



COVID-19, Mpox, and Other Infectious Diseases

# Situational Report in the ASEAN Region

— ASEAN BioDiaspora Virtual Center (ABVC)

December 21, 2022 | Issue No. 429



## ASSOCIATION OF SOUTHEAST ASIAN NATIONS



## ASEAN BIODIASPORA VIRTUAL CENTER (ABVC)



## GLOBAL PARTNERS





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## COVID-19: Highlights and Situation Overview

### Global Update

- **Worldwide**, there have been over 649 million cases and over 6 million deaths attributed to COVID-19.
- **UK:** NHS England revealed that over 700,000 calls were made to NHS 111 in the preceding week (5 to 11 December), a 60% increase over the previous week (rising from 440,047 to 706,129).<sup>1</sup> Except for two weeks during the start of the COVID-19 pandemic, this is the largest number ever recorded (March 2020).<sup>1</sup> At the same time, the number of people testing positive for COVID-19 in England climbed by 17% in the seven days leading up to and including December 10 to 27,830.<sup>1</sup> In the seven days leading up to and including December 12, hospital admissions for COVID-19 increased by 28% to 5,250.<sup>1</sup> Commenting on the winter pressures, NHS national medical director Stephen Powis said, "This huge increase in calls to NHS 111 is understandable, with concerns about winter viruses, but it is more important than ever that the public uses 111 online where possible to get important information about non-emergency health conditions and to be signposted to the best possible care."<sup>1</sup> Earlier this week, up to 100,000 nursing personnel throughout the UK went on strike in the first of two planned days.<sup>1</sup> This happened after the government refused to compromise on wage demands, claiming that doing so would entail "taking money away from frontline services" and that it had already accepted the NHS Salary Review Body's suggested pay increase.<sup>1</sup> A second strike is planned for December 20, but the Royal College of Nursing warned that unless the government engages in official pay negotiations, the action might last until 2023.<sup>1</sup> [\[Full Article\]](#)
- **India's** government has requested all states to step up surveillance for any new variants of the COVID-19, citing an increase in COVID-19 cases in other countries. According to India's Health Secretary on December 20 (Tuesday), it is crucial to gear up the whole genome sequencing of positive case samples as an increase of cases being reported in Japan, the United States of America, Republic of Korea, Brazil and China. India has reported the most COVID-19 cases globally, after the United States, but its daily number of confirmed cases has fallen sharply in the past few months. The government also requested that all states must ensure that samples of all positive cases are sent to the 54 designated genome sequencing laboratories.

### Regional Update

- **Brunei:** COVID-19 instances in the country continued to decline last week, with an average of 332 cases per day last week, down from 434 the previous week.<sup>10</sup> Last week, 38,422 antigen rapid tests (ART) results were uploaded to the BruHealth app, with 6.4% testing positive for the virus.<sup>10</sup> The figures were disclosed at a press conference by Minister at the Prime Minister's Office Pehin Datu Lailaraja Major General (Rtd) Dato Paduka Seri Awang Halbi Mohd Yussof in his capacity as acting Minister of Health.<sup>10</sup> [\[Full Article\]](#)
- **Thailand:** Thailand's Public Health Minister, Anutin Charnvirakul, is sure that COVID-19 infections would be kept under control during the New Year's celebrations since the Public Health Ministry is properly equipped with staff and medical materials to deal with the problem.<sup>12</sup> He did, however, express concern for persons over the age of 60 who had renal, heart, or cancer conditions, stating that it is critical that they get vaccinated or are fully vaccinated to lower the chance of severe symptoms.<sup>12</sup> He stated that everyone should obtain at least four doses of vaccine, which will improve their ability to prevent serious disease if infected, and that he has lately been notified that more individuals are showing up for inoculation.<sup>12</sup>



## Research Update (Published and peer-reviewed studies)

- Health crises have a disproportionate impact on communities that are marginalized by systems of oppression such as racism and capitalism.<sup>2</sup> Benefits of advances such as in the prevention and treatment of HIV disease are unequally distributed.<sup>2</sup> Intersecting factors including poverty, homophobia, homelessness, racism, and mass incarceration expose marginalized populations to greater risks while limiting access to resources that buffer these risks.<sup>2</sup> Similar patterns have emerged with COVID-19.<sup>2</sup> This publication, **Health Justice: A Framework for Mitigating the Impacts of HIV and COVID-19 on Disproportionately Affected Communities**, identified comparable pitfalls in our responses to HIV and COVID-19.<sup>2</sup> The authors introduced health justice as a framework for mitigating the long-term impact of the HIV epidemic and COVID-19 pandemic.<sup>2</sup> The health justice framework considers the central role of power in the health and liberation of communities hit hardest by legacies of marginalization.<sup>2</sup> They offered 5 recommendations grounded in health justice: (1) redistribute resources, (2) enforce mandates that redistribute power, (3) enact legislation that guarantees support for people with long haul COVID-19, (4) center experiences of the most impacted communities in policy development, and (5) evaluate multidimensional effects of policies across systems.<sup>2</sup> Successful implementation of these recommendations requires community organizing and collective action.<sup>2</sup> [\[Full Article\]](#)
- In the face of a long-running pandemic, understanding the drivers of ongoing SARS-CoV-2 transmission is crucial for the rational management of COVID-19 disease burden.<sup>3</sup> Keeping schools open has emerged as a vital societal imperative during the pandemic, but in-school transmission of SARS-CoV-2 can contribute to further prolonging the pandemic.<sup>3</sup> This study, **No magic bullet: Limiting in-school transmission in the face of variable SARS-CoV-2 viral loads**, investigated the effectiveness of layered mitigation strategies on limiting in-school spread.<sup>3</sup> The authors examined the effect of masks and air quality (ventilation, filtration and ionizers) on steady-state viral load in classrooms, as well as on the number of particles inhaled by an uninfected person.<sup>3</sup> The effectiveness of these measures in limiting viral transmission was assessed for variants with different levels of mean viral load (ancestral, Delta, Omicron).<sup>3</sup> It was observed that a layered mitigation strategy can be used effectively to limit in-school transmission, with certain limitations.<sup>3</sup> First, poorly designed strategies (insufficient ventilation, no masks, staying open under high levels of community transmission) will permit in-school spread even if some level of mitigation is present.<sup>3</sup> Second, for viral variants that are sufficiently contagious, it may be difficult to construct any set of interventions capable of blocking transmission once an infected individual is present, underscoring the importance of other measures.<sup>3</sup> the use of a layered mitigation strategy that is designed to limit transmission, with other measures such as frequent surveillance testing and smaller class sizes (such as by offering remote schooling options to those who prefer it) as needed.<sup>3</sup> [\[Full Text\]](#)
- The study **Effectiveness of mRNA-1273, BNT162b2, and BBIBP-CorV vaccines against infection and mortality in children in Argentina, during predominance of delta and omicron covid-19 variants: test negative, a case-control study** found that the estimated effectiveness of two COVID-19 vaccine doses was 61% among children and 67% among adolescents in Argentina during Delta variant predominance and 16% and 26%, respectively, during the Omicron period.<sup>7</sup> The researchers collected data from two national registries on 139,321 infected children (ages 3 to 11 years) and adolescents (ages 12 to 17) and matched, uninfected controls, all of whom underwent polymerase chain reaction (PCR) or rapid antigen testing from September 2021 to April 2022.<sup>7</sup> The overall estimated vaccine effectiveness (VE) against death during both periods was 89% among the entire 3- to 17-year-old group.<sup>7</sup> When considering only the Omicron wave, VE against death was 67% in children and 98% in adolescents.<sup>7</sup> Meanwhile, estimated



