

Situation Update #133 - Coronavirus Disease 2019 (COVID-19)

WHO Country Office for Nepal

Reporting Date: 24 - 30 October 2022 (EPI Week 43)

HIGHLIGHTS

(Data published in the MoHP Situation Report as of 30 October 2022 and same data published in EDCD Report as of 31 October 2022)

- Of the total RT-PCR confirmed COVID-19 cases, 98.7% (987,979) of cases have recovered, 0.1% (552) are active cases and 1.2% (12,019) are deaths.
- Among the new RT-PCR confirmed cases (95) reported this week, 47.4% (45) are from Chitwan district followed by Kathmandu district 17.9% (17). Majority of the new cases 51.6% (49) have been reported from Kathmandu Valley (Kathmandu, Lalitpur and Bhaktapur), Bagmati Province.

COVID-19 vaccination coverage status (as of 23 October 2022)

Covi-AstraZeneca		Vero Cell		Janssen		Pfizer		Moderna	
First dose	5,560,795	First dose	10,378,783	Single dose	3,525,330	First dose	4,601,796	First dose	3,224,240
Second dose	4,813,379	Second dose	9,250,444			Second dose	2,977,327	Second dose	2,823,081

SITUATION OVERVIEW

(Data as of 30 October 2022)

NEPAL

Cumulative confirmed cases

RT-PCR: 1,000,455

Antigen RDT: 152,155

Cumulative deaths: 12,019

Cumulative tests

RT-PCR: 5,956,299

Antigen RDT: 1,440,660

SOUTH-EAST ASIA REGION

Cumulative cases (%)

60,444,729 (10%)

Cumulative deaths (%)

798,738 (12%)

GLOBAL

Cumulative cases (%)

627,349,862 (100%)

Cumulative deaths (%)

6,569,216 (100%)

NEPAL EPIDEMIOLOGICAL SITUATION

- Since 9 May 2021, all 7 provinces in the country are experiencing community transmission.
- Since the start of the COVID-19 pandemic, 78.2% (782,364/1,000,550) of RT-PCR confirmed cases were reported from three provinces, namely- Province 1, Bagmati Province and Lumbini Province. The Kathmandu valley area (Kathmandu, Bhaktapur, Lalitpur) in Bagmati Province has substantially high case load with 44.1% of the national total (441,396/1,000,550), and 81.4% of the provincial total (441,396/542,417).
- Province-wise RT-PCR test positivity rate in Epi Week 43 ranged from 2.8% (Lumbini province) to 12.5% (Province 1), with a national positivity rate at 5.5%. Madhesh, Karnali and Sudurpashchim provinces did not report any RT-PCR test performed in the last week.
- Nepal reported a 69% decrease in the number of new RT-PCR confirmed cases (n=95) in Epi week 43 compared to that in the previous week. Of these total cases reported last week, 86% of the cases have been reported from Province 1, Bagmati, and Lumbini province.
- Nepal reported 1 death in Epi week 43, compared to none in the previous week.

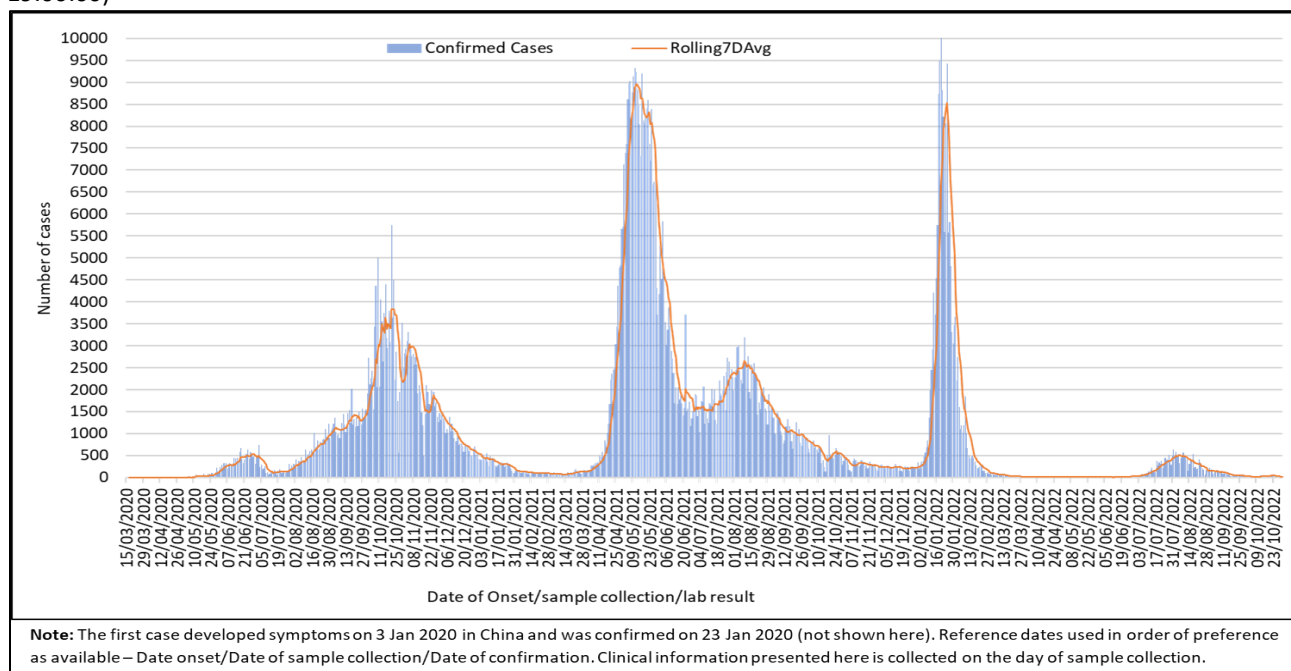
National Influenza Surveillance

- National Influenza Center (NIC)-NPHL reported 1 diagnostic Influenza sample on Epi-week 43 (24 - 30 Oct 2022). The sample tested negative for Influenza A and B.
- Provincial Public Health Laboratory (PPHL) from Karnali Province reported testing of 15 samples for Influenza-SARS-CoV-2 using Multiplex kit on Epi-week 43.
 - One sample tested positive for Influenza A.
 - All the samples tested negative for SARS-CoV-2.
 - A total of 1409 samples have been tested by PPHLs till 30 October 2022.
- From 3 January 2022 until 30 October 2022:
 - A total of 627 samples tested positive for Influenza (2 Influenza B, 293 Influenza A/H3, 323 Influenza A(H1N1pdm09), and 9 Influenza A (subtyping to be done) from 6,469 samples (Sentinel and non-sentinel samples including SARS-CoV-2 Negative SARI and ILI cases).
- Similarly, 355 samples tested positive for SARS-CoV-2 from 2,531 Influenza negative samples (Sentinel/non-sentinel ILI/SARI samples).¹

