

COVID-19 Situational Report in the ASEAN Region

ASEAN BioDiaspora Virtual Center (ABVC)

as of April 6, 2022



Canada



COVID-19: Highlights and Situation Overview

Global Update

- Worldwide, there have been over 494 million cases, almost 6.2 million deaths attributed to COVID-19, with a case fatality rate (CFR) of 1.3%.
- According to the World Health Organization's Weekly Epidemiological Update, after the increase observed during the first half of March 2022, the number of new COVID-19 cases has decreased for a second consecutive week, with a 16% decline during the week of 28 March through 3 April 2022 as compared to the previous week. The number of new weekly deaths also decreased sharply (-43%) as compared to the previous week, when an artificial spike in deaths was observed. Across the six WHO regions, over nine million new cases and over 26 000 new deaths were reported. All regions reported decreasing trends both in the number of new weekly cases and new weekly deaths. As of 3 April 2022, just over 489 million cases and over 6 million deaths have been reported globally. These trends should be interpreted with caution as several countries are progressively changing their COVID-19 testing strategies, resulting in lower overall numbers of tests performed and consequently lower numbers of cases detected. The SARS-CoV-2 virus continues to evolve. Given the current high level of transmission worldwide, it is likely that further variants, including recombinants, will continue to emerge. Recombination is common among coronaviruses and is regarded as an expected mutational event. WHO is tracking recombinant variants, both recombinants of Delta (AY.4) and Omicron (BA.1) (e.g., XD Pango lineage), as well as recombinants of BA.1 and BA.2 (e.g., XE Pango lineage). The XD recombinant is being tracked as a VUM by WHO, although its spread appears to have remained limited at present (26 sequences in GISAID). Currently available evidence does not suggest that it is more transmissible than other circulating variants. The XE recombinant is being tracked as part of the Omicron variant. This recombinant was first detected in the United Kingdom on 19 January and approximately 600 sequences have been reported and confirmed as of 29 March 2022. Early estimates suggest that XE has a community growth rate advantage of 1.1 (which represents a 10% transmission advantage) as compared to BA.2; however, this finding requires further confirmation. The evolution rate and the risk of the emergence of new variants, including recombinants, is still very high. The implementation of continuous, comprehensive and representative community sampling and sequencing strategies, alongside timely sharing of data by Member States, remain critical for tracking and understanding the behavior of SARS-CoV-2. WHO continues to closely monitor and assess the public health risk associated with recombinant variants, alongside other SARS-CoV-2 variants, and will provide updates as further evidence becomes available.
- South Korea records 270,000 daily new cases on April 6 an over three hundred thousand cases less than the previous week according to KDCA, and the country is hopeful that has already passed the peak of the worst of Omicron surge. However, authorities are still not letting their guards down against the virus and putting all their efforts to prevent resurgence. Hospital bed occupancy rate for seriously ill COVID-19 patients in Korea is at 65.6%, a rate which is still manageable within the country's capacity. Korea's main goal is vaccinating more citizens as authorities are considering to inoculate more population with second booster or fourth dose of COVID-19 vaccine. Currently, Korea is administering fourth dose to those who are immunocompromised, elderly aged 60 and above, and people at high-risk venues like nursing homes.

- A COVID-19 summit in March which is supposed to be hosted by USA and co-hosted by Germany has been postponed. The summit was rescheduled in April due to the conflict in Ukraine and Russia. The administration of Biden is expected to make an announcement including financial support and distribution of vaccinations, therapeutics, and helping in strengthening of health systems in low-income countries.

Regional Update

- Philippines: As vaccination coverage of children in the Philippines has increased, the Department of Education (DepEd) in partnership with the Department of Health (DOH), the United States Agency for International Development (USAID), and other stake holders on April 5, launched the BIDA Kid in Pasay City to ensure safe resumption of in-person classes in the country. The push of in-person classes would help in cognitive and social development of learners while observing health protocols against COVID-19. Currently, more than 5.8 million students have been vaccinated in the country, while over 90% of teaching and non-teaching personnel have been vaccinated according to DepEd. United States has already provided more than PH₱1.9 billion in aid to COVID-19 response in the country.
- Singapore: More than 8,845 cases of COVID-19 in Singapore were found to be reinfection since November 2021, Health Minister Ong Ye Kung said on April 5. Ong said that majority of the reinfected cases were mild, aged below 60, and only one patient required admission to intensive care unit (ICU).

