

Key highlights (21 March – 3 April 2022)

- In the past 14 days, 697 new RT-PCR confirmed COVID-19 cases and 2 deaths were reported. Of these, 97% (n=679) were locally acquired, while 3% (n=18) were imported. The number of new COVID-19 cases and deaths have declined by 71% and 80% respectively, as compared to the previous 14 days.
- A total of 135,782 confirmed cases of COVID-19 and 3,054 deaths have been reported from Cambodia since 27 January 2020, of which 132,201 have recovered.
- As of 4 April 2022, a total of 2,601,352 tests have been performed using reverse-transcriptase polymerase chain reaction (RT-PCR). Since January 2020, a total of 1,857,982 individuals have been tested using RT-PCR, with an overall positivity rate of 5.2%.
- The number of new COVID-19 cases reported continued to decline in the past two weeks. Healthcare capacity remains stable with majority of cases under home-based care and recovery.
- Calibrated public health and social measures (PHSM) to suppress transmission, strengthening patient pathway and accelerated vaccination focusing on vulnerable groups remain priority areas for sustained management of COVID-19 and beyond.

Early detection and targeted response

- **Surveillance:**
 - ❖ WHO is supporting MOH on multi-source surveillance, risk assessment and calibration of PHSM.
 - ❖ WHO is also technically advising on developing genomic sequencing surveillance system including reviewing the current capacity and system.
 - ❖ WHO is planning with the MOH to conduct a review of the influenza surveillance system in Cambodia, leveraging on the expanded capacities for COVID-19 response and envisioning the future of respiratory disease surveillance to strengthen preparedness and early detection.

Public health and social measures (PHSM)

- From 28 March to 1 April, with WHO support, the Communicable Disease Control Department of MOH conducted two provincial workshops in Battambang and Siem Reap provinces to strengthen PHSM monitoring system. 10 other provinces participated in the workshops with representatives from the Ministry of Health, provincial administration, Departments of Health, Tourism, Cults and Religion, and Education. The workshops discussed about system in place for each sector to learn and adjust PHSM using risk-based approaches. As a next step, establishment of linkage and coordination between sectors to adjust the measures collectively need to be further explored.

Risk communication and community engagement

- CDC/MoH continues to implement social media plan for Khmer New Year and urges all health partners, institutions, and local authorities to remain vigilant and promote safe and preventive practices among families and to protect vulnerable populations such as the elderly and pregnant women by getting them vaccinated before Khmer New Year.
- The National Centre for Health Promotion (NCHP) with technical support of WHO will initiate “implementation of community engagement and surveillance with community engagement for COVID-19, influenza and other respiratory pathogens” including capacity development activities for Provincial Health

Department, Operational District, and health centre staff from April 2022 in nine priority provinces in Cambodia.

- MoH launched a national COVID-19 awareness campaign on March 22 to educate, disseminate and raise awareness under the theme “Omicron spreads faster than previous variants and causes a great risk to you and your family”. The campaign aims to raise awareness and increase the participation of individuals, families, and communities, as well as relevant institutions, ministries, other public organizations, local authorities at all levels, national and international organizations, NGOs, and private services to continue to implement the necessary COVID-19 measures.

