

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 623 million cases and over 6 million deaths attributed to COVID-19.
- **World Health Organization:** Over three million new cases were recorded during the week of September 19 through September 25, an 11% drop from the previous week's total new weekly cases. With slightly over 8900 fatalities recorded, the number of new weekly deaths fell by 18% from the previous week. 612 million confirmed cases and 6.5 million fatalities were recorded globally as of September 25, 2022. [\[Full Report\]](#)

Regional Update

- **Malaysia:** 10% to 15% of those who have COVID-19 continue to have symptoms even after being given the all-clear. The post-COVID phenomenon, often referred to as Long COVID, is starting to show itself in life and the workplace more than two years after the worldwide epidemic started, and with it come a number of issues.⁹ Asthma, coughing, chest aches, and fatigue are symptoms of Long COVID, according to Dr. Murugan Raj, president of the Malaysian Medical Association (MMA).⁹ It results in decreased productivity and higher medical expenses for their companies. According to Murugan, people with COVID-19 infection might continue to have symptoms for weeks or even months after they have healed from the initial infection.⁹ He claimed that people who never had the COVID-19 vaccination or who had a serious illness were more likely to eventually develop Long COVID.⁹ He pointed out that Long COVID might make it impossible to carry out everyday tasks as usual, an issue that is currently of concern to organizations, particularly small and medium firms (SMEs).⁹ [\[Full Article\]](#)
- **Philippines:** Despite an increase in cases and a classification of Metro Manila as "moderate risk" for COVID-19 transmission, the Department of Health (DOH) insisted on September 29 that the infection trends in the National Capital Region (NCR) are not solely attributable to the optional masking policy in outdoor spaces.¹⁰ At a press conference on September 29, DOH officer in charge Maria Rosario Vergeire said that Metro Manila is now at moderate risk after 13 out of the 17 areas in the capital region saw sustained increases in COVID-19 infections, with growth rates entering positive territory in the recent week.¹⁰ Hospitalizations in six cities in the capital region have also been classified as moderate risk for reaching more than half of its capacity for COVID-19 cases.¹⁰ Vergeire said that her organization has requested that patients with minor illnesses and no symptoms be transferred to isolation facilities, such as field hospitals or motels reserved for COVID-19 patients.¹⁰ [\[Full Article\]](#)

Vaccine Update

- **Singapore's** Health Sciences Authority (HSA) announced on September 29 (Thursday) that Pfizer's Comirnaty COVID-19 vaccine has been approved for children aged six months to four years old. The vaccination regimen for the primary series in this age group consists of three 3-microgram doses over at least 11 weeks. The first two doses should be administered three weeks apart, followed by a third dose to be administered at least eight weeks after the second dose. HAS said that it had carefully considered the clinical data and assessed that the benefits outweighed the risks for the use of Comirnaty for this age group.
- **Indonesia's** National Agency of Drug and Food Control (BPOM) has approved its first domestically-produced COVID-19 vaccine for emergency use for people over 18. The

Indovac vaccine has been developed by Indonesia's state-owned pharmaceutical company Bio Farma and the Texas Children's Hospital Center for Vaccine Development at Baylor College of Medicine. Results from the Phase 1 and Phase 2 clinical trials showed that the IndoVac vaccine offers good quality for its safety and efficacy. BPOM also said that it has approved the emergency use of an mRNA COVID-19 vaccine developed by China's Walvax Biotechnology, the first authorization for a China-developed COVID shot based on the novel mRNA technology. Walvax was co-developed by the Suzhou Abogen Biosciences and a Chinese military-backed institution.

- **Laos:** With the goal of immunizing 80% of the country's population by the end of this year, the Lao Ministry of Health has started a COVID-19 immunization program targeting kids as young as five.⁹ Sanong Thongsana, the minister of health for Laos, stated that the government has begun injecting Pfizer vaccine for five-year-old children after talking with international experts and taking advice from other nations as well as its own practical experience.⁹ Sanong stressed that vaccination is still the most effective medical treatment to stop the pandemic from spreading despite the negative effects COVID-19 has had on public health.⁹ [\[Full Article\]](#)

