

COVID-19 Epidemiological Bulletin, Afghanistan



World Health Organization

Epidemiological Week 48 (28 Nov – 4 Dec 2021)

Highlights of the week

As of week 48, **796,441** samples have been tested for COVID-19 by both public and private laboratories. Of this number, **485,512 (60.9%)** samples were tested through public confirmatory laboratories.

In week 48, a total of **2,027** samples tested in public labs, of which **210** samples tested positive for COVID-19 (percent positivity **10.3**) and **4** new deaths were reported. This is a **32%** decrease in cases and **33%** decrease in deaths compared to week 47 (**Table 1**).

Cumulatively, **157,454** confirmed cases (overall percent positivity **32.4**) of COVID-19 with **7,312** associated deaths (**CFR=4.6%**) have been reported in Afghanistan since Feb 2020.

The country doesn't have the capacity to test for variants (Omicron) and discussion are in place to send the samples to WHO reference lab for further genomic studies.

Table 1: Afghanistan's COVID-19 epidemiological overview, as of week 48

Indicator	New number in week 48	% of change compared to week 47	Cumulative number
# of COVID-19 samples tested in both public & private labs	5,900	4%	796,441
# of COVID-19 samples tested in public labs	2,027	-10%	485,512
# of COVID-19 lab confirmed cases (Public Labs)	210	-32%	157,454
# Recovered/discharged	246	14%	140,723 (89.3%)
# of COVID-19 associated death	4	-33%	7,312 (CFR=4.6)

Table 2: COVID-19 cases by region, as of week 48

Region	Epi-curve	# of new cases in week 48 (%)	% of change compared to week 47	Cumulative number (%)
Central East		24 (11%)	200%	44,118 (28%)
Central West		22 (10%)	57%	13,080 (8.3%)
East		4 (2%)	-88%	17,268 (11%)
North		6 (3%)	-14%	13,711 (8.7%)
North East		11 (5%)	-27%	17,287 (11%)
South		57 (27%)	-44%	16,890 (10.7%)
South East		0 (0%)	-100%	10,562 (6.7%)
West		86 (41%)	-9%	24,547 (15.6%)
National		210 (100%)	-32%	157,454 (100%)

In week 48, the highest number of COVID-19 cases were reported in the West and South (**86** cases and **57** cases, respectively) (**Table 2**). The top five provinces that reported positive cases include Herat (**48** cases), Kandahar (**41** cases), Farah (**38** cases), Parwan (**18** cases), and Panjsher (**13** cases).

Overall, Afghanistan has reported **4,698** confirmed cases and **96** 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 PCR tests conducted and 7-day moving average of percent positivity, as of 4 Dec 2021

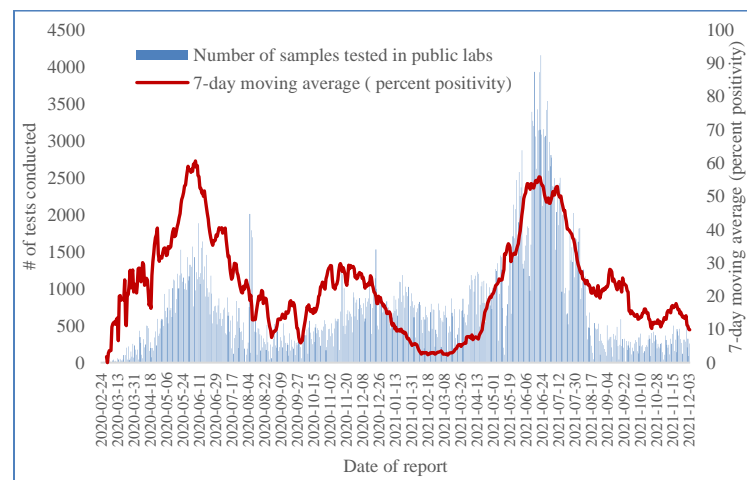


Table 3: COVID-19 Epi-curve for the last 8 weeks by region, as of week 48

Region	Epi-curve	Cumulative cases %
Central East		3.8
Central West		4.9
East		16.9
North		2.9
North East		11.9
South		34.5
South East		4.9
West		20.2
National		2,005(100%)

Figure 2: Epidemiological curve of COVID-19 cases in Afghanistan, as of 4 Dec 2021

