

# Situation Update #77- Coronavirus Disease 2019 (COVID-19)

## WHO Country Office for Nepal

Reporting Date: 27 September – 03 October 2021

**HIGHLIGHTS** (Data published on MoHP Situation Report as of 03 October 2021 and same data published on EDCD Report as of 04 October 2021)

- Of the total RT-PCR confirmed COVID-19 cases, 96.5% (769,224) of cases have recovered and 2.1% (16,804) of cases are active.
- Of the total active cases, 92.4% (15,534) cases are in home isolation; 7.6% (1,270) of cases are undergoing hospital/institutional isolation. While 2.0% (337) of active cases require ICU admission, 30.8% (104) of the ICU admitted patients require ventilator support.
- Eight districts have reported more than 500 active cases.
- Among the total new cases (5,800) reported this week, 30.0% (1739) are from Kathmandu district followed by Morang district which is 7.6% (439). Majority of the new cases about 40.5% (2,350) have been reported from Kathmandu valley (Kathmandu, Lalitpur and Bhaktapur districts), Bagmati Province.

- COVID-19 vaccination coverage status (as of 03 October 2021, 14:00Hrs)

ChAdOx1-S*	SARS-CoV-2 Vaccine (Vero Cell)	Johnson and Johnson Vaccine
First dose : 2,773,867	First dose : 4,943,118	Single Dose : 1,521,077
Second dose : 1,535,256	Second dose : 3,295,989	

\* COVISHIELD (manufactured by Serum Institute of India), Japanese-made COVID-19 AstraZeneca vaccine, Swedish AstraZeneca vaccine

### SITUATION OVERVIEW

#### NEPAL

(Data as of 04 October 2021, 07:00:00hrs)

**797,192 (RT-PCR) and  
92,034 (Antigen RDT)  
confirmed cases  
11,164 deaths  
4,228,163 RT-PCR tests and  
587,561 Antigen RDT**

#### SOUTH-EAST ASIA REGION

(Data as of 03 October 2021)

**43,121,902 confirmed cases  
678,035 deaths**

#### GLOBAL

(Data as of 03 October 2021)

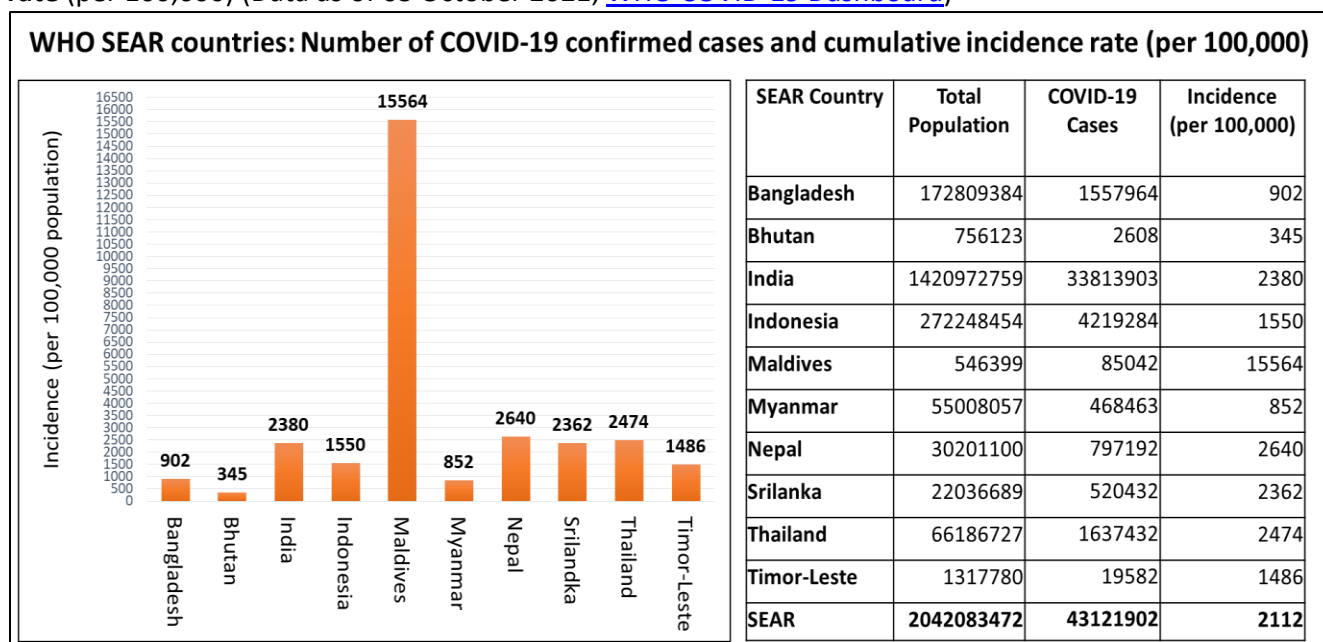
**234,553,539 confirmed cases  
4,796,222 deaths**

