

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 622 million cases and over 6 million deaths attributed to COVID-19.
- **Canada:** Since the virus has been affecting Canadians for more than two years, many vaccinations, including the eagerly awaited COVID-19 bivalent booster injection, have been developed to combat it.<sup>6</sup> Many individuals in Saskatchewan must wait to receive their medication, though.<sup>6</sup> The Omicron type, which is presently the most common variation circulating worldwide, is the one that the bivalent vaccination especially targets.<sup>6</sup> Six of the ten provinces in Canada presently provide the bivalent immunization to anyone age 18 and older.<sup>6</sup> Anyone 30 years of age or older can presently get the immunization in Quebec.<sup>6</sup> The bivalent vaccination is available to anybody 50 years of age or older in New Brunswick, while anyone 65 years of age or older can receive it in Newfoundland.<sup>6</sup> However, Saskatchewan is the only jurisdiction that only provides the shot to those who are at least 70 years old or who live in First Nations or Metis communities, who must be at least 50.<sup>6</sup> The Ministry of Health claimed in a statement to Global News that they are prioritizing providing the vaccination to vulnerable groups first, but they did not specify how many doses had been given out or a target date for lowering the eligibility age.<sup>6</sup> Epidemiologist Dr. Nazeem Muhajarine of the University of Saskatchewan hopes the eligibility becomes available as soon as possible.<sup>6</sup> [\[Full Article\]](#)

### Regional Update

- **Brunei:** There are no COVID-19 patients in Category 5 receiving treatment in critical care facilities, and there are no instances in Category 4 requiring breathing help and being closely monitored.<sup>5</sup> Additionally, there were no COVID-19 fatalities in Brunei Darussalam on the previous day.<sup>5</sup> The Ministry of Health (MoH) published these yesterday in its daily report. Yesterday, 180 patients were deemed healed, increasing the overall recovery rate to 225,069.<sup>5</sup> At least three doses of the COVID-19 vaccination were provided to 78.4% of Brunei's population, while 10.4% received a fourth dose.<sup>5</sup> 85.1% of kids between the ages of 5 and 11 received at least two doses of the vaccination, while 61.4% of teenagers between the ages of 12 and 17 received the third dosage.<sup>5</sup>
- **Philippines:** The Department of Health (DOH) said on September 27 that one of the reasons for the recent increase in coronavirus disease (COVID-19) cases is making the use of face masks optional, two weeks after the government relaxed the mandatory masking regulation.<sup>8</sup> The official in charge of the DOH, Undersecretary Maria Rosario Vergeire, stated that several factors contributed to the increase at a news conference.<sup>8</sup> Vergeire made the claim after the DOH announced on September 26 of last year that the average daily COVID-19 cases for the week of September 19 to 25 had risen by 22% from the prior week.<sup>8</sup> For the first time since the week of August 8 to 14, this was an increase in COVID-19 instances.<sup>8</sup> [\[Full Article\]](#)
- **Thailand** is the first nation to permit the production of Covid nasal spray.<sup>9</sup> To announce the creation and introduction of a "antibody nasal spray," Worrawan Chaikamnerd, CEO of Hibiocy Co Ltd, and KISS, Flt. Lt. Dr. Nimit Prasitdumrong, Honorary Expert of Hibiocy Co. Ltd., joined forces with the public sector, led by Assoc. Prof. Dr. Chanchai Sittipunt, dean of Chulalongkorn University's Faculty of Medicine, and GPO Managing Director Dr. Withoon Danw. Recently, the two industries collaborated to create an antibody-based nasal spray that offers further defense against COVID-19.<sup>9</sup> The innovation was passed on to the commercial sector, which conducted clinical studies to fulfill the requirements for registration with the Thai FDA.<sup>9</sup> The study on a monoclonal antibody cocktail collected

from COVID-19 patients who have totally recovered led to the development of the antibody-based nasal spray.<sup>9</sup> It has demonstrated the ability to stop COVID-19 infections.<sup>9</sup> Monoclonal antibodies are an effective tool for doing clinical research and have several uses, including biotechnology.<sup>9</sup> [\[Full Article\]](#)

- **China:** The National Health Commission said on September 27 that China has recorded 968 new COVID-19 infections on September 26, of which 245 were symptomatic and 723 were asymptomatic.<sup>4</sup> This contrasts with 999 new cases a day earlier, of which China separately reports 295 symptomatic illnesses and 704 asymptomatic infections.<sup>4</sup> The number of fatalities in the country remained at 5,226 due to no additional deaths, the same as the day before.<sup>4</sup> As of September 26, there were 249,929 verified cases in mainland China that displayed symptoms.<sup>4</sup> According to local government data, neither the capital Beijing nor the financial center Shanghai reported any new local illnesses.<sup>4</sup>

## Vaccine Update

- **Indonesia:** In early 2023, according to health minister Budi Gunadi Sadikin, the population's immunity will start to wane.<sup>7</sup> Therefore, a plan to expedite booster immunizations is required to reach 100 million participants by the following year.<sup>7</sup> Since the process of virus mutations happens naturally and lasts in the community for a long time, even after the pandemic is proclaimed finished, the plan must be put into place to prepare for an unanticipated rise in cases from a new COVID-19 wave.<sup>7</sup> Since August of this year, the average daily COVID-19 vaccination rate has decreased to 65,645 shots.<sup>7</sup> In contrast, there were approximately 1.4 million immunizations administered per day in April.<sup>7</sup> Vaccinations must be increased so that more provinces in the country achieve greater than 50% booster dose coverage.<sup>7</sup> This is because, since the booster immunizations were introduced on January 12, only Bali, Jakarta, and the Riau Islands provinces have achieved 50% coverage.<sup>7</sup> [\[Full Article\]](#)
- **Japan:** After a recent Omicron wave, Japan's population immunity to COVID-19 has increased to nearly 90% in key population regions, albeit that level of protection is anticipated to decline in the coming months, according to a research released on September 27.<sup>3</sup> According to the Tokyo Foundation of Policy Research, which calculated the levels for 12 of Japan's most populous prefectures, that level of so-called "herd immunity" represents the partial protection conferred from both spontaneous infection and vaccination.<sup>3</sup> Most of the immunity in Tokyo, Osaka, and the southern prefecture of Okinawa was acquired by contagion during periods of high case numbers there, notably during the seventh wave of illnesses that peaked last month.<sup>3</sup> According to official statistics, 65% of the population in Japan had at least one COVID vaccination booster injection, compared to 33% in the US.<sup>3</sup> Last September 26, Japan started dispensing booster doses designed to combat the Omicron type of the virus.<sup>3</sup> According to the researchers, Japan presently mandates a five-month gap between booster doses, but that may not be enough time to adequately protect elderly and vulnerable populations should a predicted eighth wave materialize by the end of the year.<sup>3</sup>

