racing to slow down and halt the spread of SARS-CoV-2. The Covid-19 pandemic has claimed tens of thousands of lives in a very short period of time, since it was first announced on December 31, 2019. In Africa, the virus has spread to dozens of countries within weeks. Several African governments have put in place measures for early detection, contact tracing, and quarantining of potential contacts. Currently, forty-seven countries in the WHO African region can now test for Covid-19. The African Population and Health Research Center (APHRC) is committed to generating an Africa-led and Africa-owned body of evidence to inform decision making for an effective and sustainable response to the most critical challenges facing the continent. The objective of this weekly situation report is to highlight the weekly trends of new confirmed cases, cumulative cases, and active cases for all sub-Saharan African Countries. This bulletin is a summary for informational purposes. Complete summaries and trends can be assessed from the in-house dashboard (<https://siddi.shinyapps.io/covid19dashboardsa/>).

Data source and analysis

The Covid-19 incidence data used to prepare this bulletin is extracted daily from the Johns Hopkins University Center for Systems Science and Engineering (JHU CCSE) Coronavirus (<https://github.com/RamiKrispin/coronavirus-csv>) data repository. These data are used in our in-house R-Shiny dashboard developed for countries in sub-Saharan Africa. Graphical R functions such as ggplot2 and plotly are used to generate the statistics and trends.