Vaccine Update

- Malaysia: More than 33,000 children aged five to 11 in Malaysia have been full vaccinated against COVID-19 under the National COVID-19 Immunisation Programme for Children (PICKids). 1,353,774 children of same age group or 38.1% of their population have had at least one dose of vaccine according to the COVIDNOW. A total of 15,876,357 individuals or 67.5% of their adult population have received a booster dose, while 22,954,326 individuals or 97.6% of their adult population have been fully vaccinated, and 23,231,749 individuals or 98.8% of their adult population have received at least a single dose of COVID-19 vaccine. For adolescents aged between 12 and 17, a total of 2,854,230 individuals or 91.7% of their population have completed the vaccination and 2,950,267 individuals or 94.8% have received the first dose of the vaccine. A total of 22,807 doses of the vaccine were dispensed yesterday, with 2,501 given as a first dose, 8,670 as second dose and 11,636 as a booster dose, bringing the cumulative number of doses administered under the PICKids to 69,042,067.
- The Philippine government is gearing up for the donation of COVID-19 vaccines to Myanmar, Malacanang said on April 5. A letter was already sent to the president of the Philippines for the approval of donation of vaccines to Myanmar. Around 27 million doses of COVID-19 vaccines are about to expire in July 2022 in the Philippines. The government of the Philippines guaranteed the public that vaccination in the country is ramped up to make sure that vaccines are available and accessible.

Travel Advisories (new update/s)

- Brunei: The public is optimistic with the reopening of borders of Brunei to air travel to 11 Travel Green List countries which started on April 1, and expecting to boost their economy. On the other hand, they are also bracing for a transitional period before a full resumption of

activities as people will be wary at the start. The authorities constantly remind the public to be still mindful of health, safety, and security protocols as they loosen up COVID-19 restrictions, these include wearing of masks at all time and avoiding joining unnecessary gatherings while being socially responsible.

- Myanmar Airways International (MAI) is planning to open special flights to Bangkok (Thailand), Singapore, Guangzhou (China), Kolkata (India), and Delhi (India) in April. A temporary restriction flights will be set until April 16, and regular flights will be allowed to resume on April 17 in accordance with COVID-19 immigration requirements. The government said that heir country needs to boost their international tourism industry to attract more foreign tourists in Myanmar and to make it easier for Myanmar citizens to be back in their country.
- Singapore: All travelers, except short-term visitors, arriving in Singapore from any country or territory can now sign up their pre-departure COVID-19 test requirements through a virtually supervised antigen rapid test (ART). Beforehand, not all countries were able to use the virtually supervised ART option. Short-term visitors such as tourists will have to present COVID-19 test results from an overseas testing center. The move to expand virtually supervised ART to eligible travelers arriving from all countries will make return trips more convenient and cost effective. The Ministry of Health said last month that it plans to remove predeparture test requirements in the coming weeks.
- Thailand: The government of Thailand has further relaxed its entry rules for tourists who have been fully vaccinated. Foreign tourists are no longer required to undergo RT-PCR test before their departure; however, they still need to be tested through RT-PCR upon arrival and wait for their results at their hotel. Furthermore, they need to undergo antigen test on the fifth day of their stay and send the result to the authorities through an app. Foreign tourists are also required to have a health insurance with minimum coverage of US\$20,000 and they also need to apply for the Thailand Passport. These requirements may be removed in June depending on the situation of COVID-19 in the country.

Cases and Deaths as of 06 April 2022

- As of 06 April 2022 (2PM, GMT+8), worldwide, there were **493,730,350** confirmed cases, including **6,179,720** deaths. Globally, Case Fatality Rate (CFR) was **1.3**.
- 52,230,579 confirmed cases** of COVID-19 have been reported in the **ASEAN +3** countries including **29,836,573 cases** in the ASEAN region and **22,394,006 cases** in the PLUS THREE countries, with CFR of **0.8**.

