

# COVID-19 and Other Infectious Diseases Situational Report in the ASEAN+3 Region

ASEAN BioDiaspora Virtual Center (ABVC)

as of June 15, 2022



# COVID-19: Highlights and Situation Overview

## Global Update

- **Worldwide**, there have been over 542 million cases and over 6 million deaths attributed to COVID-19.
- A UN human rights expert on June 14 urged the World Trade Organization (WTO) to ease intellectual property rules that protect the technology behind COVID-19 vaccines and treatments, calling transnational racial inequalities in access to immunizations a form of “vaccine apartheid.” In an open letter to the WTO’s Twelfth Ministerial Conference, the UN Special Rapporteur on contemporary forms of racism, E. Tendayi Achiume urged the adoption of a comprehensive COVID-19 waiver of the Agreement on Trade-Related Aspects of Intellectual Property Rights (TRIPS), which she said was supported by a broad coalition of States and civil society groups. The waiver would relax the WTO’s intellectual property rules and lead to increased production and distribution of vaccines, diagnostics, and treatments for those without access to COVID-19 healthcare. The UN expert said the racially discriminatory outcomes of the COVID-19 pandemic have been well-documented, with racially marginalized groups experiencing disproportionate economic, social and health harms due to the pandemic. The racial inequality had been reproduced between nations, she said. The Special Rapporteur said COVID-19 vaccines and treatments have been stockpiled in high-income nations in the Global North, leaving States in the Global South without affordable access to life-saving treatments. She said that under the TRIPS agreement, intellectual property protections have prevented States in the Global South from producing COVID-19 vaccines and treatments, accruing profits to Northern corporations at the cost of human lives. In her letter, the Special Rapporteur urged State representatives at the Ministerial Conference to honor those commitments and legal obligations for equality and non-discrimination enshrined in international human rights law.

## Regional Update

- **Indonesia:** 12 cases of the BA.5 Omicron subvariant have been detected in West Java so far, spokesperson for the Ministry of Health, Mohammad Syahril, has informed. “As of today, there are 20 cases of Omicron subvariants (in Indonesia) consisting of two cases of BA.4 and 18 cases of BA.5,” he confirmed here on Tuesday. Of the 18 BA.5 cases, 12 cases have been identified in West Java, three cases in Jakarta, and three in Bali, he said. Meanwhile, the cases of the BA.4 subvariant were reported in Jakarta and Bali. At a press conference on the development of COVID-19 handling in Indonesia on Tuesday, spokesperson for the COVID-19 Handling Task Force, Wiku Adisasmito, emphasized that the community must remain alert to the threats presented by the two Omicron subvariants that have entered Indonesia as of June 6, 2022. The subvariants may transmit among people faster, but there has been no indication so far that they cause higher severity compared to the other subvariants of Omicron, Adisasmito noted.
- **Philippines:** The daily COVID-19 cases in Metro Manila could increase to as much as 400 to 500 by the end of June, the independent analytics group OCTA Research warned on Tuesday. While Metro Manila remains at low-risk classification, OCTA Research fellow Dr. Guido David said these could escalate to moderate risk classification by next week. David said COVID-19 cases in the region increased from 10% to 53% the past week, adding that the reproduction rate was now at 1.59%. According to him, the number of COVID-19 cases in Metro Manila was at 188 on Monday while the positivity rate was at 2.7%. For the rest of the country, he said a “low thousand cases per day” would be possible. David said there was no need yet to escalate the COVID-19 classification to alert level 2 in Metro Manila but this could be possible “within the next few weeks.” Metro

Manila remains under the most relaxed alert level 1 until June 15. The waning immunity of the general population due to a low first booster coverage amid the entry of new Omicron subvariants may be blamed for the noted growth in new COVID-19 infections in Metro Manila and other regions, according to Health Undersecretary Maria Rosario Vergeire. The health official pinned down three factors that may have contributed to the rise in cases: detection of more contagious Omicron sublineages, increased mobility and a sluggish booster uptake.

- **South Korea:** The South Korean government is expected to shorten the country's COVID-19 quarantine mandate to five days, according to health officials on Tuesday. A government task force has reportedly been discussing the possibility of lifting the mandatory quarantine, but some experts from the group currently see lifting the mandatory quarantine as still risky. At the moment, it is more likely that the government could shorten the quarantine time or just keep the seven-day quarantine measure for a little longer, according to the officials. Some experts from the government task force have reportedly said that lifting of the quarantine mandate comes with risks of another COVID-19 resurgence. Health authorities also recently took note of the potential risks. "A COVID-19 resurgence is inevitable if the quarantine mandate is lifted," said Peck Kyong-ran, new commissioner of the Korea Disease Control and Prevention Agency. The government will announce its decision regarding the seven-day quarantine during a COVID-19 response meeting on Friday. According to Lim, the government will also disclose the government's criteria for lifting the quarantine mandate — even if the government decides not to toss the quarantine measure this week. The government will introduce measures to compensate COVID-19 treatment costs as patients will be required to pay themselves after the government scraps the quarantine mandate.
- **Japan:** Schoolchildren across Japan have been required to eat lunch silently during the coronavirus pandemic as part of efforts to prevent the virus from spreading. But some municipalities have started relaxing the rules. The city of Fukuoka's board of education notified its municipal elementary and junior high schools on Monday that students are once again allowed to talk during lunch — as long as they keep their voices low.

