

Situation Update #134 - Coronavirus Disease 2019 (COVID-19)

WHO Country Office for Nepal

Reporting Date: 31 October – 6 November 2022 (EPI Week 44)

HIGHLIGHTS

(Data published in the MoHP Situation Report as of 6 November 2022 and same data published in EDCD Report as of 7 November 2022)

- Of the total RT-PCR confirmed COVID-19 cases, 98.7% (988,145) of cases have recovered, 0.1% (570) are active cases and 1.2% (12,019) are deaths.
- Among the new RT-PCR confirmed cases (184) reported this week, 37.0% (68) are from Kathmandu district followed by Chitwan district 15.2% (28). Majority of the new cases 44% (81) have been reported from Kathmandu Valley (Kathmandu, Lalitpur and Bhaktapur), Bagmati Province.

COVID-19 vaccination coverage status (as of 06 November 2022)

SITUATION OVERVIEW

(Data as of 06 November 2022)

NEPAL

Cumulative confirmed cases

RT-PCR: 1,000,734

Antigen RDT: 152,183

Cumulative deaths: 12,019

Cumulative tests

RT-PCR: 5,962,970

Antigen RDT: 1,446,464

SOUTH-EAST ASIA REGION

Cumulative cases (%)

60,488,431 (10%)

Cumulative deaths (%)

800,504 (12%)

GLOBAL

Cumulative cases (%)

629,627,951 (100%)

Cumulative deaths (%)

6,580,793 (100%)

Covi-AstraZeneca		Vero Cell		Janssen		Pfizer		Moderna	
First dose	5,560,799	First dose	10,381,901	Single dose	3,525,467	First dose	4,609,222	First dose	3,226,323
Second dose	4,813,400	Second dose	9,250,492			Second dose	3,078,684	Second dose	2,823,707

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, total 78.2% (782,519/1,000,734) 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 national total (441,477/1,000,734), and 81.4% of the provincial total (441,477/542,538).
- Province-wise RT-PCR test positivity rate in Epi Week 44 ranged from 0.0% (Province 1, Madhesh and Sudurpashchim province) to 11.9% (Lumbini province), with a national positivity rate at 2.8%. Karnali province did not report any RT-PCR test performed in the last week.
- Nepal reported a 94% increase in the number of new RT-PCR confirmed cases (n=184) in Epi week 44 compared to that in the previous week. Of these total cases reported last week, 84% of the cases have been reported from Province 1, Bagmati, and Lumbini province.
- Nepal did not report any death in Epi week 44, 100% decline compared to previous week.

