

COVID-19, Monkeypox, and Other Infectious Diseases

Situational Report in the ASEAN+3 Region

— ASEAN BioDiaspora Virtual Center (ABVC)

COVID-19: Highlights and Situation Overview

Global Update

- **Worldwide**, there have been over 585 million cases and over 6 million deaths attributed to COVID-19.
- **Canada:** According to recent research published in CMAJ, First Nations, Inuit, and Métis Peoples in Toronto and London, Ontario, had poor vaccination uptake despite being given priority for SARS-CoV-2 immunizations (Canadian Medical Association Journal).⁹ Understanding how the COVID-19 pandemic, which exacerbated pre-existing health disparities, affected these groups is crucial because more than half of Indigenous Peoples in Canada reside in urban settings.⁹ First Nations, Inuit, and Métis living in cities have been successfully involved in the COVID-19 response through localized by-community-for-community approaches.⁹ These approaches could be used to further improve access to reliable COVID-19 information sources and culturally safe vaccination opportunities.⁹ [\[Full Report\]](#)

Regional Update

- **Indonesia:** Bambang Soesatyo, Speaker of the Indonesian People's Consultative Assembly (MPR), has requested that the government do a thorough analysis of the factors contributing to the rise of COVID-19 cases in Indonesia.¹⁰ The government must next identify the best way to handle each reason separately since the rise in COVID-19 cases necessitates good management that effectively addresses all of the causes, he noted.¹⁰ Soesatyo made the announcement in reaction to Indonesia's COVID-19 positive rate reaching 6.07%, which is greater than the World Health Organization's 5% guideline.¹⁰ Additionally, he requested that the Ministry of Health step up its oversight and monitoring of the community's adherence to health protocol.¹⁰ The ministry must also step up COVID-19 testing, tracking, and immunization activities.¹⁰ [\[Full Article\]](#)
- **Philippines:** On Tuesday, August 2, the Department of Health (DOH) announced the first two cases of the extremely contagious Omicron BA.2.75, also known as "Centaurus" due to its quick spread.¹¹ The two patients, who are from Western Visayas, have already made a full recovery, according to DOH officer-in-charge Maria Rosario Vergeire.¹¹ She continued by saying that their travel and exposure histories were still being examined.¹¹ On the other hand, the Department of Health (DOH) reported on Tuesday that the nationwide weekly positive rate for COVID-19 infection increased to 16.7% despite retaining a low-risk categorization.¹² The optimal positive rate cutoff point, set at 5% by the World Health Organization, has been more than tripled in this case.¹²
- **South Korea:** On Tuesday, the number of new Covid-19 cases in South Korea reached a three-month high as a result of the highly contagious Omicron form.¹³ According to the Korea Disease Control and Prevention Agency (KDCA), the nation recorded 111,789 new infections in the previous day, including 568 from outside, increasing the overall caseload to 19,932,439, according to Yonhap News Agency.¹³ [\[Full Article\]](#)
- **Japan:** The health ministry reported on August 2 that the occupancy rate for hospital beds for COVID-19 patients in Japan as of July 26 was 48.0%, up 10.8% points from a week earlier.¹⁵ As a result of the seventh wave of new coronavirus infections brought on by the spread of the BA.5 omicron subvariant, the rate increased by over 10 points in 21 of Japan's 47 prefectures, indicating that the country's healthcare system is under increasing strain.¹⁵ [\[Full Article\]](#)
- **China:** With cases in Shanghai remaining at zero for a second day in a succession and the flare-up in Shenzhen appearing to be under control, the most recent COVID-19

epidemic in China has calmed. 373 instances were reported on Monday across the country.¹⁶ It is still far lower than the peak of 935 illnesses two weeks ago, despite an increase from Sunday's almost three-week low of 277.¹⁶ [\[Full Article\]](#)

Vaccine Update

- **Japan:** During the seventh wave of the coronavirus pandemic, more people are attending COVID-19 immunization sites, particularly younger generations whose acceptance of booster doses has been poor.¹⁴ The central and municipal governments have established reservation-free vaccination locations and increased capacity at large-scale facilities in recognition of August as National Immunization Awareness Month.¹⁴ On July 29, all 100 spots were taken, and over the course of two days, 146 commuters, including young individuals, received immunizations.¹⁴ [\[Full Article\]](#)

Cases and Deaths as of 03 August 2022

- As of 03 August 2022 (2PM, GMT+8), worldwide, there were **585,115,420** confirmed cases, including **6,431,761** deaths. Globally, Case Fatality Rate (CFR) was **1.1%**.
- 72,240,183 confirmed cases** of COVID-19 have been reported in the **ASEAN +3** countries including **32,947,709 cases** in the ASEAN region and **39,292,474 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.

