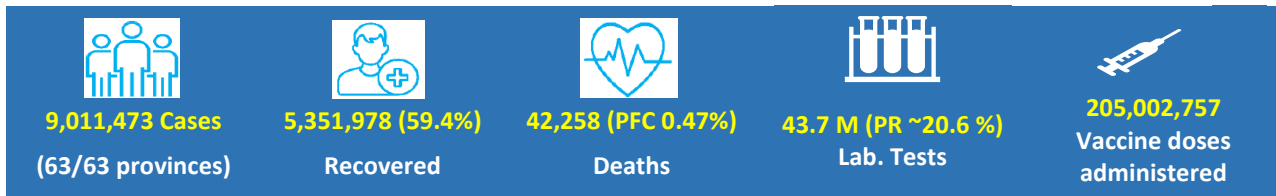


Viet Nam COVID-19 Situation Report #86

Epidemiological report as of 27 March 2022, 18:00

Situation Summary

Cumulative numbers from 25 Jan 2020 – 27 Mar 2022



Highlights from Current Community Outbreak (from 27 April 2021 to 27 March 2022)¹

- **Overall downward trends have been observed during past week for daily new cases, severe cases and deaths** nationwide, in Ha Noi, HCMC and many other provinces.
- **Almost 240,000 backlogged cases** have been reported, mostly from Northern provinces including Thai Binh, Hung Yen, Quang Ninh, Vinh Phuc, Nam Dinh, Hoa Binh, Bac Giang and Tuyen Quang. Cases are likely to be **underreported** as self-tested positive cases are not always reported to health authorities.
- There is **no current evidence of strain on the healthcare system**. There are approximately **3,300 severe cases being treated in HCFs**, decreased 20% compared to 10 days ago. Approximately **99% of the infected cases are under home recovery**.
- **During the week (from 21 – 27 Mar)**, a total of **1,053,425 new cases** and **441 new deaths** were reported.
- The 7-day moving average of **cases was 150,483 (decreased 43%)**; of **severe cases was 3,785 (decreased 8.5%)** of **deaths was 61 (decreased 14.1%)**; and unchanged for **deaths per cases** (remains at 0.04%), as compared to the previous week.
- **Cumulatively** from April 2021 to 27 Mar 2022, **9,008,621 cases** have been reported including **42,223 deaths (PFC 0.47%)** from **63 cities/provinces**. Number of **recovered** cases is **5,349,161 (59.45%)**.
- Five (5) cities/ provinces with highest case number reported include: **Ha Noi** (1,260,268 cases, 1,206 deaths, PFC 0.1%); **HCMC** (591,198 cases, 20,465 deaths, PFC 3.46%); **Nghe An** (377,041 cases, 135 deaths, PFC 0.04%); **Binh Duong** (372,549 cases, 3,438 deaths, PFC 0.92%); and **Hai Duong** (336,060 cases, 106 deaths, PFC 0.03%). See *Figures 1, 2, 3 and 4*.

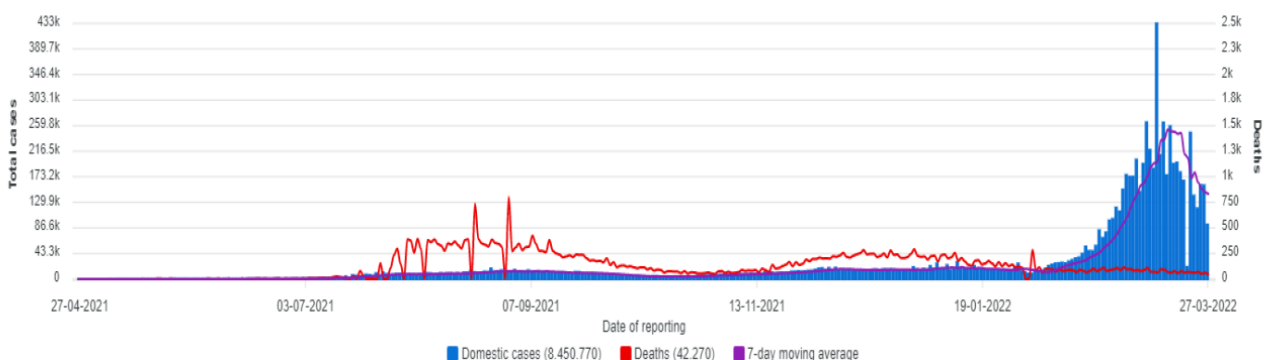


Figure 1. Epidemic curve of COVID-19 laboratory confirmed cases and deaths by date of reporting for the current outbreaks, from 27 Apr 2021 – 27 March 2022, Viet Nam

¹ For updates before 21 Mar 2021, refer to previous Sitreps. While epidemiological figures are as of 27 Mar, other information may cover beyond this cut-off date.

