

Situation Summary

Highlights of Current Situation Report

- A total of 4,773 COVID-19 cases including 137 deaths were reported in the last 7 days. Of the 4,773 cases, 38.1% (1,819/4,773) were imported and 61.9% (2,954/4,773) were locally acquired.
- By 02 August 2021, a total of 1,537 samples have been tested using RT-PCR VOC assays and whole genome sequencing (WGS). Lineage determination by RT-PCR and genomic sequencing is currently being conducted by Institute Pasteur du Cambodge (IPC)
- 228 samples have been identified as Delta VOC by WGS and RT-PCR assay for VOC detection, including:
 - ❖ 119 Community samples from selected provinces collected between 14/07/2021 and 02/08/2021 and
 - ❖ 105 samples among returning migrants at land borders
 - ❖ IPC have also reported detection of E484K mutation in alpha variant community samples. This mutation has been found globally to be associated with possible decrease in vaccine effectiveness.
- As of 02 August 2021, 10 am ICT, 78,474 confirmed cases of COVID-19, including 1,442 deaths have been reported from Cambodia, of which 71,517 have recovered. A total of 10,971 (14.0%) cases were acquired overseas.
- Since January 2020, a total of 1,214,761 individuals have been tested using real-time polymerase chain reaction (RT-PCR), with a positivity rate of 5.0%. As of 02 August 2021, a total of 1,570,532 tests have been performed using RT-PCR.
- On 28 July 2021, Royal Government of Cambodia has launched a national communication campaign to strengthen public health and social measures for combating the spread of COVID-19, especially the Delta variant for 14 days.

Upcoming Events and Priorities

Surveillance

- MOH with WHO support is conducting weekly transmission stage, situation assessments and analyses to understand the effectiveness of interventions using multisource surveillance at subnational level.
- WHO is providing support on monitoring ICU bed capacity (bed occupancy) at subnational level.
- WHO has technically supported MOH to develop, review and update a COVID-19 surveillance strategy to inform the response.
- WHO will be supporting CDC to strengthen capacity for multisource surveillance, contact tracing and risk assessment in a further 6 provinces

Laboratory

- WHO, IPC and partners are providing technical and coordination support to NIPH, CCDC and COVID-19 laboratories to ensure sustained testing capacity.
- Establishment of COVID-19 testing at newly constructed Regional laboratories in Siem Reap and Battambang is ongoing.

Healthcare delivery and pathways

- Diagnosis and treatment protocol (v4) is being finalized by MOH.
- MOH with support from WHO and other development partners is working on several documents as below:
 - ❖ Developing treatment protocol for COVID-19 in children.



- ❖ Finalizing training material for oxygen therapy.
- ❖ Developing guidance on increasing ICU bed capacity and maintaining essential services.
- ❖ Developing communication materials for early diagnosis and treatment of Covid-19 targeting the community and health care provider.
- ❖ Developing Oxygen Preparedness Plan.

Risk communication and community engagement

- The RCCE strategy has been updated to be in line with recent findings from WHO-MOH joint provincial field mission and perceptions, behavioral insight survey by WPRO in May 2021 and updated COVID-19 response plan.
- Minister of Health has launched a national communication campaign under the theme “Together be responsible to stop COVID-19 transmission” to promote the responsibility of individuals, families, community, relevant institutions especially the private sector, local authorities towards breaking the chains of COVID-19 transmission as well as adapting to a “new normal” lifestyle.
- WHO will be providing technical support to MoH in launching of ‘community engagement for COVID-19 and beyond’ project, supporting national community engagement implementation strategy and as a part of Cambodia’s provincial preparedness and response plans for COVID-19.
- WHO and MOH continue to provide media and press updates on COVID-19 situation and to increase mass awareness to reinforce preventive behaviours and social measures.
- WHO and partners continue to proactively engage communities, focusing on high risk settings, to reduce transmission of COVID-19 virus.
- WHO continues to provide technical assistance to other UN agencies and (I)NGOs in strengthening RCCE interventions including development of need based materials.

Transmission Assessment

The current multi-source surveillance assessment indicates Phnom Penh, Preah Sihanouk, Kampong Speu, Kandal, Takeo, Kampot, Banteay Meanchey, Kampong Cham, Prey Veng, Svay Rieng, Tbong Khmum and Siem Reap is in stage 2 transmission (localized community transmission), the other 13 provinces (Koh Kong, Kampong Chhnang, Kampong Thom, Battambang, Kep, Kratie, Pailin, Pursat, Preah Vihear, Mondul Kiri, Oddar Meanchey, Stung Treng, and Ratanak Kiri) are in Stage 1 transmission.