VE against COVID-19 infection was 61.2% in children and 66.8% in adolescents during the period dominated by the Delta variant and 15.9% and 26.0% during Omicron.<sup>7</sup> VE fell over time, especially amid Omicron, from 37.6% at 15 to 30 days after vaccination to 2.0% after 60 or more days in children and from 55.8% to 12.4% in adolescents.<sup>7</sup> Protection against infection was lower and dropped more quickly among the Sinopharm-vaccinated children (from 37.6% to 2%) than among adolescents vaccinated with the Moderna or Pfizer vaccines (from 55.8% to 12.4%).<sup>7</sup> [\[Full Text\]](#)

- The study **SARS-CoV-2 Infection, Hospitalization, and Death in Vaccinated and Infected Individuals by Age Groups in Indiana, 2021–2022** accomplished one of the first large studies to compare deaths, hospitalizations, and emergency department (ED) visits among COVID-19 vaccine recipients versus those who were infected shows the vaccines were more effective in preventing negative outcomes, especially for adults aged 60 years and older.<sup>8</sup> The all-cause death and hospital admission rates for vaccinated individuals were both 37% lower than the rates for those who were previously infected. The rate of ED visits for all causes was 24% lower for vaccinated individuals than for the previously infected.<sup>8</sup> Vaccinated children, especially, saw more infections at the 6-month follow-up than those with infections.<sup>8</sup> But rates of ED visits, hospitalizations, and deaths were significantly lower for vaccinated children.<sup>8</sup> For children and adolescents ages 12 to 20, the cumulative incidence rates of infection were, respectively, 8.1% and 5.2% for the vaccinated and previously infected, the same trend continued for adults ages 20 to 39, 40 to 59, and 60 to 79 years.<sup>8</sup> According to the researchers, the findings of this study highlight the real-world benefits of vaccination and alleviate the health consequences of SARS-CoV-2 after the initial exposure.<sup>8</sup> [\[Full Text\]](#)

### Travel Update

- **Philippines:** According to an infectious disease expert, the Philippines does not need to strengthen its border restrictions for tourists again because of the current COVID-19 outbreak in China, which occurred on December 21.<sup>11</sup> Dr. Rontgene Solante stated on Dobol B TV that one of the reasons COVID-19 infections are resurfacing in China is that many of their senior population has not yet been adequately vaccinated and boosted against the virus.<sup>11</sup> He did, however, warn out that the more transmissible Omicron subvariants that are now circulating in China, such as the BA.5, BQ.1, and XBB, had previously been found in the Philippines.<sup>11</sup> [\[Full Article\]](#)





## Cases and Deaths as of 21 December 2022

- As of 21 December 2022 (2PM, GMT+8), worldwide, there were **649,727,002** confirmed cases, including **6,675,815** deaths. Globally, Case Fatality Rate (CFR) was **1.2%**.
- 35,468,620 confirmed cases** of COVID-19 have been reported in the **ASEAN Region**.
- The Case Fatality Rate in the **ASEAN Region** is range between **0.1 to 3.1%**

### COVID-19 cases in 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 Darussalam | 10 Mar 20               | 20-Dec-22                          | 261,440               | -         | 225          | -          | 60,339                    | 450,404               | 445,929                     | 338,987              | 99.3                  |
|                 | Cambodia          | 27 Jan 20               | 20-Dec-22                          | 138,438               | 19        | 3,056        | -          | 840                       | 15,226,312            | 14,590,810                  | 10,358,897           | 87.0                  |
|                 | Indonesia         | 02 Mar 20               | 20-Dec-22                          | 6,711,703             | 1,297     | 160,451      | 27         | 2,480                     | 203,715,848           | 174,119,714                 | 66,624,569           | 63.2                  |
|                 | Lao PDR           | 24 Mar 20               | 20-Dec-22                          | 217,486               | 28        | 758          | -          | 3,034                     | 5,888,649             | 5,222,417                   |                      | 69.4                  |
|                 | Malaysia          | 25 Jan 20               | 20-Dec-22                          | 5,019,400             | 816       | 36,814       | 6          | 15,710                    | 28,117,401            | 27,528,452                  | 16,877,358           | 81.1                  |
|                 | Myanmar           | 23 Mar 20               | 20-Dec-22                          | 633,575               | 7         | 19,488       | -          | 1,172                     | 34,777,314            | 27,545,329                  | 2,227,351            | 50.8                  |
|                 | Philippines       | 30 Jan 20               | 20-Dec-22                          | 4,057,629             | 500       | 65,127       | 33         | 3,753                     | 78,196,194            | 73,738,568                  | 20,946,059           | 63.8                  |
|                 | Singapore         | 23 Jan 20               | 20-Dec-22                          | 2,186,674             | 708       | 1,710        | 1          | 38,339                    | 5,156,279             | 5,113,405                   | 4,440,289            | 90.7                  |
|                 | Thailand          | 13 Jan 20               | 20-Dec-22                          | 4,718,908             | -         | 33,505       | -          | 6,778                     | 57,005,497            | 53,486,086                  | 32,143,431           | 74.6                  |
|                 | Vietnam           | 23 Jan 20               | 20-Dec-22                          | 11,523,367            | 206       | 43,180       | -          | 11,946                    | 90,156,999            | 84,690,714                  | 56,988,856           | 86.3                  |
| ASEAN COUNTRIES |                   |                         |                                    | 35,468,620            | 3,581     | 364,314      | 67         | 144,390                   | 518,690,897           | 466,481,424                 | 210,945,797          |                       |