## Research Update

- A recent study on **Remdesivir resistance in transplant recipients with persistent COVID-19** published in *Clinical Infectious Diseases* describes a new SARS-CoV-2 mutation that confers resistance to the COVID-19 antiviral drug remdesivir in two persistently infected kidney transplant recipients treated with immunosuppressive drugs.<sup>10</sup> Researchers from New York University have identified the V792I RNA-dependent 25 RNA polymerase mutation in transplant patients, who were hospitalized and experienced life-threatening COVID-19 complications from reinfection after receiving remdesivir.<sup>10</sup> One patient was in his or her 60s and had received two doses of the Pfizer/BioNTech COVID-19 vaccine

before being infected with the Omicron subvariant BA.1.1 6 months after transplant and receiving a 5-day course of remdesivir.<sup>10</sup> Twenty-four days later, the patient was readmitted to the hospital and given remdesivir.<sup>10</sup> After 3.5 months, the patient was reinfected but had mild symptoms, so no treatment was given.<sup>10</sup> The other patient was in his or her 50s and had received two doses of the Moderna COVID-19 vaccine before becoming infected 14 months after the transplant.<sup>10</sup> The patient improved after receiving a 3-day course of remdesivir but was readmitted 18 days later because of worsening symptoms.<sup>10</sup> After receiving a 5-day course of remdesivir, the patient improved.<sup>10</sup> The result, therefore, highlights the importance of continuing to monitor how the coronavirus changes over time and keeping on the lookout for genetic mutations that allow the virus to overcome the medical community's efforts to prevent it.<sup>10</sup> [\[Full Text\]](#)

- A study on **Association of Primary and Booster Vaccination and Prior Infection With SARS-CoV-2 Infection and Severe COVID-19 Outcomes** showed that COVID-19 vaccines offer good protection against severe illness and death, but with one finding waning effectiveness over time.<sup>11</sup> Researchers from the University of North Carolina led a study of the state's 10.6 million residents from March 2, 2020, to June 3, 2022, comparing outcomes among those who completed a primary COVID-19 vaccine series versus those who remained unvaccinated.<sup>11</sup> The findings from this study suggest that the estimated effectiveness of all 3 vaccines (Pfizer/BioNTech, Moderna, and Johnson & Johnson) were high, especially against hospitalization and death, although the vaccine effectiveness has decreased over time.<sup>11</sup> After the emergence of the Omicron variant, the estimated vaccine effectiveness was lower against infection, but the estimated effectiveness against hospitalization and death remained high.<sup>11</sup> [\[Full Text\]](#)

### Travel Update

- **Thailand** will lift all its COVID-19 restrictions starting October 1 (Saturday). Travelers will no longer be required to show proof of vaccination or proof of a negative test to enter the country. Thailand will also extend the time visa-exempt travelers can stay in the country from 30 days to 45 days. Travelers from the United States do not require a visa to enter, according to the U.S. Embassy and Consulate in Thailand. The new visa rules will be in effect from October 1, 2022, through March 31, 2023, according to the Tourism Authority of Thailand.

## Cases and Deaths as of 28 September 2022

- As of 28 September 2022 (2PM, GMT+8), worldwide, there were **622,245,811** confirmed cases, including **6,553,975** deaths. Globally, Case Fatality Rate (CFR) was **1.1%**.
- 88,567,086 confirmed cases** of COVID-19 have been reported in the **ASEAN +3** countries including **34,446,354 cases** in the ASEAN region and **54,120,732 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	27-Sep-22	226,237	-	225	-	52,214	449,769	444,757	335,738	99.9
	Cambodia	27 Jan 20	27-Sep-22	137,856	7	3,056	-	836	15,179,687	14,524,890	10,085,230	87.6
	Indonesia	02 Mar 20	27-Sep-22	6,425,849	1,976	158,057	21	2,374	203,965,188	170,603,677	62,453,196	62.3
	Lao PDR	24 Mar 20	27-Sep-22	215,799	48	758	-	3,010	5,888,649	5,222,417		70.3
	Malaysia	25 Jan 20	27-Sep-22	4,833,008	-	36,357	-	15,127	28,101,020	27,507,561	16,734,778	81.9
	Myanmar	23 Mar 20	27-Sep-22	622,042	356	19,455	-	1,151	34,777,314	27,545,329	2,227,351	51.2
	Philippines	30 Jan 20	27-Sep-22	3,941,656	1,455	62,849	30	3,646	77,387,291	72,747,959	18,508,543	63.9
	Singapore	23 Jan 20	27-Sep-22	1,889,564	1,606	1,615	5	33,130	5,024,384	5,004,693	4,297,217	91.8
	Thailand	13 Jan 20	27-Sep-22	4,679,022	351	32,739	10	6,720	56,996,810	53,470,871	32,069,127	74.7
	Vietnam	23 Jan 20	27-Sep-22	11,475,321	1,588	43,147	1	11,896	89,753,472	83,849,273	69,805,302	86.0
	ASEAN COUNTRIES			34,446,354	7,387	358,258	67	130,105	517,523,584	460,921,427	216,516,482	
ASEAN PLUS THREE	South Korea	20-Jan-20	27-Sep-22	24,673,663	39,367	28,272	26	47,716	45,112,829	44,677,524	41,016,996	86.2
	Japan	16-Jan-20	27-Sep-22	21,118,568	5,263	44,030	-	16,726	104,207,001	102,817,951	116,105,715	82.5
	China	31-Dec-19	27-Sep-22	8,328,501	49,696	26,278	34	51,120	1,331,950,449	1,298,226,253	831,297,322	87.6
		PLUS THREE COUNTRIES			54,120,732	94,326	98,580	60	115,562	1,481,270,279	1,445,721,728	988,420,033
			ASEAN +3	88,567,086	101,713	456,838	127	245,666	1,998,793,863	1,906,643,155	1,204,936,515	