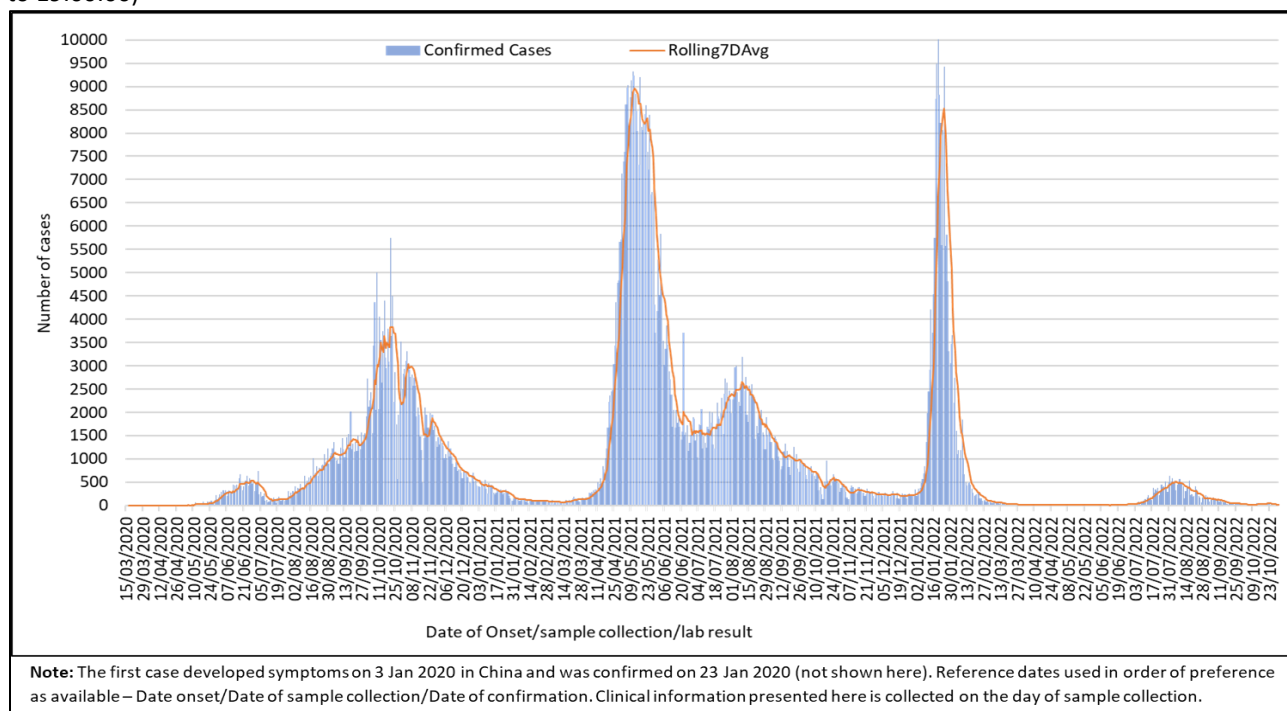
National Influenza Surveillance

- WHO Nepal also provided technical support to National Influenza Center (NIC) -NPHL in conducting “Implementation meeting of Influenza -SARS-CoV-2 surveillance at Bagmati Province” at NPHL on 4 November 2022. A total of 15 people participated in the meeting representing Provincial Health Emergency Operation Center (PHEOC)-Bagmati, Provincial Public Health Laboratory (PPHL)-Bagmati, Bhaktapur Hospital, NPHL and WHO.
- NIC-NPHL reported 7 diagnostic Influenza samples on Epi-week 44 (31 Oct-6 Nov 2022).
 - One sample tested positive for Influenza A/H3.
 - None of the sample tested positive for SARS-CoV-2.
- Out of the total SARS-CoV-2 samples that tested negative at NPHL on Epi-week 44 (31 Oct-6 Nov 2022).
 - 34 SARS-CoV-2 negative samples were tested for Influenza.
 - All samples tested negative for Influenza A and B.
- Provincial Public Health Laboratory (PPHL) from Province 1, Madhesh, Gandaki, Lumbini and Karnali Provinces reported testing of 72 sample for Influenza-SARS-CoV-2 using Multiplex kit on Epi-week 44.
 - None of the samples tested positive for Influenza and SARS-CoV-2.
 - A total of 1534 samples have been tested by PPHLs till 6 November 2022.
- From 3 January 2022 until 6 November 2022:
 - A total of 628 samples have tested positive for Influenza (2 Influenza B, 294 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 have tested positive for SARS-CoV-2 from 2,589 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/>

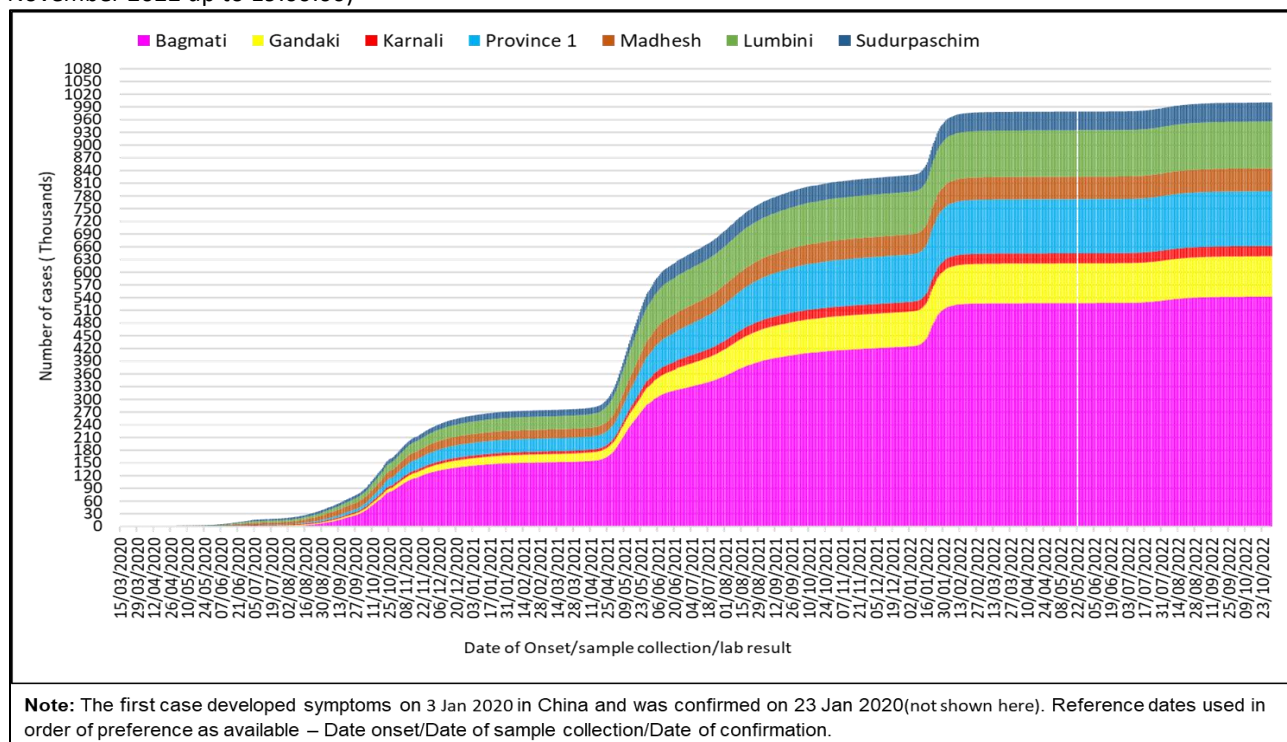
¹ These positive cases are included in the COVID-19 database

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= 1,000,734)(Data reported on 6 November 2022 up to 19:00:00)