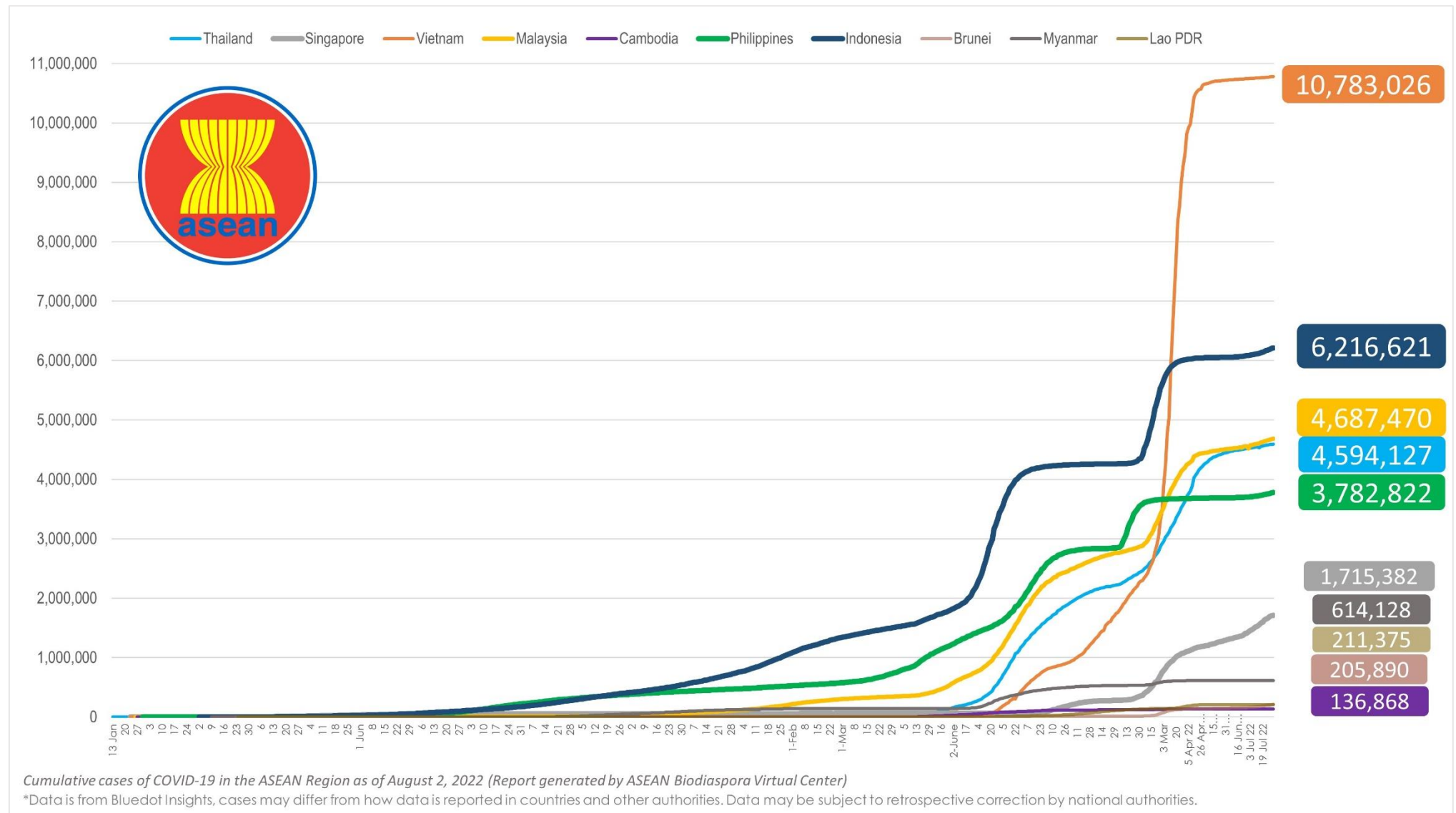
REGION	COUNTRY	FIRST CONFIRMED CASE(S)	LATEST REPORT ON CONFIRMED CASE(S)	TOTAL CONFIRMED CASES	NEW CASES	TOTAL DEATHS	NEW DEATHS	CUMULATIVE CASES/ 100,000	CUMULATIVE VACCINATED	CUMULATIVE FULLY VACCINATED	CUMULATIVE BOOSTERED	FULLY VACCINATED/ 100
ASEAN REGION	Brunei	10 Mar 20	02-Aug-22	205,890	-	225	-	47,518	444,293	426,764	301,719	95.8
	Cambodia	27 Jan 20	02-Aug-22	136,868	39	3,056	-	830	15,104,932	14,411,480	9,582,177	86.9
	Indonesia	02 Mar 20	02-Aug-22	6,216,621	5,827	157,028	24	2,297	202,268,728	169,882,385	54,941,943	62.1
	Lao PDR	24 Mar 20	02-Aug-22	211,375	104	757	-	2,948	5,817,695	5,076,787		68.4
	Malaysia	25 Jan 20	02-Aug-22	4,687,470	4,204	35,985	8	14,671	28,072,812	27,452,368	16,540,780	81.8
	Myanmar	23 Mar 20	02-Aug-22	614,128	15	19,434	-	1,136	34,777,314	27,545,329	2,227,351	51.2
	Philippines	30 Jan 20	02-Aug-22	3,782,822	2,644	60,749	12	3,499	76,438,466	71,835,024	15,523,764	63.1
	Singapore	23 Jan 20	02-Aug-22	1,715,382	4,709	1,502	2	30,076	5,021,910	4,999,903	4,250,892	91.7
	Thailand	13 Jan 20	02-Aug-22	4,594,127	1,843	31,434	27	6,598	56,842,387	53,182,355	30,819,325	74.3
	Vietnam	23 Jan 20	02-Aug-22	10,783,026	2,017	43,094	1	11,179	86,785,069	80,185,029	61,431,250	82.3
ASEAN COUNTRIES				32,947,709	21,402	353,264	74	120,753	511,573,606	454,997,424	195,619,201	
ASEAN PLUS THREE	South Korea	20-Jan-20	02-Aug-22	19,932,439	111,700	25,084	16	38,547	45,087,549	44,651,949	39,161,520	86.2
	Japan	16-Jan-20	02-Aug-22	13,138,878	211,058	32,546	143	10,406	103,864,269	102,494,174	89,186,113	82.3
	China	31-Dec-19	02-Aug-22	6,221,157	27,763	23,746	42	38,503	1,327,340,590	1,291,925,924	821,515,014	86.2
	PLUS THREE COUNTRIES				39,292,474	350,521	81,376	201	87,456	1,476,292,408	1,439,072,047	949,862,647
ASEAN +3				72,240,183	371,923	434,640	275	208,209	1,987,866,014	1,894,069,471	1,145,481,848	

