

COVID-19, Monkeypox, and Other Infectious Diseases
**Situational Report in the
ASEAN 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.
- **Republic of Korea:** Korea's new COVID-19 cases remained above 70,000 for the second day in a row on November 23, fueling fears of a fresh virus wave this winter.¹² According to the Korea Disease Control and Prevention Agency (KDCA), the country recorded 70,324 new COVID-19 infections, including 69 cases from other countries, bringing the overall caseload to 26,725,053.¹² The November 23 total is 2,549 lower than the previous day, but more than 3,700 greater than the same day last week.¹² The KDCA has stated that daily caseloads would most certainly continue to rise, but that the daily increase has slowed.¹² On November 23, the KDCA reported 53 COVID-19 deaths, bringing the total to 30,164.¹² The mortality rate was 0.11%. The number of severely ill patients increased by 16 from the previous day to 477.¹² This is the fifth day in a row that the figure has reached 400.¹² Health officials believe the country may have entered a new viral wave this winter and intend to make every effort to raise vaccination rates in vulnerable groups.¹²
- **People's Republic of China:** Beijing, China closed parks, shopping malls, and museums on November 22 (Tuesday) and more cities in China resumed mass testing for COVID-19. The municipality of Tianjin, near Beijing, ordered city-wide COVID-19 testing on Tuesday, after a similar announcement on Sunday by Shijiazhuang. Meanwhile, the central city of Wuhan issued a notice on Tuesday urging its residents to only travel between home and work.

Vaccine Update

- **Brunei:** On November 20, Brunei Darussalam received 7,200 doses of the Moderna vaccine (Spikevax Bivalent Original/Omicron), and members of the public aged 18 and above can book slots at neighboring health centers using the BruHealth app.¹⁵ During the weekly press conference on the COVID-19 issue on November 21, Minister of Health Dato Seri Setia Dr. Mohd Isham Jaafar announced the arrival of the vaccine (Nov 21).¹⁵ The bivalent vaccine, he claimed, "has already been approved for use in the Sultanate by the Brunei Darussalam Medicines Control Authority."¹⁵ "The next batch of vaccine is scheduled to arrive on November 25 and 27," he stated.¹⁵ He also stated that medical regulatory authorities in Australia, Canada, the European Union, Singapore, and the United Kingdom have approved the use of the bivalent vaccine.¹⁵
- **Indonesia:** Given the growing number of COVID-19 instances both globally and domestically, the Indonesian government decided to allow older persons aged 60 and up to receive second boosts.¹⁶ The requirements became effective on November 22 after being stipulated by the Director General of Disease Prevention and Control, Maxi Rein Rondonuwu.¹⁶ COVID-19, a spokeswoman for the Health Ministry, Syahril stated that the policy was implemented to provide additional protection for vulnerable people in order to limit the severity, and even deaths, caused by COVID-19.¹⁶ Vaccinations that have acquired Emergency Use Authorization (EUA) from the POM and ITAGI guidelines, taking into account the types and number of vaccines accessible in various provinces, can be used for the second booster dose.¹⁶ [\[Full Article\]](#)
- **Philippines:** The Department of Health (DOH) revealed a strategy to obtain just a restricted number of doses of the bivalent COVID-19 vaccination.¹⁷ DOH officer-in-charge Maria Rosario Vergeire said they would simply place further orders "when interest



grows.¹⁷ "We have an arrangement with the manufacturer and that it will be easy for us to reorder and get the supplies all at once," Vergeire said on Cignal TV's One News on November 21.¹⁷ Vergeire stated that 68 percent of people who received the primary series, or the first two doses, are interested in receiving the bivalent vaccines.¹⁷ Vergeire noted that creating a master list first and then waiting for the list of persons eligible for bivalent immunizations to be finalized would be too much work.¹⁷ [\[Full Article\]](#)

- **Japan:** Japan's Ministry of Health said on November 22 (Tuesday) that the government has granted fast-track approval to Shionogi & Co.'s COVID-19 tablet Xocova, making it the country's first domestically produced oral medicine against SARS-CoV-2. The medicine for COVID-19 patients aged 12 or older with mild symptoms also became the first drug authorized under the new emergency approval scheme established in May. Japan's Pharmaceuticals and Medical Devices Agency, which conducted the preliminary review, acknowledged in a report that it had "obtained sufficient information to presume the drug is effective" from final phase clinical trial results submitted by the company Shionogi.

Research Update (Published and peer-reviewed studies)

- In this study, **Effectiveness of Bivalent mRNA Vaccines in Preventing Symptomatic SARS CoV-2 Infection – Increasing Community Access to Testing Program, United States September-November 2022**, bivalent boosters provided significant additional protection against symptomatic SAR-CoV-2 infection in persons who had previously received 2, 3, or 4 monovalent vaccine doses.⁸ Due to the waning immunity of monovalent doses, the benefit of bivalent booster increased with time since receipt of the most recent monovalent vaccine dose.⁸ [\[Full Text\]](#)
- This descriptive, cross-sectional study, **Job strain and burnout in Spanish nurses during the COVID-19: resilience as a protective factor in a cross-sectional study**, analyzed the relationship between dimensions of the Job Demand Control-Support model, resilience and burnout in nurses.⁹ With snowball sampling, 1013 nurses, with a mean age of 34.71, filled out the Job Content Questionnaire (JCQ), the Maslach Burnout Inventory and the Resilience Scale.⁹ JCQ evaluated job strain looking at three dimensions, i.e. psychological demands, decision latitude and job support.⁹ The results showed the existence of four groups of professionals based on job strain: "high strain" profile (high psychological demands and low control), "active jobs" (high psychological demand and high control), "passive jobs" (low psychological demand and low control), and "low strain" (low psychological demand and high control).⁹ The nurses in the "High Strain" group showed higher scores in emotional exhaustion and cynicism, while those in the "Active Job" group scored higher in personal realization and resilience.⁹ The findings showed that job strain affects burnout in nurses, and this effect is mediated by resilience.⁹ [\[Full Text\]](#)
- The **Observed versus expected rates of myocarditis after SARS-CoV-2 vaccination: a population-based cohort study** done by Canadian researchers showed a small but significantly increased risk of myocarditis among young men who get mRNA COVID-19 vaccines, especially the second dose of the mRNA-1273 (Moderna) vaccine.¹³ The study was based on the outcome seen during the BC COVID-19 Cohort study, which included more than 10.2 million doses of mRNA vaccines administered to people 12 years and older from December 2020 to March 2022.¹³ Seven million were BNT162b2 (Pfizer-BioNTech) doses and 3.2 million were mRNA-1273 (Moderna) doses, and the authors examined cases of myocarditis, or inflammation of the heart muscle, which were identified 7-21 days after vaccination and required hospitalization. The authors recorded 99 incident cases of myocarditis within 7 days, compared with 7 expected cases, and 141 cases within 21 days post-vaccination, compared with 20 expected cases.¹³ Overall, myocarditis was seen at a rate of 1.37 per 100,000 vaccine doses, compared with an