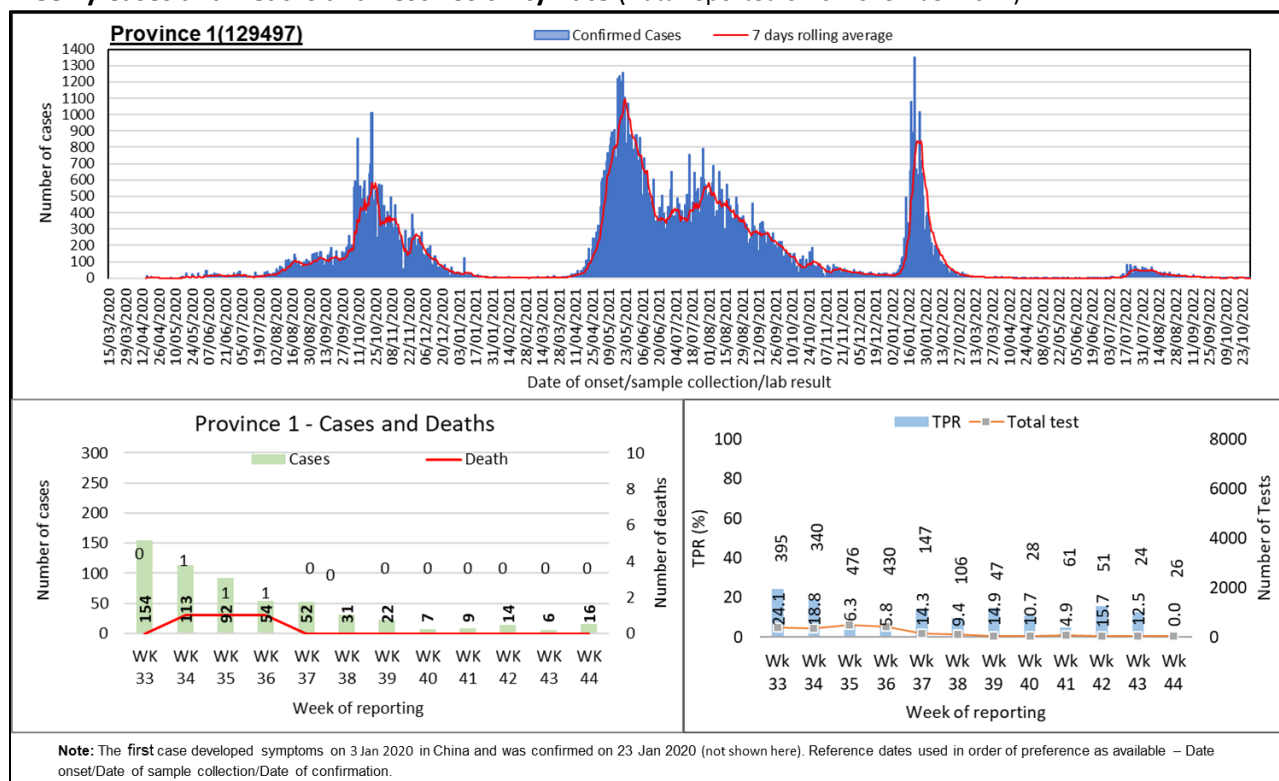
At national level, the first wave of cases between July 2020 and February 2021 was followed by the second wave from the middle of March 2021. Since the middle of December 2021, a third wave of cases soared up exceeding the highest number of single day cases reported in the past surges towards the end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

Figure 2: Cumulative case count of RT-PCR confirmed COVID-19 cases (N= 1,000,734)(Data reported on 6 November 2022 up to 19:00:00)



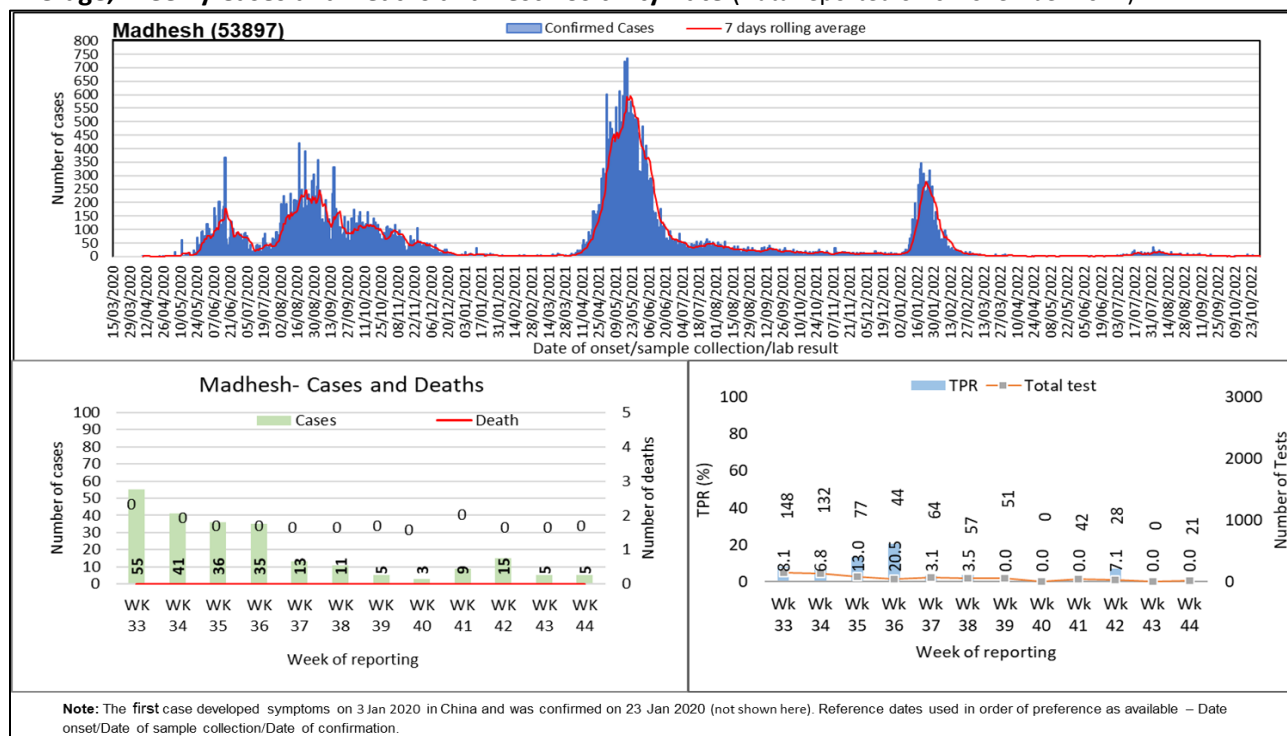
The cumulative case incidence has been increasing in Nepal since the first case confirmed on 23 January 2020. Cases have been largely reported from Bagmati Province followed by Province 1 and Lumbini Province