### NEPAL EPIDEMIOLOGICAL SITUATION

- As of 4 October 2021, 07:00:00 hours, a total of 797,192 (18.8%) COVID-19 cases were confirmed through polymerase chain reaction (RT-PCR); 4,228,163 RT-PCR tests have been performed nationwide by designated functional COVID-19 laboratories. A total of 92,034 (15.6%) cases were confirmed through Antigen RDT; 587,561 Antigen RDT have been performed nationwide.
- Since 9 May 2021, all 7 provinces in the country are experiencing community transmission.
- Province-wise RT-PCR test positivity rate for Epi Week 39 ranged from 6.5% (Bagmati Province) to 37.0% (Karnali Province), with national positivity rate of 8.8%.
- Overall, the sex-distribution remains skewed towards males, who constitute 59.3% (473,315/797,192) of the RT-PCR confirmed cases. Amongst the males, 78.0% (368,999/473,315) are in the economically productive age group (15-54 years).

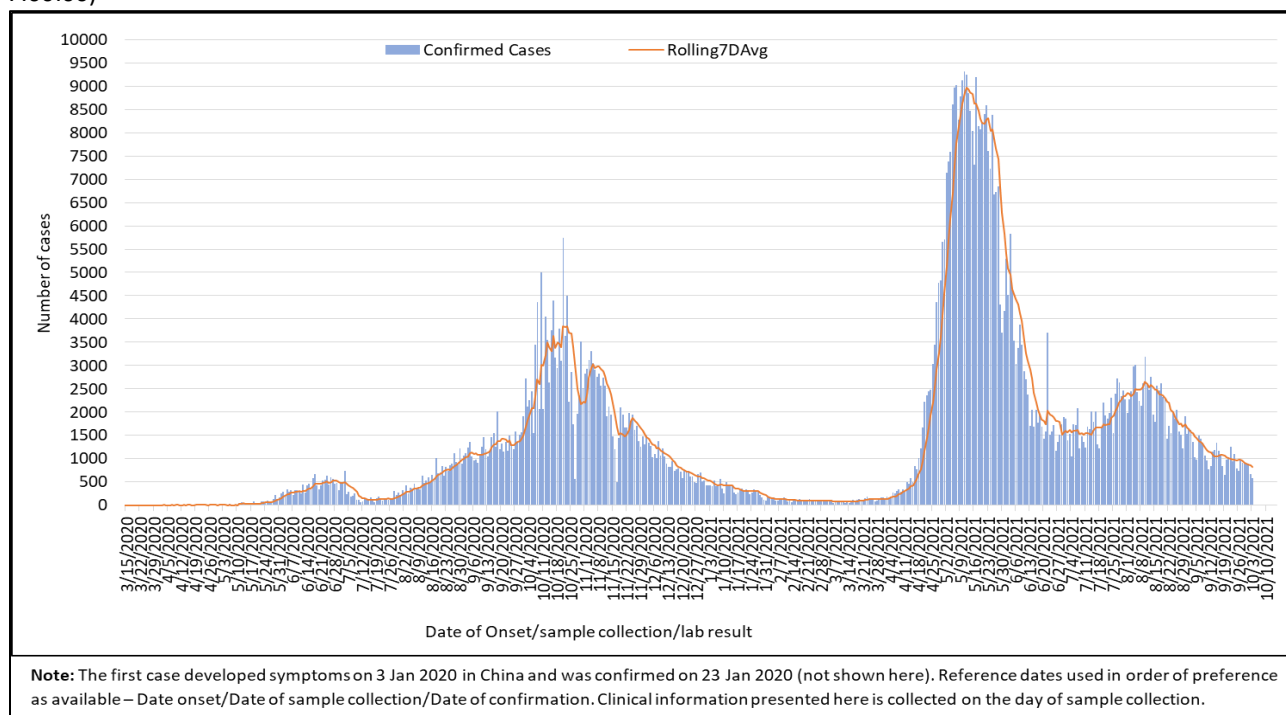
- National Public Health Laboratory reported 62 diagnostic and surveillance samples [(23 samples tested at National Influenza center (NIC) and 39 samples tested at WARUN (Walter Reed/AFRIMS Research Unit-Nepal)] on EPID-week 39 (27 September - 3 October 2021).
  - One sample tested positive for Influenza A/H3, and 11 samples tested positive for Influenza B Victoria and 2 samples tested positive for co-infection and 18 samples tested positive for Influenza B (sub-typing yet to be done).