Research Update

- A new study on **Increased household transmission and immune escape of the SARS-CoV-2 Omicron compared to Delta variants**, published on September 29, 2022 in Nature Communications, found that the SARS-CoV-2 Omicron variant is much more transmissible among household members than Delta, with an estimated secondary attack rate (SAR) from thrice-vaccinated index patients of 46%, compared with 11% for Delta.¹ Norwegian Institute of Public Health researchers used contact tracing data to track the 10-day SAR of Omicron and Delta among 1,122 index patients infected with Omicron (59%) or Delta (41%) and 2,169 household contacts (60% for Omicron primary cases and 41% for Delta) from December 2021 to January 2022.¹ The estimated overall Omicron SAR was 51%, compared with 36% for Delta while the SAR among thrice-vaccinated index patients was 46%, versus 11% for Delta.¹ [\[Full Text\]](#)
- In a study, **Effectiveness of a Second COVID-19 Vaccine Booster Dose Against Infection, Hospitalization, or Death Among Nursing Home Residents**, receiving a second mRNA COVID-19 booster dose during the circulation of SARS-CoV-2 Omicron subvariants was 74% more effective at 60 days against severe COVID-19-related outcomes (including hospitalization or death) and 90% more effective against death alone compared with receiving a single booster dose in a sizable cohort of nursing home residents.⁵ [\[Full Article\]](#)
- A cohort study, **Association of Influenza Vaccination With SARS-CoV-2 Infection and Associated Hospitalization and Mortality Among Patients Aged 66 Years or Older**, involving community-dwelling adults aged 66 years or older in Ontario, Canada was carried out over 2 consecutive influenza vaccination campaigns (2019-2020 and 2020-2021) in order to estimate the association between influenza vaccination and SARS-CoV-2-associated outcomes.⁶ The researchers found that older adults who received the influenza vaccine had a lower risk of SARS-CoV-2 infection and associated hospitalization and mortality.⁶ [\[Full Text\]](#)
- According to data from the CDC, workplace COVID-19 outbreaks were nearly twice as fatal and roughly five times more frequent in California's bus and urban transportation businesses than in all other industries combined.⁷ Compared to all other industries combined, the frequency of workplace outbreaks was 3.6 times higher in the air transportation sector and 5.2 times higher in bus and urban transit.⁷ Additionally, compared to all other businesses combined, the bus and urban transport industries had 1.8 times the mortality rate.⁷ Targeted vaccination campaigns, access to antiviral medication, worker education about public health issues, better ventilation, and the use

of properly fitting masks or respirators by both employees and transit users are just a few examples of workplace protective measures.⁷ [\[Full Text\]](#)

Travel Update

- **Cambodia:** The need that visitors, both domestic and international, present their COVID-19 immunization certificates upon entry to the country is being considered by Cambodia.⁸ In light of the fact that the COVID-19 virus is no longer a concern in the Kingdom and in certain other nations, according to Prime Minister Hun Sen, the need that visitors present proof of COVID-19 vaccination at entrance ports be removed.⁸ Speaking yesterday at the Interfaith Forum Against Human Trafficking, Mr. Hun Sen said that he did not need to present his COVID-19 immunization record when traveling to the US to attend the 77th General Assembly of the United Nations in New York last week.⁸ He also said that the required COVID-19 test that was administered before to arrival had been stopped.⁸ [\[Full Article\]](#)
- **Taiwan** will end its mandatory COVID-19 quarantine for arrivals starting October 13, however, arrivals will still need to monitor their health for a seven-day period and take rapid tests. A series of other measures came into effect on Thursday, including ending polymerase chain reaction (PCR) tests for arrivals and resuming visa-free entry for citizens of all countries that previously had that status.

Travel Advisories (new update/s)

