

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 625 million cases and over 6 million deaths attributed to COVID-19.
- **New Zealand**: A COVID-19 modeler cautioned on October 4 that New Zealand may see another COVID-19 wave before the year is over. According to a New Zealand Herald story, Prof. Michael Plank of the University of Canterbury urged Kiwis to get boosted if they haven't already. According to Plank, COVID-19 instances and hospitalizations have been rising in European nations including Germany, Denmark, Belgium, and the United Kingdom. He used this as an evidence of an impending pandemic wave. He said that a combination of elements, including decreasing immunity, the new Omicron sub-variants BQ.1.1, a BA.5 descendent, and another sub-type, BA.2.75.2, have the potential to generate another wave in the future. [\[Full Article\]](#)
- **USA**: AstraZeneca's EVUSHELD becomes the first FDA-authorized COVID antibody to protect the immunocompromised before exposure.⁶ U.S. Food and Drug Administration has issued an EUA for the emergency use of the unapproved product EVUSHELD (tixagevimab co-packaged with cilgavimab), SARS-CoV-2 spike protein-directed attachment inhibitor, for the pre-exposure prophylaxis of COVID-19 in adults and pediatric individuals (12 years of age and older weighing at least 40 kg) and who are not currently infected with SARS-CoV-2 or have not had a known recent exposure to an individual infected with SARS-CoV-2.⁶ However, certain SARS-CoV-2 viral variants may not be neutralized by monoclonal antibodies (tixagevimab and cilgavimab), which are components of EVUSHELD.⁶

Regional Update

- **Cambodia**: According to the Prime Minister Samdech Techo Hun Sen, 94.9% of Cambodia's 16 million people have received at least one dosage of the COVID-19 vaccination so far.⁸ The Cambodian Prime Minister claimed the country's strict policies and high vaccination rates had allowed it to successfully contain the epidemic, saving millions of lives.⁸ He was speaking at a graduation ceremony for Vanda Institute students in Phnom Penh.⁸ The health ministry said the same day that no additional COVID-19 deaths had occurred in Cambodia since April since 90.9% of the country's population had received both mandatory doses of the vaccine.⁸ The ministry stated that roughly 63.6% of those vaccinated had had a third dosage, 27% had received a fourth injection, and 5.4% had received a fifth.⁸ [\[Full Article\]](#)
- **Indonesia**: Before Indonesia took action to declare the COVID-19 epidemic finished, President Joko "Jokowi" Widodo instructed Health Minister Budi Gunadi Sadikin to begin consultations with the World Health Organization.⁹ President Jokowi instructed Budi to ask if Indonesia could quickly take action to relax some of the COVID-19 limitations in accordance with the directives given by the international organization.⁹ [\[Full Article\]](#)
- **Laos**: Even if the number of daily new infections has greatly decreased, the Lao Ministry of Health is asking Laotians to maintain adhering to COVID-19 control measures.¹⁰ Since the COVID-19 epidemic began in early 2020, the number of new illnesses recorded in a day in Laos has decreased to a single figure.¹⁰ Only four new instances were recorded on October 3.¹⁰ At a press conference in Vientiane on October 3, Phonepaseuth Ounaphom, director general of the Department of Hygiene and Health Promotion under the Lao Ministry of Health, said that this decline did not indicate that the virus had



vanished and that all practices for COVID-19 prevention and control should continue.¹⁰
[\[Full Article\]](#)

Vaccine Update

- **Philippines:** According to the Department of Health (DOH), 19.7 million Filipinos nationwide have gotten their COVID booster doses. By October 8, the 100th day of the Marcos administration, the DOH had set a boosters target of 30%, or 23.4 million, of the 78 million eligible people. Since the PinasLakas immunization campaign was introduced in July, Vergeire said that 3.2 million people have gotten booster doses. More than 42,000 seniors or members of the A2 category, according to her, have also received vaccinations. By October 8, the PinasLakas campaign hopes to reach 90% of elderly citizens for their primary series and 50% of those who are eligible for their first booster doses. [\[Full Article\]](#)

Research Update

- A new nationwide US-based study on data collected from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention's (CDC's) VISION Network shows mRNA boosters extend protection against moderate and severe disease for 4 to 5 months.⁷ The study **Waning of vaccine effectiveness against moderate and severe covid-19 among adults in the US from the VISION network: test negative, case-control study** is based on more than 893,000 adults in 10 states followed for 18 months.⁷ The authors used hospital admission as the metric for severe disease, comparing positive COVID-19 hospitalized patients to case controls who tested negative for COVID-19.⁷ Hospital admissions from January 17, 2021 to July 12, 2022 were included in the study.⁷ During the Omicron period, vaccine effectiveness against COVID-19 requiring admission to hospital was 89% within 2 months after dose 3 but waned to 66% by 4 to 5 months.⁷ Vaccine effectiveness of three doses against the emergency department or urgent care visits was 83% initially but waned to 46% by 4 to 5 months.⁷ Waning was also most evident in immunosuppressed individuals.⁷ According to the authors, during the omicron period, vaccine effectiveness waned within six months of the third dose by about 20% among those without immunocompromising conditions and by more than 40% among those with immunocompromising conditions.⁷ [\[Full Article\]](#)



