



COVID-19, Mpox, and Other Infectious Diseases

Situational Report in the ASEAN Region

— ASEAN BioDiaspora Virtual Center (ABVC)

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MINISTRY OF HEALTH
REPUBLIC OF INDONESIA

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COVID-19: Highlights and Situation Overview

Global Update

- **Worldwide**, there have been over 664 million cases and over 6 million deaths attributed to COVID-19.

Regional Update

- **Indonesia** is in talks with a number of countries for declaring COVID-19 an endemic illness in 2023, according to Health Minister Budi Gunadi Sadikin here on February 21.¹⁵ The countries are India, Japan, and the United States, he said after attending the International Neglected Tropical Diseases (NTDs) Day commemoration at Taman Mini Indonesia Indah (TMII), East Jakarta. In addition to the countries, Sadikin stated that the Indonesian government will have negotiations with the World Health Organization (WHO) about the evolution of the domestic and global COVID-19 scenario.¹⁵ The minister stated that he intends to have an in-depth discussion with World Health Organization (WHO) Director-General Tedros Adhanom Ghebreyesus about the matter.¹⁵ He stated that his ministry had discussions with and got guidance from the WHO director-staff, general's Honesti Basyir, president director of the state-run pharmaceutical business Bio Farma, previously communicated the plan to abolish the pandemic status of COVID-19 in Indonesia.¹⁵ [\[Full article\]](#)
- The **Philippines** is still classified as low-risk for COVID-19, according to the Department of Health (DOH) on Wednesday, Feb. 22.¹⁶ The DOH published in a brief statement that only 832 cases of COVID-19 were registered from February 16 to 22.¹⁶ The DOH did notice a modest increase in the positive rate.¹⁶ "The national optimism rate increased to 1.8% from 1.6% the previous week, but positivity rates in the NCR (National Capital Region) decreased to 1.7% from 1.8%," it stated.¹⁶ It is important to clarify that the positivity rate relates to the number of people who tested positive for COVID-19.¹⁶ According to the DOH, the healthcare utilization rate is also low-risk. "Our total beds and ICU utilization, at 17% and 12%, respectively, remain at low risk," it said.¹⁶ [\[Full article\]](#)

Vaccine Update

- **Cambodia**: The National Bank of Cambodia's (NBC) Bakong app now provides information regarding COVID-19 vaccines.¹⁴ The Ministry of Health and the NBC have stated that a feature within the app would allow people to search up information about their COVID-19 vaccinations, such as when they are due for a booster shot.¹⁴ On February 20, the NBC's director-general Chea Serey and Or Vandine, secretary of state at the health ministry and head of the National Commission for COVID-19 Vaccinations, announced the service's start.¹⁴ [\[Full article\]](#)
- **Philippines**: The 44 million unused COVID-19 vaccines will be disposed of by pyrolysis, or high-temperature decomposition, but the fate of the ashes is unknown.¹⁷ During a public hearing of the Senate Blue Ribbon Committee, chaired by Sen. Francis Tolentino, resource persons from the Department of Health (DOH) were unable to say where the ashes of the processed 44 million expired vaccines would be taken because the Department of Environment and Natural Resources (DENR) is in charge of the matter.¹⁷ The senator stated that the DENR would be invited to the next public meeting to provide information on the "final resting place" of the vaccination ashes.¹⁷ [\[Full article\]](#)



Research Update (Published and peer-reviewed studies)

- A randomized clinical trial on the **Effect of Higher-Dose Ivermectin for 6 Days vs Placebo on Time to Sustained Recovery in Outpatients with COVID-19** showed that even at a higher dose and longer treatment duration, ivermectin didn't shorten the time to a sustained recovery from COVID-19.¹¹ This trial was part of the ongoing Accelerating COVID-19 Therapeutic Interventions and Vaccines 6 (ACTIV-6), which was designed to assess the effectiveness of repurposed drugs such as ivermectin in the treatment of mild to moderate COVID-19.¹¹ In the double-blind trial led by a team from Duke University, researchers evaluated time to sustained recovery among 1,206 COVID-19 patients at 93 US sites from February 16 to July 22, 2022, with follow-up until November 10, 2022.¹¹ Sustained recovery was considered at least 3 days without symptoms.¹¹ The median time to sustained recovery was 11 days in both the ivermectin and placebo groups.¹¹ Of the ivermectin recipients, 5.7% were hospitalized, died, or visited an urgent care center or emergency department, compared with 6.0% of placebo recipients.¹¹ One ivermectin recipient died, and 4 (0.8%) were hospitalized.¹¹ Among placebo recipients, 2 (0.3%) were hospitalized, and none died.¹¹ Adverse events were rare in both groups.¹¹ According to the study, among outpatients with mild or moderate COVID-19, treatment with ivermectin, with a targeted maximum dose of 600 µg/kg daily for 6 days, was not shown to improve time to sustained recovery compared with placebo.¹¹ These findings do not also support the use of ivermectin in outpatients with COVID-19.¹¹ [\[Full text\]](#)
- The study **COVID-19 Convalescent Plasma Outpatient Therapy to Prevent Outpatient Hospitalization: A Meta-analysis of Individual Participant Data from Five Randomized Trials** analyzed clinical data and concluded that among outpatients with COVID-19, antibodies to SARS-CoV-2 given early and in high dose reduced the risk of hospitalization.¹² The analysis included data from five studies conducted in four countries including Argentina, the Netherlands, Spain, and two in the United States.¹² Across the five studies, a total of 2,620 adult patients received transfusions of convalescent plasma from January 2020 to September 2022.¹² The researchers conducted an individual participant data meta-analysis to assess how the transfusion timing and dose impacted the patient's risk of hospitalization during the 28 days after infection.¹² The findings showed that 160 (12.2%) of 1,315 control patients were hospitalized compared with 111 (8.5%) of 1,305 patients treated with COVID-19 convalescent plasma — 30% fewer hospitalizations.¹² Remarkably, the strongest effects were seen in patients treated both early in the illness and with plasma with high levels of antibodies.¹² In these patients, the reduction in hospitalization was over 50%.¹² According to the lead author, the findings of this study will be helpful for this pandemic, especially in places like China, India, and other parts of the world that lack access to antiviral medications like Paxlovid.¹² Additionally, as this study provides more information on how to more effectively use convalescent plasma as a therapy, this will be even more helpful in the next pandemic and is essentially a roadmap for how to do this right the next time.¹² [\[Full text\]](#)

Travel Update

- **South Korea** announced on February 22 (Wednesday) that it will not require travellers from China to test for COVID-19 after arrival starting March 2023. However, according to the South Korean authority, mandatory PCR tests before departure for passengers from China will remain in place until March 10 to monitor and evaluate the impact of the relaxation of other COVID-19 rules.



