# COVID-19 Epidemiological Bulletin Afghanistan

**World Health Organization**
**Afghanistan**

### Epidemiological Week 11 (13 – 19 Mar 2022)

| **Cumulative samples tested** | **Cumulative confirmed cases** | **Cumulative confirmed deaths** |
|---|---|---|
| **553,943** | **177,116** | **7,654** |
| In public laboratories only | Cumulative positivity rate (31.9%) | CFR (4.32 %) |

| **New samples tested in week 11** ↓ 9 % | **New confirmed cases in week 11** ↓ 40 % | **New confirmed deaths in week11** ↓ 39 % |
|---|---|---|
| **5,479** | **887** | **11** |
| In public laboratories only | Weekly positivity rate (16%) | Weekly CFR (1.2%) |

Key: ↑ increasing ↓ decreasing ● no change

## Table 1: Summary of COVID-19 indicators in the last 8 weeks in Afghanistan (22 Jan – 19 Mar 2022)

| Indicators | W04-22 | W05-22 | W06-22 | W07-22 | W08-22 | W09-22 | W10-22 | W11-22 | Epi-curve |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Samples tested (in public Labs) | 6,099 | 8,496 | 9,001 | 4,170 | 3,972 | 4,234 | 6,028 | 5,479 | |
| Confirmed cases | 2,429 | 4,028 | 4,317 | 1,601 | 1,189 | 1,187 | 1,477 | 887 | |
| Positivity rate (%) | 39.8 | 47.4 | 48.0 | 38.4 | 30 | 28 | 25 | 16 | |
| Confirmed deaths | 15 | 25 | 60 | 43 | 52 | 29 | 18 | 11 | |
| CFR (%) | 0.6 | 0.6 | 1.4 | 2.7 | 4 | 2.4 | 1.2 | 1.2 | |

## Highlights of the week

Since the beginning of the pandemic in Feb 2020, a total of **553,943** samples have been tested for COVID-19 through the public laboratories in the country.

In week11-2022, **5,479** samples were tested in public labs, of which **887** samples tested positive for COVID-19 (percent positivity **16**) and **11** new deaths were reported. This represents a **40%** decrease in cases and **39%** decrease in deaths, compared to week 10 2022, respectively **(Table 1).**

Cumulatively, **177,116** confirmed cases (overall percent positivity **31.9**) of COVID-19 with **7,654** associated deaths (**case fatality ratio = 4.32%**) have been reported in Afghanistan since Feb 2020.

As of 19 Mar 2022, **90.3** %, cases have recovered.

In week 11, 2022, the highest numbers of COVID-19 cases were reported in the South and West regions (**240** and **230** cases, respectively) **(Table 2).** The top five provinces that reported positive cases included Herat (**145** cases), Kandahar (**124** cases), Badghis (**77** cases), Nangarhar (**58** cases), and Badakhshan (**48** cases).

## Table 2: COVID-19 cases by region in Afghanistan, as of week 11, 2022 (13-19 Mar 2022)

| Region | Epi-curve | # of new cases in week 11 (%) | % of change compared to week 10 | Cumulative number (%) |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| Central East | | 105 (12 %) | -73% | 48,654 (27.5%) |
| Central West | | 36 (4%) | -51% | 14,740(8.3%) |
| East | | 103 (12%) | -16% | 20,290 (11.5%) |
| North | | 32 (4%) | -9% | 14,769(8.3%) |
| North East | | 115 (13%) | -17% | 18,581 (10.5%) |
| South | | 240 (27%) | -25% | 21,084(11.8%) |
| South East | | 26 (3%) | -35% | 11,612(6.6%) |
| West | | 230(26%) | -36% | 27,386 (15.5%) |
| National | | 887 (100%) | -40% | 177,116 (100%) |

