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Weekly Situation Report in the ASEAN Region

—— COVID-19 and Mpox

August 3, 2023 | WSR 2023-05



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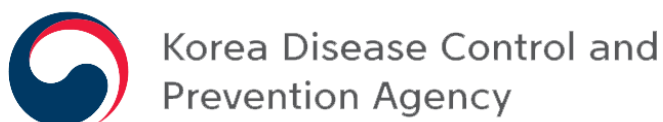


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Weekly Issue





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COVID-19



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COVID-19: Highlights and Situation Overview

Global Updates

- **Worldwide**, over 692 million cases and over 6 million deaths have been attributed to COVID-19.
- According to the **World Health Organization's (WHO)** in its weekly update said that cases are no longer a reliable marker of COVID activity, due to reduced testing and reporting, only the Western Pacific region showed a rise in cases over the past 28 days. The rise appears to mainly reflect modest upticks in South Korea and some Pacific island locations. Hospitalizations and ICU admissions are considered more reliable indicators, but unfortunately, only a few countries report their data. Among those that do, Bangladesh and Malta are the only ones witnessing a rise of 20% or more in hospitalizations over the past month. There were no reported ICU admission increases of 20% or more during the same period. As for variant tracking, the WHO noted that only three variants, namely XBB.1.16, EG.5, and XBB, are currently showing rising proportions. [\[Full report\]](#)
- The **Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC)** reported in its latest update that COVID-19 activity in the United States remains at very low levels, but certain markers used by health officials to track illness activity have shown small increases for the third consecutive week. Notably, hospitalizations in the United States rose by 10.3% compared to the previous week, with a few counties in Arizona, Kansas, and Nebraska experiencing moderate levels of hospitalization. Deaths, on the other hand, remained stable. Early indicators also revealed more signs of a rise in COVID-19 activity. Emergency department (ED) visits for COVID-19 surged by 17.4% compared to the previous week, with several states in the Southeast and Northeast witnessing substantial increases. Moreover, test positivity, another early marker, continues to climb, with a 0.9% increase and a national rate of 7.6%. The South and Southwest regions have the highest test positivity rates. [\[Full report\]](#)
- The **European Centre for Disease Prevention and Control (ECDC)** reported in its latest weekly update that COVID-19 patterns are still declining or remaining stable in Europe. As of the end of week 29 (ending 23 July 2023), all EU/EEA indicators for COVID-19 showed decreasing or stable trends in all age groups, continuing the pattern observed in recent weeks. Among the 20 countries reporting COVID-19 cases, only one showed an increase in overall case rates compared to the previous week. Out of seven countries reporting information on hospital admissions, one reported an increase in that indicator. Additionally, 28 deaths were reported from 15 countries. Based on ensemble model forecasts, no country is predicted to experience increases in the number of reported COVID-19 cases, hospital admissions, or deaths up to 6 August 2023. Regarding SARS-CoV-2 sequencing or genotyping, among the five countries reporting at least 10 results for weeks 27–28 (3 July to 16 July 2023), the estimated distribution of variants of concern (VOC) or of interest (VOI) was as follows: 97.7% (from five countries) for XBB.1.5, 13.0% (from two countries) for BA.2.75, and 7.0% (from two countries) for XBB. In terms of vaccine uptake, there are no updates in the cumulative vaccine uptake in the EU/EEA compared to the previous week. For people aged 60 years and above, the cumulative uptake of a first booster was 84.9% (ranging from 13.3% to 100.0% across countries), and for a second booster, it was 35.6% (ranging from 0.4% to 87.0%). Long-term care facilities surveillance data has been excluded from the surveillance summary since week 19, 2023, due to the low number of reporting countries. However, historic time series of the long-term care facility data remain available on the individual country sheets, with recent updates included where available. Finally, among the 11 countries with data on hospital or ICU admissions/occupancy up to week 29, two reported an increasing trend in at least one of these indicators compared with the previous week. [\[Full report\]](#)