Cases and Deaths as of 22 February 2023

- As of 22 February 2023 (1PM, GMT+7), worldwide, there were **664,429,394** confirmed cases, including **6,775,518** deaths. Globally, Case Fatality Rate (CFR) was **1.2%**.
- 35,592,313 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	21-Feb-23	276,825	-	225	-	63,890	450,404	445,929	338,987	99.3
	Cambodia	27 Jan 20	21-Feb-23	138,712	4	3,056	-	841	15,244,858	14,609,937	10,433,215	87.1
	Indonesia	02 Mar 20	21-Feb-23	6,734,606	272	160,892	4	2,489	203,657,535	172,693,321	67,952,274	62.7
	Lao PDR	24 Mar 20	21-Feb-23	218,012	3	758	-	3,041	5,888,649	5,222,417		69.4
	Malaysia	25 Jan 20	21-Feb-23	5,041,358	184	36,957	-	15,779	28,125,245	27,536,657	17,056,957	81.1
	Myanmar	23 Mar 20	21-Feb-23	633,901	-	19,490	-	1,173	34,777,314	27,545,329	2,227,351	50.8
	Philippines	30 Jan 20	21-Feb-23	4,075,611	66	66,039	9	3,770	78,369,243	73,937,435	21,341,197	64.0
	Singapore	23 Jan 20	21-Feb-23	2,218,623	-	1,722	-	38,899	5,161,990	5,120,768	4,440,289	90.8
	Thailand	13 Jan 20	21-Feb-23	4,727,831	-	33,902	-	6,790	57,005,497	53,486,086	32,143,431	74.6
	Vietnam	23 Jan 20	21-Feb-23	11,526,834	9	43,186	-	11,950	90,450,881	85,848,363	57,452,750	87.4
ASEAN COUNTRIES				35,592,313	538	366,227	13	148,621	519,131,616	466,446,242	213,386,451	

*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	21-Feb-23	209,181	28	7,896	-	550	11,606,705	10,894,509		26.5
	Australia	25-Jan-20	15-Feb-23	11,334,920	-	19,063	-	44,191	22,236,871	21,655,312	19,762,423	82.7
	Bangladesh	08-Mar-20	18-Feb-23	2,037,738	-	29,445	-	1,250	150,629,515	131,182,263	65,897,152	76.6
	Bhutan	05-Mar-20	14-Feb-23	62,611	-	21	-	8,205	699,116	677,669	634,641	86.6
	People's Republic of China*		21-Feb-23	13,343,824	17,373	36,446	0	81,427	1,339,608,531	1,304,575,996	214,031,616	89.7
	Cook Islands	17-Feb-22	17-Feb-23	7,025	-	2	-	32,846	15,084	14,715	10,209	86.4
	Fiji	18-Mar-20	17-Feb-23	68,876	-	883	-	7,739	711,686	640,712	170,632	68.9
	French Polynesia	12-Mar-20	04-Jan-23	77,957	-	649	-	27,913	190,765	186,059	112,237	60.8
	Guam	15-Mar-20	20-Feb-23	60,947	-	419	-	36,431	158,611	144,042		85.5
	India	30-Jan-20	21-Feb-23	44,685,132	95	530,761	-	3,270	1,027,279,394	951,464,506	224,093,416	67.1



Japan	16-Jan-20	19-Oct-22	21,858,528	-	46,014	-	17,312	104,612,252	103,222,040	169,610,887	83.3
Kiribati	25-Jan-22	15-Feb-23	5,012	-	18	-	4,262	96,184	73,888	23,419	56.3
Maldives	07-Mar-20	21-Feb-23	185,729	6	311	-	34,980	399,151	385,081	167,187	73.5
Marshall Islands	26-Oct-20	17-Feb-23	15,598	-	17	-	26,531	43,310	34,694		44.6
Micronesia	11-Jan-21	23-Jan-23	23,671	-	60	-	20,798	84,729	71,253		69.6
Mongolia	10-Mar-20	17-Feb-23	1,007,895	-	2,179	-	31,251	2,272,965	2,175,617	1,044,337	64.0
Nepal	24-Jan-20	20-Feb-23	1,001,135	-	12,020	-	3,499	27,678,479	24,159,118	8,951,403	79.1
New Caledonia	17-Mar-20	21-Feb-23	79,871	26	314	-	27,752	192,229	184,660	101,849	63.7
New Zealand	28-Feb-20	20-Feb-23	2,207,775	-	3,864	-	44,901	4,300,097	4,138,926	3,523,903	79.8
Niue	03-Sep-21	21-Feb-23	783	10	-	-	36,150	1,636	1,634	1,224	83.7
Northern Mariana Islands	28-Mar-20	17-Feb-23	13,605	-	41	-	23,778	46,567	43,873		84.6
Pakistan	26-Feb-20	21-Feb-23	1,576,737	32	30,641	-	728	154,665,740	131,368,973	49,551,181	55.7
Palau	31-May-21	14-Feb-23	5,988	-	9	-	33,252	20,750	18,497		85.9
Papua New Guinea	21-Mar-20	15-Feb-23	46,792	-	670	-	533	369,998	310,717	32,384	3.1
Samoa	18-Nov-20	19-Feb-23	16,594	-	29	-	8,419	191,171	177,741	79,360	79.9
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	21-Feb-23	30,445,775	11,880	33,873	8	58,879	44,867,046	44,448,105	41,325,954	85.8
Sri Lanka	27-Jan-20	21-Feb-23	672,023	1	16,829	-	3,082	17,143,761	14,752,827	8,220,002	67.6
Timor Leste	21-Mar-20	16-Feb-23	23,418	-	138	-	1,811	878,845	790,466	315,249	58.9
Tonga	05-Nov-21	17-Feb-23	16,801	-	13	-	16,078	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	06-Jan-23	12,014	-	14	-	4,006	144,824	131,697	16,996	40.3
Wallis et Futuna	17-Oct-20	31-Dec-22	3,427	-	7	-	21,385	7,150	6,803	3,766	58.7
ASIA PACIFIC			148,173,272	29,451	874,286	8	687,305	2,969,529,983	2,801,441,170	849,172,870	