## Vaccine Update

- **Brunei:** From June 15, a fourth COVID-19 vaccine dose will be offered to individuals who are at high risk of developing serious symptoms. The health ministry has authorized a second booster shot for the elderly aged 80 and above, adults aged 60 and over with chronic diseases, immunocompromised persons aged 18 and above, as well as healthcare workers and frontliners with high risk of exposure. The fourth jab will be voluntary and only administered to eligible individuals five months after their third dose. Speaking at a press briefing on Monday, Health Minister Dato Dr. Hj Mohd Isham Hj Jaafar said the decision to offer an additional booster shot was made after taking into account studies that showed those with a weakened immune system were at higher risk of severe COVID despite getting a third jab. He said immunosuppressed individuals include those who are undergoing cancer treatment, people living with HIV and dialysis patients. UK researchers found that a second booster can improve the immune responses of individuals over and below 70 years of age.
- **Malaysia:** A total 1,242,249 or 35% of children aged between five to 11-years-old in the country have completed two doses of the COVID-19 vaccine. As of June 13, 48.9% or 1,734,913 children in the country had received one dose of the vaccine. Yesterday, 4,681 doses were administered to children of whom 4,564 had their second dose while 117 received the first dose. On booster shots, authorities logged 1,215 recipients on Monday, pushing the number of adults with booster doses to 16,119,272 or 68.5% of the adult population in the country. On Malaysia's daily Covid-19 cases, the number had increased to 2,092 new cases yesterday, which raised the cumulative figure to 4,528,390 infections since the pandemic struck. There are now 22,607 active cases with 21,589

undergoing home quarantine, 978 receiving treatment at hospitals, 24 warded at intensive care units and 16 at COVID-19 quarantine and treatment centers (PKRC). Of the 24 ICU patients, 12 are placed on ventilators. Four people died of COVID-19 on Sunday, including one brought-in-dead (BID) case, pushing the death toll to 35,716. On Sunday, 1,876 people recovered from the virus and this raises the overall recoveries to 4,470,067.

- **Vietnam's** Ministry of Health has allocated an additional over 2.6 million doses of COVID-19 vaccines to be administered on children aged from five to 11 years old. Vietnam has so far received 16.5 million doses of Pfizer and Moderna vaccines for children in this age group from the Australian and Dutch Governments. To date, over 9.66 million doses have been distributed to serve the vaccination of this age group and over 5.3 million doses, of which over 4.6 million are first doses, have been administered to these children.

### **Travel Advisories** (new update/s)

- **Thailand:** The Thai Cabinet on June 14 (Tuesday) approved in principle a move to temporarily scrap the Tor Mor 6 immigration form for non-Thai nationals entering or leaving the kingdom by air. The Tor Mor 6 form is the arrival/departure card foreigners fill in providing passport details, name and address, etc., on their entry and exit from Thailand. Deputy Government Spokesperson said that temporarily scrapping the Tor Mor 6 for will help reduce congestion at airport immigration checkpoints. Likewise, in lieu of the Tor Mor 6 form, the government plans to collect the data instead through the biometric system and information from airlines and tour agencies.
- **China:** Beijing last announces that those applying for working or family visas will no longer need "PU Letters", a letter of invitation allowing foreigners to enter the country. The news was initially posted on the websites of Chinese embassies in several countries, including the United States, South Korea and Indonesia but the Foreign Ministry has confirmed to business groups that the policy will apply to all countries. Officials have also announced that there will be more international flights into the country in the coming months, while certain cities such as Beijing and Xiamen are in trial for shorter quarantine periods of 7 to 10 days.

## Cases and Deaths as of 15 June 2022

- As of 15 June 2022 (2PM, GMT+8), worldwide, there were **542,320,483** confirmed cases, including **6,341,340** deaths. Globally, Case Fatality Rate (CFR) was **1.2**.
- 63,716,330 confirmed cases** of COVID-19 have been reported in the **ASEAN +3** countries including **31,962,249 cases** in the ASEAN region and **31,754,081 cases** in the PLUS THREE countries, with CFR of **0.7**.

