

COVID-19 and Monkeypox 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 637 million cases and over 6 million deaths attributed to COVID-19.

Regional Update

- **Cambodia**: The University of Health Sciences' study on the utilization of COVID-19 quick tests among Cambodians in Phnom Penh discovered that 30% of residents had undergone COVID-19 rapid antigen testing within the previous six months.¹¹ The study was carried out by academics from the University of Health Sciences of Cambodia and the University of New South Wales, Australia, according to a news release from the Ministry of Health on November 2.¹¹ The report helped to clarify how Covid-19 fast tests are used.¹¹ According to the survey, just 20% of participants who purchased the tests thought they were inexpensive, with 40–50% of participants receiving tests for free from their places of employment.¹¹ This, according to Bun Heng, is a glaring sign of the government's success in the war against COVID-19 and a tribute to the successful measures that enabled it to reopen the Kingdom.¹¹ [\[Full Article\]](#)
- **Malaysia**: As a COVID-19 wave fueled by the XBB sub-variant sweeps the country, Malaysians have been advised to continue wearing their face masks in congested and enclosed spaces.¹³ The public should be on guard and follow the TRIIS approach, which stands for Test, Report, Isolate, Inform, and Seek, should they become sick, according to interim health minister Khairy Jamaluddin.¹³ He added that high-risk individuals would receive the medication Paxlovid.¹³ On October 31, Mr. Khairy predicted that the number of COVID-19 infections caused by the XBB sub-variant would increase over the following few weeks to between 3,000 and 5,000 cases per day, peaking around the Nov. 19 general election.¹³ [\[Full Article\]](#)
- **Myanmar**: According to a statement from the Central Committee on Prevention, Control and Treatment for COVID-19, Myanmar has extended its COVID-19 preventive measures until November 30.¹⁴ All COVID-19 limits that were set to expire on October 31 are affected by the extension, with the exception of those that would be loosened, the committee stated.¹⁴ According to the statement, the extension applies to all orders, statements, and directions previously made by the relevant government agencies and ministries in an effort to combat the pandemic, according to Xinhua.¹⁴
- **Philippines**: On Friday, November 4, the Department of Health (DOH) announced that 3,900 kids between the ages of 12 and 17 contracted COVID-19 between September 1 and November 3, or since Philippine schools progressively resumed face-to-face instruction after more than two years of forced campus closures.¹⁵ Vergeire stated that no severe cases were reported, and the recorded cases remained light.¹⁵ The numbers, according to the health official, are based on their own surveillance and not on information from the Department of Education (DepEd).¹⁵ The DOH explained Vergeire's remarks in the media conference on November 4 afternoon, stating that the statistics cited were instead for people between the ages of 12 and 17.¹⁴ [\[Full Article\]](#)

Vaccine Update

- **Indonesia**: On November 4, Indonesia's food and drug regulator announced that its in-house coronavirus vaccine, Inavac, has been licensed for use in emergency situations.¹² The vaccine, which was licensed in September, is the second domestically produced injection after Indovac.¹²