expected rate of 0.39 per 100,000 people who were not vaccinated.¹³ Males aged 18-29 were at the most risk of developing the condition, especially if they received the Moderna vaccine twice.¹³ Overall myocarditis rates among males in this age group were 2.97 per 100,000, which rose to 2.27 per 100,000 after the second dose.¹³ Among men ages 18 to 29 who received the Moderna vaccine, the rate was 22.9 per 100,000 doses.¹³ Authors emphasizes though that even if observed rates of myocarditis were higher than expected, the benefits of vaccination against SARS-CoV-2 in reducing the severity of COVID-19, hospital admission, and deaths far outweigh the risk of developing myocarditis.¹³ [\[Full Text\]](#)

- The study using a special type of magnetic resonance imaging (MRI) has revealed brain changes in COVID-19 patients up to 6 months after recovery.¹⁴ Researchers in India used susceptibility-weighted imaging to analyze the effects of COVID-19 on the brain among 46 COVID-19 survivors and 30 healthy controls within 6 months of recovery.¹⁴ The most commonly reported symptoms among COVID-19 patients were fatigue, trouble sleeping, problems with attention, and memory issues.¹⁴ The MRI results showed significant changes in the brain linked with fatigue, insomnia, anxiety, depression, headaches, and cognitive problems in the COVID-19 patients compared with controls.¹⁴ There were also differences in parts of the brain responsible for language production and comprehension, attention, motor inhibition and imagery, social cognitive processes, hormone-release signaling, sensory and motor signaling, and regulation of the sleep-wake cycle.¹⁴ [\[Full Article\]](#)



Cases and Deaths as of 23 November 2022

- As of 23 November 2022 (2PM, GMT+8), worldwide, there were **637,890,065** confirmed cases, including **6,632,976** deaths. Globally, Case Fatality Rate (CFR) was **1.2%**.
- **35,211,570 confirmed cases** of COVID-19 have been reported in the **ASEAN Region**.
- The Case Fatality Rate in the **ASEAN Region** is range between **0.1 to 3.1%**

COVID-19 cases in 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 Darussalam	10 Mar 20	22-Nov-22	241,044	-	225	-	55,632	450,287	445,786	338,532	99.3
	Cambodia	27 Jan 20	22-Nov-22	138,035	3	3,056	-	837	15,220,136	14,582,552	10,322,948	87.0
	Indonesia	02 Mar 20	22-Nov-22	6,620,317	7,644	159,473	51	2,446	205,272,373	172,133,110	65,807,127	62.5
	Lao PDR	24 Mar 20	22-Nov-22	216,492	24	758	-	3,020	5,888,649	5,222,417		69.4
	Malaysia	25 Jan 20	22-Nov-22	4,969,420	-	36,609	-	15,554	28,113,109	27,523,669	16,825,301	81.1
	Myanmar	23 Mar 20	22-Nov-22	633,075	30	19,487	-	1,171	34,777,314	27,545,329	2,227,351	50.8
	Philippines	30 Jan 20	22-Nov-22	4,027,469	574	64,500	15	3,725	78,102,787	73,615,441	20,724,926	63.7
	Singapore	23 Jan 20	22-Nov-22	2,151,250	1,098	1,700	-	37,718	5,163,385	5,123,895	4,440,289	90.9
	Thailand	13 Jan 20	22-Nov-22	4,702,330	-	33,106	-	6,754	57,005,497	53,486,086	32,143,431	74.6
	Vietnam	23 Jan 20	22-Nov-22	11,512,138	316	43,169	-	11,934	90,067,653	84,467,885	56,731,860	86.0
ASEAN COUNTRIES				35,211,570	9,689	362,083	66	138,791	520,061,190	464,146,170	209,561,765	

*There have been no tests reported in the last 14 days in the ASEAN Region.

COVID-19 cases in Asia-Pacific region

REGION	COUNTRY/ TERRITORY	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
ASIA-PACIFIC REGION	Afghanistan	24-Feb-20	22-Nov-22	205,324	95	7,833	1	540	11,223,064	10,517,707		25.6
	Australia	25-Jan-20	16-Nov-22	10,480,131	-	15,863	-	40,858	22,443,557	21,784,904	14,265,648	83.2
	Bangladesh	08-Mar-20	22-Nov-22	2,036,416	23	29,431	-	1,249	146,283,895	124,666,230	58,579,379	72.8
	Bhutan	05-Mar-20	22-Nov-22	62,488	28	21	-	8,189	699,116	677,669	634,641	86.6
	People's Republic of China*		22-Nov-22	10,535,763	27,533	29,889	0	62,402	1,333,143,422	1,300,098,377	209,269,842	87.9
	Cook Islands	17-Feb-22	14-Sep-22	6,389	-	1	-	29,872	15,084	14,708	10,206	86.4
	Fiji	18-Mar-20	18-Nov-22	68,307	-	878	-	7,675	710,832	639,535	168,675	68.8
	French Polynesia	12-Mar-20	16-Nov-22	76,827	-	649	-	27,508	190,155	185,643	111,840	60.6
	Guam	15-Mar-20	18-Nov-22	59,148	-	407	-	35,356	157,742	143,211		85.0
	India	30-Jan-20	22-Nov-22	44,669,715	294	530,591	5	3,269	1,026,989,712	950,588,586	220,958,874	67.1



