

COVID-19, Monkeypox, and Other Infectious Diseases  
**Situational Report in the  
ASEAN+3 Region**

— ASEAN BioDiaspora Virtual Center (ABVC)

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## COVID-19: Highlights and Situation Overview

### Global Update

- **Worldwide**, there have been over 615 million cases and over 6 million deaths attributed to COVID-19.

### Regional Update

- **Brunei:** Last week, there were slightly more new COVID-19 instances in Brunei than the week before, with an average of roughly 179 cases per day as opposed to 169 cases per day.<sup>4</sup> According to the nation's health minister, Haji Mohd Isham, the infection pattern indicates that transmission is still minimal.<sup>4</sup> The health minister reportedly stated during a weekly briefing on September 13 that 51,405 Antigen Rapid Test (ART) test results were uploaded to the government website within one week, with 2.4% of them being positive.<sup>4</sup> This information was reported by the local newspaper Borneo Bulletin.<sup>4</sup> [[Full Article](#)]
- **Indonesia:** For the Group of 20 (G20) meeting scheduled for November, Indonesia is stepping up COVID-19 pandemic control efforts and reinforcing security against terrorists on the island of Bali.<sup>6</sup> The introduction of the highly contagious Omicron sub-variants BA.4 and BA.5 is primarily to blame for the continued rise in the frequency of newly confirmed COVID-19 infections in the Southeast Asian nation.<sup>6</sup> The COVID-19 contact tracking program PeduliLindungi, which is often used to enter public buildings including airports, hospitals, and supermarkets, has been improved by the nation's health ministry.<sup>6</sup> Over 200 million individuals in Indonesia have already gotten their first round of vaccinations, and over 170 million have received their second dosage as the government continues to speed up its national immunization program.<sup>6</sup> [[Full Article](#)]
- The **Philippines'** President has signed a proclamation extending the period of state calamity throughout the Philippines due to COVID-19 effective September 13 until December 31, 2022. The President has also instructed all government agencies and local government units to continue rendering full assistance and to cooperate with each other in mobilizing necessary resources to undertake critical, urgent, and appropriate measures to limit or eliminate the threat of COVID-19.

The Department of Health (DOH) announced on September 14 that over 800 new instances of the Omicron subvariant of COVID had been discovered in the nation.<sup>8</sup> There were 839 new instances of BA.5, 11 cases of BA.4, one case of each of BA.2.75 and BA.2.12.1, according to recent genome sequencing studies.<sup>8</sup> According to a study released on September 14 by the Department of Health (DOH), over 800 new instances of the Omicron subvariant of COVID have been found throughout the nation.<sup>8</sup> According to recent genome sequencing data, there were 839 new instances of BA.5, 11 of BA.4, one of BA.2.75 and one of BA.2.12.1.<sup>8</sup> In the National Capital Region, there has only been one new BA.2.75 case reported.<sup>8</sup> An ROF included the BA.2.12.1 instance.<sup>8</sup> The 978 samples that underwent genome sequencing from September 9 to 12 yielded the extra Omicron subvariant instances.<sup>8</sup> [[Full Article](#)]

- **Singapore:** The rollout of vaccines for children under five years old as well as booster shots for those between six months and 11 years old will start in late October or early November, according to Health Minister Ong Ye Kung, as primary school students are preparing for exams and COVID-19 cases are "relatively low."<sup>9</sup> Ong explained the timing for the vaccination rollout in Parliament on September 13 and noted that it would be more convenient for parents who want to bring their children in both age groups to the same vaccination center to allow children in the older and younger age groups to get

vaccinated at the same time and at the same location.<sup>9</sup> However, there are currently no plans to include COVID-19 vaccination in the National Childhood Immunization Schedule.<sup>9</sup> [\[Full Article\]](#)

### Vaccine Update

- **Malaysia:** For high-risk populations, THE Health Ministry (MoH) is acquiring updated vaccinations that can combat the newest COVID-19 strains for the government.<sup>7</sup> "We observed that there are reduced chances for reasonably healthy young persons contracting COVID-19 after immunization," said Minister Khairy Jamaluddin Abu Bakar (center).<sup>7</sup> As a result, we will concentrate on high-risk populations, such as the purchase of vaccinations for kids under the age of five.<sup>7</sup> He stated that the health department and pediatric services will do a prediction on the number of likely elderly and young people with significant comorbidity in order to determine the total amount of vaccination to be purchased.<sup>7</sup> [\[Full Article\]](#)