Cases and Deaths as of 05 October 2022

- As of 05 October 2022 (2PM, GMT+8), worldwide, there were **625,093,761** confirmed cases, including **6,563,522** deaths. Globally, Case Fatality Rate (CFR) was **1.1%**.
- 89,195,958 confirmed cases** of COVID-19 have been reported in the **ASEAN +3** countries including **34,523,894 cases** in the ASEAN region and **54,672,064 cases** in the PLUS THREE countries.
- The Case Fatality Rate in the **ASEAN +3** region is range between **0.1 to 3.1%**.
- 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	04-Oct-22	227,756	-	225	-	52,565	449,769	444,757	335,738	99.9
	Cambodia	27 Jan 20	04-Oct-22	137,897	4	3,056	-	836	15,186,867	14,535,925	10,131,597	87.6
	Indonesia	02 Mar 20	04-Oct-22	6,437,750	2,031	158,156	13	2,379	204,114,735	170,706,806	63,046,128	62.4
	Lao PDR	24 Mar 20	04-Oct-22	215,909	29	758	-	3,012	5,888,649	5,222,417		70.3
	Malaysia	25 Jan 20	04-Oct-22	4,846,592	1,483	36,385	5	15,169	28,103,056	27,510,584	16,744,677	81.9
	Myanmar	23 Mar 20	04-Oct-22	622,802	-	19,458	-	1,152	34,777,314	27,545,329	2,227,351	51.2
	Philippines	30 Jan 20	04-Oct-22	3,957,112	1,354	63,078	36	3,660	77,470,954	72,853,661	18,779,611	64.0
	Singapore	23 Jan 20	04-Oct-22	1,913,610	2,713	1,622	2	33,551	5,161,367	5,120,432	4,413,636	93.9
	Thailand	13 Jan 20	04-Oct-22	4,682,132	-	32,771	-	6,725	57,005,497	53,486,086	32,143,431	74.7
	Vietnam	23 Jan 20	04-Oct-22	11,482,334	1,020	43,151	2	11,903	89,880,152	84,072,281	69,805,302	86.3
	ASEAN COUNTRIES			34,523,894	8,634	358,660	58	130,953	518,038,360	461,498,278	217,627,471	
ASEAN PLUS THREE	South Korea	20-Jan-20	04-Oct-22	24,848,184	16,423	28,528	19	48,054	45,114,280	44,680,143	41,059,463	86.2
	Japan	16-Jan-20	04-Oct-22	21,161,401	-	44,576	-	16,760	104,222,723	102,856,921	117,513,862	82.5
	China	31-Dec-19	04-Oct-22	8,662,479	53,119	26,648	39	52,121	1,331,997,131	1,299,068,619	833,135,221	87.8
	PLUS THREE COUNTRIES			54,672,064	69,542	99,752	58	116,934	1,481,334,134	1,446,605,683	991,708,546	
ASEAN +3				89,195,958	78,176	458,412	116	247,887	1,999,372,494	1,908,103,961	1,209,336,017	

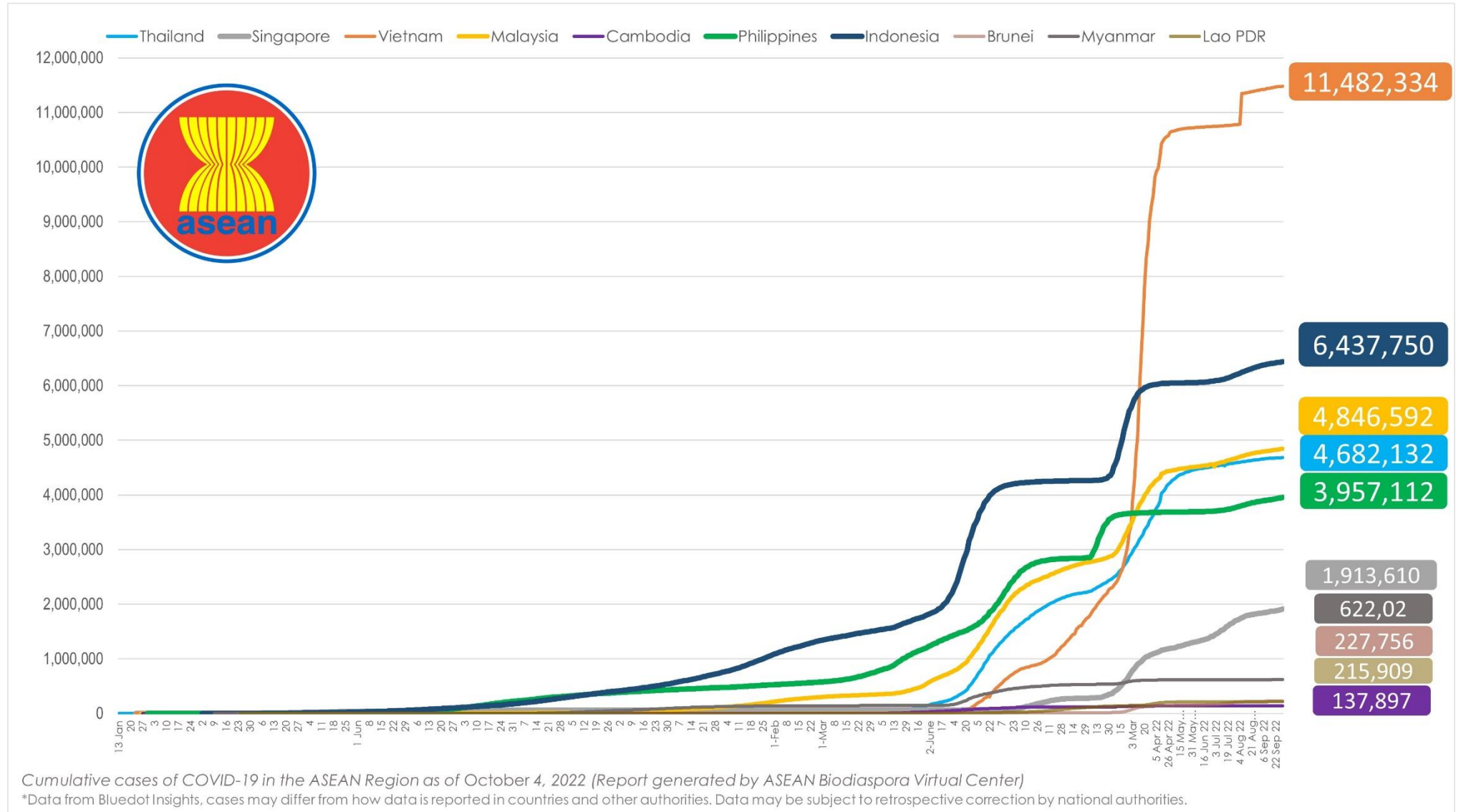
- 535,897,803 confirmed cases** of COVID-19 have been reported in **5 continents** (other than ASEAN +3 countries):