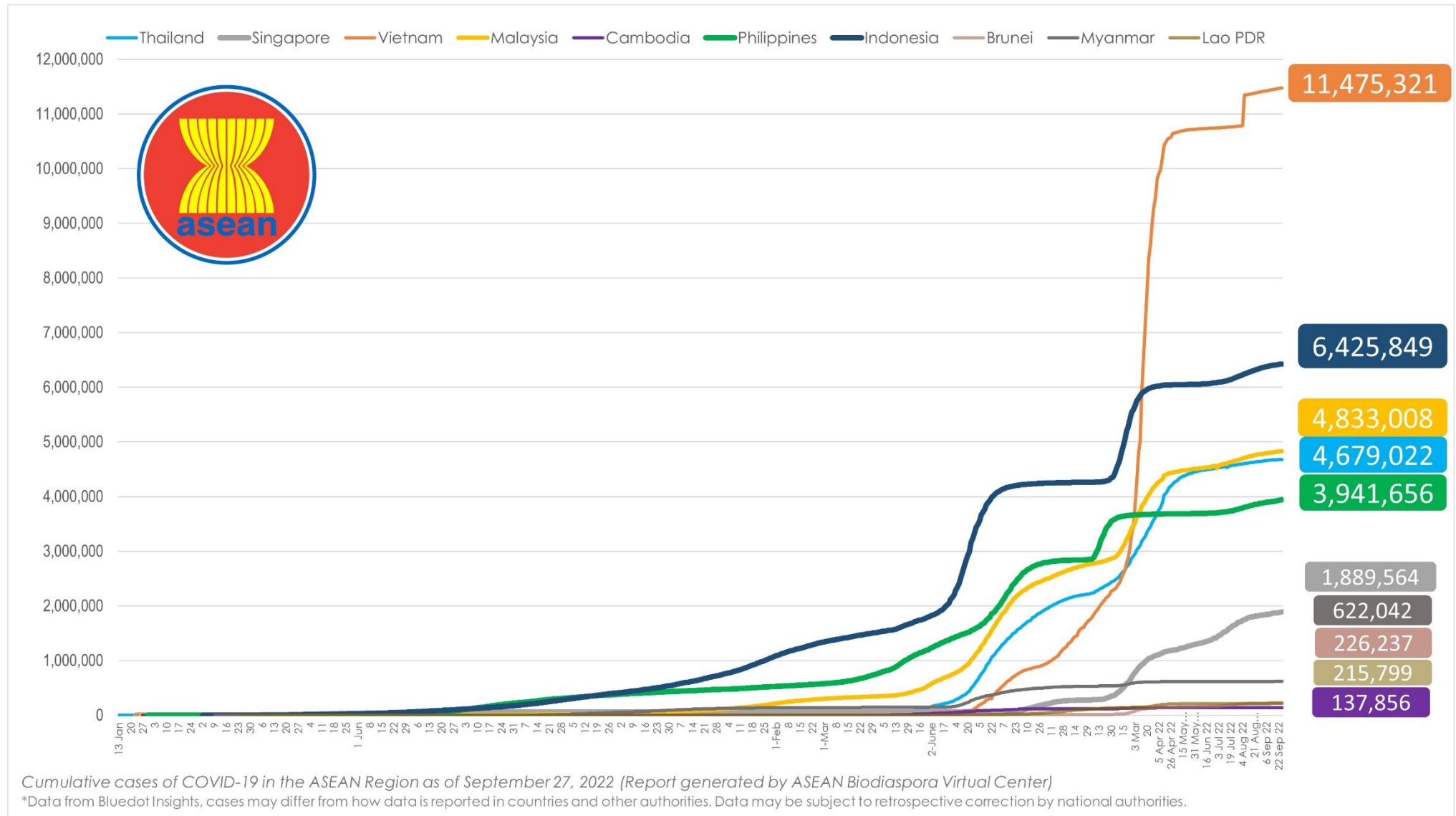
- 533,678,725 confirmed cases** of COVID-19 have been reported in **5 continents** (other than ASEAN +3 countries):

CONTINENT	TOTAL CONFIRMED CASES	NEW CASES	TOTAL DEATHS	NEW DEATHS	CUMULATIVE CASES/ 100,000	CUMULATIVE VACCINATED	CUMULATIVE FULLY VACCINATED	CUMULATIVE BOOSTERED
AFRICA	12,901,036	376	258,562	-	251,355	397,018,952	314,080,773	49,594,230
AMERICAS	181,154,894	16,656	2,871,565	99	1,175,300	823,941,001	722,064,424	472,697,234
ASIA PACIFIC	85,322,699	14,342	749,892	84	473,273	1,443,497,986	1,333,624,295	369,726,606
EUROPE	231,872,841	218,112	1,979,132	332	1,991,220	565,889,820	537,158,857	352,978,564
MIDDLE EAST	22,427,255	4,176	237,986	11	211,004	143,753,114	129,116,059	59,215,887
TOTAL	<b>533,678,725</b>	<b>253,662</b>	<b>6,097,137</b>	<b>526</b>	<b>4,102,151</b>	<b>3,374,100,873</b>	<b>3,036,044,408</b>	<b>1,304,212,521</b>



# COVID-19 Epi curve among ASEAN Countries:

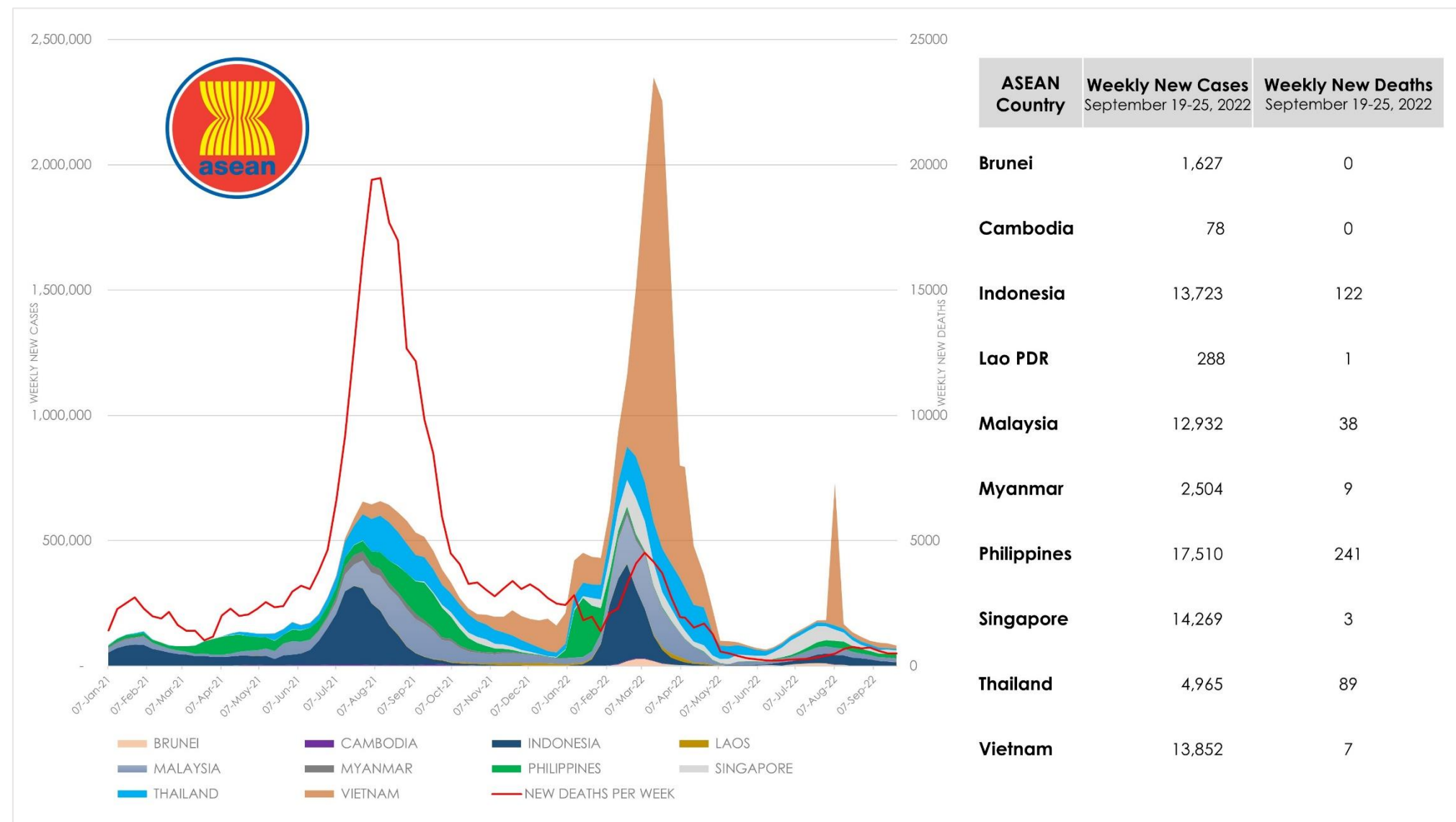
From January 1, 2021 to September 27, 2022





