

COVID-19, Monkeypox, and Other Infectious Diseases

Situational Report in the ASEAN+3 Region

—— ASEAN BioDiaspora Virtual Center (ABVC)

August 31, 2022 | Issue No. 382

COVID-19: Highlights and Situation Overview

Global Update

- **Worldwide**, there have been over 608 million cases and over 6 million deaths attributed to COVID-19.
- **USA**: The United States government anticipates running out of COVID-19 vaccinations and antiviral medications over the course of the upcoming year and is preparing for their sale on the open market, the Department of Health and Human Services reported on August 30.³ According to a blog post by Assistant Secretary for Preparedness and Response Dawn O'Connell, President Joe Biden's administration anticipates running out of federal funding for purchasing and dispersing COVID-19 vaccines by January, despite having already purchased more than 170 million doses for a booster campaign later this year.³ According to O'Connell, the administration has enough Paxlovid, a Pfizer (PFE.N) antiviral medication, to last until mid-2023, but other pharmaceuticals developed by Merck & Co. (MRK.N) and AstraZeneca (AZN.L) are expected to hit the market sooner.³ [\[Full Article\]](#)

Consultants to the U.S. CDC will meet on Sep. 1 to decide whether to recommend the use of two COVID-19 vaccination boosters designed to protect against the Omicron form.⁴ A deployment is anticipated to begin the next week as a result of recommendations for the modified vaccinations from Pfizer Inc (PFE.N), its German partner BioNTech SE (22UAY.DE), and Moderna Inc (MRNA.O).⁴ The two modified boosters, for which applications were made last week, have not yet received approval from the U.S. Food and Drug Administration. The so-called bivalent vaccinations include both the original BA.4 and BA.5 Omicron virus and its two most prevalent subvariants.⁴ People 12 and older would be eligible for Pfizer's vaccination, while those 18 and older would be eligible for Moderna's. On September 2, the Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices will also convene, however the CDC did not provide a detailed breakdown of the day's schedule.⁴

Research Update

- In the study **Characterization of SARS-CoV-2 Omicron BA.2.75 clinical isolates** published in the bioRxiv preprint server, authors found that SARS-CoV-2 Omicron BA.2.75 replicates more efficiently than BA.2 or BA.5 sub-variants. In the study, researchers evaluated the pathogenicity and replicative capacity of clinical isolates of SARS-CoV-2 Omicron BA.2.75 in animal models.¹ The pathogenicity of the clinical isolates was studied in wild-type Syrian hamsters. Hamsters were infected with 10⁵ plaque-forming units (PFU) of clinical isolates of BA.2.75, BA.2, BA.5, or B.1.617.2 (Delta) variant.¹ Pulmonary functions were assessed by measuring Penh and Rpef using a whole-body plethysmography system and plaque assays were performed to quantitate viral titers.¹ In summary, the authors found no significant differences in the body weight of hamsters after infection with SARS-CoV-2 Omicron BA.2, BA.5, or BA.2.75.¹ However, viral titers in the lungs of hamsters infected with BA.2.75 isolates were higher than those in BA.2- or BA.5-infected animals.¹ Notably, in BA.2.75-infected hamsters, the focal pneumonia was characterized by patchy inflammation interspersed in alveoli, suggesting that BA.2.75 could cause much more severe tissue damage than other Omicron variants.¹ The findings showed that BA.2.75 replicates more efficiently in the lungs than BA.2 or BA.5.¹ [\[Full Text\]](#)

Regional Update

- **Indonesia:** Students from the National University of Singapore and the Rajaratnam School of International Studies (RSIS) heard from Indonesia's Coordinating Minister for Economic Affairs Airlangga Hartarto on their country's experiences dealing with the COVID-19 epidemic (NUS).⁵ The minister stated in his written statement published on August 30 that the government must develop a new strategy since health crises like the COVID-19 pandemic had never previously happened in Indonesia.⁵ According to Hartarto, the administration created and implemented the so-called "gas and brake policy" at that time by persistently pursuing attempts to restore the country's economy.⁵ He said that it also carried out structural change, which makes up the third pillar of the "gas and brake" strategy's structure.⁵ [\[Full Article\]](#)
- **Philippines:** Following the restoration of in-person instruction this academic year, the University of San Carlos is working with the Department of Science and Technology to create a low-cost ventilation system that aims to reduce the danger of airborne transmission of the COVID-19 virus in schools.⁶ Speaking on August 31 to CNN Philippines' The Source, USC faculty engineer Engr. Earl Ray Anion discussed how his group created a prototype of the device, which attempts to stop the spread of viruses in enclosed public areas, especially classrooms.⁶ The ventilation system created by Dr. Frank Helleis of the Max Planck Institute for Chemistry, which is currently utilized in at least 600 schools in Germany, is the basis of the project, which is a localized version of it.⁶ [\[Full Article\]](#)
- **China:** Several cities in China added some strict COVID-19 measures. China's Hebei province, which surrounds Beijing, was ordered to stay home until the end of the week as officials rush to curb a small virus flare-up. Meanwhile, in Futian, where the city government is located, cinemas, karaoke bars, and parks are closed until Friday and large public events have been canceled. Chengdu, western China's largest city, has also seen strict travel restrictions. And in the southern tech hub of Shenzhen, two districts are under partial lockdown despite just 35 daily cases being reported in the city.