CONTINENT	TOTAL CONFIRMED CASES	NEW CASES	TOTAL DEATHS	NEW DEATHS	CUMULATIVE CASES/ 100,000	CUMULATIVE VACCINATED	CUMULATIVE FULLY VACCINATED	CUMULATIVE BOOSTERED
AFRICA	12,908,089	841	258,606	1	241,438	402,699,516	319,035,300	49,081,685
AMERICAS	181,596,767	13,738	2,875,597	152	1,180,620	824,437,300	722,586,691	475,379,416
ASIA PACIFIC	85,404,054	2,384	750,280	16	474,068	1,444,670,901	1,335,751,812	384,222,374
EUROPE	233,538,024	255,619	1,982,547	432	2,000,724	565,803,497	536,618,507	356,013,881
MIDDLE EAST	22,450,869	3,627	238,080	18	211,490	144,017,582	129,366,127	59,340,428
TOTAL	535,897,803	276,209	6,105,110	619	4,108,340	3,381,628,796	3,043,358,437	1,324,037,784



COVID-19 Epi curve among ASEAN Countries:

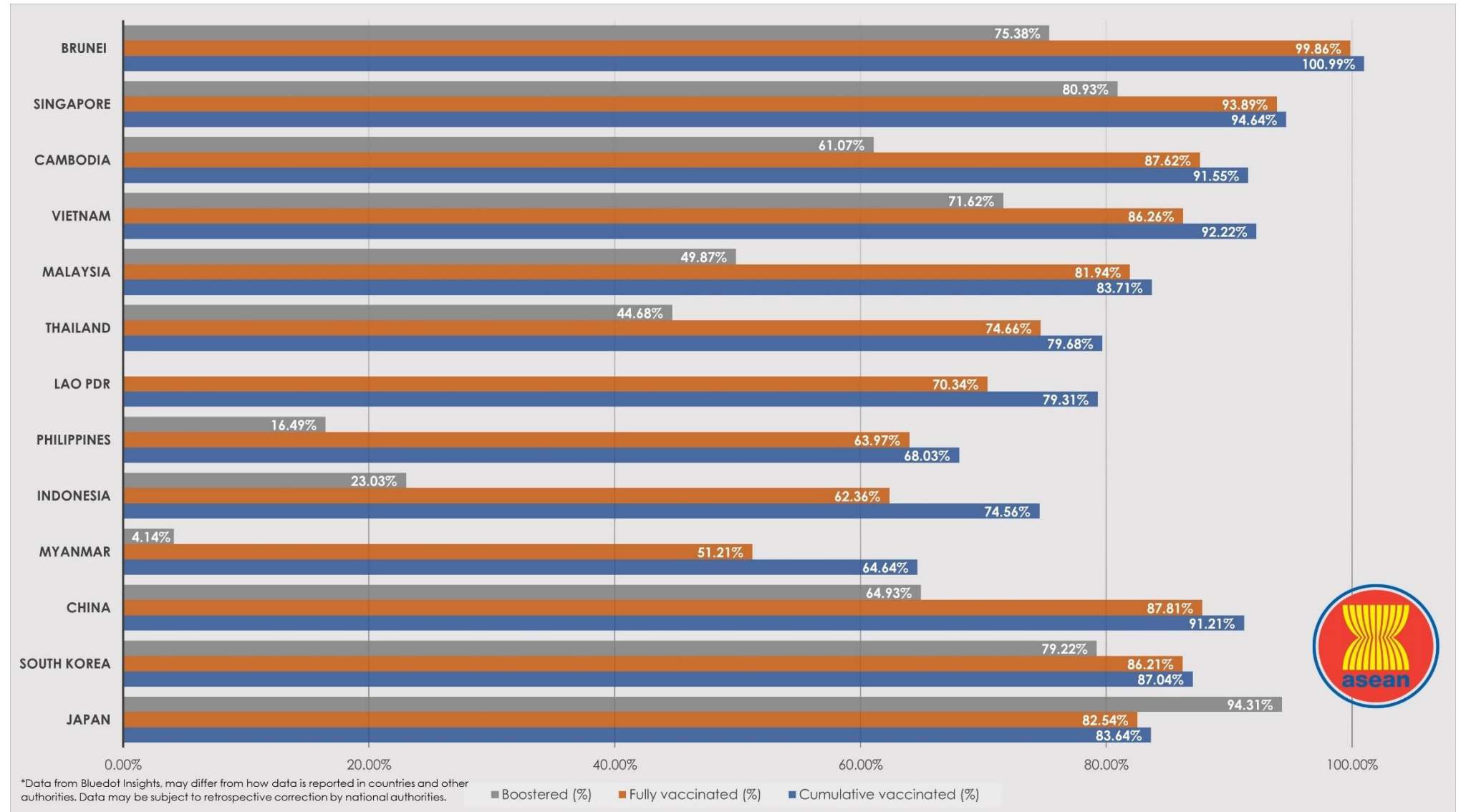
From January 1, 2021 to October 4, 2022





COVID-19 Vaccination Status

as of 04 October 2022





COVID-19 Outlook Assessment

as of 02 October 2022

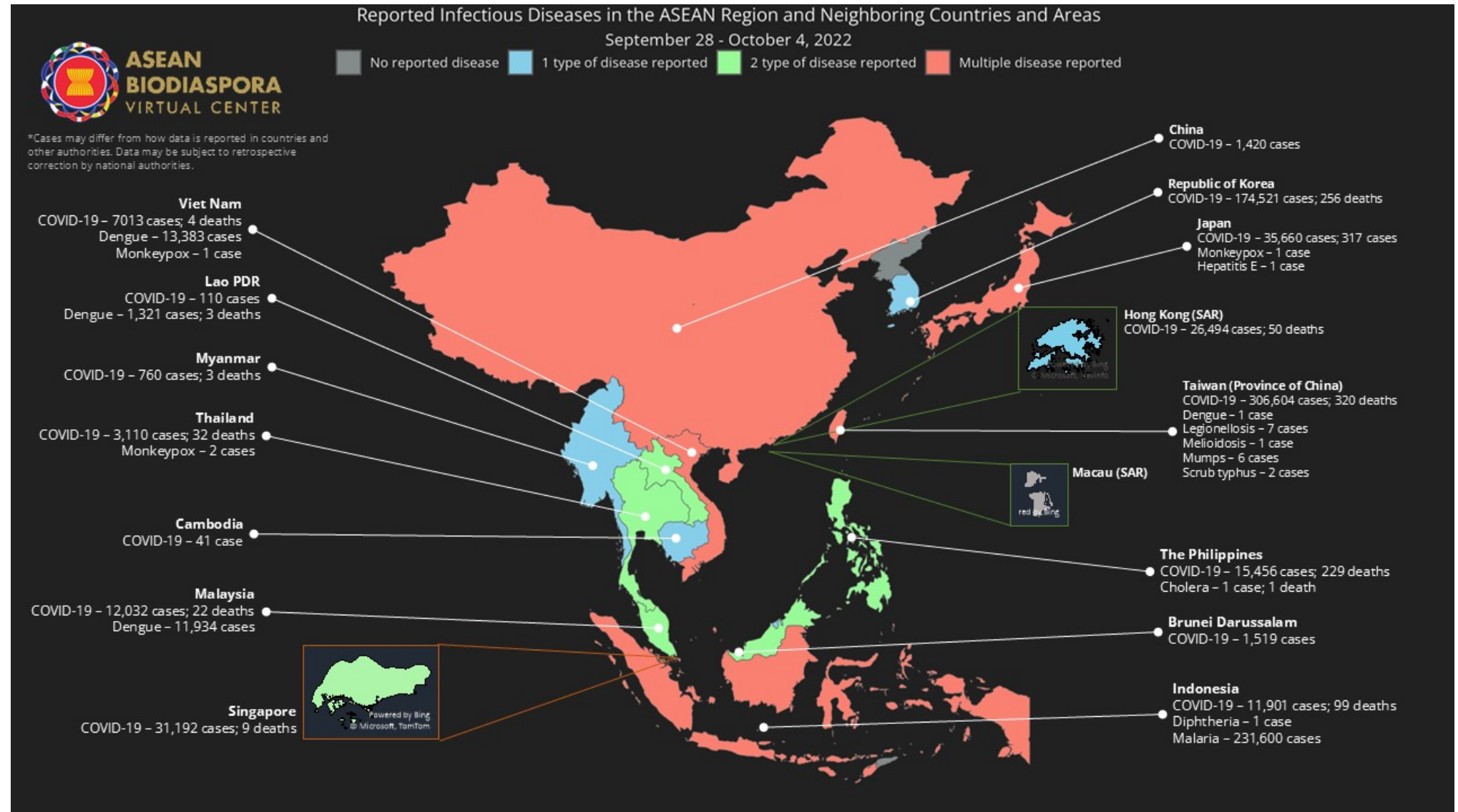
