



Perspectives of EPI vaccine distribution recovery affected by COVID-19

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Impact of COVID-19 on supply and delivery of vaccines



September 2020

- Backlog of deliveries cleared. While the freight market remained constrained, UNICEF was able to get all routine vaccines to countries

July 2021

- WUENIC* data for 2020 shows that while COVID impacted routine programmes, the impact was not as high as expected.
- Campaigns have been and remain the most affected

2020

2021

Spring 2020

- Significant drop in deliveries during the initial surge of cases (flight disruptions, lockdowns, etc.)

December 2020

- Analysis of forecasted vs actual vaccines procured showed limited impact, with a slow down in Q2 and catching up in Q3-Q4.
- However, overall volumes delivered in 2020 were ~11% lower than in 2019 and 2018

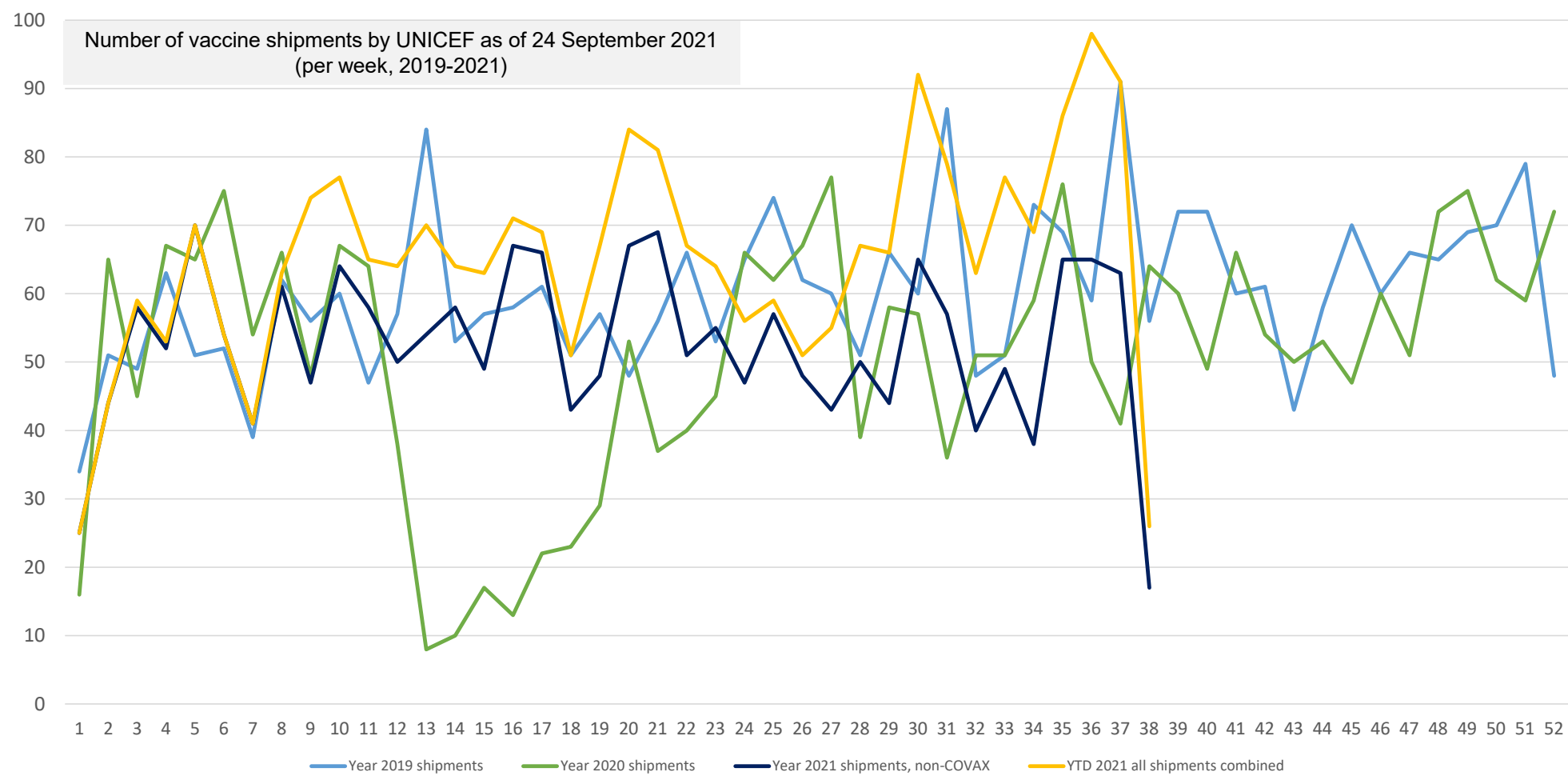
Present

- Volumes delivered as of Q3 back to 2019 levels, with discrepancies across vaccines
- Freight rates remain high and volatile
- High risk of shortage of syringes
- Remaining constraints for manufacturers

*WHO/UNICEF Estimates of National Immunization Coverage (WUENIC)

Weekly vaccine shipments

Gradually recovered following the dramatic disruption in 2020



Looking Ahead

Situation



Vaccine
Manufacturers

Manufacturers overall on track to deliver as per forecast, although a range of issues remain:

- difficulties in obtaining upstream materials & components, leading to longer lead times and requirement for longer term forecasting
- tensions on the manufacturing process, lab capacities
- prioritization of COVID-19 vaccines vs other Vx,
- cash flow impacts



NRA

Capacity constraints, delay in release of non-COVID-19 vaccines batches.



Freight

Freight rates remain high and volatile – the situation is expected to last for 1-2 years





Actions taken

- Joint UNICEF/WHO statement to avoid vaccine wastage and potential future shortage, requesting countries to temporarily waive/flex requirements for shelf life at time of importation
- Continued collaboration with countries to accept products with reduced shelf life, including coping strategies
- Managing deliveries with a mixture of reduced and full shelf-life products to prevent wastage due to expiry
- Closely monitoring impact on upstream supplies

- Closely monitoring of NRA capacity to ensure timely interventions

- Continued monitoring
- Increased use of charter flights to reach difficult destinations
- Exploring alternative contracting modalities.

Looking Ahead

| | | Situation | Actions taken |
|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
|  | Safety Injection Equipment | The global syringe market is increasingly constrained, meaning that countries may see low stocks of syringes for EPI vaccines in 2022 | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Exploring contracting terms to secure advance supplies • Exploring expansion of supplier base |
|  | Cold Chain | Cold chain capacity is still being expanded and may not be sufficient to cope with substantial deliveries of COVID-19 vaccine shipments, which may impact EPI program | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Expediting delivery of cold chain equipment in countries |
|  | Health Systems | Healthcare workers will likely be called to support COVID-19 vaccinations. While delivery funding is designed to add surge capacity, if this does not come soon enough, it could strain existing healthcare workforce | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Fundraising for additional delivery cost and support surge in hiring of additional health workers. |
|  | Fiscal space | Fiscal space constrained with the economic impact of COVID-19 | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Multilateral development banks working closely with governments on solutions to address fiscal space constraints |

Thank You