



# COVID-19 Epidemiological Bulletin Afghanistan

Epidemiological Week 9 (27 Feb – 5 Mar 2022)

|   |   |   |
|---|---|---|
| <p><b>Cumulative samples tested</b><br/><b>542,436</b><br/>In public laboratories only</p>        | <p><b>Cumulative confirmed cases</b><br/><b>174,752</b><br/>Cumulative positivity rate (32.2%)</p>  | <p><b>Cumulative confirmed deaths</b><br/><b>7,625</b><br/>CFR (4.36 %)</p>             |
| <p><b>New samples tested in week 9</b><br/><b>4,234</b> ↑ 7 %<br/>In public laboratories only</p> | <p><b>New confirmed cases in week 9</b><br/><b>1,187</b> ● 0 %<br/>Weekly positivity rate (28%)</p> | <p><b>New confirmed deaths in week 9</b><br/><b>29</b> ↓ 44 %<br/>Weekly CFR (2.4%)</p> |

Key: ↑ increasing ↓ decreasing ● no change

**Table 1: Summary of COVID-19 indicators in the last 8 weeks in Afghanistan (8 Jan – 5 Mar 2022)**

| Indicators                      | W02-22 | W03-22 | W04-22 | W05-22 | W06-22 | W07-22 | W08-22 | W09-22 | Epi-curve | Note: Case fatality ratio in week 9 is 2.4%, lower than CFR in week 8 (4.0%). |
|---------------------------------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|-----------|---|
| Samples tested (in public Labs) | 3,554  | 4,026  | 6,099  | 8,496  | 9,001  | 4,170  | 3,972  | 4,234  |           |   |
| Confirmed cases                 | 357    | 911    | 2,429  | 4,028  | 4,317  | 1,601  | 1,189  | 1,187  |           |   |
| Positivity rate (%)             | 10.0   | 22.6   | 39.8   | 47.4   | 48.0   | 38.4   | 30     | 28     |           |   |
| Confirmed deaths                | 6      | 14     | 15     | 25     | 60     | 43     | 52     | 29     |           |   |
| CFR (%)                         | 1.7    | 1.5    | 0.6    | 0.6    | 1.4    | 2.7    | 4      | 2.4    |           |   |

## Highlights of the week

As of week 09, 2022, a total of **542,436** samples have been tested for COVID-19 through the public confirmatory laboratories in the country, since the beginning of the pandemic.

In week 09, **4,234** samples were tested in public labs, of which **1,187** samples tested positive for COVID-19 (percent positivity **28**) and **29** new deaths were reported. This represents a **0%** change in cases and **44%** decrease in deaths, compared to week 8 2022, respectively (**Table 1**).

Cumulatively, **174,752** confirmed cases (overall percent positivity **32.2**) of COVID-19 with **7,625** associated deaths (**case fatality ratio = 4.36%**) have been reported in Afghanistan since Feb 2020.

As of 5 Mar 2022 **90.1** %, cases have recovered.

Now we are in process of sending samples for further genomic studies and building the in-country capacities for genome.

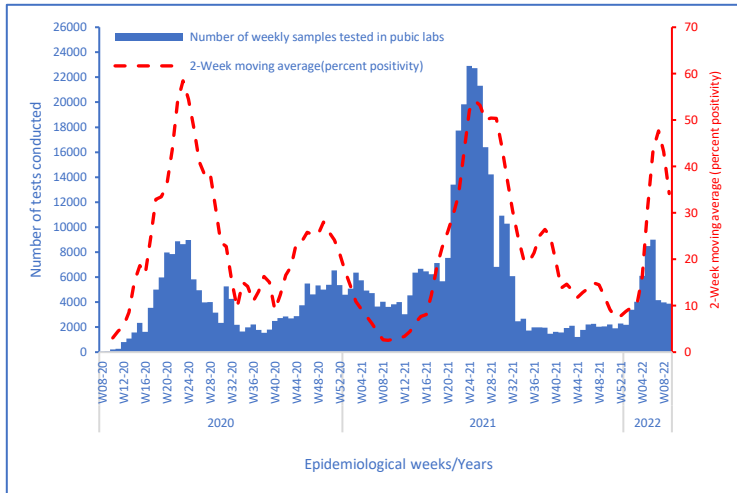
In week 9, 2022, the highest numbers of COVID-19 cases were reported in the West and Northeast regions (**332** and **210** cases, respectively) (**Table 2**). The top five provinces that reported positive cases included Herat (**267** cases), Takhar (**107** cases), Parwan (**98** cases), Kandahar (**83** cases), and Nangarhar (**81** cases).