Overall, Afghanistan has reported **4,749** confirmed cases and **97** 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 weekly PCR tests conducted and 2-week moving average of percent positivity in Afghanistan (24 Feb 2020 - 19 Mar 2022)
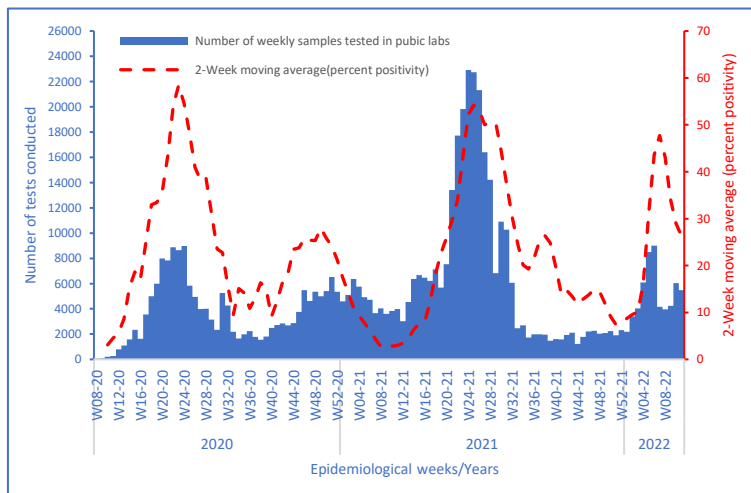


## Figure 2: Geographic distribution of COVID-19 confirmed cases in Afghanistan (24 Feb 2020 - 19 Mar 2022)
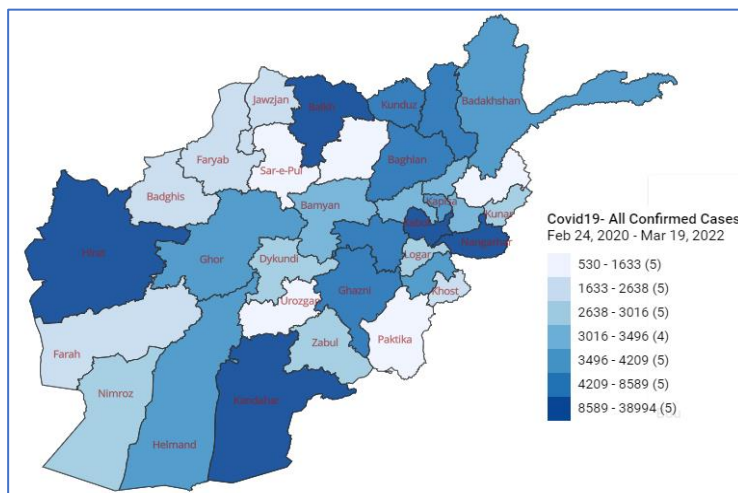