- 512,875,237 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	12,771,893	1,873	257,861	5	242,909	367,147,581	288,901,793	34,898,814
AMERICAS	173,860,985	25,696	2,825,835	205	1,127,690	813,220,363	716,452,469	453,058,786
ASIA PACIFIC	82,846,426	61,219	741,951	182	422,092	1,430,035,019	1,309,616,101	239,956,470
EUROPE	221,386,104	214,519	1,936,063	803	1,916,154	561,649,739	533,739,807	336,495,341
MIDDLE EAST	22,009,829	18,413	235,411	90	205,627	142,862,159	128,204,307	56,364,634
TOTAL	512,875,237	321,720	5,997,121	1,285	3,914,472	3,314,914,861	2,976,914,477	1,120,774,045

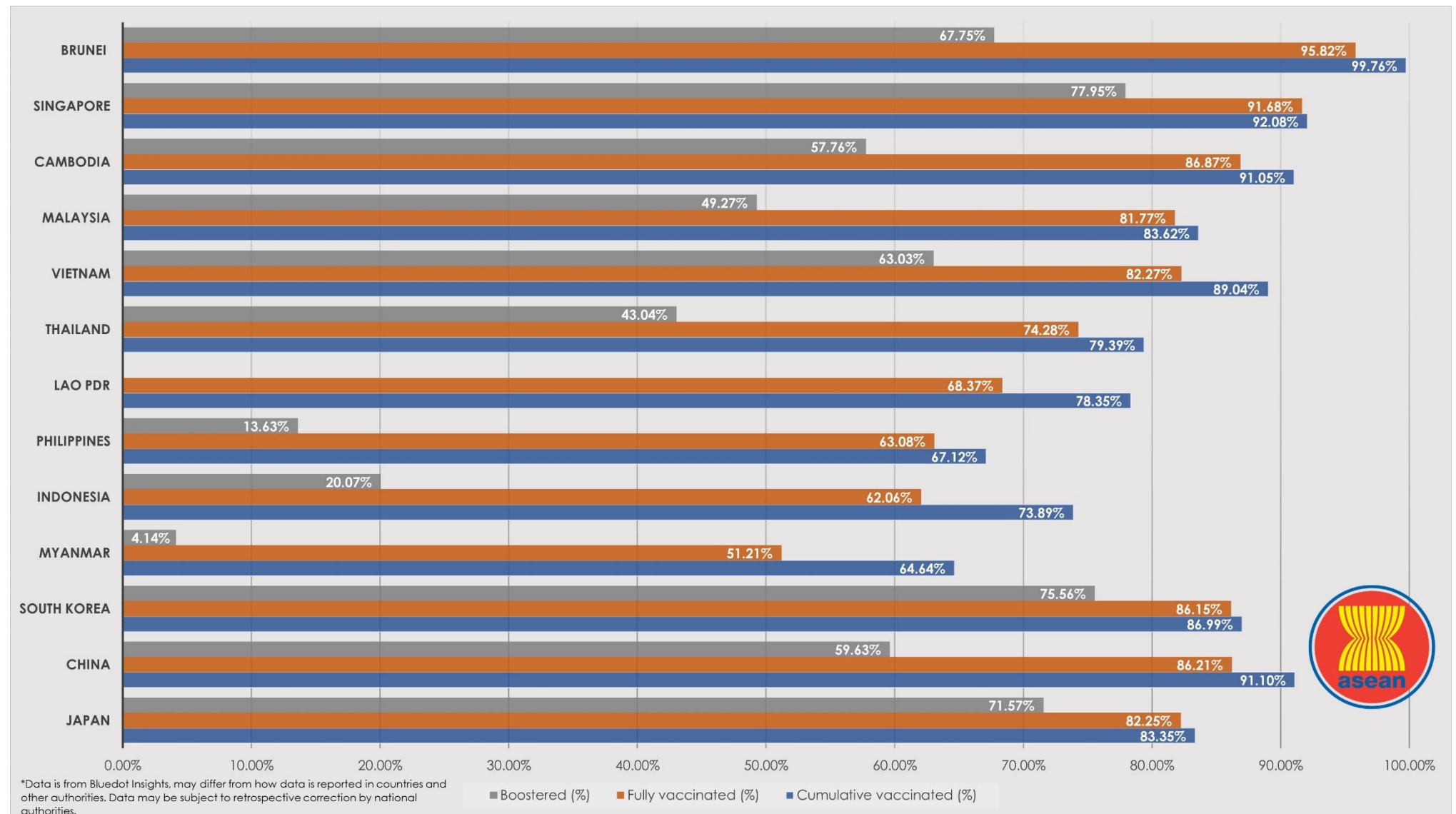
COVID-19 Epi curve among ASEAN Countries:

