

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

Regional Update

- **Indonesia:** According to Iwan Ariawan, an epidemiologist of the University of Indonesia's Faculty of Public Health, Indonesia is prepared to leave the COVID-19 pandemic's emergency phase.¹⁰ According to a report from the Ministry of Health, the average daily confirmed instances of COVID-19 in Indonesia have been registered at 2,000, and the average number of deaths has decreased from 20 to 18 during the past two weeks.¹⁰ Additionally, as of September 21, 2022, the community transmission and COVID-19 response capacity both indicated a managed situation, according to Ariawan. He claims that by working to maintain the population's high level of immunity, Indonesia is prepared to emerge from the COVID-19 pandemic's emergency phase.¹⁰ [\[Full Article\]](#)
- **Philippines:** On September 25, the Philippines reported 3,520 more instances of COVID-19, increasing the country's total to 3,938,203. Additionally, this increased the number of open cases to 35,399, which is the most since August 20.¹¹ The Department of Health added 31 more fatalities, bringing the total number of deaths caused by the illness to 62,790.¹¹ According to Edson Guido, head of the ABS-CBN Data Analytics Team, the positivity rate for the week of September 18 to 24 was 15.3%, up from the 13.3% tallied the week before. However, the country continued to be at low risk according to the DOH criterion because bed occupancy was at 25.8%.¹¹ [\[Full Article\]](#)
- **Thailand's** emergency decree to prevent the spread of COVID-19 will be lifted on September 30 and the Center for COVID-19 Situation Administration (CCSA) will also be dissolved. The move came after the government is preparing to downgrade COVID-19 from its designation as a "dangerous communicable disease" down to "communicable disease under surveillance" by October 1 which was already announced in the Royal Gazette. After the decree is lifted and the CCSA is dissolved, all of their orders will be canceled. The CCSA said the domestic outbreak situation has been improving with less severe cases and related deaths. They also said there are already enough COVID-19 treatment medicines and vaccines in the country to cope with the current situation. The National Communicable Disease Committee (NSDC), which was recently established, and the Communicable Disease Act will be tasked to manage the COVID-19 situation in Thailand instead.
- **Vietnam:** According to the Ministry of Health, Vietnam reported 961 new COVID-19 cases on September 25, the fewest in the previous two months. The country now has 11,472,301 COVID-19 cases as a result of the additional infections since the pandemic first emerged. On the same day, 665 people recovered from the illness, bringing the overall recovery rate to 10,586,861. [\[Full Article\]](#)
- **South Korea:** Starting on September 26, South Korea will no longer require masks for outdoor group activities. In the future, the government also intends to relax additional antiviral restrictions.⁸ The need for outside masks expired on May 2 but was retained in place for events with 50 or more attendees.⁸ Due to worries in light of COVID-19's recent comeback, the regulation stayed in place.⁸ For COVID-19, the government is anticipated to further relax the nation's antiviral controls.⁸ The government announced that it will shortly make changes to other antiviral regulations.⁸ The need for testing for all travelers entering South Korea from abroad, the necessity for COVID-19 patients to stay

in a seven-day quarantine, and restrictions on visiting elderly facilities are examples of antiviral measures that may soon be relaxed.⁸ [\[Full Article\]](#)

Vaccine Update

- **Myanmar:** According to data from the country's Ministry of Health, more over 37 million individuals in Myanmar had received the COVID-19 vaccine as of this week. According to the government, the data included more than 6.5 million children under the age of 18 and over 30.5 million adults.