### Research Update

- According to an Israeli's systematic review and meta-analysis of cross-sectional studies on **Factors associated with COVID-19 vaccine intentions during the COVID-19 pandemic**, COVID-19 patients who had received two doses of the Pfizer/BioNTech vaccine reported 8 of the 10 most common long-COVID symptoms 50% to 80% less often than their unvaccinated counterparts.<sup>1</sup> Almost 3,500 people responded to the questionnaire, including 951 who tested positive for COVID-19.<sup>1</sup> Of the 2,447 uninfected participants, 0.9% had received one vaccine dose, 48.8% received two doses, 30.4% received three doses, and the remainder were unvaccinated.<sup>1</sup> Of the 951 infected participants, 36% had received one vaccine dose, and 31% received at least two.<sup>1</sup> The vaccinated group completed their questionnaire after a median of 4 months after diagnosis, compared with 8 months in the unvaccinated group.<sup>1</sup> Among the 951 infected adults, 67% reported at least one symptom at diagnosis.<sup>1</sup> Sixty-nine percent of the unvaccinated group reported one or more symptoms at diagnosis, compared with 57% of those vaccinated with two doses and 74% of one-dose recipients.<sup>1</sup> 35% of the 951 COVID-19 patients said they hadn't fully recovered from their illness, reporting lingering fatigue (22%), headache (20%), limb weakness (13%), and persistent muscle pain (10%).<sup>1</sup> [\[Full Text\]](#)
- According to a prospective follow-up study on **Lung function and radiological findings 1 year after COVID-19**, a total of 377 patients completed a 2-month follow-up, but pandemic restrictions decreased the pool to 312 patients at 6 months and 284 at 12 months.<sup>2</sup> At 2 months, 53.8% of all patients had impaired lung diffusion, falling to 46.8% at 6 months and 39.8% at 12 months.<sup>2</sup> At 2, 6, and 12 months, 21.5%, 11.3%, and 9.8% of the cohort, respectively, had shortness of breath, and the link between shortness of breath and time since release was significant.<sup>2</sup> At 2 months, high-resolution chest CT was performed in 325 patients who had persistent shortness of breath and abnormal pulmonary function tests or chest radiologic tests.<sup>2</sup> While 38.4% of patients showed complete resolution, 73.5% of the remaining patients (32% of the entire cohort) had ground-glass opacity, indicating impaired lung function.<sup>2</sup> Of the 200 patients with abnormal CT findings at 2 months, 78% underwent another CT at 12 months, revealing that 78.8% of these patients (27.4% of the cohort) had persistent CT abnormalities.<sup>2</sup> [\[Full Text\]](#)

### Travel Update

- **Brunei:** Due to the high vaccination rates in the nation, authorities will begin to relax a number of COVID-19-related domestic and international travel restrictions on

September 15.<sup>5</sup> Foreigners entering Brunei will no longer need to be completely immunized, according to officials. No longer will unvaccinated travelers be subject to a COVID-19 test and quarantine upon arrival.<sup>5</sup> There is no longer a necessity for participants to fill out a health declaration form upon arrival. Citizens and Permanent Residents (PRs) of Brunei will no longer need to be completely immunized in order to travel abroad.<sup>5</sup> Additionally, beginning on September 15, authorities will relax the facemask requirement in most indoor and outdoor locations.<sup>5</sup> [\[Full Article\]](#)

- **Hong Kong** will allow incoming travellers who test positive for COVID-19 to remain in their designated quarantine hotels instead of being transferred to isolation hotels or community facilities.

## Cases and Deaths as of 14 September 2022

- As of 14 September 2022 (2PM, GMT+8), worldwide, there were **615,862,871** confirmed cases, including **6,531,209** deaths. Globally, Case Fatality Rate (CFR) was **1.1%**.
- 86,354,372 confirmed cases** of COVID-19 have been reported in the **ASEAN +3** countries including **34,278,972 cases** in the ASEAN region and **52,075,400 cases** in the PLUS THREE countries.
- The Case Fatality Rate in the **ASEAN +3** region is range between **0.1 to 3.2%**.
- There have been no tests reported in the last 14 days in the **ASEAN** Region.