ASEAN+3 Country	Published	Foreign travelers allowed	COVID-19 vaccination requirement	Required COVID-19 testing for fully vaccinated	Required COVID-19 testing for NOT fully vaccinated	Quarantine upon arrival	Health insurance requirement	Arrival health declaration/ registration/ documents
Brunei	September 15, 2022	Yes	No	No	No	No	Minimum coverage: BN\$20,000	No
Cambodia	July 21, 2022	Yes	Yes – fully vaccinated* certificate.	No	Yes – Passengers are subject to a COVID-19 rapid antigen test upon arrival at their own expense.	No	No	No
Indonesia	September 14, 2022	Yes	Yes – fully vaccinated* certificate for 18 years old and above.	No, but may be subject to RT-PCR upon arrival	Foreign travelers who are not fully vaccinated may not be allowed to enter Indonesia or may be subjected to RT-PCR test upon arrival	No	No	Traveler is required to download and register at PeduliLindungi app before departure.
Laos	August 9, 2022	Yes	Yes – fully vaccinated* certificate for 12 years old and above.	No	Yes – Negative rapid antigen test within 48 hours before departure for 12 years old and above.	No	No	No
Malaysia	August 2, 2022	Yes	No	No	No	No	No	No
Myanmar	September 13, 2022	Yes Visa-free travel reimposed to ASEAN Member States travelers	Yes – fully vaccinated* certificate for 12 years old and above.	Yes – printed negative COVID-19 antigen test result for 12 years old and above taken within 48 hours before arrival.	Foreign travelers who are not fully vaccinated are not allowed to enter or transit Myanmar.	No	Required to obtain Myanmar Insurance	No
Philippines	September 12, 2022	Yes	Yes – fully vaccinated* with booster dose certificate for	No	Yes – Negative RT-PCR test within 48 hours before departure or negative rapid antigen test within	No	No	Traveler is required to download and register at One Health Pass app before departure for those without visa.

		12 years old and above.		24 hours before departure for 3 years old and above.				
Singapore	September 27, 2022	Yes	Yes – fully vaccinated* certificate vaccination status on the HealthHub app or TraceTogether app or acceptance letter issued by the Safe Travel Office (STO) or SGAC acknowledgment email.	No	Yes – Negative COVID-19 test within 48 hours before departure for travelers born on or before December 31, 2009.	No	No	Traveler is required to download and register at SG Arrival Card app before departure.
Thailand	September 28, 2022	Yes	Yes – fully vaccinated* certificate or certificate with at least one dose of COVID-19 vaccine for 18 years old and above until September 30, 2022.	No	Yes – Negative RT-PCR/rapid antigen test within 72 hours before departure for 18 years old above. Does not apply to travelers below 8 years old accompanied by fully vaccinated parents or guardian; passengers younger than 18 years with COVID-19 vaccination certificate with at least one dose until September 30, 2022.	No	No	No
Vietnam	May 16, 2022	Yes	No	No	No	No	No	No
China	August 31, 2022	No	-	-	-	-	-	-
Hong Kong	September 27, 2022	Yes	Yes – fully vaccinated*	Yes – Negative rapid antigen test or RT-	Foreign travelers who are not fully	Travelers are subject to medical	No	No

		certificate for 18 years old and above. Passengers between 12 and 17 years old with COVID-19 vaccination certificate with at least one dose of Pfizer at least 14 days before arrival. Passengers younger than 12 years accompanied by a fully vaccinated parent/guardian.	PCR test within 24 hours before departure and uploaded at https://www.chp.gov.hk/hdf/ Subject to COVID-19 test upon arrival.	vaccinated are not allowed to enter or transit Hong Kong.	screening for 3 days.			
Macao	August 12, 2022	Yes	Yes – fully vaccinated* certificate for 12 years old and above.	Yes – Negative RT-PCR test within 48 hours before departure.	Foreign travelers who are not fully vaccinated are not allowed to enter or transit Macao.	Travelers are subject to medical screening upon arrival and quarantine for up to 10 days.	No	No
Japan	September 29, 2022	Yes	Yes – fully vaccinated with booster dose* certificate for 18 years old and above.	No	Yes – Negative RT-PCR test within 72 hours before departure for 6 or 7 years old and above, depending on the school starting age in the country where they reside. Travelers could be subject to COVID-19 test upon arrival.	Travelers could be subject to quarantine for 3 days.	No	Traveler is required to download and register at MySOS app before departure.
South Korea	September 23, 2022	Yes	No	Yes – Passengers are subject to a COVID-	Yes – Passengers are subject to a COVID-	No	No	Upload test result on Q-code website .

			19 RT-PCR test within 1 day upon arrival.	19 RT-PCR test within 1 day upon arrival.			
Taiwan	September 29, 2022	Yes	No	No	Travelers are subject to quarantine for 3 days. Travelers must have confirmed booking of quarantine facility or hotel.	No	Traveler is required to download and register at Quarantine System for Entry Form before departure.