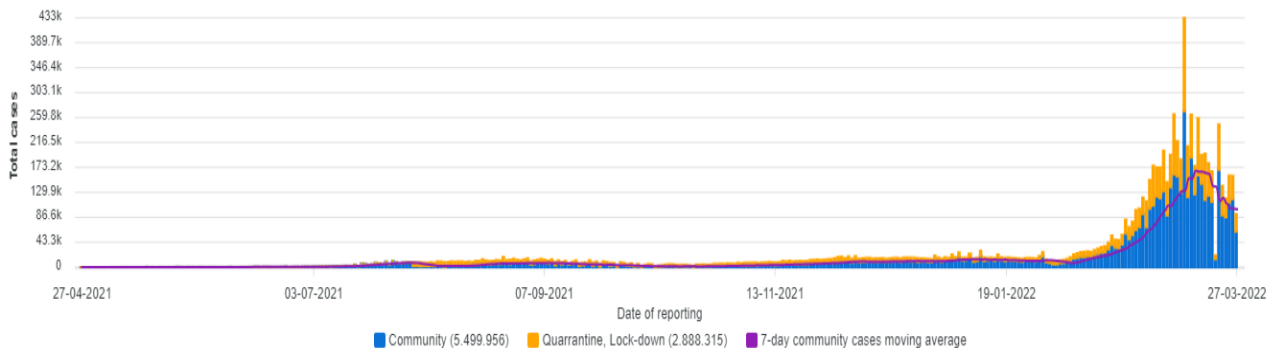


Figure 2. Epidemic curve of COVID-19 laboratory confirmed cases with category of detection, by date of reporting for the current outbreaks, from 27 Apr 2021 – 27 March 2022, Viet Nam

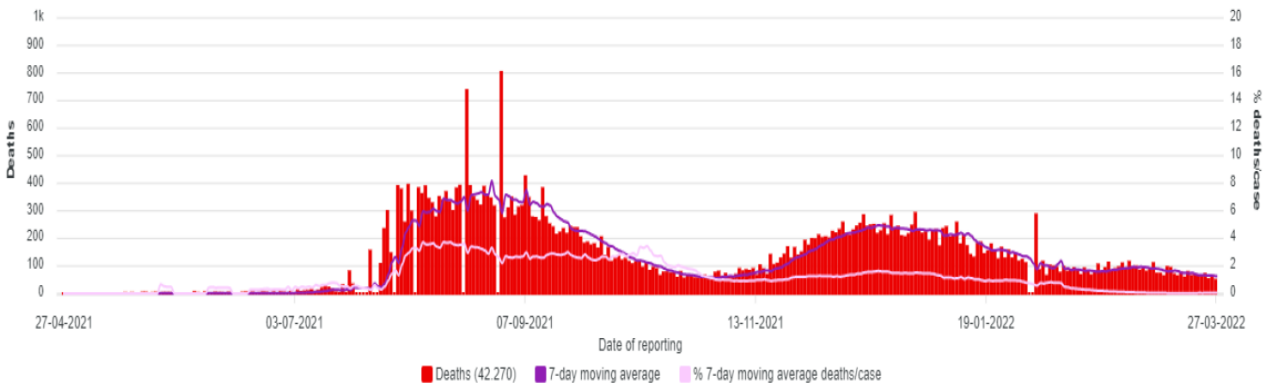


Figure 3. Epidemic curve of COVID-19 deaths and case fatality ratio, by date of reporting current outbreaks, from 27 Apr 2021 – 27 Mar 2022, Viet Nam

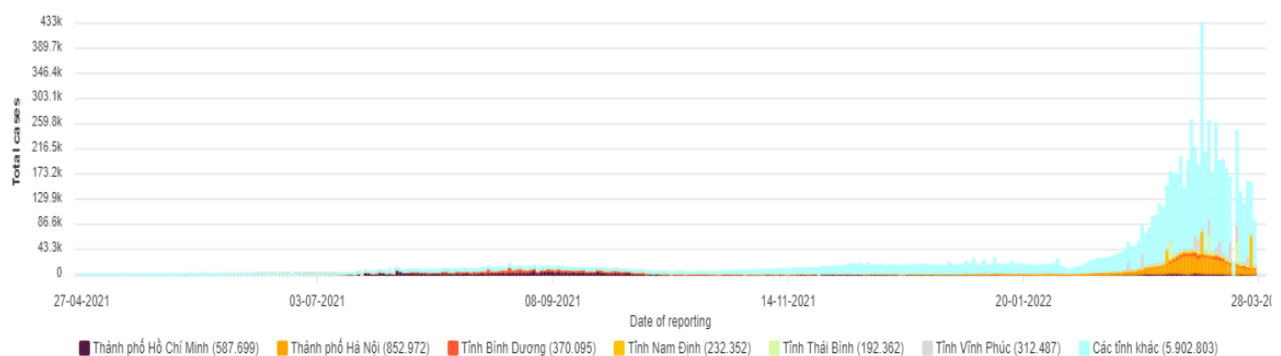
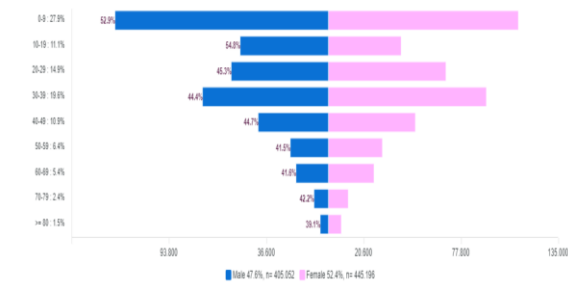
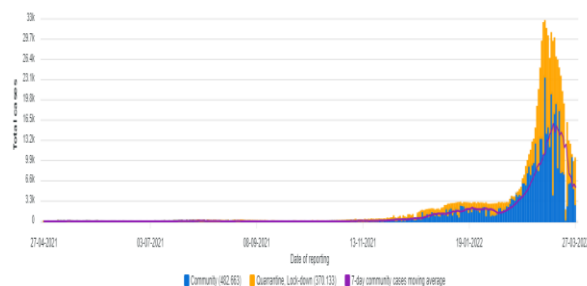