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 6 November 2022)



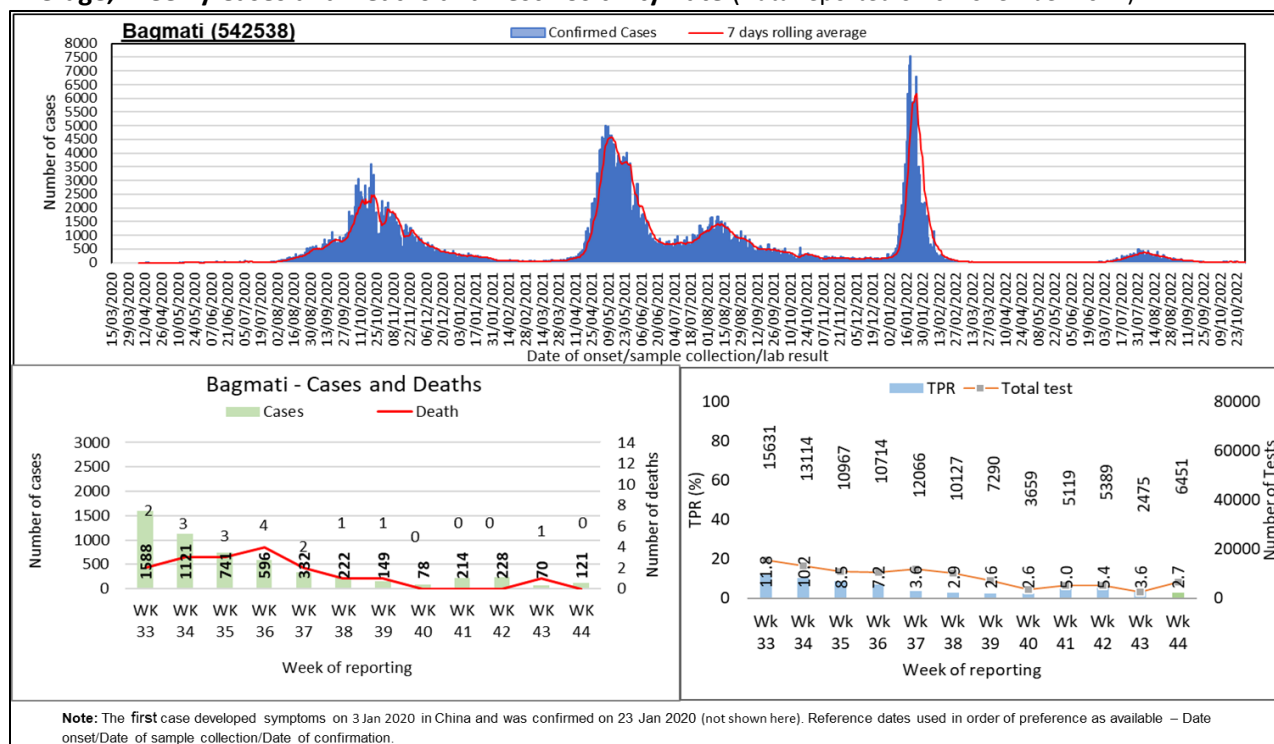
There were 16 new cases reported in the past week in Province 1. Cases have increased by 167% in the past week compared to the previous week. There was no death reported in the past week, same as in the previous week. The test positivity rate in Province 1 decreased to 0.0% in the past week. A total of 26 tests were performed in the past week, 8% more 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 6 November 2022)



