

COVID-19 Epidemiological Bulletin, Afghanistan



World Health Organization

Epidemiological Week 1 (2 – 8 Jan 2022)

Highlights of the week

As of week 01, 2022, **829,373** samples have been tested for COVID-19 by both public and private laboratories. Of this number, **497,962 (60.1%)** samples were tested through public confirmatory laboratories.

In week 01, a total of **2,184** samples tested in public labs, of which **255** samples tested positive for COVID-19 (percent positivity **11.6**) and **12** new deaths were reported. This is an **10%** increase in cases and **71%** increase in deaths compared to week 52, 2021 (**Table 1**).

Cumulatively, **158,381** confirmed cases (overall percent positivity **31.8**) of COVID-19 with **7,373** associated deaths (**CFR=4.6%**) have been reported in Afghanistan since Feb 2020.

The country doesn't have the capacity to test for variants (Omicron) and discussion are in place to send the samples to WHO reference lab for further genomic studies.

Table 1: Afghanistan's COVID-19 epidemiological overview, as of week 1, 2022

| Indicator | New number in week 01 | % of change compared to week 52 | Cumulative number |
|--|-----------------------|---------------------------------|-------------------|
| # of COVID-19 samples tested in both public & private labs | 5,777 | -5% | 829,373 |
| # of COVID-19 samples tested in public labs | 2,184 | -5% | 497,962 |
| # of COVID-19 lab confirmed cases (Public Labs) | 225 | 10% | 158,381 |
| # Recovered/discharged | 119 | -41% | 145,794 (92%) |
| # of COVID-19 associated death | 12 | 71% | 7,373 (CFR=4.6) |

Table 2: COVID-19 cases by region, as of week 1, 2022

| Region | Epi-curve | # of new cases in week 01 (%) | % of change compared to week 52 | Cumulative number (%) |
|--------------|-----------|-------------------------------|---------------------------------|-----------------------|
| Central East | | 83 (37%) | 232% | 44,300 (28%) |
| Central West | | 7 (3%) | -73% | 13,144 (8.3%) |
| East | | 16 (7%) | -30% | 17,338 (10.9%) |
| North | | 3 (1%) | NA | 13,716 (8.7%) |
| North East | | 0 (0%) | 0% | 17,287 (10.9%) |
| South | | 83 (37%) | -27% | 17,361 (11%) |
| South East | | 8 (4%) | NA | 10,595 (6.7%) |
| West | | 25 (11%) | 56% | 24,640 (15.6%) |
| National | | 225 (100%) | 10% | 158,381 (100%) |

In week 1, 2022, the highest number of COVID-19 cases were reported in the South and Central East (**83** cases and **83** cases, respectively) (**Table 2**). The top five provinces that reported positive cases include Kandahar (**60** cases), Kapisa (**47** cases), Kabul (**27** cases), Herat (**25** cases), and Nimroz (**12** cases).

Overall, Afghanistan has reported **4,707** confirmed cases and **96** associated deaths among healthcare workers (HCWs) since 2020. To date, Herat, Kabul, Nangarhar, Balkh and Kunar reported the highest number of positive cases among HCWs.

Figure 1: Number of PCR tests conducted and 7-day moving average of percent positivity, as of 8 Jan 2022

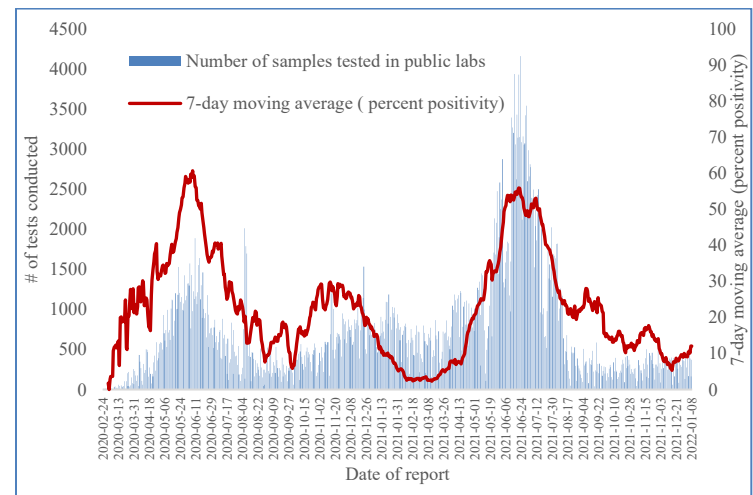


Table 3: COVID-19 Epi-curve for the last 8 weeks by region, as of week 1, 2022

| Region | Epi-curve | Cumulative cases % |
|--------------|-----------|--------------------|
| Central East | | 12.7 |
| Central West | | 6.8 |
| East | | 10.2 |
| North | | 1.5 |
| North East | | 3.0 |
| South | | 39.7 |
| South East | | 5.2 |
| West | | 20.9 |
| National | | 1,773 (100%) |