Epi Update COVID-19

Tests

80,109

NAT Tests past 7 days

1,570,532

Cumulative NAT Tests

Cases

4,773

New cases past 7 days
(6.0% 7-day)

78,474

Cumulative Cases

Deaths

137

Deaths past 7 days
(9.5% 7-day)

1,442

Cumulative Deaths

7,631

Imported cases in the past
28 days

Health Service Provision
COVID-19

27

Hospitals admitting COVID-19 patients

13,782

Total public hospital beds

37

Number of hospitals with experience in COVID-19 case management (includes 10 repurposed HCF)

Epidemiology

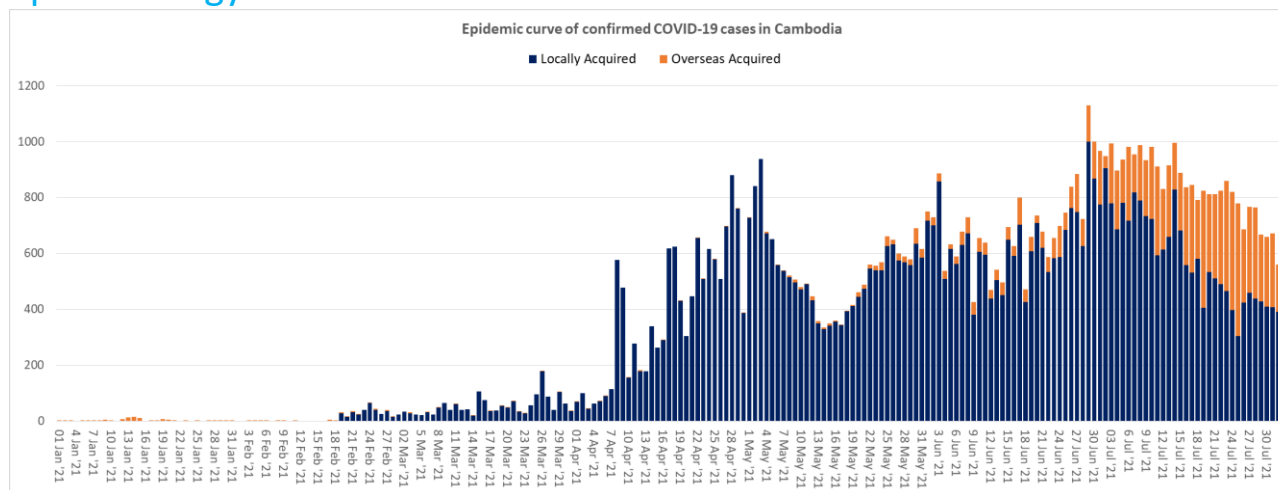


Figure 1. Epidemic curve of confirmed COVID-19 cases by date of report

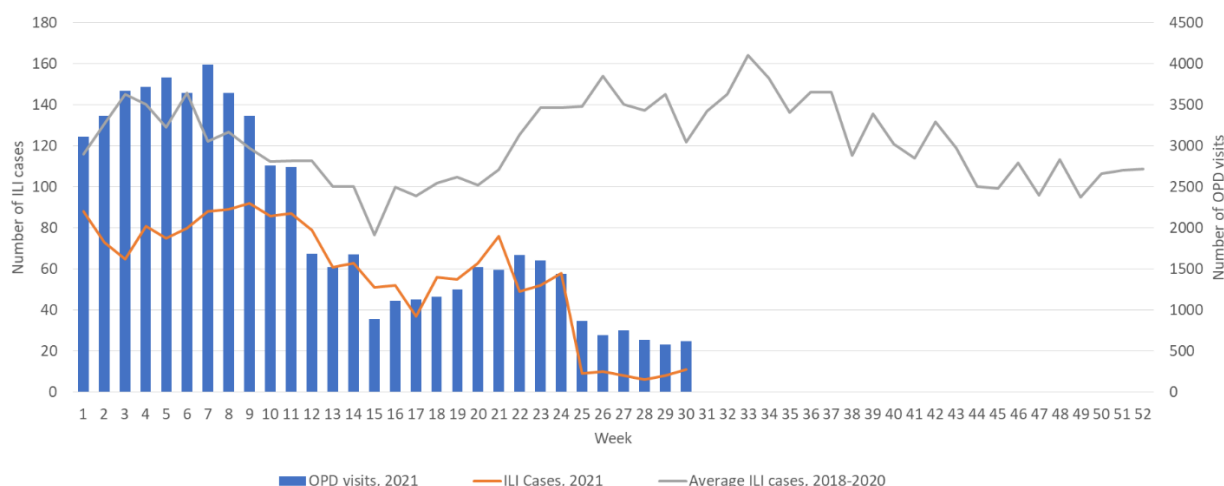


Figure 2. Number of ILI cases from ILI sentinel sites (n=7) by week, 2021 and 2018-2020*

