

COVID-19: Highlights and Situation Overview

Global Update

- Worldwide, there have been over 496 million cases and over 6 million deaths attributed to COVID-19.
- The World Health Organization (WHO) on April 7 (Thursday) urged governments across the Western Pacific Region to continue reaching out to the most vulnerable citizens as some countries are now loosening their restrictions in a move to live with COVID-19. In a media briefing in celebration of World Health Day, WHO Western Pacific Regional Director Dr. Takeshi Kasai said that while the virus is "unlikely" to disappear, health systems implemented by Western Pacific governments will be the key to control the surge and avoid potential disruptions to society. He continued to push for continued vaccination of vulnerable sectors such as healthcare workers, senior citizens and persons with underlying conditions, as well as receiving booster shots once they are now eligible to do so. He also added that maintaining public health and mitigation measures in high-risk areas and high vaccination coverage will allow countries in the region to respond to surges and to prepare for the next global pandemic.
- Canada: Health Canada confirmed there are at least six cases of XE recombinant of Omicron in the country. Public Health Agency of Canada (PHAC) was aware of the XE recombinant variant of Omicron in Canada as of April 6. The government of Canada invested \$53 million for Variants of Concern Strategy that focuses on surveillance, sequencing, and better detection of variants. PHAC is looking at signs that XE changes disease severity, transmissibility, or impacts the effectiveness of diagnostic tests, vaccines or treatments for COVID-19 as more data is needed to confirm transmissibility levels.
- South Korea: The Korea Disease Control and Prevention Agency (KDCA) reported 205,333 new COVID-19 cases, including 31 cases from overseas, bringing a total of 14,983,694. The coronavirus cases remained below 200,000 for the fourth consecutive day in Friday, a decreasing trend may lead to eased COVID-19 restrictions in the country. A global event to kick off as the post-COVID era begins – BIO KOREA, the biggest bio-health convention in Asia that is dedicated in promoting the international standing of Korea's healthcare industry and ensuring the industry's sustainable growth. The theme of this year's convention "Beyond the Pandemic, into a Next Wave." BIO KOREA 2022 will take place in COEX, Seoul on May 11 to May 13, 2022.
- US: On World Health Day, US lacks funding for Global COVID response. The Biden administration has not provided any amount from the US\$5 billion requested by the United States Agency for International Development (USAID) to fund its commitment to build a safer, healthier, and more equitable future around the world. This funding is needed to finance Global Vax and is in danger that may be stopped. Globally, the problem is not lack of vaccine doses but the ability to purchase them, said Krishna Udayakumar of Duke University that tracks global vaccine production, distribution, and donation. Global health advocate Tom Hart mentioned that the government has purchased all of the 1.2 billion doses of vaccines it has pledged to donate around the world; however, the additional funding is needed to prevent the vaccines from expiring in warehouses in the US.

Regional Update

- Malaysia recorded 11,994 new COVID-19 cases on Thursday (April 7), bringing the cumulative total number of infections in the country to 4,292,585. The Ministry of Health's CovidNow portal reported that 11,969 of Thursday's new COVID-19 cases were local transmissions while

25 were imported infections. Meanwhile, data from the ministry's GitHub data repository showed that this is the sixth day in a row that daily cases have dropped below the 15,000-mark. Currently, there are 157,571 active COVID-19 cases in Malaysia, of which, 153,859 or 97.6%, individuals are observing home quarantine, 341 or 0.2% of active cases are currently seeking treatment at low-risk quarantine and treatment centres, and 3,174 or 2.0% of active cases are being treated in hospital with only 0.2%, or 197 individuals, warded in intensive care units (ICUs) throughout the country.

- Philippines: The World Health Organization (WHO) said the Philippines should be prepared in the rise of COVID-19 cases in the country in two months especially after the May 9 elections. Dr. Rajendra Yadav, acting WHO representative to the Philippines, stressed the need to prepare for possible surge of COVID-19 and everyone should still wear mask and get boosted. Yadav recommended to continuously recalibrate COVID-19 response including shifting to house-to-house vaccination, especially for unvaccinated Filipinos.