- Reference: IATA Travel Centre
- *Fully vaccinated – at least 14 days from 2nd dose for two-dose vaccine or 14 days from a single dose vaccine upon arrival.

Cases and Deaths as of 30 September 2022

- As of 30 September 2022 (2PM, GMT+8), worldwide, there were **623,536,992** confirmed cases, including **6,558,679** deaths. Globally, Case Fatality Rate (CFR) was **1.1%**.
- 88,779,329 confirmed cases** of COVID-19 have been reported in the **ASEAN +3** countries including **34,472,669 cases** in the ASEAN region and **54,306,660 cases** in the PLUS THREE countries.
- The Case Fatality Rate in the **ASEAN +3** region is range between **0.1 to 3.1%**.
- There have been no tests reported in the last 14 days in the **ASEAN** Region.

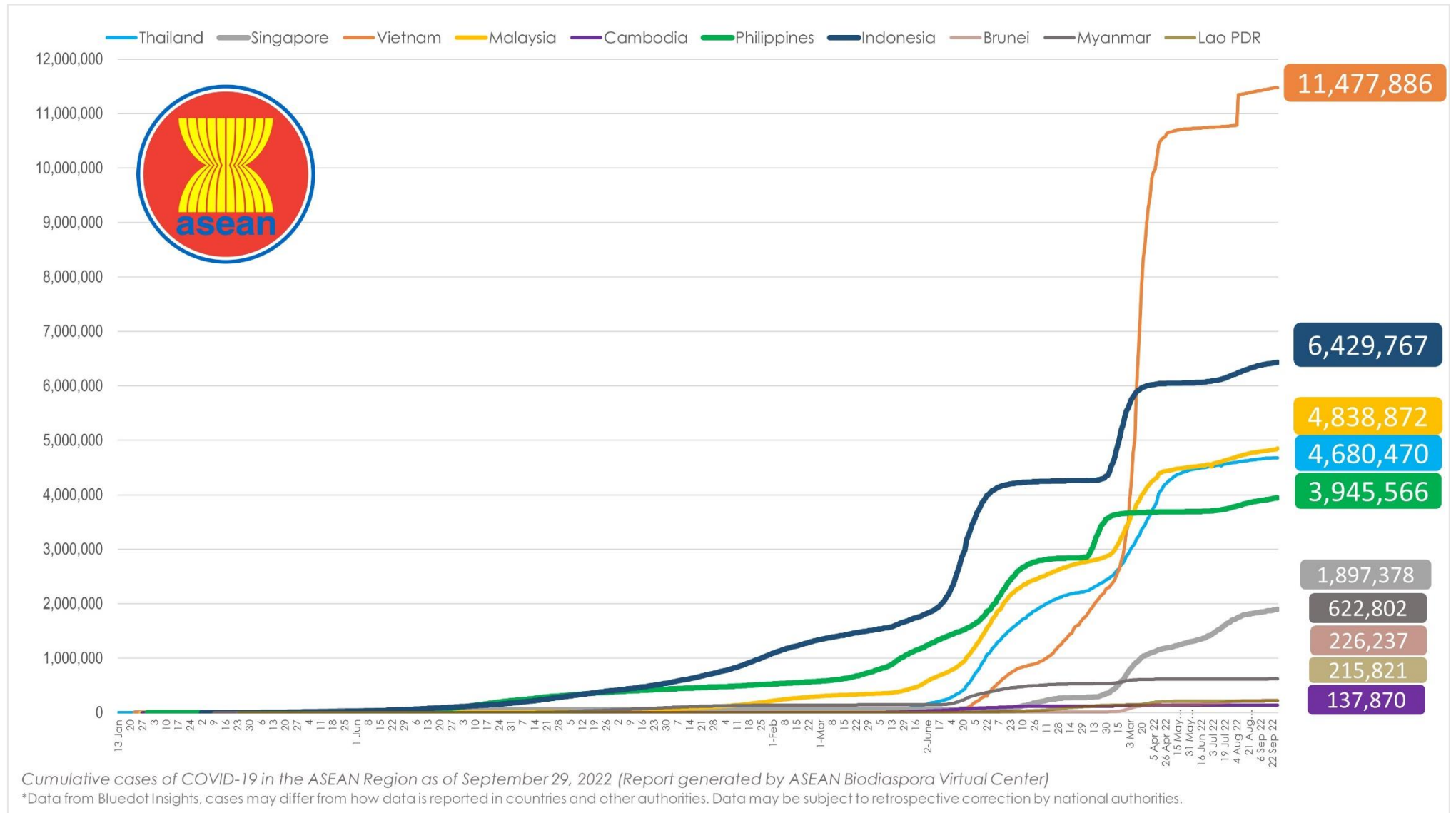
REGION	COUNTRY	FIRST CONFIRMED CASE(S)	LATEST REPORT ON CONFIRMED CASE(S)	TOTAL CONFIRMED CASES	NEW CASES	TOTAL DEATHS	NEW DEATHS	CUMULATIVE CASES/ 100,000	CUMULATIVE VACCINATED	CUMULATIVE FULLY VACCINATED	CUMULATIVE BOOSTERED	FULLY VACCINATED/ 100
ASEAN REGION	Brunei	10 Mar 20	29-Sep-22	226,237	-	225	-	52,214	449,769	444,757	335,738	99.9
	Cambodia	27 Jan 20	29-Sep-22	137,870	9	3,056	-	836	15,186,867	14,535,925	10,131,597	87.6
	Indonesia	02 Mar 20	29-Sep-22	6,429,767	2,003	158,093	17	2,376	203,965,188	170,603,677	62,453,196	62.3
	Lao PDR	24 Mar 20	29-Sep-22	215,821	-	758	-	3,010	5,888,649	5,222,417		70.3
	Malaysia	25 Jan 20	29-Sep-22	4,838,872	1,867	36,369	4	15,145	28,101,509	27,508,318	16,737,644	81.9
	Myanmar	23 Mar 20	29-Sep-22	622,802	379	19,458	1	1,152	34,777,314	27,545,329	2,227,351	51.2
