

COVID-19 Epidemiological Bulletin, Afghanistan



World Health Organization

Epidemiological Week 51 (19 – 25 Dec 2021)

Highlights of the week

As of week 51, **817,332** samples have been tested for COVID-19 by both public and private laboratories. Of this number, **491,714 (60.1%)** samples were tested through public confirmatory laboratories.

In week 51, a total of **1,902** samples tested in public labs, of which **164** samples tested positive for COVID-19 (percent positivity **8.6**) and **19** new deaths were reported. This is an **7%** increase in cases and **171%** increase in deaths compared to week 50 (**Table 1**).

Cumulatively, **157,951** confirmed cases (overall percent positivity **32.1**) of COVID-19 with **7,354** 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 51

Indicator	New number in week 51	% of change compared to week 50	Cumulative number
# of COVID-19 samples tested in both public & private labs	6,133	-15%	817,332
# of COVID-19 samples tested in public labs	1,902	-15%	491,714
# of COVID-19 lab confirmed cases (Public Labs)	164	7%	157,951
# Recovered/discharged	240	NA	145,474 (92.1%)
# of COVID-19 associated death	19	171%	7,354 (CFR=4.6)

Table 2: COVID-19 cases by region, as of week 51

Region	Epi-curve	# of new cases in week 51 (%)	% of change compared to week 50	Cumulative number (%)
Central East		35 (21%)	30%	44,192 (28%)
Central West		3 (2%)	-75%	13,111 (8.3%)
East		11 (7%)	-31%	17,299 (11%)
North		1 (1%)	0%	13,713 (8.7%)
North East		0 (0%)	-100%	17,286 (10.9%)
South		81 (49%)	-8%	17,164 (10.9%)
South East		4 (2%)	NA	10,587 (6.7%)
West		29 (18%)	383%	24,599 (15.6%)
National		164(100%)	7%	157,951 (100%)

In week 51, the highest number of COVID-19 cases were reported in the South and Central East (**81 cases and 35 cases, respectively**) (**Table 2**). The top five provinces that reported positive cases include Kandahar (**46 cases**), Helmand (**33 cases**), Herat (**25 cases**), Kapisa (**22 cases**), and Kabul (**8 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 25 Dec 2021

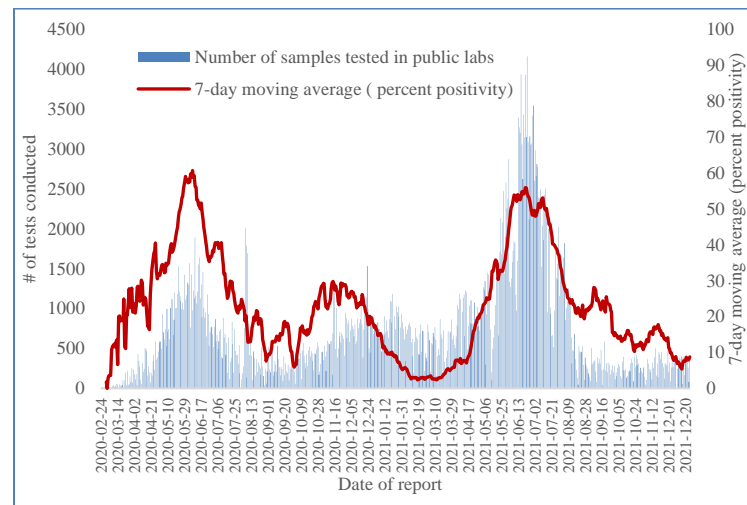


Table 3: COVID-19 Epi-curve for the last 8 weeks by region, as of week 51

Region	Epi-curve	Cumulative cases %
Central East		7.6
Central West		6.4
East		14.4
North		2.5
North East		5.8
South		36.9
South East		6.1
West		20.3
National		1,761(100%)

Figure 2: Epidemiological curve of COVID-19 cases in Afghanistan, as of 25 Dec 2021