Japan	16-Jan-20	19-Oct-22	21,858,528	-	46,014	-	17,312	104,323,897	102,961,975	128,633,897	83.1
Kiribati	25-Jan-22	25-Jul-22	3,430	-	13	-	2,917	93,685	70,464	18,774	53.7
Maldives	07-Mar-20	22-Nov-22	185,584	35	311	-	34,953	399,143	385,060	167,145	73.5
Marshall Islands	26-Oct-20	20-Nov-22	15,501	-	17	-	26,366	42,919	34,305		44.1
Micronesia	11-Jan-21	31-Oct-22	22,203	-	55	-	19,508	82,154	69,110		67.5
Mongolia	10-Mar-20	22-Nov-22	989,713	393	2,179	-	30,687	2,272,965	2,175,617	1,044,337	64.0
Nepal	24-Jan-20	22-Nov-22	1,000,859	4	12,019	-	3,498	27,356,497	23,737,019	8,579,192	77.7
New Caledonia	17-Mar-20	22-Nov-22	75,122	440	314	-	26,102	191,637	184,099	93,895	63.5
New Zealand	28-Feb-20	21-Nov-22	1,918,070	-	3,239	-	39,009	4,298,557	4,135,113	3,409,421	79.8
Niue	03-Sep-21	22-Nov-22	102	2	-	-	4,709	1,650	1,436	1,094	73.6
Northern Mariana Islands	28-Mar-20	01-Nov-22	13,212	-	41	-	23,091	46,279	43,743		84.4
Pakistan	26-Feb-20	22-Nov-22	1,574,939	25	30,630	-	727	139,584,810	132,169,217	47,794,419	56.1
Palau	31-May-21	19-Nov-22	5,684	-	7	-	31,564	20,682	18,435		85.6
Papua New Guinea	21-Mar-20	16-Nov-22	45,773	-	668	-	522	359,043	299,124	29,053	3.0
Samoa	18-Nov-20	19-Oct-22	15,946	-	29	-	8,090	191,130	177,651	78,912	79.9
Solomon Islands	03-Oct-20	11-Jun-22	21,544	-	153	-	3,216	343,821	254,352	27,783	35.1
Republic of Korea**	20-Jan-20	22-Nov-22	26,709,697	70,292	30,148	53	51,654	45,125,974	44,696,364	41,267,817	86.3
Sri Lanka	27-Jan-20	21-Nov-22	671,546	-	16,795	-	3,080	17,143,761	14,752,827	8,220,002	67.6
Timor Leste	21-Mar-20	22-Nov-22	23,327	4	138	-	1,804	864,858	766,980	258,263	57.2
Tonga	05-Nov-21	06-Sep-22	16,182	-	12	-	15,486	90,837	76,825	38,137	71.9
Türkiye	10-Mar-20	11-Nov-22	16,975,322	-	101,322	-	20,347	57,936,783	53,171,790	41,366,484	62.3
Vanuatu	11-Nov-20	02-Nov-22	11,952	-	14	-	3,986	144,824	131,697	16,996	40.3
Wallis et Futuna	17-Oct-20	28-Jul-22	761	-	7	-	4,749	7,136	6,794	3,742	58.6
ASIA PACIFIC			140,355,505	99,168	859,688	59	590,295	2,942,779,621	2,789,636,567	785,048,468	

*Includes cases from Hong Kong (SAR), Macau (SAR), and Republic of China (Taiwan)

**Republic of Korea – South Korea

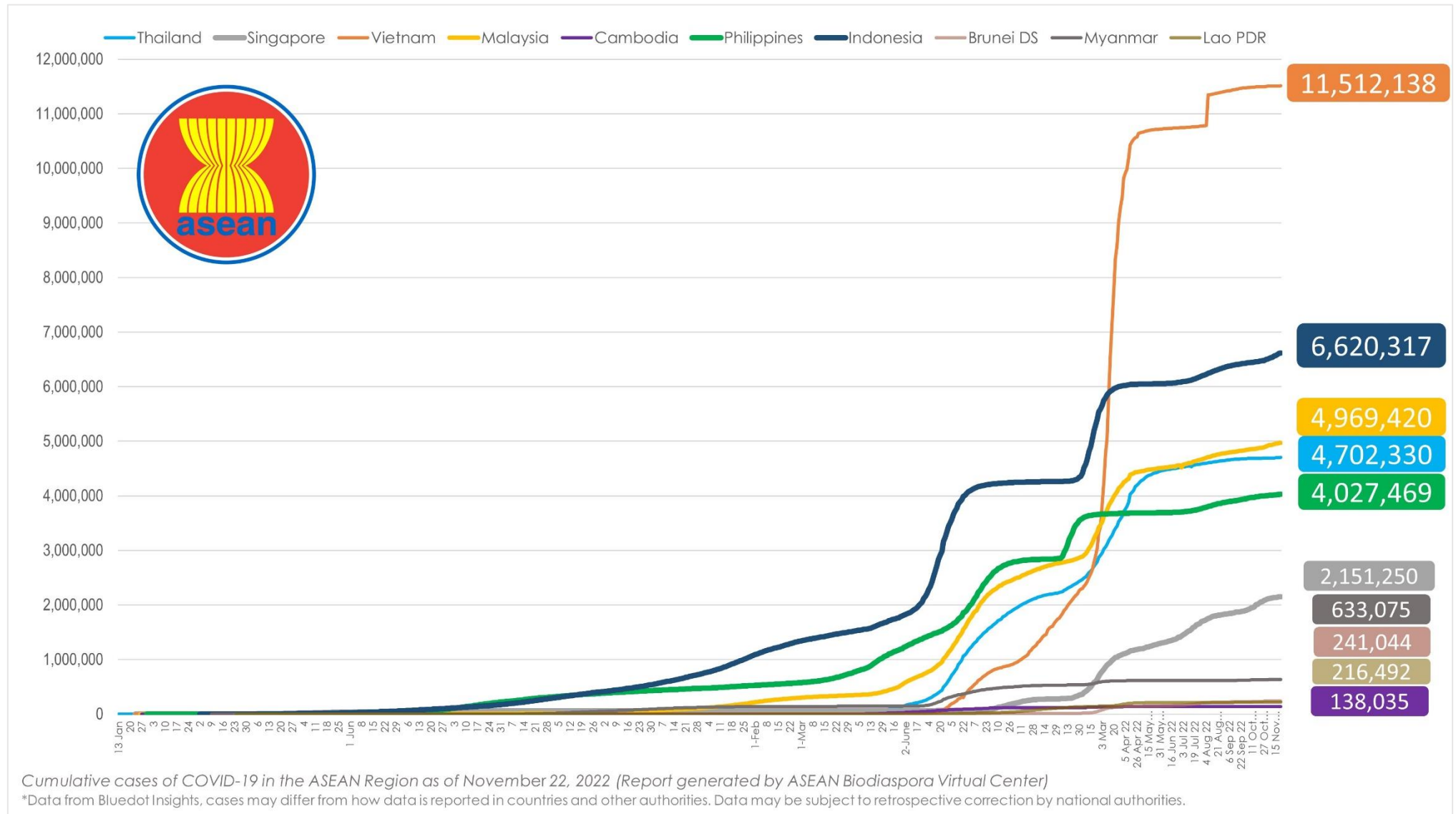
- **462,322,990 confirmed cases** of COVID-19 have been reported in other **4 regions** (other than ASEAN and Asia-Pacific countries):