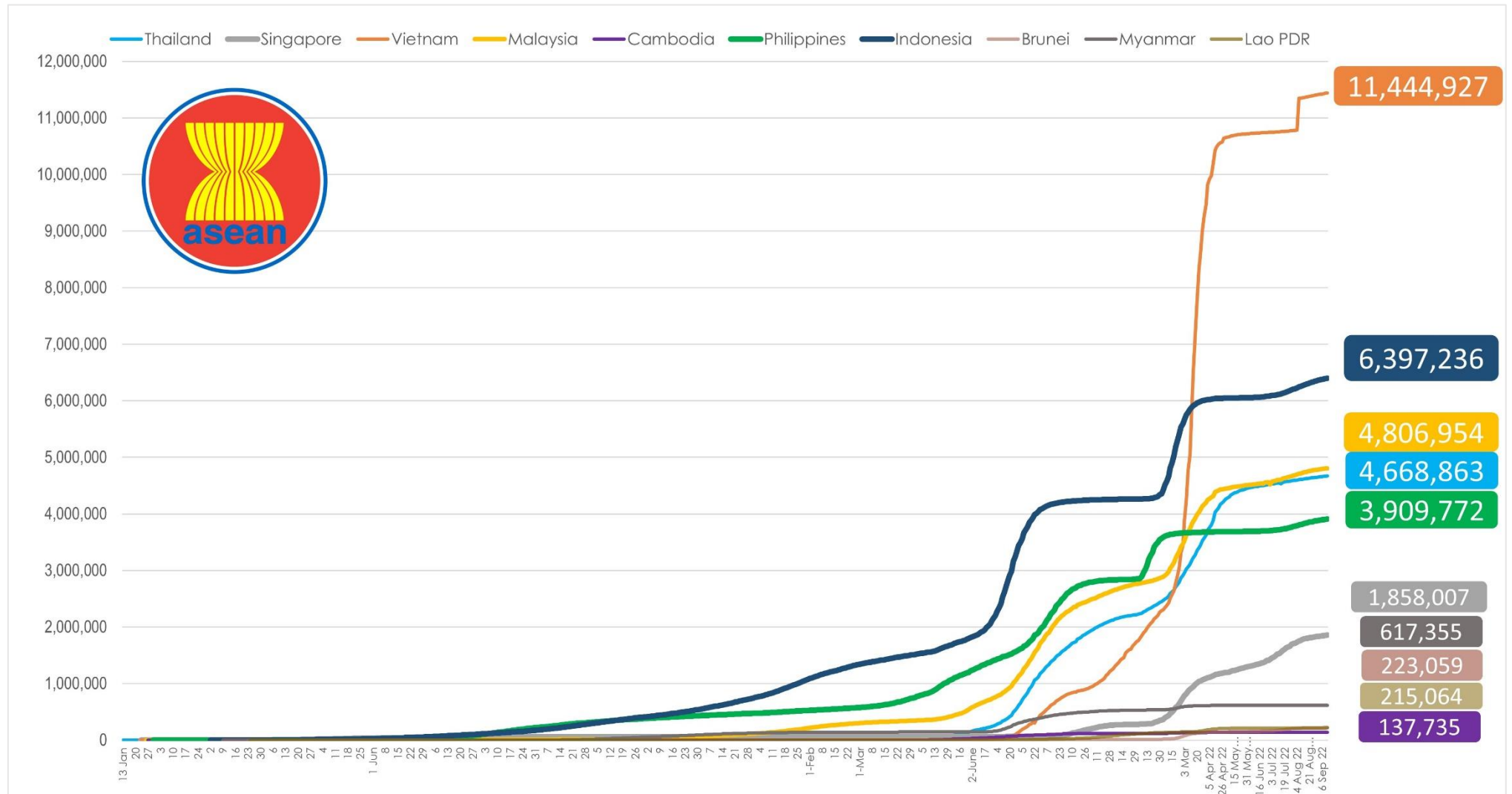
REGION	COUNTRY	FIRST CONFIRMED CASE(S)	LATEST REPORT ON CONFIRMED CASE(S)	TOTAL CONFIRMED CASES	NEW CASES	TOTAL DEATHS	NEW DEATHS	CUMULATIVE CASES/ 100,000	CUMULATIVE VACCINATED	CUMULATIVE FULLY VACCINATED	CUMULATIVE BOOSTERED	FULLY VACCINATED/ 100
ASEAN REGION	Brunei	10 Mar 20	13-Sep-22	223,059	-	225	-	51,481	449,149	444,079	330,826	99.7
	Cambodia	27 Jan 20	13-Sep-22	137,735	16	3,056	-	835	15,164,242	14,500,132	9,988,328	87.4
	Indonesia	02 Mar 20	13-Sep-22	6,397,236	2,896	157,807	20	2,364	203,435,374	171,111,977	61,135,788	62.5
	Lao PDR	24 Mar 20	13-Sep-22	215,064	82	757	-	3,000	5,888,649	5,222,417		70.3
	Malaysia	25 Jan 20	13-Sep-22	4,806,954	-	36,285	-	15,045	28,097,347	27,501,007	16,710,653	81.9
	Myanmar	23 Mar 20	13-Sep-22	617,355	503	19,443	1	1,142	34,777,314	27,545,329	2,227,351	51.2
	Philippines	30 Jan 20	13-Sep-22	3,909,772	1,477	62,382	40	3,616	77,134,380	72,416,833	17,726,336	63.6
	Singapore	23 Jan 20	13-Sep-22	1,858,007	1,453	1,602	-	32,576	5,024,115	5,003,831	4,285,045	91.8
	Thailand	13 Jan 20	13-Sep-22	4,668,863	619	32,567	10	6,706	56,968,072	53,419,228	31,863,076	74.6
	Vietnam	23 Jan 20	13-Sep-22	11,444,927	3,301	43,132	2	11,865	89,255,868	82,993,225	67,031,734	85.2
<b>ASEAN COUNTRIES</b>				<b>34,278,972</b>	<b>10,347</b>	<b>357,256</b>	<b>73</b>	<b>128,630</b>	<b>516,194,510</b>	<b>460,158,058</b>	<b>211,299,137</b>	
ASEAN PLUS THREE	South Korea	20-Jan-20	13-Sep-22	24,099,134	57,309	27,533	35	46,605	45,108,436	44,670,594	40,871,361	86.2
	Japan	16-Jan-20	13-Sep-22	20,306,340	87,572	42,581	220	16,082	104,165,569	102,765,927	112,664,291	82.5
	China	31-Dec-19	13-Sep-22	7,669,926	54,455	25,381	27	47,484	1,331,855,588	1,298,085,209	830,886,431	87.4
	<b>PLUS THREE COUNTRIES</b>				<b>52,075,400</b>	<b>199,336</b>	<b>95,495</b>	<b>282</b>	<b>110,171</b>	<b>1,481,129,593</b>	<b>1,445,521,730</b>	<b>984,422,083</b>
<b>ASEAN +3</b>				<b>86,354,372</b>	<b>209,683</b>	<b>452,751</b>	<b>355</b>	<b>238,802</b>	<b>1,997,324,103</b>	<b>1,905,679,788</b>	<b>1,195,721,220</b>	

- 529,508,499 confirmed cases** of COVID-19 have been reported in **5 continents** (other than ASEAN +3 countries):

CONTINENT	TOTAL CONFIRMED CASES	NEW CASES	TOTAL DEATHS	NEW DEATHS	CUMULATIVE CASES/ 100,000	CUMULATIVE VACCINATED	CUMULATIVE FULLY VACCINATED	CUMULATIVE BOOSTERED
AFRICA	12,882,937	272	258,460	-	250,208	391,065,032	308,988,951	47,949,007
AMERICAS	180,080,990	20,942	2,862,601	210	1,169,390	821,188,818	720,844,348	468,577,388
ASIA PACIFIC	85,134,965	30,807	748,793	164	470,076	1,441,329,458	1,329,695,037	345,749,172
EUROPE	229,046,527	91,238	1,970,957	249	1,973,624	564,658,632	536,739,849	348,121,259
MIDDLE EAST	22,363,080	3,064	237,647	34	209,806	143,615,519	128,977,387	58,919,576
TOTAL	<b>529,508,499</b>	<b>146,323</b>	<b>6,078,458</b>	<b>657</b>	<b>4,073,104</b>	<b>3,361,857,459</b>	<b>3,025,245,572</b>	<b>1,269,316,402</b>