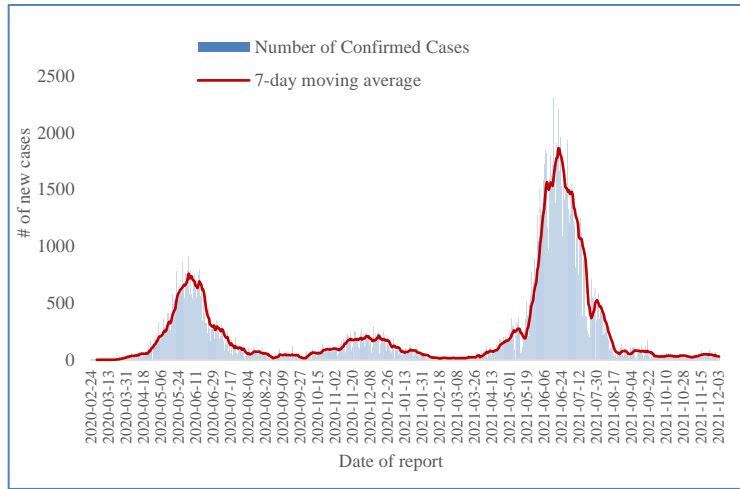


Figure 3: Epidemiological curve of COVID-19 associated deaths, as of 4 Dec 2021

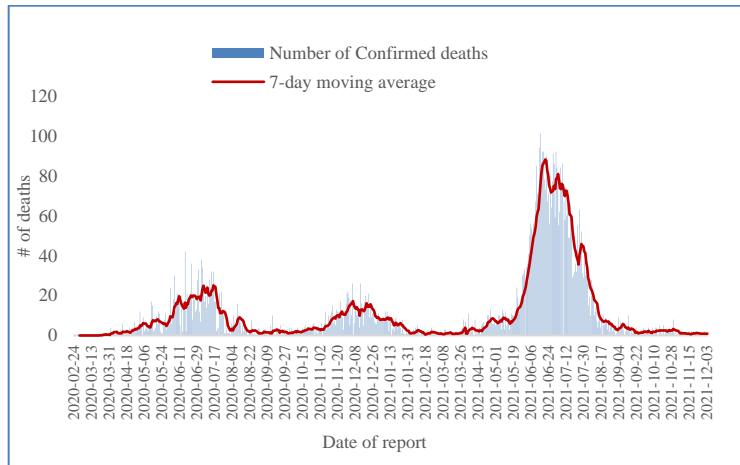
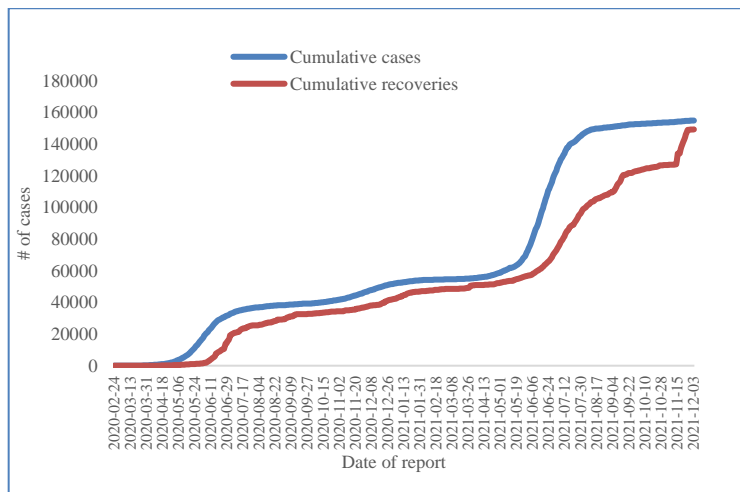
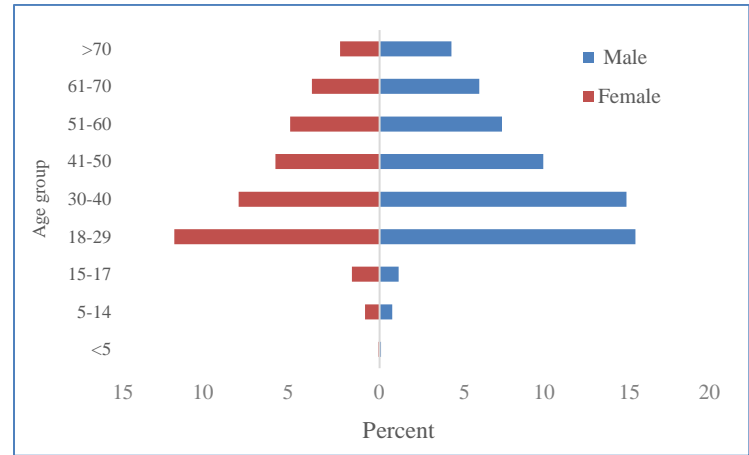


Figure 4: Cumulative COVID-19 confirmed cases and recoveries, as of 4 Dec 2021



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.