Travel Update

- **South Korea** will end the pre-departure COVID-19 test rule for travelers in the country starting September 3 (Saturday). All inbound travelers, whether residents or foreigners, arriving aboard a plane or ship will not need to hand in a negative PCR (polymerase chain reaction) test starting midnight of September 3, however, travelers will still need to take a PCR test within the first 24 hours of their arrival in South Korea as part of the "minimum measure" put in place to prevent the inflow and spread of any variant from overseas.
- **Japan's** Prime Minister announced on August 31 (Wednesday) that the country will increase its daily entry cap on arrivals to 50,000 from the current 20,000 starting September 7 in a further easing of strict COVID-19 border controls. Starting on September 7, incoming travelers who have been vaccinated at least three times will no longer need to show proof of a negative pre-departure COVID-19 test result, with the government changing the existing requirement to take tests within 72 hours of departure.

Cases and Deaths as of 31 August 2022

- As of 31 August 2022 (2PM, GMT+8), worldwide, there were **608,344,052** confirmed cases, including **6,504,766** deaths. Globally, Case Fatality Rate (CFR) was **1.1%**.
- 83,061,921 confirmed cases** of COVID-19 have been reported in the **ASEAN +3** countries including **34,088,584 cases** in the ASEAN region and **48,973,337 cases** in the PLUS THREE countries.
- The Case Fatality Rate in the **ASEAN +3** region is range between **0.1 to 3.2%**.
- There have been no tests reported in the last 14 days in the **ASEAN** Region.

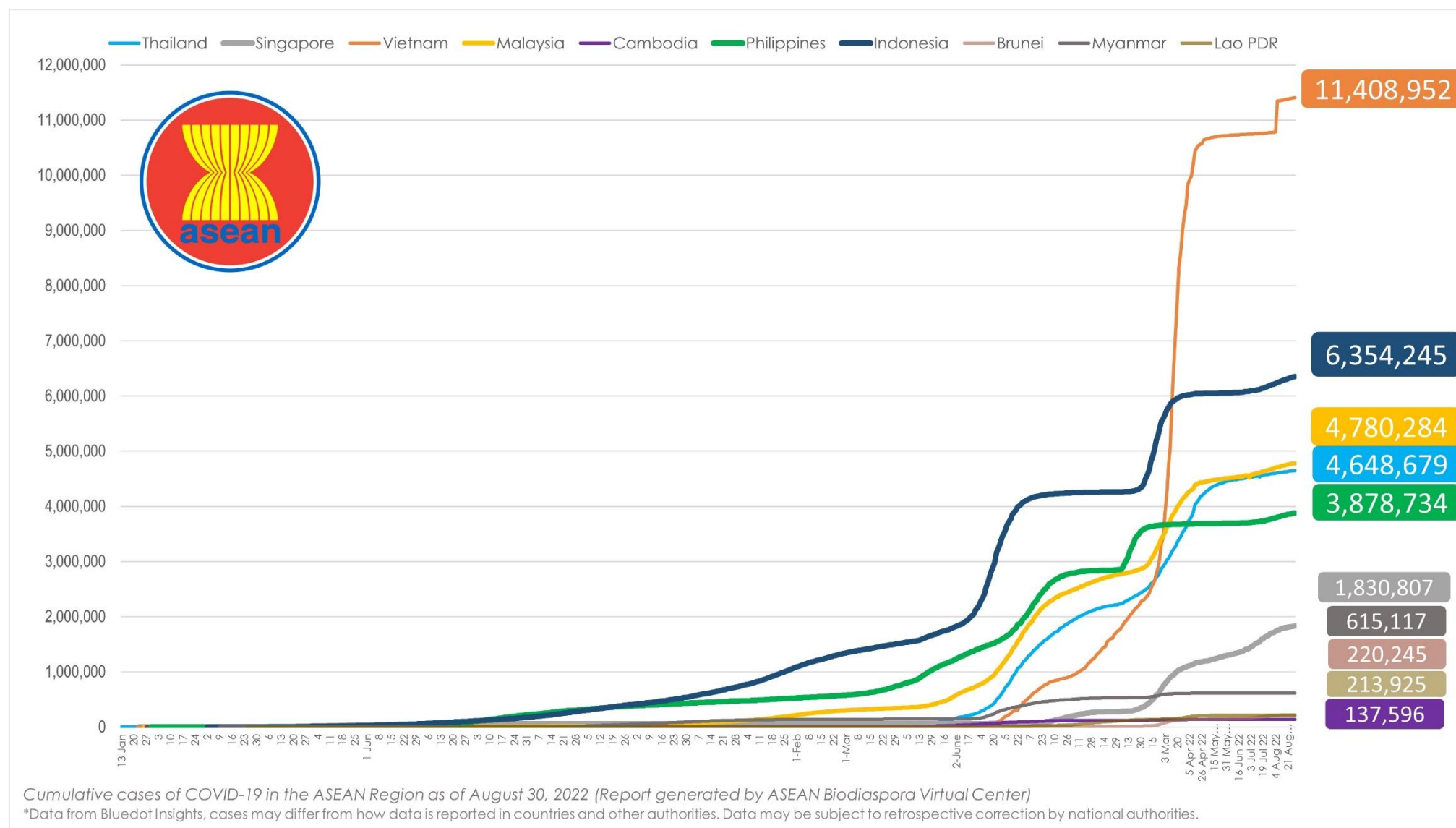
REGION	COUNTRY	FIRST CONFIRMED CASE(S)	LATEST REPORT ON CONFIRMED CASE(S)	TOTAL CONFIRMED CASES	NEW CASES	TOTAL DEATHS	NEW DEATHS	CUMULATIVE CASES/ 100,000	CUMULATIVE VACCINATED	CUMULATIVE FULLY VACCINATED	CUMULATIVE BOOSTERED	FULLY VACCINATED/ 100
ASEAN REGION	Brunei	10 Mar 20	30-Aug-22	220,245	-	225	-	50,831	449,031	443,811	328,836	99.7
	Cambodia	27 Jan 20	30-Aug-22	137,596	15	3,056	-	835	15,156,290	14,487,501	9,940,338	87.3
	Indonesia	02 Mar 20	30-Aug-22	6,354,245	5,070	157,541	20	2,348	203,037,880	170,558,244	58,929,057	62.3
	Lao PDR	24 Mar 20	30-Aug-22	213,925	101	757	-	2,984	5,888,649	5,222,417		70.3
	Malaysia	25 Jan 20	30-Aug-22	4,780,284	2,144	36,210	4	14,962	28,091,743	27,493,444	16,678,750	81.9
	Myanmar	23 Mar 20	30-Aug-22	615,117	87	19,437	-	1,138	34,777,314	27,545,329	2,227,351	51.2
	Philippines	30 Jan 20	30-Aug-22	3,878,734	1,624	61,773	53	3,588	76,976,681	72,254,350	17,313,409	63.5
	Singapore	23 Jan 20	30-Aug-22	1,830,807	1,410	1,591	-	32,099	5,023,722	5,002,239	4,278,693	91.7
	Thailand	13 Jan 20	30-Aug-22	4,648,679	994	32,278	27	6,677	56,937,716	53,366,303	31,653,500	74.5
	Vietnam	23 Jan 20	30-Aug-22	11,408,952	3,241	43,117	4	11,827	89,255,868	82,993,225	67,031,734	85.2
	ASEAN COUNTRIES			34,088,584	14,686	355,985	108	127,289	515,594,894	459,366,863	208,381,668	
ASEAN PLUS THREE	South Korea	20-Jan-20	30-Aug-22	23,142,479	115,519	26,689	71	44,755	45,104,355	44,666,381	40,687,065	86.2
	Japan	16-Jan-20	30-Aug-22	18,782,618	152,546	39,241	320	14,876	104,095,892	102,704,163	107,408,214	82.4
	China	31-Dec-19	30-Aug-22	7,048,240	40,670	24,806	40	43,572	1,330,318,797	1,295,555,570	826,747,476	86.9
	PLUS THREE COUNTRIES			48,973,337	308,735	90,736	431	103,203	1,479,519,044	1,442,926,114	974,842,755	
	ASEAN +3			83,061,921	323,421	446,721	539	230,492	1,995,113,938	1,902,292,977	1,183,224,423	