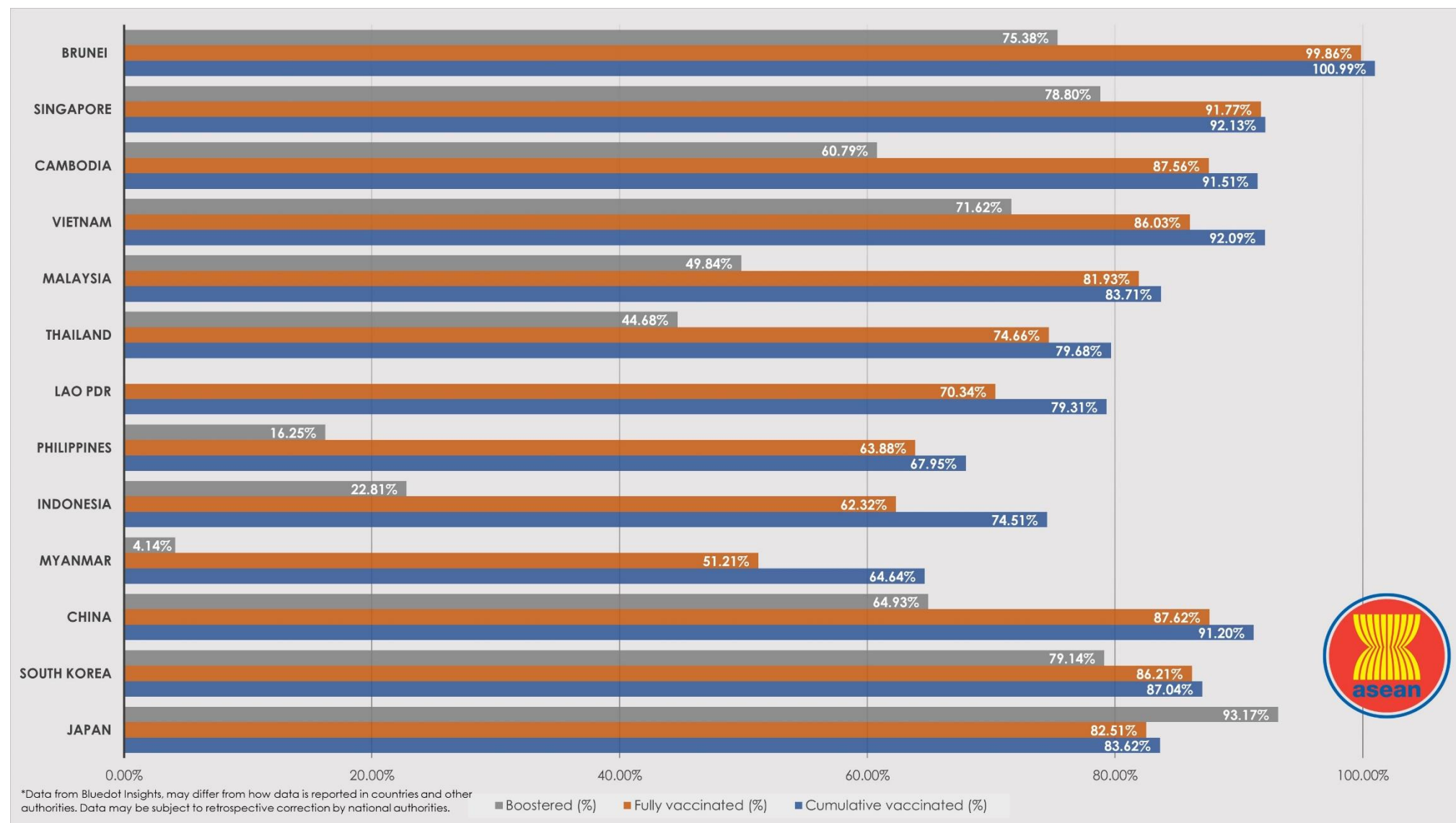
# Weekly COVID-19 New Cases and New Deaths