WHO SEAR countries: Number of COVID-19 confirmed cases and cumulative incidence rate (per 100,000). Link Here- <https://worldhealthorg.shinyapps.io/covid/>

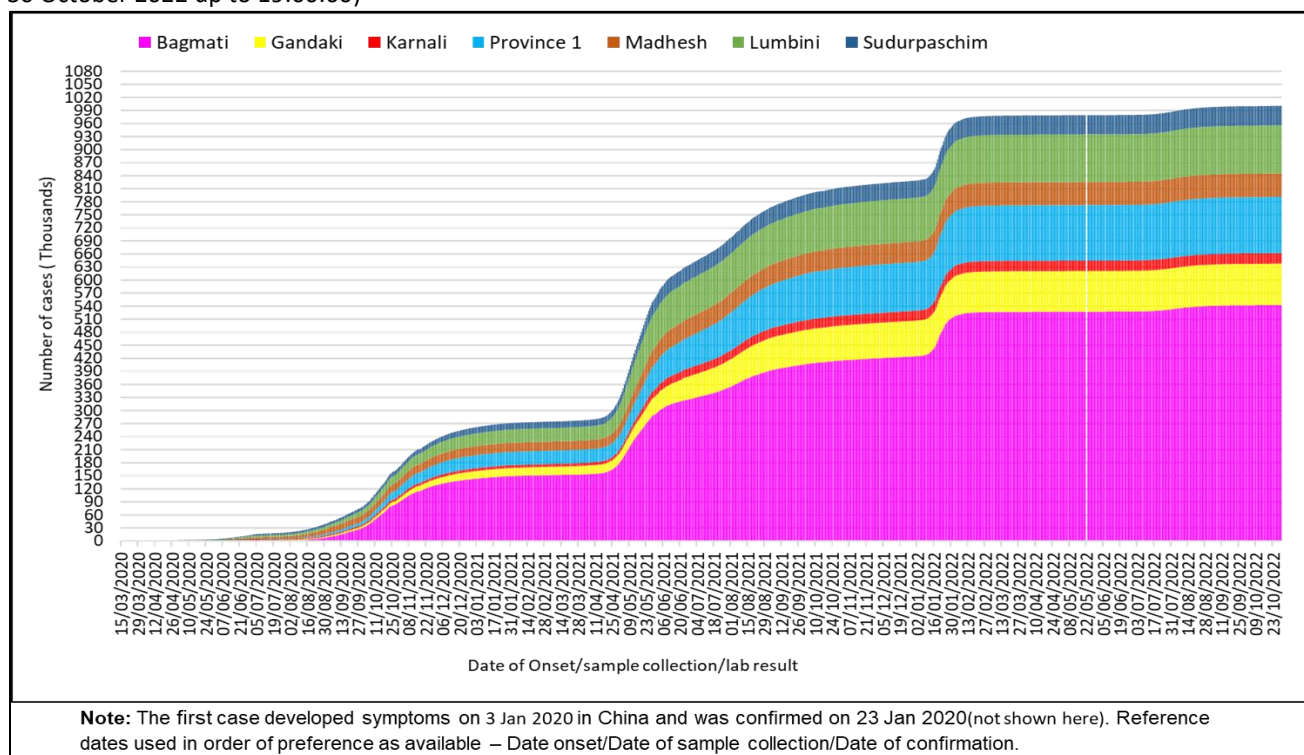
¹ These positive cases are included in the COVID-19 database

Figure 1: RT-PCR confirmed COVID-19 cases and average number of COVID-19 cases over the last seven days, by date of onset/sample/confirmation (N= 1,000,550)(Data reported on 30 October 2022 up to 19:00:00)



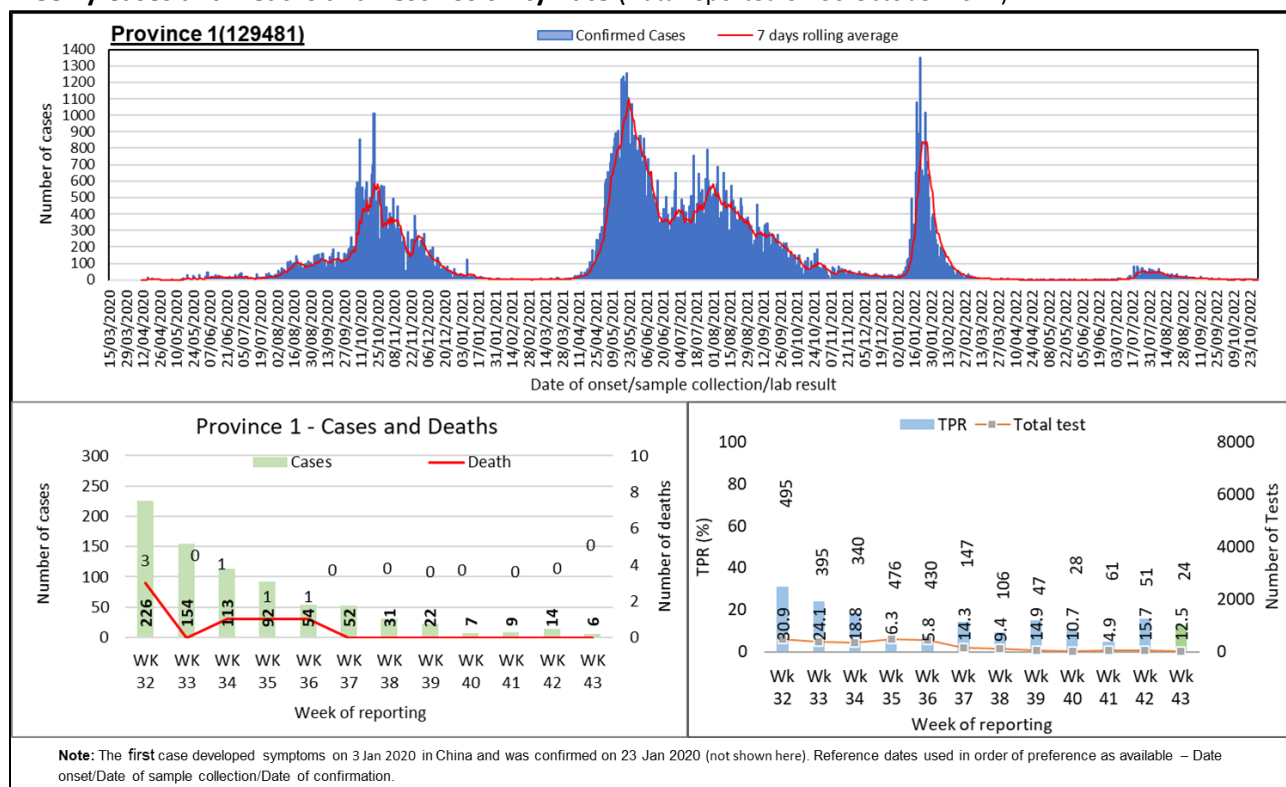
At national level, the first wave of cases between July 2020 and February 2021 was followed by the second wave from the middle of March 2021. Since the middle of December 2021, a third wave of cases soared up exceeding the highest number of single day cases reported in the past surges towards the end of January 2022. Since the middle of May 2022, cases were steadily rising in an increasing trend, however the trend is overall in a continuously decline now.