- Singapore:** From November 7, people between the ages of 18 and 49 will be able to receive the bivalent Moderna/Spikevax COVID-19 vaccine, the Ministry of Health (MOH) said on Friday (Nov 4).¹⁶ In order to schedule an appointment at one of the ministry's Joint Testing and Vaccination Centers (JTVCs) to obtain an additional dosage of the vaccine, eligible persons will receive an SMS with a personalized booking link.¹⁶ Before gradually inviting the lower age groups, the ministry will start by inviting those between the ages of 40 and 49.¹⁶ According to MOH, with the most recent extension, all adults 18 years of age and older should make sure they maintain their COVID-19 vaccination records.¹⁶ [[Full Article](#)]
- Thailand:** The decision dated Oct. 9, 2020 that had permitted the ministry to purchase COVID-19 vaccinations to safeguard the public interest, contain the outbreak, or maintain national security was revoked, according to a Public Health Ministry notification published in the Royal Gazette on Thursday (Nov. 3).¹⁷ The most recent statement, dated October 31, 2022, and signed by Public Health Minister Anutin Charnvirakul, claimed that the COVID-19 situation was improving globally as evidenced by data from the World Health Organization showing that the mortality rate has now reached its lowest level since March 2020.¹⁷ On October 1, the government cancelled the pandemic emergency order, and the ministry lowered COVID-19 from a communicable disease that needs to be closely monitored to a communicable disease.¹⁷ There is no longer a need to purchase more COVID-19 vaccine because Thailand's supply is currently enough to meet demand, it noted.¹⁷
- Vietnam:** As coverage lags in a number of areas, the Ministry of Health is urging local authorities to continue dispensing COVID-19 vaccines.¹⁸ The 98 million citizens of Viet Nam have received 261 million doses of the COVID-19 vaccination as of this writing, according to an official document given by Deputy Health Minister Nguyn Th Liên Hng to the people's committees of provinces and towns.¹⁸ [[Full Article](#)]
- According to a new study **Safety Monitoring of Bivalent COVID-19 mRNA Vaccine Booster Doses Among Persons Aged ≥12 Years** by experts at the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention and the Food and Drug Administration, found that serious adverse events after administration of the updated COVID-19 booster shots were rare.¹ The agencies found "no unusual or unexpected patterns of adverse events" after vaccination with the shots from Moderna and Pfizer, which are authorized for children as young as 5 years old.¹ The Vaccine Adverse Event Reporting System received over 5,500 reports of adverse events after vaccination with the updated shot.¹ Of those, more than 95% were not serious and over 4% were serious events. Serious events included five cases of myocarditis, which is inflammation of the heart muscle and has been associated with messenger RNA COVID-19 vaccine in rare cases.¹ The age range of those who reportedly experienced myocarditis was 12-78 years old.¹ [[Full Text](#)]
- Pfizer-BioNTech** said on November 3 (Thursday) they will test a combined COVID-19 and influenza vaccine, which could potentially pave the way for better inoculation uptake for both illnesses.² Pfizer Inc. and BioNTech announced the advancement of an mRNA-based combination vaccine candidate for influenza and COVID-19 to a Phase 1 trial with the aim to address two severe respiratory diseases with one vaccine.² The vaccine candidate is based on BioNTech's proprietary mRNA platform technology and comprises mRNA strands encoding the wild-type spike protein of SARS-CoV-2 and the spike protein of the Omicron BA.4/BA.5 subvariants as well as mRNA strands encoding the hemagglutinin of four different influenza strains which was recommended for the Northern Hemisphere 2022/23 by the World Health Organization.² [[Full Article](#)]



Research Update

- The report on **Probable Aerosol Transmission of SARS-CoV-2 through Floors and Walls of Quarantine Hotel, Taiwan** found that Omicron SARS-CoV-2 variant was likely transmitted through the floors and walls of a quarantine hotel in Taiwan in December 2021.³ The report specified three case-patients who lived in nonadjacent rooms on different floors of the quarantine hotel in the last week of December of 2021, and had no direct contact during their stay.³ All three tested negative for the COVID-19 within 72 hours of boarding flights to Taiwan, but tested positive on PCR tests while staying at the hotel.³ The case-patients traveled from China, New York, and Japan, and the authors inferred that the traveler from New York likely had an emerging case of COVID-19 due to the Omicron strain at the time of travel. Old tunnels and air conditioner units were found to transmit aerosols throughout the hotel.³ A small-scale tracer-case experiment showed multiple air leaks in the building, sufficient to spread virus aerosols. The authors concluded that under-ventilated indoor settings with recirculated air conditioning systems can let aerosol remain suspended for a prolonged period and disperse across a long range, adding that a high concentration of virus-laden aerosol might have accumulated in a poorly ventilated room and might have been transported by the airflow across different rooms through the structural defects.³ [\[Full Text\]](#)
- The study, **COVID-19 Case Investigation and Contact Tracing in New York City, June 1, 2020, to October 31, 2021**, a key tactic for controlling the spread of many infectious illnesses that pose a threat to the public's health is contact tracing.⁹ This cross-sectional study included information on the development, expansion, and upkeep of Trace, NYC's contact tracing program, as well as information on the program's results over the first 17 months.⁹ From June 1, 2020, to October 31, 2021, a team of 4147 contact tracers attempted case investigations on 941 035 people and contact interviews on 1 218 650 people.⁹ From May 6, 2020, to October 31, 2021, there were around \$600 million in expenses.⁹ These findings imply that a huge software can be created, put into operation, and then maintained quickly.⁹ [\[Full Text\]](#)
- The study **Employee Well-Being During COVID-19 Pandemic: The Role of Adaptability, Work-Family Conflict, and Organizational Response**, topic of well-being has always been of interest to people, organizations, and policy-makers.¹⁰ Due to the repeated lockdowns that governments enforced to stop the virus's spread, employees were obliged to work from home throughout the COVID-19 epidemic, making it extremely relevant.¹⁰ 184 employees' data from various Malaysian companies were examined using Smart-PLS Structural Equation Modeling and the bootstrapping method.¹⁰ First, the study found that perceived stress's direction, intensity, and impact on overall wellbeing are all highly significant.¹⁰ During quarantine and lockdown, stressors such as worry about getting sick, worry about losing money, lack of information, annoyance, and boredom were felt and reported (Brooks et al., 2020).¹⁰ Such traumatic experiences can seriously harm one's health.¹⁰ Second, the results demonstrate how work-family conflict exacerbates stress and impairs employee wellbeing.¹⁰ Employers should probably maintain workloads more reasonable and set clear and realistic expectations for the results that are to be attained in order to assist employees in reducing the conflict/interference between work and family domains.¹⁰ [\[Full Text\]](#)