From January 1, 2021 to September 25, 2022




# COVID-19 Vaccination Status

as of 27 September 2022



# COVID-19 Outlook Assessment

as of 25 September 2022

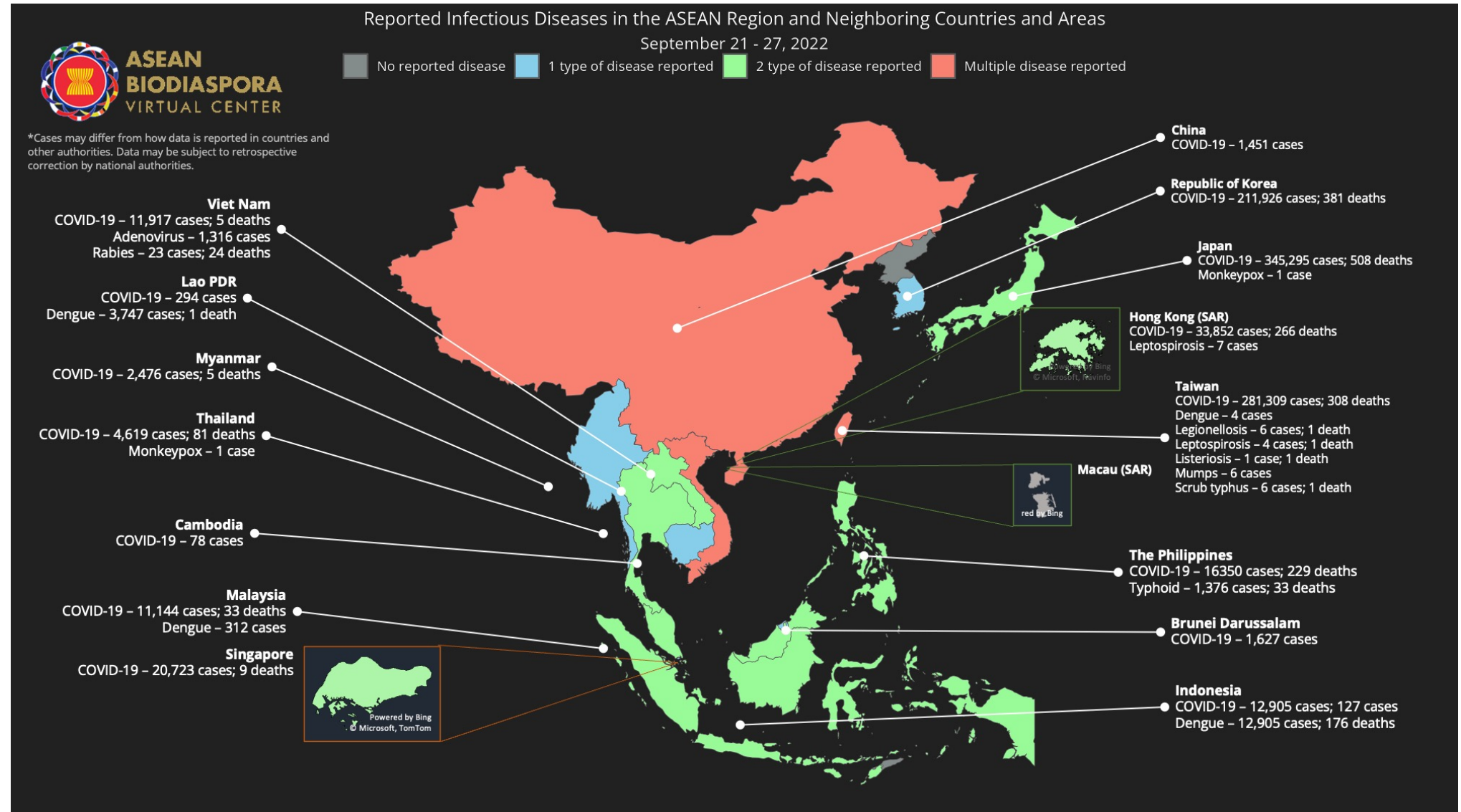
 <b>ASEAN MEMBER STATE</b>	<b>At least 65% of the total population has a level of immunity</b> to COVID-19; either recovered from COVID-19 or have been vaccinated with at least one dose of a COVID-19 vaccine.		<b>Case levels are generally low</b> (a 7-day rolling average number of daily new cases that is <10 cases per 100,000, with each day's past-14-day test positivity is consistently <5%).		<b>Government Policy</b> on containment and health (strictness and comprehensiveness in COVID-19 related government policies)
	% 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	53.64	Unknown	31.0/100
Cambodia	≥90.0/60.8	Unknown	0.07	Unknown	31.5/100
Indonesia	65.3/22.8	Unknown	0.71	Unknown	54.2/100
Lao PDR	77.3/ND	Unknown	0.60	Unknown	61.6/100
Malaysia	84.4/49.8	0.01%/day	5.79	Unknown	51.8/100
Myanmar	52.1/4.1	Unknown	0.66	Unknown	69.1/100
Philippines	70.4/16.3	Unknown	2.17	Unknown	55.4/100
Singapore	88.8/78.8	0.01%/day	40.24	Unknown	58.9/100
Thailand	77.6/44.8	0%/day	1.04	Unknown	31.5/100
Vietnam	≥90.0/71.6	Unknown	2.00	Unknown	43.5/100
Japan	81.3/≥92.9%	0%/day	42.06	Unknown	42.9/100
South Korea	86.5/79.1	0%/day	60.90	Unknown	38.1/100
China	≥90.0/56.5	Unknown	0.014	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 21-27, 2022





## Infectious Diseases Other than COVID-19 and Monkeypox

September 21-27, 2022

### Infectious Disease ASEAN+3 Updates

#### Dengue

- **Laos:** 23 September 2022 (Xinhua) -- A total of 25,546 cases of dengue fever have been recorded across the country since January 2022, according to the Lao Ministry of Health. A report issued by the Center of Information and Education for Health under the Lao Ministry of Health on Friday said the country reported 162 new cases of dengue fever, bringing the total number of infections to 25,546 with 18 deaths recorded. The 18 deaths included five in Lao capital Vientiane and Attapeu province each, three in Saravan province, two each in Luang Namtha province and Xieng Khuang province, and one in Oudomxay province. The highest number of dengue patients was reported in Lao capital Vientiane with 12,890, while 3,614 cases were recorded in Luang Namtha province, and 1,454 in Attapeu province. Lao Ministry of Health 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 one of the fastest growing infections, with Thailand, Laos, the Philippines and Singapore also seeing high incidences. The number of dengue cases in the Western Pacific region has more than doubled over the past 10 years.
- **Indonesia:** 27 September 2022 (ANTARA) - The Tangerang Regency Health Office (Dinkes) of Banten Province recorded 1,035 cases of dengue hemorrhagic fever (DHF) during January-September 2022, with seven of them dead. "The number of cases from January to September 27, 2022 is 1035 cases, and seven deaths (people died)," said Head of the Disease Prevention and Control Division at the Tangerang District Health Office, Dr Sumihar Sihalohe in Tangerang, Tuesday. He said the number of dengue patients in his area had increased significantly when compared to cases in the previous year. Where, he continued, in 2021 there were 671 cases counted. Meanwhile, the data as of the middle of this year has recorded 1,035 cases. "In 2021 there will be 671 cases, while from 2022 to September there are 1,035 cases. There is an increase in cases," he said. He mentioned that the discovery of dengue cases caused by the *Aedes Aegypti* mosquito had infected all ages, from children to the elderly (elderly). "The most vulnerable ages are 15 to 44 years old," he said. However, he continued, his party is currently making control efforts by preparing as many as 44 health facilities such as health centers and 25 hospitals, in order to deal with a surge in cases. "Efforts made by the Health Office have been to monitor each reported case of DHF by carrying out epidemiological investigations into patients' homes and inspection of larvae in the patient's home environment, including 25 homes," he said.
- **Malaysia:** 26 September 2022 (The Star) GEORGE TOWN: Dengue cases in Penang have increased by 93.2% this year with 595 cases recorded as of Sept 24 compared to 308 cases during the corresponding period last year, says state health director Datuk Dr. Ma'arof Sudin. He said no death was reported while the number of cases was lower compared during the pandemic - a decrease of 26.2% or 806 cases in 2020 and 83.4% or 3,754 cases in 2019. "Meanwhile as of Sept 24, the number of outbreaks reported was 42 cases compared to only 7 cases in the same period last year," he said in a statement on Monday (Sept 26). He said from the total number of outbreaks reported, 33 have ended while the remaining nine are still active. Dr. Ma'arof said in an effort to control the outbreak, control and prevention activities were carried out in the affected localities to

break the chain of the infection. He said the vector control activities carried out are inspections of premises, fogging and health education has also been conducted for every single case or outbreak of dengue. "Prevention activities were also conducted at high risk and priority locality in Penang," he said. He said as of Sept 24, a total of 312,711 premises were inspected and 445 compounds worth RM222,500 were issued under the Destruction of Disease-Bearing Insects Act 1975 to owners of premises for "breeding" *Aedes* mosquito.