 ASEAN MEMBER STATE	At least 65% of the total population has a level of immunity to COVID-19; either recovered from COVID-19 or have been vaccinated with at least one dose of a COVID-19 vaccine.		Case levels are generally low (a 7-day rolling average number of daily new cases that is <10 cases per 100,000, with each day's past-14-day test positivity is consistently <5%).		Government Policy on containment and health (strictness and comprehensiveness in COVID-19 related government policies)
	% 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	≥90.0/75.4	Unknown	50.08	Unknown	31.0/100
Cambodia	≥90.0/61.1	Unknown	0.04	Unknown	31.5/100
Indonesia	65.4/23.0	Unknown	0.62	Unknown	54.2/100
Lao PDR	77.3/ND	Unknown	0.26	Unknown	61.6/100
Malaysia	84.4/49.9	0.01%/day	5.41	Unknown	51.8/100
Myanmar	52.1/4.1	Unknown	0.30	Unknown	69.1/100
Philippines	70.5/16.5	Unknown	2.07	Unknown	55.4/100
Singapore	≥90.0/80.9	0%/day	57.45	Unknown	58.9/100
Thailand	77.7/44.9	0%/day	0.71	Unknown	31.5/100
Vietnam	≥90.0/71.6	Unknown	1.12	Unknown	43.5/100
Japan	81.3/≥94.1	0%/day	5.44	Unknown	42.9/100
South Korea	86.5/79.2	0%/day	54.55	Unknown	38.1/100
China	≥90.0/56.5	Unknown	0.015	Unknown	84.5/100