Figure 2: Epidemiological curve of COVID-19 cases in Afghanistan, as of 8 Jan 2022

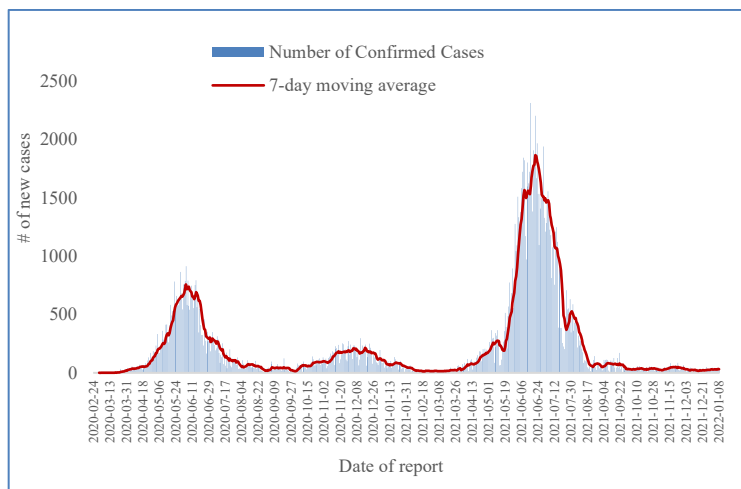


Figure 3: Epidemiological curve of COVID-19 associated deaths, as of 8 Jan 2022

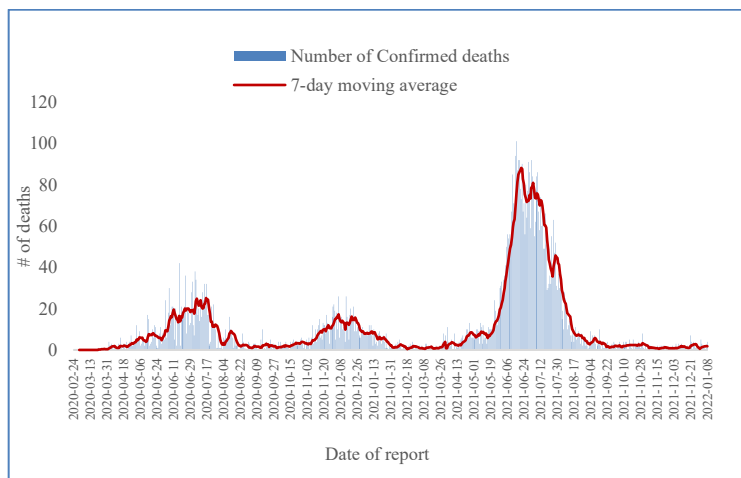
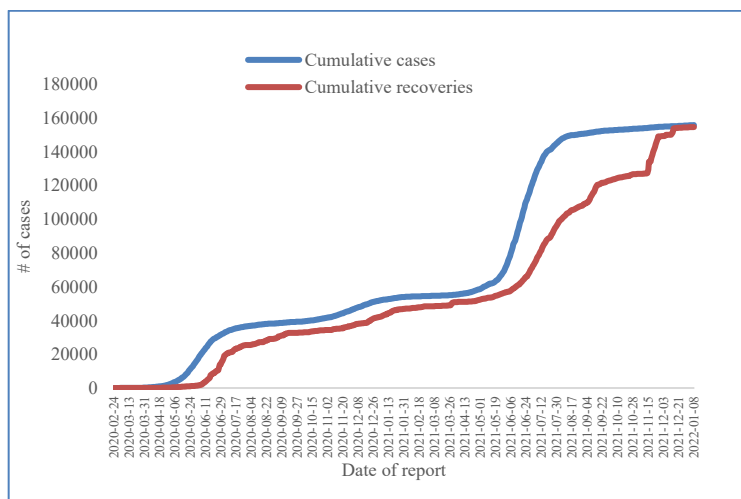
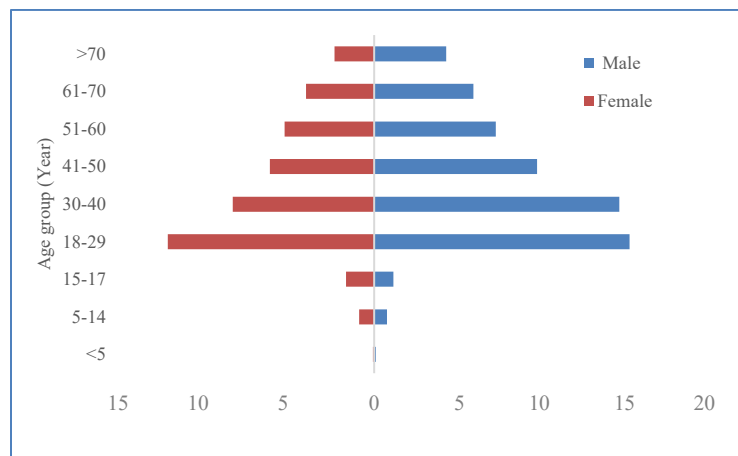