Figure 2: Cumulative case count of RT-PCR confirmed COVID-19 cases (N= 1,000,550)(Data reported on 30 October 2022 up to 19:00:00)



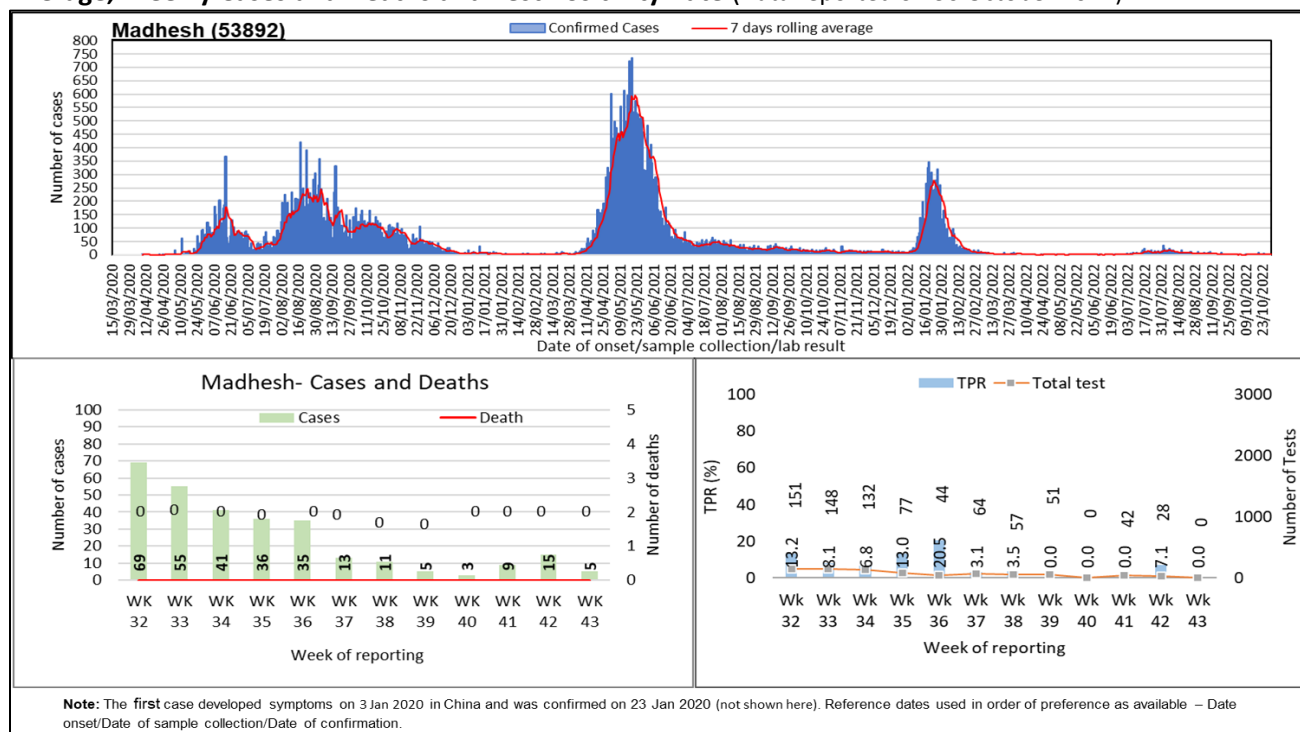
The cumulative case incidence has been increasing in Nepal since the first case confirmed on 23 January 2020. Cases have been largely reported from Bagmati Province followed by Province 1 and Lumbini Province.

Figure 3A1: RT- PCR confirmed COVID-19 cases in Province 1: Trend of Cases, 7 days Rolling Average, Weekly Cases and Deaths and Test Positivity Rate (Data reported on 30 October 2022)