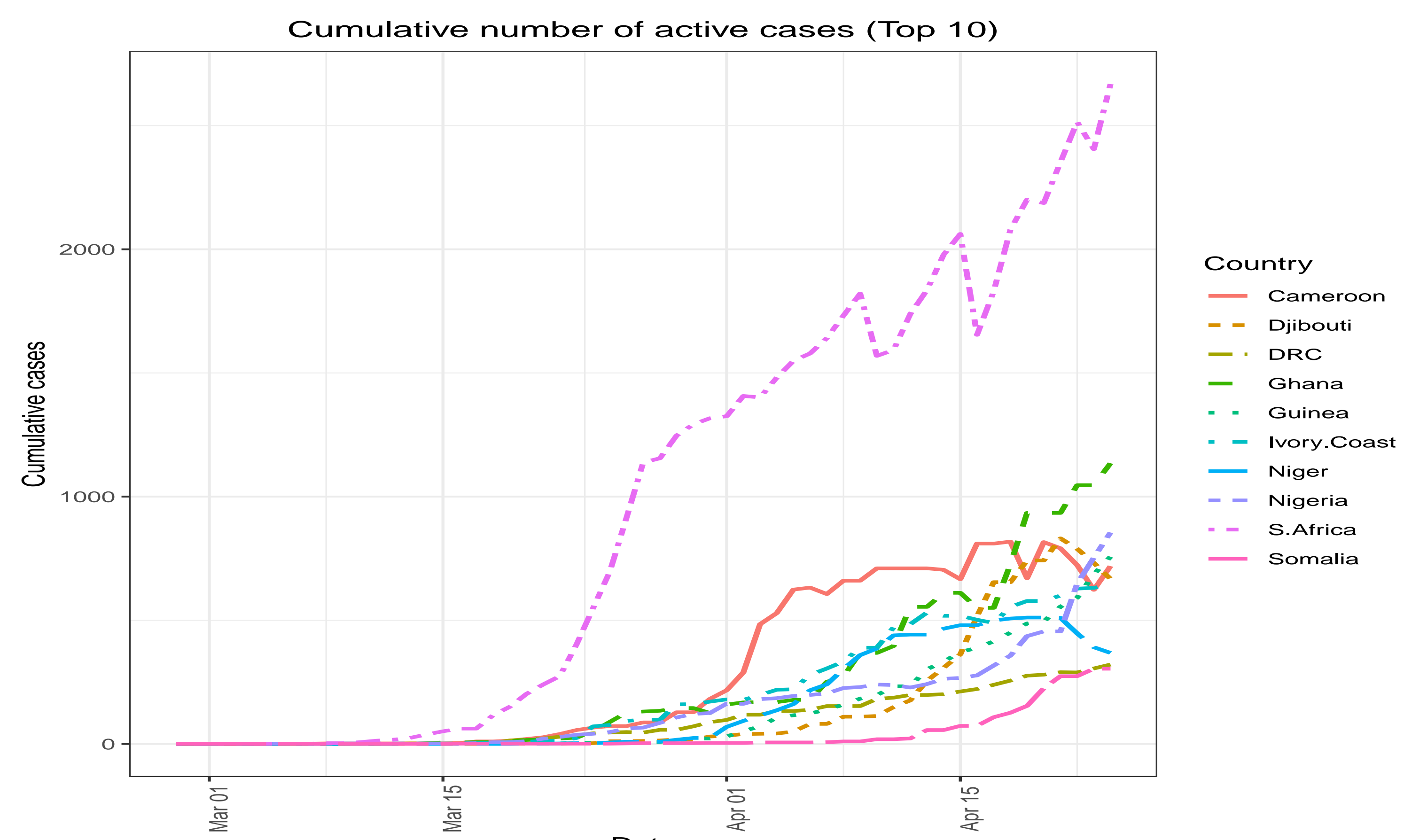
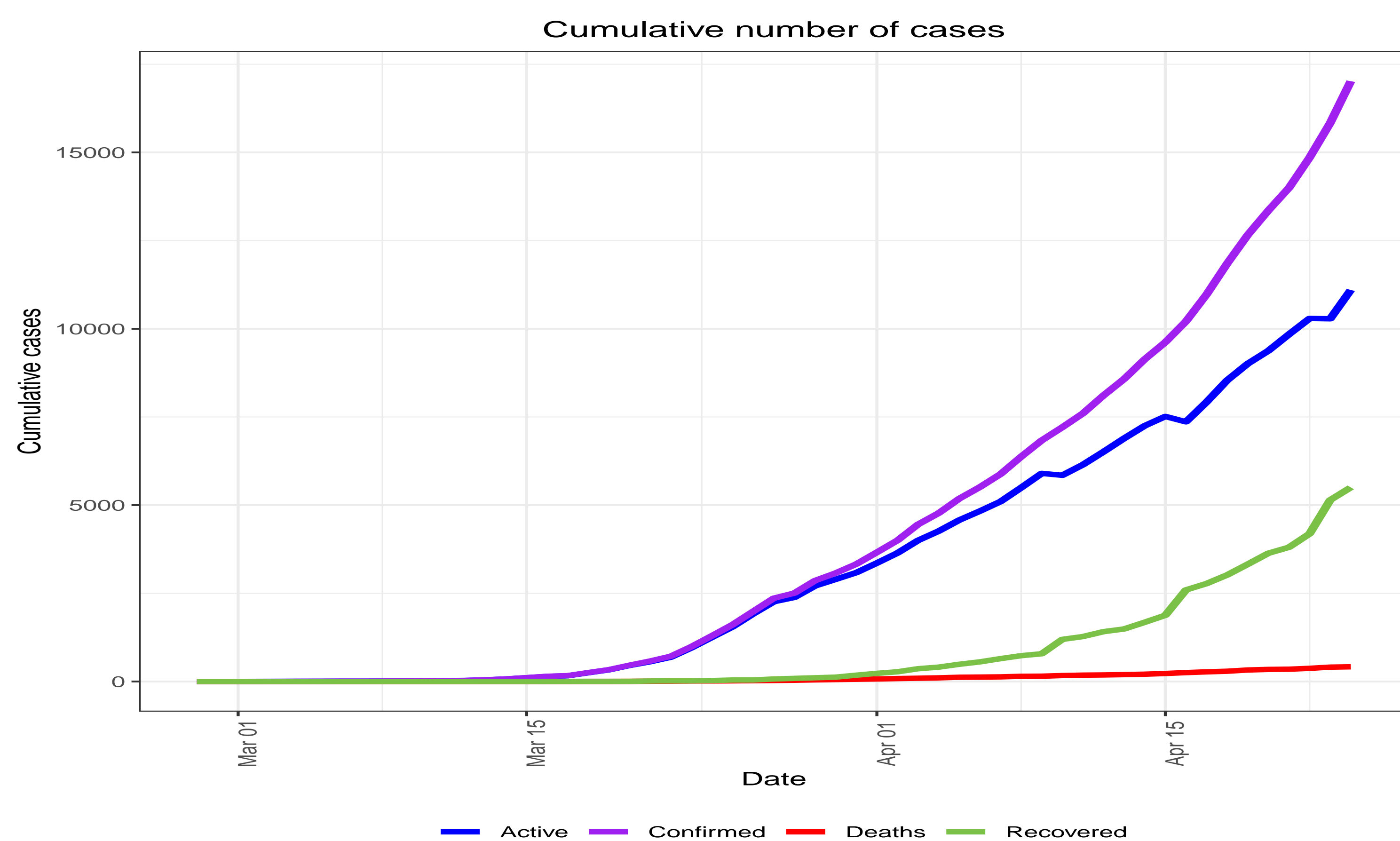
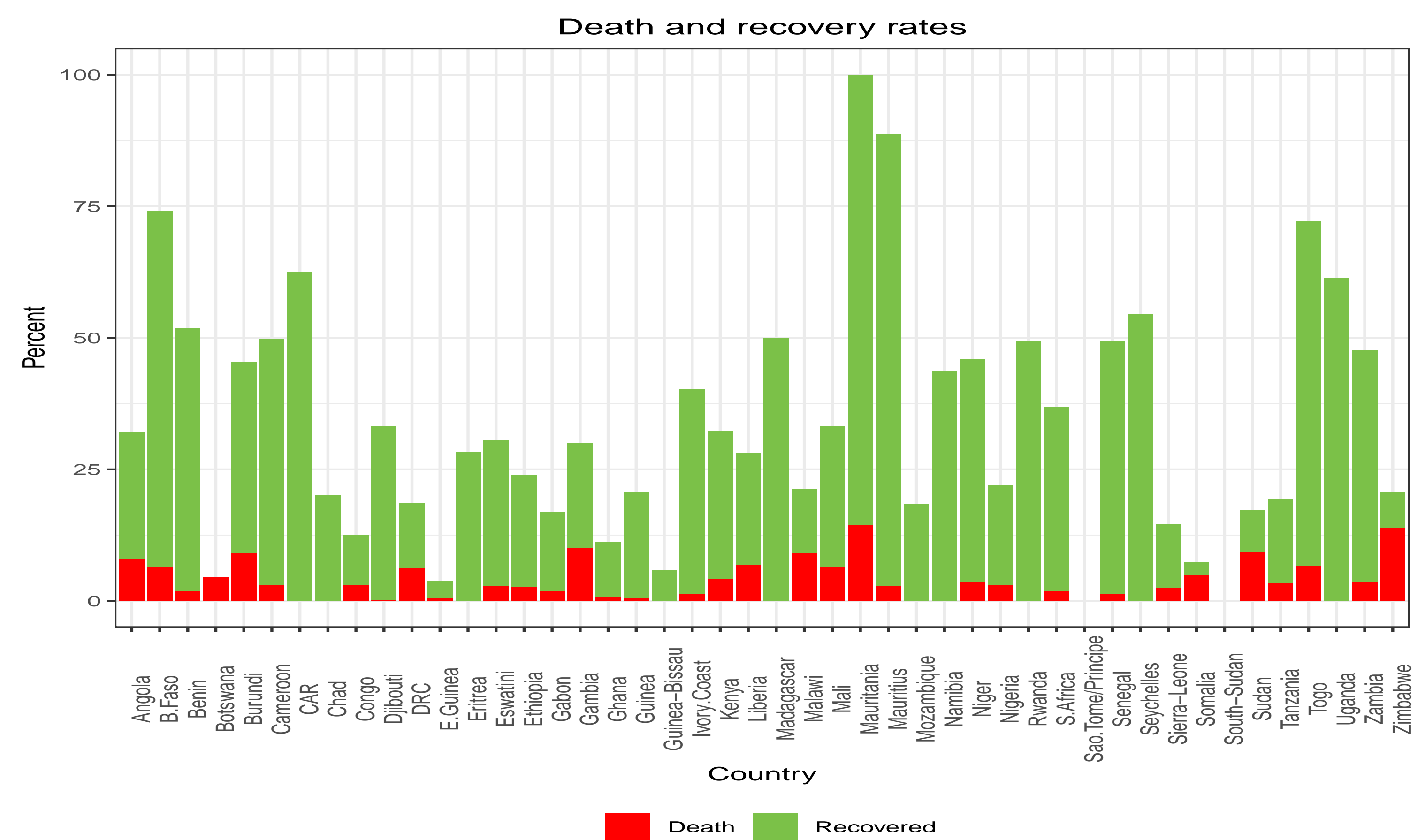
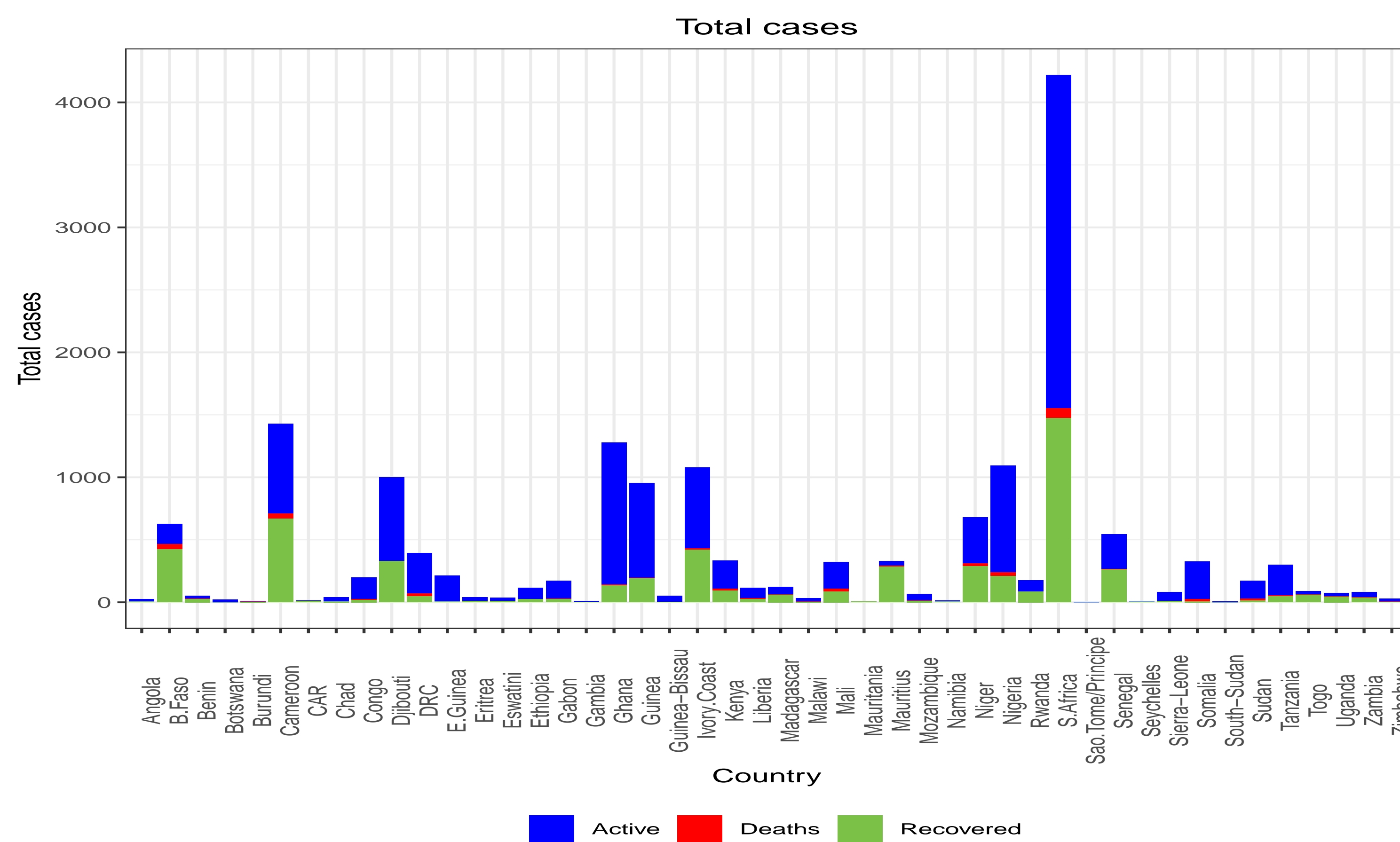
Highlights

Using data up to 2020-04-24

- Sub-Saharan African has so far reported a **total of 17020 confirmed**, **5503 recovered**, **416 deaths**, and **11101 active cases** of Covid-19
- S.Africa has the **highest confirmed cases** in Africa which stands at 4220 cases.
- Sudan has the **highest case fatality rate (CFR)** of 9.2% among all Countries with more than 100 confirmed cases.
- Mauritius has the **highest recovery rate** of 86.1% of all the countries with more than 100 confirmed cases.
- S.Africa reported the **highest number of confirmed new cases** of 267.
- There were **358 new recovery cases** and **9 new deaths**.

Graphical results

For sub-Saharan African Countries



Key messages

New cases are still being reported in the region and generally, the proportion of active cases is higher than those who have either recovered or died. South Africa maintains a clearly higher number of confirmed cases and a substantial number of new cases are still being reported. West Africa, clearly has a higher burden compared to East and Central Africa. Overall, with exception of South African and to a lesser extent Cameroon, most countries in the region seem to be exhibiting a gentle epidemic curve growth.

For comments or questions, contact

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