From January 1, 2021 to August 2, 2022




COVID-19 Vaccination Status

as of 02 August 2022



COVID-19 Outlook Assessment

as of 31 July 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)	
		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)
Brunei	0%/day	≥90.0/67.8	Unknown	355.32	Unknown	31.0/100	0.0
Cambodia	0%/day	≥90.0/57.8	Unknown	0.18	Unknown	31.5/100	-1.8
Indonesia	0%/day	65.1/20.1	Unknown	2.05	Unknown	54.2/100	+3.6
Lao PDR	0%/day	75.1/ND	Unknown	0.89	Unknown	61.6/100	0.0
Malaysia	0%/day	84.2/49.2	0.01%/day	12.66	Unknown	51.8/100	-3.6
Myanmar	0%/day	52.1/4.1	Unknown	0.04	Unknown	69.1/100	0.0
Philippines	0%/day	69.5/13.6	Unknown	3.27	Unknown	55.4/100	0.0
Singapore	0%/day	88.7/77.9	Unknown	137.50	Unknown	58.9/100	0.0
Thailand	0%/day	77.2/42.8	0.02%/day	3.01	Unknown	31.5/100	0.0
Vietnam	Unknown	86.5/63.0	Unknown	1.80	Unknown	43.5/100	0.0
Japan	0%/day	81.0/71.6	0%/day	161.93	Unknown	42.9/100	0.0
South Korea	0%/day	86.5/75.1	0%/day	158.37	Unknown	38.1/100	0.0
China	Unknown	≥90.0/56.0	Unknown	0.008	Unknown	84.5/100	0.0

All of the countries have achieved the estimated high-risk population fully vaccinated of ≥90.0% except China with 34.6%.