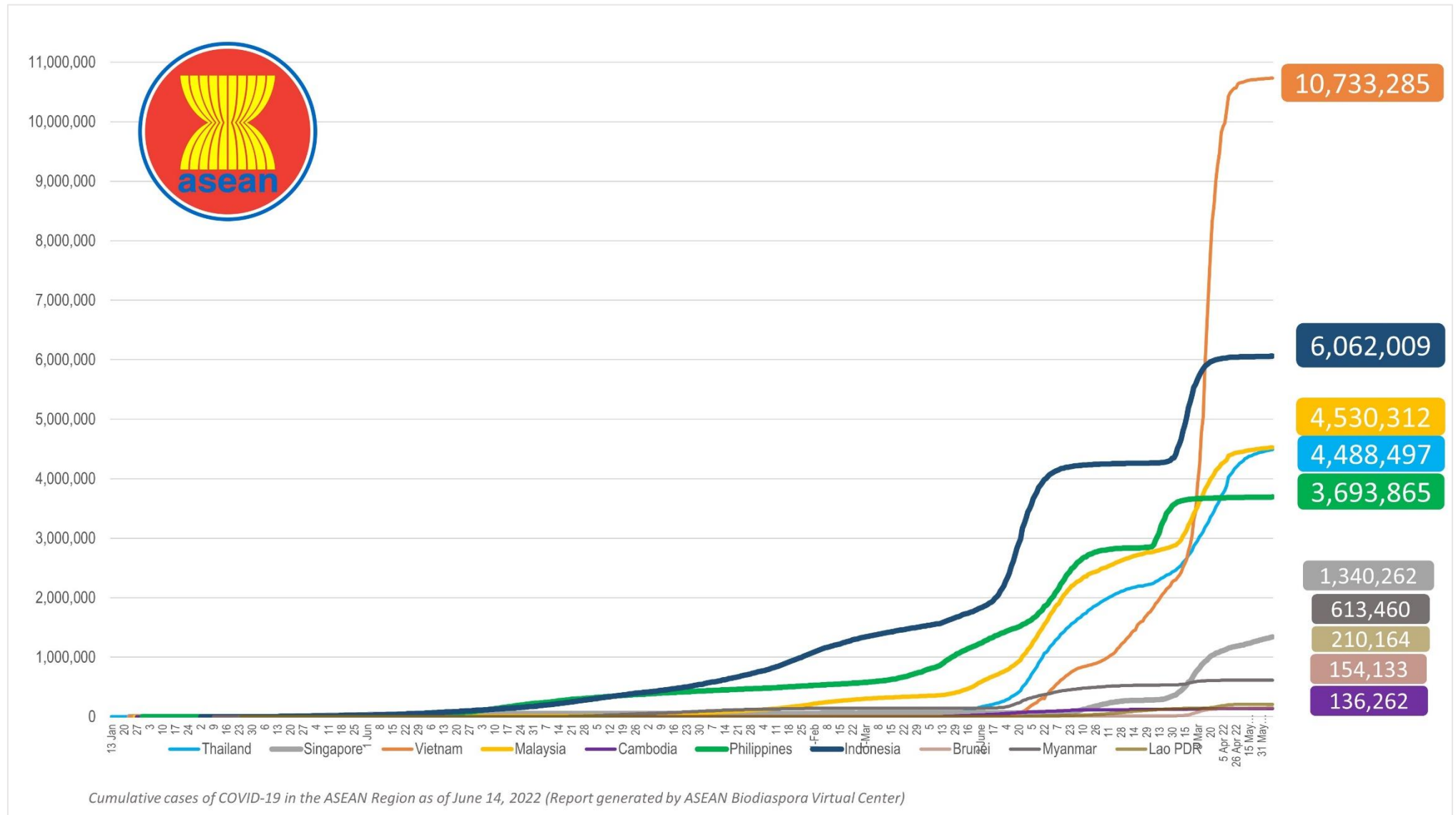
REGION	COUNTRY	FIRST CONFIRMED CASE(S)	LATEST REPORT ON CONFIRMED CASE(S)	TOTAL CONFIRMED CASES	NEW CASES	TOTAL DEATHS	NEW DEATHS	CASE FATALITY RATE	CUMULATIVE CASES/ 100,000	NUMBER OF TESTS LAST 14 DAYS/ 100,000	CUMULATIVE VACCINATED	CUMULATIVE FULLY VACCINATED	CUMULATIVE BOOSTERED	FULLY VACCINATED / 100
ASEAN REGION	Brunei	10 Mar 20	14-Jun-22	154,133	522	225	-	0.1%	35,573	-	444,293	426,764	301,719	96.7
	Cambodia	27 Jan 20	14-Jun-22	136,262	-	3,056	-	2.2%	827	63	15,045,995	14,328,268	9,259,661	84.6
	Indonesia	02 Mar 20	14-Jun-22	6,062,009	930	156,662	10	2.6%	2,240	-	200,652,038	167,822,664	46,910,883	60.7
	Lao PDR	24 Mar 20	14-Jun-22	210,164	6	757	-	0.4%	2,931	16	5,817,695	5,076,787		68.8
	Malaysia	25 Jan 20	14-Jun-22	4,530,312	1,922	35,720	4	0.8%	14,173	557	28,011,282	27,148,640	16,119,272	82.8
	Myanmar	23 Mar 20	14-Jun-22	613,460	17	19,434	-	3.2%	1,135	159	31,345,527	26,110,318	1,997,310	47.6
	Philippines	30 Jan 20	14-Jun-22	3,693,865	257	60,461	-	1.6%	3,417	587	74,634,409	70,009,042	14,251,950	63.0
	Singapore	23 Jan 20	14-Jun-22	1,340,262	2,389	1,398	1	0.1%	23,499		5,017,618	4,991,762	4,139,701	91.5
	Thailand	13 Jan 20	14-Jun-22	4,488,497	1,833	30,371	19	0.7%	6,447	49	56,603,080	52,669,731	28,559,173	75.3
Vietnam	23 Jan 20	14-Jun-22	10,733,285	856	43,083	-	0.4%	11,127	3	85,085,764	79,538,300	59,005,928	81.0	
ASEAN COUNTRIES				<b>31,962,249</b>	<b>8,732</b>	<b>351,167</b>	<b>34</b>	<b>1.1%</b>			<b>502,657,701</b>	<b>448,122,276</b>	<b>180,545,597</b>	
ASEAN PLUS THREE	South Korea	20-Jan-20	14-Jun-22	18,239,056	9,768	24,390	2	0.1%	35,272	1,691	45,061,152	44,610,957	37,607,658	87.0
	Japan	16-Jan-20	14-Jun-22	9,065,883	15,332	30,761	29	0.3%	7,180	1,031	103,673,112	102,218,923	76,825,435	81.1
	China	31-Dec-19	14-Jun-22	4,449,142	66,902	19,020	124	0.4%	29,406	4,400	1,319,278,442	1,283,259,823	800,534,678	85.0
	PLUS THREE COUNTRIES				<b>31,754,081</b>	<b>92,002</b>	<b>74,171</b>	<b>155</b>	<b>0.2%</b>			<b>1,468,012,706</b>	<b>1,430,089,703</b>	<b>914,967,771</b>
ASEAN +3				<b>63,716,330</b>	<b>100,734</b>	<b>425,338</b>	<b>189</b>	<b>0.7%</b>			<b>1,970,670,407</b>	<b>1,878,211,979</b>	<b>1,095,513,368</b>	

- 478,604,153 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	12,440,400	4,035	256,356	42	1.0	234,398	4,559	334,043,356	260,946,618	25,633,042
AMERICAS	162,101,834	46,652	2,784,268	249	0.8	1,046,614	41,406	804,058,874	710,497,218	411,387,102
ASIA PACIFIC	78,569,425	99,209	735,642	132	0.2	378,623	31,911	1,414,893,445	1,266,875,052	146,010,537
EUROPE	204,507,532	269,591	1,906,340	638	0.6	1,790,029	51,369	557,930,848	530,982,169	318,590,900
MIDDLE EAST	20,984,962	13,461	233,396	5	0.3	192,600	20,555	141,677,406	127,106,967	55,410,174
TOTAL	<b>478,604,153</b>	<b>432,948</b>	<b>5,916,002</b>	<b>45,792</b>	<b>1.2%</b>			<b>3,252,604,018</b>	<b>2,896,408,024</b>	<b>957,065,305</b>