	Philippines	30 Jan 20	29-Sep-22	3,945,566	2,413	62,916	34	3,649	77,470,954	72,853,661	18,779,611	64.0
	Singapore	23 Jan 20	29-Sep-22	1,897,378	3,454	1,617	-	33,267	5,024,501	5,005,097	4,301,707	91.8
	Thailand	13 Jan 20	29-Sep-22	4,680,470	637	32,758	10	6,722	57,001,036	53,476,713	32,096,300	74.7
	Vietnam	23 Jan 20	29-Sep-22	11,477,886	978	43,148	1	11,899	89,880,152	84,072,281	69,805,302	86.3
ASEAN COUNTRIES				34,472,669	11,740	358,398	67	130,271	517,745,939	461,268,175	216,868,446	
ASEAN PLUS THREE	South Korea	20-Jan-20	29-Sep-22	24,740,635	30,846	28,364	46	47,846	45,113,363	44,678,343	41,032,635	86.2
	Japan	16-Jan-20	29-Sep-22	21,135,616	8,102	44,055	9	16,739	104,212,652	102,831,964	116,570,087	82.5
	China	31-Dec-19	29-Sep-22	8,430,409	49,259	26,388	58	51,636	1,331,970,451	1,298,263,432	831,482,116	87.7
	PLUS THREE COUNTRIES				54,306,660	88,207	98,807	113	116,221	1,481,296,466	1,445,773,739	989,084,838
ASEAN +3				88,779,329	99,947	457,205	180	246,493	1,999,042,405	1,907,041,914	1,205,953,284	

- 534,757,663 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	12,904,151	1,440	258,580	10	251,471	402,545,093	318,873,451	50,998,136
AMERICAS	181,360,530	26,157	2,873,808	192	1,179,771	823,992,422	722,111,432	472,896,277
ASIA PACIFIC	85,373,598	2,797	750,118	32	473,466	1,443,614,657	1,333,909,314	372,396,443
EUROPE	232,685,642	219,667	1,980,951	485	1,995,672	565,962,047	537,219,688	353,522,167
MIDDLE EAST	22,433,742	3,119	238,017	11	211,137	143,855,434	129,201,794	59,301,315
TOTAL	534,757,663	253,180	6,101,474	730	4,111,517	3,379,969,653	3,041,315,679	1,309,114,338