Figure 4. Epidemic curve of COVID-19 laboratory confirmed cases by date of reporting in selected provinces, for the current outbreaks, from 27 Apr 2021 – 27 March 2022, Viet Nam

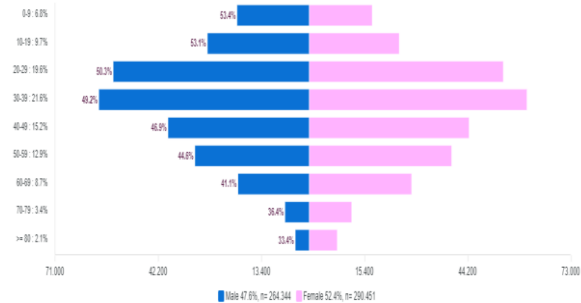
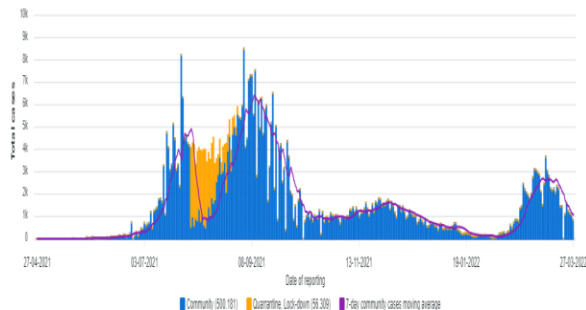
Ha Noi situation

- **Total cases:** 1,260,268; **Deaths:** 1,206 (additional 25 deaths during past week, PFC 0.1%)
- **Daily cases have been on a downward trend** in the past two weeks (by 21%, with no backlog of cases was recorded during the week). The 7-day moving average of cases decreased 75.1% (from 59,638 to 12,871 cases/day).
- **Around 99% of the cases are asymptomatic or with mild symptoms and under home-based recovery.**
- Number of new cases per 100,000 pop reported in the past 7 days: 1,113
- 100% of the target population (≥ 18 years old) have been fully vaccinated; 100% of population in 12-17 age group have been fully vaccinated; 75.6% of the target population have received booster doses.
- Outbreak level assessment: No update since 6 Mar. (Previous update: as of 6 Mar, 332/ 579 communes (57.3%) are in Level 1 (green zone); 245 communes (42.3%) are in Level 2 (yellow zone); 2 communes (0.4%) are in Level 3 (orange zone); and no communes are in Level 4 (red zone).



HCMC situation

- **Total cases:** 591,198; **Deaths:** 20,465 (PFC 3.46%)
- The 7-day moving average of **cases decreased 39.5%** (from 1,996 to 1,207 cases/day); and **decreased 26.7% for deaths** (11 deaths reported in past week). Number of new cases decreased 42% compared to past 14 days.
- Number of new cases per 100,000 pop in the past 7 days: 93 (decreased 40% from previous week)
- 97.9% of the target population (> 18 years old) have been fully vaccinated; 82.32% of population in 12-17 age group have been fully vaccinated; 62% of the target population have received booster doses.
- Even though HCMC ranked the third with the number of hospitalizations (65,049 cases), after Ha Noi (244,944 cases) and Nghe An (75,329 cases), the City has the highest number of cases turning severe (590 cases). (source: VAMS/ MOH)



During the past 7 days, cities/ provinces recorded increased numbers of new community cases included Yen Bai (6,491 cases) and Bac Kan (3,062 cases); and those recorded decreased numbers of new community cases included Ha Noi (47,838 cases) and Nghe An (15,079 cases).

Age and sex distribution of COVID-19 cases: Analysis from 8,380,458 cases shows that ages of cases range from 2 months to 100 years old. About 48.8% of all cases are in the 30-69 years old age group, 3.6% are above 70 years old, and the remaining 47.6% are under 30 years old. The proportion of males vs females is 45.4% vs 54.6%. *See Figure 5.*

