

Situation Overview

IOM and its partners are working to support Zimbabwe in strengthening core capacities for public health measures at points of entry (PoEs) and to provide critical services to returning migrants. As of the 2nd of February 2021, Zimbabwe recorded 33,814 cases of COVID-19 and 1,254 deaths. Between the 27th of January and the 2nd of February 2021 2,670 entries were received through the 4 key PoEs (Beitbridge, Chirundu, Forbes and Plumtree). This brings the total number of entries since March 2020 to 161,764. The period has been characterised by a large decrease of migrants and commercial traffic through PoEs due to the new lockdown measures introduced on January 5th.

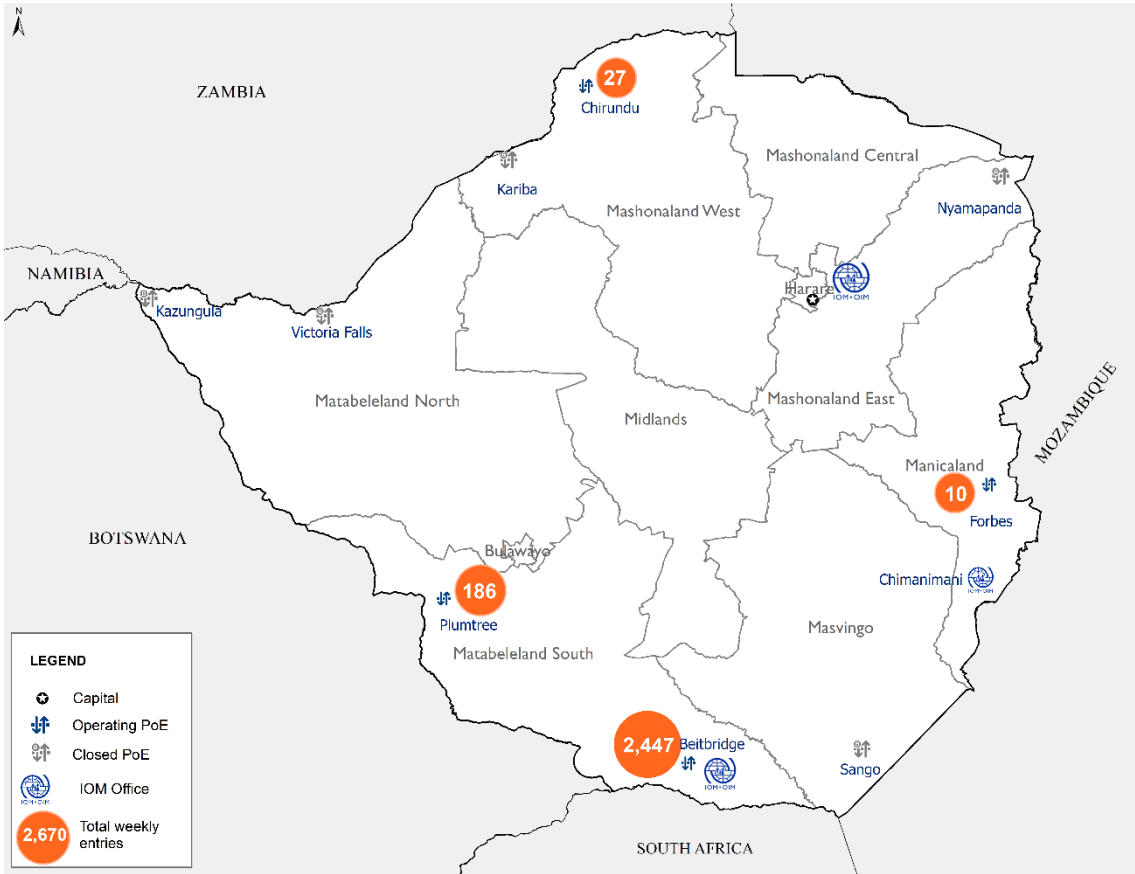
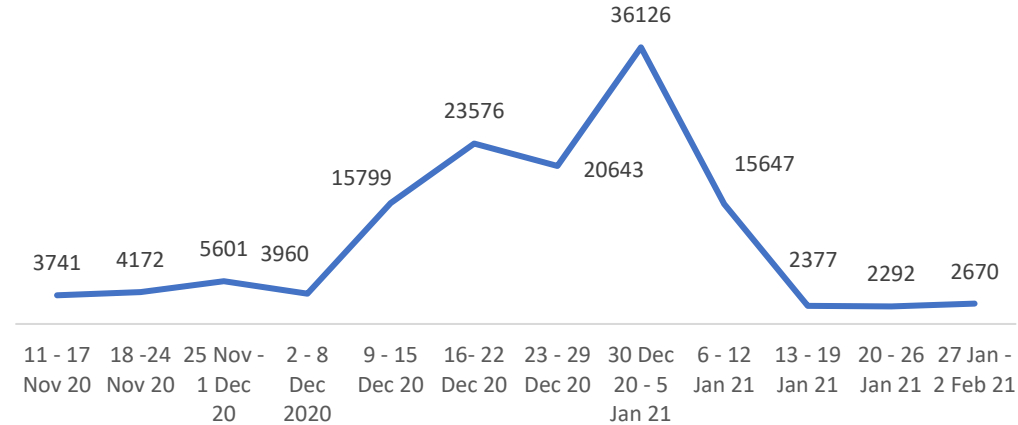
Observed entries