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

**Republic of Korea – South Korea

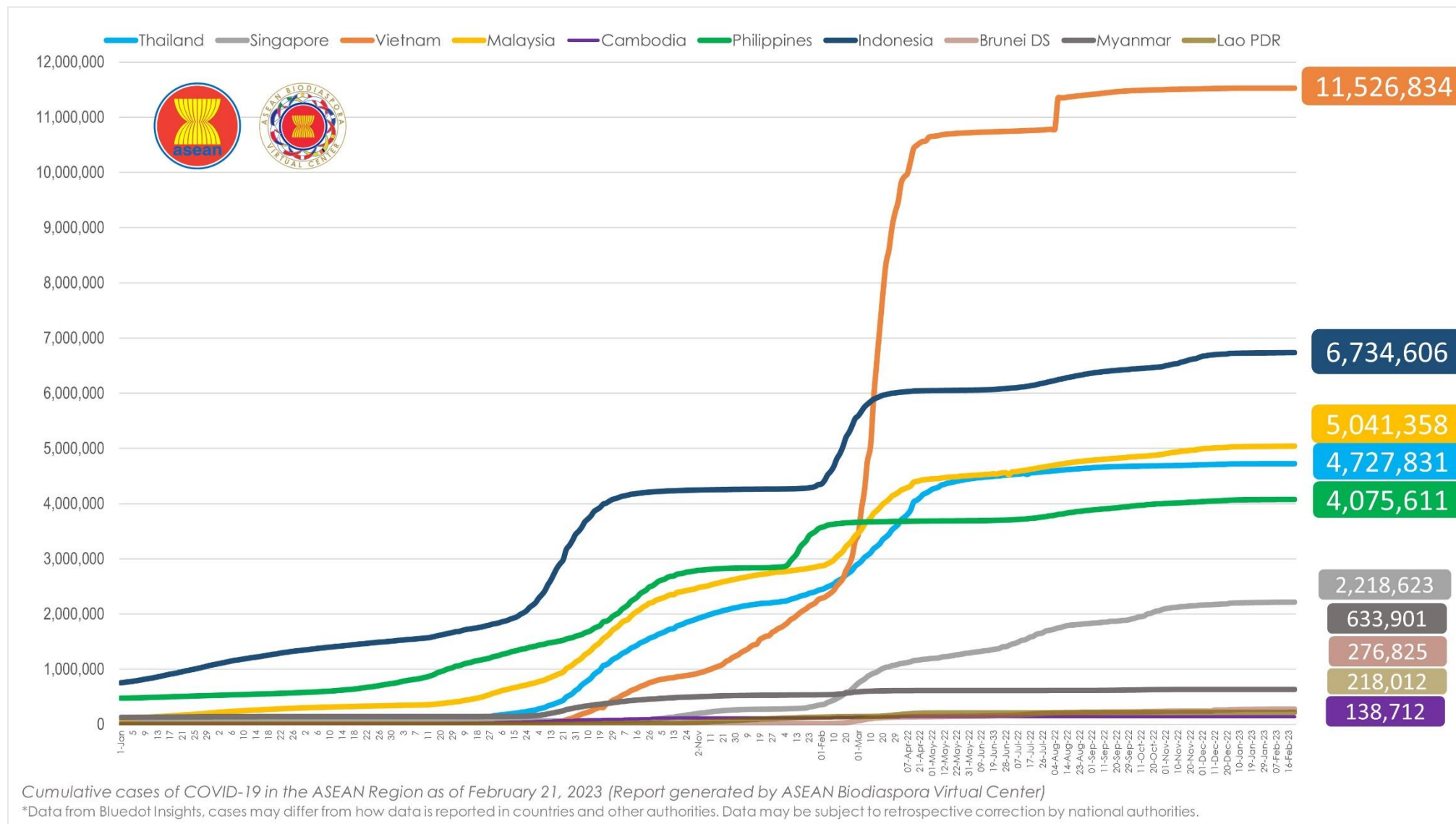
- **480,663,809 confirmed cases** of COVID-19 have been reported in other **4 regions** (other than ASEAN and Asia-Pacific countries):

REGION	TOTAL CONFIRMED CASES	NEW CASES	TOTAL DEATHS	NEW DEATHS	CUMULATIVE CASES/ 100,000	CUMULATIVE VACCINATED	CUMULATIVE FULLY VACCINATED	CUMULATIVE BOOSTERED
AFRICA	13,049,098	207	259,515	-	248,923	484,058,451	398,811,838	66,003,692
AMERICAS	193,246,052	1,255	2,962,591	4	1,241,882	835,447,892	731,893,384	495,237,137
EUROPE	251,655,734	12,718	2,073,126	55	2,112,084	569,620,774	541,040,894	383,756,585
MIDDLE EAST	22,712,925	677	239,773	16	216,065	144,725,560	130,012,483	60,203,464
TOTAL	480,663,809	14,857	5,535,005	75	3,818,953	2,033,852,677	1,801,758,599	1,005,200,878



COVID-19 Epi curve among ASEAN Countries:

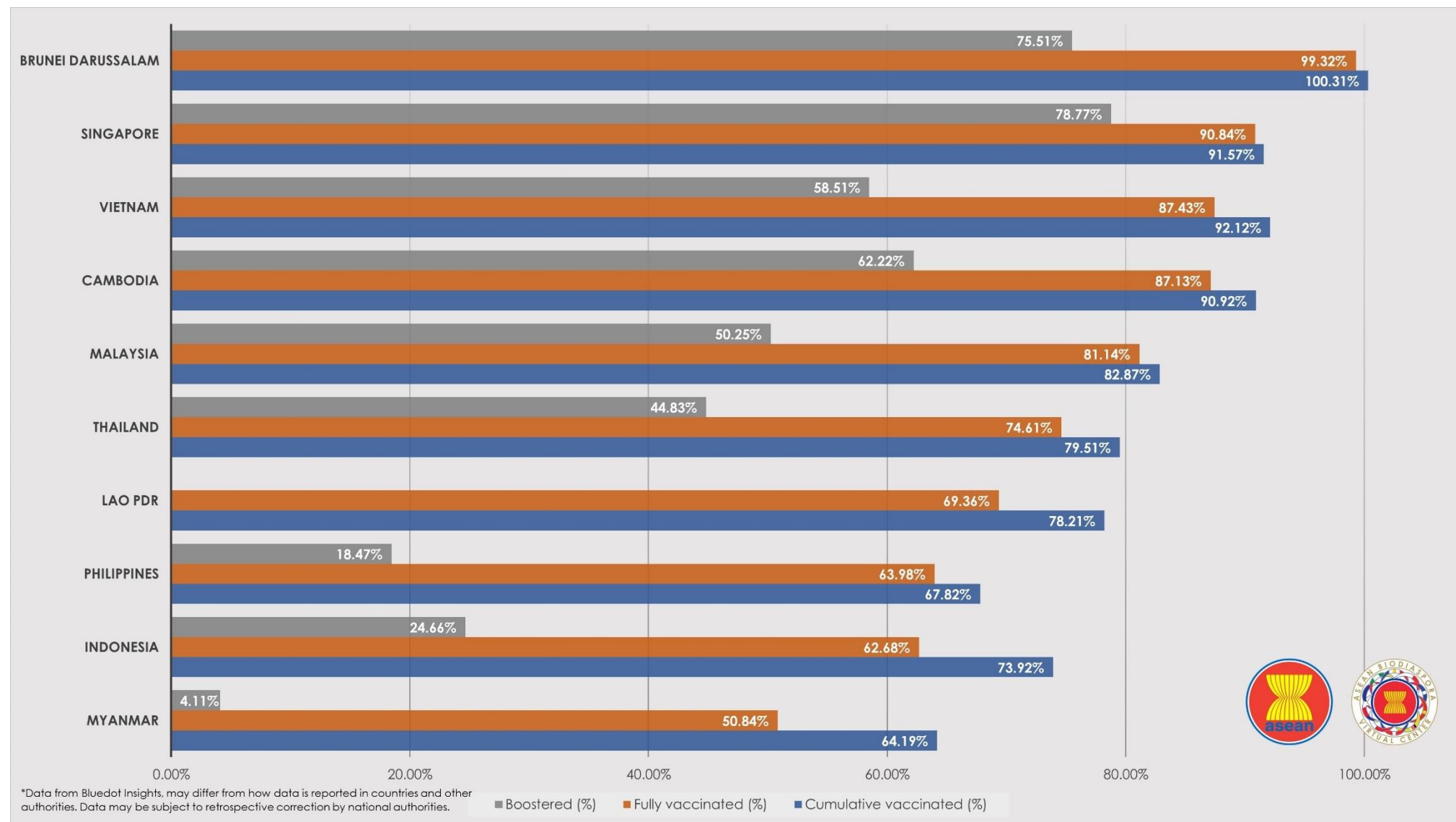
From January 1, 2021 to February 21, 2023