All of the countries have achieved the estimated high-risk population fully vaccinated of ≥90.0% except China with 35.3%.
All of the countries have achieved the Population vaccinated/ day (7-day average) except Vietnam



Infectious Diseases in ASEAN+3 Region

From September 28-October 4, 2022





Infectious Diseases Other than COVID-19 and Monkeypox

September 28-October 4, 2022

Infectious Disease ASEAN+3 Updates

Dengue

- **Malaysia:** 30 September 2022 (Antara) The Ministry of Health of Malaysia recorded 1533 cases of dengue hemorrhagic fever in the country, reports Antara. The Ministry of Health of Malaysia mentioned an increase in the number of cases of dengue infection by 170, which is 12.5% more compared to the previous week. "For the 38th epidemiological week of 2022, not a single death from dengue fever was registered," the Malaysian Ministry of Health noted. At the moment, 42,084 cases of dengue fever have been reported in Malaysia, which is 22,661 cases more compared to 2021.
- **Vietnam:** 30 September 2022 (Outbreak News Today) To date, Vietnam's health authorities report 224,771 total cases of dengue, including 92 deaths across the country since the beginning of the year. This is an increase of 13,383 cases and five deaths reported in the past 10 days. Compared to the same period in 2021, the number of cases and deaths has increased. The Southern, Central and Central Highlands regions continued to record a high number of cases and deaths. The northern region of Hanoi has seen an increase in the number of cases and there have been deaths.
- **Laos:** 03 October 2022 (Xinhua) The dengue virus has killed 21 people and infected 26,867 across Laos so far this year, according to the country's Ministry of Health. In the last 24 hours, another patient died in Attapeu province while 41 new infections were reported, according to a report issued by the Center of Information and Education for Health under the Lao Ministry of Health on October 3. The highest number of dengue patients was reported in the Lao capital Vientiane at 13,544, while 3,855 cases were detected in Luang Namtha province, and 1,500 cases were recorded in Attapeu province. The 21 deaths included six in Attapeu, five in Vientiane, three each in Luang Namtha and Saravan, two in Xieng Khuang, and one each in Sekong and Oudomxay province. The Lao Ministry of Health has launched an anti-dengue campaign including raising public awareness in response to the alarmingly high number of cases in the country. The ministry also suggested five simple measures as the most effective method of dengue control, which are being practiced by households across the region. These measures consist of closing and sealing all unused containers, flushing out all water vessels, placing small guppy fish in water jars as they eat mosquito larvae, cleaning areas around homes, and remembering to do these four tasks each week. According to the World Health Organization, dengue fever is a mosquito-borne viral disease, with Thailand, Vietnam, the Philippines and Singapore also seeing high incidence. The number of cases in the Western Pacific Region has more than doubled over the past 10 years.

Cholera

- **Philippines:** 28 September 2022 (The Visayan Daily Star) Provincial Health Officer Dr. Ernell Tumimbang yesterday recommended the declaration of a cholera outbreak in three more Negros Occidental barangays, as the number of its victims rose to five, including one fatality. A cholera outbreak was declared by Mayor Joedith Gallego on September 26 in Brgy. Guinhalaran, Silay City, Negros Occidental, following the death of an 88-year-old resident, who tested positive for cholera, based on the result of a laboratory examination. Tumimbang also disclosed that two other residents of barangays Guinhalaran and Lantad in Silay City, one each in Brgy. Batea, EB Magalona and Brgy. 6A in Victorias City, all in Negros Occidental, were also hit with cholera. According to



the Department of Health, it takes only one case of cholera for an outbreak to be declared in a certain area.

Diphtheria

- Indonesia:** 01 October 2022 (Liputan6.com) - The head of the Banyuwangi Health Office, Amir Hidayat, confirmed that a 12-year-old child in Banyuwangi was detected to have diphtheria. "The child is currently studying at one of the Islamic boarding schools in Banyuwangi. He was declared positive for diphtheria," he said, Friday (30/9/2022). Although only one child was detected, Banyuwangi was included in the category of extraordinary events (KLB) of diphtheria disease. "Because it is an extraordinary event, it is based on the protap of all students and administrators of islamic boarding schools, as well as families who are in close contact with sufferers without exception will be vaccinated against diphtheria," he said. Based on the results of tracing the history of children infected with diphtheria, they have never been vaccinated or immunized with diphtheria. So that this child whose identity is kept secret is more susceptible to diphtheria. "As a result of the officer's search, it turned out that this child had never been immunized with diphtheria before, so he was more vulnerable to infection," said Amir. According to Amir, the diphtheria vaccination will be carried out once a month for three months. This protap must be done as a preventive measure so that the number of diphtheria cases in Banyuwangi does not increase.