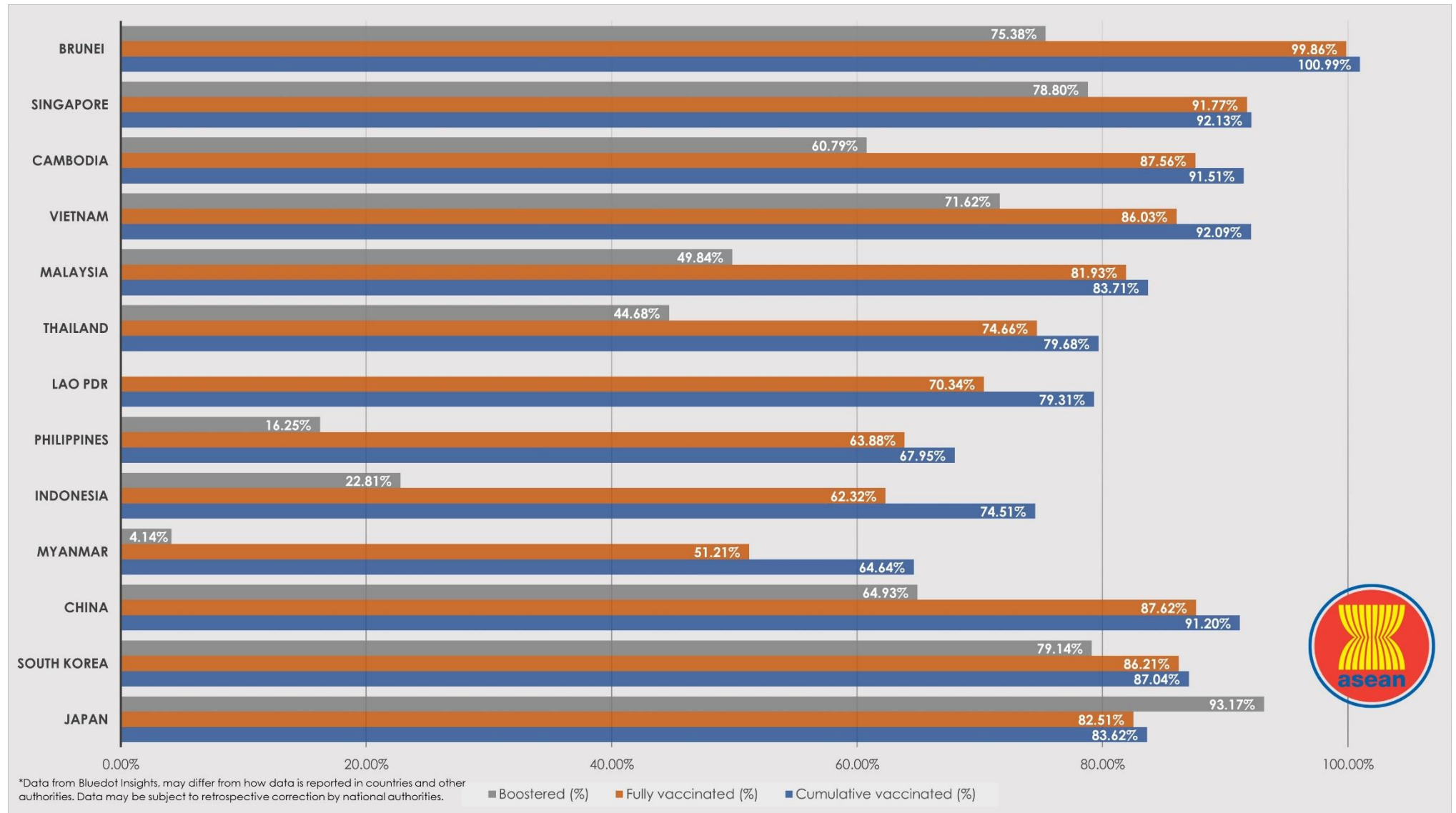
COVID-19 Epi curve among ASEAN Countries:

From January 1, 2021 to September 29, 2022




COVID-19 Vaccination Status

as of 29 September 2022



COVID-19 Outlook Assessment

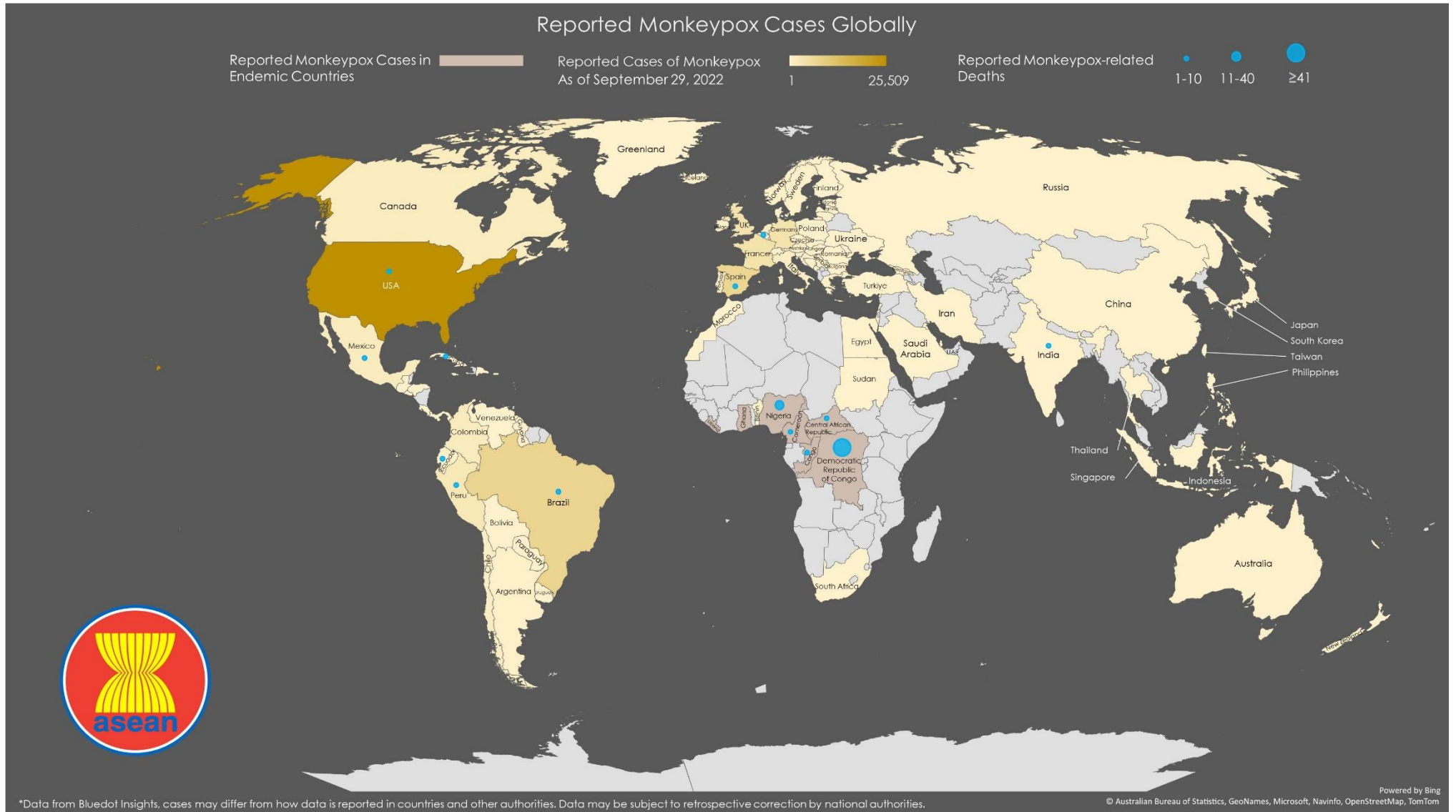
as of 27 September 2022

 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	≥90.0/61.1	Unknown	0.04	Unknown	31.5/100
Indonesia	65.3/22.8	Unknown	0.65	Unknown	54.2/100
Lao PDR	77.3/ND	Unknown	0.53	Unknown	61.6/100
Malaysia	84.4/49.8	0.01%/day	5.82	Unknown	51.8/100
Myanmar	52.1/4.1	Unknown	0.63	Unknown	69.1/100
Philippines	70.5/16.5	Unknown	2.12	Unknown	55.4/100
Singapore	88.8/78.8	0.01%/day	43.83	Unknown	58.9/100
Thailand	77.7/44.8	0%/day	0.88	Unknown	31.5/100
Vietnam	≥90.0/71.6	Unknown	1.66	Unknown	43.5/100
Japan	81.3/≥93.4%	0%/day	32.17	Unknown	42.9/100
South Korea	86.5/79.2	0%/day	57.13	Unknown	38.1/100
China	≥90.0/56.5	Unknown	0.015	Unknown	84.5/100