ASEAN COVID-19 Vaccination Status


as of 21 February 2023





ASEAN COVID-19 Outlook Assessment

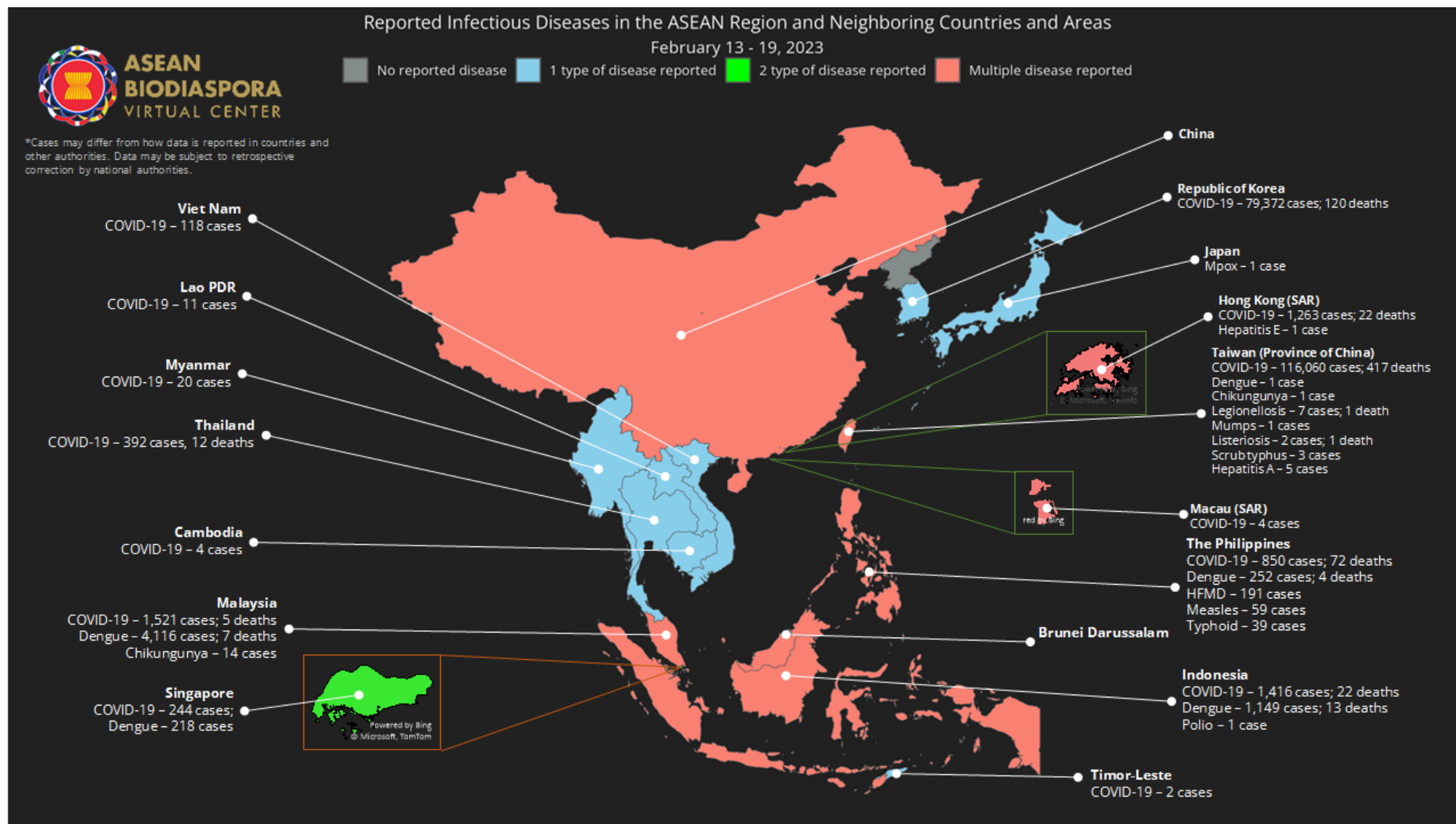
as of 19 February 2023

 ASEAN MEMBER STATE	<p>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.</p>			<p>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%).</p>	<p>Government Policy on containment and health (strictness and comprehensiveness in COVID-19 related government policies)</p>
	% of Total population fully vaccinated / boosted			Daily cases/ 100,000	Containment and health index score - Oxford COVID-19 Government Response Tracker (OxCGRT)
Brunei Darussalam	≥90.0	75.5		0.00	31.0/100
Cambodia	≥90.0	62.2		0.01	31.5/100
Indonesia	66.1	24.7		0.07	54.2/100
Lao PDR	77.3	ND		0.02	61.6/100
Malaysia	84.5	50.3		0.67	51.8/100
Myanmar	52.1	4.1		0.01	69.1/100
Philippines	71.6	18.5		0.10	55.4/100
Singapore	≥90.0	78.8		0.00	58.9/100
Thailand	77.7	44.8		0.04	31.5/100
Vietnam	≥90.0	58.5		0.01	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 February 13-19, 2023





Infectious Diseases Other than COVID-19, Mpox, and Dengue

February 13-19, 2023

Infectious Disease Global Updates

Marburg Virus Disease (MVD)

- Equatorial Guinea** on February 13 confirmed its first-ever outbreak of Marburg virus disease. Preliminary tests carried out following the deaths of at least nine people in the country's eastern Kie Ntem Province turned out positive on one of the samples for the viral haemorrhagic fever.⁵ Equatorial Guinean health authorities sent samples to the Institut Pasteur reference laboratory in Senegal with support from World Health Organization (WHO) to determine the cause of the disease after an alert by a district health official on 7 February.⁵ Of the eight samples tested at Institut Pasteur, one turned out positive for the virus.⁵ So far nine deaths and 16 suspected cases with symptoms including fever, fatigue and blood-stained vomit and diarrhoea have been reported.⁵ Advance teams have been deployed in the affected districts to trace contacts, isolate and provide medical care to people showing symptoms of the disease.⁵ Efforts are also underway to rapidly mount emergency response, with WHO deploying health emergency experts in epidemiology, case management, infection prevention, laboratory and risk communication to support the national response efforts and secure community collaboration in the outbreak control.⁵ WHO is also facilitating the shipment of laboratory glove tents for sample testing as well as one viral haemorrhagic fever kit that includes personal protective equipment that can be used by 500 health workers.⁵ "Marburg is highly infectious. Thanks to the rapid and decisive action by the Equatorial Guinean authorities in confirming the disease, emergency response can get to full steam quickly so that we save lives and halt the virus as soon as possible," said Dr Matshidiso Moeti, WHO Regional Director for Africa.⁵ Marburg virus disease is a highly virulent disease that causes hemorrhagic fever, with a fatality ratio of up to 88%.⁵ It is in the same family as the virus that causes Ebola virus disease.⁵ The virus is transmitted to people from fruit bats and spreads among humans through direct contact with the bodily fluids of infected people, surfaces and materials.⁵ There are no vaccines or antiviral treatments approved to treat the virus.⁵ However, supportive care – rehydration with oral or intravenous fluids – and treatment of specific symptoms, improves survival.⁵ [\[Full report\]](#)

Avian Influenza (H5N1)