\*There have been no tests reported in the last 14 days in the ASEAN Region.

### COVID-19 cases in Asia-Pacific region

| REGION              | COUNTRY/ TERRITORY          | 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 |
|---------------------|-----------------------------|-------------------------|------------------------------------|-----------------------|-----------|--------------|------------|---------------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------------|----------------------|-----------------------|
| ASIA-PACIFIC REGION | Afghanistan                 | 24-Feb-20               | 20-Dec-22                          | 207,146               | 62        | 7,845        | -          | 545                       | 11,320,910            | 10,615,628                  |                      | 25.8                  |
|                     | Australia                   | 25-Jan-20               | 13-Dec-22                          | 10,861,411            | -         | 16,438       | -          | 42,345                    | 22,235,551            | 21,656,364                  | 19,613,644           | 82.7                  |
|                     | Bangladesh                  | 08-Mar-20               | 20-Dec-22                          | 2,036,967             | 19        | 29,438       | -          | 1,249                     | 149,138,275           | 125,670,627                 | 60,611,619           | 73.4                  |
|                     | Bhutan                      | 05-Mar-20               | 14-Dec-22                          | 62,521                | -         | 21           | -          | 8,193                     | 699,116               | 677,669                     | 634,641              | 86.6                  |
|                     | People's Republic of China* |                         | 20-Dec-22                          | 11,375,426            | 34,829    | 31,427       | 0          | 68,717                    | 1,334,003,248         | 1,300,815,376               | 209,906,904          | 89.1                  |
|                     | Cook Islands                | 17-Feb-22               | 14-Sep-22                          | 6,389                 | -         | 1            | -          | 29,872                    | 15,084                | 14,715                      | 10,209               | 86.4                  |
|                     | Fiji                        | 18-Mar-20               | 04-Dec-22                          | 68,451                | -         | 878          | -          | 7,692                     | 711,429               | 640,282                     | 169,174              | 68.9                  |
|                     | French Polynesia            | 12-Mar-20               | 13-Dec-22                          | 77,646                | -         | 649          | -          | 27,802                    | 190,765               | 186,059                     | 112,237              | 60.8                  |
|                     | Guam                        | 15-Mar-20               | 19-Dec-22                          | 59,709                | -         | 411          | -          | 35,691                    | 158,105               | 143,551                     |                      | 85.2                  |
|                     | India                       | 30-Jan-20               | 20-Dec-22                          | 44,676,199            | 112       | 530,677      | 3          | 3,270                     | 1,027,087,217         | 950,909,151                 | 221,686,727          | 67.1                  |