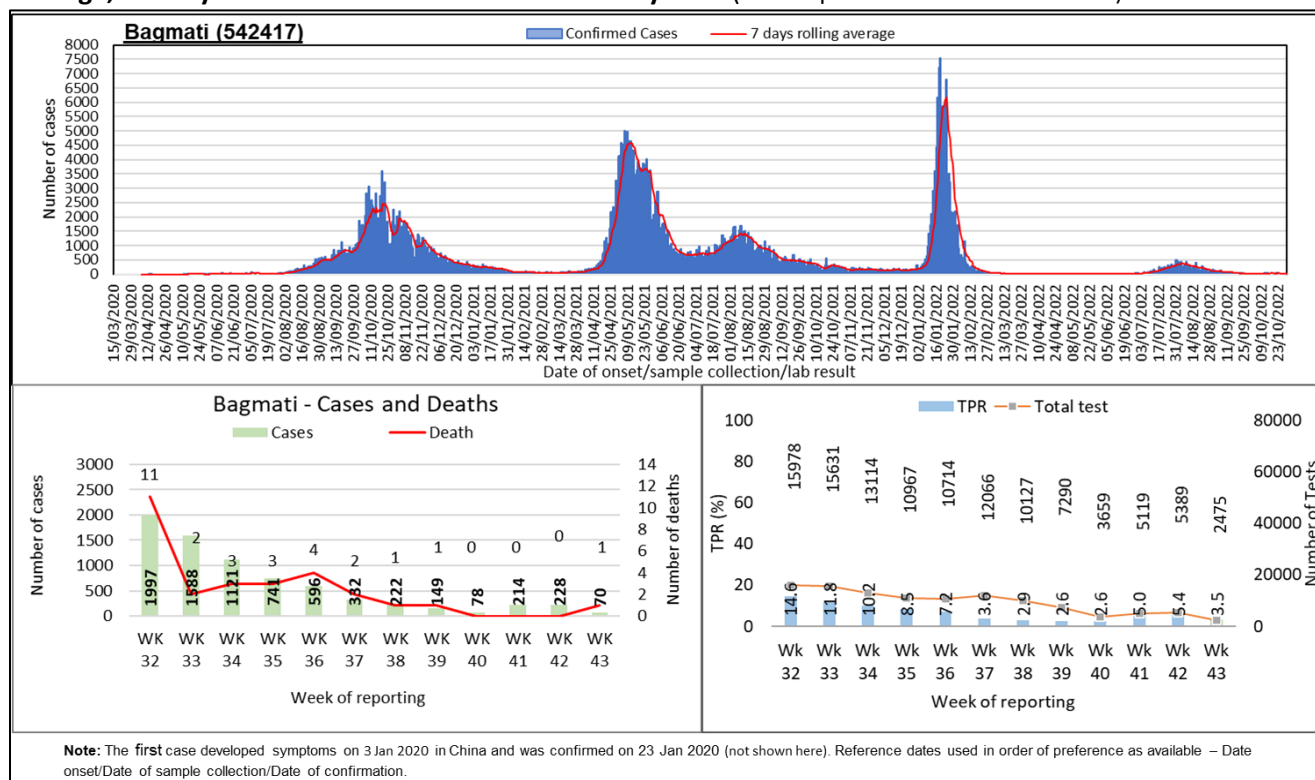
There were 6 new cases reported in the past week in Province 1. Cases have decreased by 57% in the past week compared to the previous week. There was no death reported in the past week, same as that in the previous week. The test positivity rate in Province 1 decreased to 12.5% in the past week. A total of 24 tests were performed in the past week, 53% less than that in the previous week.

Figure 3A2: RT- PCR confirmed COVID-19 cases in Madhesh Province: Trend of Cases, 7 days Rolling Average, Weekly Cases and Deaths and Test Positivity Rate (Data reported on 30 October 2022)



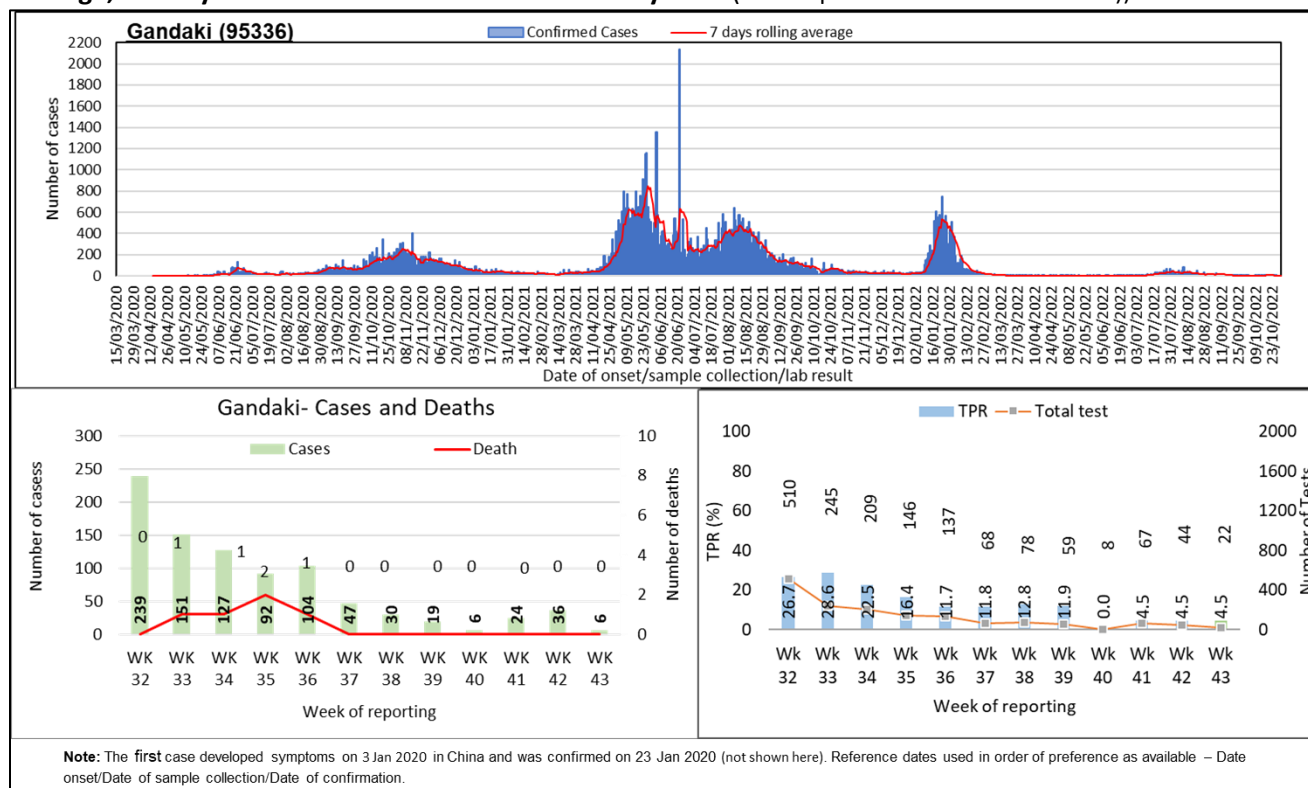
There were 5 new cases reported in the past week in Madhesh province. Cases have decreased by 67% in the past week compared to previous week. There was no death reported in the past week, same as that in the previous week. There was no test performed reported in the past week.