Infectious Diseases Other than COVID-19 and Monkeypox in ASEAN+3 Region

From July 27 to August 2, 2022



Infectious Diseases Other than COVID-19 and Monkeypox in ASEAN+3 Region

July 27-August 2, 2022

Infectious Disease Updates

Dengue

- **Laos:** 31 July 2022. As of July 31, 13,621 total dengue fever cases have been reported in Laos since the beginning of the year. The capital city of Vientiane has seen 7,086 cases, by far the most cases of any city. The death toll in this outbreak has risen to 14.
- **Malaysia:** 29 July 2022. Authorities in Malaysia report elevated dengue fever activity nationwide, with an additional 11,005 cases reported June 14-July 27, bringing the total case count to 29,812 since January 1. This is compared to 15,714 cases reported over a similar period in 2021. Selangor (19,101 cases) is the most affected state, followed by Kuala Lumpur (2,653 cases), Sabah (2,359 cases), and Johor (1,436 cases). This represents the most complete information available as of July 28.
- **Philippines:** 28 July 2022. The Philippines' dengue cases have nearly doubled as it tallied 73,909 infections so far this year, the Department of Health said Thursday. The number of dengue infections is 96% higher than some 37,000 cases reported during the same period last year, according to Health Undersecretary Beverly Ho. Majority of the cases were from Central Luzon, Central Visayas, and Metro Manila, she said. Eleven of 17 regions exceeded the epidemic threshold in the past 4 weeks or during the period of June 12 to July 19, Ho said. The figure is a decrease from 13 regions during the period of June 5 to July 2. A total of 299 dengue-related deaths have so far been reported this year, according to Ho. The DOH is looking into procuring dengue vaccines as cases rise, its officer-in-charge Maria Rosario Vergeire earlier said. At least 23 dengue vaccines are on the emergency medicine list of the World Health Organization, according to DOH OIC Maria Rosario Vergeire. "What we're doing here in the department would be gathering evidence, studying it, and once we have completed that we'll be convening our experts." The health agency has previously said it has downloaded funds to public hospitals and has instructed them to provide dengue fast lanes. The agency has several times reminded the public to follow the '4S Strategy.'
- **Vietnam:** 02 August 2022. HANOI (Xinhua) -- Vietnam reported a total of 136,075 cases of dengue fever in the first seven months of this year, tripling the figure of the same period last year, the country's Ministry of Health said Tuesday. The cases were mostly recorded in southern, central and central highlands regions, Nguyen Luong Tam, deputy head of the preventive medicine department of the health ministry, said at an online press conference. The number of deaths in the seven-month period stood at 45, up by 31 year on year. Southern Vietnam's Ho Chi Minh City reported the most with 10 deaths, followed by the central provinces of Binh Duong and Dong Nai with nine and five respectively. In a dispatch issued in late July, the Vietnamese government called on the health sector, local authorities and individuals to take all precautions needed to tackle the dengue fever epidemic amid an increasing number of new infections nationwide. According to the dispatch, localities were requested to mobilize human resources to kill mosquitoes and mosquito larvae, establish epidemic prevention teams in communities, and reserve enough medical equipment and funding for epidemic prevention.

Hand, Foot, and Mouth Disease

- **Malaysia:** Johor ranked fifth among the states with a high cumulative number of hand, foot, and mouth disease (HFMD) cases since January 1 until July 29, this year. State Health and Unity Committee chairman, Ling Tian Soon said a total of 8,652 cases were

reported during the period, an increase of 81.6 times compared to 106 cases for the same period last year. He said the other states that recorded a high number of cumulative cases were Selangor with 35,575, Perak (13,487), Federal Territories (13,434) and Sarawak (8,727). "This increase has been projected to happen this year due to relaxation of the standard operating procedure and in line with the rise in cases in Malaysia. However, the situation is still under control. "This is proven by the significant decrease in the trend of HFMD cases reported in Johor starting from the Epidemiology Week (ME) 22/2022 until ME30/2022," he said in a statement, here, today. Ling said most of the HFMD cases in Johor involved children under the age of six, with 7,451 cases, followed by 1,033 cases among those aged seven to 12 and the rest were aged over 13. He said the district of Johor Baru recorded the highest number of cases at 2,989, Kluang (1,119), Tangkak (888), Batu Pahat (887), Segamat (775), Kota Tinggi (690), Pontian (578), Muar (330), Kulai (269) and Mersing (127).

Malaria

- **South Korea:** 29 July 2022. South Korea has reported 193 malaria cases in the first seven months of the year, showing a trend similar to that of 2021, when the lowest number in 26 years was recorded, they showed, this Friday, some data. According to the Korea Disease Control and Prevention Agency (KDCA), a total of 193 cases of the mosquito-borne disease were confirmed in the January-July period this year. Last year, during the same period, 195 cases had been registered. Per month, there were 4 cases in January, 1 in February, 1 in March, 6 in April, 31 in May, 89 in June, and 61 in July. The capital region, which encompasses the cities of Seoul and Incheon, as well as Gyeonggi province, was responsible for 86% of the total cases. Because malaria infections in the country typically rise between June and August and begin to decline in September, health officials expect some 300 cases this year, similar to last year's 297.

Brucellosis

- **China:** 01 August 2022. According to Zhu Xin, an expert in infectious disease prevention and control at the Luoyang Center for Disease Control and Prevention, brucellosis is a zoonotic infectious disease caused by Brucella infection, commonly known as "lazy man's disease". Patients will have symptoms such as fever, joint pain, and general weakness. In severe cases, the bacteria will erode human joints, muscles, heart and even brain. Diseased sheep, cattle and other diseased animals are the main source of infection of brucellosis. In our city, sheep and their related products are the most common source of infection. It is understood that the current demand for cattle and mutton in the Luoyang market is relatively large, and the number of individual farmers has gradually increased, resulting in an increased risk of brucellosis infection. There are still many, the risk of foodborne infection is increasing, and the source of infection is showing a trend of diversification. Statistics show that in 2021, a total of 497 brucellosis patients were found in Luoyang. In the first seven months of 2022, 432 cases of brucellosis were found in Luoyang, which is higher than the same period in previous years, and even exceeded the number of cases found in the whole year of 2020. In the past 5 months, more than 60 cases were found every month, and the patient group included both the elderly in their 70s and 80s, and children in their 30s and 40s. The large proportion of elderly brucellosis patients is related to the purchase and consumption of freshly milked goat milk on the roadside. "Vendors who sell freshly milked goat milk on the street cannot ensure the health of the sheep and themselves. The milking operation process is not standardized and unsanitary. Citizens who drink this kind of goat milk will be at risk of brucellosis." Zhu Xin Said that among the brucellosis patients found so far, individual farmers account for the largest proportion of brucellosis patients, followed by the elderly patient group. The reason for these people's illness is almost to buy and eat freshly milked goat milk sold by street vendors. There are also some patients who ate