*Delayed reporting for some sentinel sites in recent weeks

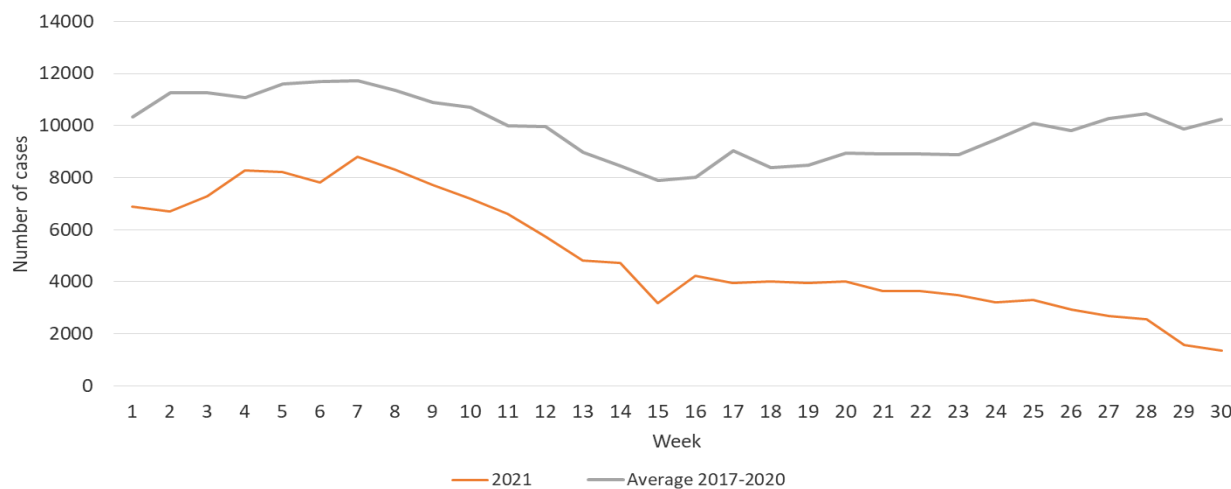


Figure 3. Number of patients with severe respiratory illness by week, 2021 and 2018-202

Strategic Approach

National and Provincial Public Health Response

Incident Management Systems

- National COVID-19 Committee (CCC), chaired by Samdech Prime Minister
- Standing committee of CCC, Chaired by Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Economy and Finance
 - ❖ Municipal-Provincial COVID-19 committees, chaired by Municipal-Provincial Governors
 - ❖ Ad Hoc committee on national COVID-19 vaccination
 - ❖ Ad-Hoc committee in charge of COVID-19 vaccine procurement
- Inter-Ministerial Committee, chaired by the Minister of Health, with Secretaries of State
- Sub-committee for Evaluation, Planning, and Strategy, chaired by Secretary of State of the Ministry of Health
- Sub-Committee for Management at Points of Entry and Quarantine, chaired by Director-General of the General Department of Intelligence, Ministry of National Defense
- Sub-Committee for Rapid Response and Investigation into Persons with COVID-19, chaired by Deputy National Police Commissioner, Ministry of Interior
- Technical and Treatment Sub-Committee, chaired by Secretary of State, Ministry of Health
- Sub-Committee for Laboratory Services, chaired by Secretary of State, Ministry of Health
- Sub-Committee for Education, Training and Public Affairs, chaired by Secretary of State, Ministry of Health
- Sub-Committee for Supplies and Finance chaired by Secretary of State, Ministry of Health
- Sub-Committee on Technology and Data chaired by Secretary of State, Ministry of Posts and Telecommunications
- Sub-Committee for Construction and Repair chaired by Deputy Commissioner of National Police, Ministry of Interior
- Sub-Committee for Management and Handling of Bodies of Persons with Confirmed or Suspected COVID-19 chaired by Secretary of State, Ministry of Interior
- Committee on Economic and Financial Policy (CEFP)/ Ministry of Economy and Finance (MEF) of four Working Groups to address the socio-economic impacts of COVID-19.

