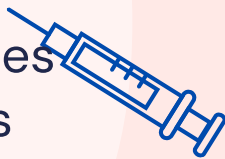


# COVID-19 & VACCINES

Your weekly snapshot of COVID-19 social media discussions in (Zimbabwe)

## TOP ISSUES: MAY 18 - MAY 24, 2022

- The Zimbabwe Health Services board reported that ZWL\$350 million was availed to pay 3632 government health workers compensation for contracting COVID-19 in the line of duty.
- Chief Coordinator of the National taskforce to the COVID-19 pandemic Dr Agnes Mahomva indicates that health authorities are on high alert as COVID-19 cases escalate.
- Public health experts in Bulawayo have raised concern over the slow uptake of the COVID-19 booster shot in the city.



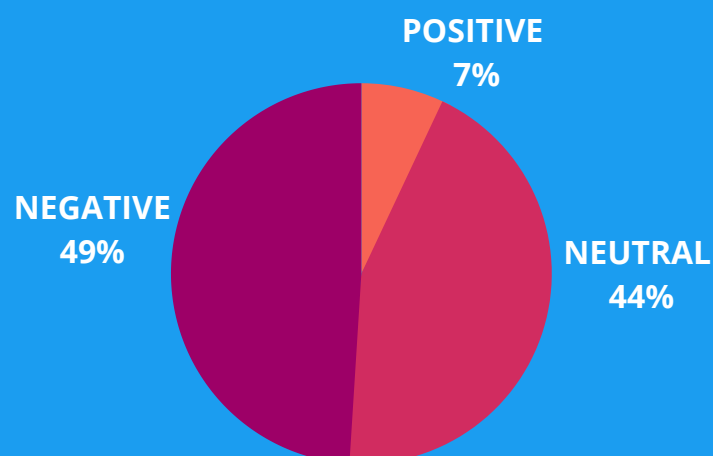
## TOP TRENDING POST

The post with the highest reach this week read:

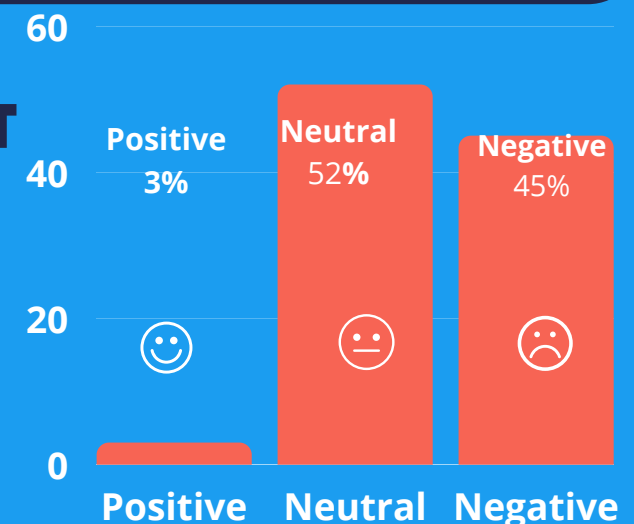
- 10 Retweets
- 24 Likes
- 0 Comments

“Botswana based virologist, Sikhulile Moyo, who is credited with the discovery of the Covid-19 Omicron variant has been recognised as one of Time’s 100 most influential people in the world. - Twitter.

## COVID-19 SENTIMENT



## VACCINE SENTIMENT



Visualization by Rooted in Trust:  
Data from Talkwalker

# TOP STORY

The COVID-19 pandemic has resulted in increased poverty for children in Matabeleland North who are exposed to child labor as families struggle to make ends meet.



## RUMOR CHECK

“Vaccination shld never be a condition becoz the kids are mixing already. U shld have said no school until vaccination if u is so serious Abt vaccination. U allow kids to mix in class but not in football ground.” – Twitter.

## FACTS

- A sports science researcher at the National University of Science and Technology (NUST) in Bulawayo, Mr Morris Banda, notes that “COVID-19 can easily spread amongst athletes during contact sports thus it is good for student athletes to be vaccinated prior to playing sport as this will help reduce risk of illness if they are infected with COVID-19 while playing sport”.
- Scientists indicate some benefits of vaccinating athletes against COVID-19 include safe resumption of activities done before the pandemic, less game and practice time lost due to outbreaks, and increased interactions with teammates, friends, and family.

## RECOMMENDATIONS TO JOURNALISTS

- Publishing stories that explore the role of COVID-19 vaccination in the context of safeguarding the health and wellness of students and professional athletes to enhance decision making towards COVID-19 vaccines.
- Production of podcasts and documentaries on COVID-19 and sport that can be watched or listened to by students, teachers and parents.

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

For more information on the project, visit: [here](#).