Vaccine Update

- Indonesia and Panama agreed cooperation in three key areas including health, economic recovery, and women empowerment. Foreign Affairs Minister Retno Marsudi said in a virtual press briefing they are focusing first on health cooperation and they have signed a memorandum of understanding on cooperation in diplomatic capacity building. Both countries reiterated the importance of equitable access to vaccines and vaccination to end the current pandemic. World Health Organization's target for vaccination coverage against COVID-19 is 70% of total population by mid-2022 especially for developing and least developed countries. President Joko Widodo will also be one of the co-chairpersons of the COVAX AMC Summit on April 8, 2022, which shows Indonesia's strong commitment in supporting vaccination.
- Based on Malaysia's CovidNow portal, 22,955,772, or 97.6% of the adult population are fully vaccinated, 23,232,836, or 98.8%, have received at least one dose, and 15,899,713 individuals or 67.6% have received the booster dose as of April 7 (Thursday). For adolescents aged between 12 and 17 years old, 2,856,360 individuals or 91.8% have completed their vaccination and 2,956,063, or 95%, have received their first dose of the vaccine. In addition, a total of 58,780 children aged between five and 11 years old have completed their COVID-19 vaccination and a total of 1,354,514 children in the same age group, or 38.2% of the total, have received at least one dose of a two-dose COVID-19 vaccine under the National COVID-19 Immunization Programme for Children (PICKids). On a daily vaccination number, a total of 29,734 doses were dispensed on Thursday, including 3,721 as first dose, 15,374 as second doses, and 10,639 as booster jabs, bringing the cumulative number of vaccine doses administered under the National COVID-19 Immunization Programme (PICK) to 69,101,615.
- Myanmar's Ministry of Health announced on April 7 (Thursday) that it will issue electronic COVID-19 vaccination certificates in English version for international travel. According to the ministry's statement, the electronic vaccination certificates containing QR code will be issued online and can be used on any mobile phone or tablet. People who have been fully vaccinated against COVID-19 and have a Myanmar version of vaccination record containing QR code and Check ID issued by the Vaccination Management Information System can apply for an electronic vaccination certificate on the ministry's official website.
- Vietnam's deputy spokesperson for the Ministry of Foreign Affairs (MoFA) said that Vietnam and 19 countries have so far reached agreements on mutual recognition of their vaccine passports. The 19 foreign countries are the United States, the United Kingdom, Japan, Australia, Belarus, India, Cambodia, the Philippines, the Maldives, Palestine, Turkey, Egypt, Sri Lanka, New Zealand, Singapore, Saint Lucia,

the Republic of Korea, Malaysia, and Iran. Holders of "vaccine passports" from these countries will be entitled to the same medical requirements as those of local people who have been vaccinated. The country's Ministry of Health also announced that Vietnam will begin issuing vaccine passports for its citizens starting April 15. The vaccine passport will be available on PC Covid-19 or Digital Health (So suc khoe dien tu) apps or through accessing the health ministry's portal and filling in necessary information. As of April 8, Vietnam has recorded 77,754,108 fully-vaccinated individuals.

Travel Advisories (new update/s)

- Philippines: The government allows the use of rapid antigen test for COVID-19 as part of entry requirements for travelers arriving in the country. The test must be administered by a certified healthcare professional in a healthcare facility, laboratory, clinic, pharmacy, or other similar establishments for the country of origin of the arriving passenger. The Philippines already recognizes national vaccination certificates from 35 countries and territories namely, Egypt, Maldives, Palau, Albania, Estonia, Greece, Malta, Uruguay, Argentina, Brunei, Cambodia, Chile, Denmark, Ecuador, Indonesia, Myanmar, Papua New Guinea, Peru, Portugal, Spain, Azerbaijan, Macau SAR, Syria, Malaysia, Ireland, Brazil, Israel, South Korea, Timor Leste, Slovenia, Bahrain, Qatar, Switzerland, Hong Kong SAR, Bulgaria, Iran, Bangladesh, Mexico, Panama, Slovak Republic, and Paraguay.

Cases and Deaths as of 08 April 2022

- As of 08 April 2022 (2PM, GMT+8), worldwide, there were **496,309,521** confirmed cases, including **6,189,240** deaths. Globally, Case Fatality Rate (CFR) was **1.2**.
- 53,015,025 confirmed cases** of COVID-19 have been reported in the **ASEAN +3** countries including **29,990,365 cases** in the ASEAN region and **23,024,660 cases** in the PLUS THREE countries, with CFR of **0.8**.

