COVID-19 Epidemiological Bulletin, Afghanistan

Epidemiological Week 36 (5 – 11 Sep 2021)



Highlights of the week

As of week 36, **754,969** samples have been tested for COVID-19 by both public and private laboratories. Of this number, **463,326** (**61.3%**) samples were tested through public confirmatory laboratories.

In week 36, 560 new cases (Positivity rate 28) of COVID-19 and 29 new deaths were reported. This is a 47% increase in cases and 26% increase in deaths compared to week 35 (Table 1).

Cumulatively, **154,094** confirmed cases (Overall positivity rate **33.2**) of COVID-19 with **7,169** associated deaths (**CFR=4.6%**) have been reported in Afghanistan since Feb 2020.

Table 1: Afghanistan's COVID-19 epidemiological overview, as of week 36

| Indicator | New number in week 36 | % of change compared to week 35 | Cumulative number |
|--|-----------------------------|---------------------------------------|-------------------|
| # of COVID-19 samples tested in both public & private labs | 2,017 | 14% | 754,969 |
| # of COVID-19 samples tested in public labs | 1,996 | 16% | 463,326 |
| # of COVID-19 lab confirmed cases (both public and private) | 560 | 47% | 154,094 |
| # Recovered/discharged | 5,611 | 175% | 117,579(76.3%) |
| # of COVID-19 associated death | 29 | 26% | 7,169 (CFR=4.6) |

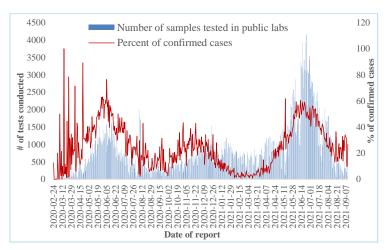
In week 36, the highest number of COVID-19 cases were reported in the West and South (365 cases, 79 cases, respectively) (**Table 2**). The top five provinces that reported positive cases include Herat (345 cases), Badakhshan (69 cases), Zabul (34 cases), Kandahar (32 cases), and Bamyan (16 cases).

Overall, Afghanistan has reported 4,689 confirmed cases and 93 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.

Table 2: COVID-19 cases by region, as of week 36

| | Region | # of new cases in week 36 (%) | % of change compared to week 35 | Cumulative number (%) |
|--------------|--------|----------------------------------|---------------------------------------|--------------------------|
| Central East | ~ | 15 (3 %) | -64% | 43,977 (28.5%) |
| Central West | | 16 (3%) | 100% | 12,968 (8.4%) |
| East | | 14 (3%) | 100% | 16,808 (10.9%) |
| North | | 3 (1%) | 50% | 13,623 (8.8%) |
| North East | | 79 (14%) | -16% | 16,808 (10.9%) |
| South | ~~ | 66 (12%) | -32% | 15,856 (10.3%) |
| South East | ~ | 2 (0.3%) | 0% | 10,238 (6.6%) |
| West | M | 365 (65%) | 181% | 23,816 (15.5%) |
| National | | 560 (100%) | 47% | 154,094 (100%) |

Figure 1: Number of PCR tests conducted and percent of confirmed cases, as of 11 Sep 2021



COVID-19 vaccination highlights:

As of 11 Sep 2021, **2,126,303** individuals have been vaccinated against COVID-19. Of this number, **1,352,057** (63.5%) individuals are fully vaccinated, and **774,246** (36.5%) are partially vaccinated.

Of the total number vaccinated, 59.2% are males and 40.8% are females, 161,566 (7.5%) are HCWs, 29,972 (1.4%) are IDPs living inside camps, and 13,541 (0.6%) are returnees from neighboring countries.

Figure 2: Epidemiological curve of COVID-19 cases in Afghanistan, as of 11 Sep 2021

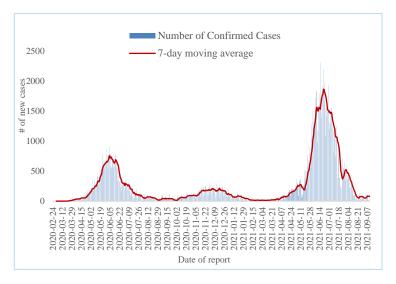


Figure 3: Epidemiological curve of COVID-19 associated deaths, as of 11 Sep 2021

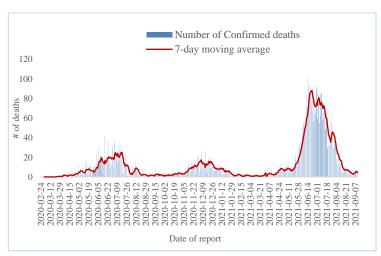
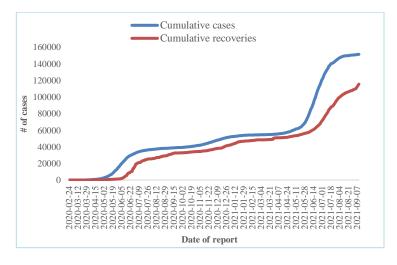
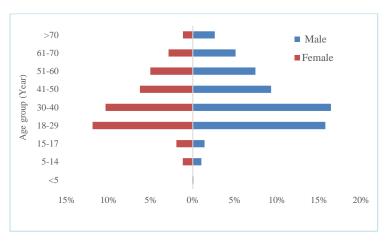


Figure 4: Cumulative COVID-19 confirmed cases and recoveries, as of 11 Sep 2021



Of the confirmed COVID-19 cases, 59% have been reported among males and 41% among females. Majority of cases have been reported among those aged 18-40 years.

Figure 5: Age distribution percentage of COVID-19 cases, 24 Feb 2020 to 11 Sep 2021



Of the COVID-19 associated deaths, 65.4% were reported among males and 34.6% among females. The trend indicates that deaths increased by age group, with most reported among 61-70 years old.

Figure 6: Age distribution percentage of COVID-19 associated deaths, 24 Feb 2020 to 11 Sep 2021

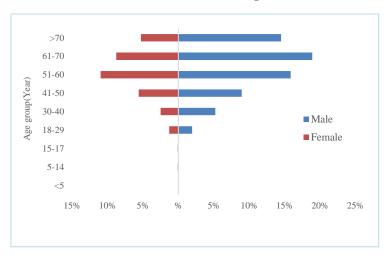


Figure 7: Proportion underlying conditions among COVID-19 associated deaths, as of 11 Sep 2021