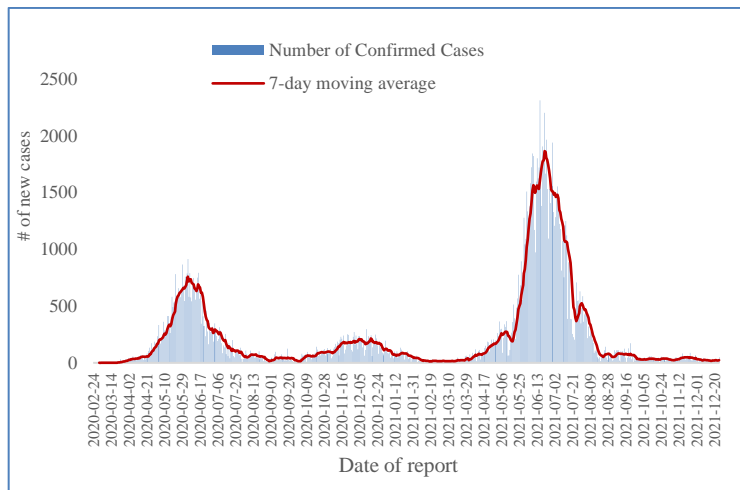


Figure 3: Epidemiological curve of COVID-19 associated deaths, as of 25 Dec 2021

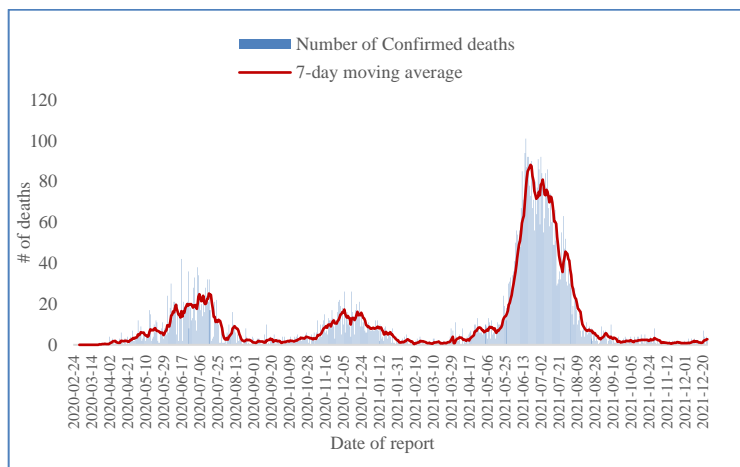
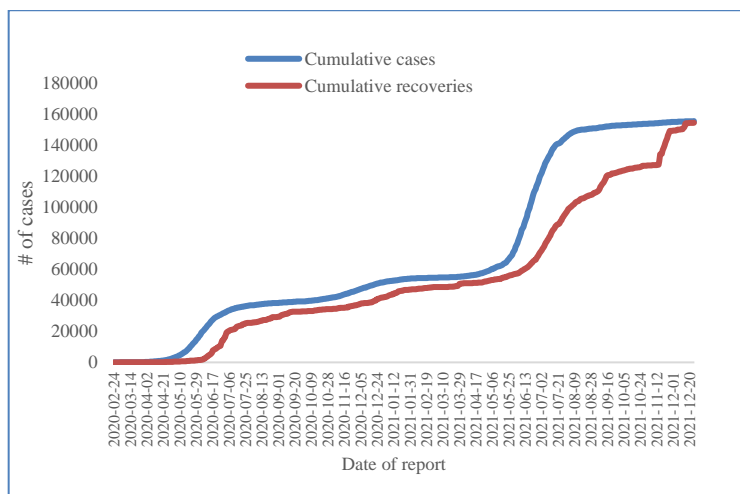
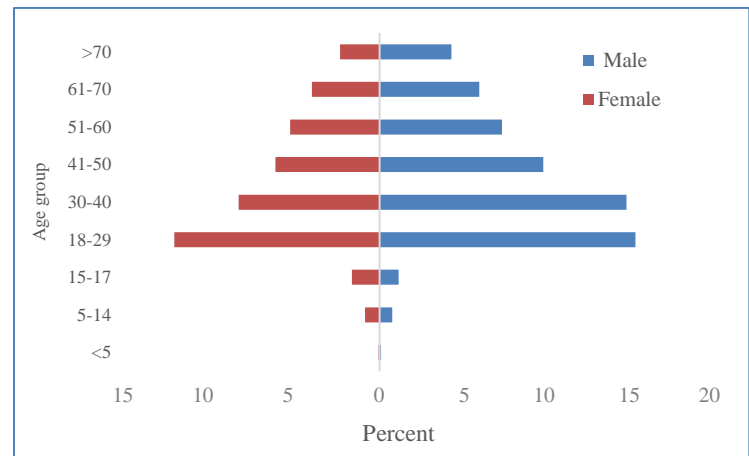