During the week of 27 January to 2 February 2021, 2,670 movements were observed at 4 points of entries in Zimbabwe representing a daily average of 381 movements. This is an increase of 17% in comparison of the 327 daily average movements observed last week. Of these 2,670 movements, 92% were observed at Beitbridge; this southern region of Zimbabwe is used by migrants traveling to South Africa.

Age and sex



Total weekly entries



Disclaimer: This map is for illustration purposes only. Names and boundaries on this map do not imply official endorsement or acceptance by IOM.

51,045 Individuals washed their hands at **101** handwashing stations installed*

7,564 Individuals reached with awareness campaigns on COVID-19*

563 Hygiene, **274** MHM, & **541** NFI kits have been distributed *

422 Individuals provided with psychosocial support*

*These numbers are cumulative since January 1, 2021.

Mobility Trends

IOM provides weekly data captured at key PoEs. These numbers indicate the immediate challenges and expected longer-term impacts of the pandemic on the society, migrants and vulnerable populations. Since March 2020, IOM recorded 161,764 entries.

The cumulative number of entries saw an increase of **2%**.

Mobility Disease Surveillance

IOM enhances cross-border coordination and surveillance by reporting health risks at key point of entries. Over 10 IOM nurses across the 4 points of entry are screening migrants for COVID-19.

2 positive cases and **4** suspected cases were reported at the 4 borders.

Infection Prevention and Control

IOM established points of health which are attended by IOM nurses. These points of care are equipped with hand washing stations, isolation tents and COVID-19 symptoms screenings to protect migrants and the community.

13,629 individuals used the handwashing stations.

Coordination and Partnerships

IOM supports local authorities by facilitating briefings and providing information about the Organization and migration issues and trends in general.

In Chirundu, IOM is in the process of setting up new water tanks. A meeting was held with the Chirundu local board to source potential suppliers for the establishment of water tanks. These water tanks will provide adequate and safe drinking water at the border.

Risk Communication and Community Engagement (RCCE)

IOM ensures that travellers have the life-saving information they need to protect themselves and others from the virus and to reduce its impact on health, social life and the economy.

324 individuals were reached with COVID-19 awareness.

Basic Services

IOM supports cross-border populations by distributing kits to vulnerable populations and provides mental health services at points of entries.

156 hygiene, **91** MHM & **227** NFI kits were distributed.

114 individuals were supported with psychosocial support and **36** referrals were given.

Activities supported by:



Ambasáid na hÉireann
Embassy of Ireland



Distribution of MHM kits in Chirundu © IOM 2021