Regional Updates

- Indonesia:** Griffith University epidemiologist Dicky Budiman warns that the emergence of SARS-CoV-2, which causes COVID-19, has little chance of triggering a spike in cases like the start of the pandemic (Katriana & Firdaus, 2023). He cautions that the declining mitigation system in Indonesia opens up the possibility for the SAR-COV-2 virus to continue to mutate. As long as there is still infection, there is a chance of mutation in several areas due to the effect of reinfection in the community. However, the impact does not pose a serious potential because mutations that have a serious impact are mutations that cause significant severity or death. Budiman is wary of mutations in the MERS variant or the SARS virus that first surfaced in the world, as they can have a serious impact. He appeals to the public to not panic, but to remain vigilant by carrying out booster vaccinations and preventing transmission by wearing masks, avoiding crowds, and improving air quality. The Indonesian Ministry of Health spokesperson, Mohammad Syahril, stated that the finding of the most mutated version of COVID-19 in Indonesia is proof of the existence of SARS-CoV-2 in the midst of an endemic. [\[Full article\]](#)
- Philippines:** From July 24 to 30, the country reported 1,302 new COVID-19 cases, with an average of 186 infections per day, reflecting a 22% decline from the week before (CNN Philippines, 2023). The latest tally included 30 patients in severe and critical condition. Hospitals treated 11% of COVID-19 admissions. As of July 30, the country has over 4.17 million confirmed cases, with 4.1 million recovered and 66,500 deaths. Around 78 million people have been vaccinated, and 82.16% of senior citizens have received primary COVID-19 vaccines. [\[Full article\]](#)

Research Updates (Published and peer-reviewed studies)

- The study "**Pediatric Hospitalizations and ICU Admissions Due to COVID-19 and Pediatric Inflammatory Multisystem Syndrome Temporally Associated With SARS-CoV-2 in England**" found a very low risk of pediatric intensive care unit (PICU) admission and death from COVID-19 and MIS-C during the first two years of the pandemic (Ward et al., 2023). The highest risk was observed among children with complex medical problems and neurodisabilities. During the second year of the pandemic, 10,540 hospitalizations due to COVID-19 and 997 due to MIS-C were recorded, with both numbers declining. Among the hospitalized children and adolescents, 4.3% required PICU admission for COVID-19. This percentage decreased with different variants: 9.9% in wild-type cases, 6.1% with Alpha variant, 3.4% with Delta variant, and 1.7% with Omicron variant. 62.1% of COVID-19 hospitalizations were in children younger than 5 years old. The age distribution varied over time, with a higher proportion of cases in children aged 0 to 5 years during the Omicron variant period. Medical comorbidities were noted in 43.9% of children hospitalized with COVID-19, ranging from 29.1% in children younger than 5 years to 69.5% in those aged 12 to 17 years. Among children and adolescents hospitalized with COVID-19 and chronic conditions, 8.6% required PICU admission, compared to 0.9% without comorbidities. PICU admission rates increased with the number of chronic conditions and life-limiting neurodisabilities. However, the proportion of children requiring PICU admission decreased as the pandemic progressed, regardless of comorbidities. Youth aged 5 to 17 years were found to be at significantly higher odds of requiring PICU admission for COVID-19 than those younger than 5 years old. For MIS-C, between May 2021 and January 2022, there were fewer than 20 hospitalizations per month per 100,000 COVID-19 cases. Most hospitalizations occurred in boys, with 58.5% affecting children aged 5 to 11 years, and 29.2% affecting those aged 12 to 17. Among MIS-C hospitalizations, 69.7% occurred in youth with underlying diseases. After excluding certain conditions, 35.6% of hospitalized patients had previous comorbidities. Notably, 54.8% of MIS-C hospitalizations occurred among children who had never been hospitalized before. Of the MIS-C patients, 43.8% required PICU admission, with 46.4% in the age group of 12 to 17 years and 34.1% in those younger than 5 years. The proportion



of MIS-C patients requiring PICU admission decreased over time with different variants.
[\[Full text\]](#)



ASEAN Travel Advisories (new update/s) as of 03 August 2023

ASEAN Country	Published	Foreign travelers allowed	COVID-19 vaccination requirement	Required COVID-19 testing for fully vaccinated	Required COVID-19 testing for NOT fully vaccinated	Quarantine upon arrival	Health insurance requirement	Arrival health declaration/ registration/ documents
Brunei Darussalam	December 1, 2022	Yes	No	No	No	No	No	No
Cambodia	October 6, 2022	Yes	No	No	No	No	No	No
Indonesia	June 10, 2023	Yes	No	No	No	No	No	No
Laos	December 29, 2022	Yes	No	No	No	No	No	No
Malaysia	August 2, 2022	Yes	No	No	No	No	No	No
Myanmar	July 3, 2023	Yes	No	Passengers are subject to medical screening and could be subject to a test upon arrival.		No	Printed COVID-19 medical insurance.	Passengers must present a Health Declaration Form upon arrival.
Philippines	July 25, 2023	Yes	No	No	No	No	No	No
Singapore	February 13, 2023	Yes	No	No	No	No	No	No
Thailand	March 1, 2023	Yes	No	No	No	No	No	No
Vietnam	May 16, 2022	Yes	No	No	No	No	No	No