|                          |           |           |             |         |         |    |         |               |               |             |      |
|--------------------------|-----------|-----------|-------------|---------|---------|----|---------|---------------|---------------|-------------|------|
| Japan                    | 16-Jan-20 | 19-Oct-22 | 21,858,528  | -       | 46,014  | -  | 17,312  | 104,463,749   | 103,036,970   | 150,730,081 | 83.1 |
| Kiribati                 | 25-Jan-22 | 25-Jul-22 | 3,430       | -       | 13      | -  | 2,917   | 96,184        | 73,888        | 23,419      | 56.3 |
| Maldives                 | 07-Mar-20 | 20-Dec-22 | 185,666     | 15      | 311     | -  | 34,968  | 399,146       | 385,076       | 167,176     | 73.5 |
| Marshall Islands         | 26-Oct-20 | 09-Dec-22 | 15,547      | -       | 17      | -  | 26,445  | 42,920        | 34,305        |             | 44.1 |
| Micronesia               | 11-Jan-21 | 31-Oct-22 | 22,203      | -       | 55      | -  | 19,508  | 83,562        | 70,339        |             | 68.7 |
| Mongolia                 | 10-Mar-20 | 20-Dec-22 | 1,007,168   | 143     | 2,179   | -  | 31,228  | 2,272,965     | 2,175,617     | 1,044,337   | 64.0 |
| Nepal                    | 24-Jan-20 | 20-Dec-22 | 1,000,959   | 6       | 12,019  | -  | 3,499   | 27,398,529    | 23,857,858    | 8,674,375   | 78.1 |
| New Caledonia            | 17-Mar-20 | 20-Dec-22 | 79,026      | 782     | 314     | -  | 27,459  | 191,660       | 184,116       | 93,983      | 63.5 |
| New Zealand              | 28-Feb-20 | 19-Dec-22 | 2,062,384   | -       | 3,435   | -  | 41,944  | 4,299,152     | 4,137,155     | 3,479,861   | 79.8 |
| Niue                     | 03-Sep-21 | 19-Dec-22 | 291         | -       | -       | -  | 13,435  | 1,255         |               | 1,153       | 62.9 |
| Northern Mariana Islands | 28-Mar-20 | 16-Dec-22 | 13,245      | -       | 41      | -  | 23,149  | 46,340        | 43,770        |             | 84.4 |
| Pakistan                 | 26-Feb-20 | 20-Dec-22 | 1,575,597   | 8       | 30,635  | -  | 728     | 139,644,465   | 132,317,738   | 48,935,695  | 56.1 |
| Palau                    | 31-May-21 | 19-Dec-22 | 5,955       | -       | 9       | -  | 33,069  | 20,714        | 18,458        |             | 85.7 |
| Papua New Guinea         | 21-Mar-20 | 13-Dec-22 | 46,457      | -       | 669     | -  | 529     | 364,894       | 304,687       | 30,676      | 3.0  |
| Samoa                    | 18-Nov-20 | 19-Dec-22 | 15,975      | -       | 29      | -  | 8,105   | 231,546       | 215,077       | 79,061      | 96.7 |
| Solomon Islands          | 03-Oct-20 | 24-Nov-22 | 24,575      | -       | 153     | -  | 3,669   | 343,821       | 254,352       | 27,783      | 35.1 |
| Republic of Korea**      | 20-Jan-20 | 20-Dec-22 | 28,374,322  | 88,138  | 31,533  | 59 | 54,873  | 45,134,185    | 44,704,644    | 41,324,379  | 86.3 |
| Sri Lanka                | 27-Jan-20 | 20-Dec-22 | 671,821     | 4       | 16,814  | -  | 3,081   | 17,143,761    | 14,752,827    | 8,220,002   | 67.6 |
| Timor Leste              | 21-Mar-20 | 20-Dec-22 | 23,385      | 6       | 138     | -  | 1,808   | 872,617       | 779,475       | 291,233     | 58.1 |
| Tonga                    | 05-Nov-21 | 06-Sep-22 | 16,182      | -       | 12      | -  | 15,486  | 91,949        | 77,464        | 38,331      | 72.5 |
| Türkiye                  | 10-Mar-20 | 12-Dec-22 | 17,041,315  | -       | 101,487 | -  | 20,426  | 57,941,051    | 53,176,961    | 41,425,329  | 62.3 |
| Vanuatu                  | 11-Nov-20 | 02-Nov-22 | 11,952      | -       | 14      | -  | 3,986   | 144,824       | 131,697       | 16,996      | 40.3 |
| Wallis et Futuna         | 17-Oct-20 | 28-Jul-22 | 761         | -       | 7       | -  | 4,749   | 7,136         | 6,794         | 3,742       | 58.6 |
| ASIA PACIFIC             |           |           | 143,488,609 | 124,124 | 863,683 | 62 | 617,746 | 2,946,796,125 | 2,792,069,917 | 817,352,767 |      |

\*Includes cases from Hong Kong (SAR), Macau (SAR), and Republic of China (Taiwan)

\*\*Republic of Korea – South Korea

- **470,769,773 confirmed cases** of COVID-19 have been reported in other **4 regions** (other than ASEAN and Asia-Pacific countries):

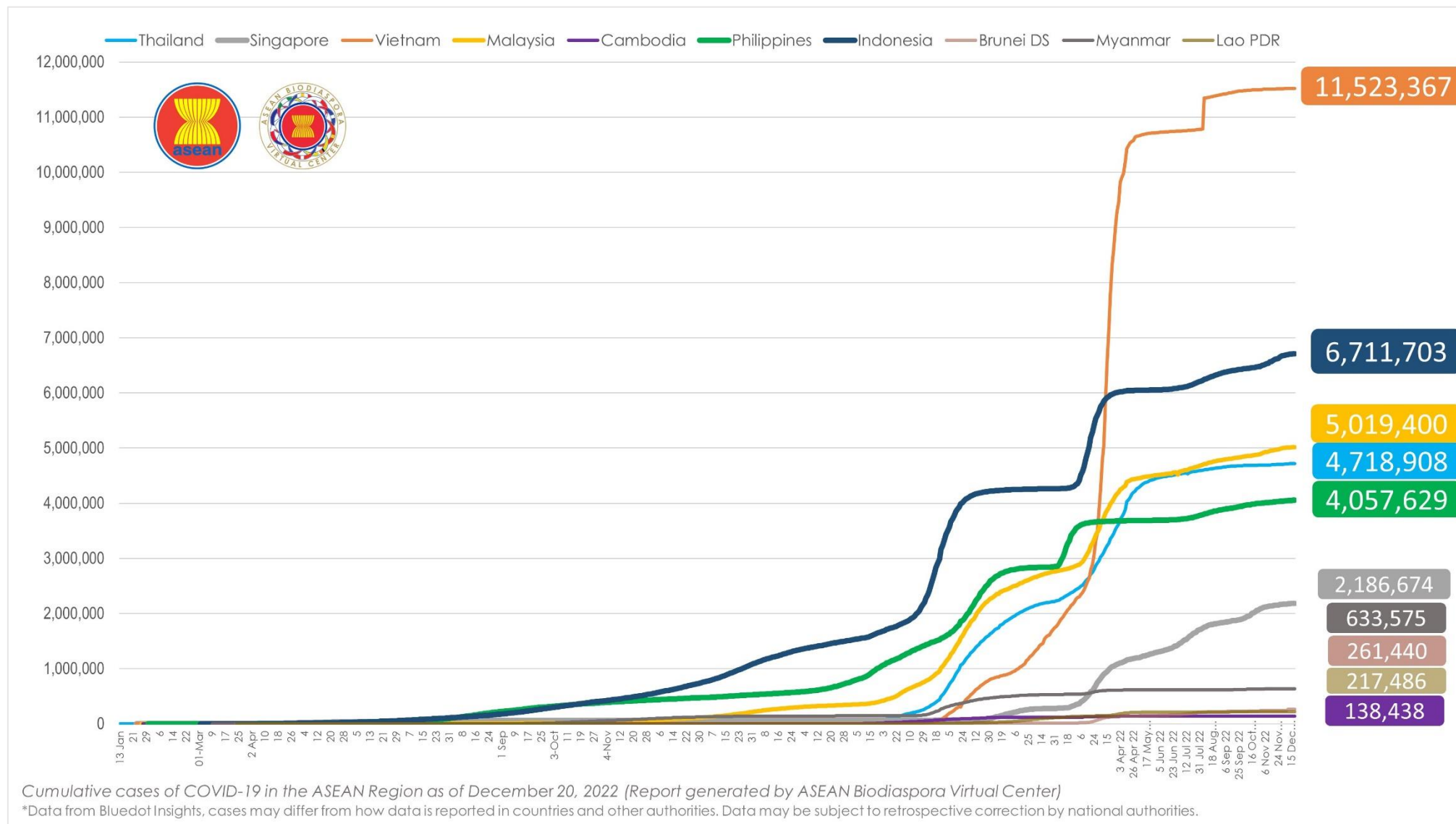
| REGION      | TOTAL CONFIRMED CASES | NEW CASES | TOTAL DEATHS | NEW DEATHS | CUMULATIVE CASES/ 100,000 | CUMULATIVE VACCINATED | CUMULATIVE FULLY VACCINATED | CUMULATIVE BOOSTERED |
|-------------|-----------------------|-----------|--------------|------------|---------------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------------|----------------------|
| AFRICA      | 12,995,183            | 566       | 259,251      | -          | 247,403                   | 456,803,234           | 371,428,151                 | 59,674,628           |
| AMERICAS    | 187,883,793           | 15,983    | 2,918,325    | 135        | 1,223,215                 | 833,088,875           | 732,620,347                 | 485,674,326          |
| EUROPE      | 247,253,244           | 90,657    | 2,031,437    | 262        | 2,081,637                 | 568,607,674           | 539,597,834                 | 376,059,987          |
| MIDDLE EAST | 22,637,553            | 1,583     | 238,805      | 5          | 214,984                   | 144,506,725           | 129,815,862                 | 59,968,391           |
| TOTAL       | 470,769,773           | 108,789   | 5,447,818    | 402        | 3,767,239                 | 2,003,006,508         | 1,773,462,194               | 981,377,332          |





