



COVID-19 Epidemiological Bulletin Afghanistan

Epidemiological Week 12 (20 – 26 Mar 2022)

Cumulative samples tested 558,230 In public laboratories only	Cumulative confirmed cases 177,548 Cumulative percent positivity (31.8%)	Cumulative confirmed deaths 7,662 CFR (4.31 %)
New samples tested in week12 4,287 ↓22 % In public laboratories only	New confirmed cases in week12 432 ↓51 % Weekly percent positivity (10%)	New confirmed deaths in week12 8 ↓27 % Weekly CFR (1.9%)

Key: ↑ increasing ↓ decreasing ● no change

Table 1: Summary of COVID-19 indicators in the last 8 weeks in Afghanistan (29 Jan – 26 Mar 2022)

Indicators	W05-22	W06-22	W07-22	W08-22	W09-22	W10-22	W11-22	W12-22	Epi-curve
Samples tested (in public Labs)	8,496	9,001	4,170	3,972	4,234	6,028	5,479	4,287	
Confirmed cases	4,028	4,317	1,601	1,189	1,187	1,477	887	432	
Percent positivity (%)	47.4	48.0	38.4	30	28	25	16	10	
Confirmed deaths	25	60	43	52	29	18	11	8	
CFR (%)	0.6	1.4	2.7	4	2.4	1.2	1.2	1.9	

Highlights of the week

Since the beginning of the pandemic in Feb 2020, a total of **558,230** samples have been tested for COVID-19 through the public laboratories in the country.

In week12-2022, **4,287** samples were tested in public labs, of which **432** samples tested positive for COVID-19 (percent positivity **10**) and **8** new deaths were reported. This represents a **51%** decrease in cases and **27%** decrease in deaths, compared to week 11 2022, respectively (**Table 1**).

Cumulatively, **177,548** confirmed cases (overall percent positivity **31.8**) of COVID-19 with **7,662** associated deaths (**case fatality ratio = 4.31%**) have been reported in Afghanistan since Feb 2020.

As of 26 Mar 2022, **90.4 %**, cases have recovered.

In week 12, 2022, the highest numbers of COVID-19 cases were reported in the South and Central East regions (**173** and **61** cases, respectively) (**Table 2**). The top five provinces that reported positive cases included Kandahar (**112** cases), Nangarhar (**45** cases), Helmand (**41** cases), Kapisa (**27** cases), and Herat (**23** cases).

Table 2: COVID-19 cases by region in Afghanistan, as of week 12, 2022 (20-26 Mar 2022)

Region	Epi-curve	# of new cases in week 12 (%)	% of change compared to week 11	Cumulative number (%)
Central East		61 (14 %)	-42%	48,715 (27.4%)
Central West		27 (6%)	-25%	14,767 (8.3%)
East		61 (14%)	-41%	20,351 (11.5%)
North		15 (4%)	-53%	14,784 (8.3%)
North East		48 (11%)	-58%	18,629 (10.5%)
South		173 (40%)	-28%	21,257 (12.0%)
South East		15 (3%)	-42%	11,627 (6.5%)
West		32 (7%)	-86%	27,418 (15.4%)
National		432 (100%)	-51%	177,548 (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 - 26 Mar 2022)

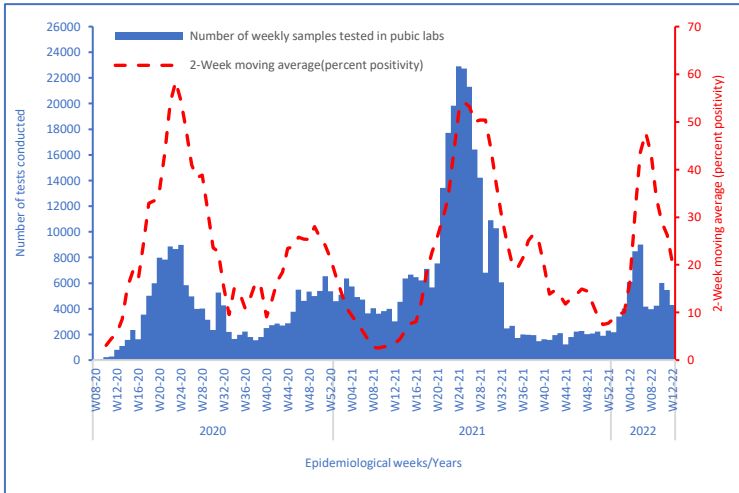


Figure 2: Geographic distribution of COVID-19 confirmed cases in Afghanistan (24 Feb 2020 - 26 Mar 2022)