Travel Update

- The **Philippines'** President approved the Inter-Agency Task Force for the Management of Emerging Infectious Diseases' Resolution No. 2, recommending the lifting of pre-departure COVID-19 testing requirement for fully vaccinated arriving passengers both for local and international travellers. According to the resolution, Filipino and foreign travellers shall be deemed fully vaccinated if he or she had received the second dose



of a two-dose series or a single-dose COVID-19 vaccine more than 14 days prior to the date and time of departure from the country of origin or port of embarkation. The vaccinated individuals are required to present the following proofs of vaccination upon arrival in the country: World Health Organization International Certificate of Vaccination and Prophylaxis, VaxCertPH, national or state manual/digital certificate of the country/foreign government or other proof of vaccination. Unvaccinated individuals 15 years or older shall present a remotely supervised, or a laboratory-based rapid antigen negative result administered and certified by a health care professional in a health care facility, laboratory, clinic, pharmacy or other similar establishment taken within 24 hours prior to the date and time of departure from the country of origin/first port of embarkation in a continuous travel to the Philippines, excluding layovers; provided that he/she has not left the airport premises or has not been admitted into another country during such layover.



Travel Advisories (new update/s)

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	September 15, 2022	Yes	No	No	No	No	Minimum coverage: BN\$20,000	No
Cambodia	October 6, 2022	Yes	No	No	No	No	No	No
Indonesia	September 14, 2022	Yes	Yes – fully vaccinated* certificate for 18 years old and above.	No, but may be subject to RT-PCR upon arrival	Foreign travelers who are not fully vaccinated may not be allowed to enter Indonesia or may be subjected to RT-PCR test upon arrival	No	No	Traveler is required to download and register at PeduliLindungi app before departure.
Laos	October 25, 2022	Yes	Yes – fully vaccinated* certificate.	No	Yes – Negative rapid antigen test within 48 hours before departure.	No	No	No
Malaysia	August 2, 2022	Yes	No	No	No	No	No	No
Myanmar	October 14, 2022	Yes	Yes – fully vaccinated* certificate for 12 years old and above.	Yes – printed negative COVID-19 antigen test result for 12 years old and above taken within 48 hours before arrival.	Foreign travelers who are not fully vaccinated are not allowed to enter or transit Myanmar.	No	Required to obtain Myanmar Insurance	No
Philippines	November 4, 2022	Yes	Yes – fully vaccinated* with booster dose certificate for 12 years old and above.	No	Yes – COVID-19 rapid antigen test taken at most 24 hours before departure or subject to a rapid test upon arrival.	No	No	Traveler is required to download and register at E-arrival card at most 3 days before departure for those without visa.
Singapore	September 27, 2022	Yes	Yes – fully vaccinated* certificate vaccination status on the	No	Yes – Negative COVID-19 test within 48 hours before departure for travelers born on or	No	No	Traveler is required to download and register at SG Arrival Card app before departure.



		HealthHub app or TraceTogether app or acceptance letter issued by the Safe Travel Office (STO) or SGAC acknowledgment email.			before December 31, 2009.			
Thailand	October 1, 2022	Yes	No	No	No	No	No	No
Vietnam	May 16, 2022	Yes	No	No	No	No	No	No

- Reference: IATA Travel Centre
- *Fully vaccinated – at least 14 or 15 days from 2nd dose for two-dose vaccine or 14 or 15 days from a single dose vaccine upon arrival.