## Rabies

- **Vietnam:** 27 September 2022 (HNMO) - From the beginning of 2022 up to now, the whole country has recorded 40 deaths from rabies in 16 provinces and cities (an increase of 2 deaths compared to the same period in 2021). Particularly in Hanoi, there was 1 case of death from rabies in Phu Xuyen district because of subjectively not getting vaccinated. On the afternoon of September 27, the Hanoi Department of Health coordinated with the People's Committee of Phu Xuyen district to hold a meeting to respond to World Rabies Day on September 28. According to statistics of the World Health Organization (WHO), each year, about 59,000 people die from rabies and more than 10 million people need to be vaccinated against rabies. In Vietnam, an average of 75 deaths from rabies is recorded each year. Along with that, on average, every year, about 400,000 people bitten by dogs and cats need to receive preventive treatment with rabies vaccine at an estimated cost of more than 300 billion VND/year. According to the report of specialized veterinary and local health agencies, from the beginning of 2022 to now, the whole country recorded 40 deaths from rabies in 16 provinces and cities (increased 2 deaths compared to the same period last year). in 2021), of which, the provinces of Ben Tre (12 cases), Kien Giang (5 cases) and Gia Lai (4 cases). Notably, recently, the number of deaths from rabies tends to decrease in high-risk provinces, but tends to increase in low-risk provinces and appears in some new provinces. In Hanoi, Deputy Director of the Hanoi Department of Health Vu Cao Cuong said that every year, the city still records unfortunate deaths from rabies. The deaths were all due to the subjective failure to vaccinate after being bitten by a dog. Specifically, in the years 2017-2018, in addition to human rabies deaths, Hanoi also recorded outbreaks of rabies in animals in the following districts: Nam Tu Liem, Bac Tu Liem, and Hoang Mai. In 2020-2021, recorded human rabies deaths in 2 districts of Cau Giay and Hoang Mai. Particularly from the beginning of 2022 until now, the city has 1 case of rabies death in Phu Xuyen district because of subjectively not getting vaccinated. In order to achieve the goal of "No people dying from rabies by 2030" set by the Government, health workers in the capital need to continue to focus on counseling and propagandizing knowledge of rabies prevention and control to democratize people. Immediately handle the wound when bitten by a dog or cat and go to a medical facility for timely vaccination. "People who are bitten, scratched or licked by a dog or cat on the damaged skin or mucous membranes should immediately wash the wound with soap and clean water and go to the rabies vaccination facility promptly. Absolutely do not self-treat at home or use herbal medicine after being bitten by a dog or cat," noted Mr. Vu Cao Cuong.

## Adenovirus Infections

- **Vietnam:** 22 September 2022 (Outbreak News) In a follow-up on the adenovirus situation at the National Children's Hospital in Hanoi, hospital officials said from August 2022 to now, the number of positive adenovirus cases detected here has increased. The total number of Adenovirus infections recorded in the whole hospital since the beginning of 2022 is 1,406 cases, the number of inpatient cases is 811 (accounting for nearly 58%) with 7 deaths. The overall rate of hospitalized children with adenovirus accounts for about 4% of the total number of inpatients. Only from August-September



21, 2022, the total number of detected cases of Adenovirus was 1,316 cases with 738 inpatients. The leader of the National Children's Hospital said that, in the face of the increasing trend of Adenovirus cases at the National Children's Hospital, the hospital quickly issued guidelines on management and further streamlining. receive, isolate, treat and prevent adenovirus infection.

### Typhoid

- **Philippines:** 18 September 2022 (Outbreak News) Philippines health officials have reported 9,057 typhoid fever cases through August 27 this year, a 121 percent increase over the 4,102 cases reported during the same period in 2021. The Cordillera Administrative Region (CAR) has reported the most cases with 1,801, followed by Northern Mindanao (1,225) and Central Visayas (1,017). The typhoid death toll has also increased in 2022 to date with 43, more than three times the total (12) during the same period last year.

### Legionellosis

- **Hong Kong:** 26 September 2022 (The Government of Hongkong SAR Press Release) The Centre for Health Protection (CHP) of the Department of Health today (September 26) reported the latest number of cases of Legionnaires' disease (LD), and stressed the importance of using and maintaining properly designed man-made water systems, adding that susceptible groups should strictly observe relevant precautions. From September 18 to 24, one community-acquired LD case was reported. The case involved a male patient aged 67 with good past health, who lives in Yan Ying House, Tin Yan Estate, Tin Shui Wai. "Epidemiological investigations are ongoing to identify potential sources of infection, high-risk exposure and clusters, if any," a spokesman for the CHP said. As of September 24, 63 LD cases had been reported this year. In 2021 and 2020, there were 69 and 104 cases respectively. "Men, people aged over 50, smokers, alcoholics and persons with weakened immunity are more susceptible to LD. Some situations may also increase the risk of infection, including poor maintenance of water systems leading to stagnant water; living in areas with old water systems, cooling towers or fountains; using electric water heaters, whirlpools and spas or hot water spring spas; and recent stays in hotels or vessels," the spokesman said.