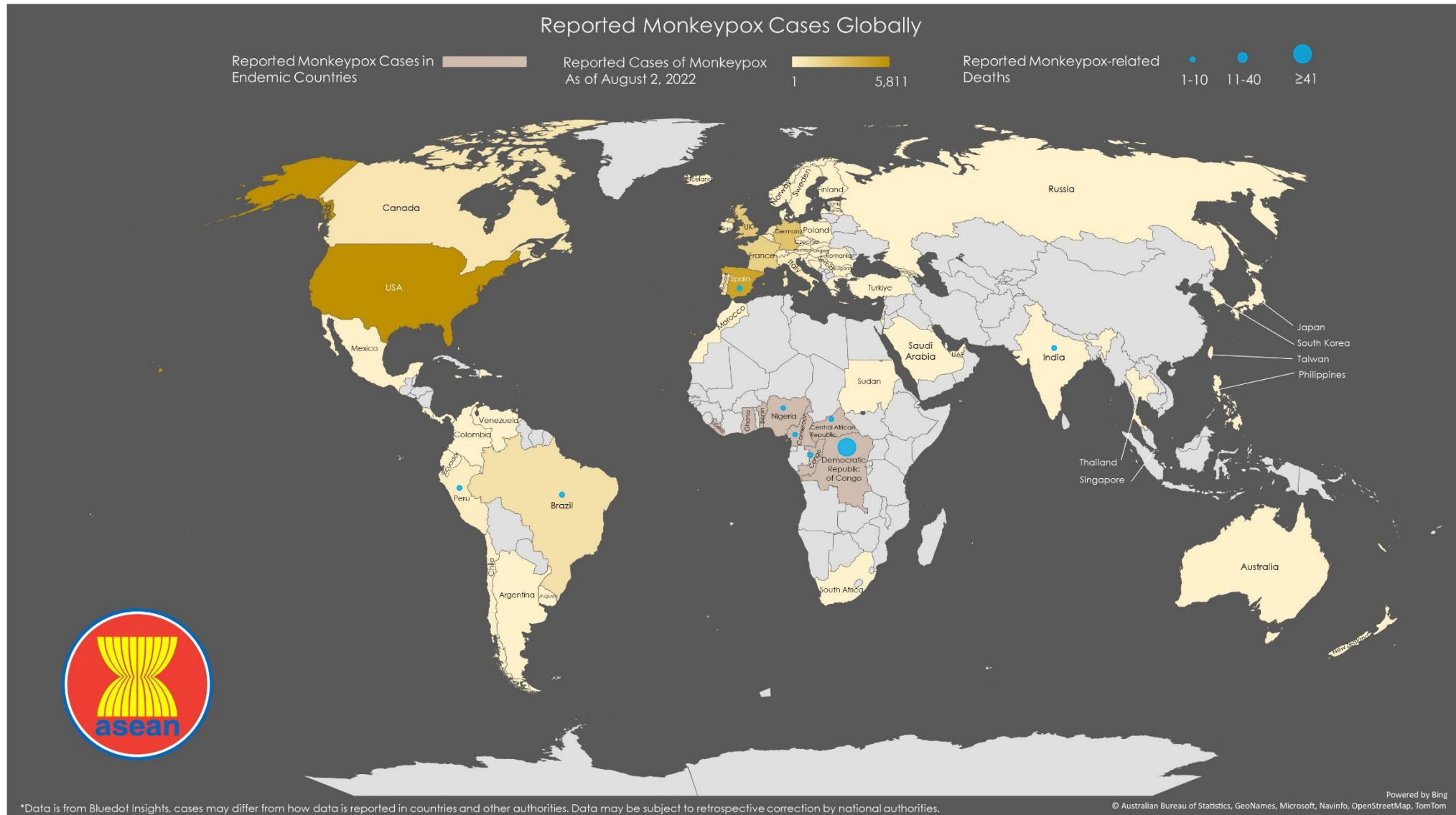
unprocessed beef and mutton when eating barbecue or hot pot, which caused the infection.

Measles

- **Japan:** 27 July 2022. Cases of measles continue to be reported in Japan for 2022. The prefecture of Shizuoka, located along the central-eastern coast of Japan has reported an imported case of measles in an 18-month-old child. The child originally from Yaizu City, Japan, is reported to have travelled to Indonesia from mid-June to mid-July, during which the child had contact with a measles case. News media reports that the child had presented to a medical facility in Yaizu City with a fever and rash but has since recovered and been discharged. The child's vaccination status has not been described, however, according to the Japanese Ministry of Health, Labour and Welfare, in 2020, 95% or more of the population had received their first dose of measles-mumps-rubella (MMR) vaccine, while 94.7% of the population had received their second MMR vaccination. Japan has experienced vaccine hesitancy due to historical issues with potential MMR vaccine side effects and is also reported to have experienced a decrease in vaccination uptake due to the restrictions imposed during the COVID-19 pandemic. This case is the first to be confirmed in the Shizuoka prefecture in the last two years.