Research Update

- In the study, **Estimated Effectiveness of COVID-19 Vaccines Against Omicron or Delta Symptomatic Infection and Severe Outcomes**, the estimated efficacy of two doses of the COVID-19 vaccine was shown to be strong against symptomatic Delta infection and severe outcomes in this case control study of 134,435 adults in Ontario, Canada, but was lower against symptomatic Omicron infection.⁵ After receiving three doses, the estimated vaccination efficacy against Omicron was 95% for serious outcomes and 61% for symptomatic illness.⁵ [\[Full Text\]](#)
- In the case-control research, **Odds of Hospitalization for COVID-19 After 3 vs. 2 Doses of mRNA COVID-19 Vaccine by Time Since Booster Dose**, examined the relationship between the initial mRNA vaccination series alone vs the COVID-19mRNA booster immunization and the likelihood of COVID-19 hospitalization.⁶ This study was able to quantify the increased value of a booster dosage to the original series by comparing patients with controls depending on the timing of the second mRNA dose.⁶ The results are comparable to those of a research with a shorter follow-up period, which indicated a hazard ratio of 0.48 for hospitalization for COVID-19 related with boosters.⁶ Even if the size of the connection between the 3 vs. 2 vaccine doses diminished over time, the total risk for hospitalization among those who have received vaccinations remained low since the 2-dose primary series lowers long-term risk for hospitalization.⁶ [\[Full Text\]](#)
- In the research, **Characterizing Adults in Scotland Who are Not Vaccinated Against COVID-19**, of the expected 4.4 million adults living in Scotland as of August 10, 2022, 3,497,208 have gotten three doses of the COVID-19 vaccination.⁷ A fraction of the adult population, who are at risk for serious COVID-19 outcomes, are still unvaccinated (characterized as having no record that any vaccinations have been given).⁷ To estimate the number and define the characteristics of persons residing in Scotland for whom there is no record of any COVID-19 immunization, data from linked national health records were utilized.⁷ The variables that were shown to be most likely to predict COVID-19 immunization were identified using multivariable logistic regression modeling.⁷ [\[Full Text\]](#)
- Researchers at the Veterans Affairs St. Louis Healthcare System and Washington University used federal data to estimate the risk and incidence of new neurologic disorders in 154,068 COVID-19 survivors, 5,638,795 contemporary controls, and 5,859,621 pre-pandemic controls.⁹ The study on **Long-term neurologic outcomes of COVID-19** found that the risk of a range of neurologic conditions rose significantly in the year after COVID-19 infection among a group of US veterans.⁹ The average age included in the study is 62 years old and most of them were unvaccinated because of the study period, March 2020 to January 2021, which was prior to wide vaccine availability.⁹ The researchers found a 42% increased risk of any neurologic condition, such as ischemic and hemorrhagic stroke (50% increase), cognitive and memory disorders (77%), epilepsy (80%), headache (35%), movement disorders (42%), and mental illness (43%).⁹ COVID-19 patients also had 2 more cases of Alzheimer's disease per 1,000 people than controls.⁹

The author also noted neurologic problems develop in previously healthy COVID-19 patients and those with mild infections.⁹ [\[Full Text\]](#)

Travel Update

- **Hong Kong** announced that it will end its mandatory hotel quarantine starting September 26 (Monday). All international arrivals will be able to choose accommodation of their choice but will have to self-monitor for three days after entering the city. They will be allowed to go to work or school but will not be allowed to enter bars or restaurants for 3 days upon their arrival. In addition, travellers will be subject to a polymerase chain reaction (PCR) COVID-19 tests upon arrival, and the pre-flight PCR test which was required for travellers to Hong Kong 48 hours before the flight will be replaced by a rapid antigen test.

Cases and Deaths as of 26 September 2022

- As of 26 September 2022 (2PM, GMT+8), worldwide, there were **621,606,752** confirmed cases, including **6,552,167** deaths. Globally, Case Fatality Rate (CFR) was **1.1%**.
- 88,366,133 confirmed cases** of COVID-19 have been reported in the **ASEAN +3** countries including **34,430,554 cases** in the ASEAN region and **53,935,579 cases** in the PLUS THREE countries.
- The Case Fatality Rate in the **ASEAN +3** region is range between **0.1 to 3.2%**.
- There have been no tests reported in the last 14 days in the **ASEAN** Region.