# COVID-19 Epi curve among ASEAN Countries:

From January 1, 2021 to September 13, 2022

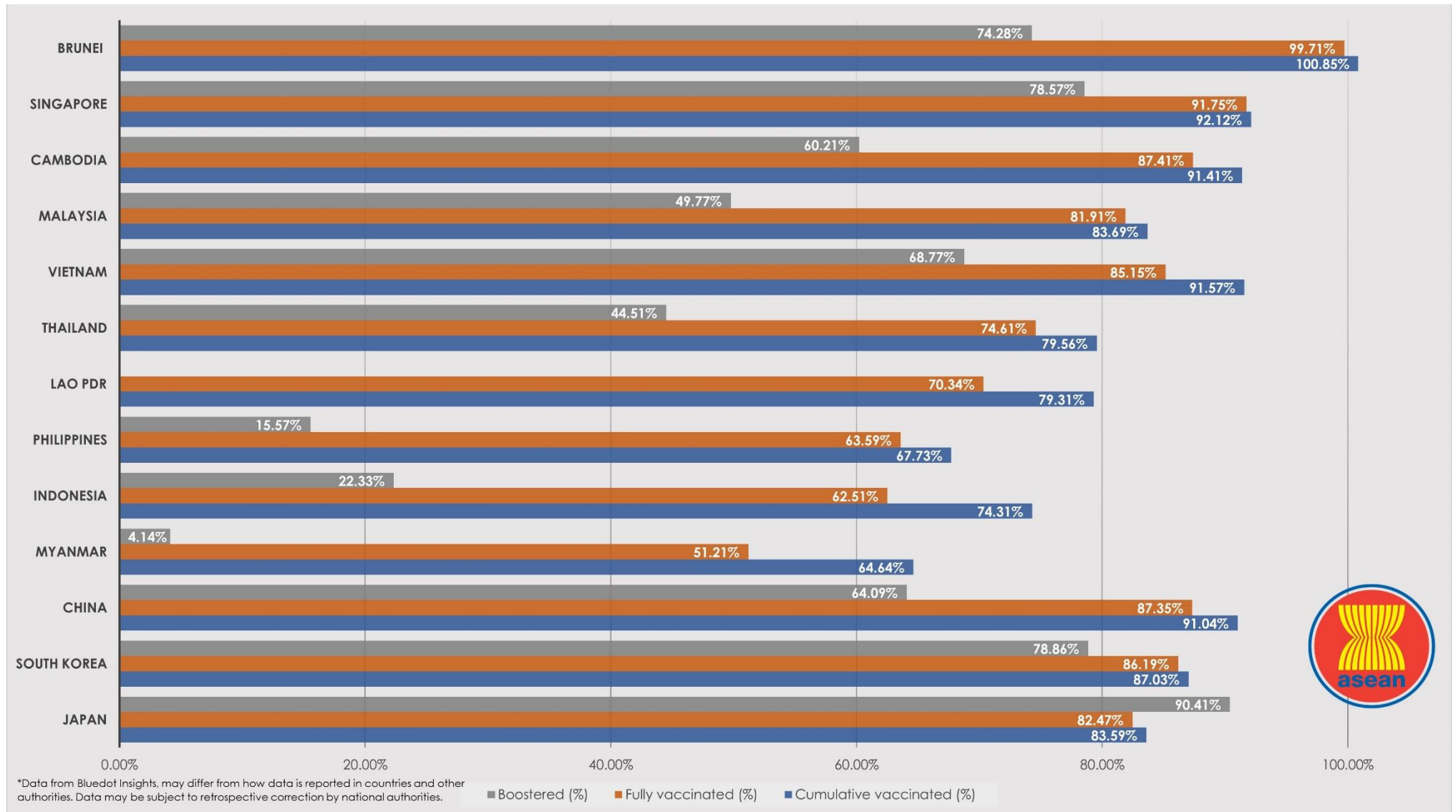


Cumulative cases of COVID-19 in the ASEAN Region as of September 13, 2022 (Report generated by ASEAN Biodiaspora Virtual Center)

\*Data from Bluedot Insights, cases may differ from how data is reported in countries and other authorities. Data may be subject to retrospective correction by national authorities.