Monkeypox Cases Reported Globally

as of August 2, 2022



Monkeypox: Highlights and Situation Overview

- As of 03 August 2022 (2PM, GMT+8), worldwide, there were **25,655** confirmed cases, including **71** deaths. Globally, Case Fatality Rate (CFR) was **0.28%**.
- 20 confirmed cases** of Monkeypox have been reported in the **ASEAN+3** region composed of **15 cases** in the ASEAN region and **5 cases** in the PLUS THREE countries, with CFR of **0%**.
 - Singapore** – 12 cases
 - Japan** – 2 cases
 - Taiwan** – 2 cases
 - Thailand** – 2 cases
 - Philippines** – 1 case
 - South Korea** – 1 case
- 25,635 confirmed cases** of COVID-19 have been reported in other **5 regions** (other than ASEAN +3 countries):

Top 5 countries with most monkeypox cases globally

Region	Country	Cases	Deaths	Case Fatality Rate
Americas	USA	5,811	-	0.00%
Europe	Spain	4,581	2	0.04%
Europe	Germany	2,724	-	0.00%
Europe	United Kingdom	2,474	-	0.00%
Europe	France	1,957	-	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*	1,699	2	66	3.88%
AMERICAS	8,496	1,658	2	0.02%
ASIA PACIFIC	57	6	1	1.75%
EUROPE	15,210	683	2	0.01%
MIDDLE EAST	173	13	-	0.00%
TOTAL	25,635	2,362	71	0.28%

Global update

- India:** In a follow-up on the monkeypox outbreak in India, health authorities in Kerala state have confirmed the first associated death. Officially available information indicates that the affected individual is 22 years old young man, who had recently returned from the United Arab Emirates (UAE). In addition, the report indicates that blood samples were taken in the UAE on July 19 and also on July 21, after the individual arrived in India, where they were admitted to a local hospital in Thrissur on July 27 due to general bad conditions. Kerala's health authorities are still investigating the cause of death since the case was young, and without known underlying health conditions. The UAE has identified several

confirmed cases with suspected community transmission; however, given there have been multiple exported cases, the true extent of the spread in the UAE may be underreported. This event is noteworthy since monkeypox is usually a self-limiting disease with symptoms lasting from 2 to 4 weeks. Severe cases occur more commonly among children and are related to the extent of virus exposure, patient health status and nature of complications. Underlying immune deficiencies may lead to worse outcomes. Furthermore, there are recent genome sequencing reports from two monkeypox patients in Kerala (unclear if one is related to the reported death) that suggest these were infected with the A.2 strain of the virus, in contrast to the majority of the genomes across the world which belong to B.1 lineage (the lineage attributed to the monkeypox outbreaks in Europe). Only a few cases that belong to the A.2 strain have been found in the USA, Thailand and India, and all seem to have travel links to the Middle East or West Africa. These events are noteworthy since it appears that there are at least two genetically distinct strains of the West African clade (with an estimated lower mortality rate to the Central African clade in the endemic region) circulating in non-endemic countries.

- **Sudan:** On August 31, the Sudanese Ministry of Health confirmed the first case of monkeypox in Sudan. Officially available information indicates that the case is a 16-year-old student in West Darfur, however, no further information on a recent history of travel and epidemiological details have been provided. The ministry said there have been at least 38 suspected cases of monkeypox and all have tested negative. Health authorities are working to determine the student's close contacts to limit the spread of the virus. There are concerns of a large outbreak of monkeypox that could be devastating for Sudan, which has suffered from decades of conflict in Darfur and other parts of the country, and international isolation. Monkeypox is a neglected tropical disease endemic to the west and central African countries. It is considered to spread primarily through animal contact in endemic regions but can also spread between people through direct contact with skin lesions and/or exposure to contaminated fomites and infectious respiratory droplets. This event is noteworthy as it represents an additional country reporting the importation of monkeypox related to the recently-declared Public Health Emergency of International Concern (PHEIC).
- **Peru:** More than 300 instances of monkeypox have been documented in Peru as of this writing; on August 1, one of those cases resulted in death, according to a health official.² According to Eduardo Farfan, director of the Dos de Mayo hospital in Lima, the fatality was "a patient who came to hospital in a bad state with monkeypox and their health degraded after discontinuing treatment for HIV/Aids."² [\[Full Article\]](#)
- **USA:** As the viral disease spreads throughout the nation and the world, New York, California, and Illinois declared states of emergency in response to the monkeypox outbreak, and US President Joe Biden nominated a federal coordinator.¹ The declaration of an emergency aims to support vaccination campaigns and slow the spread of new diseases.¹ The three states, which are also home to three of the biggest cities in the US, account for nearly half of the 6,000 cases of monkeypox that were reported in the US.¹ [\[Full Article\]](#)
- **Brazil:** According to Health Minister Marcelo Queiroga on August 1, Brazil intends to employ the antiviral medication Tecovirimat to treat severe instances of monkeypox, which has already claimed one life in the nation.³ In the US, tecovirimat is employed as a "compassionate care" alternative. Its effectiveness in preventing monkeypox has not yet been established.³ [\[Full Article\]](#)
- **Cyprus:** The first verified case of monkeypox in this island country in the eastern Mediterranean is a 40-year-old man, according to the Cyprus Health Ministry.¹⁷ The situation was discovered, according to the ministry, when the guy had a lab examination at the General Hospital of the Cypriot capital.¹⁷ The patient has been taken to a specially adapted ward at Nicosia General Hospital for treatment of monkeypox cases, it was stated, and has displayed "clinical signs with the monkeypox illness."¹⁷