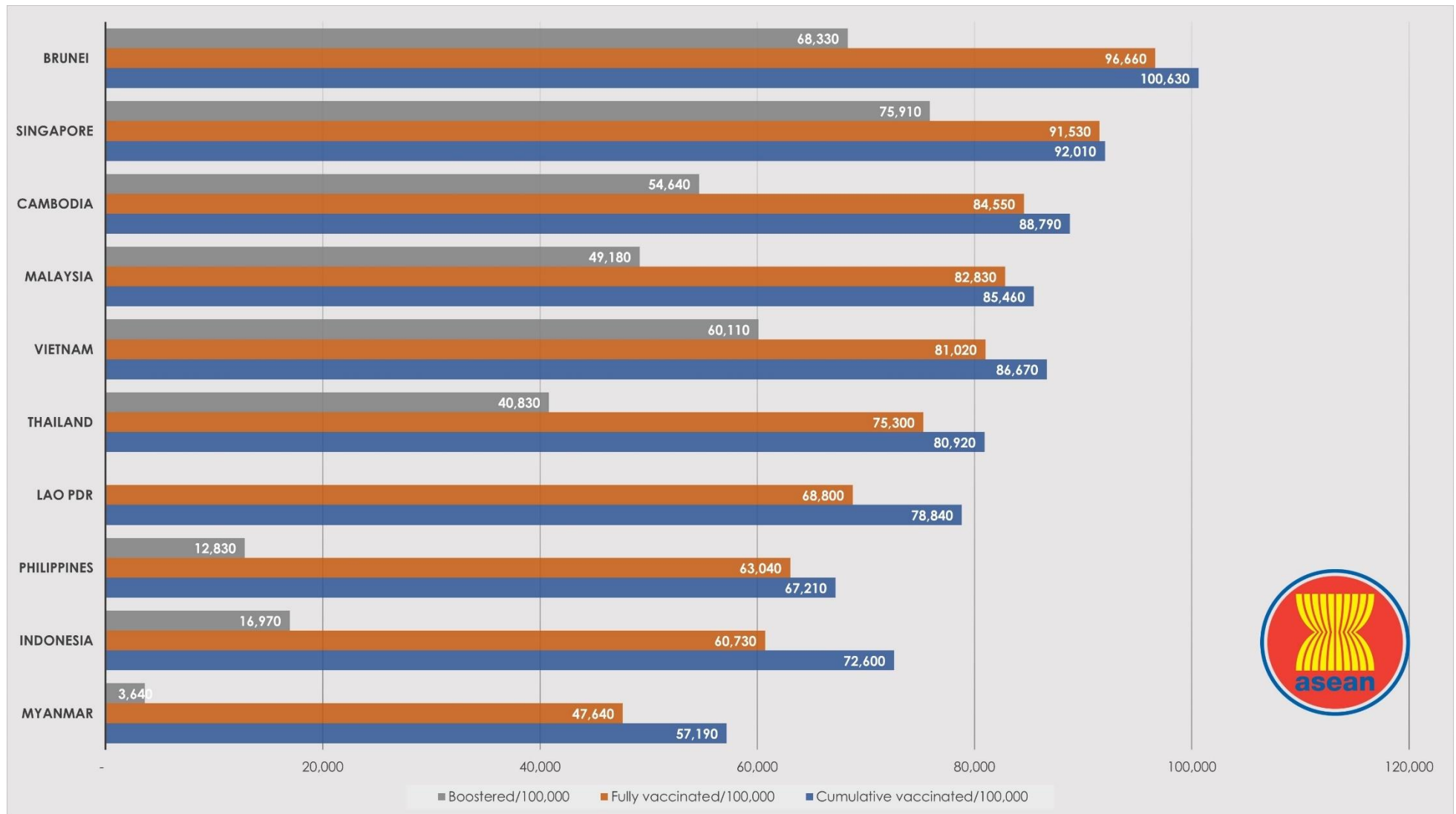
# COVID-19 Epi curve among ASEAN Countries:

From January 1, 2021 to June 14, 2022



# COVID-19 Vaccination Status


as of 14 June 2022



\*Note: No updated data were provided by Bluedot for the cumulative booster administered by Lao PDR.

# COVID-19 Outlook Assessment

as of 12 June 2022

 <b>ASEAN MEMBER STATE</b>	REQUIREMENT							
	At least <b>80% of the high-risk population has been vaccinated</b> with at least one dose of a COVID-19 vaccine.		At least <b>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.		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	≥90.0/68.3	Unknown	93.31	Unknown	60.7/100	0.0
Cambodia	≥90.0	0%/day	≥90.0/54.6	Unknown	0.00	Unknown	22.6/100	0.0
Indonesia	≥90.0	0%/day	64.3/17.0	0.09%/day	0.21	Unknown	61.3/100	+3.6
Lao PDR	≥90.0	0%/day	75.1/ND	0.15%/day	0.15	15.1	56.3/100	-5.4
Malaysia	≥90.0	0%/day	83.3/49.2	0.02%/day	5.39	4.8	47.6/100	-16.4
Myanmar	≥90.0	0%/day	49.4/3.6	Unknown	0.02	0.1	63.7/100	-6.5
Philippines	≥90.0	0%/day	67.8/12.8	Unknown	0.24	1.0	56.5/100	0.0
Singapore	≥90.0	0%/day	88.5/75.9	0.01%/day	55.78	Unknown	58.9/100	0.0
Thailand	≥90.0	0%/day	76.5/40.8	0.02%/day	3.63	31.0	56.3/100	0.0
Vietnam	89.8	0.02%/day	85.8/60.0	0.02%/day	0.94	100	43.5/100	-1.8



