



Situation Summary

Highlights of Current Situation Report

- A total of 3,642 COVID-19 cases including 119 deaths were reported in the last 7 days. Of the 3,642 cases, 27.7% (1,008/3,642) were imported and 72.3% (2634/3,642) were locally acquired;
- By 16 August 2021, a total of 2,865 samples have been tested using RT-PCR Variant of Concern (VOC) assays and whole genome sequencing (WGS);
- In total, 494 Delta cases (243 females) were detected in 22 municipality and provinces, involving migrants returning from Thailand and VietNam, airline passengers, health care workers and community cases;
- As of 16 August 2021, 10 am ICT, 86,041 confirmed cases of COVID-19, including 1,704 deaths have been reported from Cambodia, of which 81,202 have recovered. A total of 13,118 (15.2%) cases were acquired overseas
- Since January 2020, a total of 1,311,016 individuals have been tested using real-time polymerase chain reaction (RT-PCR), with a positivity rate of 5.1%. As of 16 August 2021, a total of 1,702,125 tests have been performed using RT-PCR
- On Monday 16th August, the national communication campaign under the theme “Together be responsible to stop COVID-19 transmission” was launched to promote the responsibility of individuals, families, community and institutions to break the chains of COVID-19 transmission as well as adapting to a “new normal” lifestyle.

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

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

- Home based care training for all 25 provinces completed.
- MOH with support from WHO and other development partners is working on several documents as below:
 - ❖ Developing treatment protocol for COVID-19 in children;
 - ❖ Developing Oxygen Preparedness Plan;
 - ❖ Oxygen therapy TOT training of trainers conducted between 10-20th Aug 2021 with roll out plan to all 25 provinces until Oct 2021.

Risk communication and community engagement

- MoH is conducting 2 days virtual session with the 9 priority provinces on ‘National Community Engagement Implementation Strategy, Preparedness and Response Plan for COVID-19 and beyond, on 17 and 18 August 2021.

- WHO has recently completed 2nd wave of 'COVID-19 perceptions and behavioural insight' survey, between 5 June to 5 July 2021. The detailed analysis of the survey will be shared with MoH and partners to strengthen RCCE interventions.
- WHO in collaboration with IOM is supporting MoH in informing and engaging migrant workers to take all necessary precautions and practice safe behaviours to suppress the transmission of 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 closely working with other UN agencies and (I)NGOs in strengthening RCCE interventions including development of need based materials.
- Please find link for new materials from WHO:
 - ❖ Q&A on small public gatherings - <https://www.who.int/emergencies/diseases/novel-coronavirus-2019/question-and-answers-hub/q-a-detail/coronavirus-disease-covid-19-small-public-gatherings>
 - ❖ Message testing during an epidemic – new webpage - <https://www.who.int/teams/risk-communication/the-collective-service/message-testing/>
 - ❖ Science in 5 on breakthrough infection – Can I get infected after vaccination? If you are fully vaccinated can you still get COVID-19? How frequent are breakthrough infections and what does COVID-19 look like if you are fully vaccinated. WHO's Dr Kate O'Brien explains in Science in 5.
 - YouTube: <https://youtu.be/Y3IXbX5YWkU>
 - Podcasts available on your preferred platforms: <https://lnk.to/science-in-5>
 - Playlist: <https://www.youtube.com/playlist?list=PL9S6xGsoqIBXRQzSDOfb13iPrbL8fgy1>
 - Transcripts, podcast: <https://www.who.int/emergencies/diseases/novel-coronavirus-2019/media-resources/science-in-5>
 - ❖ Science in 5 on HIV and COVID: If you are living with HIV, what are your risks from COVID-19? Should you be prioritized for vaccination? Are vaccines safe for you? WHO's Dr Meg Doherty explains in Science in 5.
 - YouTube: <https://youtu.be/tMRuU1IWnRI>
 - Podcasts available on your preferred platforms: <https://lnk.to/science-in-5>
 - Playlist: <https://www.youtube.com/playlist?list=PL9S6xGsoqIBXRQzSDOfb13iPrbL8fgy1>
 - Transcripts, podcast: <https://www.who.int/emergencies/diseases/novel-coronavirus-2019/media-resources/science-in-5>