# COVID-19 Vaccination Status


as of 13 September 2022





# COVID-19 Outlook Assessment

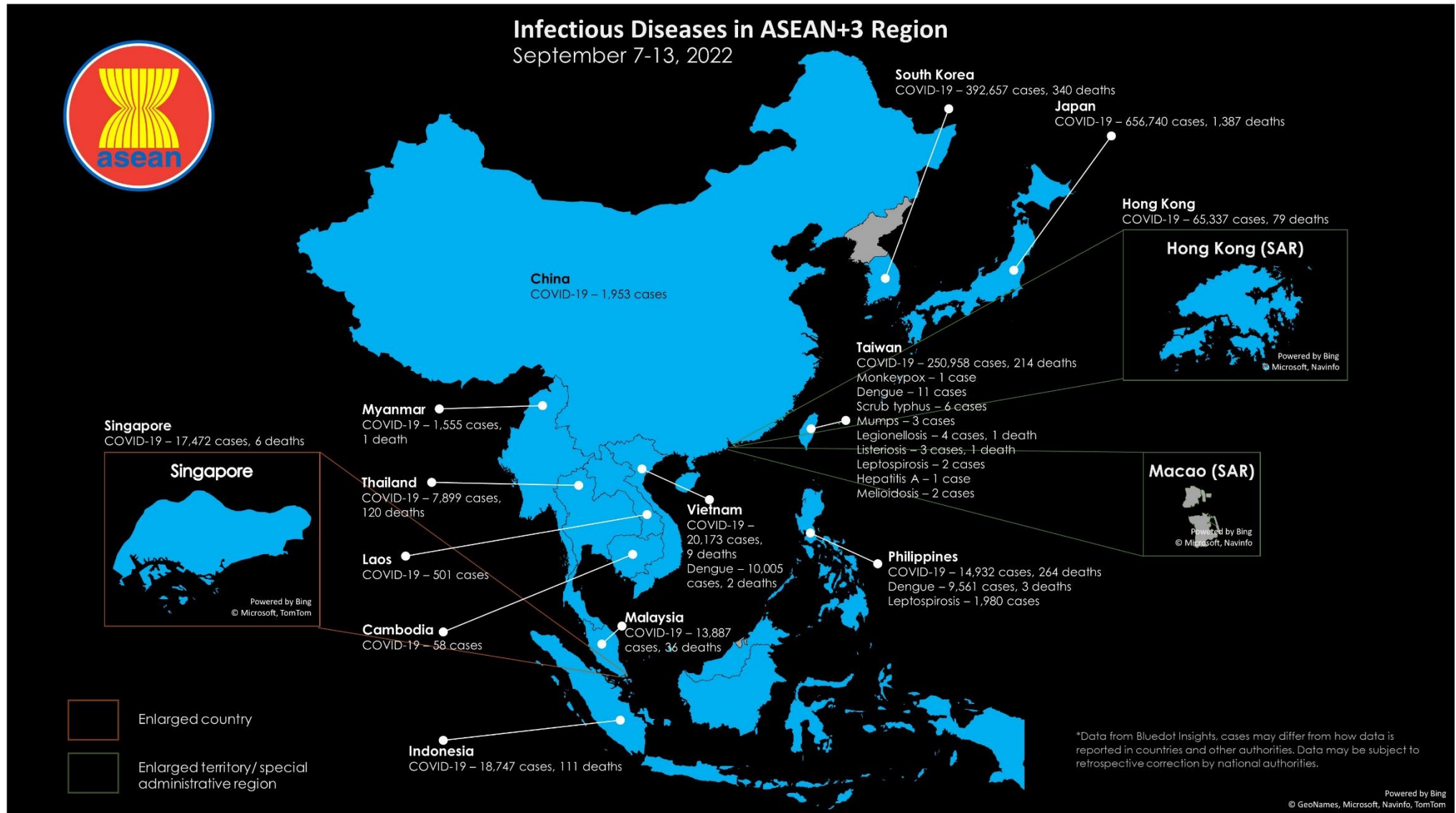
as of 11 September 2022

 <b>ASEAN MEMBER STATE</b>	REQUIREMENT						
	At least <b>80% of the high-risk population has been vaccinated</b> with at least one dose of a COVID-19 vaccine.	At least <b>65% of the total population has a level of immunity</b> to COVID-19; either recovered from COVID-19 or have been vaccinated with at least one dose of a COVID-19 vaccine.		<b>Case levels are generally low</b> (a 7-day rolling average number of daily new cases that is <10 cases per 100,000, with each day's past-14-day test positivity is consistently <5%).		<b>Government Policy</b> on containment and health (strictness and comprehensiveness in COVID-19 related government policies)	
		Population vaccinated/ day (7-day average)	% of Total population fully vaccinated / boosted	Population vaccinated/ day (7-day average)	Daily cases/ 100,000	Test positivity last 14 days	Containment and health index score - Oxford COVID-19 Government Response Tracker (OxCGRT)
Brunei	0%/day	≥90.0/74.3	Unknown	0.00	Unknown	31.0/100	undefined
Cambodia	0%/day	≥90.0/60.2	Unknown	0.05	Unknown	31.5/100	undefined
Indonesia	0%/day	65.3/21.5	Unknown	1.23	Unknown	54.2/100	undefined
Lao PDR	0%/day	77.3/ND	Unknown	1.22	Unknown	61.6/100	undefined
Malaysia	0%/day	84.4/49.7	0.01%/day	6.63	Unknown	51.8/100	undefined
Myanmar	0%/day	52.1/4.1	Unknown	0.24	Unknown	69.1/100	undefined
Philippines	0%/day	70.1/15.6	Unknown	2.15	Unknown	55.4/100	undefined
Singapore	0%/day	88.7/78.6	0.01%/day	32.37	Unknown	58.9/100	undefined
Thailand	0%/day	77.5/44.4	0.01%/day	2.39	Unknown	31.5/100	undefined
Vietnam	Unknown	89.5/68.8	Unknown	2.51	Unknown	43.5/100	undefined
Japan	0%/day	81.2/89.2	0%/day	93.60	Unknown	42.9/100	undefined
South Korea	0%/day	86.5/78.8	0%/day	150.72	Unknown	38.1/100	undefined
China	Unknown	≥90.0/56.3	Unknown	0.027	Unknown	84.5/100	undefined

All of the countries have achieved the estimated high-risk population fully vaccinated of ≥90.0% except China with 35.1%.