Cases and Deaths as of 04 November 2022

- As of 04 November 2022 (2PM, GMT+8), worldwide, there were **637,533,636** confirmed cases, including **6,609,672** deaths. Globally, Case Fatality Rate (CFR) was **1.1%**.
- 34,962,115 confirmed cases** in the ASEAN region.
- 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	03-Nov-22	241,044	3,388	225	-	55,632	450,060	445,424	337,552	99.2
	Cambodia	27 Jan 20	03-Nov-22	137,995	2	3,056	-	837	18,317,500	14,578,628	10,272,280	86.9
	Indonesia	02 Mar 20	03-Nov-22	6,507,610	4,951	158,737	42	2,405	204,315,646	170,975,417	64,363,636	62.1
	Lao PDR	24 Mar 20	03-Nov-22	216,260	3	758	-	3,016	5,888,649	5,222,417		69.4
	Malaysia	25 Jan 20	03-Nov-22	4,914,557	4,711	36,480	-	15,382	28,109,250	27,519,314	16,774,631	81.1
	Myanmar	23 Mar 20	03-Nov-22	631,929	-	19,483	-	1,169	34,777,314	27,545,329	2,227,351	50.8
	Philippines	30 Jan 20	03-Nov-22	4,006,635	795	64,179	34	3,706	77,994,168	73,449,131	20,425,579	63.6
	Singapore	23 Jan 20	03-Nov-22	2,108,727	4,086	1,682	2	36,972	5,163,385	5,123,895	4,440,289	90.9
	Thailand	13 Jan 20	03-Nov-22	4,692,448	-	32,955	-	6,740	57,005,497	53,486,086	32,143,431	74.6
	Vietnam	23 Jan 20	03-Nov-22	11,504,910	819	43,165	-	11,927	90,044,496	84,433,722	69,805,302	86.0
ASEAN COUNTRIES				34,962,115	18,755	360,720	78	137,786	522,065,965	462,779,363	220,790,051	
	South Korea	20-Jan-20	03-Nov-22	25,717,277	46,870	29,280	41	49,735	45,121,694	44,691,618	41,210,609	86.3
	Japan	16-Jan-20	03-Nov-22	21,858,528	-	46,014	-	17,312	104,281,929	102,930,507	124,735,353	83.0
	China	31-Dec-19	03-Nov-22	10,005,506	35,778	28,670	91	59,194	1,332,063,227	1,299,528,746	835,262,640	87.8
	PLUS THREE COUNTRIES				57,581,311	82,648	103,964	132	126,241	1,481,466,850	1,447,150,871	1,001,208,602
ASEAN +3				92,543,426	101,403	464,684	210	264,026	2,003,532,815	1,909,930,234	1,221,998,653	

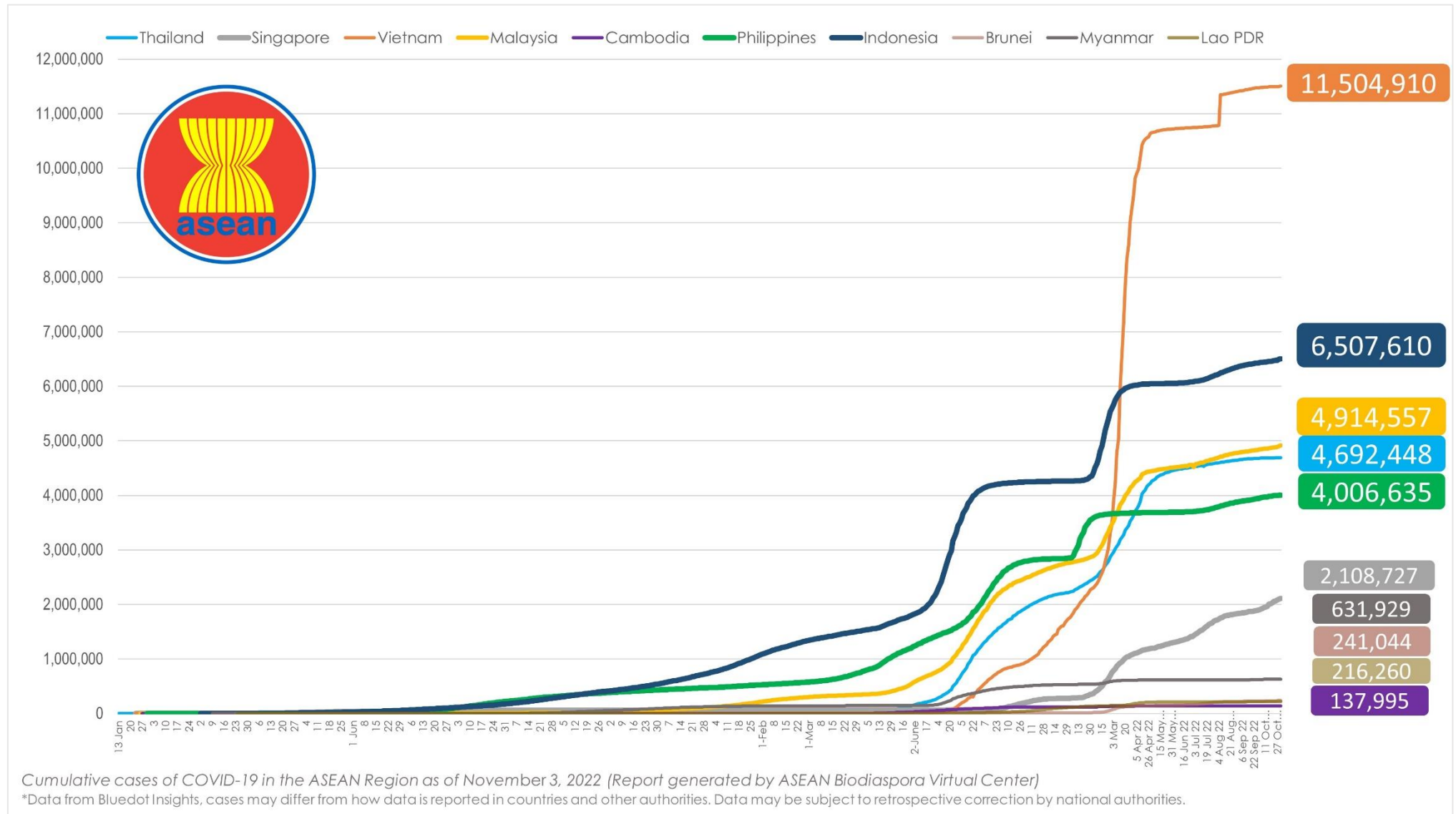
- 544,990,210 confirmed cases** of COVID-19 have been reported in **5 continents** (other than ASEAN +3 countries):