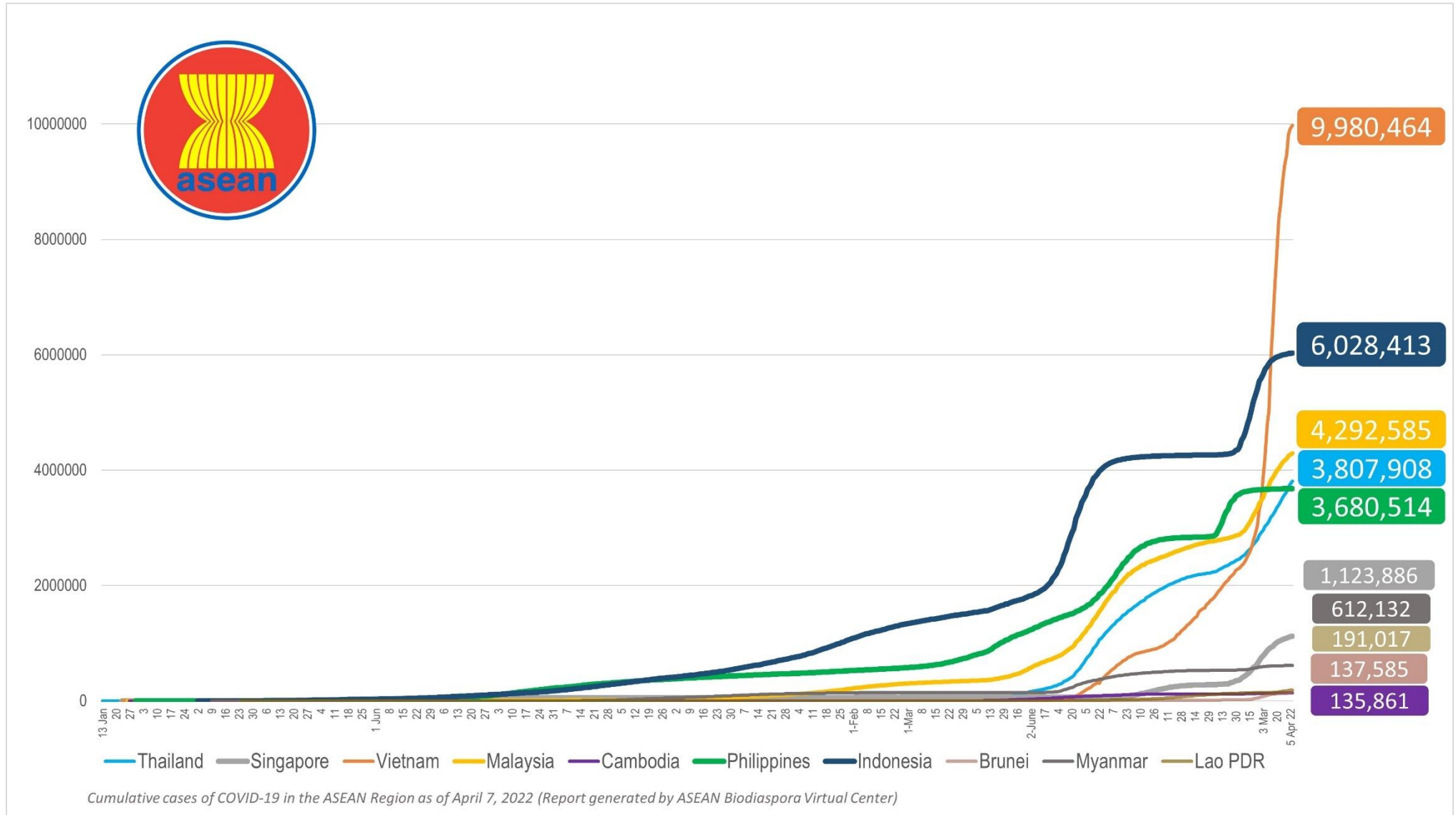
REGION	COUNTRY	FIRST CONFIRMED CASE(S)	LATEST REPORT ON CONFIRMED CASE(S)	TOTAL CONFIRMED CASES	NEW CASES	TOTAL DEATHS	NEW DEATHS	CASE FATALITY RATE	CUMULATIVE CASES/ 100,000	NUMBER OF TESTS LAST 14 DAYS/ 100,000	CUMULATIVE VACCINATED	CUMULATIVE FULLY VACCINATED	CUMULATIVE BOOSTERED	FULLY VACCINATED / 100
ASEAN REGION	Brunei	10 Mar 20	07-Apr-22	137,585	346	214	-	0.2%	31,754		408,162	405,286	265,042	91.8
	Cambodia	27 Jan 20	07-Apr-22	135,861	27	3,055	-	2.2%	824	92	14,829,078	14,042,459	9,156,072	82.9
	Indonesia	02 Mar 20	07-Apr-22	6,028,413	2,089	155,509	45	2.6%	2,228	-	197,107,907	160,741,389	25,606,528	58.2
	Lao PDR	24 Mar 20	07-Apr-22	191,017	2,032	687	3	0.4%	2,664	197	5,654,575	4,579,684		62.1
	Malaysia	25 Jan 20	07-Apr-22	4,292,585	11,994	35,231	39	0.8%	13,435	3,296	27,539,162	25,854,686	15,888,368	78.9
	Myanmar	23 Mar 20	07-Apr-22	612,132	53	19,434	-	3.2%	1,133	200	27,425,323	22,023,688		40.2
	Philippines	30 Jan 20	07-Apr-22	3,680,514	270	59,591	169	1.6%	3,404	-	70,173,137	66,341,257	12,264,402	59.7