Figure 4: Cumulative COVID-19 confirmed cases and recoveries, as of 8 Jan 2022



Of the confirmed COVID-19 cases, **58%** have been reported among males and **42%** among females. Majority of cases have been reported among those aged 18-40 years.

Figure 5: Age & Sex distribution percentage of COVID-19 cases, 24 Feb 2020 to 8 Jan 2022



Of the COVID-19 associated deaths, **65%** were reported among males and **35%** among females. The trend indicates that deaths increased by age group, with most reported among Over 70 years old.

Figure 6: Age & Sex distribution percentage of COVID-19 associated deaths, 24 Feb 2020 to 8 Jan 2022

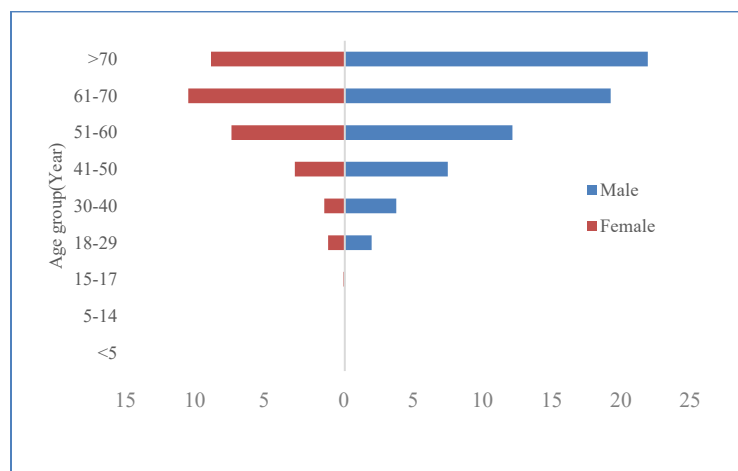
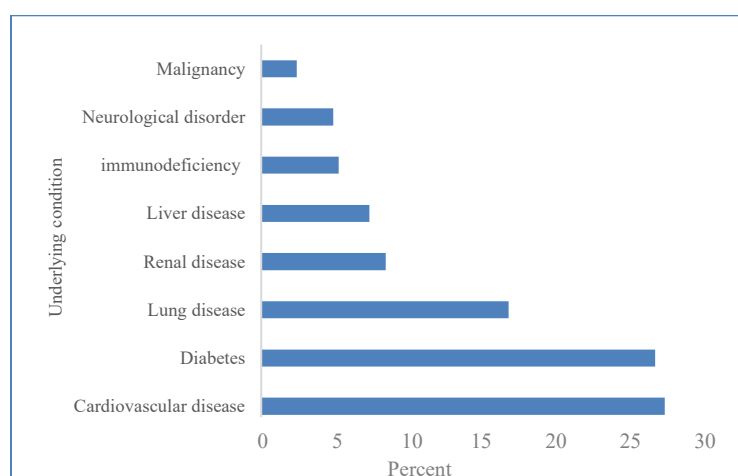


Figure 7: Proportion underlying conditions among COVID-19 associated deaths, as of 8 Jan 2022(n=1574)



COVID-19 Vaccination highlights

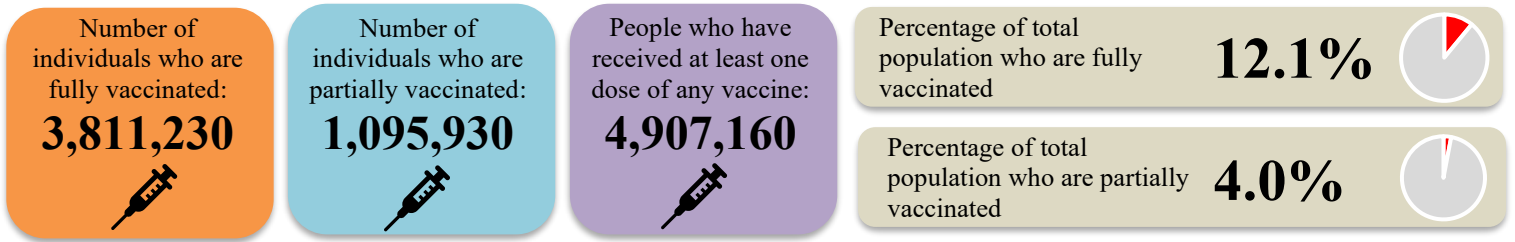


Figure 8: Percentage of vaccinated individuals in target groups, as of 8 Jan 2022