- Ecuador:** Since the last risk assessment on 5 January 2023, one human case of influenza A(H5) virus infection was reported from Ecuador. On 9 January 2023, the Ecuador informed PAHO/WHO of a human case of infection with an avian influenza A(H5) virus. The case was detected as part of severe acute respiratory infection (SARI) sentinel surveillance and was confirmed by the National Influenza Centre (NIC). The case is a 9-year-old girl, with no known comorbidities, from Bolívar Province, Ecuador. She developed symptoms of conjunctival pruritus and coryza on 25 December 2022. On 27 December, she was brought to a local health center for medical evaluation and treatment. On 30 December, due to the persistent symptoms including nausea, vomiting and constipation, she was admitted to a general hospital where empirical treatment for meningitis was started with antibiotics and antipyretics. On 3 January 2023, she was transferred to a pediatric hospital in critical condition with septic shock and was treated with oseltamivir and mechanical ventilation due to pneumonia. On 5 January, as part of SARI surveillance activities, a nasopharyngeal sample was collected from the patient which tested positive for influenza A(H5) by RT-PCR on 7 January. Specimens have been sent to a WHO Collaborating Centre for further characterization. Epidemiological investigation revealed that a week before the onset of her symptoms, the family acquired poultry which died without apparent cause on 19 December 2022. In addition,



the epidemiological investigations revealed that several incidents of dead backyard poultry (chickens and ducks) have been reported from the same community where the family resided. Influenza A(H5N1) viruses have been detected in poultry in Ecuador since outbreaks in commercial poultry began in November 2022. As of 26 January, the patient remained hospitalized, under observation and in stable condition.

Ilheus Virus Disease

- **Brazil:** A case of Ilheus virus (ILHV) infection has been confirmed for the first time in Simões Filho, a municipality in the state of Bahia in the northeast region of Brazil, from a 41-year-old woman residing in the Metropolitan Region of Salvador who was hospitalized in an intensive care unit (ICU) in the capital of Bahia after being diagnosed with the ILHV. ILHV is a mosquito-borne flavivirus circulating throughout Central and South America and the Caribbean and has been detected in several mosquito species including *Aedes* and *Culex*, and birds are thought to be its primary amplifying and reservoir host. ILHV appears to cause mainly asymptomatic infections in humans with rare reports of encephalitis throughout northern South America. Likewise, human cases of ILHV have also been reported in Trinidad, Panama, Colombia, French Guiana, Ecuador, and Bolivia. The BlueDot intelligence team considers this event of medium concern at the local and regional levels, and an overall low globally given factors such as the difficulty in estimating the true burden of emerging arboviruses such as ILHV in Brazil and many other countries where dengue, Zika, chikungunya, and yellow fever are endemic, and because of its similarities of symptoms of the acute phase and the lack of laboratory and surveillance resources. Furthermore, vector suitability and presence across the region may represent a further threat for transmission among a non-immune population, although there is no documentation thus far of known epidemics or epizootic outbreaks of ILHV.

Malaria, *Falciparum*, Artemisinin Resistant

- **UK:** In September 2022, the 1st case of *Plasmodium falciparum* artemisinin drug-resistant malaria (carrying the variant pfk13_675V) was reported in a UK resident who travelled to Uganda, an important destination for UK travellers.¹³ Artemisinin combination therapy (ACT) consists of 2 or more drugs with different types of action on the malaria parasite and is the recommended choice of treatment for *P. falciparum* malaria.¹³ Following this case, the Malaria Reference Laboratory is monitoring closely for further evidence of ACT treatment failure.¹³ This case highlights the importance of malaria prevention for travellers, including good compliance with antimalarial prophylactic drug regimens, as the current preventive measures are more than 90% effective when used correctly.¹³ Clinicians are reminded to be vigilant and consider malaria in all unwell travellers returning from a malaria risk country, especially those with a fever or flu-like symptoms.¹³ Expert advice on malaria treatment should be sought from the local infectious disease unit.¹³ Cases of suspected antimalarial treatment failure must be discussed urgently; expert advice is also available from the Hospital for Tropical Diseases and the Liverpool School of Tropical Medicine.¹³ All malaria-positives, from all geographical areas, should be confirmed in the Malaria Reference Laboratory.¹³ [\[Full article\]](#)

Infectious Disease in ASEAN region and Neighboring Countries Updates

Measles

- **Philippines:** In a follow-up report on the measles situation in the Philippines this year to date, the Philippines Department of Health's Epidemic-prone Disease Case Surveillance (EDCS) reports in the month of January 2023, a 638% increase in measles cases compared to the same period in 2022.⁶ From January 1 to January 28, 2023, 59 measles



cases were reported, up from the eight cases reported during the same period last year.⁶ Some regions have reported significant increases during this first month of 2023—Zamboanga Peninsula (Region IX) has seen 13 cases in January 2023, compared to zero last year.⁶ Calabarzon (Region IVA) reports seven cases compared to zero in January 2022.⁶ [\[Full article\]](#)

Vaccine-Derived Poliovirus Type 2

- **Indonesia:** One case of circulating vaccine-derived poliovirus type 2 (cVDPV2) was reported this week making it the second detection in 2023. There was one case detected in 2022. Summary of new polioviruses this week other than in Indonesia: Afghanistan: two WPV1 positive environmental samples, Benin: one cVDPV2 positive environmental sample, Chad: seven cVDPV2 cases, DRC: six cVDPV2 cases, Nigeria: four cVDPV2 cases and Yemen: 10 cVDPV2 positive environmental samples. [\[Full article\]](#)

Hand, Foot, and Mouth Disease

- **Philippines:** The Davao de Oro provincial health office has intensified its information campaign on hand, foot, and mouth disease (HFMD) after the province logged 418 cases, mostly in children.⁸ In a virtual press briefing on Feb. 16, Dr. Antonio Ybiernas, the provincial health officer, said HFMD is a highly contagious viral disease that could be transferred to anyone.⁷ Most HFMD cases are mild, self-limiting, and non-fatal if caused by enterovirus Coxsackievirus A16, he said.⁷ Ybiernas, however, added that it may progress to meningitis, encephalitis, and polio-like paralysis if left unmanaged, sometimes resulting in death.⁷ "I would like to remind everyone, especially the children to wash hands regularly, wear face masks, eat nutritious foods, and sleep on time," he said.⁷ Of the 418 cases in the province, Laak town topped the list at 141, Nabunturan (55), New Bataan (52), Maragusan (50), Mabini (40), and Montevista (29).⁷ In addition, Compostela town recorded 18 cases, Monkayo (12), Mawab (9), Maco (8), and Pantukan (4).⁷ "This is mostly seen in children until they are 10 years old.⁷ Adults can also acquire it but only in a few cases," Ybiernas said.⁷ For its symptoms, the presence of fever, mouth sores, and skin rash is usually seen in the palms of the hands, feet soles, buttocks, arms, and legs.⁷ "Contaminated areas and objects can be a source of the infection.⁷ That's why we emphasized the importance of handwashing," Ybiernas said.⁷ [\[Full article\]](#)