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

56,902

NAT Tests past 7 days

1,702,125

Cumulative NAT Tests

Cases

3,642

New cases past 7 days
(4.2% 7-day)

86,041

Cumulative Cases

Deaths

119

Deaths past 7 days
(7% 7-day)

1,704

Cumulative Deaths

6,594

Imported cases in the past
28 days

**Health
Service
Provision
COVID-19**

225

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

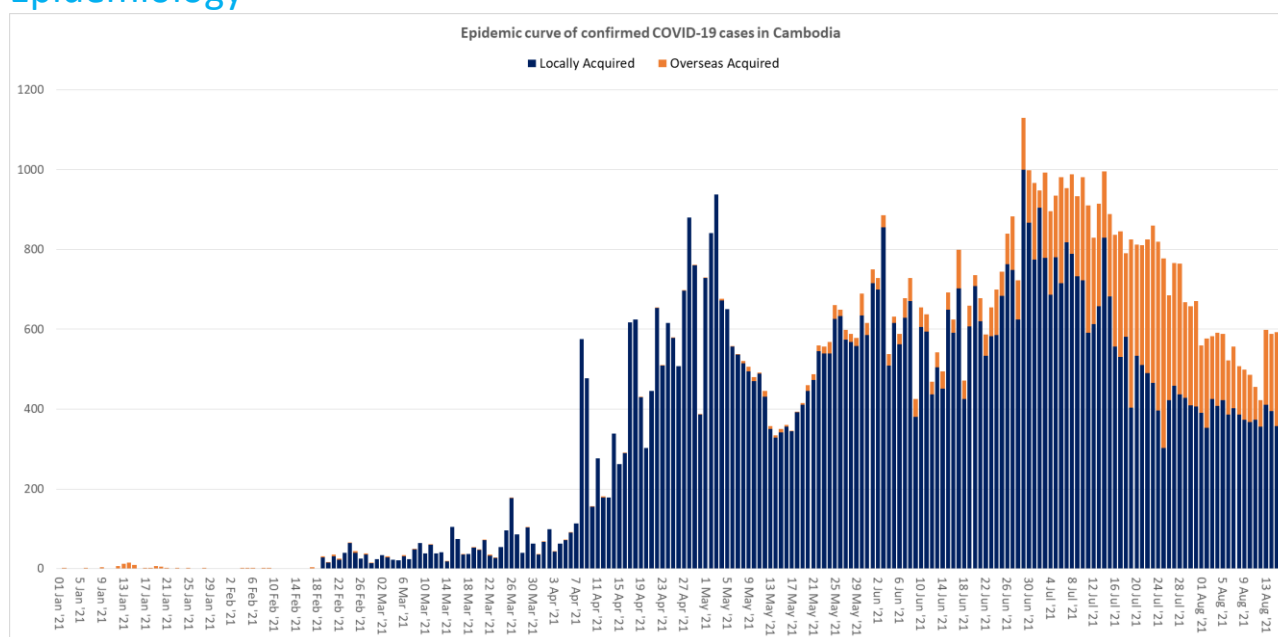