  - Three samples tested positive for SARS-CoV-2 on the samples tested at NIC (this is exclusive of SARS-CoV-2 reporting of the Influenza samples from WARUN).
  - Out of the total SARS-CoV-2 samples that tested negative at NPHL on EPID-week 39, 86 SARS-CoV-2 negative samples were tested for Influenza for the same week. Ten samples tested positive for Influenza B Victoria.
- From 4 January until 3 October, 2021:
  - A total of 962 samples tested positive for Influenza (596 Influenza A/H3, 163 Influenza B Victoria, 1 co-Infection of Influenza A/H3 and Influenza B Victoria, 4 co-Infection of Influenza A/H3 and Influenza B, 2 co-Infection of COVID-19 and Influenza B Victoria, 2 Influenza A(H1N1) pdm09, 194 Influenza B un-subtyped) from 5118 samples (Sentinel and non-sentinel samples including SARS-CoV-2 negative SARI and ILI cases).
  - Similarly, 281 samples have been tested positive for SARS-CoV-2 from 1299 samples (Sentinel/non-sentinel ILI/SARI samples).<sup>1</sup>

**Figure 1: WHO SEAR countries: Number of COVID-19 confirmed cases and cumulative incidence rate (per 100,000) (Data as of 03 October 2021; [WHO COVID-19 Dashboard](#))**



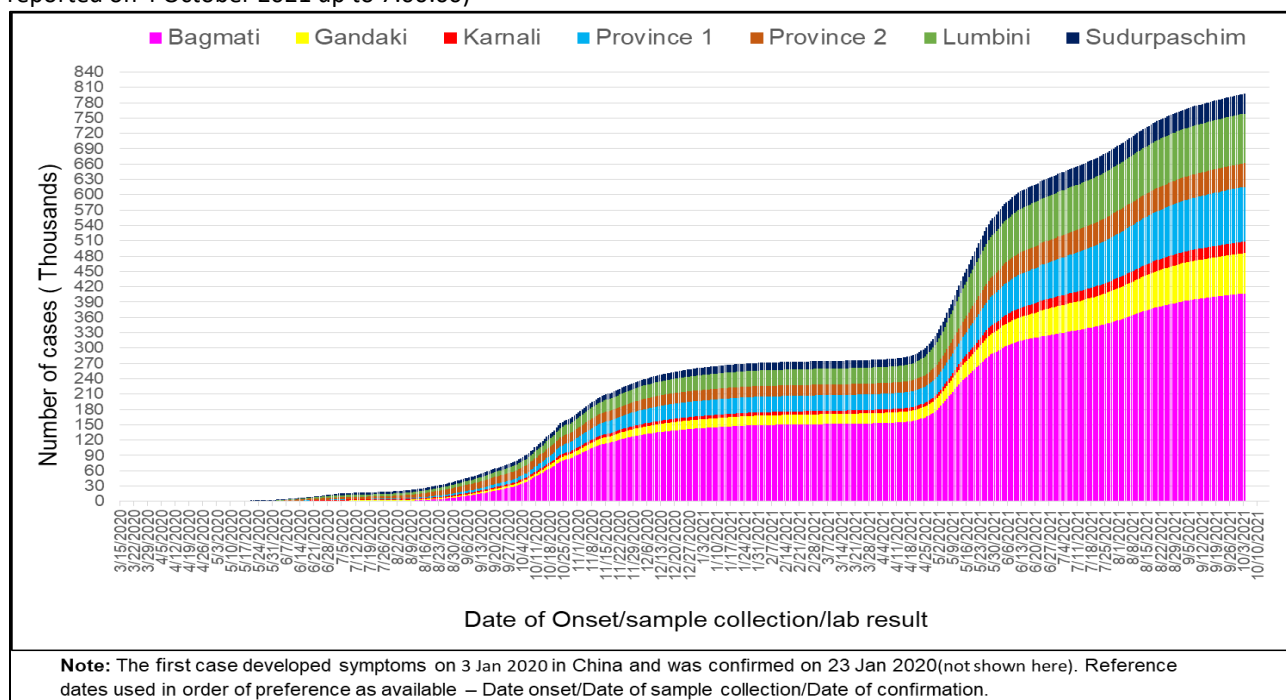
<sup>1</sup> These positive cases are included in the COVID-19 database.