Figure 4: Cumulative COVID-19 confirmed cases and recoveries, as of 25 Dec 2021



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 25 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 25 Dec 2021

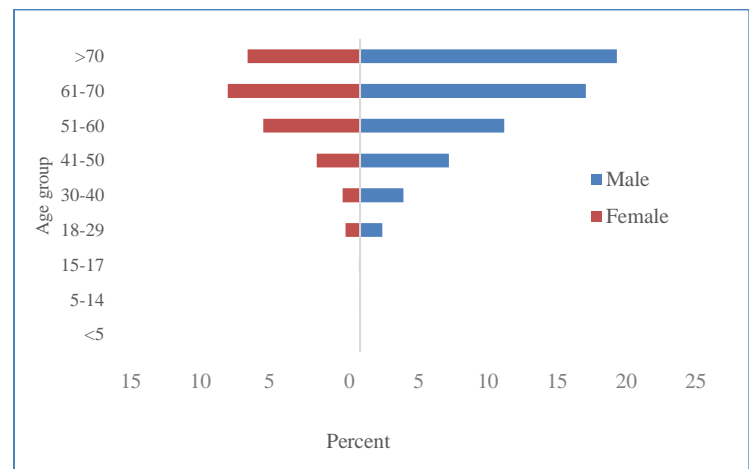
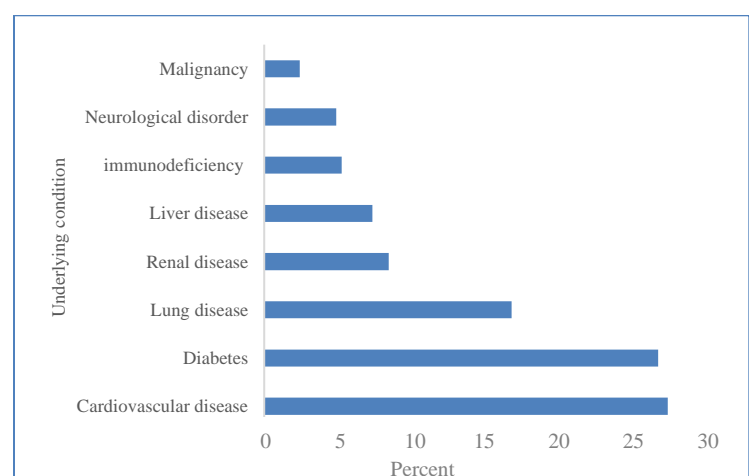


Figure 7: Proportion underlying conditions among COVID-19 associated deaths, as of 25 Dec 2021



COVID-19 Vaccination highlights

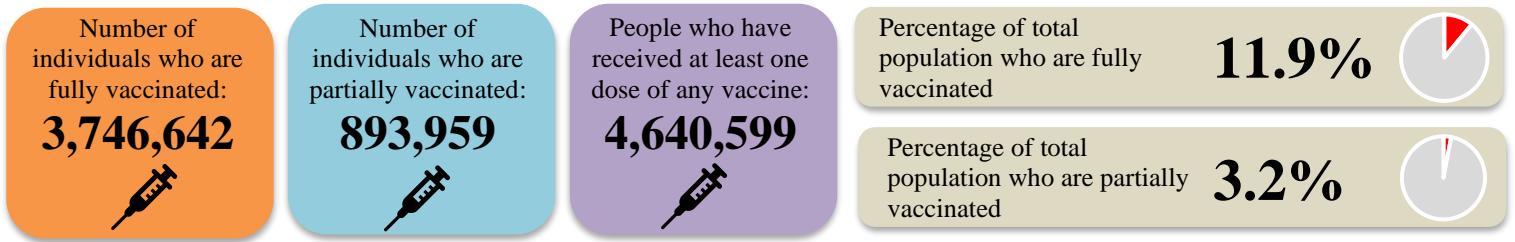


Figure 8: Percentage of vaccinated individuals in target groups, as of 25 Dec 2021