- 525,282,131 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	12,855,254	425	258,326	2	247,894	390,290,221	306,780,737	47,524,539
AMERICAS	178,577,628	26,714	2,852,034	169	1,159,398	819,291,407	719,808,810	464,894,436
ASIA PACIFIC	84,678,221	3,870	746,760	15	464,628	1,438,460,094	1,324,621,928	313,287,286
EUROPE	226,856,322	257,897	1,963,756	463	1,961,498	564,027,930	535,733,465	346,311,579
MIDDLE EAST	22,314,706	3,878	237,169	46	209,091	143,211,078	128,579,965	56,486,272
TOTAL	525,282,131	292,784	6,058,045	695	4,042,510	3,355,280,730	3,015,524,905	1,228,504,112

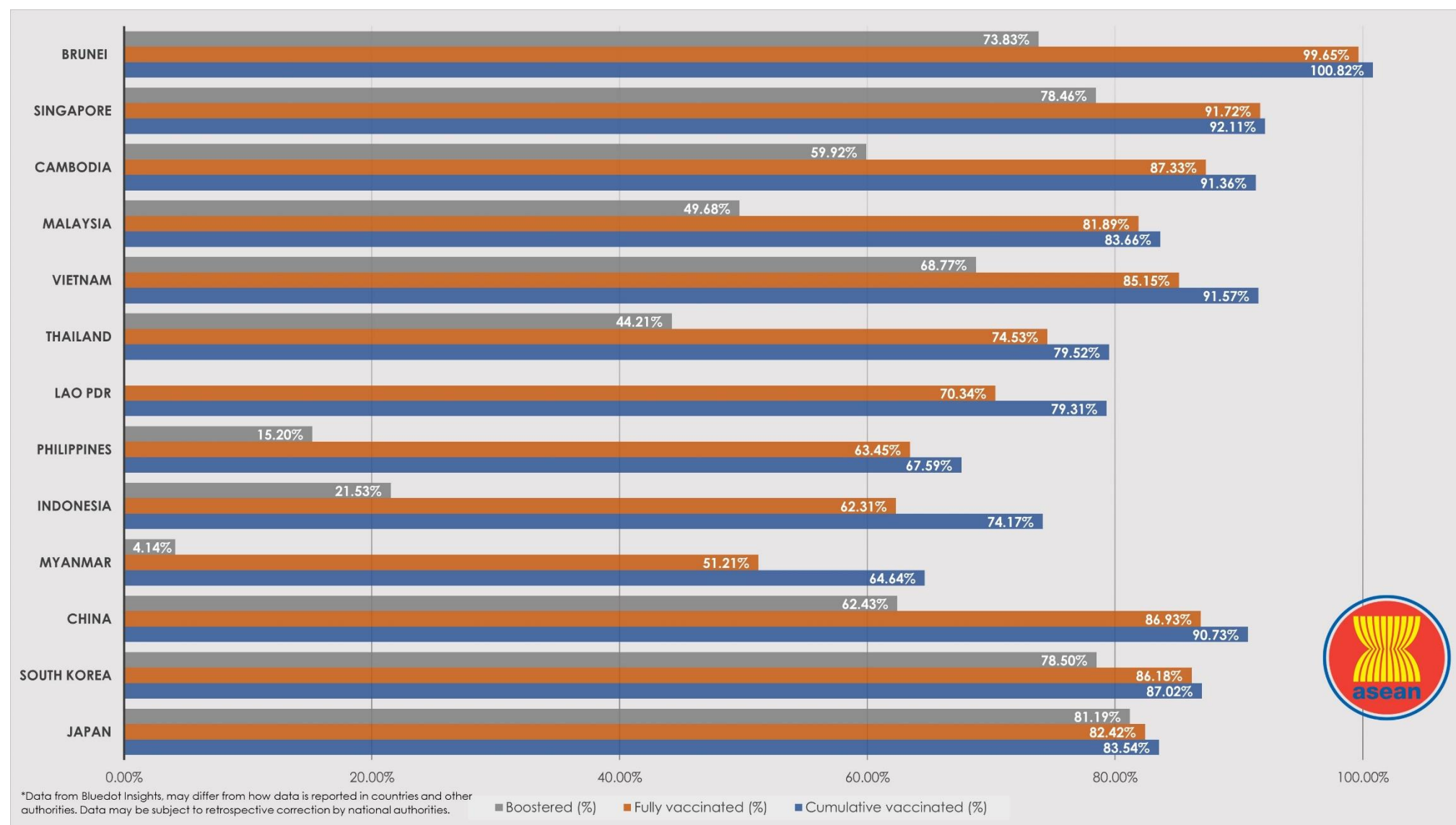
COVID-19 Epi curve among ASEAN Countries:

From January 1, 2021 to August 30, 2022




COVID-19 Vaccination Status

as of 30 August 2022



COVID-19 Outlook Assessment

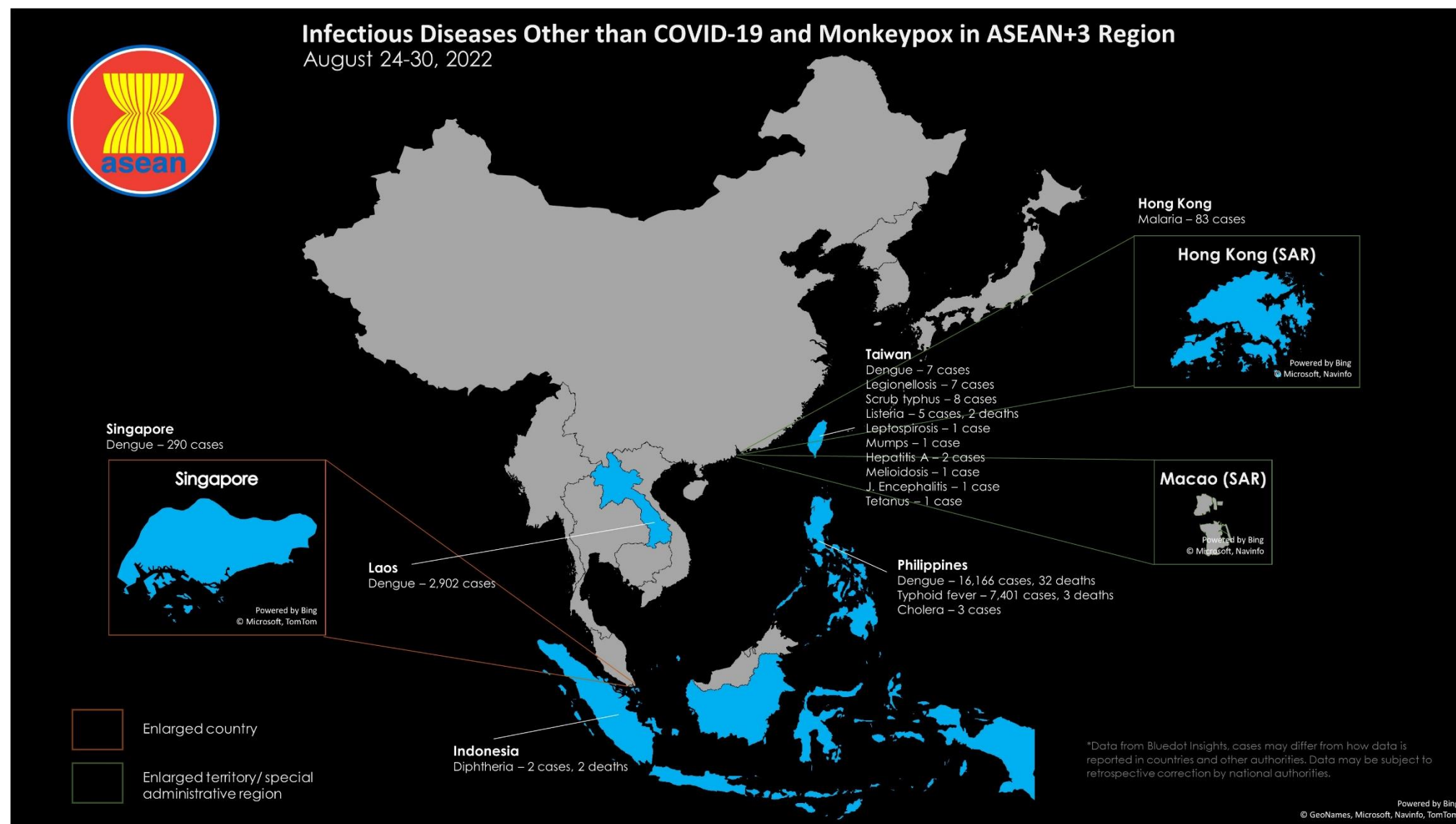
as of 28 August 2022

 ASEAN MEMBER STATE	REQUIREMENT						
	At least 80% of the high-risk population has been vaccinated with at least one dose of a COVID-19 vaccine.	At least 65% of the total population has a level of immunity to COVID-19; either recovered from COVID-19 or have been vaccinated with at least one dose of a COVID-19 vaccine.		Case levels are generally low (a 7-day rolling average number of daily new cases that is <10 cases per 100,000, with each day's past-14-day test positivity is consistently <5%).		Government Policy on containment and health (strictness and comprehensiveness in COVID-19 related government policies)	
	Population vaccinated/ day (7-day average)	% 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)	Change over the past 30 days
Brunei	0%/day	≥90.0/73.8	Unknown	0.0	Unknown	31.0/100	undefined
Cambodia	0%/day	≥90.0/59.9	Unknown	0.12	Unknown	31.5/100	undefined
Indonesia	0%/day	65.3/21.5	Unknown	1.60	Unknown	54.2/100	undefined
Lao PDR	0%/day	77.3/ND	Unknown	1.12	Unknown	61.6/100	undefined
Malaysia	0%/day	84.4/49.7	0.01%/day	8.18	Unknown	51.8/100	undefined
Myanmar	0%/day	52.1/4.1	Unknown	0.12	Unknown	69.1/100	undefined
Philippines	0%/day	69.9/15.2	Unknown	2.41	Unknown	55.4/100	undefined
Singapore	0%/day	88.7/78.5	0%/day	39.86	Unknown	58.9/100	undefined
Thailand	0%/day	77.5/44.2	0.01%/day	2.46	Unknown	31.5/100	undefined
Vietnam	Unknown	89.5/68.8	Unknown	2.91	Unknown	43.5/100	undefined
Japan	0%/day	81.2/85.6	0%/day	154.90	Unknown	42.9/100	undefined
South Korea	0%/day	86.5/78.4	0%/day	201.01	Unknown	38.1/100	undefined
China	Unknown	≥90.0/56.3	Unknown	0.025	Unknown	84.5/100	undefined

All of the countries have achieved the estimated high-risk population fully vaccinated of ≥90.0% except China with 35.1%.

Infectious Diseases Other than COVID-19 in ASEAN+3 Region

From August 24-30, 2022



Infectious Diseases Other than COVID-19 and Monkeypox in ASEAN+3 Region

August 24-30, 2022

Infectious Disease Updates

Dengue

- **Philippines:** 30 August 2022 (GMA News) A total of 118,785 dengue cases have been recorded from January 1 to August 13, 2022, which is 143% higher than those recorded during the same period last year, the Department of Health (DOH) said Tuesday. Based on the DOH's national dengue data as of August 13, there were 48,867 cases logged from January 1 to August 13, 2021. Cumulatively, most of the dengue cases this year or 18% were reported in Central Luzon at 21,247. It is followed by Central Visayas with 11,390 cases (10%), and the National Capital Region (NCR) with 11,064 (9%). A total of 19,816 dengue cases were also recorded from July 17 to August 13 alone. Central Luzon also topped the list of regions with the most dengue cases in the recent period with 3,457 cases or 17%. This was followed by the NCR with 3,131 (16%), and the Cordillera Administrative Region (CAR) with 2,106 (11%). The death toll nationally due to dengue has now jumped to 400, posing a 0.3% case fatality rate. Of these deaths, 35 occurred in January; 31 in February; 37 in March; 47 in April; 62 in May; 74 in June; 100 in July; and 14 in August. The DOH said that six out of 17 regions exceeded the epidemic threshold for dengue in the past four weeks or from July 17 to August 13. These regions were Cagayan Valley, Central Luzon, Calabarzon, Mimaropa, CAR, and NCR. Of these regions, it was NCR that showed a "sustained increasing trend" of dengue cases over the same period, DOH pointed out.