Vaccination

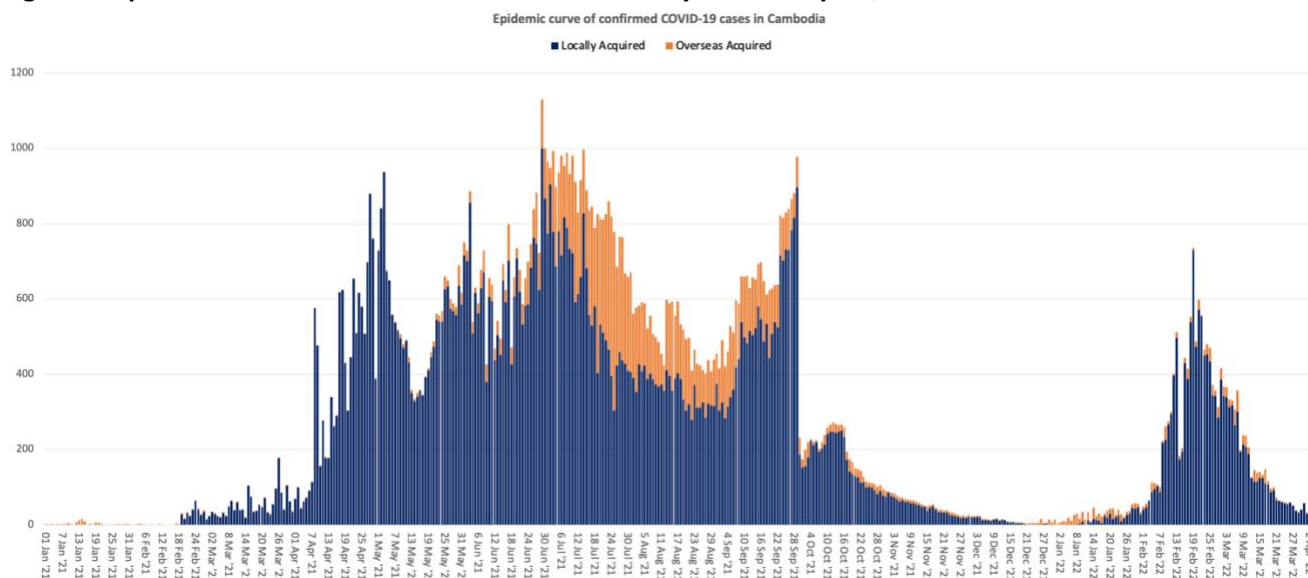
- GAVI mission on 28 March – 1 April 2022: WHO, UNICEF and CHAI met with the chair of Ad-hoc Committee for COVID-19 Vaccination throughout the Country, key members, and NIP to discuss COVID-19 vaccine allocation and vaccination strategy planning. During the meeting, GAVI informed that COVAX would increase its allocation of COVID-19 vaccines to Cambodia up to 30% of total population.
- As per ACC-19 announcement on 18 March 2022, all provinces are:
 - ❖ Using Pfizer vaccines for the fourth dose for people aged ≥18 years.
 - ❖ Using Pfizer vaccines for the third dose for people aged ≥12 years.
 - ❖ Suspending the use of the Sinopharm and Sinovac vaccines for the third and fourth doses to people aged ≥18 years until vaccines with shorter expiry dates are used up.
- The third dose (booster dose) for children aged 5 years started on 30 March 2022 using Sinovac vaccines.
- WHO’s support to the National Immunization Program (NIP):
 - ❖ Identifying the unvaccinated, microplanning at subnational levels, implementation at designated sites and mobile team to remote/hard-to-reach communities, communication and community engagement, field monitoring and supervision, in efforts to reach all eligible populations in Cambodia.
 - ❖ Funding support to Battambang, Siem Reap, Kampong Chhnang and Kampong Speu province to conduct catch-up immunization at villages on Tonle Sap and other remote villages.

Healthcare delivery and pathway

- Two sessions of virtual clinical case discussion were organized: on 22 March with a clinical case presentation from Pursat, and on 29 March with two clinical case presentations from Oddar Meanchey and Mekong Kampong Cham hospital.
- Oxygen Therapy onsite coaching were completed in 36 referral hospitals of 6 provinces during quarter 1 of 2022. At least 10 hospital personnel in each hospital attended the session. This activity will continue in quarter 2 of 2022 in other 36 referral hospitals of another 6 provinces.
- WHO is working with MOH to strengthen home-based recovery and hospital surveillance to avoid exceeding health care capacity including revision of communication materials and guidance. A quick survey on home-based care and recovery were conducted in Siem Reap, Kampong Cham, Prey Veng, Kandal, and Phnom Penh. The findings from this survey will be used to revise the Standard Operating Procedure (SOP) for home-based care and recovery system in Cambodia.
- Based on the Ministry of Health’s letter dated 17 March 2022 instructing all health managers in Cambodia to integrate COVID-19 service into healthcare system in both public and private healthcare facilities, WHO supported the Department of Hospital Services to draft the new patient flow and is now drafting the SOP.