	Singapore	23 Jan 20	07-Apr-22	1,123,886	4,467	1,287	3	0.1%	19,705		5,007,369	4,969,220	3,888,050	91.1
	Thailand	13 Jan 20	07-Apr-22	3,807,908	26,081	25,791	91	0.7%	5,469	-	55,670,667	50,318,546	24,196,561	71.9
	Vietnam	23 Jan 20	07-Apr-22	9,980,464	58,424	42,712	31	0.4%	10,347	1,414	79,947,189	77,754,108	45,443,077	79.2
ASEAN COUNTRIES				29,990,365	105,783	343,511	381	1.1%			483,762,569	427,030,323	136,708,100	
ASEAN PLUS THREE	South Korea	20-Jan-20	07-Apr-22	14,778,405	224,761	18,381	348	0.1%	28,580	8,621	44,983,099	44,506,422	32,857,630	86.8
	Japan	16-Jan-20	07-Apr-22	6,877,066	54,995	28,369	88	0.4%	5,447	889	102,721,914	100,815,102	55,681,506	80.0
	China	31-Dec-19	05-Apr-22	1,369,189	4,498	14,048	97	1.0%	15,898	49,445	1,305,316,042	1,267,923,824	720,894,807	79.9
	PLUS THREE COUNTRIES				23,024,660	284,254	60,798	533	0.3%			1,453,021,055	1,413,245,348	809,433,943
ASEAN +3				53,015,025	390,037	404,309	914	0.8%			1,936,783,624	1,840,275,671	946,142,043	