- **Laos:** 25 August 2022 (Xinhua) -- The number of dengue cases in Laos surpassed 20,000 in the first eight months of 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 Thursday said the country reported 224 new cases of dengue fever, bringing the total number of infections to 20,135 with 17 deaths recorded. The highest number of dengue patients was reported in Lao capital Vientiane at 10,190, with 2,594 cases in Luang Namtha, and 1,261 cases in Attapeu province. The 17 deaths included five in Vientiane, four in Attapeu, three in Saravan, two in Luang Namtha and Xieng Khuang, and one in Oudomxay province. People were asked to clear potential mosquito breeding sites around their homes and workplaces to help control the spread of the disease. If people fall ill, they should suspect that dengue may be the cause of their illness and get a blood test at a hospital, according to the Lao Ministry of Health. According to the World Health Organization, dengue fever is one of the fastest emerging 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.
- **Singapore:** 24 August 2022 (Outbreak News) In a follow-up on the dengue fever situation in Singapore, the National Environment Agency (NEA) now reports 25,189 total cases through August 23. Officials have reported a declining trend in cases from more than 1,000 cases a week in late July to 685 cases reported last week. The NEA continues to warn the high *Aedes aegypti* mosquito population, together with circulation of the previously uncommon DENV-3, will likely lead to dengue case numbers remaining high in the coming months. The city-state is stepping up its fight against dengue. Last month, they expanded their flagship dengue project which involves the breeding and releasing of male *Aedes* mosquitoes infected with the Wolbachia bacteria.

Typhoid Fever

- **Philippines:** 25 August 2022 (PNA) DUMAGUETE CITY – The Provincial Health Office (PHO) has reported a significant increase in the number of typhoid fever cases in Negros Oriental compared to last year, a health official reported on Thursday. Assistant Provincial Health Officer Dr. Liland Estacion bared to the Philippine News Agency that a report from the Provincial Epidemiology and Surveillance Unit of the PHO showed a total of 279 cases with three deaths were reported from Jan. 1 to Aug. 20, this year. She said the figure is 96 percent higher compared to the 142 cases and zero death during the same period last year. "The typhoid bacteria can be passed on to others via the oral-fecal route and with the advent of the rainy season and flooding, we are seeing an increase in cases most likely due to contaminated water and food," Estacion said. "Water reservoirs that are not properly constructed could be penetrated by floodwater that may be contaminated with human poop," she added in mixed English and Cebuano. Estacion advised the public to boil their drinking water for around 15 minutes and to undertake preventive measures such as checking leaks in water pipes. People can also buy water purification tablets or request for chlorine stock solution prepared by sanitary inspectors at health centers, she said. Guihulngan City logged the highest number of typhoid cases at 75; followed by Bayawan City, 29; Ayungon and Dumaguete City, 22 each; Sta. Catalina, 17; Canlaon City, 16; Mabinay, 14; Tayasan, 12; and Vallehermoso, 11. The rest had 10 or fewer cases. The three deaths were reported in Guihulngan City.