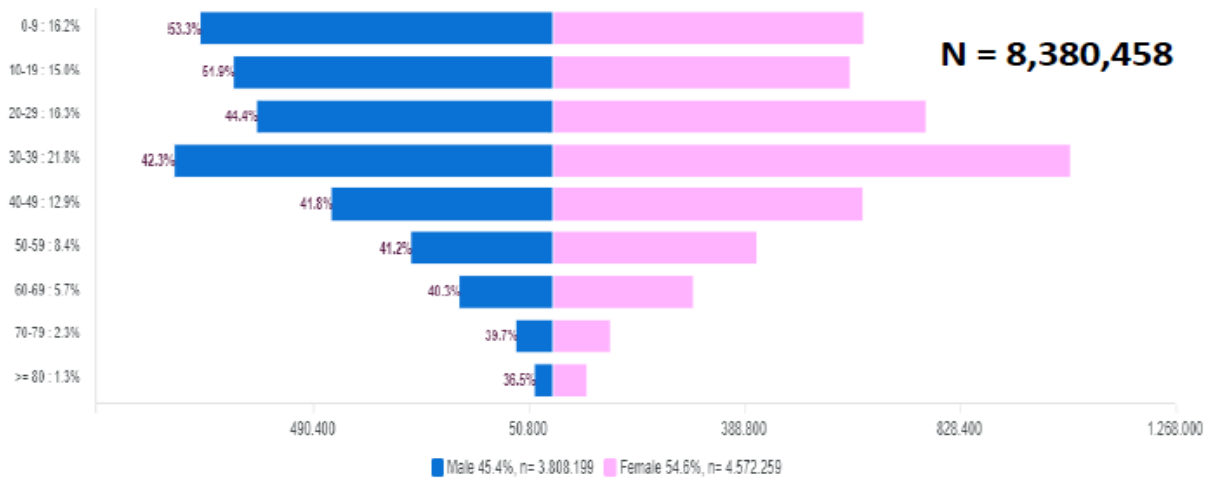


Figure 5. Distribution of COVID-19 cases by age group and sex, current community outbreak as of 27 Mar 2022

For more details, visit: [COVID-19 Dashboard](#) of the General Department of Preventive Medicine (GDPM)/MOH.

Cumulatively from Jan 2020 to 27 March 2022, Viet Nam has reported a total cumulative number **9,011,473 laboratory confirmed cases (99.9% are locally transmitted)** from all 63 provinces including **42,258 deaths (PFC 0.47%)**; of those approximately **59.4% have recovered**. There are currently **3,617,237 people being monitored and treated** of those **3,447 (about 0.09%, decreased 0.01% as compared to the previous week) are severe cases** including **5 patients are under ECMO** (update as of 16:00 26 March 2022).

❖ **Vaccine supply and vaccination** (See Annex 1)

- As of 27 March, a total of **217,469,996 doses of COVID-19 vaccines have arrived in Viet Nam** (no change from last week). In which: COVAX: 61,731,300 doses; donation from countries: 32,265,800 doses; and bilateral procurement: 123,472,896 doses. There will be approximately 81,619,914 doses in the plan from all sources.
- As of 27 March, a total of **205,216,774 doses have been administered** (~3.4M doses last week): 80,001,969 people from 12 years of age and above got 1st dose (~81.4% of total pop) and **number of people from 12 years and above completed 2nd dose has reached 76,351,531 (~77.7% of total pop)**. There are 14,822,958 immunocompromised people and high-risk people got additional dose and 32,538,114 people who are fully vaccinated got booster dose (33.1% of total population).
- MOH is planning to launch COVID-19 vaccination for children 5-11 years old (the decision was already made on 1 March), training for health workers will be conducted in the week of 28 March – 1 April, it's expected that the vaccination program will get started in early-mid April once vaccine for children available.
- **Ha Noi:** as of 27 March, a total of 6,200,853 people from 12 years of age and above got 1st dose (~73.7% of total pop.) and **6,044,430 people from 12 years of age and above completed full doses (~71.8% of total pop.)**. There are 3,995,574 who are fully vaccinated got booster dose (~47.5% of total population).
- To date, nine vaccines in Emergency Use Authorization by NRA of Viet Nam: AstraZeneca, Pfizer, Moderna, Johnson & Johnson (Janssen), Sinopharm BIBP, Sputnik V, and Hayat-Vax COVID-19 (Sinopharm manufacturing site), Abdala and recently Covaxin (produced by Bharat Biotech International Limited, India).

❖ **Government direction and key public health response measures**

- No new updates



- Assessment of outbreak level

- o Localities continue assessing the local outbreak level from commune/ward level, as guided by the Government Resolution No. 128/ NQ-CP dated 11 Oct and the MOH's Decision No. 218/QD-BYT dated 27 Jan 2022.
- o As of 29 Mar 2022, there were 4,557 (43%) communes assessed as Level 1 (-0.6%); 2,760 (26%) communes assessed as Level 2 (+1.4%); 3,019 (28.5%) communes assessed as Level 3 (-2.6%); and 249 (2.3%) communes assessed as Level 4 (-1.2%) compared to the assessment done on 22 Mar. This reflects the current surge in community transmission in many provinces, also the application of the updated assessment indicators. See the [MOH Link](#) for the most updated information.