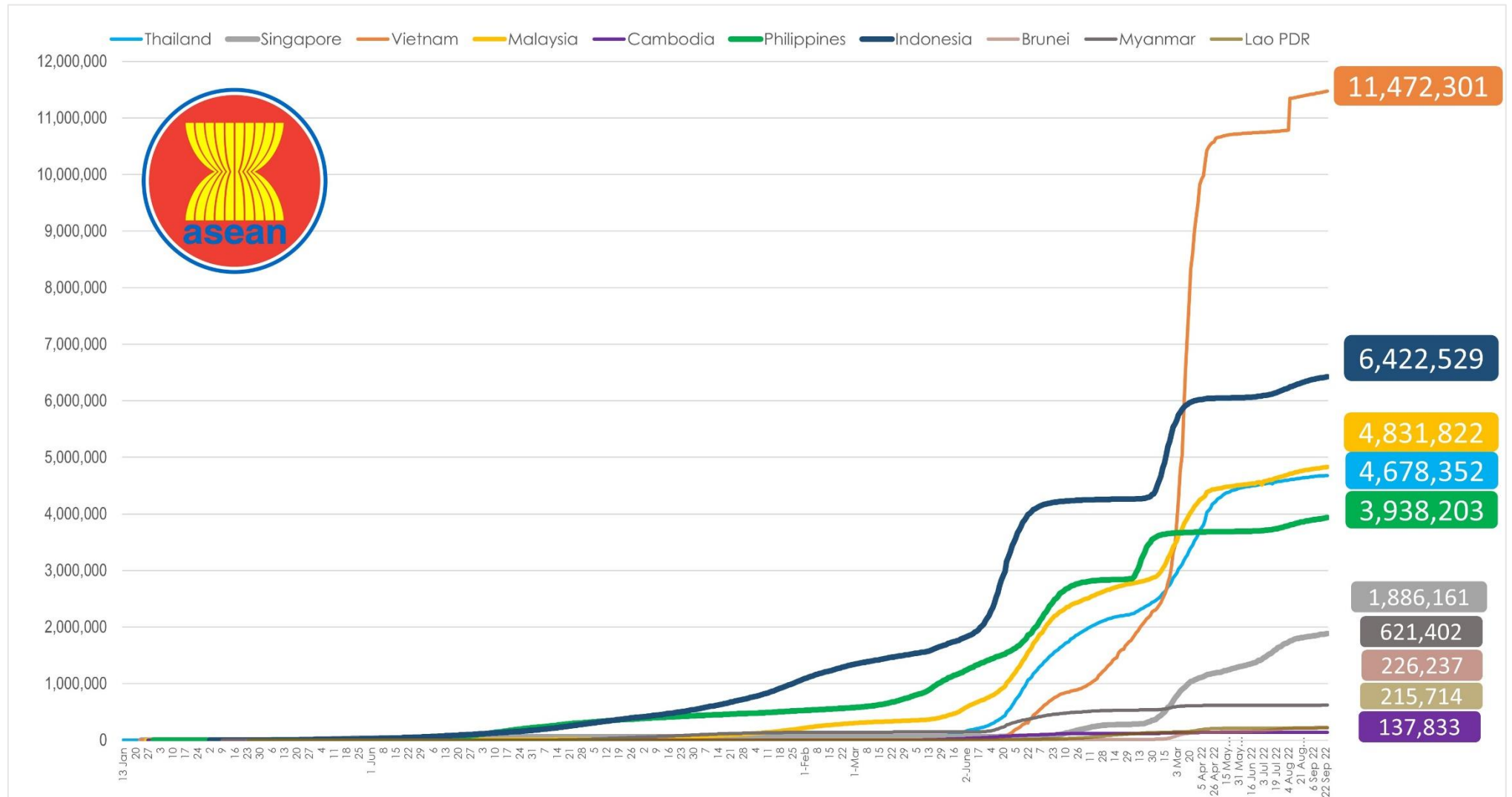
REGION	COUNTRY	FIRST CONFIRMED CASE(S)	LATEST REPORT ON CONFIRMED CASE(S)	TOTAL CONFIRMED CASES	NEW CASES	TOTAL DEATHS	NEW DEATHS	CUMULATIVE CASES/ 100,000	CUMULATIVE VACCINATED	CUMULATIVE FULLY VACCINATED	CUMULATIVE BOOSTERED	FULLY VACCINATED/ 100
ASEAN REGION	Brunei	10 Mar 20	25-Sep-22	226,237	-	225	-	52,214	449,769	444,757	335,738	99.9
	Cambodia	27 Jan 20	25-Sep-22	137,833	-	3,056	-	836	15,179,687	14,524,890	10,085,230	87.6
	Indonesia	02 Mar 20	25-Sep-22	6,422,529	1,411	158,014	16	2,373	203,965,188	170,603,677	62,453,196	62.3
	Lao PDR	24 Mar 20	25-Sep-22	215,714	23	758	-	3,009	5,888,649	5,222,417		70.3
	Malaysia	25 Jan 20	25-Sep-22	4,831,822	1,608	36,350	2	15,123	28,100,697	27,506,906	16,732,784	81.9
	Myanmar	23 Mar 20	25-Sep-22	621,402	278	19,455	-	1,150	34,777,314	27,545,329	2,227,351	51.2
	Philippines	30 Jan 20	25-Sep-22	3,938,203	3,425	62,790	31	3,643	77,387,291	72,747,959	18,508,543	63.9