Malaria

- Indonesia:** 03 October 2022 (REPUBLIKA.CO.ID) The Director General of Disease Prevention and Control (P2P) of the Indonesian Ministry of Health, Maxi Rein Rondonuwu, said that currently Papua Province is the largest contributor to malaria cases in Indonesia. "Current data, Papua Province is the largest contributor to Malaria cases at 81 percent nationally," said Maxi, Monday (3/10/2022). Efforts to accelerate the decline in the rate of malaria cases in Papua, continued Maxi, could not be carried out with ordinary routine activities. According to him, there must be an extraordinary movement. "Starting from finding cases by cadres, including in schools and communities," he said. One of them is the National Malaria Eradication Month Movement and Gebrak Siamal (Malaria Alert) which involves all elements of society from the local government level, the community, to cadres in primary health care facilities. All cadres are tasked with guiding the prevention of malaria by cleaning mosquito breeding places in all residential areas. In addition, the Ministry of Health has also initiated the Stop Open Defecation Movement in all Papua districts. "Sanitation greatly affects the prevention of Malaria," he said. As for areas where there are still a lot of Anopheles mosquitoes, the Ministry of Health distributes insecticide-treated mosquito nets. It is targeted that malaria will be eliminated by 2030. "The target of eliminating Malaria nationally is in 2030, but specifically in Papua, we will accelerate in 2027 to achieve elimination and stop defecation completely," he said.

Rat Hepatitis E

- Japan:** 04 October 2022 (Yomiuri Shimbun) The Tokyo metropolitan government announced on the 4th that one new person was confirmed to be infected with "monkeypox," an infectious disease similar to smallpox. This is the sixth confirmed case of infection in Japan. According to the announcement, the person who was infected was a man in his 30s living in Tokyo who had symptoms such as a rash. He remains in the hospital but is in stable condition. The man has no recent overseas travel history, and the metropolitan government is investigating the source of infection and contacts. At this time, the spread of infection to the surrounding area has not been confirmed.



Dengue Cases in ASEAN Region

From January 1, 2022 to October 4, 2022



Dengue cases in ASEAN region

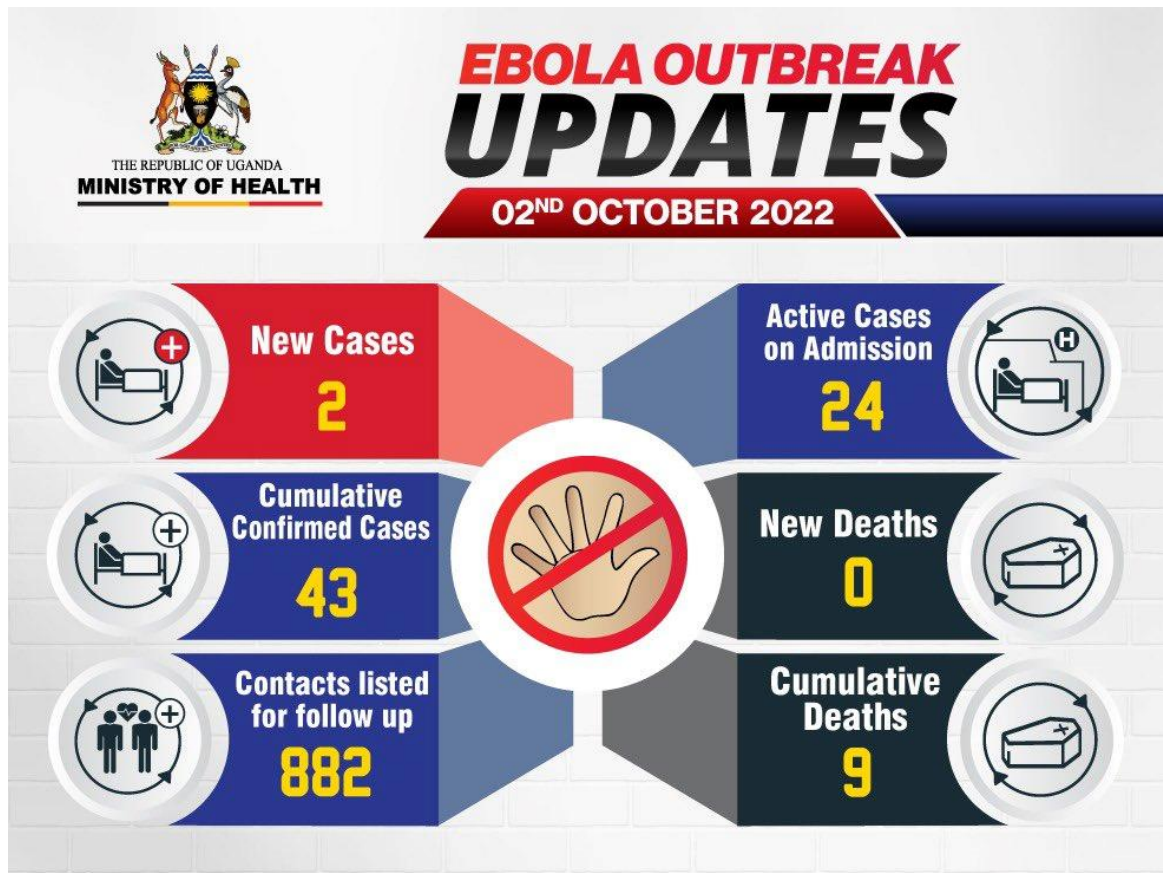
Country	Dengue Cases	New Cases in the Past Week	Deaths	Case Fatality Rate
Vietnam	224,771	13,383	92	0.04%
Philippines	145,341	-	461	0.32%
Indonesia	87,501	-	816	0.93%
Malaysia	42,084	11,934	13	0.03%
Singapore	27,837	1,063	-	0.00%
Laos	26,867	1,321	21	0.08%
Thailand	17,412	-	14	0.08%
Myanmar	7,835	-	31	0.40%
Cambodia	2,869	-	7	0.24%
Brunei	-	-	-	-
Total	582,517	27,701	1,455	0.25%

*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.