## Figure 3: Weekly distribution of confirmed COVID-19 cases in Afghanistan (24 Feb 2020 - 19 Mar 2022)
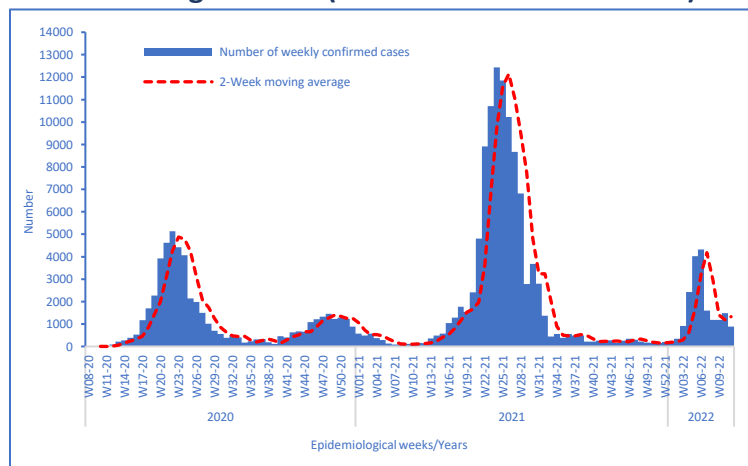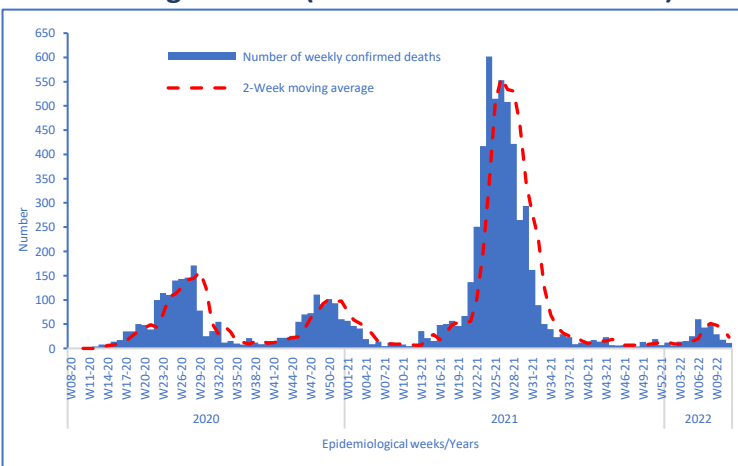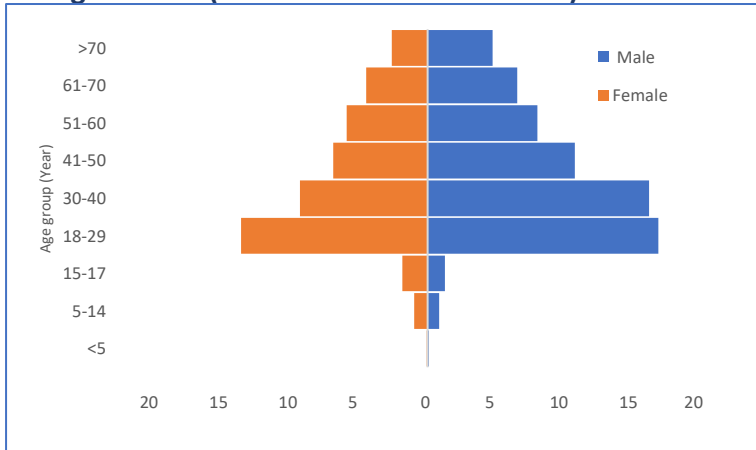


## Figure 4: Weekly distribution of COVID-19 associated deaths in Afghanistan (24 Feb 2020 - 19 Mar 2022)



## Figure 5: Age & sex distribution of COVID-19 cases in Afghanistan (24 Feb 2020 - 19 Mar 2022)
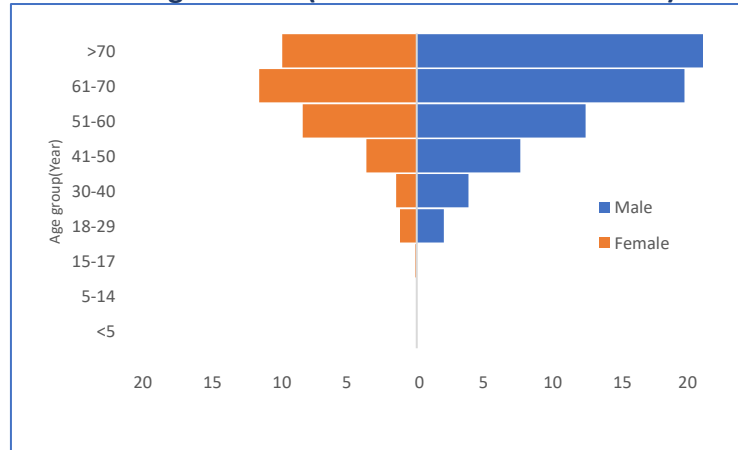


## Figure 6: Age & sex distribution of COVID-19 associated deaths in Afghanistan (24 Feb 2020 - 19 Mar 2022)



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.

Of the COVID-19 associated deaths, **65%** were reported among males and **35%** among females. The trend indicates that most reported deaths were among those aged over 70 years.