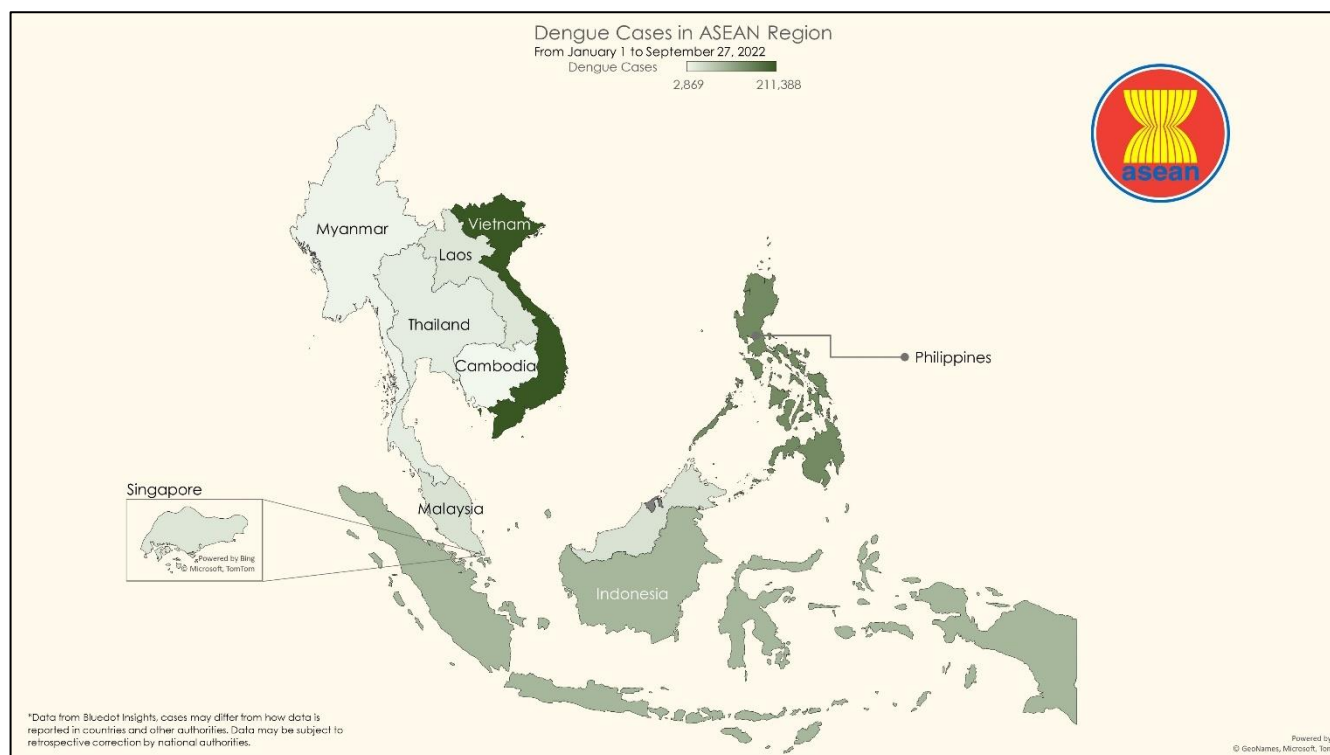
### Infectious Disease Global Update

#### Wild Poliovirus type 1 & Vaccine-derived Poliovirus type 2

- According to the latest update from the Global Polio Eradication Initiative (GPEI), six countries had new polio cases last week. **Afghanistan, Pakistan, and Mozambique** all have new wild poliovirus type 1 cases. This is Afghanistan's second case in 2022 (last year the country reported 4 cases). In Pakistan, 2 polio cases were recorded, bringing the 2022 total to 19. In Mozambique, intensified surveillance has tracked 1 new polio case, bringing the yearly total to 6 in the country. **Benin** and the **Democratic Republic of the Congo** (DRC) also reported cases of circulating vaccine-derived poliovirus type 2 (cVDPV2). Benin has 2 cases, with 6 total reported this year. The DRC has 1 case, but its 2022 total is 111, up from 28 cases in 2021. Malawi has two circulating vaccine-derived poliovirus type 1 (cVDPV1) cases. These are the first reported in the country since one wild-type case was reported last year. [\[Full Article\]](#)

## Dengue Cases in ASEAN Region

From January 1, 2022 to September 27, 2022



### Dengue cases in ASEAN region

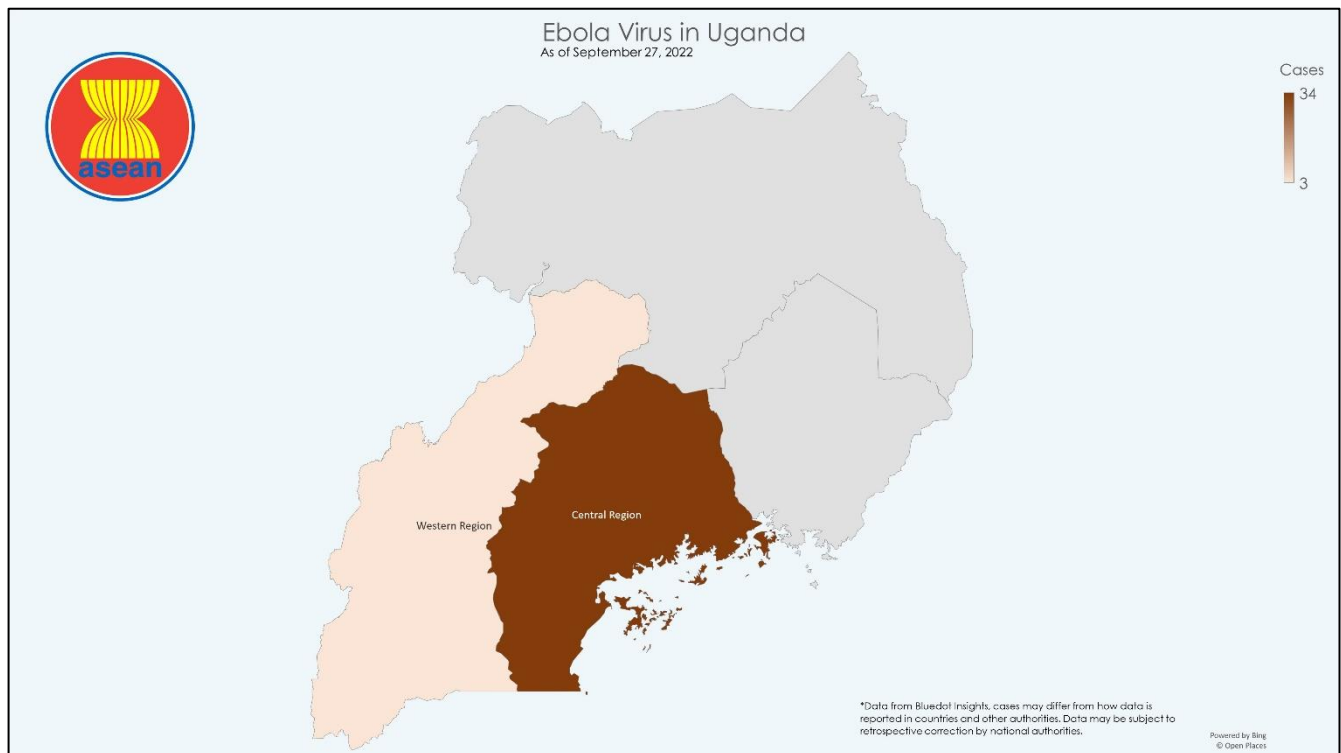
Country	Dengue Cases	New Cases in the Past Week	Deaths	Case Fatality Rate
Vietnam	211,388	-	87	0.04%
Philippines	145,341	-	461	0.32%
Indonesia	87,501	19,501	816	0.93%
Malaysia	30,150	312	13	0.04%
Singapore	26,774	-	-	0.00%
Laos	25,546	3,747	18	0.07%
Thailand	17,412	-	14	0.08%
Myanmar	7,835	-	31	0.40%
Cambodia	2,869	-	7	0.24%
Brunei	-	-	-	-
<b>Total</b>	<b>557,685</b>	<b>12,560</b>	<b>1,447</b>	<b>0.26%</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.

## Special Report on Notable Diseases

### Ebola Disease Outbreak

#### Sudan Ebolavirus in Uganda



According to **WHO**, following test confirmation of a patient from a community in Madudu sub-county, Mubende district, central Uganda, Ugandan health officials announced an epidemic of Ebola illness, caused by the Sudan virus, on September 20, 2022.

A total of 23 deaths, including five among confirmed patients (CFR among confirmed cases 28%), have been recorded from the districts of Mubende, Kyegegwa, and Kassanda as of September 25, 2022. There has also been a total of 18 confirmed cases and 18 probable cases reported. Since 2012, Uganda has seen just one Ebola disease epidemic brought on by the Sudan virus (SUDV).

According to early investigations, many community fatalities from an unidentified ailment were recorded in the first two weeks of September in the Madudu and Kiruma sub-counties of the Mubende district. These fatalities are currently thought to be likely Ebola cases brought on by SUDV.