- Reference: [IATA Travel Centre](#)



Cases and Deaths as of 03 August 2023

- As of 03 August 2023 (5PM, GMT+7), worldwide, there were **692,575,849** confirmed cases, including **6,903,961** deaths. Globally, Case Fatality Rate (CFR) was **1.0%**.
- 36,328,385 total confirmed cases** of COVID-19 have been reported in the **ASEAN Region**.
- The Case Fatality Rate in the **ASEAN Region** was **1.02%**.

COVID-19 cases in ASEAN region

REGION	COUNTRY	FIRST CONFIRMED CASES	LATEST REPORT ON CONFIRMED	TOTAL CONFIRMED CASES	CONFIRMED CASES IN 2023	NEW CASES	TOTAL DEATHS	NEW DEATHS	CUMULATIVE CASES/ 100,000	CUMULATIVE VACCINATED	CUMULATIVE FULLY VACCINATED	CUMULATIVE BOOSTED	FULLY VACCINATED PER 100
ASEAN REGION	Brunei Darussalam	10-Mar-20	03-Jul-23	309,561	48,121	-	225		65,870	451,032	446,630	340,379	95.0
	Cambodia	27-Jan-20	02-Aug-23	138,938	500	1	3,056	-	793	15,301,258	14,674,372	10,716,594	83.8
	Indonesia	02-Mar-20	31-Jul-23	6,812,809	101,106	139	161,905	11	2,518	203,871,893	174,945,141	69,211,327	64.7
	Lao PDR	24-Mar-20	03-Aug-23	218,757	1,171	26	758	-	2,888	6,324,678	5,691,962	2,451,034	75.1
	Malaysia	25-Jan-20	31-Jul-23	5,121,920	102,520	2,273	37,181	18	15,654	28,134,784	27,550,446	16,336,861	84.2
	Myanmar	23-Mar-20	01-Aug-23	641,063	7,488	65	19,494	-	1,137	40,354,937	35,196,377	13,903,599	62.4
	Philippines	30-Jan-20	02-Aug-23	4,173,313	115,684	1,144	66,612	50	3,823	82,684,774	79,164,840	24,178,325	72.5
	Singapore	23-Jan-20	24-Jul-23	2,534,940	348,266	-	1,872	-	43,406	5,287,005	5,250,426	4,766,768	89.9
	Thailand	13-Jan-20	31-Jul-23	4,755,175	36,267	391	34,425	7	6,795	57,658,679	54,173,539	27,369,493	77.4
	Vietnam	23-Jan-20	02-Aug-23	11,621,909	98,542	181	43,206	-	11,356	90,270,583	85,958,364	57,958,886	84.0
ASEAN COUNTRIES				36,328,385	859,665	4,220	368,734	86	154,240	530,339,623	483,052,097	227,233,266	78.9

REGION	TOTAL CONFIRMED CASES	NEW CASES	TOTAL DEATHS	NEW DEATHS
ASIA	197,532,980	646	1,209,392	4
AFRICA	12,836,306	99	258,823	1
AMERICAS	196,146,541	5,746	2,998,614	14
EUROPE	249,731,637	320	2,068,398	3
TOTAL	656,247,464	6,811	6,535,227	22