Figure 5: Age distribution percentage of COVID-19 cases, 24 Feb 2020 to 4 Dec 2021



Of the COVID-19 associated deaths, **65%** were reported among males and **35%** among females. The trend indicates that deaths increased by age group, with most reported among Over 70 years old.

Figure 6: Age distribution percentage of COVID-19 associated deaths, 24 Feb 2020 to 4 Dec 2021

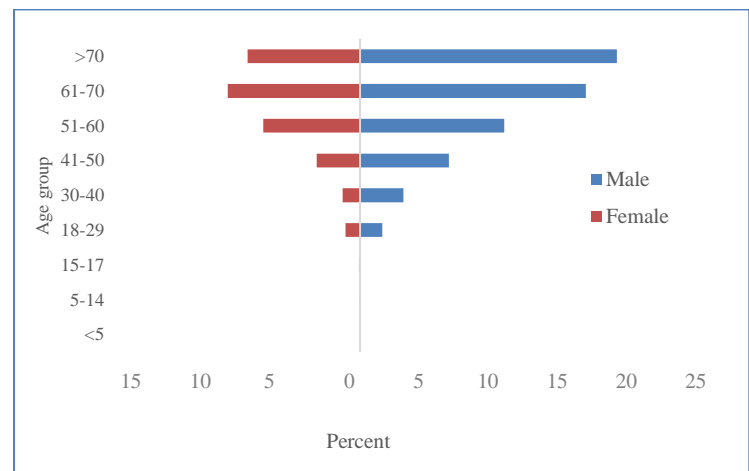
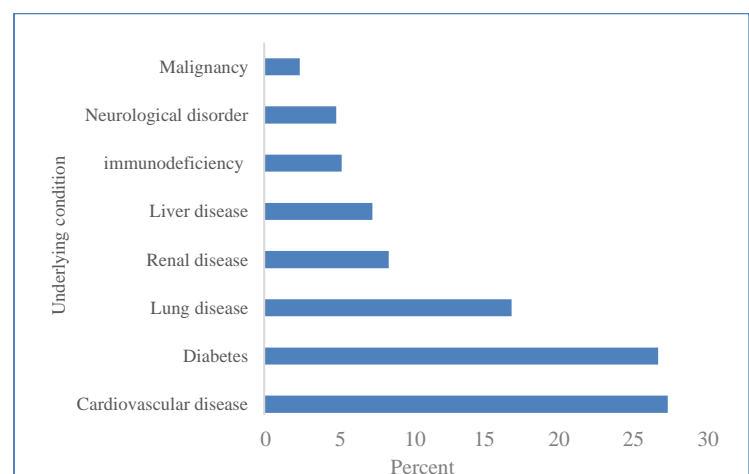


Figure 7: Proportion underlying conditions among COVID-19 associated deaths, as of 4 Dec 2021



COVID-19 Vaccination highlights

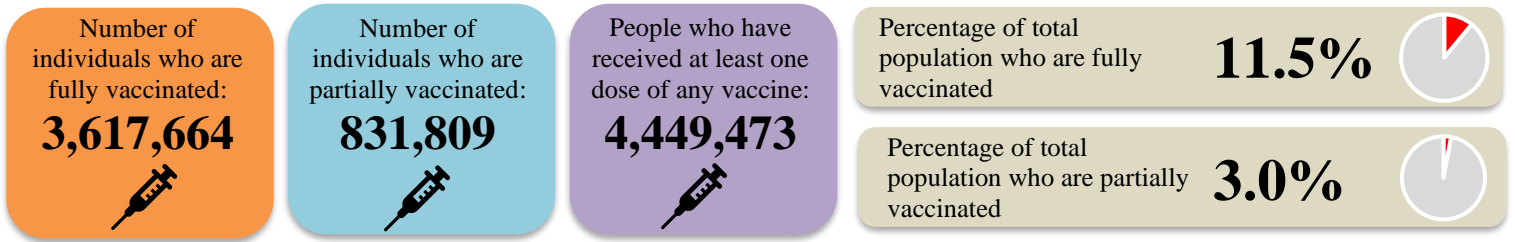


Figure 8: Percentage of vaccinated individuals in target groups, as of 4 Dec 2021