**Table 2: COVID-19 cases by region in Afghanistan, as of week 9, 2022 (27 Feb-5 Mar 2022)**

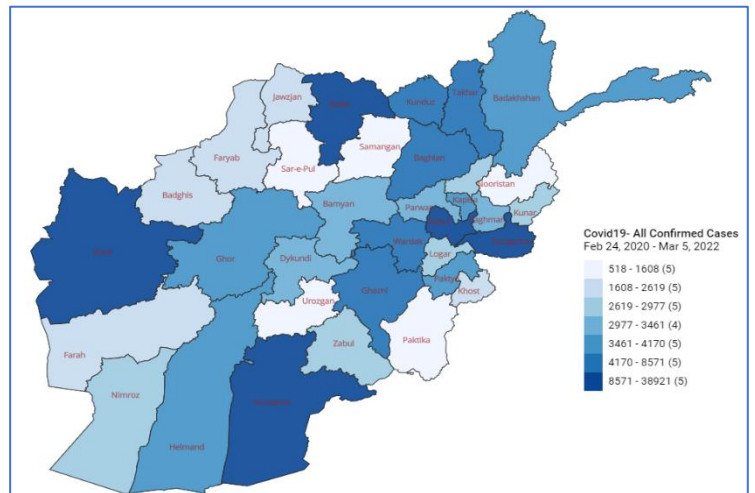
| Region       | Epi-curve | # of new cases in week 09 (%) | % of change compared to week 08 | Cumulative number (%) |
|--------------|-----------|-------------------------------|---------------------------------|-----------------------|
| Central East |           | 47 (4 %)                      | -73%                            | 48,158 (27.6%)        |
| Central West |           | 125 (11%)                     | NA                              | 14,630(8.4%)          |
| East         |           | 112 (9%)                      | 3%                              | 20,065 (11.5%)        |
| North        |           | 71 (6%)                       | -41%                            | 14,702(8.4%)          |
| North East   |           | 210 (18%)                     | 14%                             | 18,328 (10.5%)        |
| South        |           | 195 (16%)                     | -13%                            | 20,525(11.7%)         |
| South East   |           | 95 (8%)                       | -17%                            | 11,546(6.6%)          |
| West         |           | 332 (28%)                     | 49%                             | 26,798 (15.3%)        |
| National     |           | 1,187 (100%)                  | 0%                              | 174,752 (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.

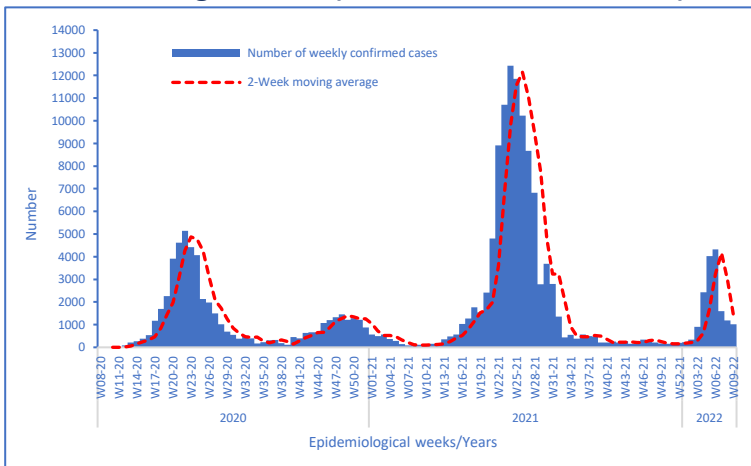
**Figure 1: Number of weekly PCR tests conducted and 2-week moving average of percent positivity in Afghanistan (24 Feb 2020 - 5 Mar 2022)**