Cholera

- **Philippines:** 30 August 2022 (Manila Bulletin) ILOILO CITY—An outbreak of food and waterborne diseases acute gastroenteritis and cholera has been declared in Iloilo City on Tuesday, August 30. This was after the Iloilo City Health Office (ICHO) recorded a combined 90 cases and four deaths of acute gastroenteritis and cholera as of August 28. Based on the data of the ICHO-CESU, only three of the 90 confirmed were cholera cases while the rest are acute gastroenteritis cases. Dr. Annabelle Tang, acting ICHO chief, said that this is the first time in five years that cholera cases were recorded in the city. As for acute gastroenteritis, there are currently 18 patients admitted in the hospital. They have experienced symptoms such as watery diarrhea; nausea, vomiting or both; stomach cramps and pain; occasional muscle aches or headache; and low-grade fever.

Diphtheria

- **Indonesia:** 26 August 2022 (Antara) Probolinggo, East Java (ANTARA) - The Probolinggo District Health Office, East Java conducted an Outbreak Response Immunization (ORI) for " diphtheria in Gili Ketapang Village after it was determined that an extraordinary event (KLB) of diphtheria had killed three people. "The provision of immunization or diphtheria vaccination is to prevent diphtheria disease because in Gili Ketapang village a Diphtheria outbreak has been established, so extraordinary handling must be carried out," said Head of the Probolinggo District Health Office, Dr. Shodiq Tjahjono in a release received by ANTARA in Probolinggo Regency, Friday. Data from the Probolinggo Health Office noted that from March to August 2022 there were three cases of diphtheria in Gili Ketapang Village and three residents who were exposed to diphtheria died, so that in the local village it was designated as an outbreak of Diphtheria and extraordinary handling was carried out. "With the diphtheria outbreak, of course, we must respond in response, namely carrying out diphtheria ORI activities. With the demographic and geographical conditions on Gili Ketapang, the total population must be given diphtheria immunization as a whole, both children and adults," he said. He explained that the target of diphtheria immunization in Gili Ketapang Village was 8,272 people, so that to stem it, the Probolinggo Regency Government had provided diphtheria

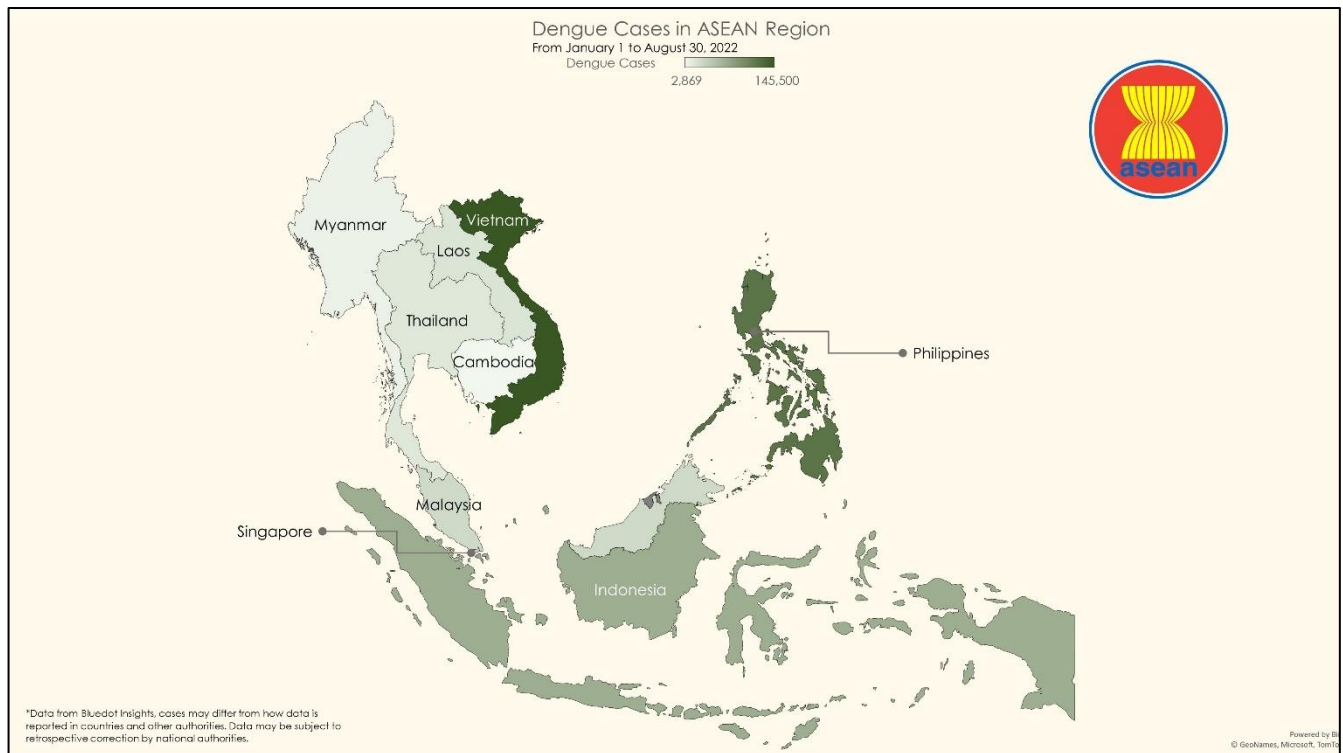
immunization for the community. "The first dose of immunization achieved 85 percent and the second immunization reached 75 percent of the total immunization target, so the rest of the first and second doses of immunization are expected to be completed because the third immunization (booster) will start from October to November 2022," he said. Meanwhile, the Acting Regent of Probolinggo Timbul Prihanjoko explained that many people in Gili Ketapang Village are aware of maintaining their health because the diphtheria immunization has been followed by many people, both children and adults. "We hope that the people of Gili Ketapang Village are always healthy and kept away from infectious diseases. The immunization is an effort to provide immunity and protect the people of Gili Ketapang Village from getting sick," he said.