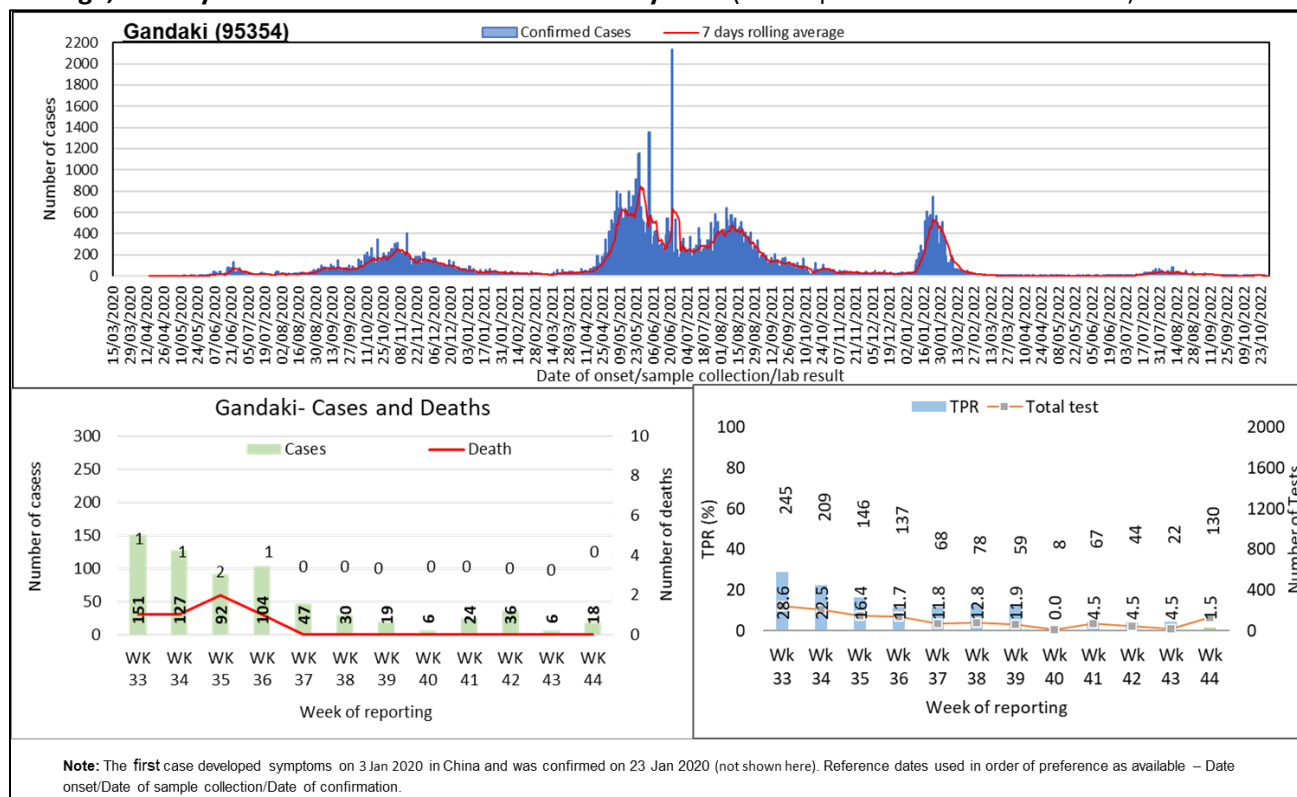
There were 5 new cases reported in the past week in Madhesh province. Cases have remained the same in the past week compared to previous week. There was no death reported in the past week, same as in the previous week. The test positivity rate in Madhesh province was 0.0% in the past week. A total of 21 tests were performed reported in the past week, increase compared to none in the previous 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 6 November 2022)



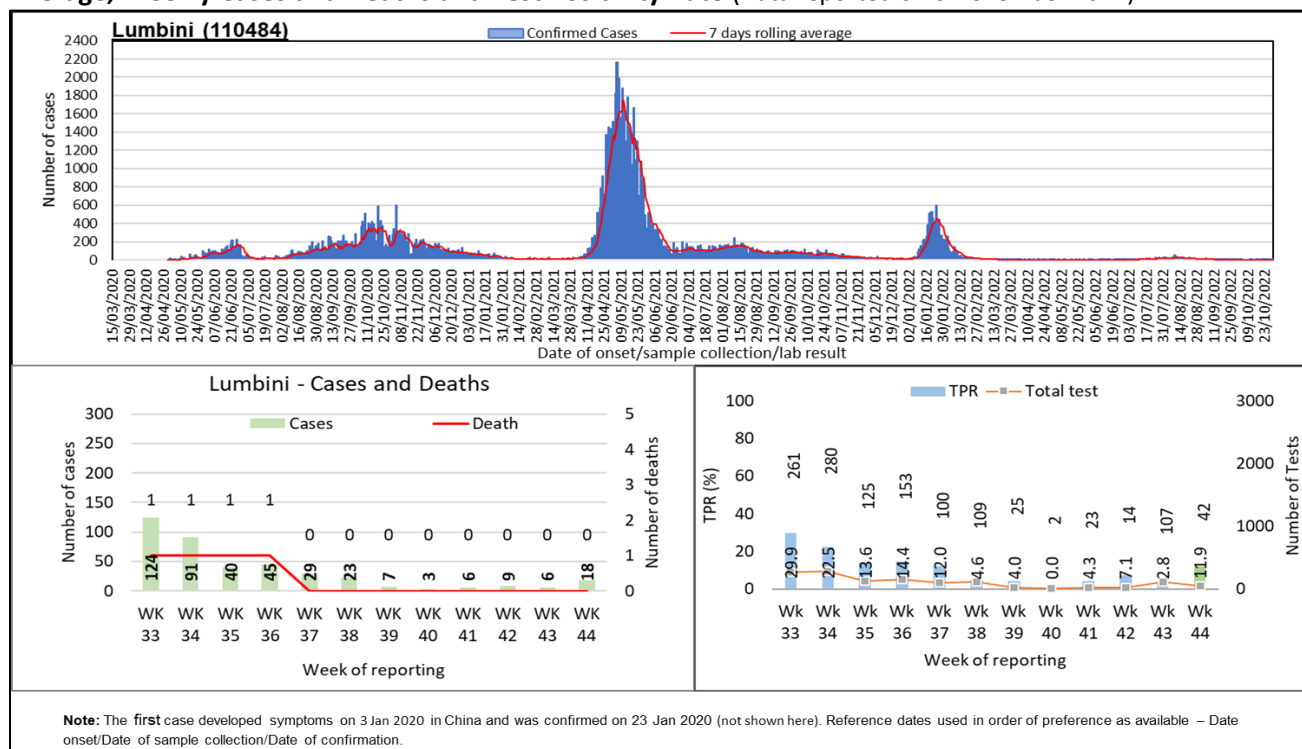
In Bagmati, 121 new cases were reported in the past week. Cases have increased by 73% in the past week compared to previous week. There was no death reported in the past week, same as in the previous week. The test positivity rate in Bagmati decreased to 2.7% in the past week. A total of 6451 tests were performed in the past week, 161% more 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 6 November 2022)