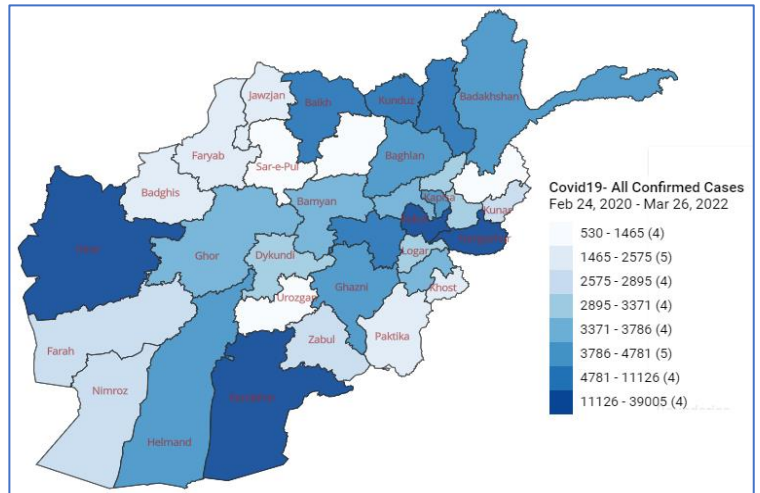


Figure 3: Weekly distribution of confirmed COVID-19 cases in Afghanistan (24 Feb 2020 - 26 Mar 2022)

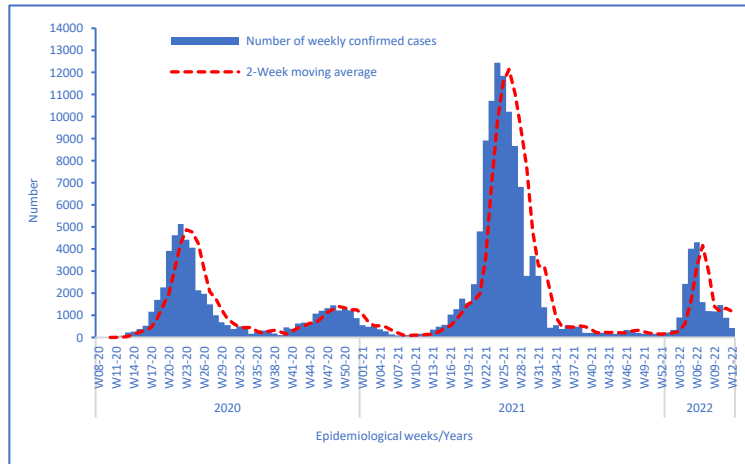


Figure 4: Weekly distribution of COVID-19 associated deaths in Afghanistan (24 Feb 2020 - 26 Mar 2022)

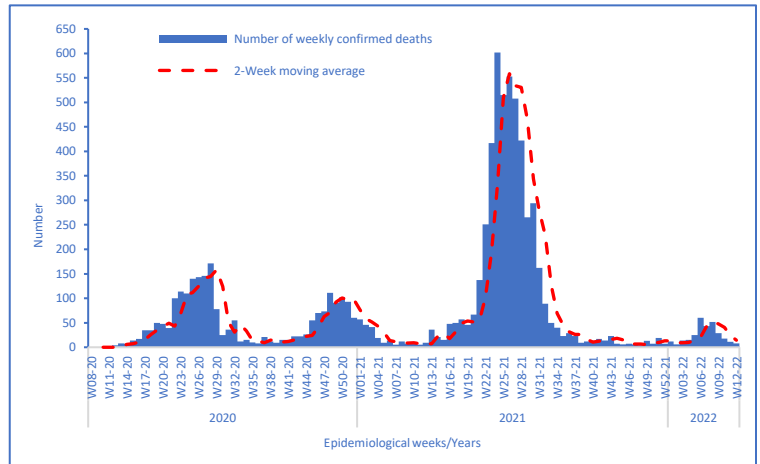


Figure 5: Age & sex distribution of COVID-19 cases in Afghanistan (24 Feb 2020 - 26 Mar 2022)

