

## Key highlights (4 – 17 April 2022)

- In the past 14 days, 294 new RT-PCR confirmed COVID-19 cases and 1 death was reported. Of these, 99% (n=292) were locally acquired, while 1% (n=2) were imported. The number of new COVID-19 cases and deaths have declined by 58% and 50% respectively, as compared to the previous 14 days.
- As of 17 April 2022, a total of 136,076 confirmed cases of COVID-19 and 3,055 deaths have been reported from Cambodia since 27 January 2020, of which 132,789 have recovered.
- As of 17 April 2022, a total of 2,610,985 tests have been performed using reverse-transcriptase polymerase chain reaction (RT-PCR). Since January 2020, a total of 1,865,321 individuals have been tested using RT-PCR, with an overall positivity rate of 5.2%.
- The number of new COVID-19 cases reported in Cambodia continued to decline in the past two weeks. However, there is very high risk of increased transmission due to significant domestic travel and mass gatherings across the country during the Khmer New Year. Health system 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:**
  - ❖ With MOH and the National Centre for Health Promotion (NCHP), WHO is providing technical expertise to build surveillance with community engagement to strengthen early detection for COVID-19 and other epidemic prone diseases.
  - ❖ WHO is supporting MOH to strengthen capacity for cluster investigations that focus on high risk settings and vulnerable populations through simulation exercises in the provinces.

## Public health and social measures

- On 10 April 2022, Samdech Prime Minister announced lifting of mandatory mask wearing in four provinces (Ratanakiri, Mondulakiri, Stung Treng and Preah Vihear). MOH released a press statement on 12 April 2022, stating that people in the four provinces can decide by themselves whether to wear masks or not, but mask wearing is still mandatory outside of the four provinces. Provincial authorities were instructed to ensure health system capacity for early detection and timely response, with daily reports from health departments to monitor the impact on transmission, and people who show COVID-19 symptoms to self-test.

## Risk communication and community engagement

- WHO published an op-ed before Khmer New Year to remind people to remain vigilant while celebrating with loved ones.
- WHO is working with DHS/MoH and health partners to celebrate World Hand Hygiene Day 2022, including development of visibility materials.
- The NCHP with technical support of WHO will initiate “implementation of community engagement and surveillance 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.

- CDC/MOH and WHO regional office initiated a Facebook campaign during the Khmer New year, promoting and engaging the public to remain vigilant, continue to practice preventive behaviours and help their family members, elderly persons, pregnant and lactating women, and friends to get booster doses as recommended by the MOH.



Facebook posts on CDC/MOH page during Khmer New Year on COVID-19 preventive measures and vaccination.

- WHO has updated the Q&A on home-based care for families and caregivers with new questions on home-based care for children: <https://www.who.int/emergencies/diseases/novel-coronavirus-2019/question-and-answers-hub/q-a-detail/coronavirus-disease-covid-19-home-care-for-families-and-caregivers>

## Vaccination

- 325,000 doses of SII/COVISHIELD vaccine donated from India arrived in Cambodia. In total, Cambodia has received 49,779,860 vaccine doses to date.
- GAVI communicated to Cambodia that COVAX decided to expand an offer of vaccines for paediatric population to countries that have achieved higher primary series coverage, and Cambodia has been prioritized to receive paediatric doses of Pfizer vaccines.
- COVID-19 vaccination campaigns are conducted during and after the Khmer New Year for people who have not completed their primary course and booster dose through:
  - ❖ Increasing mobile vaccination sites at pagodas, factories, school, public places, and tourist sites.
  - ❖ Conducting catch up COVID-19 vaccination in urban poor, minority, and high-risk communities.
  - ❖ Coordination among health sectors and local authorities, public and private sectors for clear guidance to the people on the importance of the completion of primary course and a booster dose.
  - ❖ Mobilizing local supporters to identify and register missed and under-vaccinated people, communicate with the public for increasing awareness/demand, conduct outreaches, monitor and follow up.
  - ❖ Mobilizing vaccinators outside of the MOH (e.g. Ministry of National Defence, Ministry of Interior, Volunteer Medical Doctor of Samdech Vibol Sena Pheakdey Sau Chhum, and Medical Doctor of Union of Youth Federations of Cambodia).
- 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, risk communication and community engagement, field monitoring and supervision, in efforts to reach all eligible populations in Cambodia.