REGION	TOTAL CONFIRMED CASES	NEW CASES	TOTAL DEATHS	NEW DEATHS	CUMULATIVE CASES/ 100,000	CUMULATIVE VACCINATED	CUMULATIVE FULLY VACCINATED	CUMULATIVE BOOSTERED
AFRICA	12,960,324	133	258,990	-	244,997	450,980,062	360,639,030	57,521,457
AMERICAS	184,537,410	2,698	2,901,185	6	1,210,685	829,939,002	728,773,694	492,842,721
EUROPE	242,253,709	11,256	2,012,496	105	2,049,889	567,338,736	539,222,834	363,046,539
MIDDLE EAST	22,571,547	2,356	238,534	4	213,889	144,339,191	129,679,627	59,647,313
TOTAL	462,322,990	16,443	5,411,205	115	3,719,460	1,992,596,991	1,758,315,185	973,058,030



COVID-19 Epi curve among ASEAN Countries:

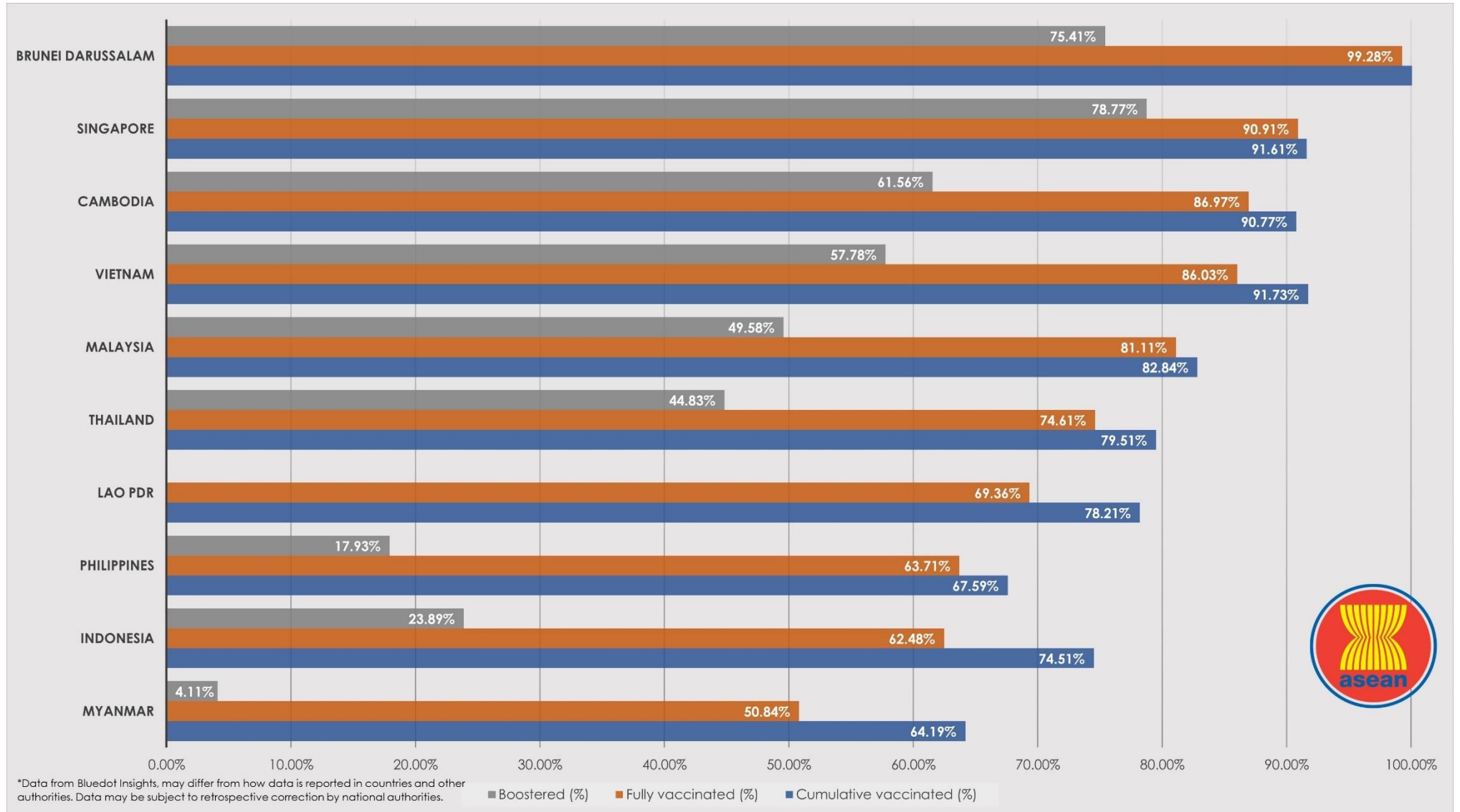
From January 1, 2021 to November 22, 2022