Regional update

- **Indonesia:** Zulvikar Syambani Ulhaq, a researcher for the National Research and Innovation Agency (BRIN), pushed for the necessity for Indonesia to develop readiness against the advent of the monkeypox virus in the nation.⁴ The study emphasized the need to raise knowledge of the various monkeypox diagnosis.⁴ He claimed that physicians, such as dermatologists who specialize in skin and venereal diseases, who frequently see or treat instances of skin illnesses, need to increase monitoring.⁴ Additionally, aggressive screening in the differential diagnosis of monkeypox should be carried out with the assistance of communities and medical professionals.⁴ Strategies for preparing immunizations and therapies for those who have monkeypox are also essential.⁴ [\[Full Article\]](#)
- **Philippines:** On August 1, President Ferdinand "Bongbong" Marcos Jr. reassured the populace that the administration is closely monitoring the monkeypox virus even though the nation's first instance of the viral illness appears to have recovered.⁵ Marcos further underlined that COVID-19 is a more serious threat than monkeypox.⁵ The Chief Executive further urged the public to continue to wash their hands often and stay away from ill or persons with rashes up close.⁵ [\[Full Article\]](#)
- **Singapore:** Monkeypox case number twelve was discovered in Singapore on August 1.⁶ The 59-year-old guy is an unrelated local case with no recent travel history, according to information posted on the Ministry of Health's website on Tuesday night.⁶ He is the eighth isolated case from the area.⁶ Close contacts will now be subject to a 14-day quarantine, followed by a week of phone monitoring for symptoms.⁶ The quarantine period used to last up to 21 days.⁶ [\[Full Article\]](#)
- **Vietnam:** In light of the rising number of cases globally, Vietnam's Ministry of Health (MoH) organized an online training session to instruct medical facilities around the country on how to recognize and treat monkeypox.⁸ Despite the fact that there have been no instances of monkeypox reported in Vietnam, Deputy Minister Nguyen Truong Son emphasized the importance of making thorough preparations for reacting to the disease.⁸ According to Vietnam News Agency, he asked medical facilities to set up the essential circumstances for the disease's prevention, including clinical-based early detection and the sourcing of diagnostic tests to proactively identify instances early for prompt quarantine and treatment (VNA).⁸ [\[Full Article\]](#)
- **Japan:** 26 July 2022. On the 25th, the Tokyo Metropolitan Government announced that one person was identified as a contact person as a result of investigating the behavioral history of a man living in Tokyo who was confirmed to be infected with monkeypox for the first time in Japan. The contact person has no symptoms and there are no other contacts so far, so the person in charge of the city says, "I think it is unlikely that the infection will spread in the future." It was confirmed on the 25th that a man in his 30s living in Tokyo who had a history of staying in Europe was infected for the first time in Japan. On the 26th, the Tokyo Metropolitan Government announced that one person was identified as a contact as a result of the public health center investigating the man's behavior history. According to the city, there was a history of contact within 1 meter from the time the man returned from Europe in the middle of this month until the 25th. It is said that this contact has no symptoms such as fever or rash, but the public health center will conduct health observations until the 15th of next month. At the moment, there are no other male contacts, so the person in charge of the city says, "I think it is unlikely that the infection will spread in the future."

Vaccine update

- **Thailand:** The administration of the monkeypox vaccination to high-risk groups has been scheduled, according to the health ministry of Thailand on August 1.⁷ According to the ministry, the first shipment of 1,000 doses of the vaccine is anticipated to reach Thailand in

the second part of August.⁷ According to Opas Karnkawinpong, director-general of the Department of Disease Control, the first batch of vaccinations will be made accessible to 500 individuals, but the authorities have not yet chosen which populations to give priority to.⁷ [\[Full Article\]](#)

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