# Infectious Diseases Other than COVID-19 in ASEAN+3 Countries

June 8-14, 2022

## Infectious Disease Updates

### Dengue

- **Cambodia:** June 11, 2022. Cambodia had reported 1,354 dengue fever cases in the first five months of 2022, up more than 100% compared to the same period last year. The disease killed three children during the January-May period this year, the ministry said, adding that the increase in precipitation in the early rainy season was attributed to the surge in dengue fever cases. Health Minister Mam Bunheng called on people to fill in puddles around their houses, saying that they are the sources of mosquitoes, and advised them to sleep under mosquito nets all the time. He said the ministry would continue distributing the anti-dengue mosquito larvicide Abate to households living in dengue fever-prone areas. "Parents must bring their children to the nearest public hospitals or health centers, not later than 72 hours if their children have an acute fever," Bunheng said. "Please don't try to treat the disease by yourselves, nor seek treatment from unauthorized medical practitioners."
- **Philippines:** June 9, 2022. DOH reports 35K dengue cases in PH this year, 23% higher than 2021. The Philippines has recorded almost 35,000 cases of dengue fever and 180 dengue-related deaths in the first five months of 2022, the Department of Health (DOH) reported on Thursday. In a report, the DOH said there were 34,938 dengue cases reported from January 1 to May 21, 2022, which is 23% higher compared to the reported cases during the same period in 2021, which were recorded at 28,336. Most of the dengue cases came from Central Luzon with 1,416 cases (13%); Central Visayas with 1,329 cases (13%); and Zamboanga Peninsula with 856 cases (8%). The DOH also said the case fatality of dengue nationwide is at 0.5% after reporting 180 mortalities due to the mosquito-borne illness. Of the total reported deaths, 39 were recorded in January, 35 in February, 33 in March, 42 in April and 31 in May. Some areas in the country declared a dengue outbreak, with the local government of Zamboanga declaring an outbreak in the area after reporting an exponential increase in dengue cases.
- **Singapore:** June 10, 2022. With the reporting of 1190 additional dengue cases since Sunday this week, the cumulative dengue total in Singapore this year has reached 14,321 cases. The National Environment Agency (NEA) says the weekly number of dengue cases is expected to rise and hit another historical peak, surpassing the highest weekly figure of 1,787 cases seen in 2020, and may even exceed 2,000 in the month of June, which is just the beginning of the traditional peak dengue season. As of 6 June 2022, there are 408 active dengue clusters, with 122 dengue clusters with red color alert (i.e. cluster with 10 or more cases). Dengue virus serotype 3 (DENV-3) has been detected in 111 of the 122 dengue clusters with red color alert. In April 2022, the *Aedes aegypti* mosquito population (the primary dengue vector) remained high in Singapore, and was about 22% higher than in the same period last year (April 2021). The high *Aedes aegypti* mosquito population, together with circulation of the previously uncommon DENV-3, will lead to a further surge in dengue cases in the coming months.
- **Vietnam:** June 11, 2022. The Ministry of Health has urged localities and people to be on high alert for cases of dengue fever as the number of infections has increased by 53% compared to the same period from last year. Vietnam has so far this year reported 43,628 cases of dengue, with the majority of infections documented in southern provinces. As many as 22 people have also died of the disease this year, mostly in Ho

Chi Minh City, Binh Duong, Tay Ninh, Dong Nai, Dong Thap, Soc Trang, Bac Lieu, Long An, and Binh Phuoc. These figures show that the total number of deaths has risen by 17 compared with the same period last year. The Health Ministry has warned that the epidemic is likely to reach its peak in the coming months between June and August as hot and humid weather accompanied by more rain creates favorable conditions for mosquitoes to develop.

### Chikungunya

- **Indonesia:** June 9, 2022. As many as 64 residents of the Ujung Pesisir neighborhood, Tumbu Village, Karangasem Regency, Bali, have been declared chikungunya suspects. Dozens of residents had the same complaints, ranging from fever, body aches, and rashes on the skin. Of that number, 54 people have been declared cured. Meanwhile, 10 other people are still being treated because they have mild symptoms. Initially residents reported that there were hundreds of residents suspected of being attacked by chikungunya disease. The local health center then visited the village for examination and medical treatment. But after being examined, they were not diagnosed as chikungunya suspects.
- **Philippines:** June 8, 2022. The Tropical Disease Prevention & Control Unit of the Davao City Health Office (CHO) is closely monitoring signs and symptoms of the chikungunya virus, caused by Aedes mosquitoes, the same mosquito family spreading dengue fever. The barangays of Panacan and Ilang are being closely watched. Davao City has detected 17 suspected cases of the Chikungunya virus which is transmitted by infected mosquitos to humans, DOH-11 Director Annabelle Yumang confirmed. Of this number, only three qualified for testing with pending results. Yumang said the laboratory test results of the three cases received by the Research Institute for Tropical Medicine will be released next week. All suspected cases "have recovered" and none of them got hospitalized as they all experienced mild symptoms. Pest Control Worker II Melodina Babante said that Barangay Ilang experienced a chikungunya outbreak before. This is why confirmatory tests are currently being done to determine the new symptoms found in the barangay, as well as in Panacan, to properly address the problem.

### Japanese Encephalitis

- **Philippines:** Cases of Japanese encephalitis (JE) have been reported in the province of Bicol in southern Luzon since January 2022. Officially available information indicates that the cases have been confirmed in Camarines Sur in the towns of Bula, San Jose, Lagonoy, and Minalabas; Sorsogon, (Sorsogon City and Gubat town); and in Manito, Albay. JE is endemic in the Philippines; however, downward trends of the disease have been reported. For context, in 2019 the incidence of Japanese encephalitis in the Philippines was found to be a minimum level of 0.7/100,000 in children aged <15 years. In the Philippines, cases peak annually from July to October, however, can occur all year round. Annual minimum incidences are usually higher in the northern regions of the Philippines. Downward trends of the burden of JE in the Philippines are due to improved surveillance systems and vaccination campaigns.

### Malaria

- **Vietnam:** June 10, 2022. In the first 6 months of 2022, 5 cases of malaria were recorded, including 2 cases of severe malaria. All of these malaria patients were on business trips to malaria-endemic areas in the Central Highlands or on business trips to African countries.