ASEAN COVID-19 Vaccination Status


as of 22 November 2022





ASEAN COVID-19 Outlook Assessment

as of 20 November 2022

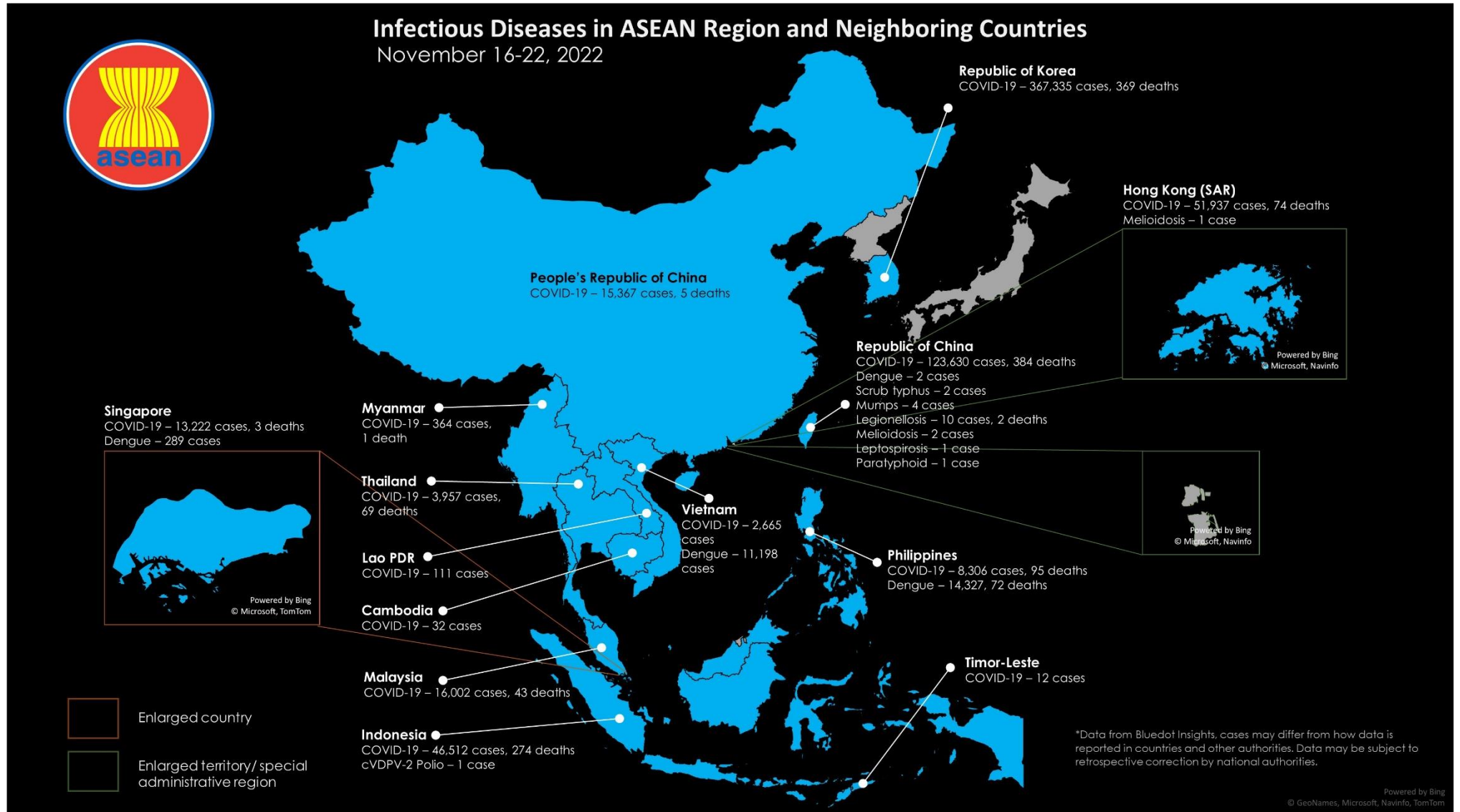
 ASEAN MEMBER STATE	<p>At least 65% of the total population has a level of immunity to COVID-19; either recovered from COVID-19 or have been vaccinated with at least one dose of a COVID-19 vaccine.</p> <p>Case levels are generally low (a 7-day rolling average number of daily new cases that is <10 cases per 100,000, with each day's past-14-day test positivity is consistently <5%).</p> <p>Government Policy on containment and health (strictness and comprehensiveness in COVID-19 related government policies)</p>			
	% of Total population fully vaccinated / boosted	Population vaccinated/ day (7-day average)	Daily cases/ 100,000	Containment and health index score - Oxford COVID-19 Government Response Tracker (OxCGRT)
Brunei Darussalam	≥90.0/75.4	Unknown	0.00	31.0/100
Cambodia	≥90.0/61.6	Unknown	0.029	31.5/100
Indonesia	65.9/23.9	Unknown	2.47	54.2/100
Lao PDR	77.3/ND	Unknown	0.21	61.6/100
Malaysia	84.5/49.6	0%/day	8.43	51.8/100
Myanmar	52.1/4.1	Unknown	0.088	69.1/100
Philippines	71.2/17.9	Unknown	1.14	55.4/100
Singapore	≥90.0/78.8	Unknown	33.65	58.9/100
Thailand	77.7/44.8	Unknown	0.81	31.5/100
Vietnam	≥90.0/57.8	Unknown	0.43	43.5/100

All of the countries have achieved the Population vaccinated/ day (7-day average) except Vietnam