Figure 3A3: RT- PCR confirmed COVID-19 cases in Bagmati Province: Trend of Cases, 7 days Rolling Average, Weekly Cases and Deaths and Test Positivity Rate (Data reported on 30 October 2022)



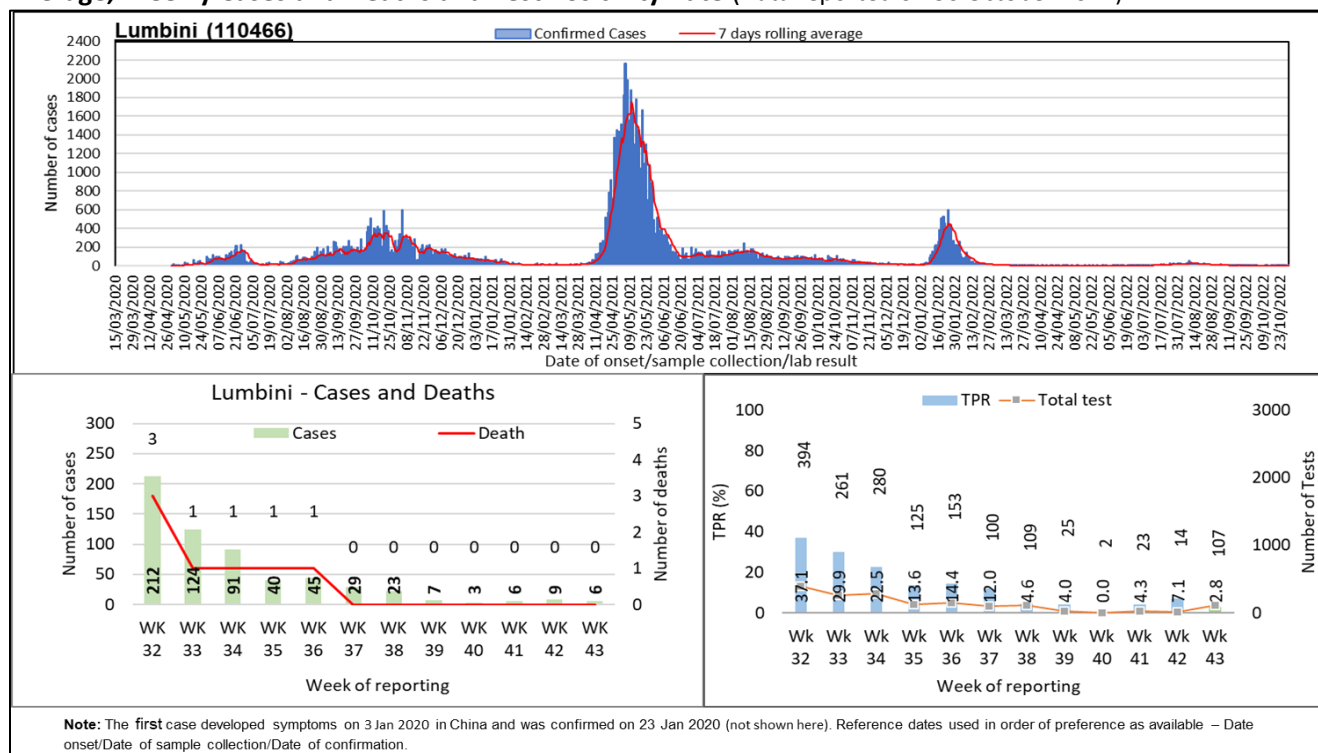
In Bagmati, 70 new cases were reported in the past week. Cases have decreased by 69% in the past week compared to previous week. There was 1 death reported in the past week, compared to none in the previous week. The test positivity rate in Bagmati decreased to 3.5% in the past week. A total of 2475 tests were performed in the past week, 54% less than that in the previous week.

Figure 3A4: RT- PCR confirmed COVID-19 cases in Gandaki Province: Trend of Cases, 7 days Rolling Average, Weekly Cases and Deaths and Test Positivity Rate (Data reported on 30 October 2022))



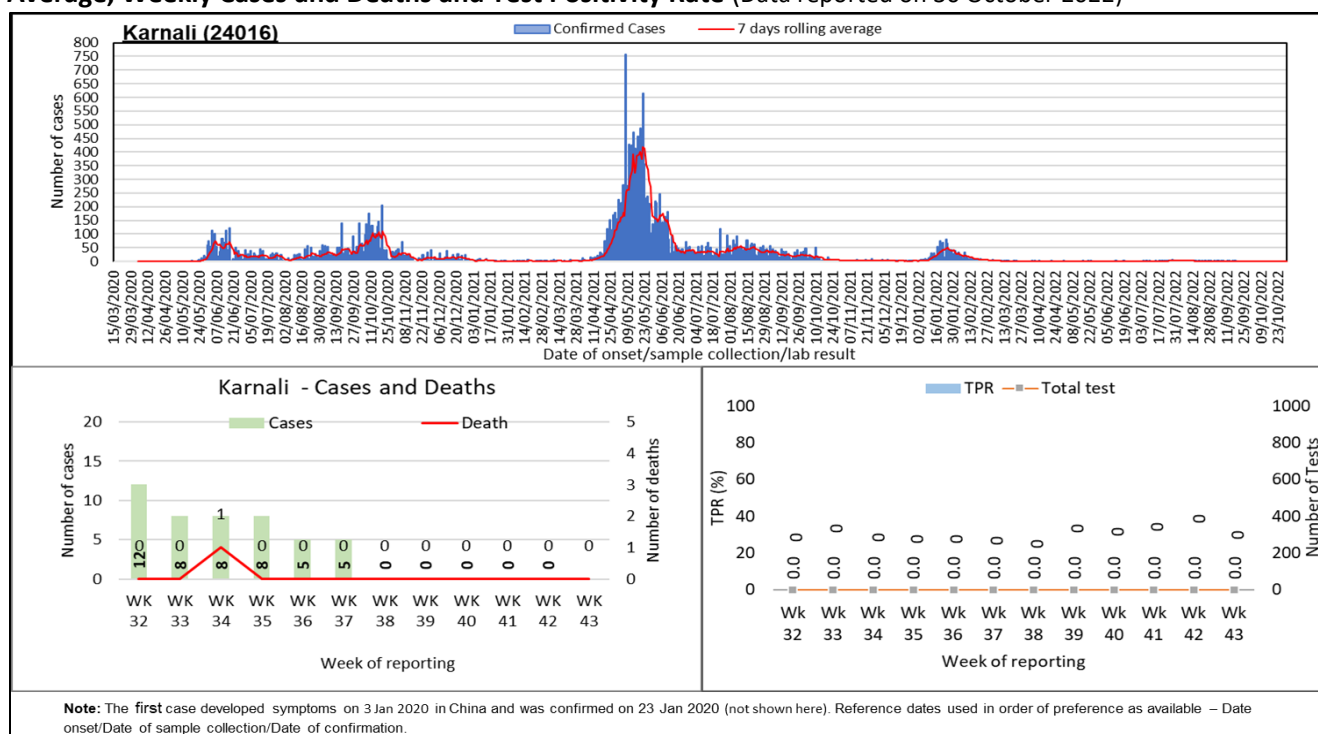
In Gandaki, 6 new cases were reported in the past week. Cases have decreased by 83% in the past week compared to previous week. There was no death reported in the past week, same as that in the previous week. The test positivity rate in Gandaki sustained at 4.5% in the past week. A total of 22 tests were performed in the past week, 50% less than that in the previous week.