	Singapore	23 Jan 20	25-Sep-22	1,886,161	2,342	1,610	1	33,070	5,024,384	5,004,693	4,297,217	91.8
	Thailand	13 Jan 20	25-Sep-22	4,678,352	655	32,721	12	6,719	56,994,434	53,466,847	32,048,095	74.7
	Vietnam	23 Jan 20	25-Sep-22	11,472,301	961	43,146	-	11,893	89,753,472	83,849,273	69,805,302	86.0
ASEAN COUNTRIES				34,430,554	10,703	358,125	62	130,030	517,520,885	460,916,748	216,493,456	
ASEAN PLUS THREE	South Korea	20-Jan-20	25-Sep-22	24,620,128	25,792	28,213	73	47,613	45,111,823	44,675,894	40,987,047	86.2
	Japan	16-Jan-20	25-Sep-22	21,069,718	46,141	43,956	49	16,687	104,197,709	102,790,600	115,310,020	82.5
	China	31-Dec-19	25-Sep-22	8,245,733	48,262	26,176	51	50,692	1,331,940,659	1,298,208,244	831,239,991	87.6
	PLUS THREE COUNTRIES				53,935,579	120,195	98,345	173	114,991	1,481,250,191	1,445,674,738	987,537,058
ASEAN +3				88,366,133	130,898	456,470	235	245,021	1,998,771,076	1,906,591,486	1,204,030,514	