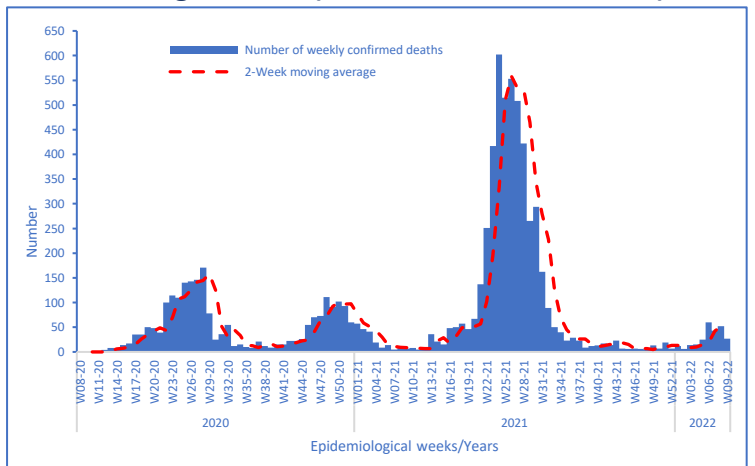
**Figure 2: Geographic distribution of COVID-19 confirmed cases in Afghanistan (24 Feb 2020 - 5 Mar 2022)**



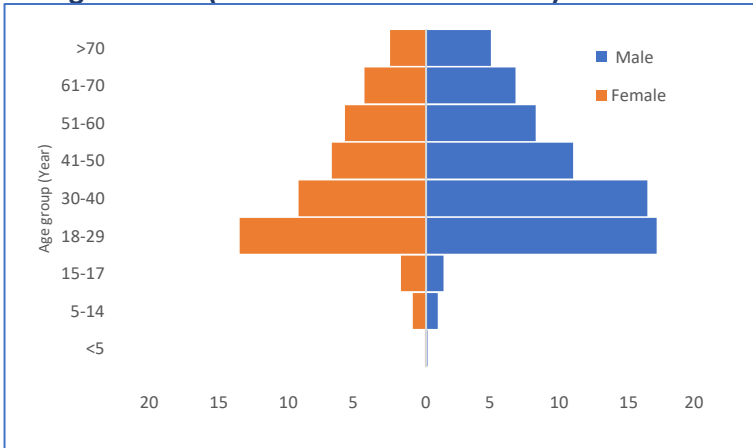
**Figure 3: Weekly distribution of confirmed COVID-19 cases in Afghanistan (24 Feb 2020 - 5 Mar 2022)**



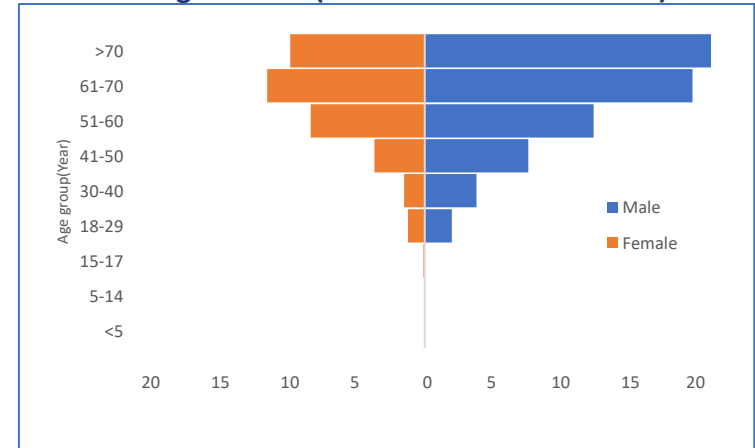
**Figure 4: Weekly distribution of COVID-19 associated deaths in Afghanistan (24 Feb 2020 - 5 Mar 2022)**