## Figure 7: Proportion of underlying medical conditions among COVID-19 associated deaths in Afghanistan, 24 Feb 2020 - 19 Mar 2022 (n=1,705)
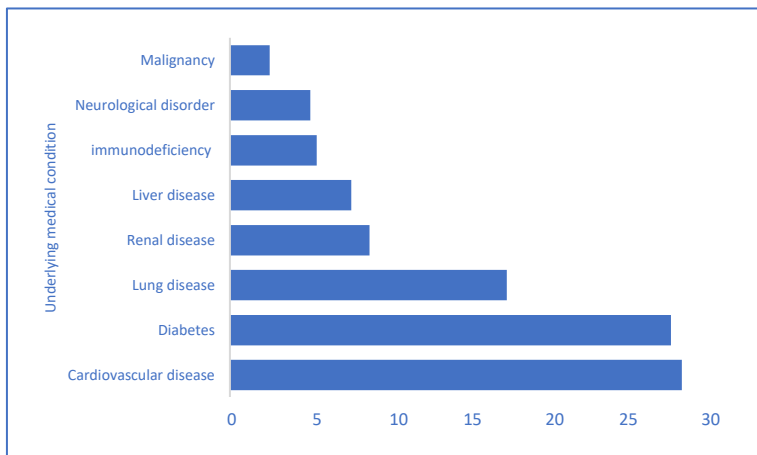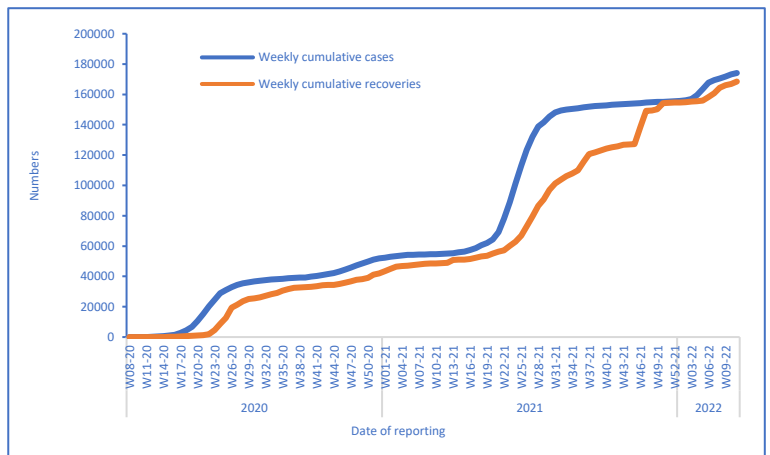


## Figure 8: Weekly cumulative COVID-19 confirmed cases and recoveries in Afghanistan (24 Feb 2020 - 19 Mar 2022)
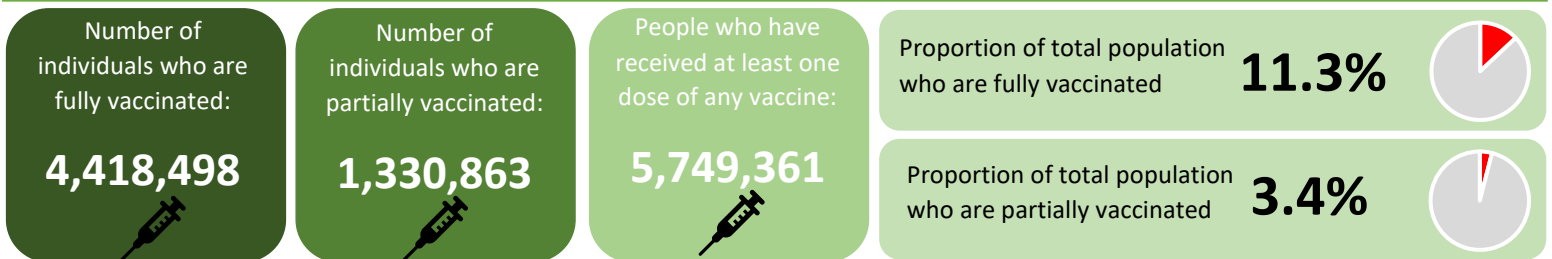