Infectious Diseases in ASEAN Region and Neighboring Countries

From November 16-22, 2022





Infectious Diseases Other than COVID-19 and Monkeypox

November 16-23, 2022

Infectious Disease in ASEAN region and Neighboring Countries Updates

Dengue

- **Vietnam:** Since the beginning of the year, the Ministry of Health has recorded 303,637 dengue fever cases, with 112 deaths. The number of reported cases climbed fivefold year on year, while the death toll increased by 88.⁵ Last week, almost 10,000 patients were reported around the country.⁵ Over the past week, Hanoi has recorded 1,343 dengue fever cases, a 2.3% rise over the previous week.⁵ Since the beginning of the year, Thanh Nhan Hospital in the capital city has treated over 1,500 dengue fever cases.⁵ 30 to 40% of them had severe illnesses such as kidney failure, a low platelet count, and elevated liver enzymes.⁵ On a daily basis, the National Hospital for Tropical Diseases treats approximately 100 dengue fever cases.⁵ The number of youngsters with dengue fever at Vietnam National Children's Hospital has more than doubled over the previous week.⁵ In the midst of a growing dengue fever outbreak in northern Vietnam, the National Blood Center, part of the National Institute of Hematology and Blood Transfusion, has been working hard to get platelets to local hospitals.⁵ [\[Full Article\]](#)
- **Philippines:** Health officials in the Philippines have recorded a 163% rise in dengue mortality in 2022 to date, with 613 deaths reported through October 22 compared to 233 deaths reported during the same period in 2021.⁶ In terms of total instances, authorities have reported 187,560 dengue cases, up from 64,126 cases reported during the same period previous year—a 192% increase.⁶ The Central Visayas region has had the highest number of fatalities (94), followed by Western Visayas (81), Central Luzon (78), and Metro Manila (47).⁶

Poliomyelitis

- **Indonesia:** The government of Pidie district, Aceh, has declared a case of polio in Pidie as an extraordinary event (KLB).⁶ The Acting Regent of Pidie, Wahyudi Adiswanto made this statement after receiving a report that a child had tested positive for polio virus.⁶ "With the discovery of polio cases in Pidie, we declare this as an extraordinary incident, because as we know, Indonesia and other Southeast Asian countries have been declared polio free and the world is currently moving towards eradication to eliminate polio from all countries," said Wahyudi at the Pidie Regent's Office, Friday (18/11/2022).⁶ [\[Full Article\]](#) See additional report on [Special Report on Poliomyelitis](#).

Melioidosis

- **Hong Kong (SAR):** Since August, the Sham Shui Po District has registered 21 cases of human melioidosis infection, with 8 people dying in the district.⁷ In soil samples from the area's service reservoir, the Center for Health Protection grew a melioid fungus that is remarkably similar to the patient.⁷ However, all water samples have proved negative thus far, leaving the transmission route undetermined.⁷ At this point, Yuan Guoyong, chair professor of the Department of Microbiology at the University of Hong Kong, believes that an outbreak caused by polluted drinking water cannot be ruled out.⁷ It is estimated that melioid bacteria may enter the distribution reservoir through the vent, but he emphasized that drinking water in Hong Kong is currently safe; health protection Ou Jiarong, chief doctor of the Center for Infectious Diseases, stated that the Water Supplies Department has increased the amount of residual chlorine in Hong Kong's water supply reservoirs and installed high-efficiency air filters.⁷ [\[Full Article\]](#)



Dengue Cases in ASEAN Region

From January 1, 2022 to November 22, 2022



Dengue cases in ASEAN region

Country	Dengue Cases	New Cases in the Past Week	Deaths	Case Fatality Rate (CFR)
Brunei Darussalam	-	-	-	-
Cambodia	9,482	-	16	0.17%
Indonesia	94,355	-	853	0.90%
Lao PDR	30,085	-	22	0.07%
Malaysia	61,112	-	37	0.06%
Myanmar	7,835	-	31	0.40%
Philippines	187,560	14,327	600	0.32%
Singapore	30,085	289	-	0.00%
Thailand	17,412	-	14	0.08%
Vietnam	303,637	11,198	112	0.04%
Total	741,697	25,814	1,685	0.23%

*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.

- ASEAN region reported **25,814** new dengue cases in the past week from the Philippines, Singapore, and Vietnam. The region reported **741,697** total cases and **1,685** deaths since January 2022 with **0.23%** CFR.



Special Report on Notable Diseases

WHO is working to identify pathogens that may cause future outbreaks and pandemics

WHO is beginning a global scientific process to update the list of priority pathogens—agents that can cause outbreaks or pandemics—to lead global investment, R&D, particularly in vaccinations, testing, and treatments.

WHO is convening over 300 scientists to evaluate the evidence on over 25 virus families and bacteria, as well as "Disease X," which is an unknown pathogen that could trigger a severe international epidemic, beginning with a meeting last Friday, November 18. The specialists will offer a list of priority pathogens that require additional investigation and funding. The procedure will include scientific and public health criteria, as well as socioeconomic effect, access, and equity factors.

The list was first released in 2017, with the most recent prioritization exercise taking place in 2018. COVID-19, Crimean-Cong haemorrhagic fever, Ebola virus disease and Marburg virus disease, Lassa fever, Middle East respiratory syndrome (MERS) and Severe Acute Respiratory Syndrome (SARS), Nipah and henipaviral infections, Rift Valley fever, Zika, and Disease X are among those now on the list.

"It is critical for a rapid and successful epidemic and pandemic response to target priority diseases and virus families for research and development of countermeasures." "It would not have been feasible to create safe and effective vaccinations in record time without significant R&D investments prior to the COVID-19 epidemic," stated Dr Michael Ryan, Executive Director of WHO's Health Emergencies Programme.

The WHO R&D Blueprint for Epidemics prepares R&D roadmaps that outline knowledge gaps and research goals for diseases classified as priority. Where applicable, target product profiles are created to tell developers about the intended specifications for vaccines, treatments, and diagnostic tests. To build these technologies, efforts are also made to map, compile, and facilitate clinical trials. Complementary approaches, such as increased regulatory and ethical control, are also being proposed.

"This list of priority pathogens has become a reference point for the scientific community on where to focus resources to handle the next danger," said WHO Chief Scientist Dr Soumya Swaminathan. "It is produced in collaboration with field specialists and is the agreed-upon direction for where we—as a worldwide research community—need to focus energy and funding to develop tests, treatments, and vaccinations." We are grateful to our donors, including the US government, our partners, and the scientists that collaborate with WHO to make this possible."