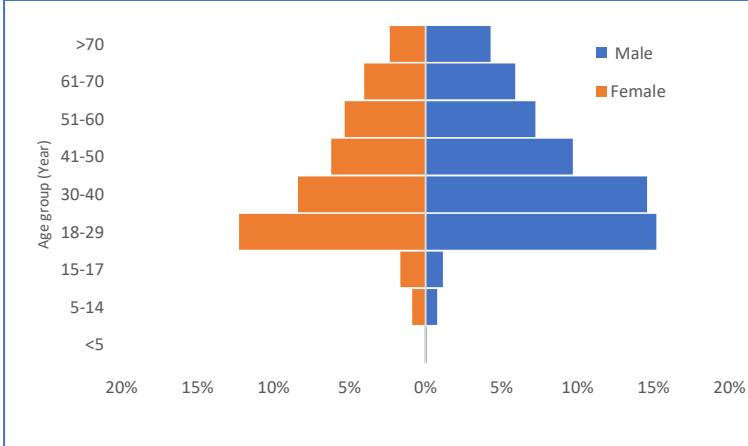
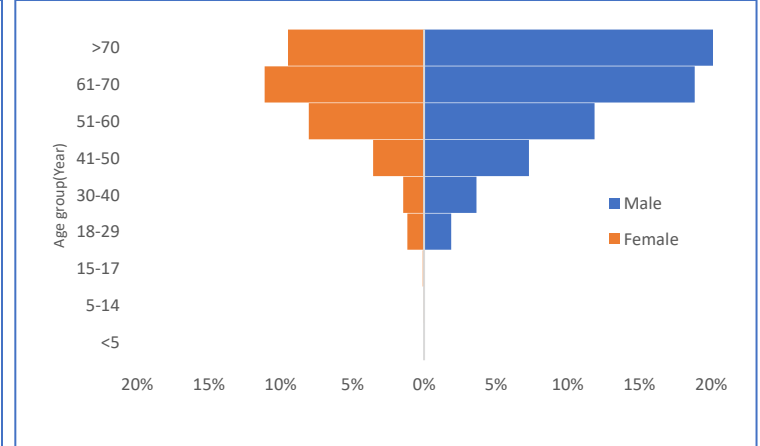


Figure 6: Age & sex distribution of COVID-19 associated deaths in Afghanistan (24 Feb 2020 - 26 Mar 2022)



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 - 26 Mar 2022 (n=1,708)

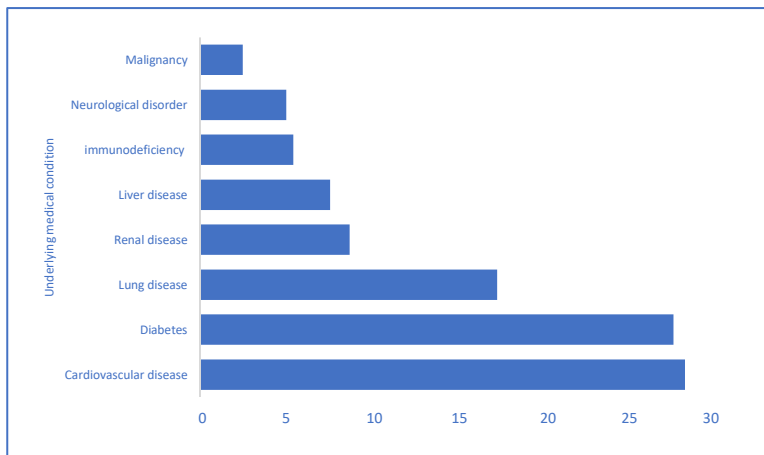
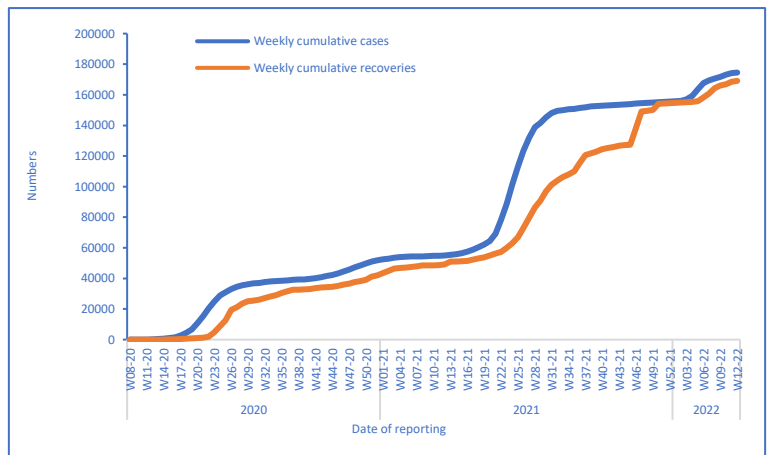


Figure 8: Weekly cumulative COVID-19 confirmed cases and recoveries in Afghanistan (24 Feb 2020 - 26 Mar 2022)