Chikungunya

- **Malaysia:** Health director-general Tan Sri Dr Noor Hisham Abdullah said that chikungunya surveillance recorded a total of 14 cases, with five of them from Penang, three cases in Kedah and two cases each in Perak, Selangor, Kuala Lumpur and Putrajaya.⁸ This brings the cumulative number of chikungunya cases to 86.⁸ "A total of 284 blood samples and one urine sample were tested for zika surveillance, and the results were all negative," he said.⁸ Dr. Noor Hisham also advised the public to take some precautionary measures before returning to their hometowns or going on vacation during the school holidays, so that there is no place for mosquitoes to breed in and around the house, following the current increase in rainfall.⁸ These include ensuring no stagnant water in water filters and flower vases, closing water storage containers tightly, as well as adding larvae-killing material in pumps and toilet bowls.⁸ He said people also need to ensure that their outdoor environment was free from containers which can hold water, for example, decorative items, food or drink containers, plant pot bases and children's toys.⁸ "While in hometowns or on vacation, wear clothes which cover body parts if doing outdoor activities, especially in the early morning and late afternoon, and use repellent to avoid being bitten by mosquitoes," he said.⁸ [\[Full article\]](#)



Typhoid

- **Philippines.** Negros Oriental Acting Provincial Health Officer Dr. Liland Estacion reported that the province logged 39 cases of typhoid fever with zero deaths from January 1 to February 11.⁹ This is 39% higher than in the same period last year with only 28 cases and no deaths.⁹ The top 10 areas with the most number of cases of typhoid fever are Dumaguete City and Guihulngan City with six each; Mabinay, five; Siaton and Tanjay City, three each; and Ayungon, Bais City, Bayawan City, Dauin, and Tayasan, two each.⁹ Canlaon City, Jimalalud, La Libertad, Sibulan, Valencia, and Zamboanguita had one each while the rest of the province had zero cases.⁹ [\[Full article\]](#)

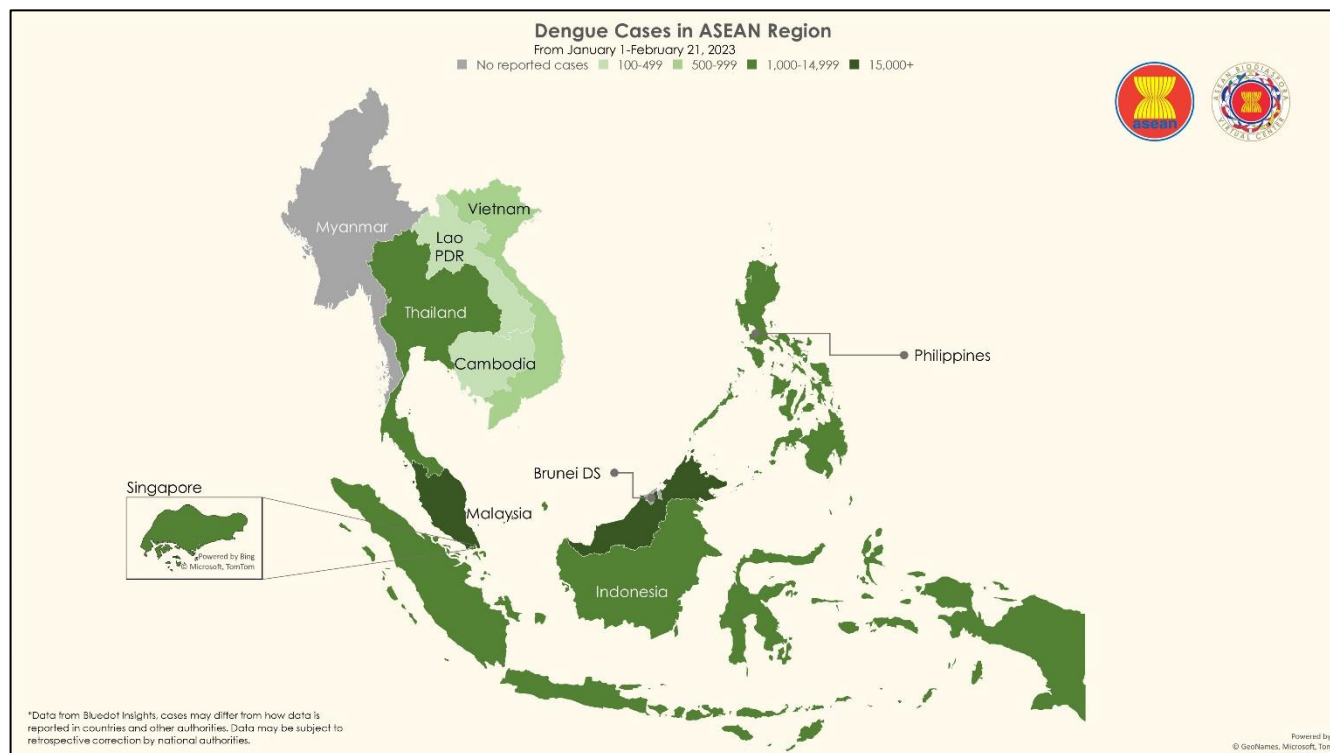
Hepatitis E

- **Hong Kong** health officials report investigating a case of human infection of rat Hepatitis E virus (HEV).¹⁰ The case involves a 28-year-old man with underlying illnesses.¹⁰ He was found to have a deranged liver function during his follow-up in Queen Elizabeth Hospital.¹⁰ The patient is now in stable condition.¹⁰ His blood sample tested positive for rat HEV upon laboratory testing.¹⁰ The Centre for Health Protection (CHP's) epidemiological investigations revealed that the patient resides in Ho Man Tin.¹⁰ He did not have contact with rodents or rats, and had no travel history during the incubation period.¹⁰ "Based on the available epidemiological information, the source and the route of infection could not be determined.¹⁰ The CHP's investigation is ongoing," a spokesman for the CHP said.¹⁰ The exact mode of transmission of rat HEV to humans is unknown at the moment.¹⁰ Possible routes of transmission include ingestion of food or water contaminated by rodents or their excreta, exposure to environments or objects contaminated by rodents or their excreta and direct contact with rodents or their excreta.¹⁰ The usual HEV causing human infection is transmitted mainly through the fecal-oral route.¹⁰ [\[Full article\]](#)



Dengue Cases in ASEAN Region

From January 1 to February 21, 2023



Dengue cases in ASEAN region

Country	Dengue Cases	New Cases in the Past Week	Deaths	Case Fatality Rate (CFR)
Brunei Darussalam	-	-	-	-
Cambodia	400	0	0	-
Indonesia	2,930	0	24	0.82%
Lao PDR	238	0	0	0.00%
Malaysia	15,243	4,116	13	0.09%
Myanmar	-	-	-	-
Philippines	1,093	252	9	0.82%
Singapore	1,460	218	0	0.00%
Thailand	3,855	0	1	0.03%
Vietnam	506	0	0	0.00%
Total	25,725	4,586	47	0.18%

*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 **4,586** new dengue cases from February 15 to 21, 2023 in Malaysia, the Philippines, and Singapore. The region reported **25,725** total cases and **47** total deaths in 2023 with **0.18%** CFR.