A total of 36 cases (18 confirmed and 18 probable) have been recorded as of September 25, 2022, from the districts of Mubende in Central Region (14 confirmed and 18 probable), Kyegegwa in Western Region (three confirmed cases), and Kassanda in Central Region (one confirmed case). There have been 23 deaths reported, 5 of which were among confirmed patients (CFR among confirmed cases was 28%). Sixty-two percent of the confirmed and suspected cases are female, and 38 percent are male. 13 confirmed cases are now being treated in hospitals. The patients' average age is 26 years old (range 1 year to 60 years). There have been 223 encounters listed overall. [\[Full Report\]](#)

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

The BlueDot Intelligence team continues to consider this event to be of high concern to the local region given that 1) The number of cases and deaths across the Mubende district continues to rise and, besides the Kyegegwa District, confirmed cases have now extended to the town of Kassanda which is 110Km from Kampala, 2) Local news media has stated that multiple locations have suspected cases under investigation (including Kampala and Kisoro district, which is in the southwest region of Uganda, bordering the DRC and Rwanda), however, no official confirmation has been issued yet, 3) Media sources have mentioned some of the challenges of contact tracing in the region, which has made it difficult to determine the true extent of the outbreak. While over 200 close contacts have been identified, they've highlighted that 55% have been healthcare workers, which indicates that a substantial proportion of close contacts in the community have not yet been identified.

## **Zaire Ebolavirus in Democratic Republic of Congo declared over**

According to the WHO, the Ebola epidemic that had returned to the Democratic Republic of the Congo's North Kivu Province six weeks ago has been proclaimed to be over. The news came as Uganda, a neighboring country, scrambled to contain a separate epidemic that had been reported last week.

The recent epidemic in the Democratic Republic of the Congo was one of the least disastrous because there was just one verified case. On July 4 of this year, the 14th epidemic in the nation, which resulted in four confirmed cases and five fatalities, was deemed to be finished.

One of the six species of the Ebola genus, the Zaire ebolavirus, is to blame for the Ebola epidemics in the Democratic Republic of the Congo.

It pays off to increase Ebola epidemic preparedness and response in the Democratic Republic of the Congo. The North Kivu epidemic was announced only a few days after the ring strategy immunization effort was launched by the health officials. More than 500 people, including 350 contacts, contacts of contacts, and frontline workers, received vaccinations. Nearly all of the 182 individuals who had contact with the original case were followed over the course of 21 days and released once it was determined that they were not at high risk.

The epidemic was genetically connected to the longest and biggest Ebola outbreak in the nation's history, which occurred in the 2018–2020 period in the provinces of North Kivu and Ituri, according to analyses of samples collected from the confirmed case. Even though the North Kivu epidemic has been deemed to be stopped, health officials are nonetheless keeping surveillance in place and are prepared to act should a flare-up occur. [[Full Report](#)]

as of September 27, 2022



## Monkeypox: Highlights and Situation Overview

- As of 28 September 2022 (2PM, GMT+8), worldwide, there were **69,732** confirmed cases, including **157** deaths. Globally, Case Fatality Rate (CFR) was **0.23%**.
- 50 confirmed cases** of Monkeypox have been reported in the **ASEAN+3** region composed of **32 cases** in the ASEAN region and **18 cases** in the PLUS THREE countries, with CFR of **0%**.
- 69,682 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	8	-	-	0.00%
ASEAN	Philippines	4	-	-	0.00%
Plus Three	Japan	5	-	-	0.00%
Plus Three	Taiwan	4	-	-	0.00%
Plus Three	South Korea	3	-	-	0.00%
ASEAN	Indonesia	1	-	-	0.00%
Plus Three	China	5	-	-	0.00%
Plus Three	Hong Kong (SAR)	1	-	-	0.00%
<b>ASEAN+3 Total</b>		<b>50</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>0.00%</b>

### Top 5 countries with most monkeypox cases globally

Region	Country	Total Cases	New Cases	Deaths	Case Fatality Rate
Americas	USA	24,203	0	2	0.01%
Americas	Brazil	7,205	398	1	0.01%
Europe	Spain	7,083	0	3	0.04%
Europe	France	3,942	44	-	0.00%
Europe	Germany	3,590	27	-	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*	4,140	0	144	3.48%
AMERICAS	40,952	1,285	7	0.02%
ASIA PACIFIC	156	0	1	0.66%
EUROPE	24,140	11	5	0.02%
MIDDLE EAST	294	0	-	0.00%
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>69,682</b>	<b>1,296</b>	<b>157</b>	<b>0.23%</b>



## Global Update

- **WHO:** A public health taxonomy has been created by the World Health Organization (WHO) to facilitate infodemic surveillance and the creation of insights from discussions about monkeypox.<sup>1</sup> An overview of social listening's application to monkeypox chats and how it might produce infodemic insights for public health responses is given in the technical document. When merging data sources of various sorts and quality, taxonomies are utilized to better organize and frame insights.<sup>1</sup> Health authorities can now develop real-time insights from changes in millions of daily public conversations using social listening, a methodology that synthesizes online and offline conversations into actionable insights. This allows health authorities to better tailor programs and interventions to the needs of communities.<sup>1</sup> Public health experts may produce evidence-based insights using social listening and integrated analysis, which has been used in nations for COVID-19 and is now being used for other emergencies and outbreaks.<sup>1</sup> A modular taxonomy for monkeypox will enable nations to rapidly recognize and group queries, worries, information gaps, stories, and false or misleading information from a variety of data sources, enabling a more methodical and routine approach to data gathering and analysis.<sup>1</sup> [[Download Document](#)]

## Regional Update

- **Japan:** 21 September 2022 (livedoornews) The Ministry of Health, Labor and Welfare has announced that a man in his 60s living in Tokyo has been confirmed to be infected with monkeypox. This will be the fifth case in the country. Monkeypox infection was confirmed in a man in his 60s living in Tokyo. The man had symptoms such as fever, headache, and rash, and as a result of an examination at a medical institution on the 20th, he was found to be infected with monkeypox, and is currently hospitalized at a medical institution in Tokyo. Symptoms are stable. Although the man has no history of traveling abroad, he was in contact with people who came to Japan from overseas before the onset of symptoms. This is the fifth case of monkeypox infection confirmed in Japan.

## Vaccine Update

- **EU:** Despite a decreased risk of monkeypox, measures are still being taken in Europe. They are building up to buy more vaccination doses in addition to the monkeypox vaccine so that the afflicted can receive treatment right away.<sup>2</sup> Recently, the European Union (EU) purchased more than 10,000 doses of the tecovirimat vaccination.<sup>2</sup> Janez Lenarcic, commissioner of crisis management, stated that the threat posed by monkeypox is comparable to that posed by unanticipated pandemics like the corona pandemic.<sup>2</sup> These dosages, which were developed to guard against the monkeypox virus, will offer extra protection to our countrymen and will be the first to reach those who are afflicted, according to Stella Kyriacides, the European Commissioner for Health and Food Safety.<sup>2</sup>

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