# Infectious Diseases in ASEAN+3 Region

From September 7-13, 2022



# Infectious Diseases Other than COVID-19 and Monkeypox in ASEAN+3 Region

September 7-13, 2022

## Infectious Disease Updates

### Dengue

- **Philippines:** 13 September 2022 (PhilStar Global) MANILA, Philippines — The country has recorded 128,346 dengue cases from Jan. 1 to Aug. 20 this year, the Department of Health (DOH) reported on September 12. The figure is 152% higher than the 50,982 cases recorded during the same period in 2021. Among the regions with a high number of recorded cases are Central Luzon with 23,865; National Capital Region, 12,059; Central Visayas, 11,936; Western Visayas, 10,369, and Calabarzon (Cavite, Laguna, Batangas, Rizal and Quezon) with 10,219. Regions that posted the highest increases in cases are Cagayan Valley, Zamboanga peninsula, Central Visayas, Eastern Visayas and Caraga. Cagayan Valley posted an increase of 2,087 percent or from 450 cases in 2021 to 9,843 this year. Zamboanga peninsula's dengue cases rose by 817 percent or from 791 to 7,252; Central Visayas recorded an increase of 675 percent or from 1,540 to 11,936; Eastern Visayas, 598 percent or from 473 to 3,302, and Caraga with 576 percent or from 403 to 2,726 cases. More dengue fatalities were recorded this year with 422 from 179 in 2021. Regions that recorded the most number of fatalities were Central Visayas, 69; Western Visayas, 55, and Central Luzon, 45.
- **Vietnam:** 08 September 2022 (Outbreak News) The Vietnam Ministry of Health has reported 190,005 dengue cases and 72 deaths since the beginning of the year, a 4-times increase compared to the same period in 2021 (47,048 cases/19 deaths). According to general statistics from localities, in the week of 35/2022, the whole country recorded 9,186 cases of dengue fever. Compared with last week (10,852 cases, 3 deaths) the number of dengue cases this week decreased by 18.1%. In which, the number of hospitalizations was 6,784 cases, compared with the previous week, the number of hospitalizations decreased by 18.7%.
- **Taiwan:** 11 September 2022 (Outbreak News) The Taiwan Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) announced four new cases of local dengue fever, all living in Qianzhen District, Kaohsiung City. The CDC stated that none of the four cases had a recent history of domestic or foreign travel. The main activity locations were mainly near their homes in Qianzhen District, Kaohsiung City. In order to prevent the spread of dengue, the health unit has gone to the case's residence and surrounding areas to carry out indoor and outdoor chemical spraying, chemical prevention and breeding, and expand epidemic investigation and inspection. According to statistics from the CDC, there have been nine local cases of dengue fever in Taiwan so far this year, including 7 cases in Kaohsiung City and 2 cases in Taichung City, and 31 imported cases. Of the imported cases, they came from the following countries: Vietnam (18 cases), Indonesia (6 cases), the Philippines (2 cases), Singapore (2 cases), Thailand (1 case), Myanmar (1 case) and Honduras (1 case).