**Figure 2A: Laboratory confirmed COVID-19 cases and average number of COVID-19 cases over the last seven days, by date of onset/sample/confirmation (N = 797192)**(Data reported on 4 October 2021 up to 7:00:00)



*At a 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. The total PCR tests done in Nepal on 3 October 2021 was 7070 which is 65% less than the number tested during the peak in the beginning of May 2021.*

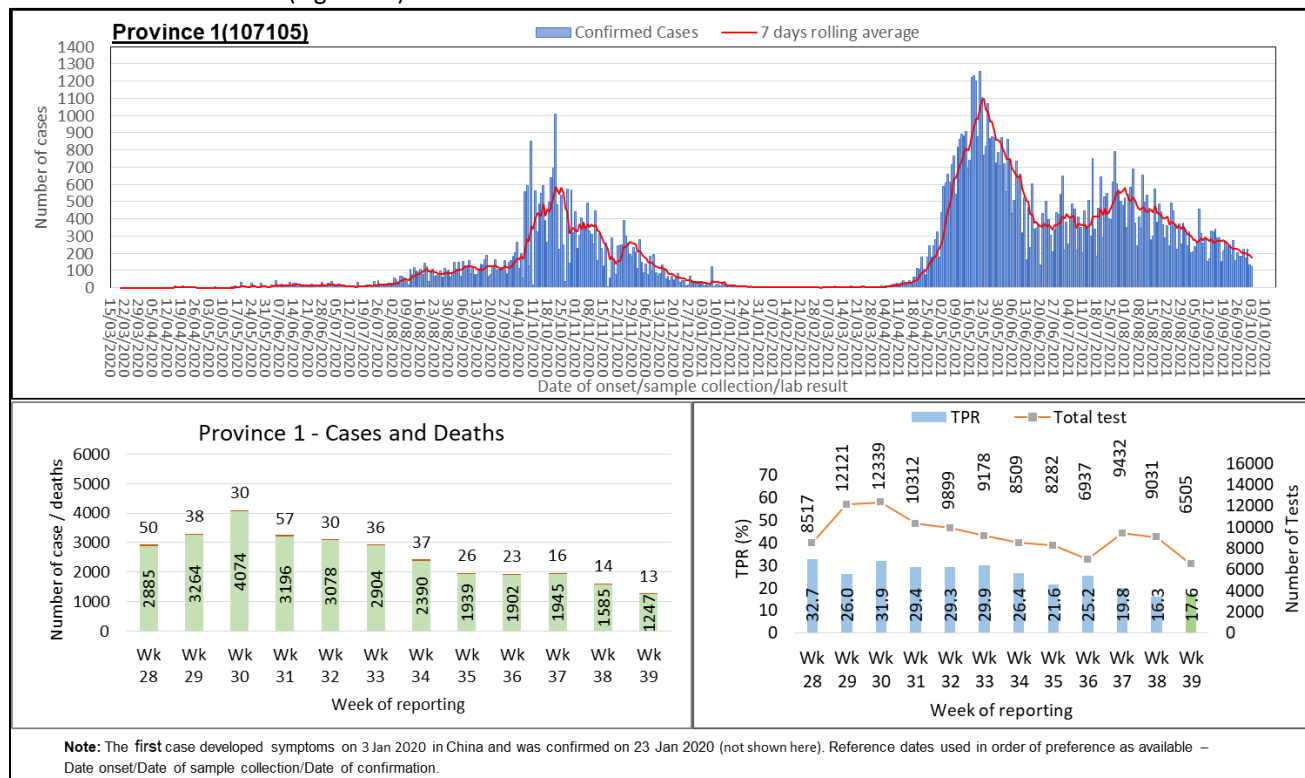
**Figure 2B: Cumulative case count of laboratory-confirmed COVID-19 by province (N = 797192)**(Data reported on 4 October 2021 up to 7:00:00)