CONTINENT	TOTAL CONFIRMED CASES	NEW CASES	TOTAL DEATHS	NEW DEATHS	CUMULATIVE CASES/ 100,000	CUMULATIVE VACCINATED	CUMULATIVE FULLY VACCINATED	CUMULATIVE BOOSTERED
AFRICA	12,937,571	77	258,847	-	244,004	431,465,571	343,807,640	54,464,035
AMERICAS	183,401,419	37,080	2,892,829	421	1,191,605	827,602,010	726,936,353	485,325,750
ASIA PACIFIC	85,784,363	1,995	753,116	12	488,048	1,453,755,698	1,340,438,869	402,722,596
EUROPE	240,338,011	86,530	2,001,823	604	2,037,607	566,809,401	538,374,655	365,846,512
MIDDLE EAST	22,528,846	2,528	238,373	7	213,106	144,279,269	129,621,460	59,467,436
TOTAL	544,990,210	128,210	6,144,988	1,044	4,174,371	3,423,911,949	3,079,178,977	1,367,826,329



COVID-19 Epi curve among ASEAN Countries:

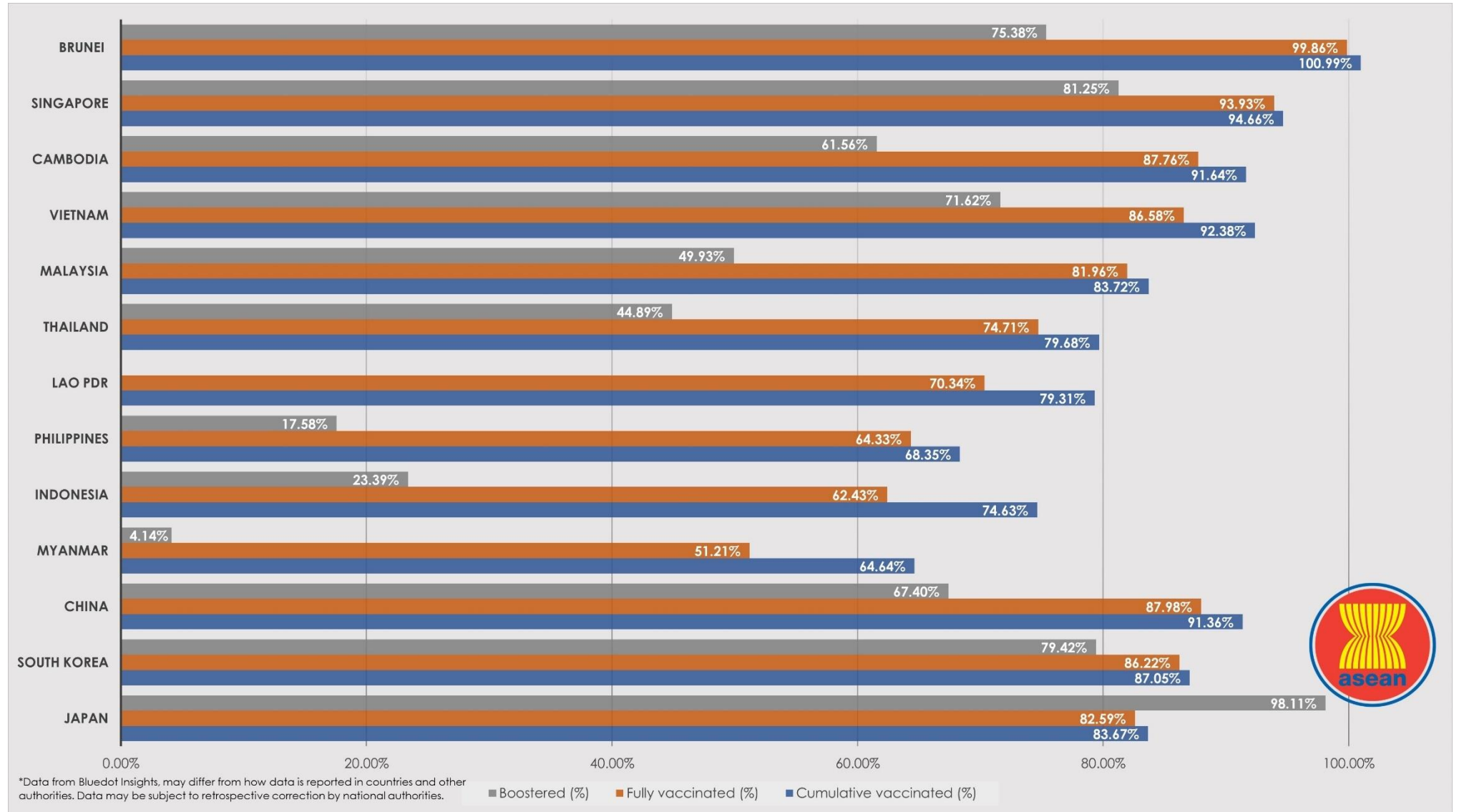
From January 1, 2021 to November 3, 2022