- Key PHSMs

- o Viet Nam continues moving forward sustained management of COVID-19 and to facilitate the resumption of tourism, many events have been organized at national and provincial levels. For examples on 26 Mar, the National Tourism Year event was organized in Quang Nam province [\[EBS\]](#); on 25 Mar, Ha Noi organized "Du lịch Hà Nội chào 2022" events [\[EBS\]](#); from 19-21 Mar Da Nang organized the international Marathon running competition/award and the City is preparing to receive international tourists from Singapore and Bangkok [\[EBS\]](#); and Ho Chi Minh City has been organizing "I love Vietnamese Ao Dai" festival from 4 Mar to 15 Apr 2022 [\[EBS\]](#). However, in the current context of large COVID-19 community outbreaks, localities should remain vigilant for the ongoing community transmission, conduct timely risk assessment and based on which to calibrate PHSMs to prevent crossing the 'red line" (overloading healthcare system).
- o 24 Mar - HCMC People's Committee issued Official Dispatch No. 882/UBND-VX guiding health measures for close contacts (F1) going to work or study. F1 contacts who have received at least 2 doses of COVID-19 vaccine or have had COVID-19 within the past 3 months could continue working or going to school but must follow the regulations including i) to self-monitor for at least 10 days after the last contact with the confirmed case; perform a RT-PCR or Ag-RDT for SARS-CoV-2 on day 5 and when they have any suggestive symptoms of COVID-19; during this time, F1 contacts must use personal transport means; ii) practise disease preventive and control measures such as wearing a face mask, hand washing, etc.; and iii) avoid having close contact with risk or vulnerable groups and use perform health declaration using PC-Covid app. (source: [HCDC](#))

- **School closure and reopening:** kindergartens and primary schools in various provinces/cities remain closed. As of 28 Mar 2022, 19 (67.8%) northern provinces, 9 (81.8%) central coastal provinces, one (25%) central highland province, and 11 (55%) southern provinces have applied in-class learning and teaching [\[EBS\]](#).

- **Travel restrictions:** on 27 Mar two international flights from Singapore and Bangkok arrived in Da Nang after 2 years of suspension [\[EBS\]](#).

❖ Laboratory testing

- As of 27 Mar, approximately 43,742,674 RT-PCR tests (both single and pooled samples) have been conducted since Jan 2020. For this current outbreak, 38,009,510 RT-PCR tests (both single and pooled samples) and for this week, 1,034,999 RT-PCR tests (both single and pooled samples) have been conducted.
- **Whole Genome Sequencing:** As of 27 March, Viet Nam has uploaded a total of 3,637 SARS-CoV-2 sequences to the GISAID platform (since the beginning of the pandemic), 104 additional sequences uploaded since the last Sitrep. Of the 1,478 sequences uploaded from 24 Dec 2021 to date, 710 sequences (48%) were Omicron; of those 396 (55.8%) were BA.2 lineage.
- Currently, there are 374 confirmatory laboratories for COVID-19 by RT-PCR established in country (154 from Northern region, 39 from Central-coastal region, 7 from Central-highland region, and 174 from Southern region).

❖ Case management

- As of 27 Mar, **1,692,875 COVID-19 cases** are being isolated, monitored or treated in the country (**19.9% decrease from last week**). Of those, **3,639 severe/critical cases are requiring oxygen (11.6% decrease from last week)**, this includes **2,888 cases in non-invasive ventilation (20% decrease from last week)**, **296 cases with invasive ventilation (3.3% decrease from last week)**, and **5 cases under ECMO**. ([Source](#))
- The number of COVID-19 cases being isolated, monitored/ home recovery or treated in the country continue to decrease during the previous week (Figure 7). The number of asymptomatic cases and those with mild symptoms undergoing home recovery decreased by 19% as compared to previous week (from 1,163,116 to 942,042 cases).

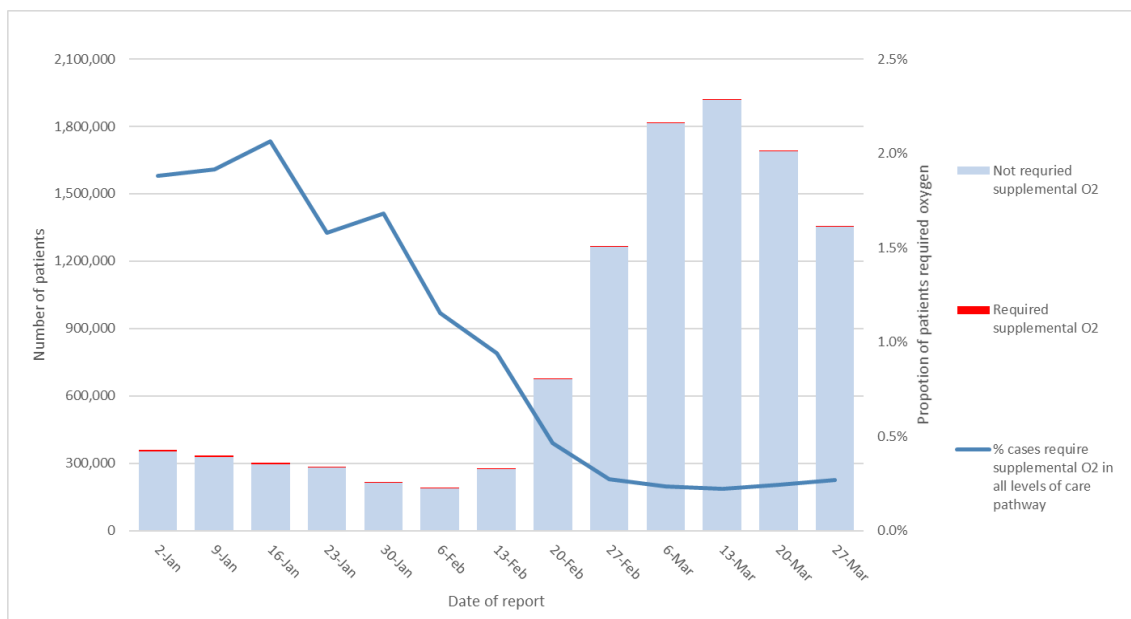


Figure 7. Trend of COVID-19 patients and proportion of those requiring supplemental oxygen in the care pathways in Viet Nam, 2 Jan – 27 Mar 2022 (Source)