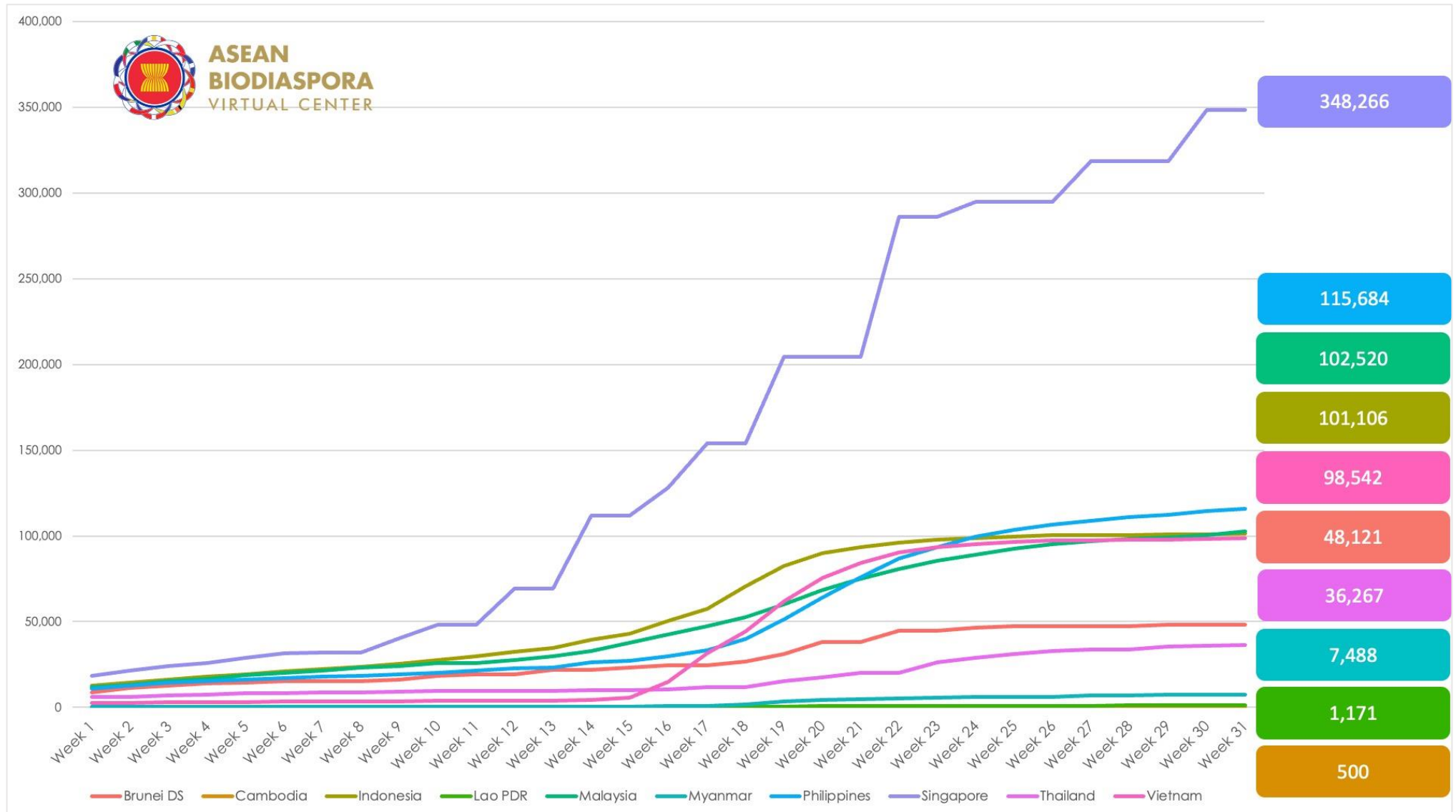
**Data References: [Singapore Government](#), [Worldometer](#), and the [WHO](#)