COVID-19 Vaccination highlights

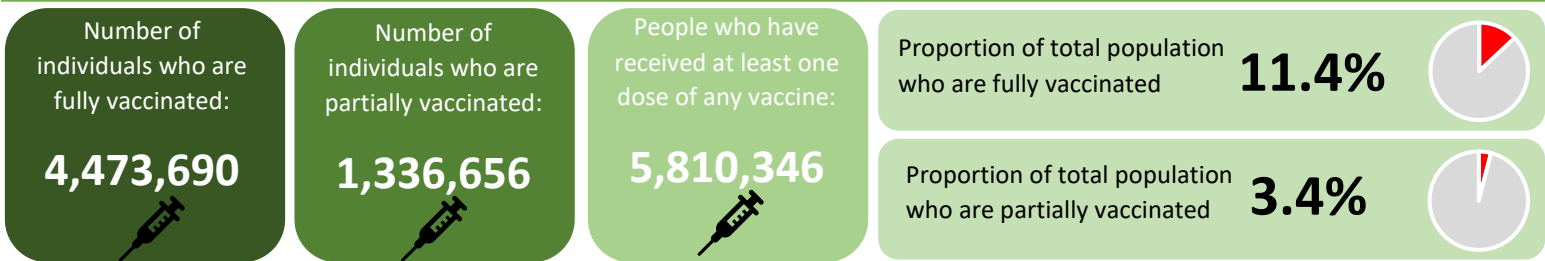


Figure 9: Distribution of individuals who received at least one dose by target group in Afghanistan, as of 26 Mar 2022

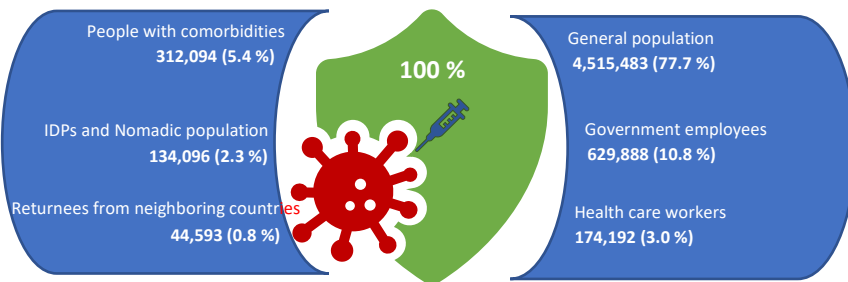


Figure 10: Distribution of administered doses by gender in Afghanistan, as of 26 Mar 2022

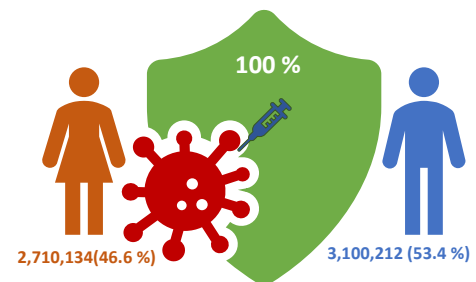


Figure 11: Vaccination doses administered by vaccine type, as of 26 Mar 2022

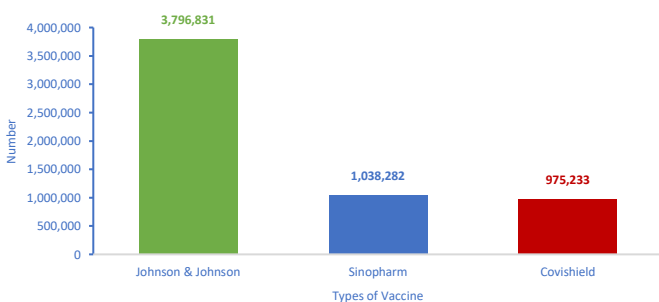
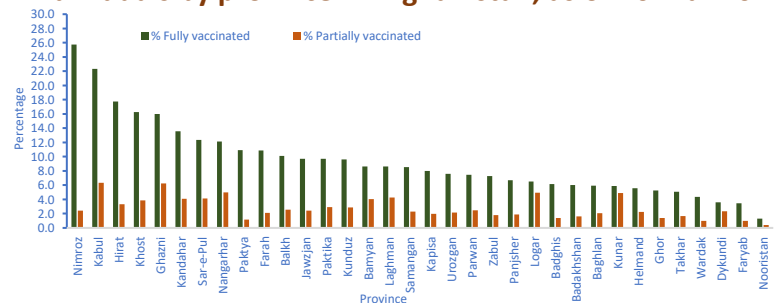


Figure 12: Proportion of fully & partially vaccinated individuals by province in Afghanistan, as of 26 Mar 2022



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- Total population: 39,269,174 (Ref: UN estimation, AFG_CMYP_2022)
 Data source: DHIS2-MoPH-Afghanistan, Public dashboard: <http://covid.moph-dw.org/#/>