- A sharper decrease was noted for the number of cases that needed non-invasive management (oxygen by mask, nasal cannula, HFNC, CPAP/BiPAP) . This continues the trend from the previous week and the number of non-invasive cases are now below 3000 cases per day. The number of critical cases (i.e. needing both invasive mechanical ventilators and ECMO) has stabilized at slightly above 300 (Figure 8).

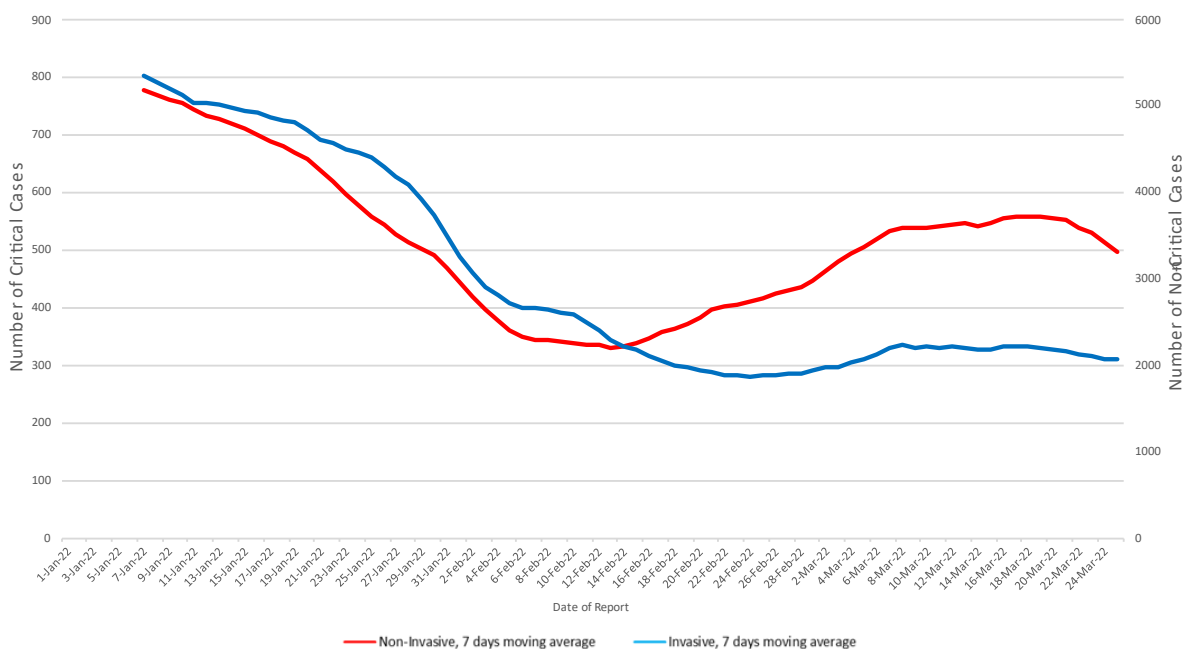


Figure 8. Trend of COVID-19 patients by type of management in Viet Nam (non-invasive vs invasive), 1 January to 25 March 2022 (Source)



Government response:

Central and provincial government continues monitoring the situation and capacity of COVID-19 care pathways, including but not limited to feedback from patients and their family members, hospital beds occupancy, critical care beds, workload of health care worker at all levels of the care pathways. The Ministry of Health is developing new infection prevention and control guidelines for COVID-19 following the current direction and priorities of the government, as well as new guideline for managing people with post-COVID-19 condition.

Central level

- 14 Mar – MOH promulgate Decision 604/QĐ-BYT on management of people infected with COVID-19 at home. Patients being treated at 2nd and 3rd levels whose condition have improved can go home for continued self-isolation.

Ho Chi Minh City

As of 27 Mar, there were 62,076 patients (32.3% decrease from last week) are being isolated, monitored/ home recovery, or treated in the city. 562 patients are being treated with supplemental O₂ (7.3% decrease from last week), of those 66 patients are in invasive ventilation (same as last week). ([Source](#)).

Ha Noi

As of 27 Mar, 238,068 patients (31.4% decrease from last week) are being isolated, monitored/ home recovery, or treated in the city. 279 patients are being treated with supplemental O₂ (52.6% decrease compared to the previous week), of those 23 patients are in invasive ventilation (30.3% decrease from last week). The 7-day moving average of deaths in the City is 3 (50% decrease as compared to the previous week) ([Source](#)).