COVID-19 Epidemic Curve Among ASEAN Countries

From January 1 to August 3, 2023

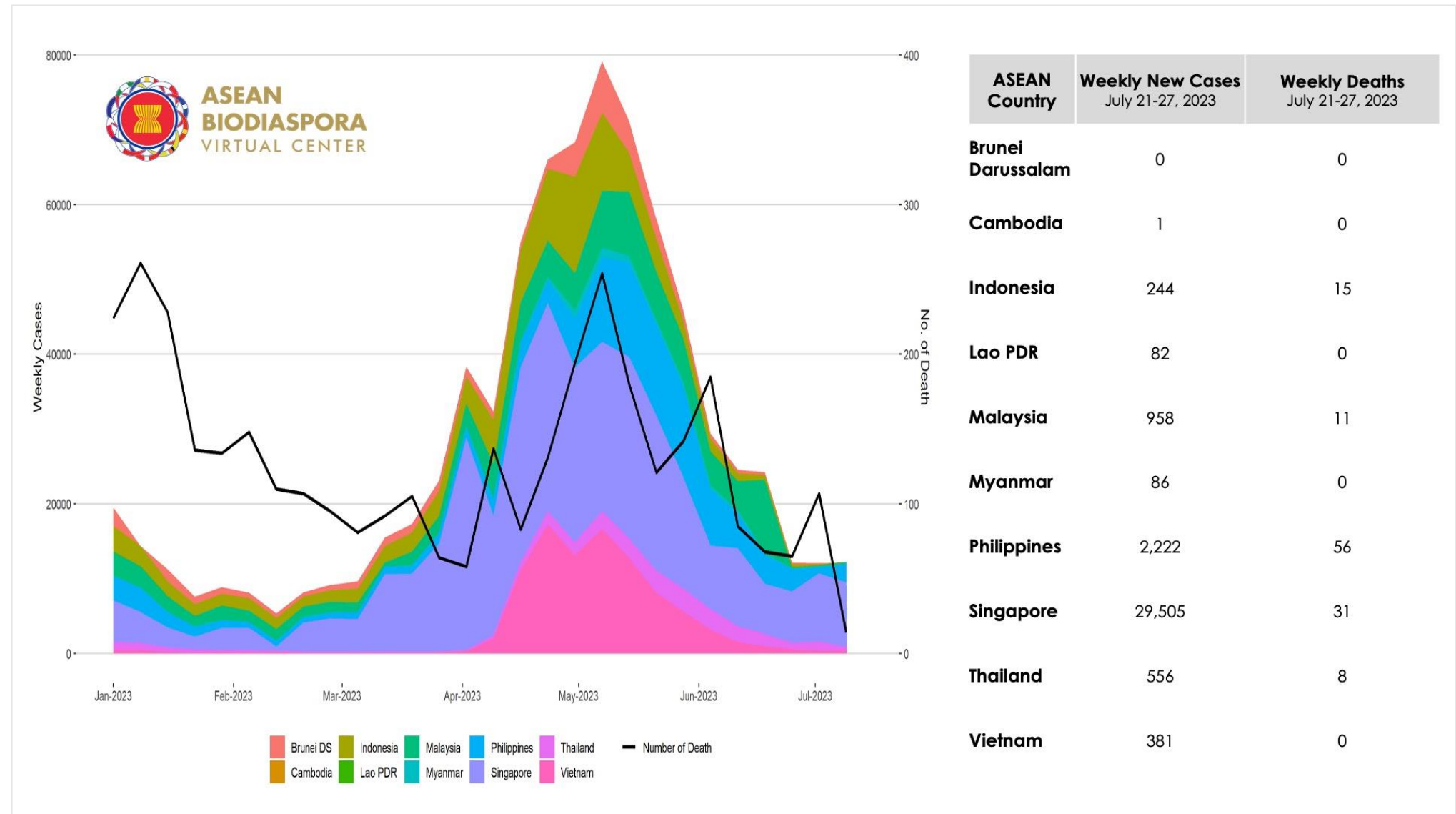
*Weeks based on ABVC reporting schedule for COVID-19