# COVID-19 Epi curve among ASEAN Countries:

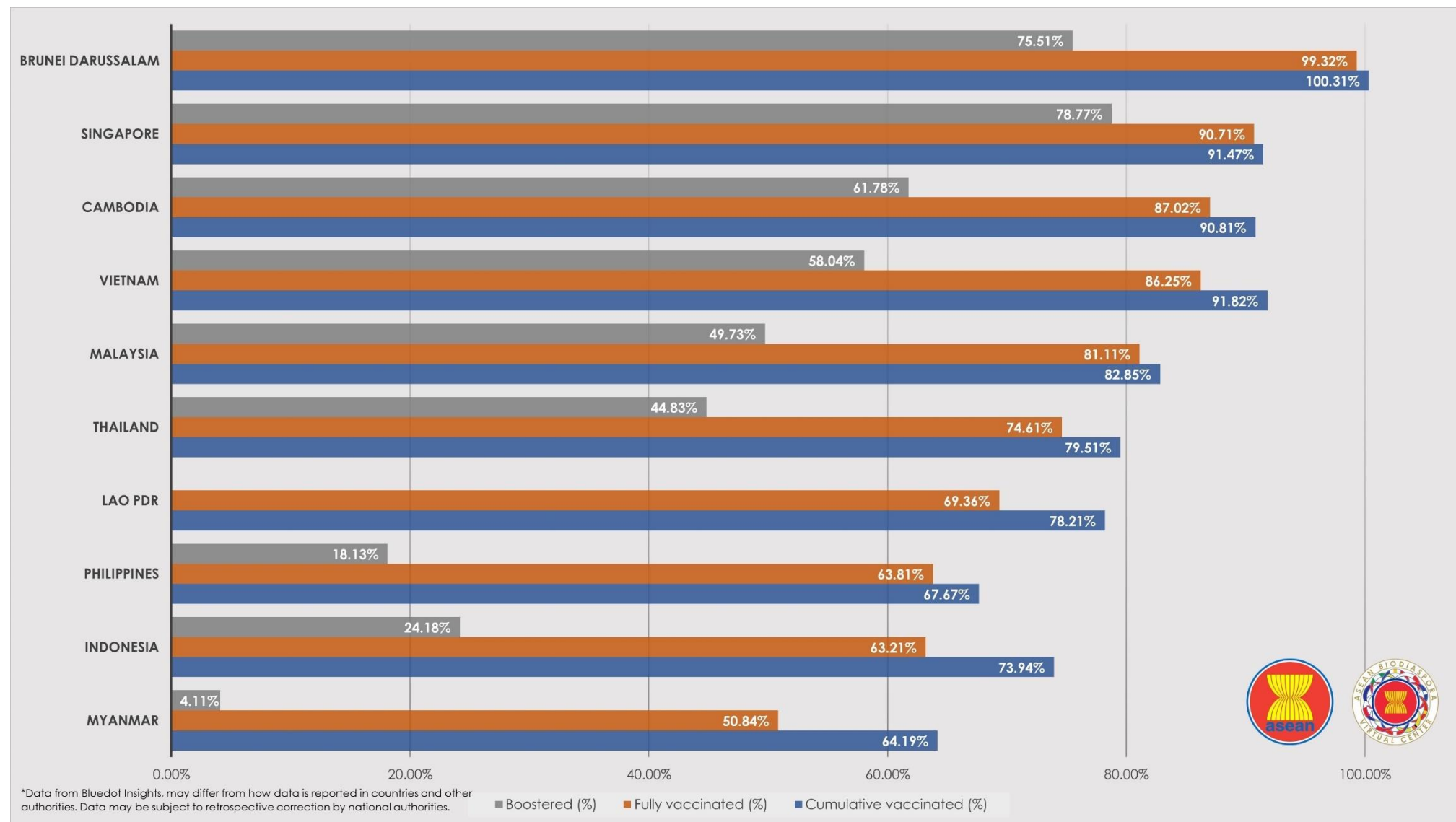
From January 1, 2021 to December 20, 2022