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



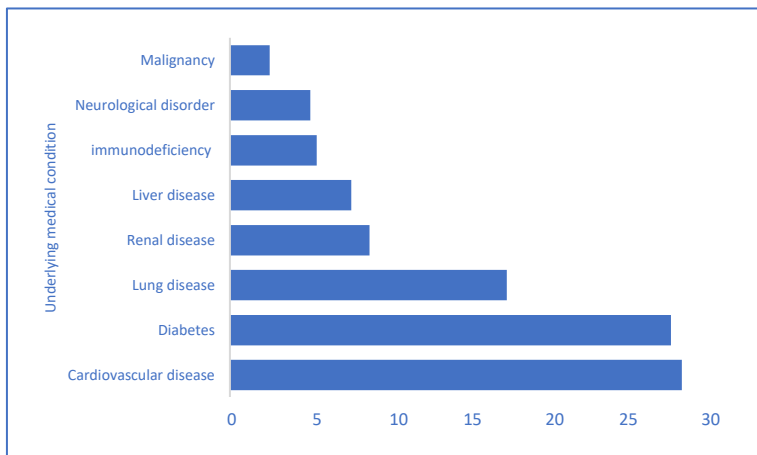
**Figure 6: Age & sex distribution of COVID-19 associated deaths in Afghanistan (24 Feb 2020 - 5 Mar 2022)**



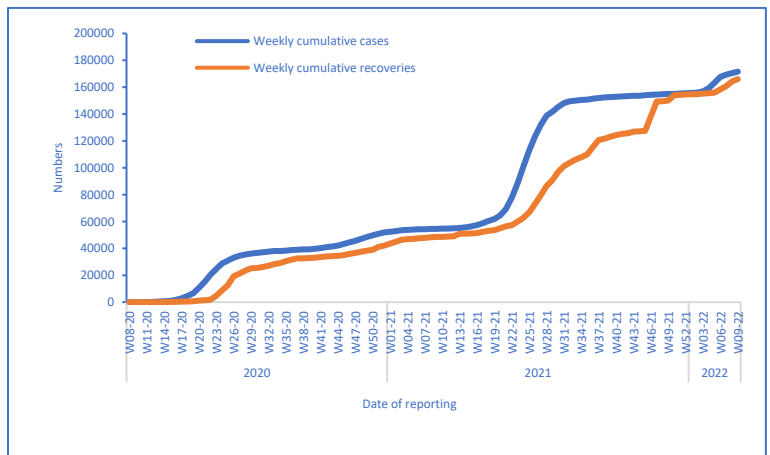
Of the confirmed COVID-19 cases, **58%** have been reported among males and **42%** among females. Majority of cases have been reported among those aged 18-40 years.

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

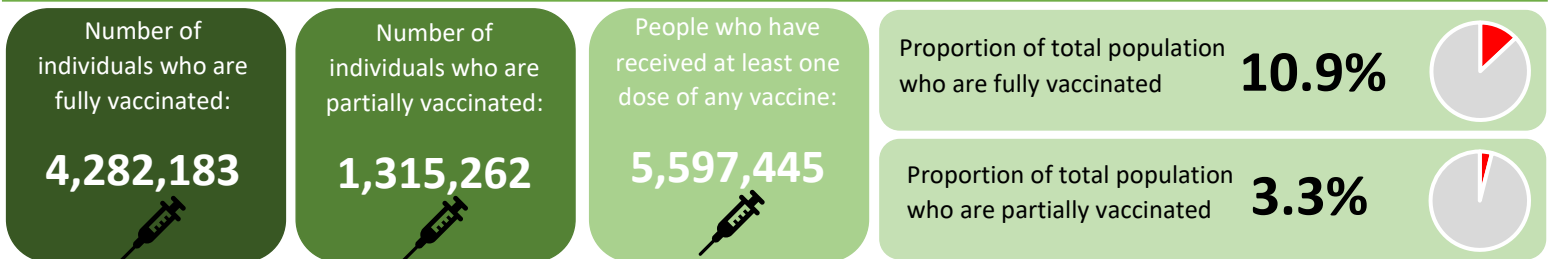
**Figure 7: Proportion of underlying medical conditions among COVID-19 associated deaths in Afghanistan, 24 Feb 2020 - 5 Mar 2022 (n=1,691)**