Special Report on Notable Diseases

Ebola Disease Outbreak

Sudan Ebolavirus in Uganda



Source: [Uganda Ministry of Health Twitter](#)

Uganda Ministry of Health reports, on October 2 on their official Twitter account, two new cases of Sudan Ebolavirus, now a total 43 confirmed cases, 24 are admitted in the hospital, 9 total deaths, and currently contact tracing 882 close contacts.

The first healthcare professional to pass away from the illness in the most recent epidemic in the nation was a Tanzanian doctor who was employed in Uganda, according to the health minister of Uganda on October 1.^{1,2} Ali, according to Jane Ruth Aceng, died while being treated at a hospital in Fort Portal, a town about 300 kilometers to the west of Kampala, after testing positive for Ebola on September 26.¹ Six healthcare professionals, including physicians, an anesthesiologist, and a medical student have the illness, including Ali.¹ Ali is the second medical professional to pass away in the outbreak.² The second is a St. Florence Clinic midwife who is categorized as a potential case.² Before being examined, the woman passed away.² [\[Full Article¹\]](#)

It has been more than ten years since Uganda last had an epidemic of the more uncommon and somewhat less deadly Ebola strain.² (However, the World Health Organization reports that it is still a particularly lethal strain, with case-fatality rates ranging from 41% to 100%.²)



Global health experts have worried that a sharp increase in cases or an extension to other locations, including Kampala, might overwhelm the country's healthcare system even though Uganda has a high capability for managing Ebola epidemics.² [\[Full Article²\]](#)

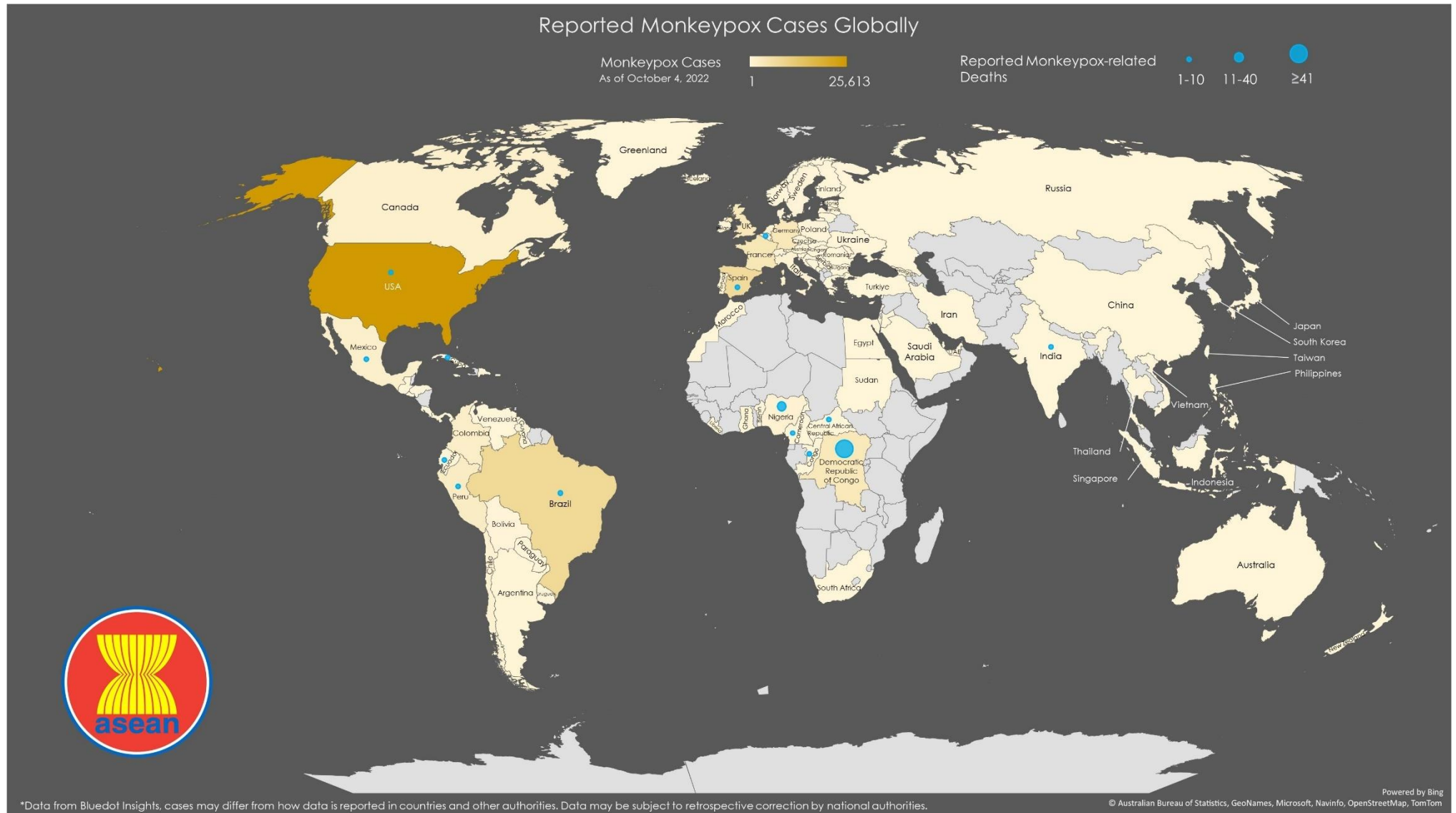
BlueDot Assessment: High concern to the local region; low or unlikely risk of importation to ASEAN region