# ASEAN COVID-19 Vaccination Status


as of 20 December 2022





# ASEAN COVID-19 Outlook Assessment

as of 18 December 2022

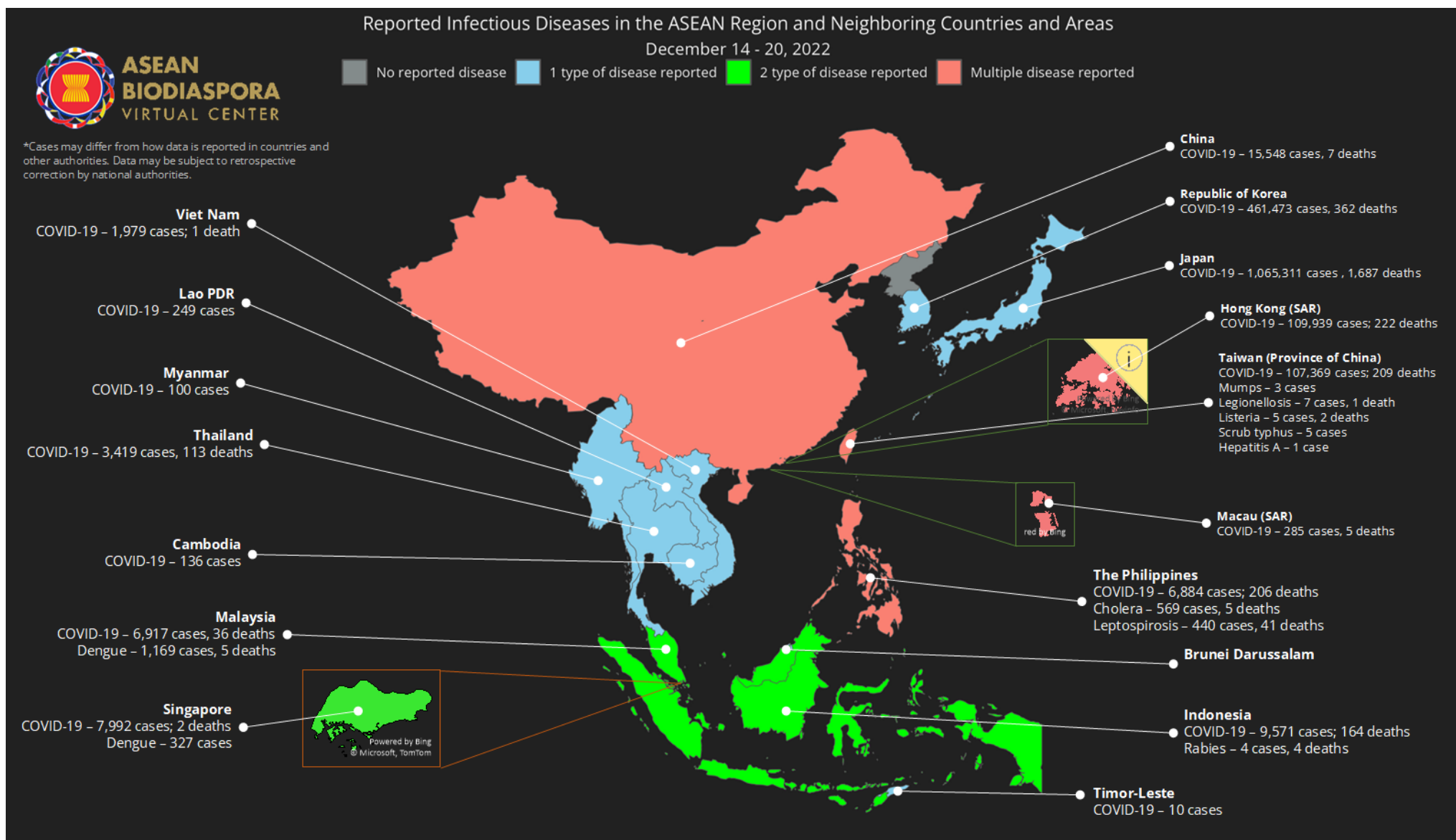
| <br><b>ASEAN MEMBER STATE</b> | <p>At least <b>65% of the total population has a level of immunity</b> to COVID-19; either recovered from COVID-19 or have been vaccinated with at least one dose of a COVID-19 vaccine.</p> |  | <p><b>Case levels are generally low</b> (a 7-day rolling average number of daily new cases that is &lt;10 cases per 100,000, with each day's past-14-day test positivity is consistently &lt;5%).</p> | <p><b>Government Policy</b> on containment and health (strictness and comprehensiveness in COVID-19 related government policies)</p> |
|--|--|--|---|--|
|  | % of Total population fully vaccinated / boosted   | Population vaccinated/ day (7-day average) | Daily cases/ 100,000  | Containment and health index score - Oxford COVID-19 Government Response Tracker (OxCGRT)  |
| Brunei Darussalam  | ≥90.0/75.5   | Unknown                                    | 0.00  | 31.0/100   |
| Cambodia   | ≥90.0/61.8   | Unknown                                    | 0.12  | 31.5/100   |
| Indonesia  | 66.7/24.2  | Unknown                                    | 0.55  | 54.2/100   |
| Lao PDR  | 77.3/ND  | Unknown                                    | 0.59  | 61.6/100   |
| Malaysia   | 84.5/49.7  | 0%/day                                     | 3.19  | 51.8/100   |
| Myanmar  | 52.1/4.1   | Unknown                                    | 0.03  | 69.1/100   |
| Philippines  | 71.4/18.1  | Unknown                                    | 0.94  | 55.4/100   |
| Singapore  | ≥90.0/78.8   | Unknown                                    | 20.79   | 58.9/100   |
| Thailand   | 77.7/44.8  | Unknown                                    | 0.70  | 31.5/100   |
| Vietnam  | ≥90.0/58.0   | Unknown                                    | 0.38  | 43.5/100   |