ASEAN Weekly COVID-19 New Cases and Deaths

From January 1, 2023 to August 3, 2023

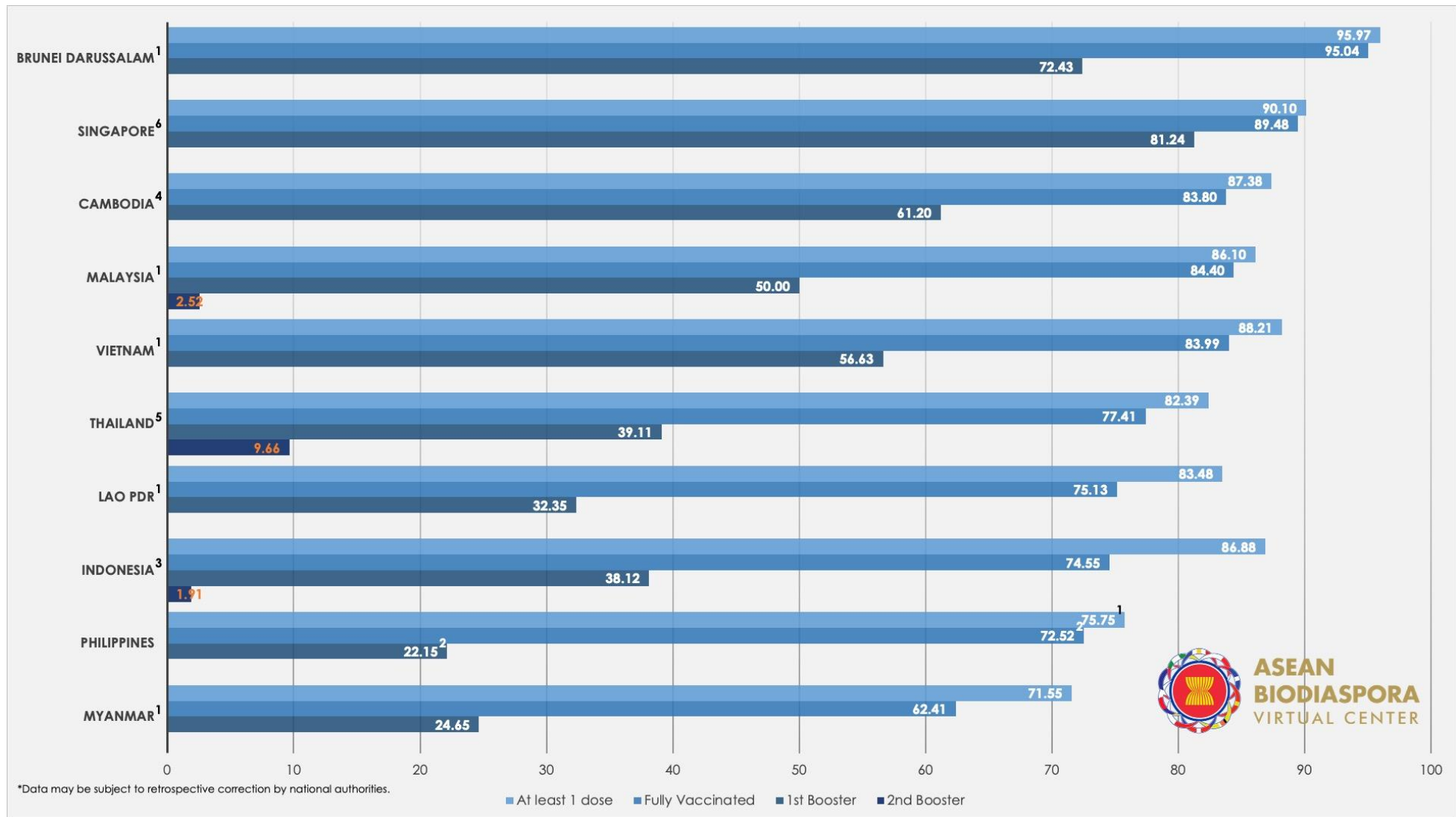


**Data References: [Singapore Government](#), [Worldometer](#), and the [WHO](#)



ASEAN COVID-19 Vaccination Status