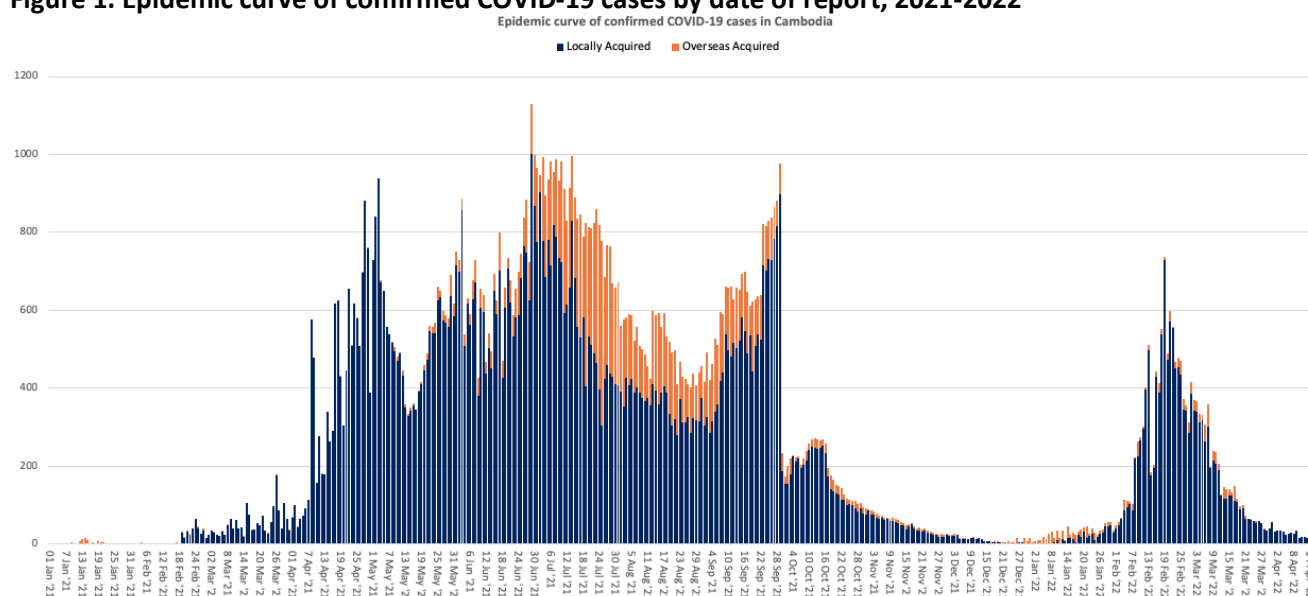
- ❖ Funding support to Battambang, Siem Reap, Kampong Chhnang and Kampong Speu province to conduct catch-up immunization at villages on Tonle Sap and other remote villages.

## Healthcare delivery and pathway

- WHO is supporting the MOH to update the Clinical Management Protocol (Version 6) which include additional key messages for the usage of Molnupiravir, based on WHO's recommendation, including precaution and safety concerns for the general practitioners and public users of this drug.
- WHO is supporting the Department of Hospital Services (DHS) to draft a practical guideline on integrating COVID-19 services into the healthcare system. This practical guideline is expected to be released soon by the MOH.

## Epidemiology

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



\*As of 30 Sep 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	
	<b>9,633</b>	<b>294</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>2</b>
	NAT Tests past 14 days	New cases past 14 days	New deaths past 14 days	Imported cases past 14 days
	<b>2,610,985</b>	<b>136,076</b>	<b>3,055</b>	
	Cumulative NAT Tests	Cumulative Cases	Cumulative Deaths	

Health Service  
Provision  
COVID-19

79

Hospitals admitting  
COVID-19 patients

145

Treatment centers for  
COVID-19 patients

1,626

Total ICU beds available at  
hospitals and treatment centers

**Table 2. COVID-19 vaccination roll-out by target groups (healthcare workers, elderly, adults and children)**

Started	Healthcare workers (N=43,646)	Adults		3-4 years (N=610,730)	5 years (N=304,317)	Children	
		≥60 (N=1,378,688)	≥18 years (N=10,000,000)			6 to 11 years (N=1,897,382)	12 to 17 years (N=1,827,348)
		10 Feb 21	10 Feb 21			17 Sep 21	1 Aug 21
1 <sup>st</sup> dose	43,646 (100%)	1,410,594 (102.3%)	10,274,445 (102.7%)	322,719 (52.8%)	379,850 (124.8%)	2,047,218 (107.9%)	1,830,876 (100.2%)
2 <sup>nd</sup> dose	43,646 (100%)	1,394,485 (101.1%)	9,930,003 (99.3%)	136,495 (22.3%)	300,481 (98.7%)	1,977,865 (104.2%)	1,766,061 (96.6%)
3 <sup>rd</sup> dose	43,646 (100%)	867,884 (62.9%)	5,974,244 (59.7%)	N/A	3,216 (1.1%)	888,033 (46.8%)	1,230,669 (67.3%)
4 <sup>th</sup> dose		1,232,144 (12.3%)		N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A

**Table 3. 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.