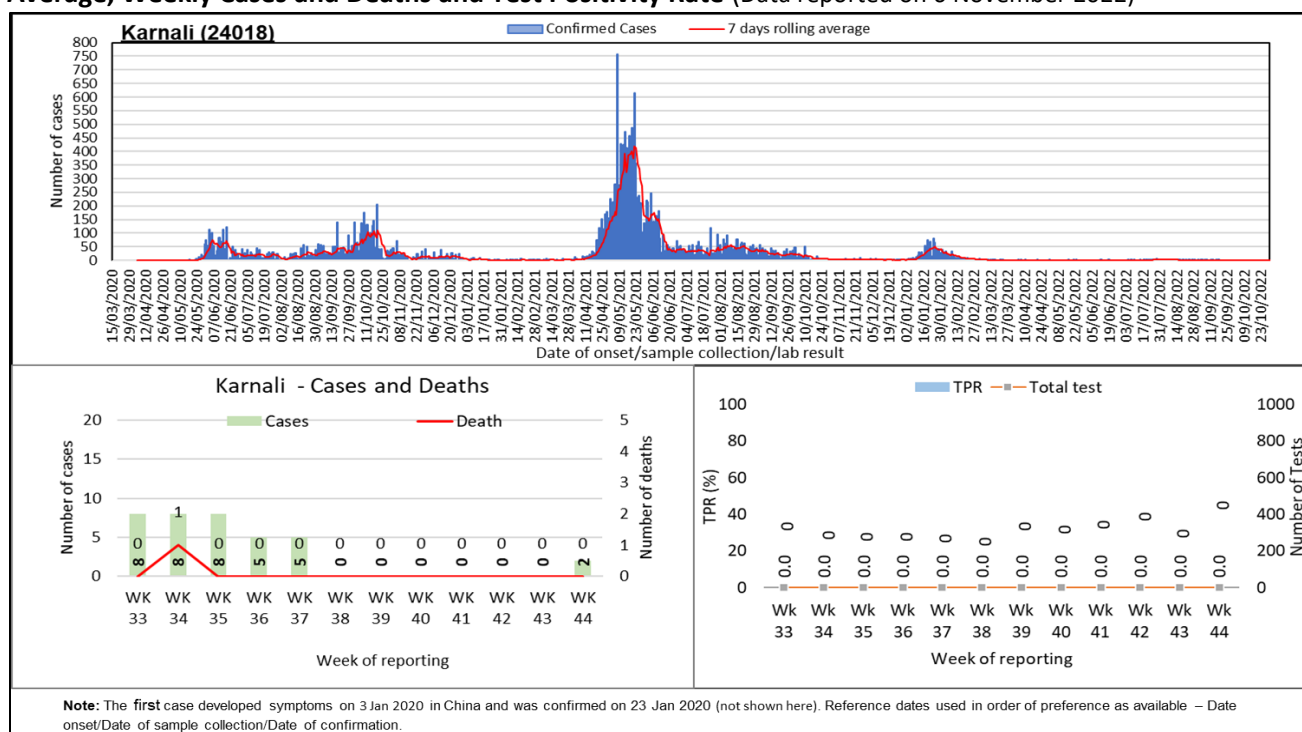
In Gandaki, 18 new cases were reported in the past week. Cases have increased by 200% in the past week compared to previous week. There was no death reported in the past week, same as in the previous week. The test positivity rate in Gandaki decreased to 1.5% in the past week. A total of 130 tests were performed in the past week, 491% more 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 6 November 2022)