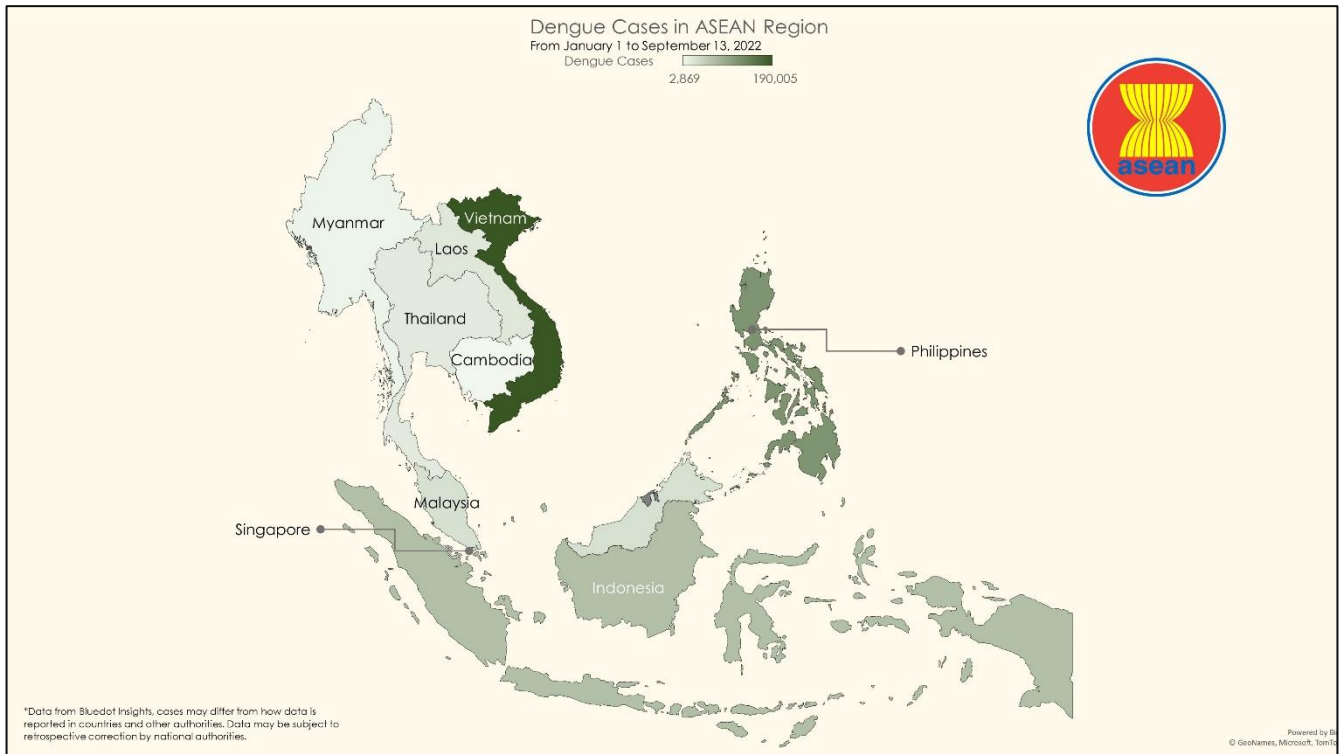
### Leptospirosis

- **Philippines:** 13 September 2022 (Philippine Times) MANILA -The Quezon City government is reminding residents to clean their surroundings and be cautious as it reported a three-fold rise in cases of dengue as well as leptospirosis in the city this year. The city government noted an increase in its leptospirosis cases with 78 cases from Jan. 1 to Sept. 1, this year. "This is higher as compared to 2021. District 2 recorded the highest number of cases with 24, while District 3

recorded the lowest with four cases. Some 11 have died from Leptospirosis," QC CESU posted. It has yet to disclose the number of leptospirosis cases for the same period last year. The city government advised residents to wear protective gear like boots especially when wading through flood waters.

# Dengue Cases in ASEAN Region

From January 1, 2022 to September 13, 2022



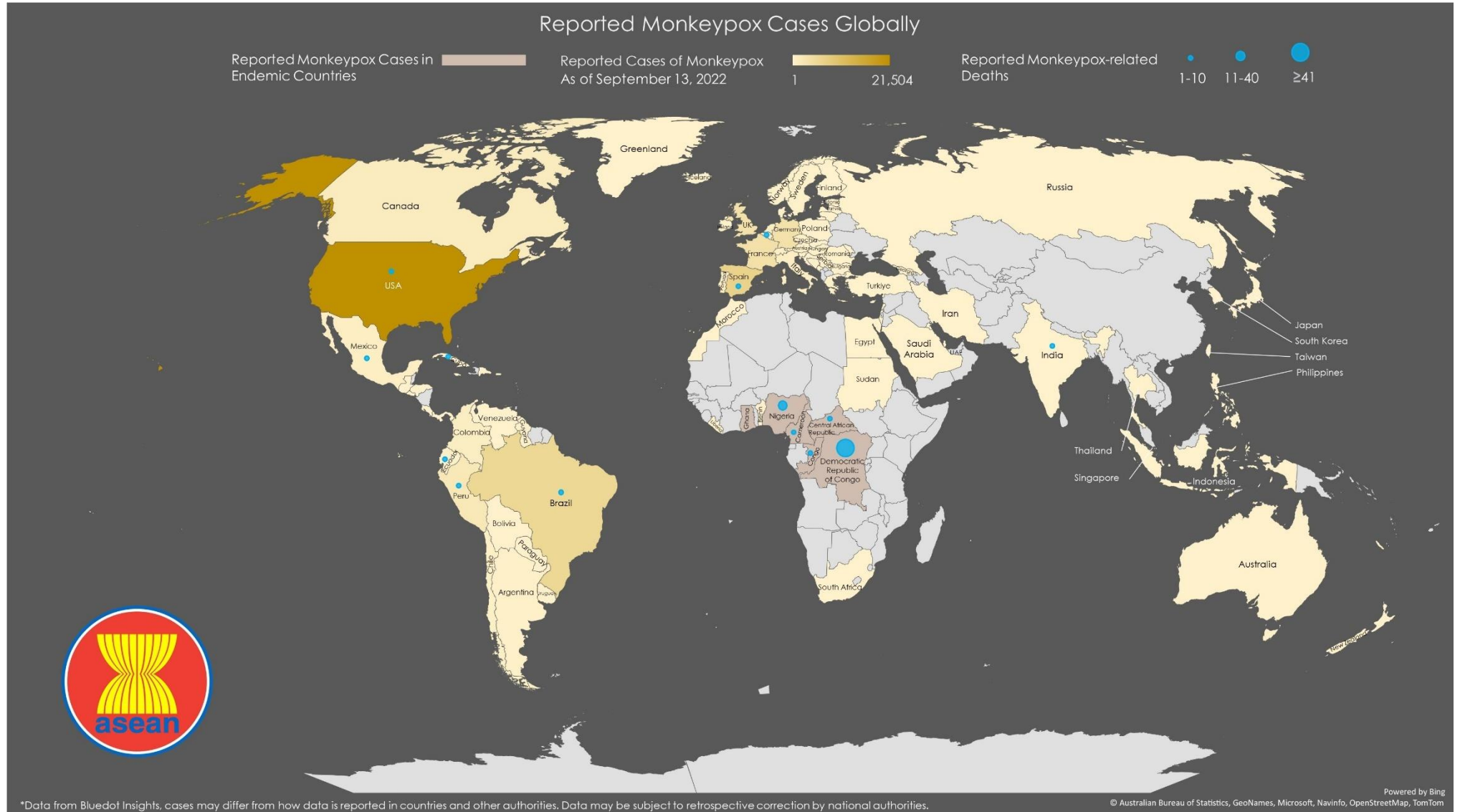
## Dengue cases in ASEAN region

Country	Dengue Cases	New Cases in the Past Week	Deaths	Case Fatality Rate
Vietnam	190,005	10,005	72	0.04%
Philippines	128,346	9,561	423	0.33%
Indonesia	68,000	-	640	0.94%
Malaysia	29,812	-	13	0.04%
Singapore	25,667	-	-	0.00%
Laos	21,799	-	17	0.08%
Thailand	17,412	-	14	0.08%
Myanmar	7,835	-	31	0.40%
Cambodia	2,869	-	7	0.24%
Brunei	-	-	-	-
<b>Total</b>	<b>491,745</b>	<b>19,566</b>	<b>1,217</b>	<b>0.25%</b>

\*Data from Bluedot Insights, cases may differ from how data is reported in countries and other authorities. Data may be subject to retrospective correction by national authorities.