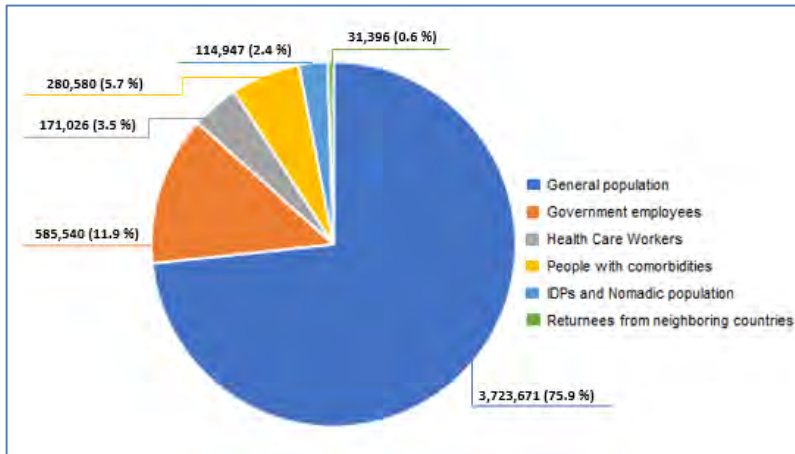


Figure 9: Vaccinated individuals by gender, as of 8 Jan 2022

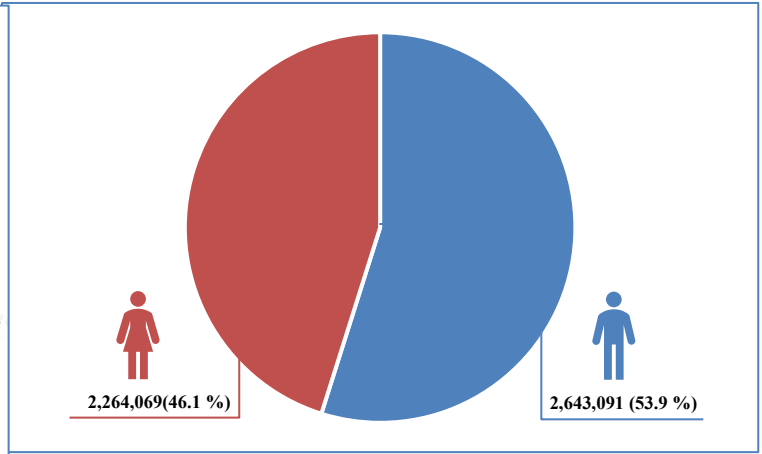
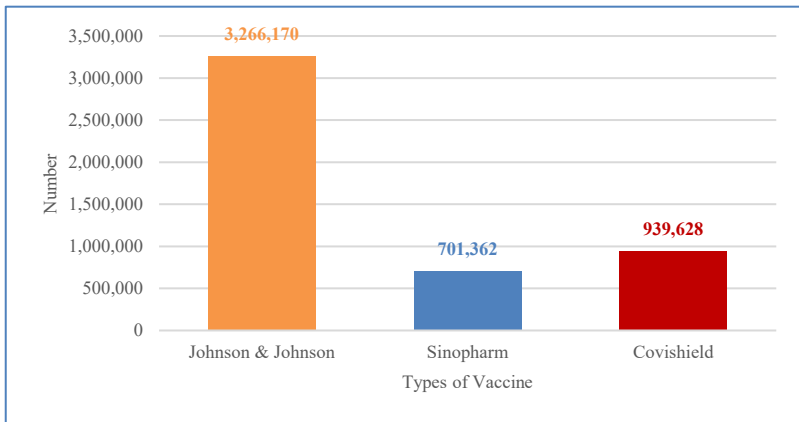


Figure 10: Vaccination doses administered by vaccine type, as of 8 Jan 2022



Data source: DHIS2-MoPH-Afghanistan
 Total population: 31,390,171 (Ref: <http://covid.moph-dw.org/#/>)
 Public dashboard: <http://covid.moph-dw.org/#/>
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