Malaria

- **Hong Kong (SAR):** 30 August 2022 (The Standard) Hong Kong has recorded 50 more imported malaria cases in 368 airport arrivals from Africa in August. Hospital Authority sent a health aid team to the Hong Kong International Airport this month to conduct health support for travelers from Guinea and others from elsewhere in Africa. The team included around 40 health workers, doctors, and nurses specializing in infectious diseases. With over five health support actions, 50 of 368 visitors were diagnosed with malaria and showed mild symptoms. Two were under treatment in hospitals. Online health consultation services are also provided to follow up on the health status of the inbound travelers, with over 2,400 cases of telephone and 1,400 WeChat call services. The Center for Health Protection said that this year it had recorded a total of 180 imported malaria cases that needed to be hospitalized. "There is no cause for alarm since malaria is not transmitted from person to person," said David Hui Shu-cheong, an infectious disease expert at Chinese University and an adviser to the government on the coronavirus pandemic.

Dengue Cases in ASEAN Region

From January 1, 2022 to August 30, 2022



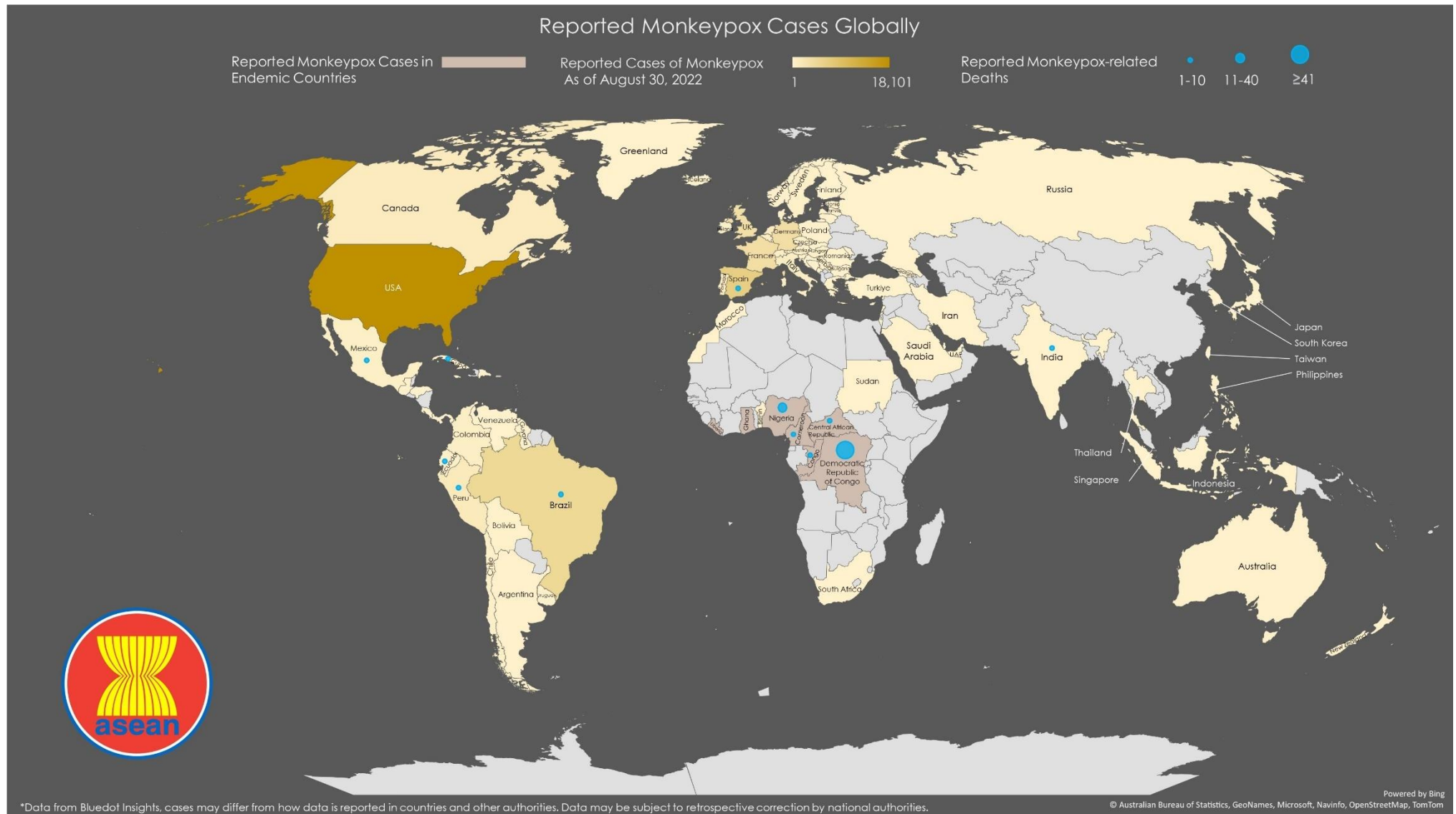
Dengue cases in ASEAN region

Country	Dengue Cases	New Cases in the Past Week	Deaths	Case Fatality Rate
Vietnam	145,500	-	53	0.04%
Philippines	118,785	16,166	400	0.34%
Indonesia	68,000	-	640	0.94%
Malaysia	29,812	-	13	0.04%
Singapore	24,298	967	-	0.00%
Laos	20,135	2,092	17	0.08%
Thailand	17,412	-	14	0.08%
Myanmar	7,835	-	31	0.40%
Cambodia	2,869	-	7	0.24%
Brunei	-	-	-	-
Total	434,646	19,225	1,175	0.27%

*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.