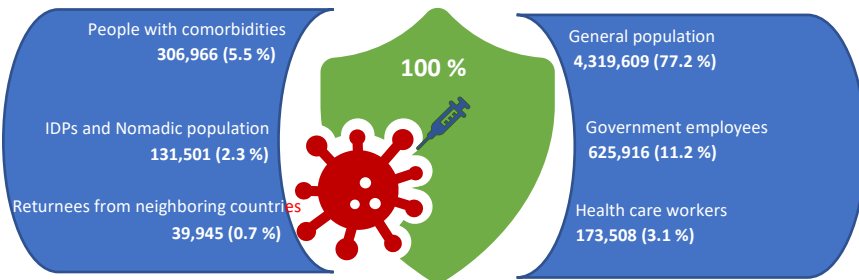
**Figure 8: Weekly cumulative COVID-19 confirmed cases and recoveries in Afghanistan (24 Feb 2020 - 5 Mar 2022)**



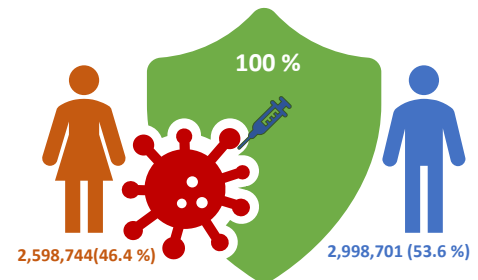
### COVID-19 Vaccination highlights



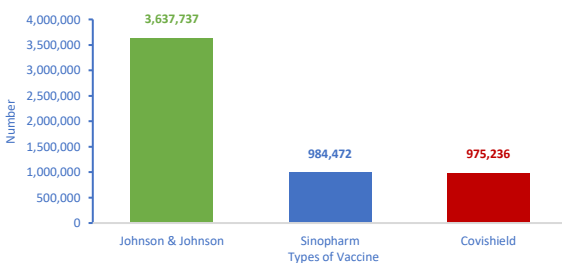
**Figure 9: Distribution of individuals who received at least one dose by target group in Afghanistan, as of 5 Mar 2022**



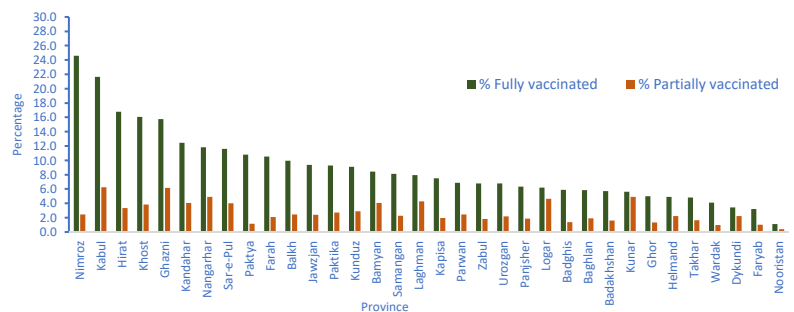
**Figure 10: Distribution of administered doses by gender in Afghanistan, as of 5 Mar 2022**



**Figure 11: Vaccination doses administered by vaccine type, as of 5 Mar 2022**



**Figure 12: Proportion of fully & partially vaccinated individuals by province in Afghanistan, as of 5 Mar 2022**



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- Total population: 39,269,174 (Ref: UN estimation, AFG\_CMYP\_2022)  
 Data source: DHIS2-MoPH-Afghanistan, Public dashboard: <http://covid.moph-dw.org/#/>