## Leptospirosis

- **Indonesia:** June 12, 2022. Cases of leptospirosis are still being detected in Sleman. The head of the Sleman Health Service, Cahya Purnama, said that the most were five in Kapanewon Prambanan, four cases in Kapanewon Berbah and three cases in Kapanewon Kalasan. Leptospirosis is a disease whose spread is based on the environment. Kapanewon Prambanan is an area that does not have so much agricultural land compared to other areas, in fact it is the area where the most cases are found. Then, Berbah and Kalasan, many cases started from areas near water. Like places that have streams of rivers or fish ponds, sometimes their attention is loose. In fact, it is often used as a place for rats to urinate, including when there is shady water because there are trees next to it. In March 2022, three cases of leptospirosis were found in Sleman Regency. He said he was grateful that all the reported cases could be handled quickly and accurately, so that no one died.

## Melioidosis

- **Vietnam:** A case of melioidosis (also known as Whitmore's disease) has been reported in Vietnam in 2022. According to officials from Dak Lak Provincial Health Department, the affected individual is a nine-year-old child from La Lop Commune, Ea Sup District in Dak Lak Province. The child was taken to the Central Highlands Regional General Hospital on June 4, ten days after developing symptoms, where they tested positive for *Burkholderia Pseudomallei*, the bacteria that causes Melioidosis. Dak Lak Provincial Centre for Disease Control has carried out contact tracing and have begun to implement measures to prevent the disease from spreading, however, investigations are ongoing as it remains unclear where the child contracted the disease. The bacteria is found in contaminated water and soil and can spread to humans and animals through direct contact with contaminated sources. Approximately 10,000 cases of melioidosis are reported worldwide each year with the most cases reported during a country's rainy season. Melioidosis was first reported in Vietnam in 1925 and prior to this case, in Vietnam, two deaths due to melioidosis were reported in 2019 and four in 2020.

## HFMD

- **Malaysia:** June 12, 2022. Johor Baru recorded 6,324 cases of hand, foot and mouth disease (HFMD) so far this year up to Saturday (June 11), an increase of 61 times over the 104 cases in the corresponding period last year. There are a total of 28 active HFMD outbreaks throughout Johor at the moment, added state health and unity committee chairman Ling Tian Soon. "Johor Baru recorded the highest number of cumulative cases with 2,184, or 34.5% of the total statewide. "As of Saturday, a majority of the HFMD outbreaks in Johor occurred in nurseries, followed by residential areas, kindergartens, preschools, primary schools and daycare centres," he said. He added that 5,509 or 87.1% of cases involved children aged six and below, 720 (11.4%) were children aged seven to 12, and the remaining cases involved children aged 13 and above. According to Ling, the easing of Covid-19 standard operating procedures was among the factors contributing to the rise in cases this year. "However, the situation is still under control in Johor and we urge childcare centres and preschool operators as well as parents to exercise caution," he said.

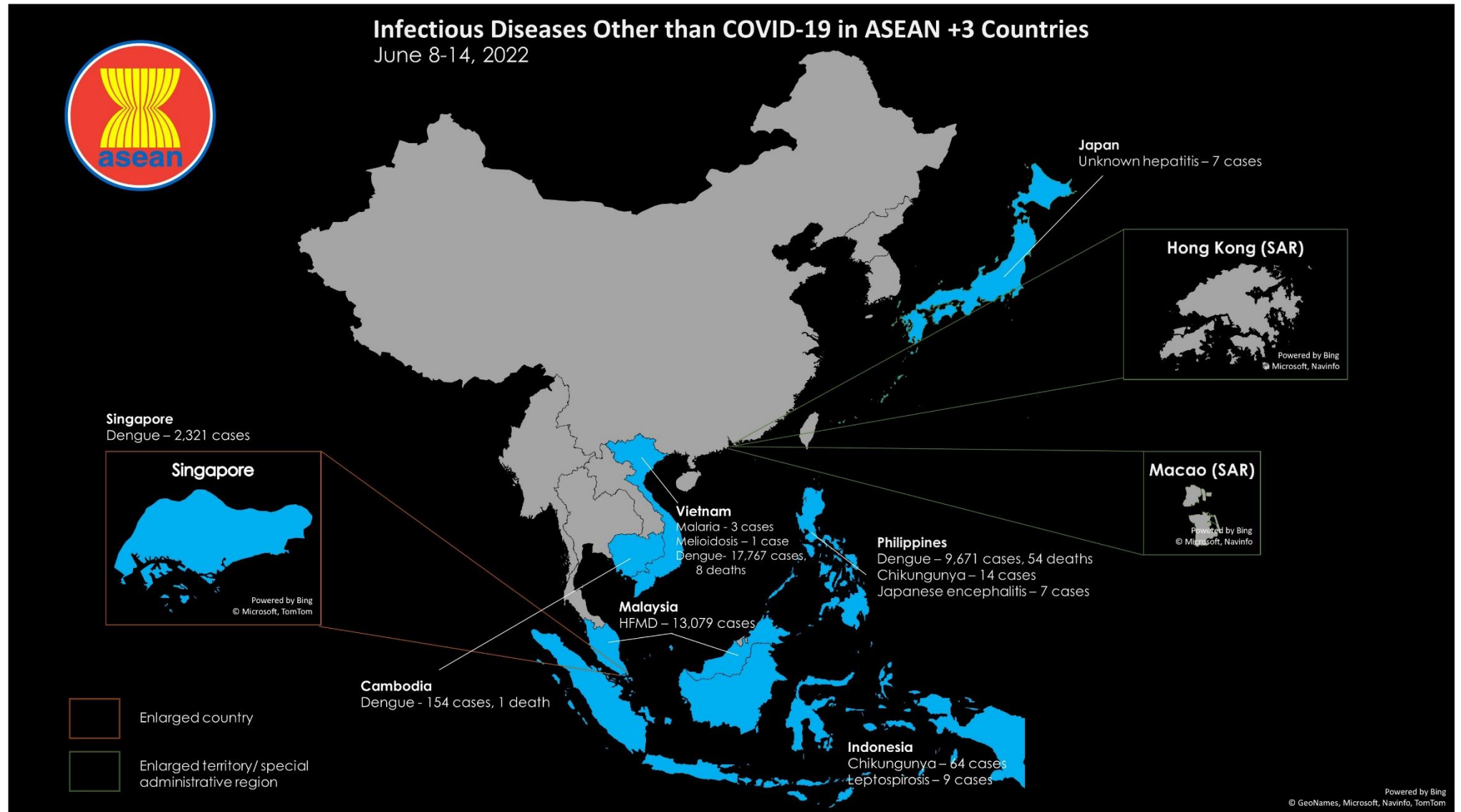
## Unknown Hepatitis

- **Japan:** June 13, 2022. The latest data comes from Japan, with 11 new cases as of last week, bringing the total to 47. According to a summary by the World Health Organization (WHO), 34 countries around the world have reported about 700 cases of unexplained childhood hepatitis, with 112 suspected cases, at least 38 undergoing liver

