



COVID-19 Epidemiological Bulletin Afghanistan

Epidemiological Week 10 (6 – 12 Mar 2022)

Cumulative samples tested 548,464 In public laboratories only	Cumulative confirmed cases 176,229 Cumulative positivity rate (32.1%)	Cumulative confirmed deaths 7,643 CFR (4.33 %)
New samples tested in week 10 6,028 ↑42 % In public laboratories only	New confirmed cases in week 10 1,477 ↑24 % Weekly positivity rate (25%)	New confirmed deaths in week 10 18 ↓38 % Weekly CFR (1.2%)

Key: ↑ increasing ↓ decreasing ● no change

Table 1: Summary of COVID-19 indicators in the last 8 weeks in Afghanistan (15 Jan – 12 Mar 2022)

Indicators	W03-22	W04-22	W05-22	W06-22	W07-22	W08-22	W09-22	W10-22	Epi-curve
Samples tested (in public Labs)	4,026	6,099	8,496	9,001	4,170	3,972	4,234	6,028	
Confirmed cases	911	2,429	4,028	4,317	1,601	1,189	1,187	1,477	
Positivity rate (%)	22.6	39.8	47.4	48.0	38.4	30	28	25	
Confirmed deaths	14	15	25	60	43	52	29	18	
CFR (%)	1.5	0.6	0.6	1.4	2.7	4	2.4	1.2	

Highlights of the week

Since the beginning of the pandemic in Feb 2020, a total of **548,464** samples have been tested for COVID-19 through the public laboratories in the country.

In week10-2022, **6,028** samples were tested in public labs, of which **1,477** samples tested positive for COVID-19 (percent positivity **25**) and **18** new deaths were reported. This represents a **24%** increase in cases and **38%** decrease in deaths, compared to week 9 2022, respectively (**Table 1**).

Cumulatively, **176,229** confirmed cases (overall percent positivity **32.1**) of COVID-19 with **7,643** associated deaths (**case fatality ratio = 4.33%**) have been reported in Afghanistan since Feb 2020.

As of 12 Mar 2022, **89.8 %**, cases have recovered.

In week 10, 2022, the highest numbers of COVID-19 cases were reported in the Central East and West regions (**391** and **358** cases, respectively) (**Table 2**). The top five provinces that reported positive cases included Herat (**324** cases), Kapisa (**253** cases), Kandahar (**233** cases), Nangarhar (**94** cases), and Logar (**71** cases).

Table 2: COVID-19 cases by region in Afghanistan, as of week 10, 2022 (6-12 Mar 2022)

Region	Epi-curve	# of new cases in week 10 (%)	% of change compared to week 09	Cumulative number (%)
Central East		391 (26 %)	NA	48,549 (27.5%)
Central West		74 (5%)	-41%	14,704(8.3%)
East		122 (8%)	9%	20,187 (11.5%)
North		35 (2%)	-51%	14,737(8.4%)
North East		138 (9%)	-34%	18,466 (10.5%)
South		319 (22%)	64%	20,844(11.8%)
South East		40 (3%)	-58%	11,586(6.6%)
West		358 (24%)	8%	27,156 (15.4%)
National		1,477 (100%)	24%	176,229 (100%)

Overall, Afghanistan has reported **4,749** confirmed cases and **97** associated deaths among healthcare workers (HCWs) since 2020. To date, Herat, Kabul, Nangarhar, Balkh and Kunar reported the highest number of positive cases among HCWs.

Figure 1: Number of weekly PCR tests conducted and 2-week moving average of percent positivity in Afghanistan (24 Feb 2020 - 12 Mar 2022)

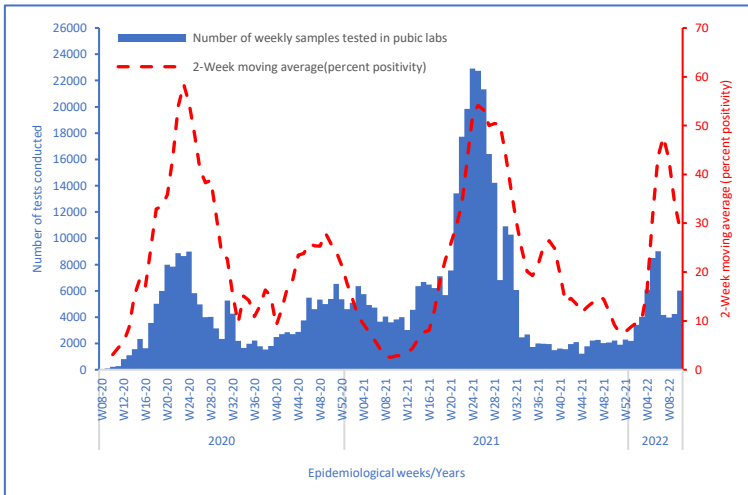


Figure 2: Geographic distribution of COVID-19 confirmed cases in Afghanistan (24 Feb 2020 - 12 Mar 2022)