Epidemiology

Figure 1. Epidemic curve of confirmed COVID-19 cases by date of report, 2021-2022*



*As of 30 September 2021, only RT-PCR test results are being reported in the case numbers. Mandatory testing for incoming travellers has been lifted since 17 March 2022.

Table 1. Summary table of COVID-19 indicators

Epi Update COVID-19	Tests	Cases	Deaths
	12,841 NAT Tests past 14 days	679 New cases past 14 days	2 New deaths past 14 days
	18 Imported cases past 14 days		
	2,601,352 Cumulative NAT Tests	135,782 Cumulative Cases	3,054 Cumulative Deaths
Health Service Provision COVID-19	79	145	1,626
	Hospitals admitting COVID-19 patients	Treatment centers for COVID-19 patients	Total ICU beds available at hospitals and treatment centers

Table 2. Transmission stage assessment¹ by province

Transmission stage	Provinces
Stage 3 – Large-scale community transmission	Phnom Penh

¹Transmission stages for sub-national classification from the WHO Regional Office for the Western Pacific.

Stage 2 – Localized community transmission	Preah Sihanouk, Kampong Speu, Kandal, Takeo, Kampot, Banteay Meanchey, Battambang, Kampong Cham, Kampong Chhnang, Prey Veng, Preah Vihear, Svay Rieng, Tbong Khmum, Stung Treng, Kampong Thom, Siem Reap, Oddar Meanchey, Koh Kong, Kep, Kratie and Pailin
Stage 1 – Imported cases	Pursat, Mondulkiri and Ratanakiri*

*Limited evidence for reclassification, but likely to be in stage 2

Table 3. COVID-19 vaccination roll-out by target groups (healthcare workers, elderly, adults and children)

Started	Healthcare workers (N=43,646)	Adults		Children			
		≥60 (N=1,378,688)	≥18 years (N=10,000,000)	3-4 years (N=610,730)	5 years (N=304,317)	6 to 11 years (N=1,897,382)	12 to 17 years (N=1,827,348)
		10 Feb 21	10 Feb 21	22 Feb 22	1 Nov 21	17 Sep 21	1 Aug 21
1st dose	43,646 (100%)	1,410,188 (102.3%)	10,268,201 (102.7%)	309,547 (50.7%)	376,761 (123.8%)	2,044,671 (107.8%)	1,829,898 (100.1%)
2nd dose	43,646 (100%)	1,394,086 (101.1%)	9,922,773 (99.2%)	93,612 (15.3%)	290,765 (95.5%)	1,970,881 (103.9%)	1,764,428 (96.6%)
3rd dose	43,646 (100%)	863,989 (62.7%)	5,907,671 (59.1%)	N/A	635 (0.2%)	853,498 (45.0%)	1,210,729 (66.3%)
4th dose		1,183,539 (11.8 %)		N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A

Table 4. Adverse event following immunization (AEFI) reporting rate per 100,000 doses by vaccine product

COVID-19 Vaccine	Sinovac (CoronaVac)	Sinopharm (BBIBP-CorV)	AstraZeneca (Covishield)	Janssen (Ad26.COV2-S)	AstraZeneca (Vaxzevria)	Moderna (Spikevax)	Pfizer-BioNTech (Comirnaty)	Total
Number of cases	101	79	29	4	1	3	0	217
Total dose administered	24,084,168	7,466,841	323,344	1,053,151	2,725,906	349,239	971,809	36,974,458
AEFI reporting rate per 100,000 doses	0.42	1.06	8.97	0.38	0.04	0.86	0	0.59

References and links

- [MOH website](#): The official MOH webpage.
- [WHO-MOH country situation report](#): The latest COVID-19 situation reports for Cambodia
- [Regional situation report](#): The latest COVID-19 situation reports for the WHO Western Pacific Region.
- [Global situation report](#): The weekly global epidemiological and operational COVID-19 update from WHO.
- [WHO guidelines](#): The latest WHO COVID-19 technical and country guidance.
- [WHO COVID-19 dashboard](#): The latest global and regional-level COVID-19 data.