All of the countries have achieved the estimated high-risk population fully vaccinated of ≥90.0% except China with 35.3%.
 All of the countries have achieved the Population vaccinated/ day (7-day average) except Vietnam.

Monkeypox Cases Reported Globally

as of September 29, 2022



Monkeypox: Highlights and Situation Overview

- As of 30 September 2022 (2PM, GMT+8), worldwide, there were **71,149** confirmed cases, including **158** deaths. Globally, Case Fatality Rate (CFR) was **0.22%**.
- **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%**.
- **71,099 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%
Plus Three	China	5	-	-	0.00%
Plus Three	Japan	5	-	-	0.00%
ASEAN	Philippines	4	-	-	0.00%
Plus Three	Taiwan	4	-	-	0.00%
Plus Three	South Korea	3	-	-	0.00%
ASEAN	Indonesia	1	-	-	0.00%
Plus Three	Hong Kong (SAR)	1	-	-	0.00%
ASEAN+3 Total		50	-	-	0.00%

Top 5 countries with most monkeypox cases globally

Region	Country	Total Cases	New Cases	Deaths	Case Fatality Rate
Americas	USA	25,509	306	2	0.01%
Americas	Brazil	7,445	240	2	0.03%
Europe	Spain	7,149	66	3	0.04%
Europe	France	3,970	28	-	0.00%
Europe	United Kingdom	3,635	50	-	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*	4,438	298	144	3.24%
AMERICAS	41,830	878	8	0.02%
ASIA PACIFIC	159	3	1	0.63%
EUROPE	24,140	238	5	0.02%
MIDDLE EAST	294	0	-	0.00%
TOTAL	71,099	1,417	158	0.23%

Global Update

- **PAHO:** In order to reduce new cases of monkeypox and put an end to the outbreak in the region, the Pan American Health Organization (PAHO) is urging countries in the Americas, including those in the Caribbean, to step up their response efforts while placing a priority on detection, surveillance, and community engagement.⁴ According to PAHO, there are still about 40,000 cases of monkeypox in the Americas.⁴ Dr. Espinal claimed that under- or lack of-reporting might raise this figure as affected individuals would not always seek medical attention or report a case to authorities.⁴ When the first incidence of monkeypox was reported in Argentina in May 2022, diagnostic expertise throughout Latin America and the Caribbean was scarce.⁴ Since then, PAHO has given laboratory staff with PCR detection equipment and training at workshops held in Brazil, Mexico, and Jamaica.⁴ [[Full Article](#)]
- **USA:** As a result of the CDC's switch to a Pre-Exposure Prophylaxis (PrEP) policy, at-risk individuals will now be qualified to get the vaccination before to exposure, according to Wallensky.³ That will guarantee that people who are most susceptible to monkeypox receive the shot prior to exposure.³ The immunization against monkeypox was previously available to those with occupations that put them at risk of exposure, such as healthcare workers.³ Now, a number of additional at-risk populations will be eligible even though they may not have been exposed to the virus.³ According to the CDC, these people include transgender or nonbinary people who in the previous six months had multiple sexual partners or were identified as having an STD.³ They also include gay, bisexual, and other men who have sex with men as well as gay, bisexual, and other men who have sex with men.³ [[Full Article](#)]

Vaccine Update

- **USA:** According to a study released on September 28 by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention that provided a brief glimpse of the monkeypox vaccine's effectiveness, Americans who received a single dose of the vaccine were significantly less likely to contract the virus over the summer than those who did not.² The results, which were gathered from 32 states between the end of July and the beginning of September, were some of the first government statistics to offer an indication of how well the Jynneos vaccine, the main injection being used to address the monkeypox outbreak, protects infections.² According to the data, those who had not gotten a vaccination were 14 times more likely to get the disease than those who had.² [[Full Article](#)]

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