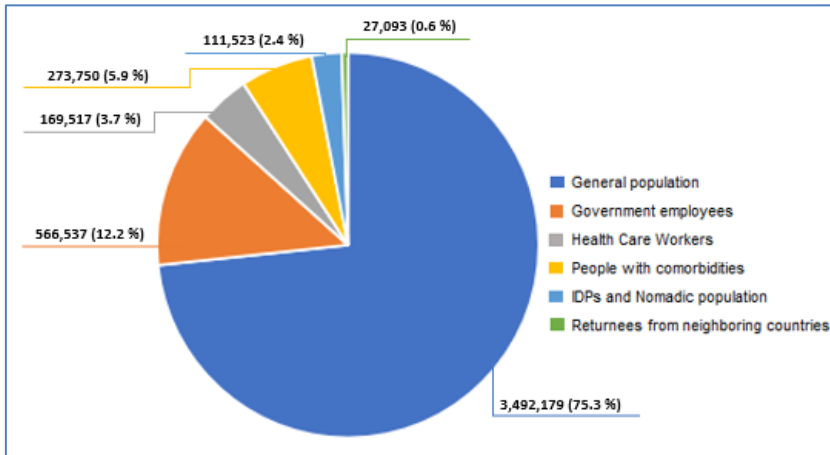


Figure 9: Vaccinated individuals by gender, as of 25 Dec 2021

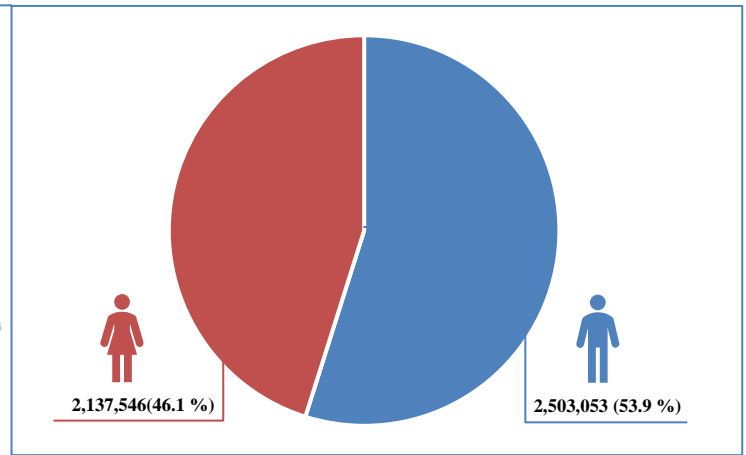
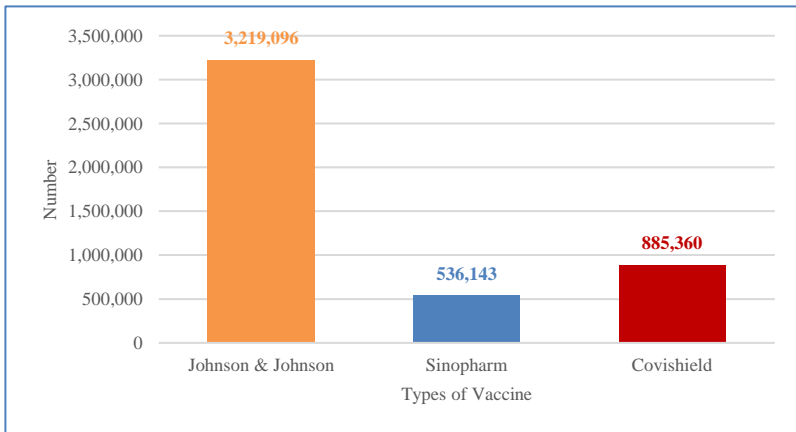


Figure 10: Vaccination doses administered by vaccine type, as of 25 Dec 2021



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