Figure 3A5: RT- PCR confirmed COVID-19 cases in Lumbini Province: Trend of Cases, 7 days Rolling Average, Weekly Cases and Deaths and Test Positivity Rate (Data reported on 30 October 2022)



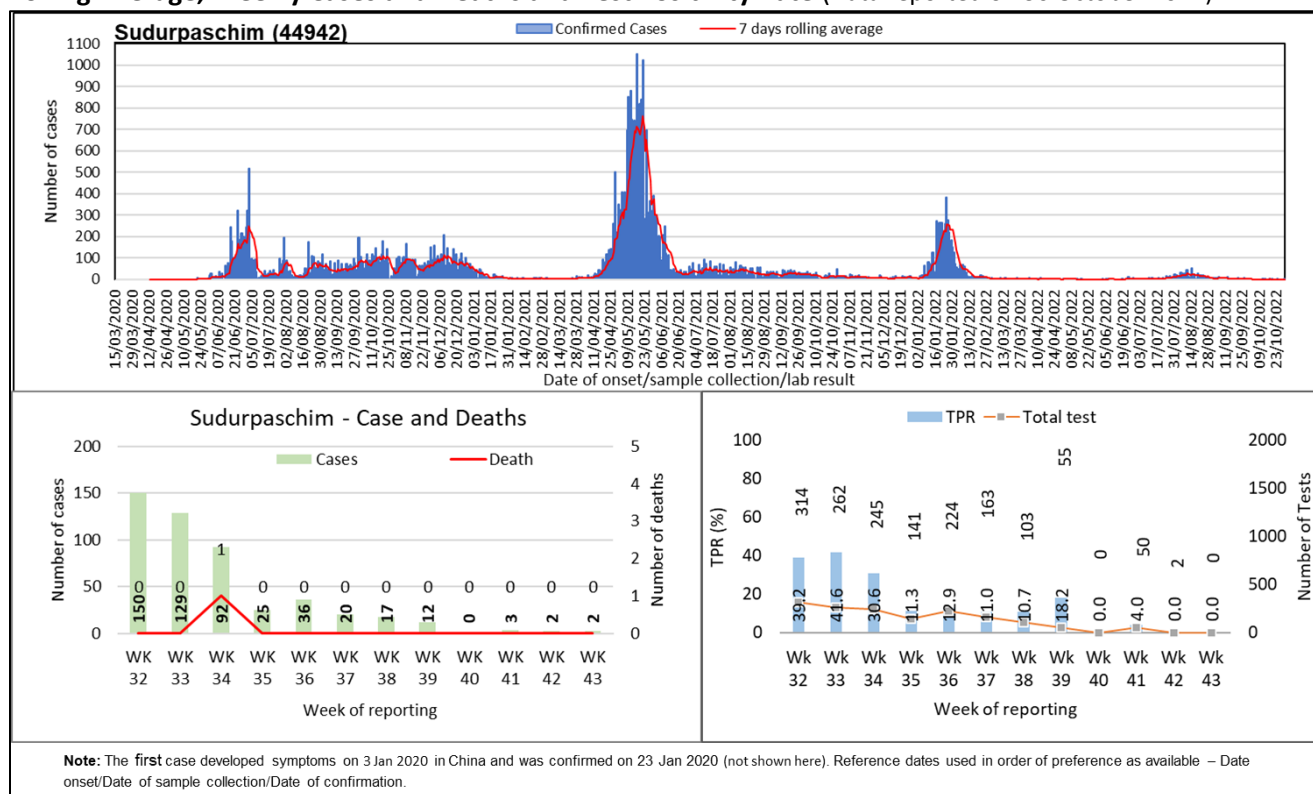
Lumbini reported 6 new cases in the past week. Cases have decreased by 33% in the past week compared to previous week. There was no death reported in the past week, same as that in the previous week. The test positivity rate in Lumbini decreased to 2.8% in the past week. A total of 107 tests were performed in the past week, 664% more than that in the previous week.

Figure 3A6: RT- PCR confirmed COVID-19 cases in Karnali Province: Trend of Cases, 7 days Rolling Average, Weekly Cases and Deaths and Test Positivity Rate (Data reported on 30 October 2022)



In Karnali, no new case was reported in the past week same as in the previous week. There was no death reported in the past week, same as that in the previous week. There was no test performed reported in the past week.