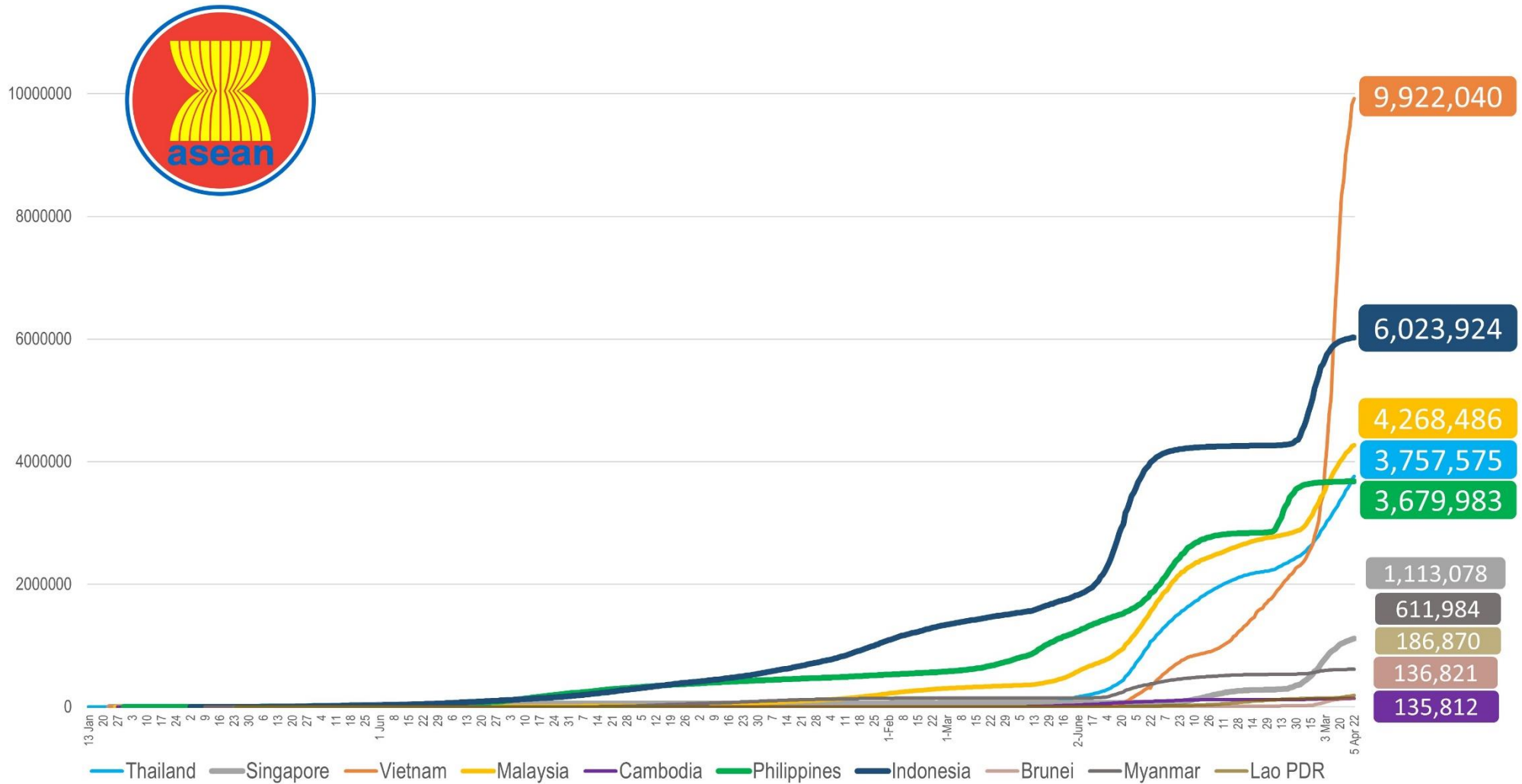
REGION	COUNTRY	FIRST CONFIRMED CASE(S)	LATEST REPORT ON CONFIRMED CASE(S)	TOTAL CONFIRMED CASES	NEW CASES	TOTAL DEATHS	NEW DEATHS	CASE FATALITY RATE	CUMULATIVE CASES/ 100,000	NUMBER OF TESTS LAST 14 DAYS/ 100,000	CUMULATIVE VACCINATED	CUMULATIVE FULLY VACCINATED	CUMULATIVE BOOSTERED	FULLY VACCINATED / 100
ASEAN REGION	Brunei	10 Mar 20	05-Apr-22	136,821	447	214	1	0.2%	31,578		408,026	405,095	260,375	91.8
	Cambodia	27 Jan 20	05-Apr-22	135,812	30	3,055	1	2.2%	824	92	14,829,078	14,042,459	9,156,072	82.9
	Indonesia	02 Mar 20	05-Apr-22	6,023,924	2,282	155,421	72	2.6%	2,226	-	196,880,116	160,107,111	24,046,339	57.9
	Lao PDR	24 Mar 20	05-Apr-22	186,870	2,272	682	-	0.4%	2,606	197	5,642,457	4,543,861		61.6
	Malaysia	25 Jan 20	05-Apr-22	4,268,486	12,017	35,160	33	0.8%	13,322	4,239	27,532,626	25,832,699	15,862,983	78.8
	Myanmar	23 Mar 20	05-Apr-22	611,984	58	19,433	-	3.2%	1,132	282	27,030,964	21,934,436		40.0
	Philippines	30 Jan 20	05-Apr-22	3,679,983	222	59,370	5	1.6%	3,404	-	70,173,137	66,230,305	12,208,931	59.6
	Singapore	23 Jan 20	05-Apr-22	1,113,078	3,334	1,283	7	0.1%	19,515		5,005,722	4,964,989	3,854,882	91.0
	Thailand	13 Jan 20	05-Apr-22	3,757,575	21,088	25,606	91	0.7%	5,397	-	55,622,111	50,283,704	24,038,667	71.9
	Vietnam	23 Jan 20	05-Apr-22	9,922,040	54,995	42,681	39	0.4%	10,286	1,414	79,947,189	77,754,108	45,443,077	79.2
ASEAN COUNTRIES				29,836,573	96,745	342,905	249	1.1%			483,071,426	426,098,767	134,871,326	
ASEAN PLUS THREE	South Korea	20-Jan-20	05-Apr-22	14,267,401	265,995	17,662	209	0.1%	27,592	10,799	44,978,020	44,502,007	32,828,372	86.74
	Japan	16-Jan-20	05-Apr-22	6,766,465	44,962	28,215	64	0.4%	5,359	1,125	102,663,073	100,768,887	54,463,985	79.94
	China	31-Dec-19	05-Apr-22	1,360,140	4,770	13,840	87	1.0%	15,821	49,647	1,302,117,490	1,265,440,521	686,277,719	79.7
	PLUS THREE COUNTRIES				22,394,006	315,727	59,717	360	0.3%			1,449,758,583	1,410,711,415	773,570,076
ASEAN +3				52,230,579	412,472	402,622	609	0.8%			1,932,830,009	1,836,810,182	908,441,402	