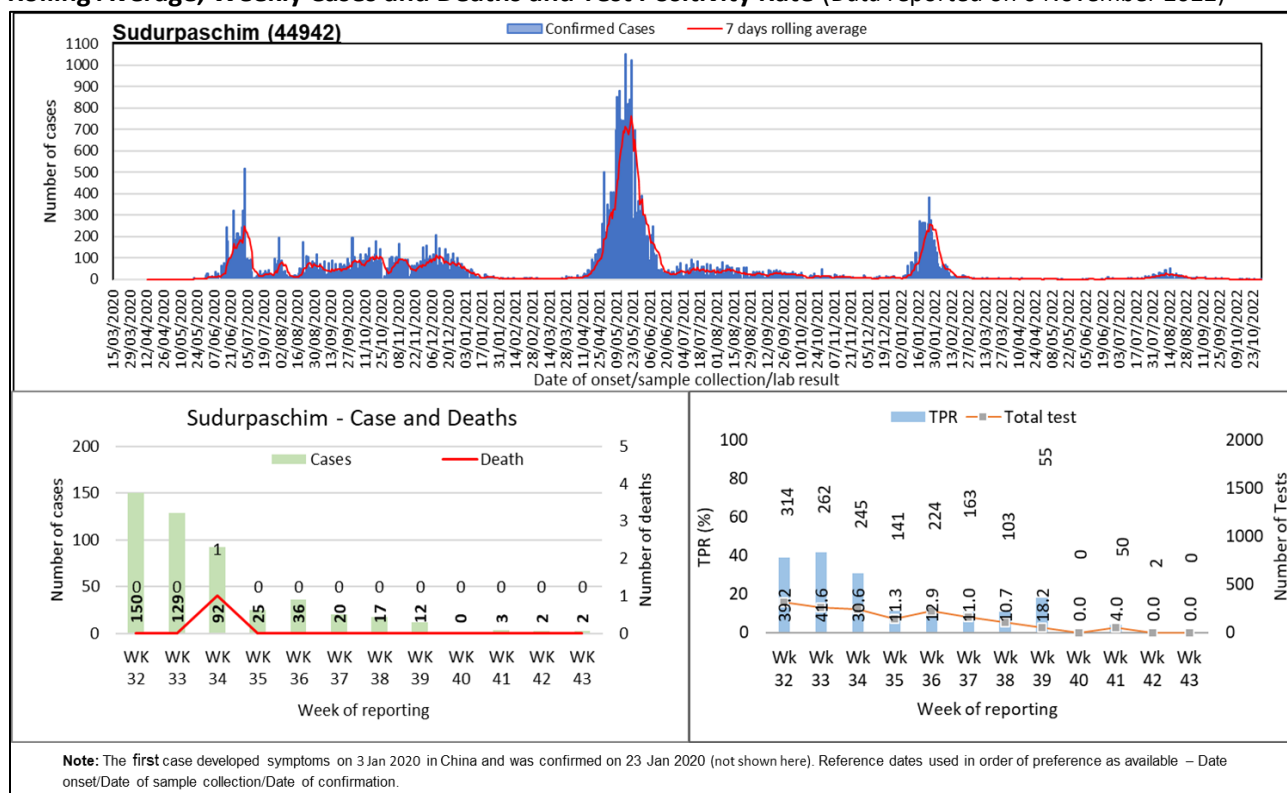
Lumbini reported 18 new cases in the past week. Cases have increased by 200% in the past week compared to previous week. There was no death reported in the past week, same as in the previous week. The test positivity rate in Lumbini increased to 11.9% in the past week. A total of 42 tests were performed in the past week, 61% less 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 6 November 2022)



In Karnali, 2 new cases were reported in the past week, increase in the past week compared to none in the previous week. There was no death reported in the past week, same as 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 6 November 2022)



In Sudurpashchim, 4 new cases were reported in the past week. Cases have increased by 100% in the past week compared to previous week. There was no death reported in the past week, same as in the previous week. The test positivity rate in Sudurpashchim province was 0.0% in the past week. Only 1 test was performed reported in the past week, increase compared to none in the previous week.

Table 1: Summary of confirmed COVID-19 cases, deaths and transmission by provinces (Data reported on 6 November 2022 up to 19:00:00)

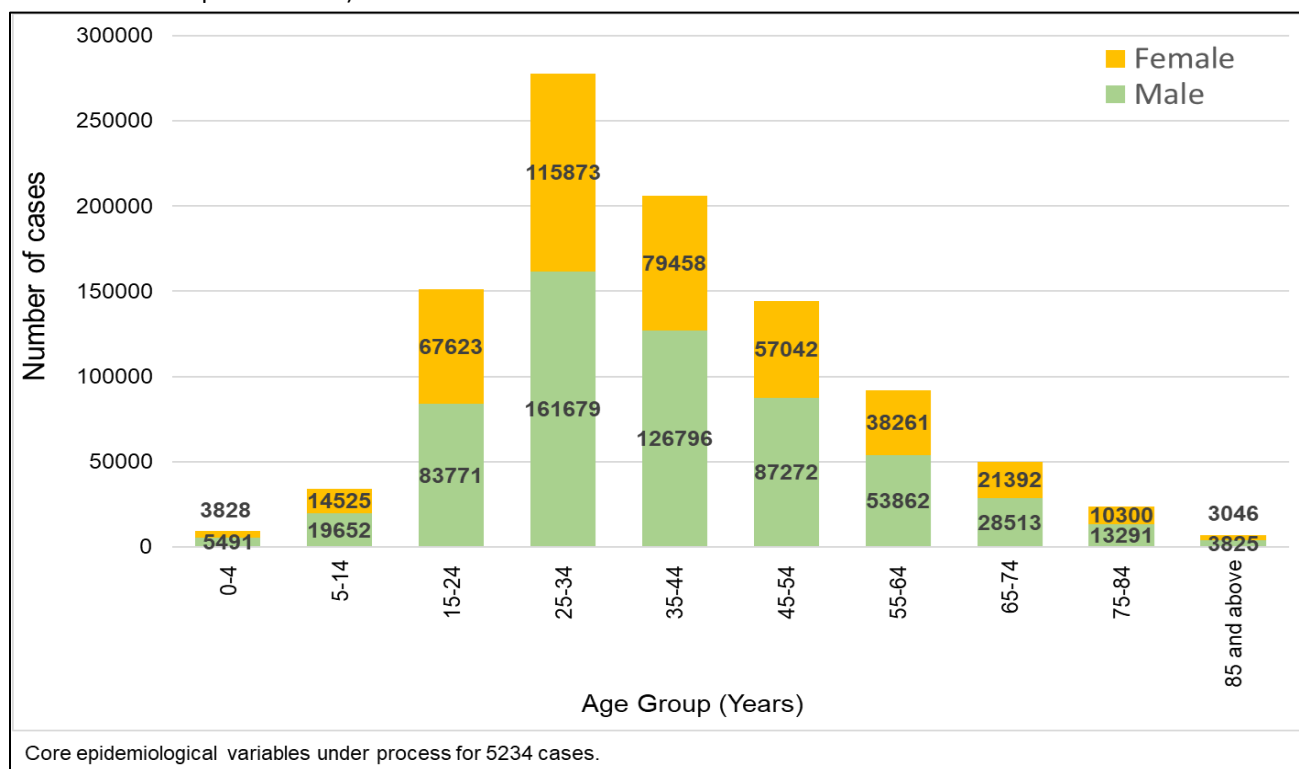
Reporting Province	Total confirmed cumulative cases RT-PCR Tests	Total Confirmed cumulative cases Antigen RDT test	Total confirmed cumulative cases	% of total confirmed cumulative cases	Total cumulative deaths	Transmission classification	Total confirmed cases in last 14 days Antigen RDT test	Total confirmed 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	129497	30322	159819	14.1	1722	Community transmission	0	22	22	7.1	0
Madhesh	53897	1178	55075	4.9	783	Community transmission	0	10	10	3.2	0
Bagmati	542538	32750	575288	50.9	5202	Community transmission	17	191	208	67.3	1
Gandaki	95354	24664	120018	10.6	1428	Community transmission	3	24	27	8.7	0
Lumbini	110484	28129	138613	12.3	1874	Community transmission	9	24	33	10.7	0
Karnali	24018	6325	30343	2.7	492	Community transmission	0	2	2	0.6	0
Sudurpashchim	44946	6141	51087	4.5	518	Community transmission	1	6	7	2.3	0
National Total	1000734	129509*	1130243	100	12019	Community transmission	30	279	309	100	1