- 533,240,619 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	12,899,010	478	258,558	-	251,250	397,018,511	314,080,346	49,596,536
AMERICAS	181,048,319	6,734	2,870,887	23	1,174,736	823,462,567	722,022,266	472,308,983
ASIA PACIFIC	85,303,239	27,034	749,778	97	472,945	1,443,387,686	1,333,288,724	367,232,614
EUROPE	231,571,323	110,224	1,978,518	133	1,988,788	565,588,334	537,046,432	352,088,431
MIDDLE EAST	22,418,728	3,692	237,956	13	210,817	143,753,001	129,115,892	59,215,032
TOTAL	533,240,619	148,162	6,095,697	266	4,098,536	3,373,210,099	3,035,553,660	1,300,441,596

COVID-19 Epi curve among ASEAN Countries:

From January 1, 2021 to September 25, 2022

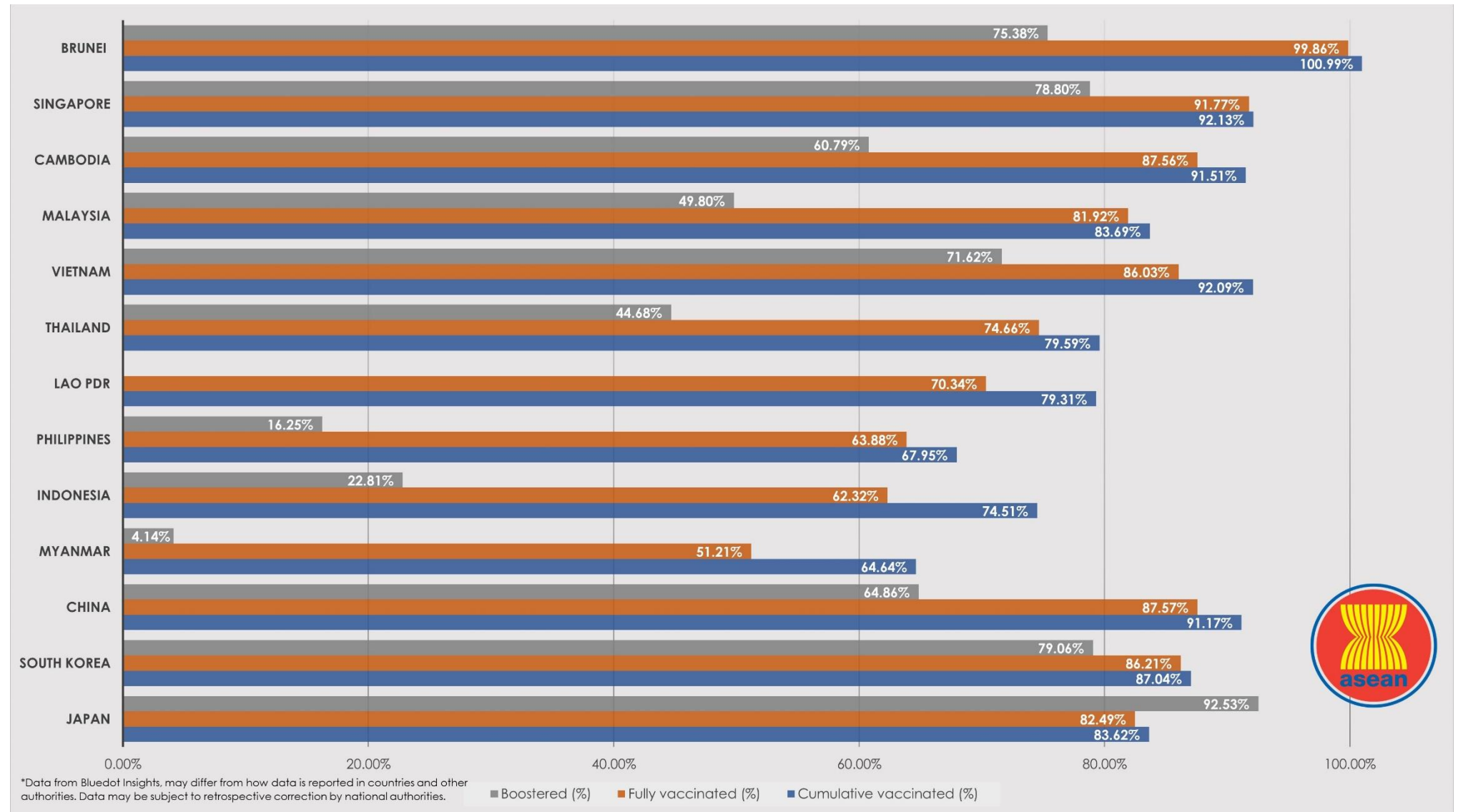


Cumulative cases of COVID-19 in the ASEAN Region as of September 25, 2022 (Report generated by ASEAN Biodiaspora Virtual Center)

*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.