❖ Risk communication

- Timely advice and guidance to the public from MOH and WHO are available in multiple channels and can also be accessed in the MOH Facebook page: [VNM MOH Sức khỏe Việt Nam](#) as well as WHO Facebook page: [World Health Organization Viet Nam](#).
- Media agencies received timely and regular updates on the outbreak situation and Government actions. Current topics of interest were on the current surge of COVID-19 cases Viet Nam and on the sustained management of COVID-19. Through media interviews, WHO continued emphasizing the need to adhere to preventive measures as the pandemic is not yet over.
- Communication materials that were newly developed or reposted were the following:
 - o Safe practices: [sanitizing hands and objects frequently touched at the workplace](#), [wearing a properly-fitted mask](#), [preventing transmission through clean linen and clothes](#),
 - o [#AskWHO](#) about COVID-19, with Drs Babatunde and van Kerkhove
 - o Managing [COVID-19 healthcare wastes](#)
- Continued boosting published Facebook posts on safe travels and home-based recovery.

For other communication products and campaign materials on COVID-19, visit the [World Health Organization Viet Nam Facebook Page](#).



WHO's support

WHO continues to support the MOH in various technical areas, such as providing technical advice with scientific evidence and latest guidance on shifting from Pandemic to Sustained Management of COVID-19; Omicron VOC; vaccine development, deployment and distribution (vaccination to 5-11 years old age group; additional/ booster doses); school reopening; quarantine and testing policies and practice in other countries and regions; supporting data management, reporting and information sharing; supporting the review and revision of strategies and technical guidelines including surveillance, testing, outbreak level assessment (i.e. newly issued MOH's Decision No.218 dated 27 Jan 2022), quarantine, NPIs (i.e. newly issuance of revised guidance for COVID-19 cases and their close contacts - MOH letter No.762/BYT-DP dated 21 Feb 2022) in the context of reopening socio-economic and tourism activities, etc.; supported conducting after-action review (AAR) and intra-action review (IAR); and effective communication (e.g., reinforcement of preventive measures, media engagement and communications on vaccine safety); supported development of the **National COVID-19 Prevention and Control Program, 2022-2023 which was issued via the Government Resolution 38 on 17 March 2022.**

For updates before 21 Mar 2022 - See previous Sitreps

Epidemiology

Epi Update COVID-19

Tests	Cases	Deaths	ICU Admissions
1,034,999	1,053,425	441	2,234
NAT Tests past 7 days (-25.5% 7-day)	New cases past 7 days (-43% 7-day)	Deaths past 7 days (-14.1% 7-day)	New ICU admissions past 7 days
43,742,674	9,011,473	42,258	At least 50,567
Cumulative NAT Tests	Cumulative Cases	Cumulative Deaths	Cumulative ICU Admissions

Health Service Provision COVID-19

Most of national hospital staff	TBU Healthcare worker cases reported past week (Total: \approx 3,000)	1,053,425 Hospitals admitting/home recovery COVID-19 past week	16,000 ICU beds in total estimated nationwide (ICU bed occupancy in HCMC and other affected provinces) (TBU)	30,000 (TBC) Non-ICU Hospital beds for COVID-19 patients (As of end-Nov – various field hospitals reactivated across the country where new community clusters emerged)
Health care workers trained in COVID19 Case Management				

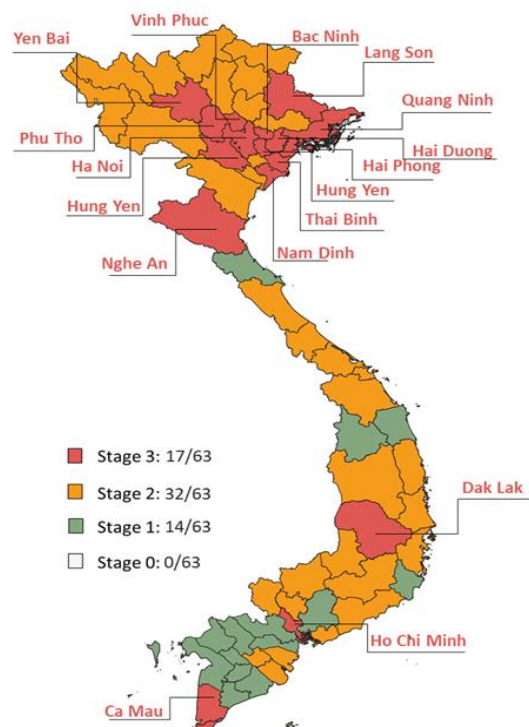


Transmission Stage Assessment

Overall assessment – As of the week ended on 27 March 2022, all 63 cities and provinces have reported COVID-19 cases. **Fourteen (14) provinces are in Stage 1; 32 provinces are in Stage 2; and 17 provinces are in Stage 3.** As the country entered a *new normal* stage from early October, with continued relaxation of PHSMs, community transmission was taking place during the past more than four months especially after the Tet holidays attributing to Omicron VOC; however, a decreasing trend of new cases is being observed. As Viet Nam resumes tourism from 15 March, it is expected that **community transmission due to Omicron may persist in the coming weeks.** The risk is even higher with vaccination complacency, lack of vigilance and adherence to the 5K practice.