transplants, and 10 deaths. Most children present with early gastrointestinal symptoms, which later develop jaundice and, in some cases, acute liver failure. To the confusion of scientists, the hepatitis A, B, C, D and E viruses were not found in these children. Previously, the UK Health Safety Agency listed adenovirus as the first hypothesis of acute hepatitis of unknown cause in children, but this claim has been increasingly questioned. At present, academic and clinical analysis believe that the new coronavirus plays a role that cannot be ignored. It is worth noting that the International Journal of Pediatric Gastroenterology and Hepatology "JPGN" published a study of unexplained childhood hepatitis from Israel. After a thorough medical examination, other known causes were excluded. The classification of pediatric cases with histopathological and histopathological features suggested two distinct patterns of 'coronavirus' hepatitis manifestations in children.

# Infectious Diseases other than COVID-19 in ASEAN+3 Countries

From June 8 to 14, 2022



# Special Report: Monkeypox cases reported in non-endemic areas

## Global update

- **World Health Organization:** The experts will meet on June 23 to assess whether the continuing outbreak represents a Public Health Emergency of International Concern, the highest level of global alert, which currently applies only to the COVID-19 pandemic and polio. So far this year, more than 1,600 confirmed cases and almost 1,500 suspected cases of Monkeypox have been reported to WHO, across 39 countries – including seven countries where monkeypox has been detected for years, and 32 newly-affected nations. At least 72 deaths have been reported from previously affected countries. No deaths have been registered so far from the newly affected countries, but the agency is seeking to verify news reports of a related death in Brazil. "The global outbreak of Monkeypox is clearly unusual and concerning", said WHO director Tedros Adhanom Gebreyesus, calling to step up the response and international coordination. Ibrahima Socé Fall, WHO Deputy Director for Emergency Response, explained that the risk of spread in Europe is considered "high" while in the rest of the world "moderate" and that there are still knowledge gaps regarding how the virus is being transmitted.
- **Case Detection and Control:** WHO has published recommendations for governments regarding case detection and control. Speaking to journalists in Geneva, WHO Smallpox expert Rosamund Lewis, said it was crucial to raise awareness in the population about the level of risk and explain the recommendations to avoid infecting close contacts and family members. Dr. Lewis explained that, although the disease sometimes only produces mild symptoms, such as skin lesions, it can be contagious for two to four weeks. Monkeypox is transmitted through close physical contact with someone who has symptoms. The rash, fluids, and scabs are especially infectious. Clothing, bedding, towels, or objects such as eating utensils or dishes that have been contaminated with the virus can also infect others. However, it is not clear whether people who do not have symptoms can spread the disease, the expert reiterated.
- **Vaccination Guidelines:** WHO also published on Tuesday new guidelines on vaccination against Monkeypox. While some countries have maintained strategic supplies of older smallpox vaccines - a virus eradicated in 1980 - these first-generation vaccines held in national stockpiles are not recommended for Monkeypox at this time, because they do not meet the current safety and manufacturing standards. Newer and safer (second and third generation) smallpox vaccines are also available, some of which may be useful for Monkeypox and one of which (MVA-BN) has been approved for the prevention of the disease. The supply of these new vaccines is limited, and access strategies are being discussed, WHO informed. For the contacts of sick patients, post-exposure prophylaxis with a second- or third-generation vaccine is recommended, ideally within four days of first exposure to prevent disease onset. Pre-exposure prophylaxis is recommended for healthcare workers at risk, laboratory personnel working with orthopoxviruses, clinical laboratory personnel performing diagnostic tests for Monkeypox, and others who may be at risk.

## ASEAN+3 Region Preparedness Against Monkeypox

- **Malaysia** has taken precautionary measures to safeguard its people from a monkeypox outbreak. Health Minister Khairy Jamaluddin said monkeypox, which has been reported in several other countries, has not reached our shores. Khairy also said that from May 27, the ministry had added a health alert for monkeypox in the MySejahtera app. He said that through the pre-departure form in the MySejahtera app, travellers arriving from

monkeypox-affected countries will receive the health alert as a reminder to conduct self-monitoring in case they developed symptoms.