Total reported in Health Emergency Operation Center (HEOC) Sitrep as of 6 November 2022, **152183 but IMU reported **129509***

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= 995500)(Data reported on 6 November 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= 1,000,734)(Data reported on 6 November 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	9319	16	23	13	0.42
5-14	34177	13	7	10	0.06
15-24	151394	92	96	70	0.12
25-34	277552	387	265	151	0.23
35-44	206254	875	452	281	0.64
45-54	144314	1396	645	574	1.41
55-64	92123	1690	803	782	2.71
65-74	49905	1640	893	957	5.08
75-84	23591	1228	659	773	8
85+	6871	524	289	279	11.83
Unknown	5234	19	7	11	0.5
National	1000734	7880	4139	3901	1.20

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 showed 100% concordant.

Technical Expertise and Training

- Continued routine work from the team of Technical Expertise and Training²
- WHO Nepal provided technical and financial support in conducting the following programs:
 - Review training on 'three months Infection Prevention and Control (IPC) Training for Nurses in blended Modality' at Shahid Gangalal National Heart Center on 6 - 8 November 2022 conducted by NSSD (Nursing and Social Security Division. There were 14 trainers and 20 participants (nurse, hospital nursing-incharge, supervisor hospital nursing and staff nurse) in this training from Province 1, Madhesh Province, Bagmati & Lumbini Provinces. Practical sessions will begin from 9 November 2022 at Gangalal, Grande, Patan and Sukraraj Tropical and Infectious Disease Hospitals in divided groups.

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.



Opening Session in the review of the Infection Prevention and Control (IPC) Training,

*Photo Credit: WHO
Nepal/M.Karmacharya*

Participants demonstrating the use of Personal Protective Equipment (PPE).

*Photo Credit: WHO
Nepal/M.Karmacharya*



Operational Support and Logistics

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

Risk Communication and Community Engagement

- Episode 79 of *Science in 5 (Is poliovirus making a comeback?)* was translated, dubbed, and published via the following links: Nepali: Facebook [link](#); OneDrive [link](#); YouTube [link](#); Twitter (link [here](#) (English); link [here](#) (Nepali))
- IEC materials on the following topics were shared via WHO, Country Office for Nepal, social media:
 - Staying healthy in winter and COVID-19,
 - Mental health and COVID-19,
 - The importance of following COVID-19 preventive measures.

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.

- 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*.
- WHO press briefings on COVID-19 are being shared via Facebook and Twitter.
- Regular support is being provided to MoHP for its weekly national briefing that is broadcasted live every Wednesday on Nepal Television. In the briefing on 2 November 2022, the message highlighted are updates of COVID-19, importance of public health and social measures and COVID-19 vaccine along with booster dose. Similarly, update on dengue cases and measures for the prevention and control of dengue in Nepal and message about World Stroke Day 2022 that is marked on October 29 every year were included as well.
- Communication team participated in the meeting called by National Health Education Information Communication Center (NHEICC) to finalize the JEE tool on RCCE in Nepal. All the necessary documents are collected and compiled to support the achievement made by Nepal in the respective indicators. Nepal is conducting the first ever voluntary JEE of international Health Regulation (IHR) core capacities in the last week of November 2022.

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](#)

CONTACT DETAILS

WHO Representative

Dr. Rajesh Sambhajirao Pandav
WHO Representative to the
Government of Nepal
Email: pandavr@who.int

WHO Incident Manager/ Health Cluster Co-lead

Dr. Allison Gocotano
Team Leader - WHO Health
Emergencies Program (WHE)
WHO Country Office for Nepal
Email: gocotanoa@who.int

Communication/Media Focal Point

Ms. Tsering Dolkar Gurung
Media, Communication and Public
Information Officer
WHO Country Office for Nepal
Email: gurungt@who.int