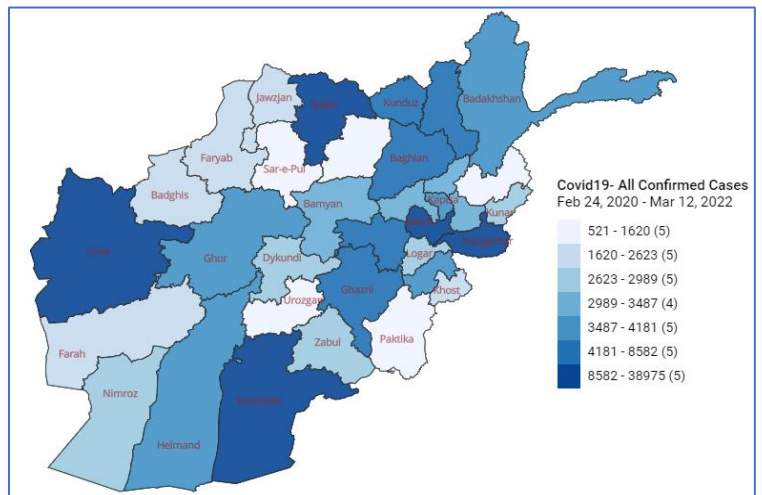


Figure 3: Weekly distribution of confirmed COVID-19 cases in Afghanistan (24 Feb 2020 - 12 Mar 2022)

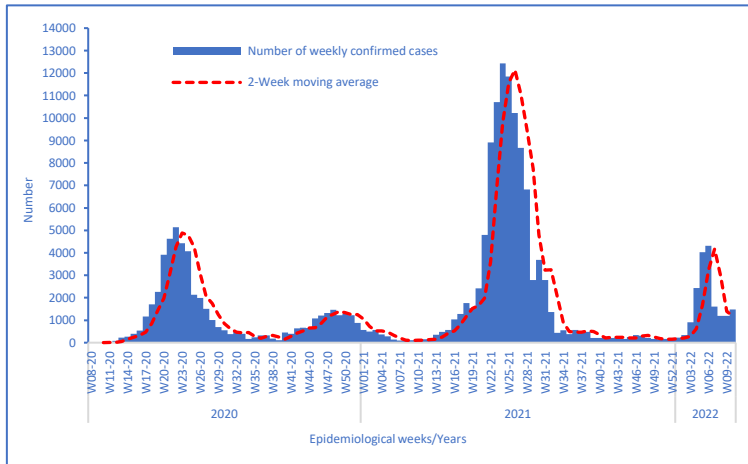


Figure 4: Weekly distribution of COVID-19 associated deaths in Afghanistan (24 Feb 2020 - 12 Mar 2022)

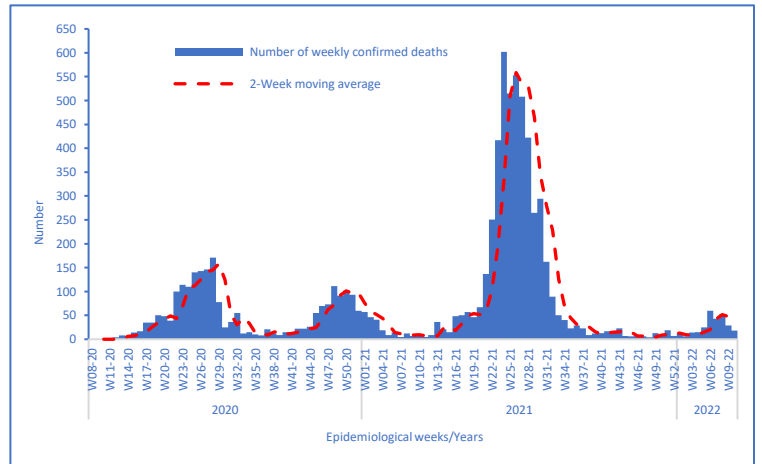


Figure 5: Age & sex distribution of COVID-19 cases in Afghanistan (24 Feb 2020 - 12 Mar 2022)