- 443,294,496 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	CASE FATALITY RATE	CUMULATIVE CASES/ 100,000	NUMBER OF TESTS LAST 14 DAYS/ 100,000	CUMULATIVE VACCINATED	CUMULATIVE FULLY VACCINATED	CUMULATIVE BOOSTERED
AFRICA	11,789,059	1,961	253,081	9	1.1	201,198	4,690	281,585,147	211,006,017	19,417,006
AMERICAS	153,140,817	26,034	2,728,931	199	0.8	862,457	21,048	792,217,472	694,096,990	286,739,674
ASIA PACIFIC	69,778,426	86,485	727,976	140	0.2	282,950	12,598	1,388,425,183	1,188,307,900	103,189,875
EUROPE	188,002,617	578,994	1,843,076	1,489	0.6	1,679,316	251,911	553,481,173	525,435,487	296,745,064
MIDDLE EAST	20,583,577	13,096	231,867	52	0.3	186,606	51,246	140,007,050	124,927,836	53,519,474
TOTAL	443,294,496	706,570	5,784,931	1,889	1.3%			3,155,716,025	2,743,774,230	759,611,093

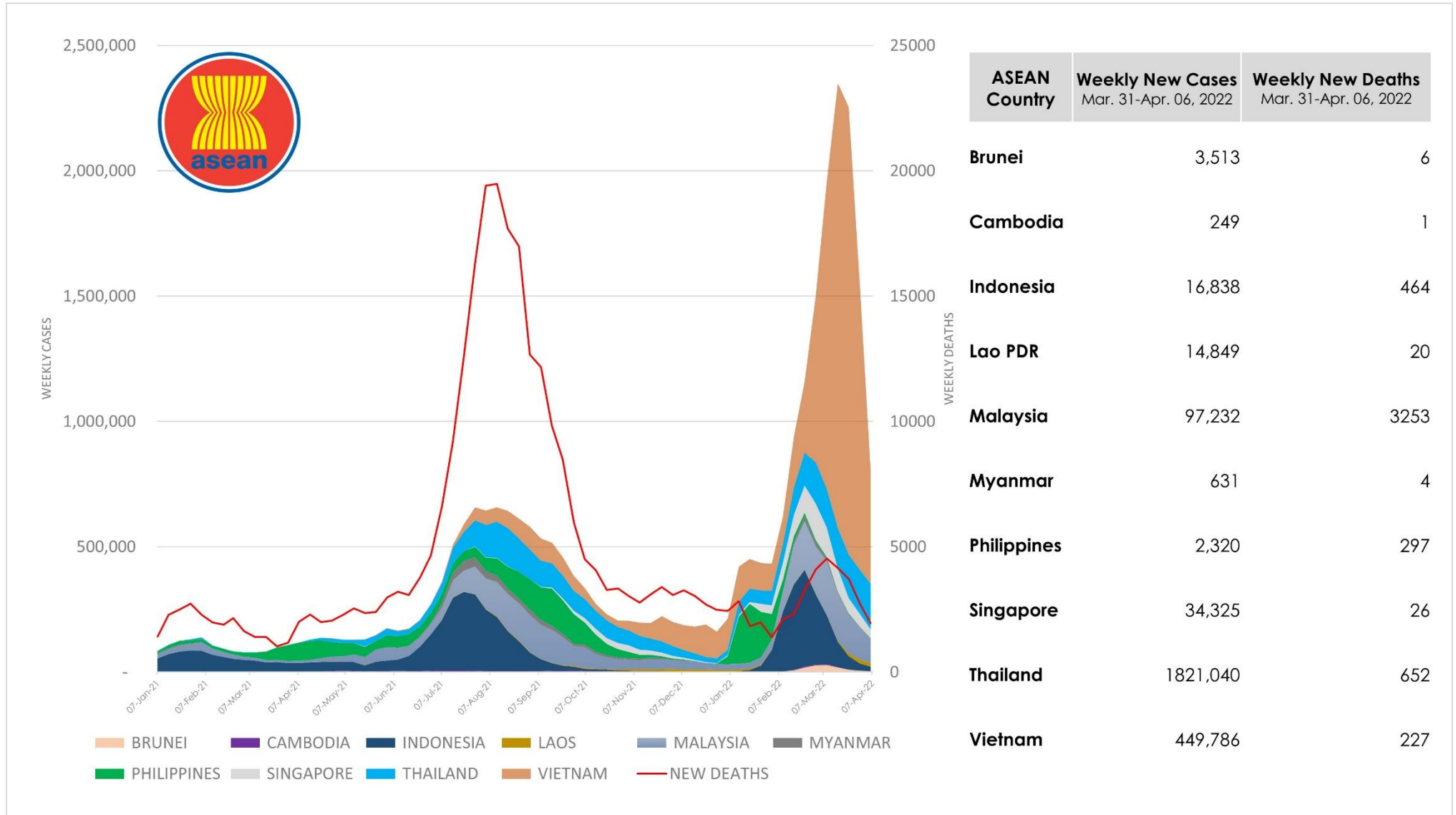
COVID-19 Epi curve among ASEAN Countries:

From January 1, 2021 to April 7, 2022



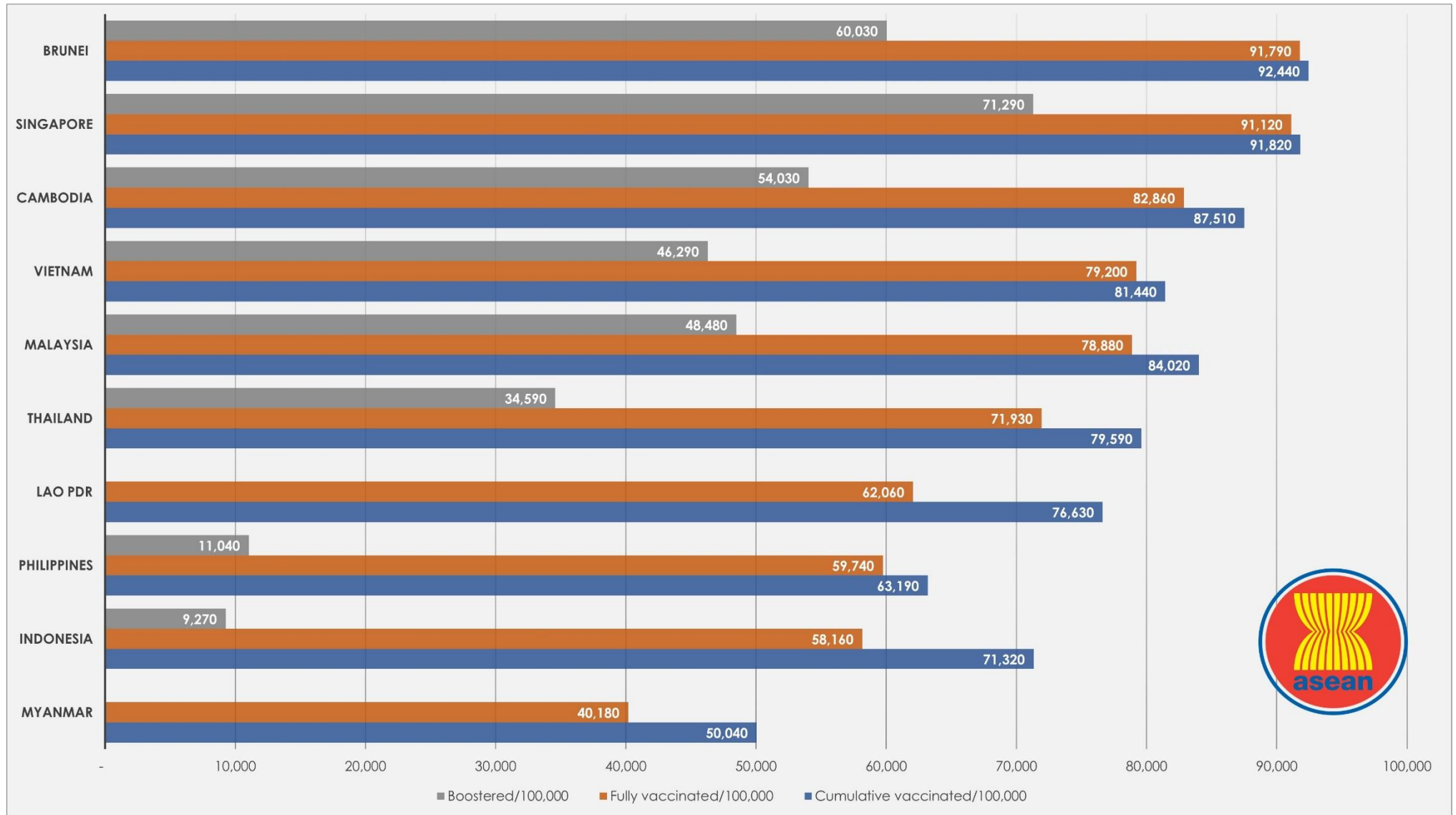
Weekly COVID-19 New Cases and New Deaths

From January 1, 2021 to April 7, 2022




COVID-19 Vaccination Status

as of 07 April 2022



COVID-19 Outlook Assessment

as of 05 April 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)	
	% of High risk population fully vaccinated	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	≥90.0	Unknown	≥90.0/59.0	Unknown	115.83	Unknown	67.9/100	0.0
Cambodia	≥90.0	0%/day	89.1/54.0	0.07%/day	0.22	4.3	37.5/100	0.0
Indonesia	≥90.0	0%/day	61.3/9.2	0.07%/day	0.89	11.3	55.7/100	-6.0
Lao PDR	≥90.0	0%/day	67.4/ND	0.61%/day	29.60	100	78.3/100	0.0
Malaysia	≥90.0	0%/day	79.3/48.4	0.02%/day	43.47	13.9	58.0/100	0.0
Myanmar	≥90.0	0%/day	41.5/ND	Unknown	0.17	1.8	77.7/100	0.0
Philippines	≥90.0	0%/day	64.2/11.0	0.17%/day	0.31	2.4	82.4/100	0.0
Singapore	≥90.0	0%/day	88.1/71.3	0.04%/day	85.97	Unknown	74.4/100	0.0
Thailand	≥90.0	0%/day	73.1/34.5	0.03%/day	37.15	Unknown	53.3/100	0.0
Vietnam	88.0	0.06%/day	83.9/46.3	Unknown	66.61	100	71.4/100	-1.8