Figure 3A7: RT- PCR confirmed COVID-19 cases in Sudurpashchim Province: Trend of Cases, 7 days Rolling Average, Weekly Cases and Deaths and Test Positivity Rate (Data reported on 30 October 2022)



Lumbini reported 6 new cases in the past week. Cases have decreased by 33% in the past week compared to previous week. There was no death reported in the past week, same as that in the previous week. The test positivity rate in Lumbini decreased to 2.8% in the past week. A total of 107 tests were performed in the past week, 664% more than that in the previous week.

Table 1: Summary of confirmed COVID-19 cases, deaths and transmission by provinces (Data reported on 30 October 2022 up to 19:00:00)

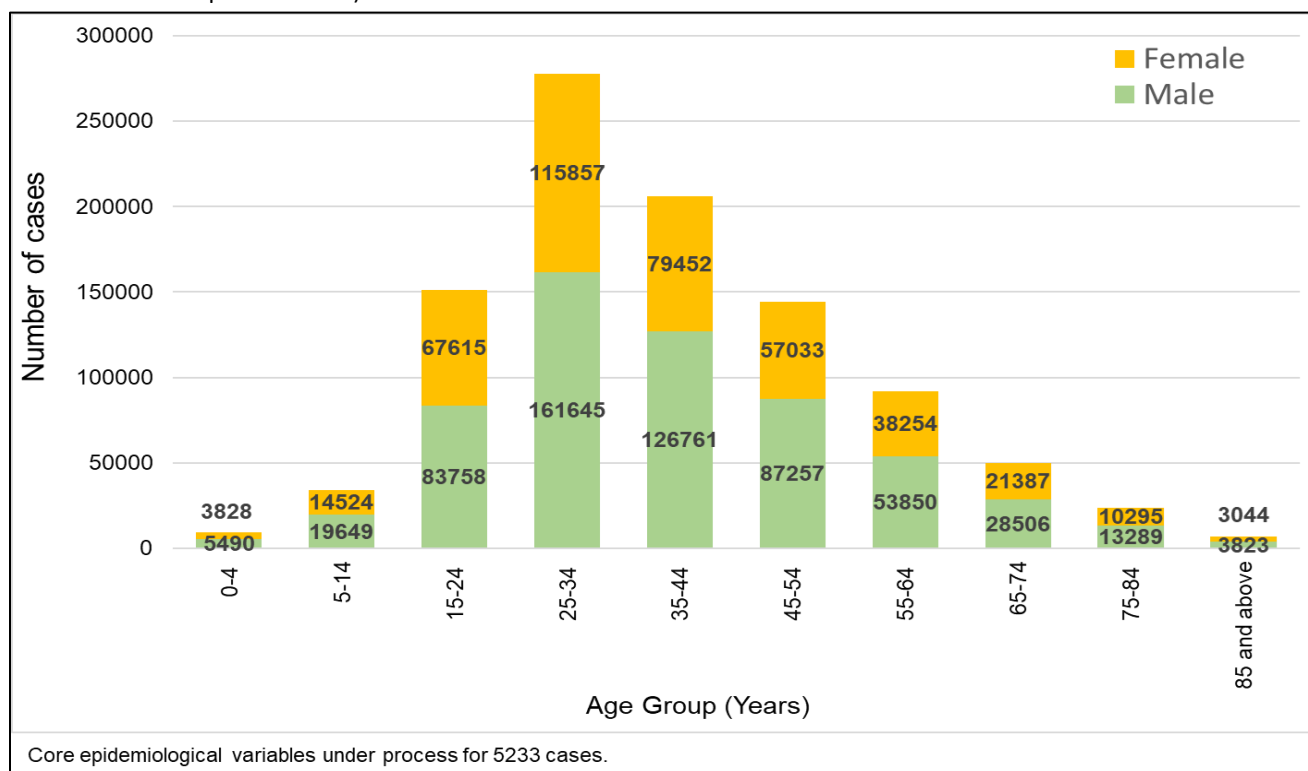
Reporting Province	Total confirmed cumulative cases RT-PCR Tests	Total Confirmed cumulative cases Antigen RDT test	Total confirmed cumulative cases	% of total confirmed cumulative cases	Total cumulative deaths	Transmission classification	Total confirmed cases in last 14 days Antigen RDT test	Total confirmed cases in last 14 days RT-PCR test	Total confirmed cases in last 14 days	% of total confirmed cumulative cases in last 14 days	Total Deaths in last 14 days
Province 1	129481	30322	159803	14.1	1722	Community transmission	0	20	20	4.7	0
Madhesh	53892	1178	55070	4.9	783	Community transmission	0	20	20	4.7	0
Bagmati	542417	32739	575156	50.9	5202	Community transmission	17	298	315	73.4	1
Gandaki	95336	24663	119999	10.6	1428	Community transmission	4	42	46	10.7	0
Lumbini	110466	28126	138592	12.3	1874	Community transmission	8	15	23	5.4	0
Karnali	24016	6325	30341	2.7	492	Community transmission	0	0	0	0.0	0
Sudurpashchim	44942	6140	51082	4.5	518	Community transmission	1	4	5	1.2	0
National Total	1000550	129493*	1130043	100	12019	Community transmission	30	399	429	100	1

Total reported in Health Emergency Operation Center (HEOC) Sitrep as of 30 October 2022, **152155 but IMU reported **129493***

Notes:

1. The source for case data used in this update is from RT-PCR test positivity reported by laboratories from various locations across Nepal, as shared by HEOC Sitrep; and IMU/IHIMS.
2. Case data is screened and cleaned by our data team for double entry, wrong entry and manual errors such as cities name in place of districts, district name in place of province etc.
3. Whereas the test positivity rate is calculated based on the test positivity reported in Sitrep for RT-PCR which may or may not be scrutinized or cleaned the same way and mark the cases on location of the laboratories rather than their place of residence.

Figure 4: Distribution of RT-PCR positive COVID-19 cases by age and sex (N= 995317)(Data reported on 30 October 2022 up to 19:00:00)



Overall, the sex-distribution remains skewed towards males. The incidence of cases is higher in the economically productive age group (15-54 years) for both males and females.