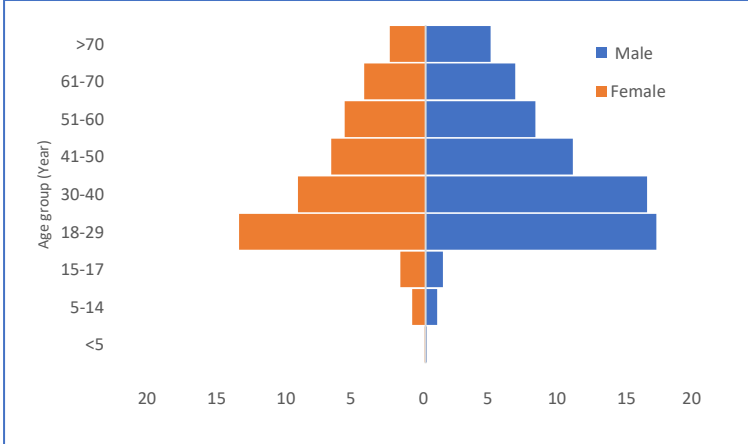
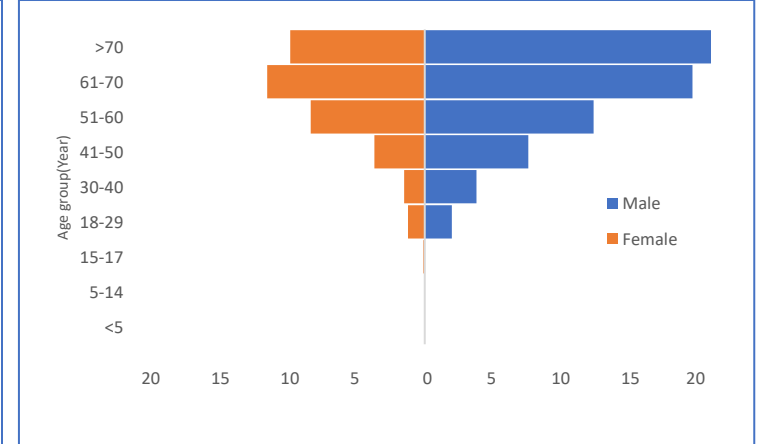


Figure 6: Age & sex distribution of COVID-19 associated deaths in Afghanistan (24 Feb 2020 - 12 Mar 2022)



Of the confirmed COVID-19 cases, **58%** have been reported among males and **42%** among females. Majority of cases have been reported among those aged 18-40 years.

Of the COVID-19 associated deaths, **65%** were reported among males and **35%** among females. The trend indicates that most reported deaths were among those aged over 70 years.

Figure 7: Proportion of underlying medical conditions among COVID-19 associated deaths in Afghanistan, 24 Feb 2020 - 12 Mar 2022 (n=1,697)

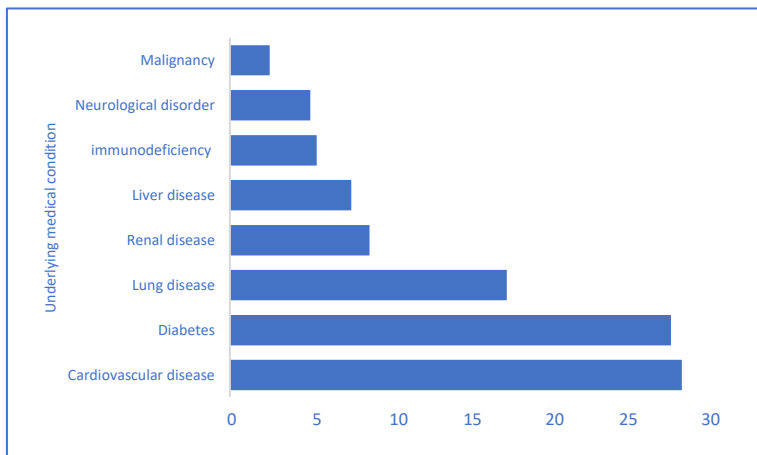
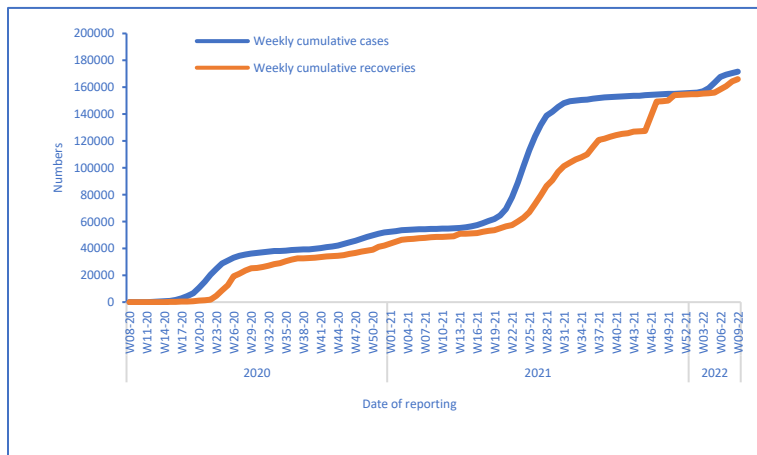