as of 03 August 2023



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MPOX

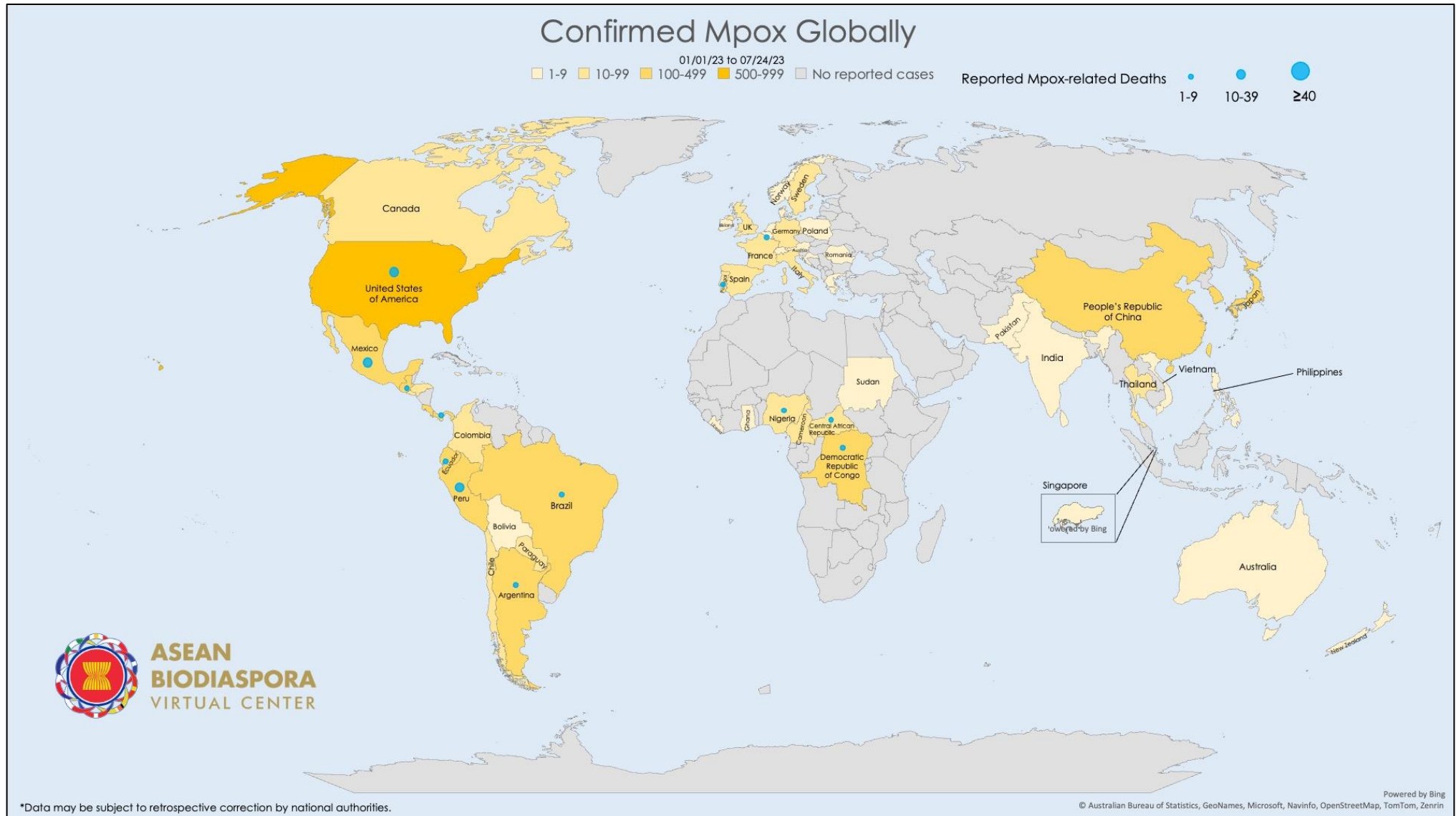


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Mpox Cases Reported Globally