The second week after the epidemic was reported, the Ebolavirus illness outbreak has been expanding. In the first 10 days after the epidemic was notified, cases and fatalities increased from one case and one death verified on September 20 to 50 cases (31 confirmed and 19 probable) and 24 deaths (6 confirmed and 18 probable). The three afflicted areas (Mubende, Kassanda, and Kyegegwa) have continued to report cases and fatalities, despite the fact that investigations into instances under investigation reported in the capital city of Kampala were unsuccessful. Over 400 close contacts have been found thus far, and a case was confirmed in the Kagadi area on September 29. (80Km east of Kyegegwa and 110Km east of Mubende). In addition, unconfirmed reports of probable cases in neighboring nations (Kenya and South Sudan) are prompting questions about the exact scope of the outbreak.



Monkeypox Cases Reported Globally

as of October 4, 2022





Monkeypox: Highlights and Situation Overview

- As of 05 October 2022 (2PM, GMT+8), worldwide, there were **72,608** confirmed cases, including **173** deaths. Globally, Case Fatality Rate (CFR) was **0.24%**.
- 54 confirmed cases** of Monkeypox have been reported in the **ASEAN+3** region composed of **35 cases** in the ASEAN region and **19 cases** in the PLUS THREE countries, with CFR of **0%**.
- 72,554 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	19	-	-	0.00%
ASEAN	Thailand	10	-	-	0.00%
Plus Three	Japan	6	1	-	0.00%
Plus Three	China	5	-	-	0.00%
ASEAN	Philippines	4	-	-	0.00%
Plus Three	Taiwan (Province of China)	4	-	-	0.00%
Plus Three	South Korea	3	-	-	0.00%
ASEAN	Indonesia	1	-	-	0.00%
ASEAN	Vietnam	1	1	-	0.00%
Plus Three	Hong Kong (SAR)	1	-	-	0.00%
ASEAN+3 Total		54	2	-	0.00%

Top 5 countries with most monkeypox cases globally

Region	Country	Total Cases	New Cases	Deaths	Case Fatality Rate
Americas	USA	25,613	104	2	0.01%
Americas	Brazil	7,534	89	2	0.03%
Europe	Spain	7,188	39	3	0.04%
Europe	France	3,970	0	-	0.00%
Europe	United Kingdom	3,635	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
AFRICA	4,780	0	159	3.33%
AMERICAS	42,825	312	8	0.02%
ASIA PACIFIC	164	0	1	0.61%
EUROPE	24,491	45	5	0.02%
MIDDLE EAST	294	0	-	0.00%
TOTAL	72,554	457	173	0.24%



Global Update

- **UK:** It has been claimed that the Health Secretary prevented the purchase of extra monkeypox vaccines for future emergencies even though the number of cases in the nation is still declining. Thérèse Coffey had been advised by the UK Health Security Agency, the agency in charge of preventing infectious illnesses, to obtain 70,000 doses of the vaccine in case of future outbreaks.⁵ According to The Financial Times, she decided to disregard the advice since it did not offer excellent "value for money," which left UKHSA officials "shocked."⁵ The World Health Organization (WHO) has classified the illness as a "public health emergency of worldwide significance" on par with Ebola, and the magazine further stated that people familiar with the matter fear this might put the UK at risk in the future.⁵ [\[Full Article\]](#)

Regional Update

- **Vietnam:** The first incidence of monkeypox in Vietnam was reported by the Ministry of Health on October 3.⁴ The 35-year-old sufferer is a Ho Chi Minh City resident.⁴ She had symptoms of a fever, exhaustion, chills, muscular pains, headache, cough, and red, itchy rashes on her arms, torso, and face on September 18 while vacationing in Dubai.⁴ On September 22, she left for Vietnam once more.⁴ She was admitted to the city's Tu Du Hospital on September 23 before being moved to the local Hospital of Dermato Venereology, where she was kept sedated.⁴ Given the rising number of cases throughout the world, the ministry has urgently dispatched information on monkeypox preventative measures to authorities in provinces and cities under central administration.⁴ Localities have been asked to increase monitoring of potential transmissions at border gates and health clinics, hold training sessions for health staff, and ensure infection prevention and control at testing and medical facilities in accordance with the Prime Minister's recent dispatch and the ministry's directives.⁴ [\[Full Article\]](#)
- **Japan:** The Tokyo metropolitan government announced on the 4th that one new person was confirmed to be infected with "monkeypox," an infectious disease similar to smallpox. This is the sixth confirmed case of infection in Japan. According to the announcement, the infected person was a man in his 30s living in Tokyo who had symptoms such as a rash. He remains in the hospital but is in stable condition. The man has no recent overseas travel history, and the metropolitan government is investigating the source of infection and contacts. At this time, the spread of infection to the surrounding area has not been confirmed.

Vaccine Update

- **Canada:** The province of Manitoba stated on October 4 that the eligibility for the monkeypox vaccination is being expanded.³ The province is following the National Advisory Committee on Immunization's most current recommendations.³ The eligibility criteria apply to those who self-identify as cisgender, transgender, or two-spirit individuals and who self-identify as members of the gay, bisexual, and other men who have sex with men (gbMSM) community and who have: (1) had a sexually transmitted infection diagnosed within the past year; (2) had two or more sexual partners within the past 90 days; (3) have visited or want to visit places where people can engage in sexual activity, such as bathhouses or sex clubs.³



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