Dengue

- Indonesia:** "Based on data from the Ministry of Health of the Republic of Indonesia (Kemenkes RI), there are 2,930 cases of Dengue Hemorrhagic Fever (DHF) with 24 deaths in Indonesia.¹ This data was taken as of February 13, 2023. Head of the Bureau of Communication and Public Services of the Indonesian Ministry of Health Siti Nadia Tarmizi said 2,930 cases of dengue hemorrhagic fever were reported from 92 districts/cities in 7 provinces. These include the addition of dengue cases in the 6th week of 2023 with 1,285 cases.¹ There were also additional deaths from dengue by 13 deaths. "Dengue/DHF cases were reported from 92 districts/cities in 7 provinces.¹ There were additional cases in week 6 of 1,285 cases and 13 deaths. "In 2022, there are 143,176 cases, 1,238 deaths out of 52.09 per 100,000 population and a CFR of 0.86 percent," continued Nadia.¹ Even though there are additional cases, the CFR for DHF is less than 1 percent.¹ The addition of Dengue Hemorrhagic Fever (DHF) cases as of 13 February 2023 is spread across 53 regencies/cities in Indonesia, from the provinces of West Java, DKI Jakarta, East Kalimantan and West Nusa Tenggara (NTB)," Siti Nadia Tarmizi explained.¹ Meanwhile, there were also suspected cases of dengue originating from reports from the Early Alertness and Response System (SKDR) cumulatively up to week 6 of 26,077 suspected dengue.¹ "Regions with an increase in cases in January 2023 compared to the same period the previous year, namely Mahakam Hulu (22 cases), Dompu NTB (36 cases), Bima (75 cases)," continued Nadia.¹ "Then North Lombok (54 cases), Bima City (87 cases), and Ende (22 cases)."¹ The Ministry of Health's national dengue control program consists of the use of a dengue vaccine and Wolbachia technology.¹ DENGVAIXA vaccine was used since 2016 to prevent dengue fever caused by dengue virus serotypes 1, 2, 3 and 4, in children aged 9 to 16 years.¹ The QDENGVA vaccine has received a distribution permit from the Indonesian Food and Drug Supervisory Agency (BPOM) in August 2022 and is now awaiting a recommendation from the Technical Advisory Group on Immunization (ITAGI).¹ This is for the target age of 6 to 45 years, according to the release date of 5 February 2023. The second dengue control measure is the use of Wolbachia.¹ [\[Full article\]](#)
- Malaysia:** The cumulative number of dengue fever cases reported has increased by 205.6% (8,810 cases) to 13,094 cases, compared with 4,284 cases recorded for the same period last year.² Health director-general Tan Sri Dr. Noor Hisham Abdullah, in a statement on Friday (Feb. 17), said that nine deaths due to fever complications were also recorded, compared with no deaths reported for the same period in 2022.² "However, the number of dengue fever cases in the Sixth Epidemiological Week (Feb 5 to 11) this year has dropped by 8.9%, to 1,967 cases with three deaths, compared with 2,159 cases reported in the previous week," he said.² He added that a total of 86 hotspot localities were recorded this week, compared with 82 hotspot localities in the previous week, with 50 of them in Selangor, Sabah (22), Kuala Lumpur and Putrajaya (11) and Penang (three).² [\[Full article\]](#)
- Philippines:** Dengue cases in Negros Occidental have increased by 142.62 percent at the start of 2023.³ Dr. Ernell Tumimbang, provincial health officer, said Negros Occidental recorded 148 dengue cases, including one death, from January 1 to February 4.³ During the same period in 2022, the province had 61 dengue cases, including two deaths.³ The localities with high number of dengue cases this year are San Carlos City, with 20, followed by Bago City (14), Silay City (14), Cadiz City (13), and Escalante City (8).³ Tumimbang said they were monitoring the dengue situation in the province and taking proactive measures to prevent further rise in cases, especially since it has been raining lately.³ Tumimbang said Negros Occidental Gov. Eugenio Jose Lacson and Provincial Administrator Rayfrando Diaz ordered them to take proactive measures against dengue.³ The health department has directed local governments to conduct daily "search and destroy" activities of mosquito breeding sites; check and clean containers



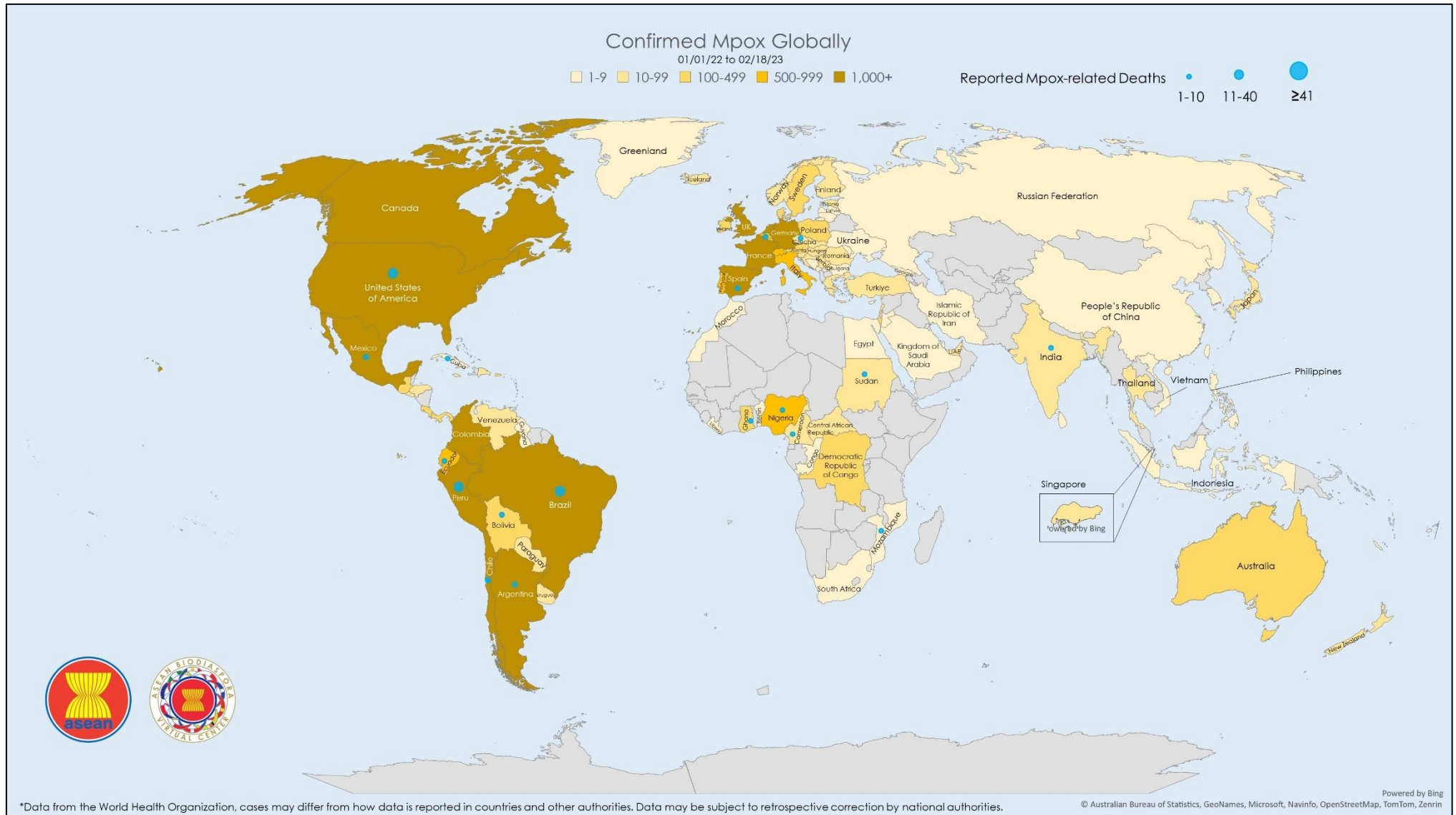
or water deposits for the presence of the *Aedes* mosquito larvae (locally known as kiti-kiti) and pupae; conduct barangay dengue brigade and organize a weekly simultaneous search-and-destroy activities to reduce the risk of dengue transmission; and conduct fogging or spraying operations for four consecutive weeks.³ The DOH also appealed to people in the region to seek early consultation for suspected dengue cases, especially those with abdominal pain, bleeding, frequent vomiting, lethargy, and restlessness.³ [\[Full article\]](#)