Figure 1. Epidemic curve of confirmed COVID-19 cases by date of report

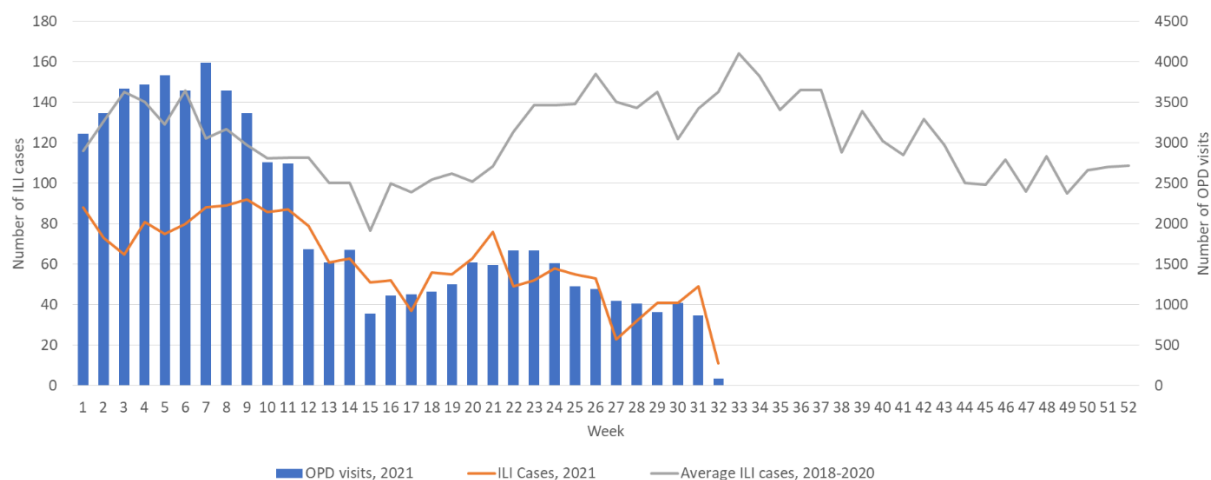


Figure 2. Number of ILI cases from ILI sentinel sites (n=7) by week, 2021 and 2018-2020*

*Delayed reporting for some sentinel sites in recent weeks

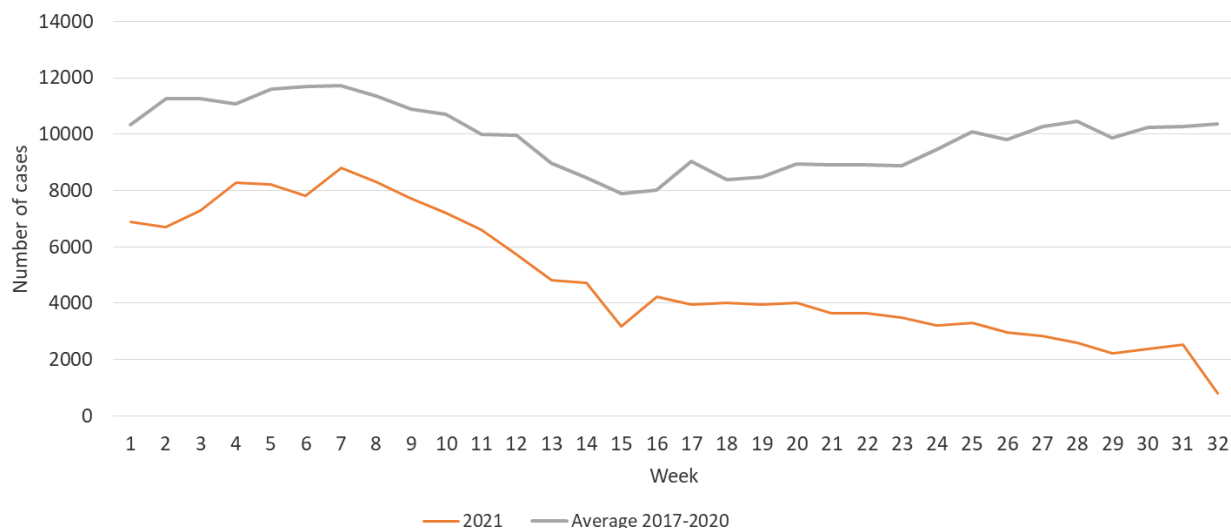


Figure 3. Number of patients with severe respiratory illness by week, 2021 and 2018-2020

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 16 August 2021:

- **COVID-19 vaccine updated**
The Royal Government of Cambodia received **24,506,600 doses of COVID-19 vaccines**
 - ❖ 18,500,000 (75%) doses procured by Royal Government of Cambodia from China
 - ❖ 3,615,000 (15%) doses donated by government of China and UK (3,200,000 doses donated by government of China and 415,000 doses donated by government of UK)
 - ❖ 2,391,600 (10%) doses through COVAX Facility (including dose sharing from government of Japan and US)
- **COVID-19 vaccination Roll Out:**
 1. **Vaccination coverage for ≥ 18 years old**
 - ❖ **8,456,216** (Female: 50%) and **7,364,522** (Female: 50%) 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 85%, and for the second dose is 74%.
 2. **Vaccination coverage for children aged from 12 to under 18 years old**
 - ❖ A total of **588,333 (30%)** children aged from 12 to under 18 years were vaccinated with COVID-19 vaccine,
 - ❖ The proportion of female receiving the first dose is 50% among total doses vaccinated.
 3. **Booster dose vaccination coverage for for frontline health workers and civil servants**
 - ❖ **277,074** frontline health workers and civil servants were vaccinated with booster dose of AstraZeneca vaccine
- **COVID-19 Vaccine safety**
178 AEFI cases were reported from 23 provinces and four national hospitals; AEFI reporting rate per 100,000 doses = 1.11
 - ❖ AEFI reporting rate per 100,000 doses for Sinovac vaccine = (72 cases) 0.78
 - ❖ AEFI reporting rate per 100,000 doses for Sinopharm vaccine = (75 cases) = 1.39
 - ❖ 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 = (2 cases) = 0.32

Non-Pharmaceutical Interventions (NPI)

- On 11 August 2021, the Royal Government of Cambodia extended the nationwide campaign to strengthen measures for combating the spread of COVID-19 for another week from 13 to 19 August and lockdown in 07 border provinces (Banteay Meanchey, Oddar Meanchey, Battambang, Pailin, Koh Kong, Pursat, Preah Vihear) and Siem Reap was lifted on 12th August 2021, and the borders the 07 provinces share with Thailand were reopened from 13th August.
- Phnom Penh Capital and 18 provinces have followed the guidance of the Royal Government of Cambodia on the continued national campaign, extending their administrative measures for combating COVID-19 from one to two weeks. Phnom Penh and Siem Reap extended their administrative measures for two weeks, while the remaining 17 provinces extended their measures for only one week.
- On 16 August 2021, the Ministry of Health issued an announcement, making mask wearing and physical distancing in 15 additional provinces (Pursat, Battambang, Mondul Kiri, Ratanak Kiri, Kratie, Stung Treng, Kampot, Kep, Kampong Thom, Preah Vihear, Pailin, Koh Kong, Kampong Chhnang, Tbong Khmum and Oddar Meanchey) compulsory;
- On 12 August 2021, Minister of Health and Chair of the Inter-Ministerial Committee to Combat COVID-19 instructed chairs of municipal-provincial committees to combat COVID-19 to re-arrange quarantine centres and other necessary arrangements for receiving migrants returning from Thailand.
- On 12 August 2021, Phnom Penh Capital Hall informed:
 - ❖ individuals who self-test using rapid test device and testing positive for COVID-19 to self-isolate and immediately notify health officer or local authorities in order for them to assess if home-based treatment is appropriate;
 - ❖ mild and non-Delta cases to sign an agreement before local authority in line with the SoP for Home-based Management, Care and Treatment of COVID-19 patients and to allow authority to hang "location of COVID-19 patients" banner;
 - ❖ that individuals treating themselves without informing health officers or local authority are punishable by a fine and imprisonment in accordance with enforced law and regulations;
 - ❖ neighbours of individuals suspected of COVID-19 and hiding and treating themselves are urged to immediately report to Phnom Penh Capital Hall or local authority to take timely action; and
 - ❖ Phnom Penh and Khan unity commands and Phnom Penh Health Department will collaborate on inspecting and monitoring in their respective jurisdiction
- Over the past week, 59 markets (mostly public) in Battambang were continued to be closed until 21 August 2021, and another 5 markets in Kampong Thom, Koh Kong and Stung Treng were closed. 4 markets (2 in Kratie and another 2 in Preah Sihanouk) were 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	-	-	-	-