COVID-19 Vaccination Status

as of 25 September 2022



COVID-19 Outlook Assessment

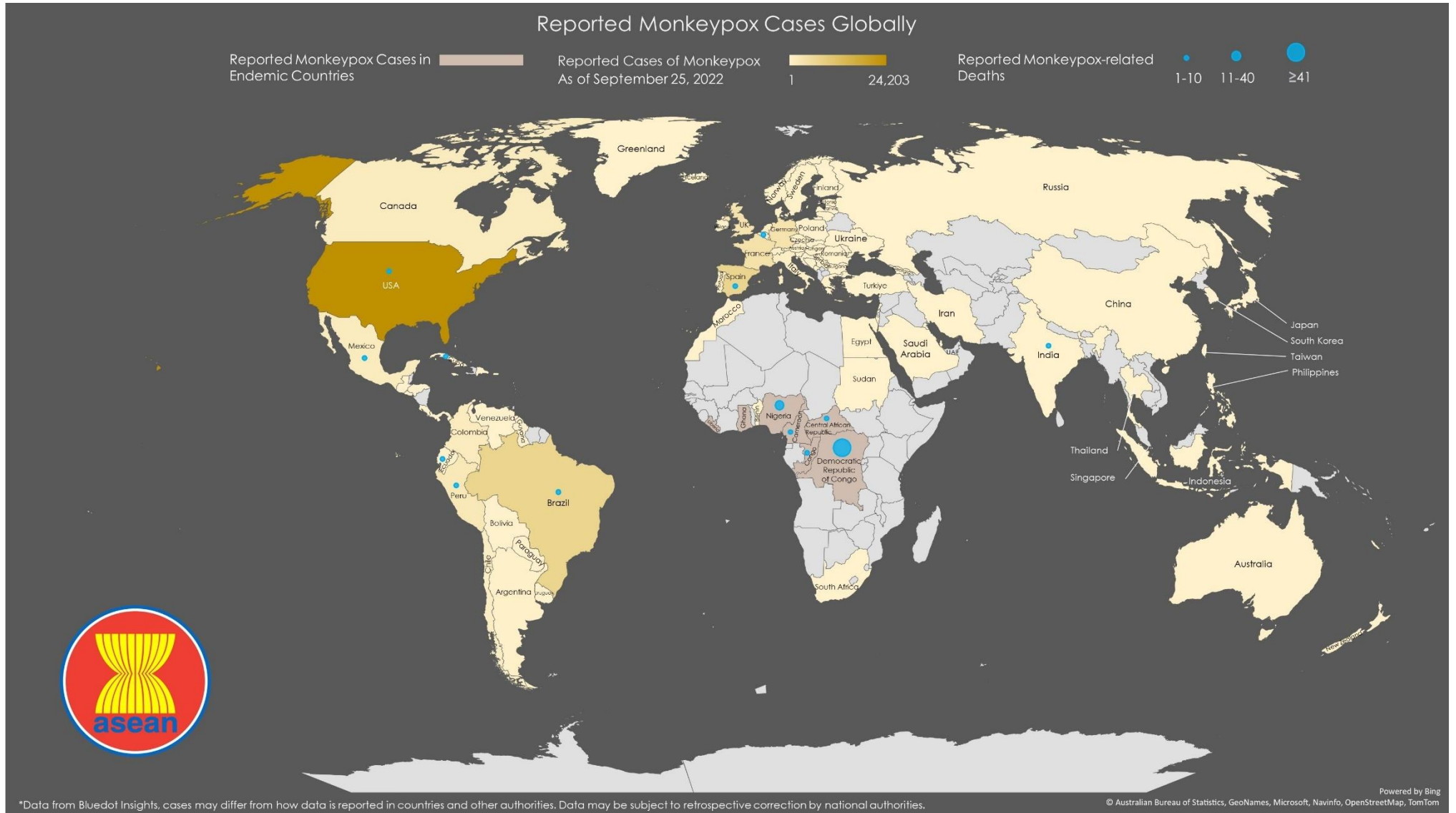
as of 23 September 2022

 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	≥90.0/75.4	Unknown	53.64	Unknown	31.0/100
Cambodia	≥90.0/60.8	Unknown	0.07	Unknown	31.5/100
Indonesia	65.3/22.8	Unknown	0.74	Unknown	54.2/100
Lao PDR	77.3/ND	Unknown	0.60	Unknown	61.6/100
Malaysia	84.4/49.8	0.01%/day	5.79	Unknown	51.8/100
Myanmar	52.1/4.1	Unknown	0.65	Unknown	69.1/100
Philippines	70.2/16.3	Unknown	2.17	Unknown	55.4/100
Singapore	88.8/78.8	0.01%/day	37.70	Unknown	58.9/100
Thailand	77.6/44.7	0%/day	0.98	Unknown	31.5/100
Vietnam	≥90.0/71.6	Unknown	2.18	Unknown	43.5/100
Japan	81.2/≥92.1%	0%/day	49.38	Unknown	42.9/100
South Korea	86.5/79.0	0%/day	85.63	Unknown	38.1/100
China	≥90.0/56.5	Unknown	0.011	Unknown	84.5/100

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

Monkeypox Cases Reported Globally

as of September 25, 2022



Monkeypox: Highlights and Situation Overview

- As of 26 September 2022 (2PM, GMT+8), worldwide, there were **68,436** confirmed cases, including **157** deaths. Globally, Case Fatality Rate (CFR) was **0.23%**.
- 50 confirmed cases** of Monkeypox have been reported in the **ASEAN+3** region composed of **32 cases** in the ASEAN region and **18 cases** in the PLUS THREE countries, with CFR of **0%**.
- 68,386 confirmed cases** of Monkeypox have been reported in other **5 regions** (other than ASEAN +3 countries):

Monkeypox cases in ASEAN+3 region

Region	Country	Total Cases	New Cases	Deaths	Case Fatality Rate
ASEAN	Singapore	19	-	-	0.00%
ASEAN	Thailand	8	-	-	0.00%
ASEAN	Philippines	4	-	-	0.00%
Plus Three	Japan	5	-	-	0.00%
Plus Three	Taiwan	4	-	-	0.00%
Plus Three	South Korea	3	-	-	0.00%
ASEAN	Indonesia	1	-	-	0.00%
Plus Three	China	5	4	-	0.00%
Plus Three	Hong Kong (SAR)	1	-	-	0.00%
ASEAN+3 Total		50	4	-	0.00%