All of the countries have achieved the Population vaccinated/ day (7-day average) except Vietnam



# Infectious Diseases in ASEAN Region and Neighboring Countries

From December 14-20, 2022





# Infectious Diseases Other than COVID-19 and Mpox

December 14-20, 2022

## Infectious Disease Update Globally

### Influenza

- **USA:** The US Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) reported in its weekly FluView report on December 16 that flu activity in the United States declined last week. According to the report, the Department of Health and Human Services surveillance showed that 23,503 individuals were hospitalized with lab-confirmed flu last week, down from 25,906 reported the week before. The rate of hospitalizations for flu showed a bigger drop with a weekly hospitalization rate of 4.5 per 100,000 population, down from 5.9 per 100,000 the week before. CDC also reported 9 flu-related deaths in children, raising the season total to 30. Meanwhile, the percentage of outpatient visits for influenza-like illness (ILI), which the CDC defined as a respiratory illness that includes a fever plus a cough or sore throat, has declined from 7.2% the week before to 6.9% last week. [\[Full Article\]](#)

## Infectious Disease in ASEAN region and Neighboring Countries Updates

### Cholera

- **Philippines:** Since January of this year, at least 67 people have died in the Philippines from cholera, an acute diarrheal sickness, with cases increasing by 282% over the previous year.<sup>4</sup> From January to November 26 of this year, the Philippines' Department of Health (DOH) recorded 5,860 cholera cases.<sup>4</sup> According to Xinhua News Agency, the agency ascribed the spike in cases to natural disasters that ravaged the Southeast Asian country.<sup>4</sup> The Eastern Visayas region in the center Philippines had the most instances, with over 3,600, followed by the Davao region in the southern Philippines, which had over 800 cases, and the Central Luzon region, north of Manila, which had over 300.<sup>4</sup> The DOH also stated that the 67 cholera deaths registered this year since January are 0.8% more than last year.<sup>4</sup> The DOH officer-in-charge, Maria Rosario Vergeire, stated that the health agency has enhanced its surveillance and response mechanism in response to an increase in cholera cases across the archipelago.<sup>4</sup> She stated that the health department has helped communities with high cholera incidence to guarantee patients have access to treatments and clean drinking water in order to limit the number of deaths.<sup>4</sup> The Philippines is one of the most disaster-prone countries in the world due to its geographical location.<sup>4</sup> The Philippines, one of the countries most hit by extreme climate events, has seen very devastating typhoons virtually annually over the previous ten years, according to the World Bank.<sup>4</sup> [\[Full Article\]](#)

### Leptospirosis

- **Philippines:** According to the Department of Health, up to 3,234 leptospirosis cases have been documented in the country this year (DOH).<sup>5</sup> According to the DOH's most recent illness surveillance report, the cases registered from January 1 to November 12 were 84 percent higher than the 1,754 reported during the same time last year.<sup>5</sup> The National Capital Region had the most cases (735), followed by Western Visayas (402) and Cagayan Valley (344).<sup>5</sup> Soccsargen had the highest increase in cases, up 767% from three last year to 26 this year, followed by the Bangsamoro Autonomous Region in Muslim Mindanao, up 550% from two to 13, and Eastern Visayas, up 435% from 17 to 91.<sup>5</sup> According to the DOH's Epidemiology Bureau, there were 411 leptospirosis-related deaths this year, for a case fatality rate (CFR) of 12.7%. According to the WHO, the



disease can be found anywhere, but it is most common in tropical and subtropical areas.<sup>5</sup> Direct contact with infected animals' urine or a urine-contaminated environment causes human infection.<sup>5</sup> The DOH has advised the public, particularly those with open wounds, to avoid wading in floodwater.<sup>5</sup> If they cannot prevent it, they should go to the nearest health center and get post-exposure care.<sup>5</sup> [\[Full Article\]](#)

## Rabies

- **Indonesia:** Cases of rabies or a lethal virus transmitted by fanged animals such as dogs and bats in Bali are becoming increasingly concerning.<sup>6</sup> As many as 22 people died from rabies in 2022. I Wayan Widya, head of the Bali Provincial Health Office's Disease Prevention and Control Division (Kabid), claimed the 22 individuals died in a variety of areas.<sup>6</sup> There was one case in Karangasem, 13 persons in Buleleng, three in Bangli, four in Jembrana, and one in Gianyar.<sup>6</sup> "Most incidences of rabies occur in Singaraja, (Buleleng Regency). First, maybe there is a huge number of dogs there. Second, people in Bali, on average, like to keep dogs; when they get bitten, they believe the dog is already theirs, and their bites are small."<sup>6</sup> "Don't do the right thing right soon," he warned, admitting that dog vaccination in Bali was extremely low, reaching only about 31% of the total reported canine population.<sup>6</sup> [\[Full Article\]](#)





# Dengue Cases in ASEAN Region

From January 1, 2022 to December 20, 2022



## Dengue cases in ASEAN region

| Country           | Dengue Cases   | New Cases in the Past Week | Deaths       | Case Fatality Rate (CFR) |
|-------------------|----------------|----------------------------|--------------|--------------------------|
| Brunei Darussalam | -              | -                          | -            | -                        |
| Cambodia          | 9,482          | -                          | 16           | 0.17%                    |
| Indonesia         | 94,355         | -                          | 853          | 0.90%                    |
| Lao PDR           | 30,085         | -                          | 22           | 0.07%                    |
| Malaysia          | 62,281         | 1,169                      | 44           | 0.07%                    |
| Myanmar           | 7,835          | -                          | 31           | 0.40%                    |
| Philippines       | 201,509        | -                          | 656          | 0.33%                    |
| Singapore         | 31,364         | 327                        | -            | 0.00%                    |
| Thailand          | 17,412         | -                          | 14           | 0.08%                    |
| Vietnam           | 335,333        | -                          | 123          | 0.04%                    |
| <b>Total</b>      | <b>789,656</b> | <b>1,496</b>               | <b>1,759</b> | <b>0.22%</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.