The updated list is scheduled to be released in the first quarter of 2023.

Poliovirus Disease Outbreak

Poliomyelitis in Indonesia



- **Level of Concern: Medium Concern**

At the local level, the BlueDot Intelligence team believes this incident to be of medium concern, with increased risks among un-immunized populations.

According to Bluedot Alerts on November 19, on the Sumatran Island province of Aceh, Indonesia, a case of poliomyelitis has been discovered in the Mane district, Pidie Recency. According to local media, the local administration declared an epidemic after poliomyelitis was confirmed in a youngster who arrived with paralysis. The 7-year-old child complained of fever, discomfort, and limb weakness. There are no other facts regarding the affected individual, such as their immunization or travel history. Furthermore, the type of poliovirus (wild poliovirus or circulating vaccine-derived poliovirus) is not specified. The initial response by health authorities is underway, and a field investigation is being conducted.

In a follow up report of Bluedot on November 21, official information on the poliomyelitis outbreak in Indonesia says that laboratory results have shown that the paralysis case reported on November 18, 2022, in Mane district, Aceh province, is attributable to circulating vaccine-derived poliovirus type-2 (cVDPV-2). Furthermore, the sick child has no history of vaccines or recent travel. To determine the source and scope of the outbreak, health officials are conducting additional investigations, testing youngsters, and collecting wastewater samples around the area. Finally, health officials aim to immunize all children aged 13 and under in two stages, the first on November 28, 2022, and the second on January 4, 2023, across the Mane district.

Antara Indonesian News Agency reported on November 19, due to inadequate polio vaccine coverage, Indonesia has a high danger of poliovirus spread, according to Dr. Maxi Rein Rondonuwu, DHSM., MARS, Director General of Disease Prevention and Control at the Health Ministry.¹ He mentioned that Indonesia is now employing a bivalent oral polio vaccine (BOPV) for polio immunization.¹ The oral vaccination, which is



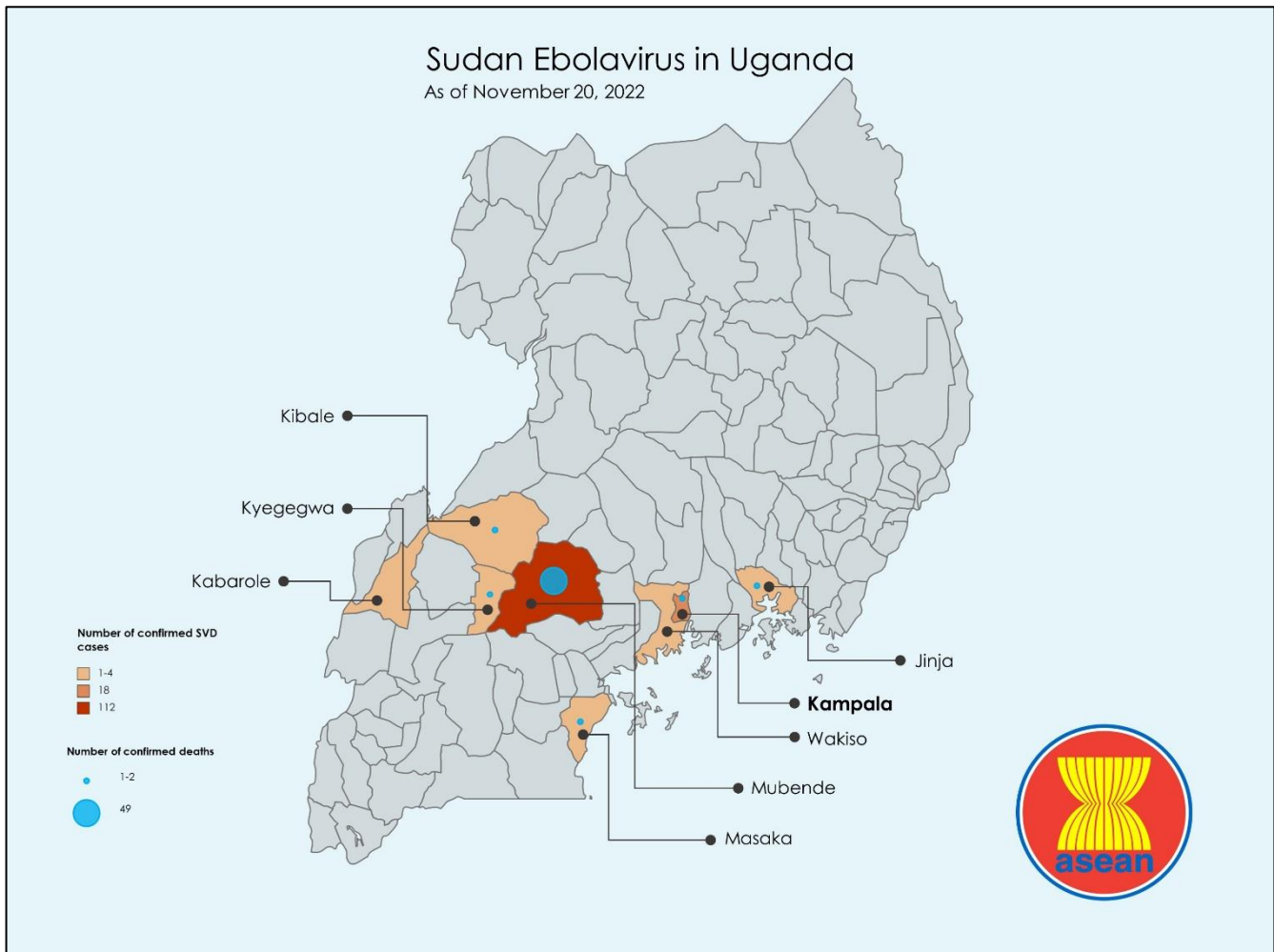
intended to protect type 1 and 2 polioviruses, must be given four times over a four-month period.¹ The vaccine must then be provided as an injection in conjunction with the inactivated polio vaccine (IPV).¹ He stated that children under the age of 9 months should have a booster vaccine in addition to the measles or rubella vaccine.¹ However, vaccination coverage for OPV4 and IPV is low. In 2020, vaccination coverage for OPV4 was 86.8 percent and 37.7 percent for IPV.¹ OPV4 coverage fell to 80.2 percent in 2021, while IPV coverage increased to 66.2 percent.¹ As a result, he added, the government must work hard to meet the target of the child immunization program.¹ [[Full Article](#)]