# Monkeypox Cases Reported Globally

as of September 13, 2022



## Monkeypox: Highlights and Situation Overview

- As of 14 September 2022 (2PM, GMT+8), worldwide, there were **60,028** confirmed cases, including **88** deaths. Globally, Case Fatality Rate (CFR) was **0.15%**.
- **40 confirmed cases** of Monkeypox have been reported in the **ASEAN+3** region composed of **28 cases** in the ASEAN region and **12 cases** in the PLUS THREE countries, with CFR of **0%**.
- **59,988 confirmed cases** of Monkeypox have been reported in other **5 regions** (other than ASEAN +3 countries):

### Monkeypox cases in ASEAN+3 region

Region	Country	Total Cases	New Cases	Deaths	Case Fatality Rate
ASEAN	Singapore	16	-	-	0.00%
ASEAN	Thailand	7	-	-	0.00%
ASEAN	Philippines	4	-	-	0.00%
Plus Three	Japan	4	-	-	0.00%
Plus Three	Taiwan	4	-	-	0.00%
Plus Three	South Korea	3	-	-	0.00%
ASEAN	Indonesia	1	-	-	0.00%
Plus Three	Hong Kong (SAR)	1	-	-	0.00%
<b>ASEAN+3 Total</b>		<b>40</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>0.00%</b>

### Top 5 countries with most monkeypox cases globally

Region	Country	Total Cases	New Cases	Deaths	Case Fatality Rate
Americas	USA	21,504	0	2	0.01%
Europe	Spain	6,884	0	2	0.03%
Americas	Brazil	5,726	0	1	0.02%
Europe	France	3,720	0	-	0.00%
Europe	Germany	3,530	0	-	0.00%

### Monkeypox cases per region other than ASEAN+3

REGION	TOTAL CONFIRMED CASES SINCE JANUARY 1, 2022	NEW CASES SINCE THE PREVIOUS REPORT	TOTAL DEATHS	CASE FATALITY RATE
<b>AFRICA*</b>	2,902	0	78	2.65%
<b>AMERICAS</b>	33,375	197	6	0.02%
<b>ASIA PACIFIC</b>	146	0	1	0.68%
<b>EUROPE</b>	23,285	5	3	0.01%
<b>MIDDLE EAST</b>	280	1	-	0.00%
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>59,988</b>	<b>203</b>	<b>88</b>	<b>0.15%</b>

## Global Update

- **USA:** Monkeypox cases have been progressively declining in the United States over the past several weeks, with cases recorded in the first week of September being roughly half as high as they were at their peak one month ago.<sup>10</sup> However, the recent passing of a resident of Los Angeles County—the first in the US to be linked to monkeypox—is a terrible reminder that the epidemic is still active and still poses hazards.<sup>10</sup> [\[Full Article\]](#)

## Regional Update

- **Philippines:** According to a report released by the Department of Health (DOH) on September 13 about two monkeypox patients in the Philippines, their conditions are still improving.<sup>11</sup> Except for one person who is managing one of the current illnesses, all of their close contacts were asymptomatic.<sup>11</sup> The 29-year-old of the two patients, who is the third instance of monkeypox to be reported in the Philippines, is still recovering at home even after the required time of isolation.<sup>11</sup> The 25-year-old victim of the fourth incidence of monkeypox documented is likewise still healing at a facility as she waits for the scabs to come off.<sup>11</sup> [\[Full Article\]](#)

## Research Update

- Two US monkeypox patients developed encephalomyelitis—inflammation of the brain and spinal cord—in the week after symptom onset, one in Colorado and one in Washington, DC, suggesting neurologic complications are a potential outcome of monkeypox infections.<sup>3</sup> The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) on September 13 (Tuesday) reported 91 more monkeypox cases, raising the national total to 21,985.<sup>3</sup> The first case of encephalomyelitis was found in an immunocompetent man in his 30s in Colorado, with no known monkeypox exposure or international travel.<sup>3</sup> According to the authors, 9 days after symptom onset of fever and rash, the patient developed progressive left arm and leg weakness and numbness, urinary retention, and intermittent priapism, and was hospitalized.<sup>3</sup> After the onset of neurologic symptoms, the man was treated with Tpoxx (tecovirimat).<sup>3</sup> Persistent weakness in the left leg lasted longer than 1 month, and the man required an assistive walking device.<sup>3</sup> The patient in Washington, DC, was also an otherwise healthy man in his 30s who similarly had no known monkeypox virus (MPXV) exposure or recent travel.<sup>3</sup> Five days after typical monkeypox symptoms began, he developed bowel and bladder incontinence and progressive flaccid weakness of both legs and was hospitalized.<sup>3</sup> The patient's condition worsened, and he was intubated and admitted to the intensive care unit.<sup>3</sup> He was treated with oral and intravenous Tpoxx, and later rituximab, a monoclonal antibody medication.<sup>3</sup> After 5 weeks he was discharged from the hospital to acute inpatient rehabilitation, walking with an assistive device.<sup>3</sup> According to the authors, the underlying pathology behind this is unclear but might represent either MPXV invasion of the central nervous system or a parainfectious autoimmune process triggered by systemic MPXV infection.<sup>3</sup> [\[Full Text\]](#)



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