COVID-19 Vaccination Status

as of 03 November 2022





ASEAN COVID-19 Outlook Assessment

as of 01 November 2022

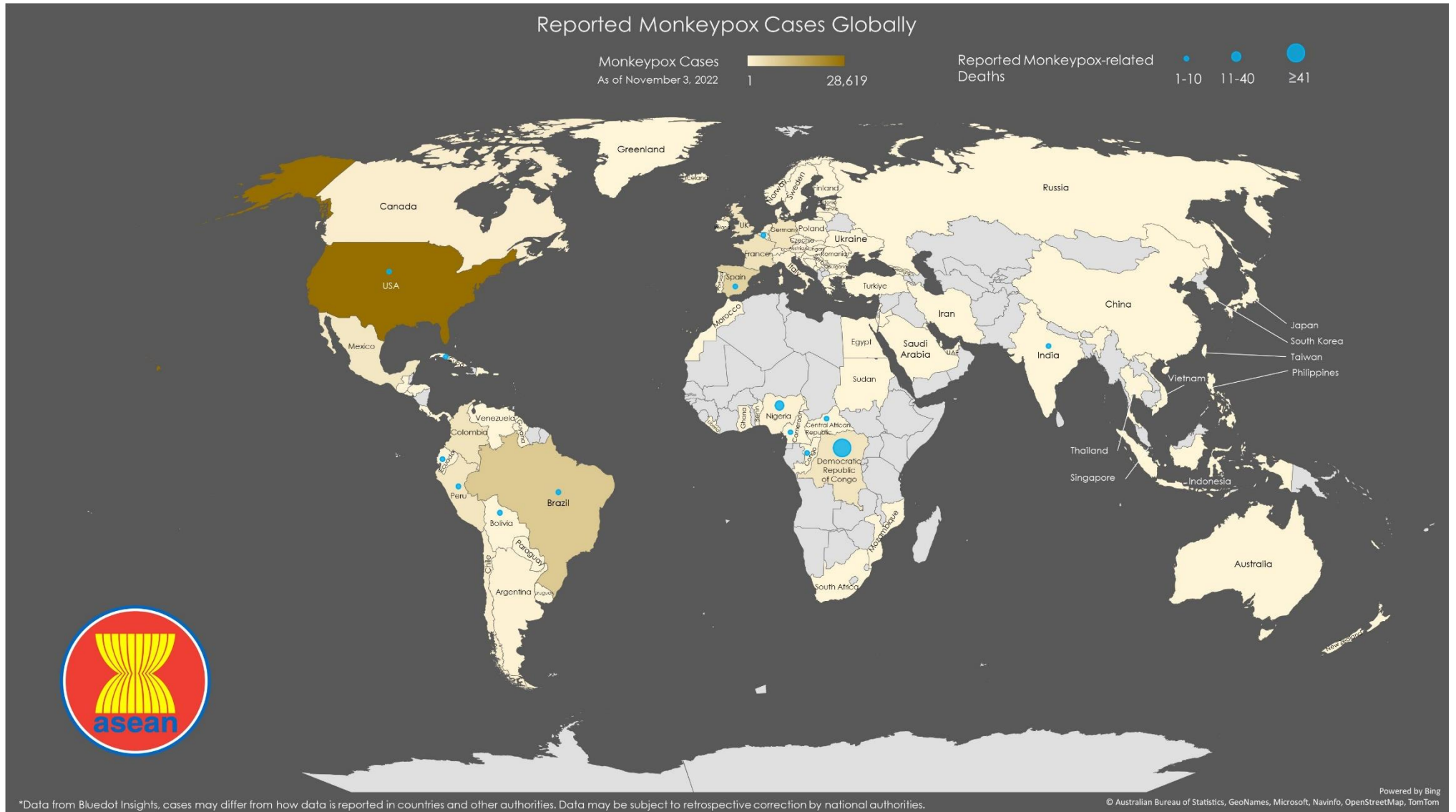
 ASEAN MEMBER STATE	At least 65% of the total population has a level of immunity to COVID-19; either recovered from COVID-19 or have been vaccinated with at least one dose of a COVID-19 vaccine.		Case levels are generally low (a 7-day rolling average number of daily new cases that is <10 cases per 100,000, 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)
	% 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 Darussalam	≥90.0/75.2	Unknown	101.35	Unknown	31.0/100
Cambodia	≥90.0/61.1	Unknown	0.01	Unknown	31.5/100
Indonesia	65.5/23.3	Unknown	1.26	Unknown	54.2/100
Lao PDR	77.3/ND	Unknown	0.10	Unknown	61.6/100
Malaysia	84.5/49.4	0%/day	9.91	Unknown	51.8/100
Myanmar	52.1/4.1	Unknown	0.27	Unknown	69.1/100
Philippines	71.0/17.5	Unknown	1.04	Unknown	55.4/100
Singapore	≥90.0/78.8	0.01%/day	93.27	Unknown	58.9/100
Thailand	77.7/44.8	0.01%/day	0.52	Unknown	31.5/100
Vietnam	≥90.0/71.1	Unknown	0.77	Unknown	43.5/100

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.



Monkeypox Cases Reported Globally

as of November 3, 2022





Monkeypox: Highlights and Situation Overview