## COVID-19 Vaccination highlights

| Number of individuals who are fully vaccinated: | Number of individuals who are partially vaccinated: | People who have received at least one dose of any vaccine: |
|---|---|---|
| **4,418,498** | **1,330,863** | **5,749,361** |

Proportion of total population who are fully vaccinated **11.3%**

Proportion of total population who are partially vaccinated **3.4%**

## Figure 9: Distribution of individuals who received at least one dose by target group in Afghanistan, as of 19 Mar 2022
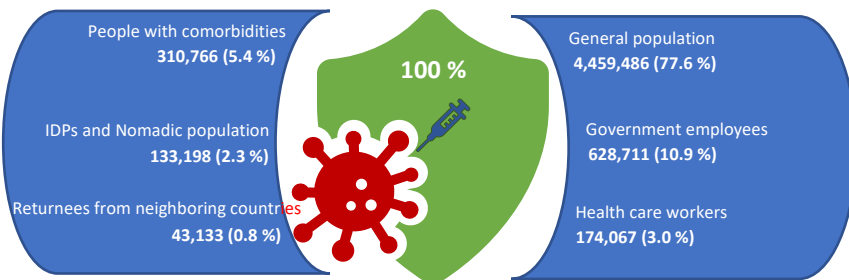


People with comorbidities 310,766 (5.4 %)
IDPs and Nomadic population 133,198 (2.3 %)
Returnees from neighboring countries 43,133 (0.8 %)
General population 4,459,486 (77.6 %)
Government employees 628,711 (10.9 %)
Health care workers 174,067 (3.0 %)
100 %

## Figure 10: Distribution of administered doses by gender in Afghanistan, as of 19 Mar 2022



100 %
2,678,055(46.6 %)   3,071,306 (53.4 %)
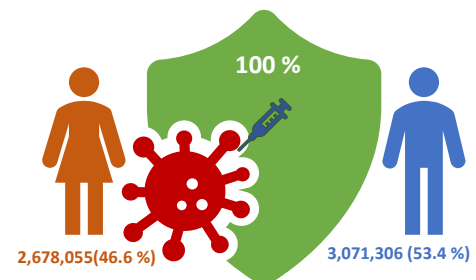
## Figure 11: Vaccination doses administered by vaccine type, as of 19 Mar 2022
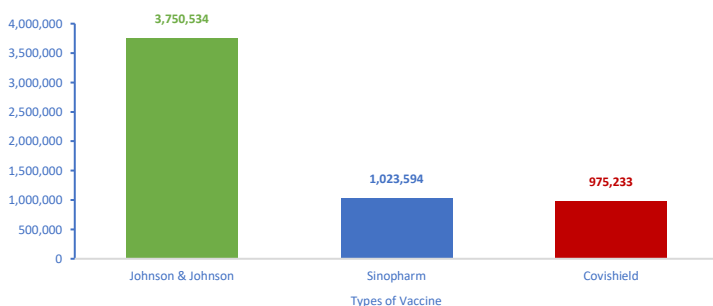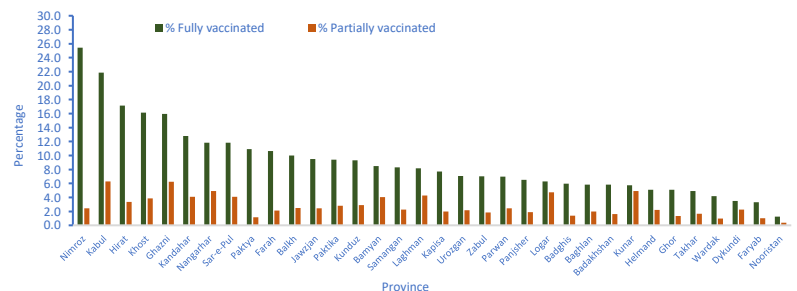


Johnson & Johnson 3,750,534
Sinopharm 1,023,594
Covishield 975,233

## Figure 12: Proportion of fully & partially vaccinated individuals by province in Afghanistan, as of 19 Mar 2022