- **Thailand:** The Thailand Department of Disease Control is advising the public to guard against dengue fever as the case tally rises to 3,855 reported from 72 provinces from the beginning of the year through February 7.⁴ One fatality was report to date. The Central Region accounts for 2,588 cases, or 67 percent of the total cases and more than 1,000 cases were reported in Bangkok.⁴ The provinces which have not reported any dengue to date include Sing Buri, Nakhon Phanom Buriram, Amnat Charoen and Bueng Kan.⁴ Dengue season spikes from May through September during the rainy season, and the public is urged to empty objects containing standing water to limit the spread of mosquitos.⁴ The department also urged people to be on the lookout for symptoms. Dengue fever can cause fatigue, headache, loss of appetite, and skin rashes.⁴ If treated, the survival rate is very high.⁴ [\[Full article\]](#)



Mpox (Monkeypox) Cases Reported Globally

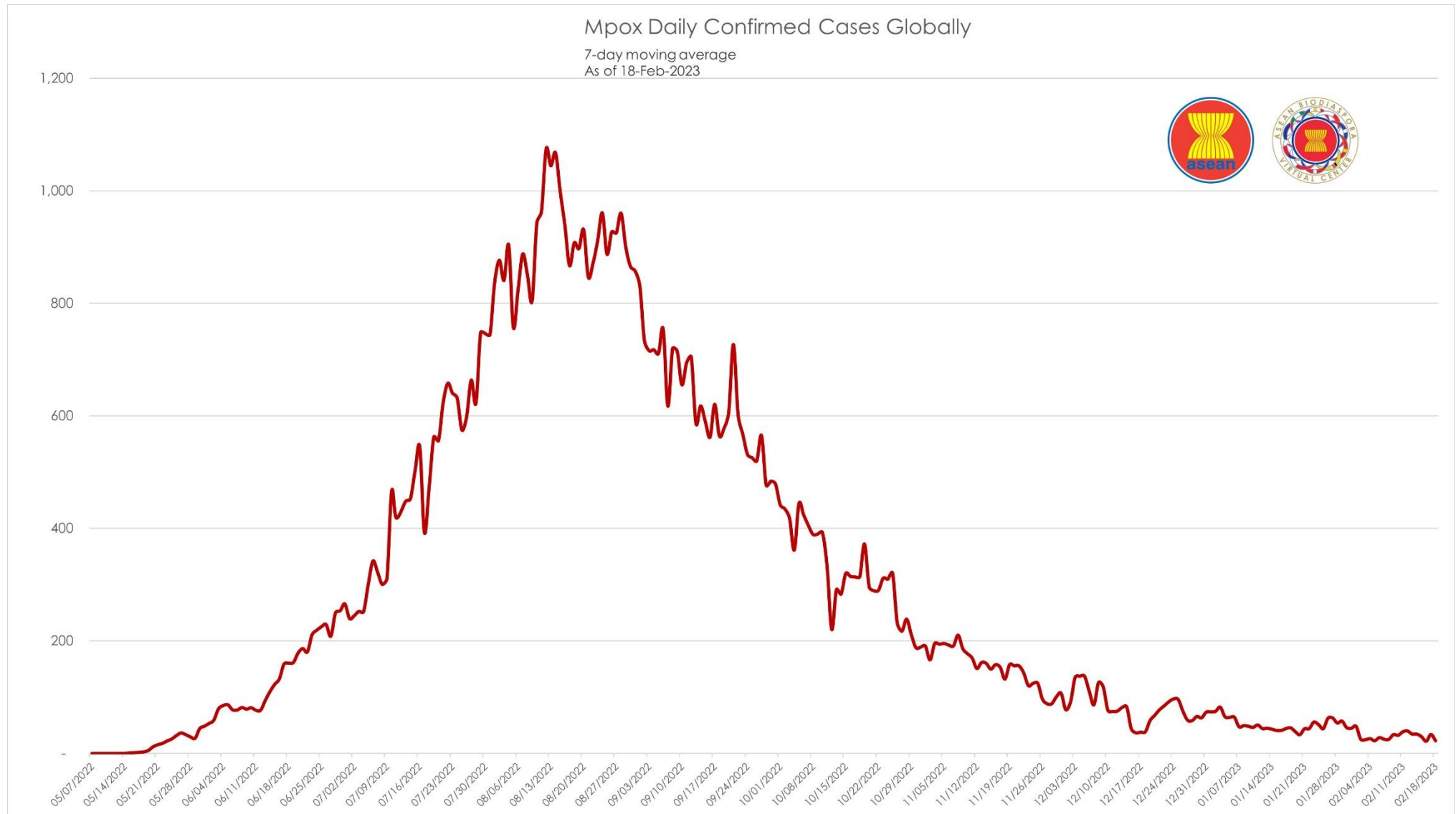
as of February 18, 2023





Mpox Daily Trend Globally

as of February 18, 2023





Mpox: Highlights and Situation Overview

- As of 22 February 2023 (1PM, GMT+7), worldwide, there were **86,019** confirmed cases, including **96** deaths. Globally, Case Fatality Rate (CFR) was **0.11%**.
- 43 confirmed cases** in the ASEAN region, with CFR of **0%**.
- 85,976 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	21	-	-	0.00%
Thailand	15	-	-	0.00%
Vietnam	2	-	-	0.00%
ASEAN Total	43	-	-	0.00%

Mpox cases in Asia-Pacific region

Country/Territory	Total Cases	New Cases	Deaths	Case Fatality Rate (CFR)
Australia	144	-	-	0.00%
India	22	-	1	5.00%
Japan	20	-	-	0.00%
New Caledonia	1	-	-	0.00%
New Zealand	41	-	-	0.00%
People's Republic of China*	7	-	-	0.00%
Republic of Korea	4	-	-	0.00%
Sri Lanka	2	-	-	0.00%
Asia-Pacific Total	241	-	1	0.42%

*People's Republic of China – including Hongkong (SAR), Macao (SAR), and Taiwan (Province of China)

Top 5 countries with most mpox cases globally

Country	Total Cases	New Cases	Deaths	Case Fatality Rate (CFR)
United States of America	29,987	13	32	0.11%
Brazil	10,808	-	15	0.14%
Spain	7,538	-	3	0.04%
France	4,128	-	-	0.00%
Colombia	4,080	-	-	0.00%



Mpox cases per region

REGION	TOTAL CONFIRMED CASES SINCE JANUARY 1, 2022	NEW CASES SINCE THE PREVIOUS REPORT	TOTAL DEATHS	CASE FATALITY RATE
AFRICA	1,412	38	17	1.20%
AMERICAS	58,373	63	73	0.12%
ASEAN	43	-	-	0.00%
ASIA PACIFIC	241	-	1	0.41%
EUROPE	25,567	1	5	0.02%
MIDDLE EAST	320	-	-	0.00%
TOTAL	86,019	102	96	0.11%



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