- As of 04 November 2022 (2PM, GMT+8), worldwide, there were **82,747** confirmed cases, including **185** deaths. Globally, Case Fatality Rate (CFR) was **0.22%**.
- 40 confirmed cases** in the ASEAN region, with CFR of **0%**.
- 82,707 confirmed cases** of Monkeypox have been reported in other **5 regions** (other than ASEAN region):

Monkeypox cases in ASEAN region

Country	Total Cases	New Cases	Deaths	Case Fatality Rate
Indonesia	1	-	-	0.00%
Philippines	4	-	-	0.00%
Singapore	19	-	-	0.00%
Thailand	12	-	-	0.00%
Vietnam	4	-	-	0.00%
ASEAN Total	40	-	-	0.00%

Monkeypox cases in Asia-Pacific region

Country/Territory	Total Cases	New Cases	Deaths	Case Fatality Rate
Australia	140	-	-	0.00%
Hong Kong (SAR)	1	-	-	0.00%
India	19	-	1	5.26%
Japan	7	-	-	0.00%
New Caledonia	1	-	-	0.00%
New Zealand	33	-	-	0.00%
People's Republic of China	5	-	-	0.00%
Republic of China	4	-	-	0.00%
South Korea	3	-	-	0.00%
Asia-Pacific Total	213	-	1	0.47%

Top 5 countries with most monkeypox cases globally

Region	Country	Total Cases	New Cases	Deaths	Case Fatality Rate
Americas	USA	28,619	242	6	0.02%
Americas	Brazil	9,260	98	10	0.09%
Europe	Spain	7,317	0	2	0.03%
Europe	France	4,094	0	-	0.00%
Europe	United Kingdom	3,701	3	-	0.00%