Monkeypox Cases Reported Globally

as of August 30, 2022



Monkeypox: Highlights and Situation Overview

- As of 31 August 2022 (2PM, GMT+8), worldwide, there were **52,693** confirmed cases, including **85** deaths. Globally, Case Fatality Rate (CFR) was **0.16%**.
- 36 confirmed cases** of Monkeypox have been reported in the **ASEAN+3** region composed of **28 cases** in the ASEAN region and **8 cases** in the PLUS THREE countries, with CFR of **0%**.
- 52,657 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	16	-	-	0.00%
ASEAN	Thailand	7	1	-	0.00%
ASEAN	Philippines	4	-	-	0.00%
Plus Three	Japan	4	-	-	0.00%
Plus Three	Taiwan	3	-	-	0.00%
ASEAN	Indonesia	1	-	-	0.00%
Plus Three	South Korea	1	-	-	0.00%
ASEAN+3 Total		36	1	-	0.00%

Top 5 countries with most monkeypox cases globally

Region	Country	Total Cases	New Cases	Deaths	Case Fatality Rate
Americas	USA	18,101	1,175	-	0.00%
Europe	Spain	6,459	176	2	0.03%
Americas	Brazil	4,693	477	1	0.02%
Europe	Germany	3,455	68	-	0.00%
Europe	France	3,421	532	-	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*	2,870	0	77	2.68%
AMERICAS	27,339	2,389	5	0.02%
ASIA PACIFIC	122	3	1	0.82%
EUROPE	22,058	936	2	0.01%
MIDDLE EAST	268	19	-	0.00%
TOTAL	52,657	3,347	85	0.16%

Global Update

- **World Health Organization:** Officials from the World Health Organization stated on August 30 that it is feasible to end the monkeypox outbreak in Europe, pointing to indications that case counts are decreasing in a few countries.⁷ Despite limited vaccine supplies, there are positive signs of a consistent week-over-week reduction in the number of cases beginning in many European nations, including France, Germany, Portugal, Spain, and Britain, as well as a slowdown in some regions of the United States.⁷ Regulators in the United States, the European Union, and the United Kingdom have supported a change in how the vaccine is delivered that involves injecting a lower quantity of the shot intradermally, increasing the number of doses that may be utilized from one vial by five times.⁷ [\[Full Article\]](#)
- **USA:** Recently, the number of new monkeypox cases recorded in certain major cities and throughout the US has begun to decline, but doctors believe it's too soon to tell if the trend will continue.⁹ On August 26, Dr. Rochelle Walensky, the director of the US Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, stated that she was "cautiously hopeful" about the declining trend but cautioned that the total case count was still increasing.⁹ According to CDC data, there were 337 new cases of monkeypox recorded in the US on average each day last week.⁹ That is a 24% decrease from two weeks prior and a daily difference of more than 100 instances.⁹ Many more elements are still in flux, leaving issues unsolved, but a handful are "working together to bend the curve," according to Walensky, including immunization, behavior changes, and harm reduction messages "being heard and applied."⁹ [\[Full Article\]](#)

Regional Update

- **Philippines:** A health official said on August 31 that none of the close contacts of the fourth case of monkeypox in the nation had displayed any signs of the illness.¹⁰ A facility-based isolation is still being used for the fourth patient, a 25-year-old Filipino with no known travel history to nations where there have been proven instances of monkeypox.¹⁰ Officer-in-charge of the Department of Health (DOH), Maria Rosario Vergeire, stated during a news conference that the fourth case's lesions are healing and that no new rashes or symptoms have been noticed.¹⁰ The DOH has so far identified roughly 20 of the fourth case's close connections.¹⁰ [\[Full Article\]](#)
- **Thailand:** The seventh case of monkeypox to be reported in Thailand was found in a Thai lady residing in Bangkok today (Sunday), who had a sexual connection with a foreigner but had not been outside during the current outbreak of the illness.² The 37-year-old single lady visited a foreigner-friendly nightclub in Bangkok approximately three weeks prior to becoming unwell, according to Dr. Opart Karnkawinpong, director-general of the department.² She got a little temperature on August 20. The next day, a blister emerged on her anus, and the next day, other blisters appeared on various other places of her body.² She then sought medical attention at Bamrasnaradura Infectious Diseases Institute.² [\[Full Article\]](#)

Vaccine Update

- **Indonesia:** In order to safeguard its residents against the infection, Indonesia has bought 2,000 doses of the monkeypox vaccine made by Bavarian Nordic, according to Minister of Health Budi Gunadi Sadikin.⁸ He stated during a Commission IX Opinion Hearing Meeting (RDP), which was broadcast on YouTube on August 30, that the nation had ordered the vaccines with the aid of the Indonesian Embassy in Denmark.⁸ Due to a smallpox vaccination program that was implemented before to 1980, the Indonesian population is comparatively better protected against the possibility of developing a monkeypox infection, he pointed out.⁸ [\[Full Article\]](#)

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