Sub-national level

- **Seventeen (17) provinces are in Stage 3** – this includes 14 provinces from previous week (HCMC, Ca Mau, Ha Noi, Hai Phong, Nam Dinh, Hai Duong, Quang Ninh, Vinh Phuc, Phu Tho, Bac Ninh, Nghe An, Hung Yen, Lang Son, Hoa Binh) plus three additional provinces (Yen Bai, Dak Lak and Thai Binh) during this week. Large-scale community transmission is being observed in these provinces. Various provinces in Central-coastal and Southern regions may potentially be moving to Stage 3.
- **Thirty-two (32) provinces are in Stage 2** – these included Binh Thuan, Khanh Hoa, Tra Vinh, Ba Ria – Vung Tau, Bac Giang, Binh Phuoc, Quang Nam, Quang Binh, Lam Dong, Binh Dinh, Ben Tre, Thua Thien – Hue, Binh Duong, Da Nang, Tay Ninh, Vinh Long, Ha Nam, Son La, Lao Cai, Ninh Binh, Ha Giang, Thai Nguyen, Thanh Hoa, Quang Tri, Cao Bang, Lai Chau, Dien Bien, Dak Nong, Bac Kan, Phu Yen, Tuyen Quang, Gia Lai. Three provinces have moved to Stage 3 from this week.
- **Fourteen (14) provinces are in Stage 1** – The remaining provinces – two provinces (Dong Thap, Kien Giang) have moved from Stage 2 from this week.
- **No provinces are in Stage 0** – unchanged.



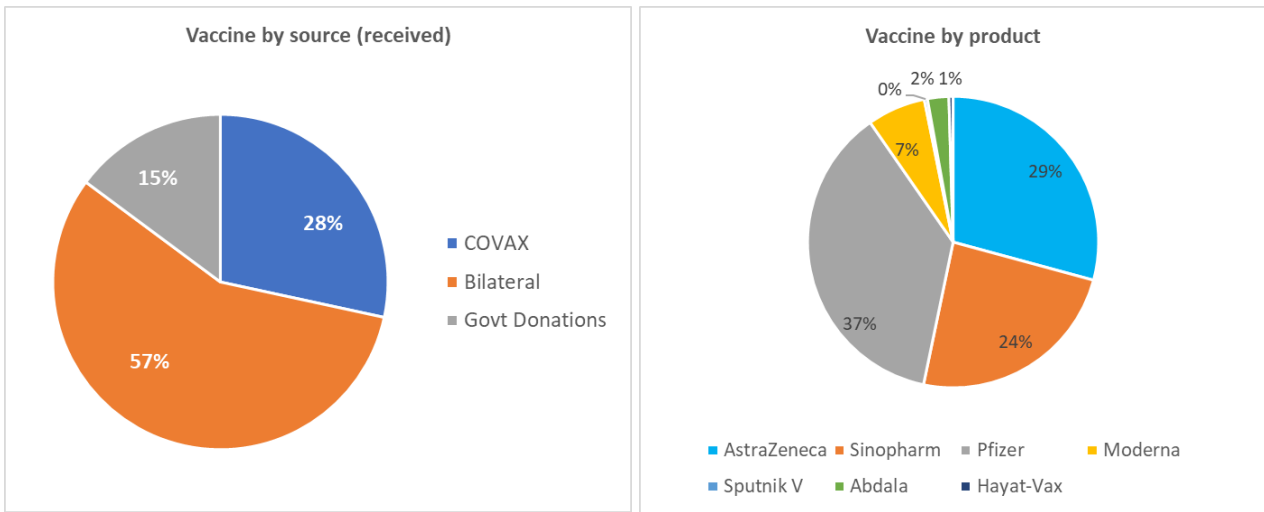
As the Government is shifting strategy from pandemic response to sustained management of COVID-19, with tourism fully resumes from 15 March, cases may continue to increase with **further community transmission attributed by Omicron in various localities the coming weeks; but overall continued decreasing trend is expected. However, with high vaccination coverage including that of booster doses, it is expected that proportions of severe cases and deaths will continue to decrease.** Ongoing efforts continued with accelerating vaccination coverage, reaching last miles (targeting vulnerable groups), strengthening care pathways and risk communication.

Transmission Stage Assessment	
	Stage 0 - No cases No new cases for at least 28 days. The risk of infection for most people in this area is minimal.
	Stage 1 - Imported cases Cases detected in the past 14 days are all imported or are linked to imported cases. No clear signals of further locally acquired transmission. Minimal risk of infection for the general population. The risk of infection for most people in this area is very low.
	Stage 2 - Localized community transmission Cases and clusters detected in the past 14 days are locally acquired but are mostly limited to places or population sub-groups. No clear signals of large-scale community transmission. Low risk of infection for the general population. The risk of infection for most people in this area is low but increased if interacting with places or population sub-groups with known transmission.
	Stage 3 - Large-scale community transmission Cases and clusters detected in the past 14 days are locally acquired and not limited to place or population sub-groups. Moderate to high risk of infection for the general population.

*Data may be incomplete for the current day or week

Assessment done by WHO Viet Nam with concurrence from the Ministry of Health of Viet Nam.

ANNEX 1 – COVID-19 vaccines supply and deployment as of 27 March 2022



Progress of vaccine usage and vaccination coverage per total population