Table 2: Age Specific Case Fatality Ratio and Co-morbidity of Deaths in RT-PCR confirmed COVID-19 cases (N= 1,000,550)(Data reported on 30 October 2022 up to 19:00:00)

Age Group (Years)	Total confirmed cases	Death (male)	Death (female)	Deaths with any known comorbid condition	Age specific case fatality ratio (%)
0-4	9318	16	23	13	0.42
5-14	34173	13	7	10	0.06
15-24	151373	92	96	70	0.12
25-34	277502	387	265	151	0.23
35-44	206213	875	452	281	0.64
45-54	144290	1396	645	574	1.41
55-64	92104	1690	803	782	2.71
65-74	49893	1640	893	957	5.08
75-84	23584	1228	659	773	8
85+	6867	524	289	279	11.84
Unknown	5233	19	7	11	0.5
National	1000550	7880	4139	3901	1.20

$$\text{Case Fatality ratio (CFR, in\%)} = \frac{\text{Number of deaths from disease}}{\text{Number of confirmed cases of disease}} \times 100$$
 COVID-19 positive lab result is temporally associated with death; causal association under investigation.

A total of 12,019 deaths have been reported. Out of the total deaths, 7,880 (65.6%) were male and 4,139 (34.4%) were female. Amongst the deaths, 3,901 persons (32.5%) had at least one known comorbidity. The age specific case fatality ratio (CFR) progressively increases with age, ranging from 0.06% to 11.8%.

PREPAREDNESS AND RESPONSE

What are the Government of Nepal (GoN) & the Ministry of Health & Population (MoHP) doing?

- Nepal reached the landmark of administering more than 50 million COVID-19 vaccine doses on 13 August 2022.

What is the WHO Country Office for Nepal doing?

Laboratory Diagnosis

- WHO Nepal has been providing technical support to the National Public Health Laboratory (NPHL) in following activities:
 - Monitoring the quality standard of designated COVID-19 laboratories in the country through the National Quality Assurance Program (NQAP). A total of 5 designated COVID-19 laboratories participated in the NQAP this week. The result of all participating laboratories was 100% concordant.
 - Uploading the result of genome sequencing of 48 SARS-CoV-2 positive samples in GISAID (Global Initiative on Sharing Avian Influenza Data) platform.
- WHO Nepal facilitated NPHL in participating in the workshop 'Zoonotic Influenza Distribution Assessment Ranking' (ZIDAR) organized by EDCCD on 17 October 2022.

Technical Expertise and Training

- Continued routine work from the team of Technical Expertise and Training²

Operational Support and Logistics

- Continued routine work from the team of Operation Support and Logistics³.

Risk Communication and Community Engagement

- A [web story](#) highlighting WHO support to control the dengue outbreak in Nepal was published on WCO Nepal website and shared via social media platforms.
- On the occasion of *World Polio Day*, relevant IEC materials were shared which highlighted COVID-19 preventive measures while providing and receiving immunization services.

² The routine works of the technical expertise and training team included technical support to the Ministry of Health and Population and its department for developing different guidelines/manuals, conducting health programs, and conducting capacity building activities. To perform these activities, the team coordinates and discuss with relevant government authorities and partners for effective planning and conducting the various activities.

³ The routine works of the operation support and logistics team included technical support to the Management Division of the Department of Health Services for the forecasting, quantification, procurement, and distribution plan of COVID-19 commodities. The other routine activities included daily operational support to the WHO country office and seven provincial health emergency operation centers, including fleet and travel management and the procurement of required logistics and supplies.

- On the occasion of national festivals, relevant IEC materials were shared emphasizing healthy lifestyle choices.
- IEC materials on the following topics were shared via WHO, Country Office for Nepal, social media:
 - Omicron sub-lineages XBB and BQ.1,
 - The importance of following COVID-19 preventive measures.
- The following documents were uploaded on *ReliefWeb* (link [here](#)):
 - *Weekly COVID-19 EPI Dashboard*,
 - *Focused COVID-19 and Health Media Monitoring*, and
 - *Weekly WHO Nepal COVID-19 Situation Update*.
- MoHP press briefings on COVID-19 and other health topics are being shared via Facebook and Twitter.
- Support to NHEICC in reviewing drama script about breast cancer which aired on "Janaswasthya Radio Karyakram", a 15-minute radio program on Radio Nepal. The program aims to inform public on different public health issues and to encourage people to adopt healthy lifestyle and attain wellbeing.

What are the health clusters partners doing?

- Continued routine work from the team of Partner Coordination and Donor Relation⁴
- UNICEF and WHO are providing overall support for COVID-19 vaccination campaign in close coordination with health partners and donors.
- All members of the Health Cluster are supporting the COVID-19 vaccination campaign of Nepal.
- Health partners are continuing their technical, operational, and logistics support for COVID-19 responses to health-related offices and institutions throughout the country.
- COVID-19 consultation is being provided continuously by specialist teams through tele-medicine services.

WHO's STRATEGIC OBJECTIVES FOR COVID-19 RESPONSE- [link here](#) **RECOMMENDATION AND ADVICE FOR THE PUBLIC**

- [Protect yourself](#)
- [Questions and answers](#)
- [Travel advice](#)
- [EPI-WIN](#): tailored information for individuals, organizations and communities

⁴ The routine works include coordinating with all the divisions, units, centers of Ministry of Health and Population (MoHP) and Department of Health Services (DoHS), and the health partners for effective conduction of Health Cluster Coordination meeting. Furthermore, the works included the documentation and distribution of meeting minutes, health partner's support updates in the 3Ws (Who, What, Where) and thematic mapping, updates of WHO's support in the UNRCO 3W sheet, participate in multi-sectoral and emergency and disaster preparedness and response platforms and activities and the humanitarian country team operational meetings. Moreover, necessary support for effective coordination of Health Emergency Operation Centre (HEOC) with different stakeholders is provided.

USEFUL LINKS

- MoHP COVID-19 official portal is available [here](#).
- Nepal COVID-19 regular updates and resources are available [here](#)
- For COVID-19 updates from the WHO South-East Asia Region Office, please visit [here](#).
- For information about coronavirus disease (COVID-19) Pandemic from WHO, please visit [here](#)
- Please visit this [site](#) for all technical guidance from WHO.
- Online courses on COVID-19 from WHO can be found [here](#)
- WHO Coronavirus (COVID-19) Dashboard can be found [here](#)
- Visit the WHO Nepal [Facebook page](#) and webpage on COVID-19 [here](#)

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