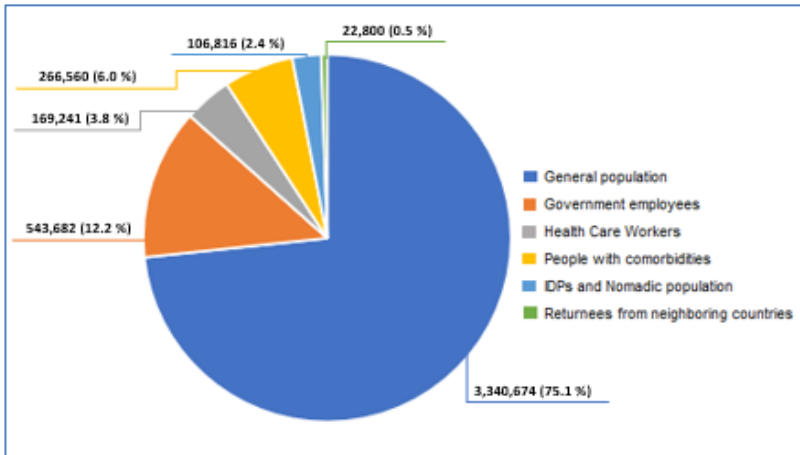


Figure 9: Vaccinated individuals by gender, as of 4 Dec 2021

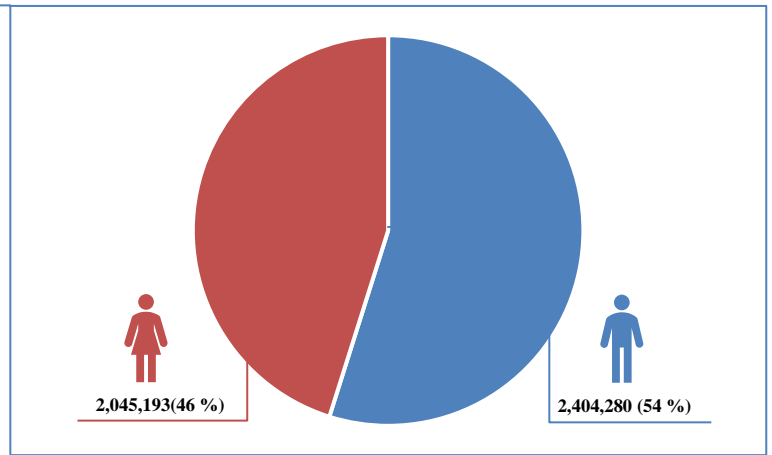
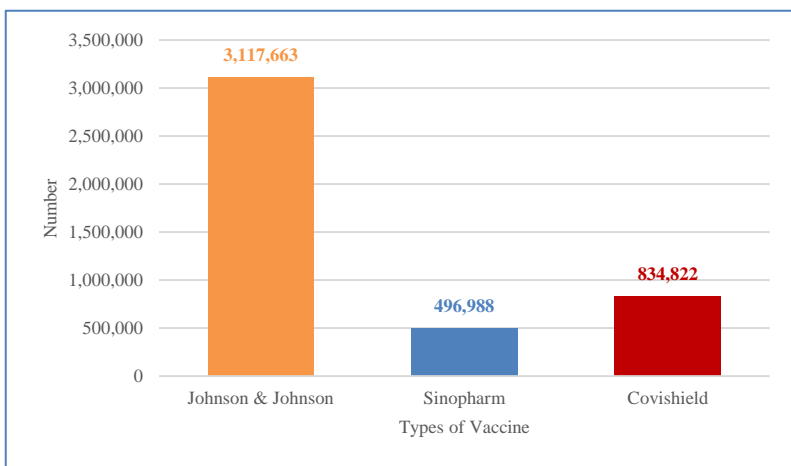


Figure 10: Vaccination doses administered by vaccine type, as of 4 Dec 2021



Data source: DHIS2-MoPH-Afghanistan
 Total population: 31,390,171 (Ref: <http://covid.moph-dw.org/#/>)
 Public dashboard: <http://covid.moph-dw.org/#/>