Top 5 countries with most monkeypox cases globally

Region	Country	Total Cases	New Cases	Deaths	Case Fatality Rate
Americas	USA	24,203	0	2	0.01%
Americas	Brazil	7,205	398	1	0.01%
Europe	Spain	7,083	0	3	0.04%
Europe	France	3,942	44	-	0.00%
Europe	Germany	3,590	27	-	0.00%

Monkeypox cases per region other than ASEAN+3

REGION	TOTAL CONFIRMED CASES SINCE JANUARY 1, 2022	NEW CASES SINCE THE PREVIOUS REPORT	TOTAL DEATHS	CASE FATALITY RATE
AFRICA*	4,140	444	144	3.48%
AMERICAS	39,667	720	7	0.02%
ASIA PACIFIC	156	4	1	0.66%
EUROPE	24,129	196	5	0.02%
MIDDLE EAST	294	6	-	0.00%
TOTAL	68,386	1,370	157	0.24%

Global Update

- **El Salvador:** The fifth confirmed case of monkeypox was reported in El Salvador.¹ The latest instance is a 51-year-old guy, with no link to the prior incidents, according to the country's authorities.¹ Francisco Alabi, the health minister, made the announcement on his official Twitter account.¹ With the case informed on September 25, there are 5 cases recorded in the nation so far.¹ According to the minister at the time, the first confirmed instance involved a 28-year-old patient who had contact with individuals who "arrived in the nation from the United States" but did not have any health issues.¹ [[Full Article](#)]

Vaccine Update

- **UK:** The government has declared that those assessed to be most at risk of catching monkeypox will be given a second dosage of the vaccination.² The decision was made in response to new modeling that indicated the virus might be reduced by 70% by immunizing 25% of males who have sex with men, namely those who have a larger number of partners.² The UK Health Security Agency (UKHSA) said on September 23 that while sexual health clinics would continue to give initial doses to individuals deemed to be at the greatest risk, some will also start to offer eligible persons a second dosage to provide longer term protection.² The Joint Committee on Vaccination and Immunization has approved the idea to provide second doses two to three months after receiving a first shot (JCVI).² The NHS will get in touch with those who are qualified for vaccination.² [[Full Article](#)]

Research Update

- The analysis, which was published in eClinicalMedicine, discovered that monkeypox might cause neurological issues in certain individuals, including encephalitis (brain inflammation), disorientation, or seizures.³ It is the first thorough analysis of the prevalence of monkeypox neurological and mental symptoms.³ Even though those studies largely included hospitalized patients from prior years, 2-3% of monkeypox patients suffered serious consequences including seizure or encephalitis throughout the studies with pertinent evidence.³ According to the experts, there is not yet enough data to calculate the prevalence of neurological complications in the ongoing monkeypox outbreak.³ Although the quality of the data was weak, several studies found that at least half of patients had at least one of myalgia (muscle pains), tiredness, headache, anxiety, or depression.³ The team, led by scientists from the Institute of Psychiatry, Psychology & Neuroscience (IoPPN), South London and Maudsley NHS Foundation Trust, and University College London, conducted a systematic review and meta-analysis of all studies describing neurological or psychiatric symptoms of monkeypox that had been reported up until May 2022, before the outbreak spread globally.³ [[Full Article](#)]
- In the study, **Prevention of Monkeypox with Vaccines: A Rapid Review**, an overview of the vaccinations that are available to fight this epidemic is given in this review.⁴ Data from surveillance studies done in central Africa in the 1980s and subsequently during outbreaks in the same region reveal the clinical efficiency (85%) of smallpox vaccinations against monkeypox.⁴ Numerous animal experiments using live viral challenge via various inoculation techniques, mostly in non-human primates, provide support for these findings.⁴ These investigations consistently shown a high level of immunity and protection against the monkeypox virus following immunization with several smallpox vaccines.⁴ Smallpox vaccinations are a potent preventative strategy that may be applied to manage outbreaks of monkeypox.⁴ The replication competent, second-generation vaccinations for smallpox, however, have contraindications and do have negative effects.⁴ [[Full Text](#)]

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