System and Policy Development

- On 5 March 2021, the draft law “Measures to Prevent the Spread of COVID-19 and other Dangerous Infectious Diseases” was approved by the National Assembly.
- State of Emergency legislation was promulgated into law on 29 April 2020; has not been enacted.
- Go.Data Platform used as a surveillance database including laboratory and contact tracing information.
- NIPH and CDC databases have been adjusted to allow for a multisource dataset on testing and surveillance.

Key Priorities

- WHO have supported MOH to conduct joint field missions to the provinces throughout June to support local preparedness and response for COVID-19.
- A survey of clinical management and infection prevention and control training is being implemented by MOH/DHS to support the development of a national curriculum for COVID-19.

- Number of health system readiness assessments on hospital readiness, ICU capacity, oxygen, staffing, etc. are currently being conducted by MOH/DHS.
- National programs are developing specific COVID-19 preparedness and response plans.
- The laboratory expansion strategy and molecular diagnostics training plan are being implemented to ensure sustained testing for COVID-19 at the National and Regional level.
- A survey on use of AgRDTs is ongoing with all provinces.
- Strengthening local preparedness in case of a potential localized outbreak in the future and minimizing disruptions to the delivery of essential health services.

Strategic Approach to COVID-19 Prevention, Detection, and Control

- *Testing strategy and contact tracing system in place*
A broad testing strategy is being implemented nationwide, including testing all suspect cases meeting case definition, active surveillance for pneumonia cases in hospitals, testing at POEs at day 1 and day 13 of 14-day quarantine, and testing ILI and SARI samples from sentinel sites for COVID-19. Targeted testing of high-risk populations is also being implemented as necessary.
- *Risk communication and community engagement*
A strategy for surveillance using community engagement has been developed and will be piloted for case detection at the health center level and in the community. The Ministry of Interior is reinforcing the monitoring of quarantine through follow-up and fines for individuals who do not follow guidelines.
- *NPIs (recorded in table at end of report)*

Best Practices / Lessons Learned

Factors Contributing to Strong Response

- **Strong leadership and coordination**
 - ❖ Whole-of-government, whole-of-society response led by the Prime Minister, with public health actions led by Minister of Health.
 - ❖ National Master Plan for COVID-19 developed with a budget of \$62 million for the first year.
 - ❖ On 01 July 2021, Samdech Prime Minister introduced six COVID-19 response strategies that are aimed at preventing the importation of new variants, reducing cases, providing effective and standard treatment, strengthening contact tracing and management, handling of bodies and vaccination.
- **Past investments have built a functional public health system**
 - ❖ Multisource surveillance for COVID-19, including event-based surveillance (with 115 hotline) and expanded ILI/SARI surveillance.
 - ❖ Almost 3,000 RRT members across the country conduct case investigation and contact tracing.
- **Risk communication and community engagement**
 - ❖ Timely messages disseminated through TV, radio, and social media, regular press releases, press conferences, and media briefings.

- ❖ Risk-based approach for the development of targeted communication materials for at-risk groups, including migrants and garment factory workers, markets, prisons, restaurants/pubs, etc.
 - ❖ Community engagement strategy being rolled out to encompass all aspects of surveillance and response for COVID-19, particularly in the event of community transmission.
 - ❖ Close coordination and collaboration with other UN agencies, INGOs, and other stakeholders on RCCE implementation, monitoring, adapting, and reinforcing.
- **International solidarity and cooperation**
 - ❖ Open and transparent health system response in the country.
 - ❖ Close technical and operational cooperation between UN agencies and other development partners.
 - ❖ High-level participation in international meetings, including regular coordination between National International Health Regulations (IHR) Focal Point.

COVID-19 Vaccinations

As of 2 August 2021:

- The Royal Government of Cambodia received 20,416,100 doses of COVID-19 vaccines
 - ❖ 15,500,000 (76%) doses procured by Royal Government of Cambodia from China
 - ❖ 3,200,000 (16%) doses donated by government of China and
 - ❖ 1,716,100 (8%) doses through COVAX Facility (including dose sharing from government of Japan and US)
- Vaccination coverage for ≥ 18 years old
 - ❖ A total of 7,418,453 (Female: 50%) and 4,927,876 (Female: 49%) target individuals received the first dose and second dose of the COVID-19 vaccine, respectively. The coverage among the total target population for the first dose is 74%, and for the second dose is 49%.
- Vaccination coverage for children aged from 12 to under 18 years old
 - ❖ A total of 79,676 (4%) children aged from 12 to under 18 years were vaccinated with COVID-19 vaccine,
- 168 AEFI cases were reported from 21 provinces and four national hospitals; AEFI reporting rate per 100,000 doses = 1.36:
 - ❖ AEFI reporting rate per 100,000 doses for Sinovac vaccine = (71 cases) 0.95
 - ❖ AEFI reporting rate per 100,000 doses for Sinopharm vaccine = (68 cases) =1.54
 - ❖ AEFI reporting rate per 100,000 doses for AZ COVISHIELD vaccine= (29 cases) = 8.97
 - ❖ AEFI reporting rate per 100,000 doses for AZ Japan vaccine= (0 case) = 0.00
 - ❖ AEFI reporting rate per 100,000 doses for J&J vaccine= (0 case) = 0.00

Non-Pharmaceutical Interventions (NPI)

- On 28 July 2021, the Royal Government of Cambodia (RGC) put 8 provinces (Koh Kong, Pursat, Battambang, Pailin, Banteay Meanchey, Oddar Meanchey, Preah Vihear, and Siem Reap) on lockdown and launched a “National Campaign to Strengthen Measures for Combating and Preventing the Spread of COVID-19” for 14 days from 29 July 2021 to 12 August 2021;
- On 02 August 2021, Minister of Health and Chair of the Inter-Ministerial Committee to Combat COVID-19 asked concerned ministries and 25 municipal-provincial governors to launch national communication campaigns to promote the responsibility of individuals,

families, community, relevant institutions especially the private sector, local authorities towards breaking the chains of COVID-19 transmission as well as adapting to a “new normal” lifestyle;

- On 29 July 2021, Minister of Health and Chair of the Inter-Ministerial Committee to Combat COVID-19 instructed 22 provinces to implement the Standard Operating Procedures for Home-based Management, Care and Treatment of COVID-19 Patients;
- On 30 July 2021, Ministry of Labour and Vocational Training urged migrants living in Thailand to refrain from leaving their place for Cambodia for 14 days as the Cambodia-Thai border is closed and asked migrants to contact the Cambodian Embassy to Thailand for any assistance;
- On 29 July 2021, Ministry of Tourism closed all entertainment clubs and gyms located in hotels and tourism sites across the country for 14 days 29 July to 12 August 2021;
- Since 29 July 2021 all the 25 municipality and provinces but Kratie, Mondul Kiri and Prey Veng have implemented to varying degrees the RGC’s “national campaign” to strengthen measures for combating COVID-19 especially the Delta variant. The administrative measures implemented include zoning; prohibition of high-risk activities; closure of public markets; prohibition of private gatherings of more than 10 people and drinking gatherings; imposing curfew; and banning travels between provinces. The most common administrative measures adopted in those 22 municipality and provinces are prohibition of high-risk business activities, banning of private gatherings and imposing curfew;
- On 02 August 2021, Phnom Penh Capital Hall put a stretch of Street 93 in Sangkat Tuol Sangke¹, Khan Russey Keo and linked to Delta variant cases, on lockdown from 03 to 09 August and another stretch of Street 372, 372Z and 362 in Sangkat Beung Salang, Khan Tuol Kork and linked to Delta variant cases, on lockdown from 03 to 16 August 2021;
- On 31 July 2021, Battambang Provincial Administration closed 49 markets (the large majority of them are public markets) across the province from 01 to 14 August 2021 as the province implements the RGC’s 14-day national campaign; and
- Over the past week, 9 markets in four provinces were closed, while a market in Kampong Chhnang was reopened.

Table 2. NPI implementation and lifting dates

NPI	Monitoring status					
	Date first implemented	Date last modified	Implementation		Partial lift	Lifted
			Geographical (national or sub-national)	Recommended or Required	Lifted for some area	Lifted for all areas
Wearing Face Masks, Hand Hygiene, Respiratory Etiquette	None	03 May 2021	National	Required		No
School Closure	16 March 2020	19 June 2021	National	Required	No	No
Workplace Closure	None	None				
Mass Gatherings	3 April 2020	19 June 2021	National	Required	No	No
Stay at Home	Government recommends staying home if possible	None				
Restrictions on Internal Movement (within country)	9 April 2020	29 July 2021	National	Recommended	Yes	No
Restrictions on International Travel	27 March 2020	11 November 2020	National	Required	Yes	No
Others; specify in narrative	None	None	-	-	-	-