Figure 8: Weekly cumulative COVID-19 confirmed cases and recoveries in Afghanistan (24 Feb 2020 - 12 Mar 2022)



COVID-19 Vaccination highlights



Figure 9: Distribution of individuals who received at least one dose by target group in Afghanistan, as of 12 Mar 2022

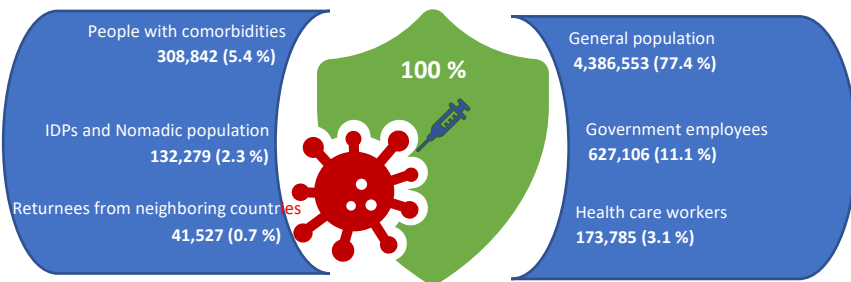


Figure 10: Distribution of administered doses by gender in Afghanistan, as of 12 Mar 2022

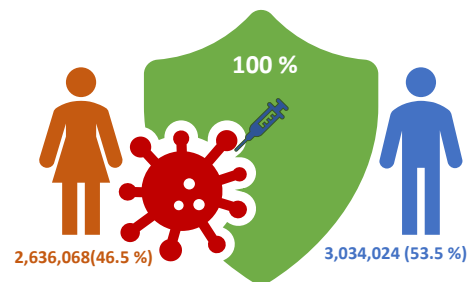


Figure 11: Vaccination doses administered by vaccine type, as of 12 Mar 2022

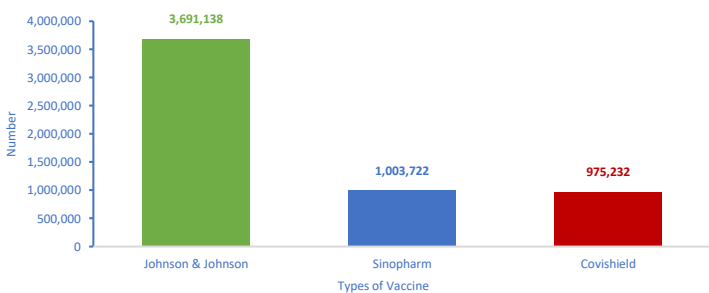
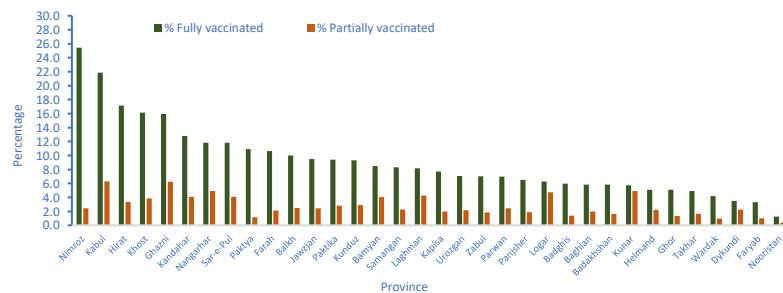


Figure 12: Proportion of fully & partially vaccinated individuals by province in Afghanistan, as of 12 Mar 2022



Contacts for further information:

- Dr. Mohammad Moustafa Tahon: Epidemiologist WHE, WHO-CO, (tahonm@who.int)
 - Hafizullah Safi : Data Management Officer WHO-CO (safih@who.int)
- Total population: 39,269,174 (Ref: UN estimation, AFG_CMYP_2022)
 Data source: DHIS2-MoPH-Afghanistan, Public dashboard: <http://covid.moph-dw.org/#/>