- ASEAN region reported **1,496** new dengue cases in the past week from the Malaysia and Singapore, a **decrease** of **89.69%** in new cases in the region compared to the previous week. The region reported **789,656** total cases and **1,759** deaths since January 2022 with **0.22%** CFR.



## Dengue

- **Malaysia:** Johor saw a rise in dengue cases this year, with 3,924 total cases up to epidemiological week 50, compared to 1,710 cases in the same period last year. Ling Tian Soon, head of the State Health and Unity Committee, stated that of the 3,924 cases, 1,392 (35%) were epidemic locality cases, while 2,532 (65%) were non-locality cases. According to Ling, Johor Baru had the most cases (1 19, or 78.3%), followed by Kulai (ten, or 6.6%), Batu Pahat (six, or 3.9%), and Tangkak (five, or 3.3%). Kluang and Segamat each had four cases (2.6%), Kota Tinggi two (1.3%), and Muar and Pontian one each (0.7%), according to him. Ling went on to say that there were two deaths in week 50 this year, compared to five the previous year. He stated the city center, Jelutong, Plentong, Pulai, Sungai Tiram, Tebrau, and Tanjung Kupang in Gelang Patah had the most cases in Johor Baru, with 2,883 total infections.

as of *December 20, 2022*





## Mpox: Highlights and Situation Overview

- As of 21 December 2022 (2PM, GMT+8), worldwide, there were **87,895** confirmed cases, including **213** deaths. Globally, Case Fatality Rate (CFR) was **0.24%**.
- 40 confirmed cases** in the ASEAN region, with CFR of **0%**.
- 87,855 confirmed cases** of Mpox have been reported in other **5 regions** (other than ASEAN region):

### Mpox cases in ASEAN region

| Country            | Total Cases | New Cases | Deaths   | Case Fatality Rate (CFR) |
|--------------------|-------------|-----------|----------|--------------------------|
| Indonesia          | 1           | -         | -        | 0.00%                    |
| Philippines        | 4           | -         | -        | 0.00%                    |
| Singapore          | 19          | -         | -        | 0.00%                    |
| Thailand           | 12          | -         | -        | 0.00%                    |
| Vietnam            | 4           | -         | -        | 0.00%                    |
| <b>ASEAN Total</b> | <b>40</b>   | <b>-</b>  | <b>-</b> | <b>0.00%</b>             |

### Mpox cases in Asia-Pacific region

| Country/Territory           | Total Cases | New Cases | Deaths   | Case Fatality Rate (CFR) |
|-----------------------------|-------------|-----------|----------|--------------------------|
| Australia                   | 144         | -         | -        | 0.00%                    |
| Hong Kong (SAR)             | 1           | -         | -        | 0.00%                    |
| India                       | 23          | -         | 1        | 5.00%                    |
| Japan                       | 7           | -         | -        | 0.00%                    |
| New Caledonia               | 1           | -         | -        | 0.00%                    |
| New Zealand                 | 40          | -         | -        | 0.00%                    |
| People's Republic of China* | 5           | -         | -        | 0.00%                    |
| Republic of China*          | 4           | -         | -        | 0.00%                    |
| Republic of Korea*          | 4           | -         | -        | 0.00%                    |
| Sri Lanka                   | 2           | -         | -        | 0.00%                    |
| <b>Asia-Pacific Total</b>   | <b>231</b>  | <b>-</b>  | <b>1</b> | <b>0.45%</b>             |

\*People's Republic of China – China, Republic of China – Taiwan, Republic of Korea – South Korea

### Top 5 countries with most mpox cases globally

| Country                  | Total Cases | New Cases | Deaths | Case Fatality Rate (CFR) |
|--------------------------|-------------|-----------|--------|--------------------------|
| United States of America | 29,646      | -         | 20     | 0.07%                    |
| Brazil                   | 10,264      | 29        | 14     | 0.14%                    |
| Spain                    | 7,416       | -         | 3      | 0.04%                    |
| France                   | 4,110       | -         | -      | 0.00%                    |
| Colombia                 | 3,908       | -         | -      | 0.00%                    |



## Mpox cases per region

| REGION       | TOTAL CONFIRMED CASES<br>SINCE JANUARY 1, 2022 | NEW CASES SINCE THE<br>PREVIOUS REPORT | TOTAL DEATHS | CASE FATALITY<br>RATE |
|--------------|--|--|--------------|-----------------------|
| AFRICA       | 5,137  | -                                      | 160          | 3.11%                 |
| AMERICAS     | 56,091   | 70                                     | 47           | 0.08%                 |
| ASEAN        | 40   | -                                      | -            | 0.00%                 |
| ASIA PACIFIC | 231  | -                                      | 1            | 0.43%                 |
| EUROPE       | 26,001   | 6                                      | 4            | 0.02%                 |
| MIDDLE EAST  | 319  | -                                      | -            | 0.00%                 |
| <b>TOTAL</b> | <b>87,895</b>                                  | <b>76</b>                              | <b>213</b>   | <b>0.24%</b>          |

## Research Update

- A recent retrospective study **Overlooked monkeypox cases among men having sex with men during the 2022 outbreak** from Israel describes 26 cases of misdiagnosed mpox.<sup>9</sup> Of the 26 cases, 6 patients (23%) were given a diagnosis of bacterial tonsillitis, 6 (23%) primary syphilis, 5 (19.2%) oral or genital herpes, and 4 (15.3%) bacterial proctitis or anal abscess.<sup>9</sup> The case-patients were all diagnosed between May and October of this year, and all were MSM.<sup>9</sup> All patients said that during their first visit with a doctor, they were not asked about contact with an mpox patient.<sup>9</sup> Of the 26 patients, 17 (65.3%) were on HIV prophylaxis, and 5 (19.2%) were HIV positive.<sup>9</sup> According to the authors, due to the nature of mpox transmission and its non-classical presentation of lesions concentrated in the anogenital areas in about 75% of the patients, it is most commonly confused with other STIs such as syphilis and genital herpes simplex infection.<sup>9</sup> [\[Full Text\]](#)



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