- **Indonesian Government Response**

The Indonesian Health Ministry is responding to polio cases (KLB) by providing vaccines in Aceh Province.² From November 28, 2022 to December 5, 2022, the immunization would be administered in Pidie District and other districts throughout Aceh Province.² The government is still consulting with the World Health Organization (WHO) in order to perform immunizations on children under the age of 13.² Furthermore, the government conducts active surveillance at community health centers (puskesmas) to look for any unreported children under the age of 15 who have flaccid or sudden paralysis.² [[Full Article](#)]

Ebola Disease Outbreak

Sudan Ebolavirus in Uganda



Data Source: OCHA Reliefweb in Uganda

- **Level of Concern: High Concern, but low or unlikely of importation to ASEAN region**

According to Bluedo Alerts, as of November 16, Uganda had officially recorded 163 cases (141 confirmed and 22 probable) and 77 deaths (55 confirmed and 22 probable) during the eighth week of the Ebola Virus Disease (EVD) outbreak. This week saw the addition of five new confirmed cases (the same number of new confirmed cases as last week). There are 9 districts affected in total, including the newly affected Jinja district. Furthermore, two unconfirmed cases were reported in the Jinja district by media sources, as the daughter and 18-month-old granddaughter of the man who died of EVD in Jinja on November 10. As of November 18, these cases had not been included in official reports.

The first case of EVD was confirmed on September 19, 2022, marking 65 days of response as of November 20. We have not received any new confirmed cases, deaths, or recoveries in the last 24 hours. The case fatality rate (CFR) among confirmed cases remains at 55/141 (39%). A total of 703 contacts are being actively followed up on in seven districts, with a follow-up rate of 63 in the last 24 hours. [\[Full Report\]](#)



Monkeypox: Highlights and Situation Overview

- As of 23 November 2022 (2PM, GMT+8), worldwide, there were **84,683** confirmed cases, including **202** deaths. Globally, Case Fatality Rate (CFR) was **0.24%**.
- **40 confirmed cases** in the ASEAN region, with CFR of **0%**.
- **84,643 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 (CFR)
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 (CFR)
Australia	141	-	-	0.00%
Hong Kong (SAR)	1	-	-	0.00%
India	20	-	1	5.00%
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%
Republic of Korea*	4	1	-	0.00%
Sri Lanka	2	-	-	0.00%
Asia-Pacific Total	218	1	1	0.46%

*People's Republic of China – China, Republic of China – Taiwan, Republic of Korea – South Korea

Top 5 countries with most monkeypox cases globally

Country	Total Cases	New Cases	Deaths	Case Fatality Rate (CFR)
United States of America	29,133	36	14	0.04%
Brazil	9,675	-	12	0.12%
Spain	7,336	-	2	0.03%
France	4,097	-	-	0.00%
United Kingdom	3,701	-	-	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	-	160	3.34%
AMERICAS	53,533	36	36	0.06%
ASEAN	40	-	-	0.00%
ASIA PACIFIC	218	1	1	0.46%
EUROPE	25,783	-	4	0.02%
MIDDLE EAST	313	-	-	0.00%
TOTAL	84,683	37	202	0.24%

Global Update

- The **World Health Organization** plans to rename monkeypox "MPOX" in an effort to de-stigmatize the virus that arrived in the United States earlier this year, Politico reported on November 22 citing sources familiar with the situation.³ According to Politico, the decision, which might be revealed as early as November 23, is in reaction to rising pressure from senior Biden officials, who secretly encouraged WHO authorities to change the name.³
- **Republic of Korea:** According to the Korea Disease Control and Prevention Agency, the fourth monkeypox patient in South Korea is a health care worker who had close contact with the country's third monkeypox patient on November 15.⁴ The health care worker was exposed when taking samples from the third monkeypox case a week ago, according to the KDCA, and has been placed under "active monitoring" since.⁴ On November 22, the health care worker's test results came back positive.⁴ The health care worker experienced "minor symptoms," such as a headache, but is otherwise in good health, according to the KDCA.⁴ Following the exposure, the health care worker who had not previously been immunized received the Jynneos vaccine.⁴ The vaccine protects against both monkeypox and smallpox.⁴ The last three monkeypox cases in South Korea were discovered in recent visitors who tested positive shortly after arriving. The first instance in the country was discovered in June.⁴ In the event of symptoms such as fever, body aches, chills, swollen lymph nodes, raised spots, rash, or scabs, travelers are advised to notify the KDCA or district public health authorities.⁴
- **UK:** The epidemiological condition of the monkeypox virus epidemic was confirmed today by the United Kingdom Health Security Agency (UKHSA). Since May 6, 2022, there have been confirmed cases of monkeypox (MPX) infection in England.¹¹ There were 3,570 confirmed and 150 very probable monkeypox cases in the United Kingdom as of November 21, 2022.¹¹ There were 96 in Scotland, 34 in Northern Ireland, 47 in Wales, and 3,543 (69%) in England.¹¹ There have been no reported deaths in the United Kingdom.¹¹ The current MPX outbreak is in Clade IIb, and the majority of sequenced cases are lineage B.1 or descendants. In addition, a small number of genomes from other clade IIb lineages were discovered in 2022.¹¹ [[Full Article](#)]

Vaccine Update

- **Canada:** Monkeypox vaccine appointments will soon be available through local public health offices in Manitoba.¹⁰ Beginning November 28, appointments can be booked directly with a public health office rather than through the online booking tool or the



central vaccine phone line.¹⁰ As of November 21, 1,361 doses of the vaccine had been administered to those who were eligible.¹⁰ Manitoba has confirmed one incidence of monkeypox.¹⁰ Following the December 13 update, online data on monkeypox will be updated every four weeks.¹⁰



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