- 441,499,771 confirmed cases** of COVID-19 have been reported in **5 continents** (other than ASEAN +3 countries):

CONTINENT	TOTAL CONFIRMED CASES	NEW CASES	TOTAL DEATHS	NEW DEATHS	CASE FATALITY RATE	CUMULATIVE CASES/ 100,000	NUMBER OF TESTS LAST 14 DAYS/ 100,000	CUMULATIVE VACCINATED	CUMULATIVE FULLY VACCINATED	CUMULATIVE BOOSTERED
AFRICA	11,771,691	2,359	252,948	21	1.1	199,740	6,733	280,975,748	210,672,890	19,068,535
AMERICAS	152,992,578	10,340	2,727,855	55	0.8	857,436	27,917	791,711,499	693,395,046	284,540,826
ASIA PACIFIC	69,592,636	77,406	727,676	160	0.2	278,740	14,932	1,386,536,381	1,185,794,034	102,335,333
EUROPE	186,588,320	496,726	1,836,863	2,126	0.6	1,671,149	324,943	553,365,725	524,885,674	296,341,700
MIDDLE EAST	20,554,546	13,624	231,756	42	0.3	186,269	61,043	139,966,201	124,852,755	53,403,932
TOTAL	441,499,771	600,455	5,777,098	2,404	1.3%			3,152,555,554	2,739,600,399	755,690,326

COVID-19 Epi curve among ASEAN Countries:

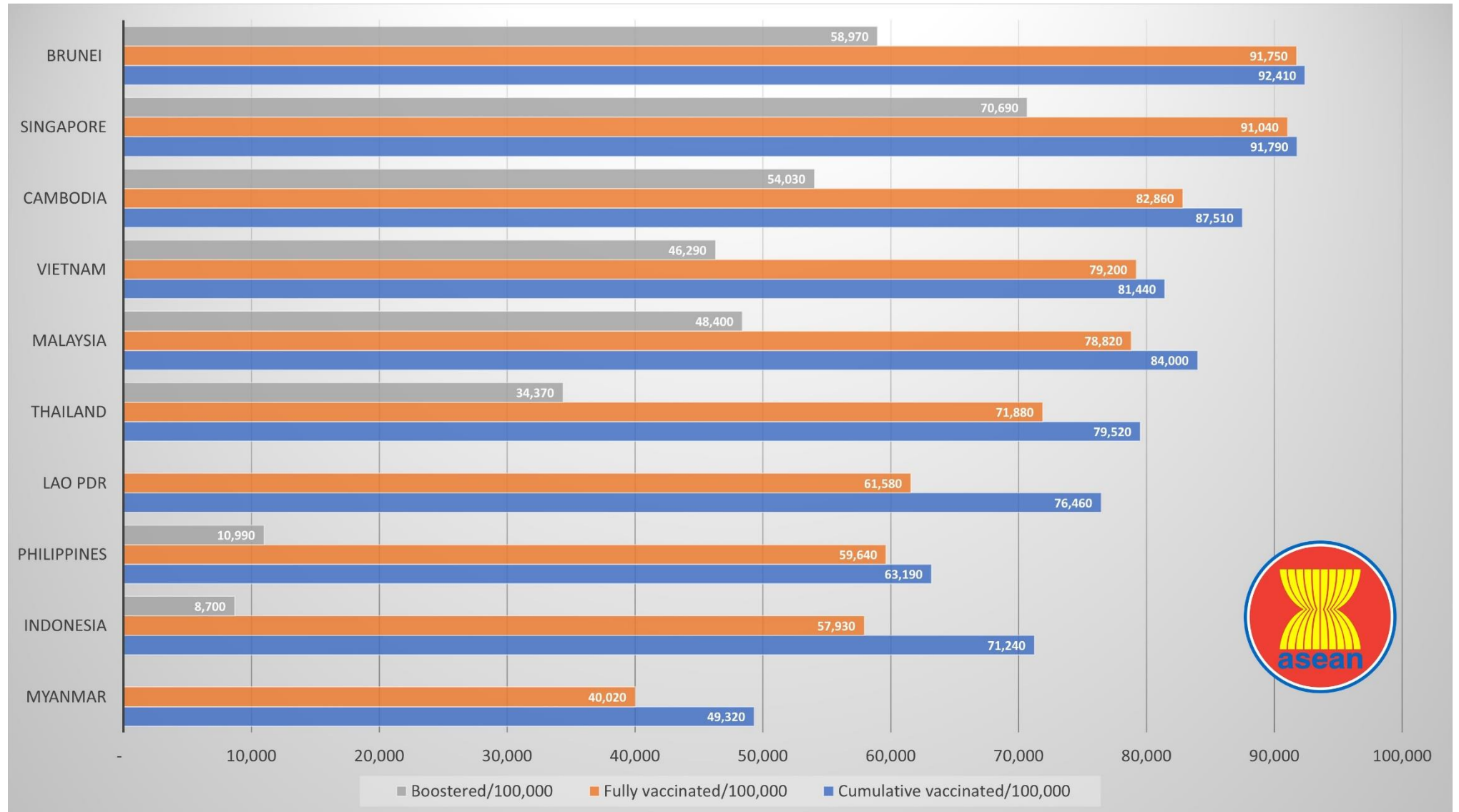
From January 1, 2021 to April 5, 2022



Cumulative cases of COVID-19 in the ASEAN Region as of April 5, 2022 (Report generated by ASEAN Biodiaspora Virtual Center)


COVID-19 Vaccination Status

as of 05 April 2022



COVID-19 Outlook Assessment

as of 03 April 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)	
	% of High risk population fully vaccinated	Population vaccinated/day (7-day average)	% of Total population fully vaccinated / boosted	Population vaccinated/day (7-day average)	Daily cases/100,000	Test positivity last 14 days	Containment and health index score - Oxford COVID-19 Government Response Tracker (OxCGRT)	Change over the past 30 days
Brunei	≥90.0	Unknown	≥90.0/57.9	Unknown	137.81	Unknown	67.9/100	0.0
Cambodia	≥90.0	0%/day	89.1/54.0	0.08%/day	0.23	4.3	37.5/100	0.0
Indonesia	≥90.0	0%/day	61.0/8.3	0.17%/day	1.05	11.3	55.7/100	-6.0
Lao PDR	≥90.0	0%/day	66.2/ND	0.29%/day	30.57	100	78.3/100	0.0
Malaysia	≥90.0	0%/day	79.3/48.4	0.01%/day	46.62	13.9	58.0/100	0.0
Myanmar	≥90.0	0%/day	41.5/ND	Unknown	0.23	1.8	77.7/100	0.0
Philippines	≥90.0	0%/day	63.9/10.9	0.22%/day	0.32	2.4	82.4/100	0.0
Singapore	≥90.0	0%/day	88.1/70.7	0.04%/day	94.53	Unknown	74.4/100	0.0
Thailand	≥90.0	0%/day	73.0/33.9	0.02%/day	34.2	Unknown	53.3/100	0.0
Vietnam	88.0	0.06%/day	83.9/46.3	0.06%/day	126.70	100	71.4/100	-1.8



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