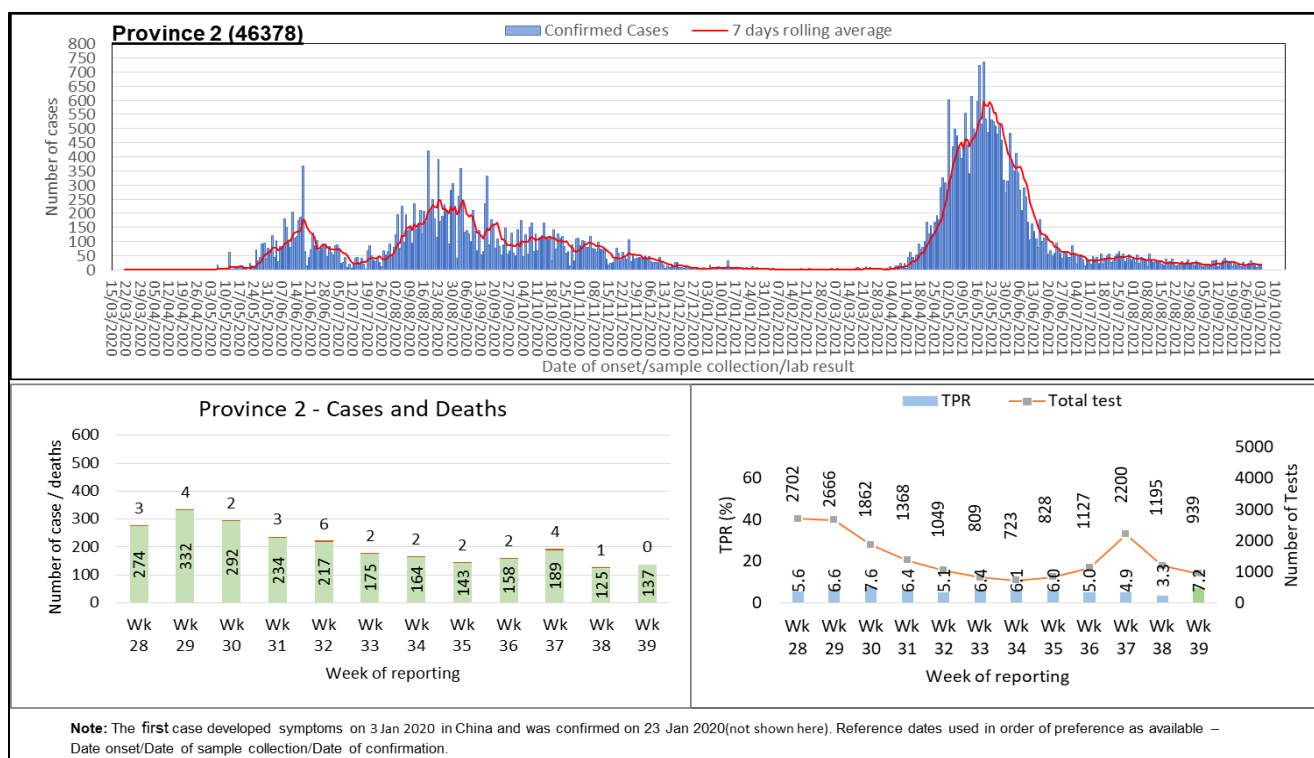
The cumulative case incidence has been increasing in Nepal since the first case confirmed in 23 January 2020. Cases have been largely reported from Bagmati Province followed by Province 1 and Lumbini Province.