as of July 24, 2023

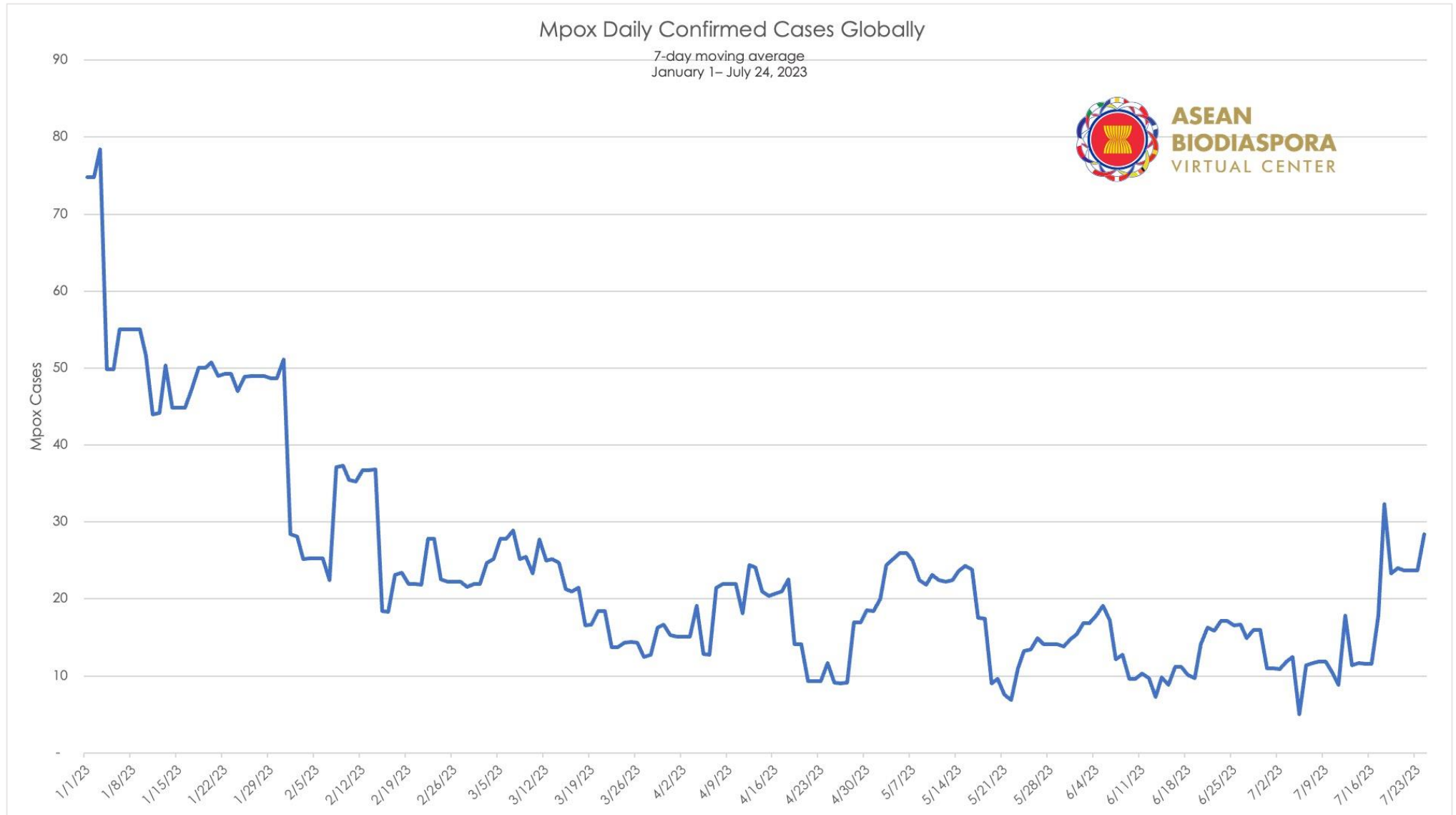


Edouard Mathieu et al., "Mpox (Monkeypox)," Our World in Data, accessed August 3, 2023, <https://ourworldindata.org/monkeypox>.



Mpox Daily Trend Globally

January 1 – July 24, 2023



Edouard Mathieu et al., "Mpox (Monkeypox)," Our World in Data, accessed August 3, 2023, <https://ourworldindata.org/monkeypox>.



Mpox: Highlights and Situation Overview

- As of 03 August 2023 (1PM, GMT+7), there were **4,485** confirmed cases worldwide in 2023, including **78** deaths. Globally, the Case Fatality Rate (CFR) was **1.74%**.
- 116 confirmed cases** in the ASEAN region in 2023, with a CFR of **0%**.
- 4,369 confirmed cases** of Mpox have been reported in other **5 regions** in 2023 (other than the ASEAN region):

Mpox cases in the ASEAN region

Country	Total Cases	New Cases	Deaths	Case Fatality Rate (CFR)
Philippines	1	-	-	0.00%
Singapore	7	-	-	0.00%
Thailand	79	-	-	0.00%
Vietnam	1	-	-	0.00%
ASEAN Total	116	-	-	0.00%

Mpox cases in the Asia-Pacific region

Country/Territory	Total Cases	New Cases	Deaths	Case Fatality Rate (CFR)
Australia	1	-	-	0.00%
India	2	-	-	0.00%
Japan	185	-	-	0.00%
Nepal	1	-	-	0.00%
New Zealand	1	-	-	0.00%
People's Republic of China*	364	-	-	0.00%
The Republic of Korea*	122	-	-	0.00%
Sri Lanka	2	-	-	0.00%
Asia Pacific Total	677	-	-	0.00%

Top 5 countries with the most mpox cases globally

Country	Total Cases	New Cases	Deaths	Case Fatality Rate (CFR)
United States of America	801	-	25	3.12%
Brazil	456	-	2	0.44%
Democratic Republic of Congo	455	-	3	0.66%
Mexico	402	-	26	6.47%
People's Republic of China	364	-	-	0.00%



Mpox cases per region

REGION	TOTAL CONFIRMED CASES SINCE JANUARY 1, 2023	NEW CASES SINCE THE PREVIOUS REPORT	TOTAL DEATHS	CASE FATALITY RATE
AFRICA	586	-	6	1.02%
AMERICAS	2,851	-	70	2.46%
ASEAN	116	-	-	0.00%
ASIA PACIFIC	677	-	-	0.00%
EUROPE	245	-	2	0.82%
MIDDLE EAST	10	-	-	0.00%
TOTAL	4,485	-	78	1.74%

Edouard Mathieu et al., "Mpox (Monkeypox)," Our World in Data, accessed August 3, 2023, <https://ourworldindata.org/monkeypox>.



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