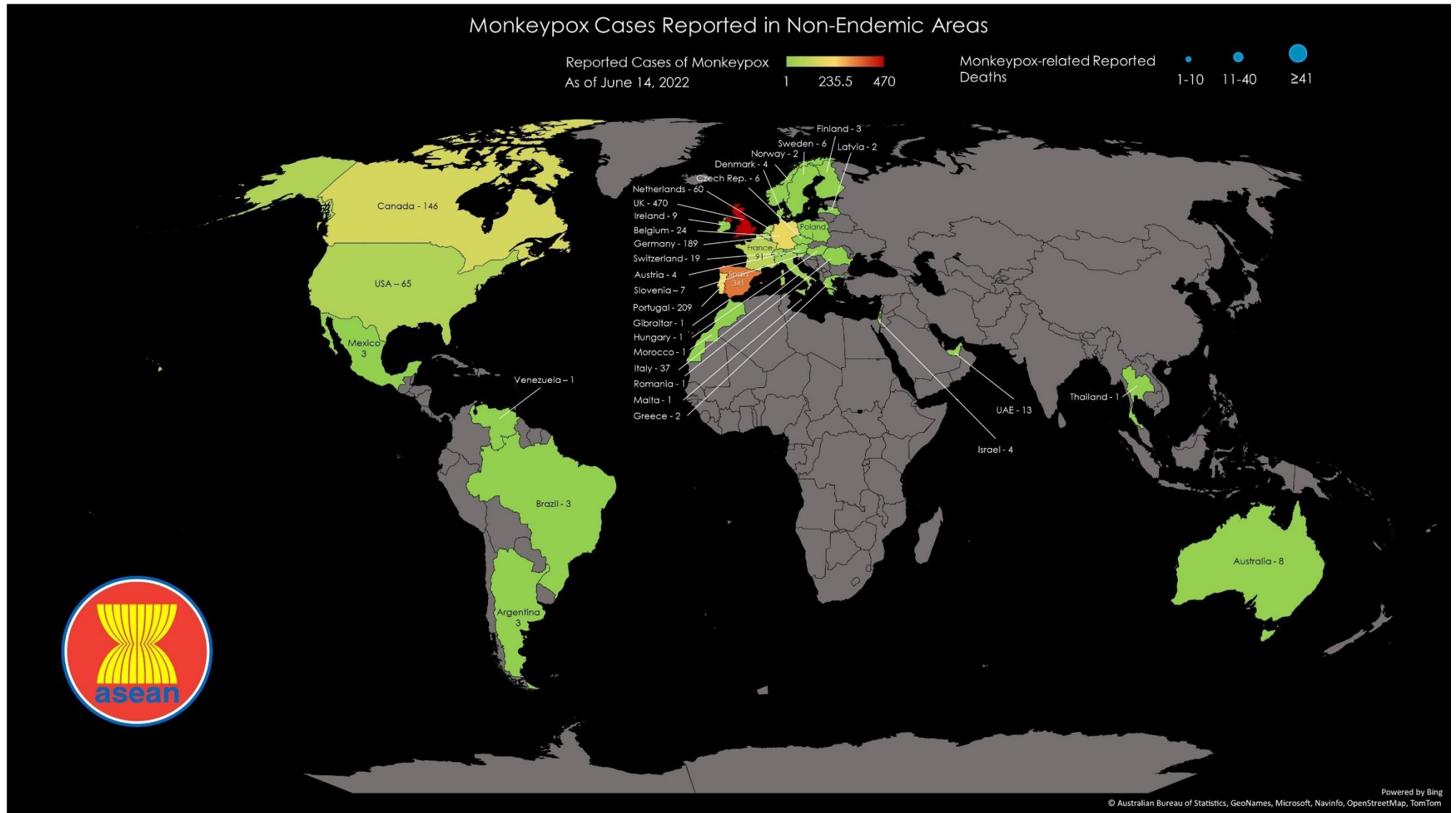
- **Philippines:** There is still no confirmed case of monkeypox in the Philippines, the Department of Health said Friday. The health agency's epidemiology bureau has sent 6 samples of probable monkeypox cases for genome sequencing that turned out to be negative for the disease, said Health Undersecretary Maria Rosario Vergeire. The DOH earlier said it was ready to identify and contain monkeypox cases, and was looking into procuring a vaccine and antivirals against the disease. Health Secretary Francisco Duque III said Wednesday it is "premature" for the Philippines to close its borders to travelers from areas with monkeypox cases. Duque said he instead gave orders to the Bureau of Quarantine for the strict monitoring and surveillance of these passengers. The official said that unlike COVID-19, monkeypox transmission is not airborne.
- **Japan** has raised its vigilance for monkeypox following a spike in infections in European countries and other nations. The government has issued guidelines calling for officials to be on high alert for suspected cases, but experts say there is no need to be excessively worried based on the low infection and fatality rates of monkeypox, an infectious disease similar to smallpox that is endemic in parts of Africa.

### **Countries reporting confirmed case/s of Monkeypox**

- **Venezuela:** The Venezuelan government said on Sunday it had recorded its first case of monkeypox in a man who entered the country through its principal airport near Caracas after arriving from Madrid. Contact tracing is taking place, Health Minister Magaly Gutierrez said on Twitter. The government did not confirm the man's age.
- **Brazil:** Brazil has confirmed its first case of monkeypox in a 41-year-old man who had traveled to Europe, the health ministry announced Thursday. Brazil is the third Latin American country to register monkeypox cases after Argentina and Mexico.
- **Greece:** On Wednesday, Greece's health authorities confirmed the first case of monkeypox in the country. According to the Organization for Public Health (EODY) a man who had previously traveled to Portugal has—upon the first examination—tested positive for the virus after seeking medical attention due to symptoms resembling those of monkeypox. The man is hospitalized at the Andreas Syngros Hospital in Athens as further test results are being awaited. Initial testing for the non-variola Orthopoxvirus conducted on the man in question produced positive test results. These test results are being further examined by the Laboratory of Microbiology at the Aristotle University of Thessaloniki while the patient is currently being hospitalized in stable condition.
- **Romania:** Ministry of Health said on Monday the country confirmed its first case of monkeypox in a 26-year-old man from the capital Bucharest, according to the national news agency of Romania AGERPRES. The ministry said the patient is in good condition and being treated in isolation.
- **Poland** has recorded its first ever case of monkeypox, the health ministry has confirmed. Since an outbreak of the virus – which is normally confined to Central and West Africa – began in the United Kingdom in early May it has spread to at least 30 countries. The patient is currently in isolation in hospital at an undisclosed location and has been questioned by the health authorities. Health ministry spokesman Wojciech Andrusiewicz told the Wirtualna Polska news service that "the patient is not a Polish citizen".
- **UK:** The UK Health Security Agency (UKHSA) announced today it has detected 104 additional cases of monkeypox in England, bringing the UK total to 470 cases. Of the total, 452 are in England, 12 in Scotland, 4 in Wales, and 2 in Northern Ireland.

# Monkeypox Cases Reported in Non-Endemic Areas

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