Monkeypox cases per region

REGION	TOTAL CONFIRMED CASES SINCE JANUARY 1, 2022	NEW CASES SINCE THE PREVIOUS REPORT	TOTAL DEATHS	CASE FATALITY RATE
AFRICA	4,796	0	160	3.34%
AMERICAS	51,660	844	20	0.04%
ASEAN	40	0	0	0.00%
ASIA PACIFIC	213	25	1	0.47%
EUROPE	25,725	16	4	0.02%
MIDDLE EAST	313	0	-	0.00%
TOTAL	82,747	885	185	0.22%

Global Update

- USA:** According to a research released on Wednesday by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, nearly all Americans hospitalized for monkeypox infection had impaired immune systems, most frequently as a result of HIV infection.⁷ Eighty-two percent of the 57 hospitalized patients in the report who had H.I.V. were Black, and over a quarter of them were homeless, highlighting racial and economic disparities in the outbreak as a whole.⁷ According to the research, even though the majority of monkeypox cases are minor, medical professionals should test suspected cases for HIV as well and be ready to provide quick treatment for both illnesses.⁷ [\[Full Article\]](#)
- Africa:** The need for a truly global strategy to combat the virus, stop its spread, and prevent it from igniting into new outbreaks was highlighted by researchers on November 3 who warned that a dangerous monkeypox variant with a fatality rate as high as 10% is circulating in Central Africa and may possibly cause new global outbreaks.⁸ In the past, outbreaks in the Democratic Republic of Congo, which are associated with a more virulent form of the monkeypox virus than what is causing the current worldwide outbreak, have burned out because there aren't enough infected individuals to maintain transmission.⁸ Even though the number of cases of monkeypox worldwide is declining, the virus is still a problem in some regions of Africa. Any attempt to combat the virus and stop its spread is hampered by the lack of resources and relatively inadequate surveillance.⁸ [\[Full Article\]](#)

Research Update

- The study ***Epidemiologic and Clinical Features of Children and Adolescents Aged < 18 Years with Monkeypox — United States, May 17–September 24, 2022***, children and teenagers with positive polymerase chain reaction (PCR) test results for MPXV, nonvariola orthopoxvirus (NVO), or generic orthopoxvirus (OPXV) between May 17 and September 24, 2022, were found through nationwide surveillance or during CDC clinical consultations.⁴ 83 MPXV infections were found in children and adolescents under the age of 18, including 55 (66%) adolescents and 16 (19%) children between the ages of 0 and 4.⁴ Infections with the monkeypox virus (MPXV) in children and adolescents under the age of 18 were uncommon, accounting for 0.3% of all cases in the US; none of these infections led to a serious illness or death.⁴ The most common way that younger children and adolescents were exposed to the MPXV virus was through skin-to-skin contact with a household member who had the monkeypox during caregiving duties.⁴ [\[Full Text\]](#)



- The study **Monkeypox Neurologic Complications May Be Similar to Smallpox**, smallpox and monkey pox have many of the same clinical symptoms and have incubation times ranging from 4 to 21 days.⁵ Headaches, mood swings, including depression and anxiety, as well as neuropathic pain are common neurologic signs of monkeypox.⁵ Encephalitis is a rare complication of monkeypox, although it happens in 1 in 500 cases of smallpox.⁵ Other recognized smallpox neurologic side effects in children under the age of five include headaches, backaches, delirium, encephalopathy, and febrile seizures.⁵ [[Full Text](#)]
- Researchers had hoped that people could only transfer the virus if they experienced symptoms during the global monkeypox outbreak.⁶ However, a study from the British Health Security Agency that was published in *The BMJ* on November 2 suggests that pre-symptomatic transmission is possible and might even be fairly common.⁶ This finding may make it more challenging to completely eradicate new cases or stop outbreaks from occurring in the future.⁶ In the United Kingdom, the study looked at more than 2,700 cases of monkeypox from May 6 to August 1.⁶ 13 of the cases may be connected to the victims by the researchers.⁶ Ten pairs demonstrated signs of pre-symptomatic transmission, indicating that the virus was passed from one patient to another before the first became ill or acquired lesions.⁶ Researchers calculated that 53% of monkeypox infections might spread before symptoms appeared.⁶ The researchers discovered that the virus may spread up to four days before symptoms appear.⁶ Monkeypox symptoms can include fever, chills, swollen lymph nodes, headaches, muscle aches, back pain, and exhaustion in addition to painful lesions.⁶ The study is the first to show that smallpox and monkeypox viruses, which are related, can spread in this way.⁶ Only symptomatic monkeypox transmission had been observed in previous studies, despite the possibility of asymptomatic and presymptomatic transmission.⁶ [[Full Article](#)]



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