**Figure 2C: Lab confirmed COVID-19 cases: Trend of cases, 7-days rolling average, weekly cases and deaths and Test Positivity Rate (N = 797192)**(Data reported on 4 October 2021 up to 7:00:00)

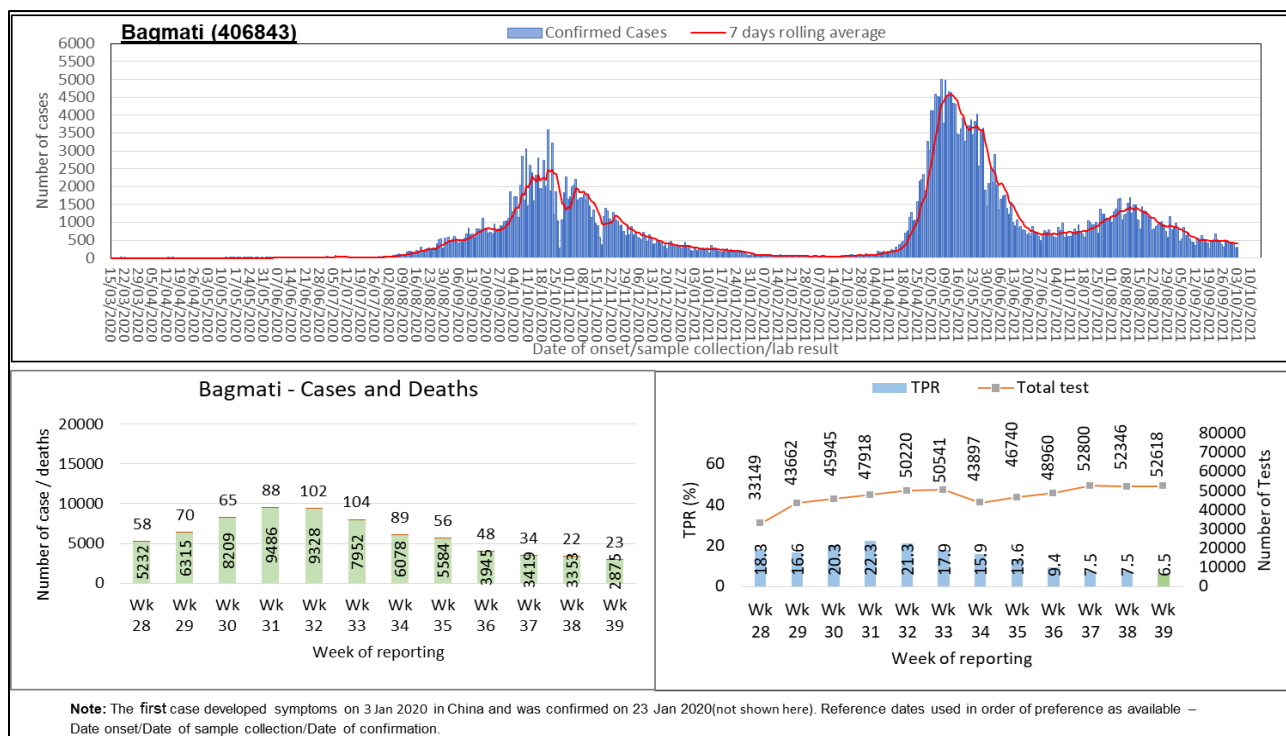
Note for all the Provinces (Figure 2C): Y-axis scale varies between Provinces



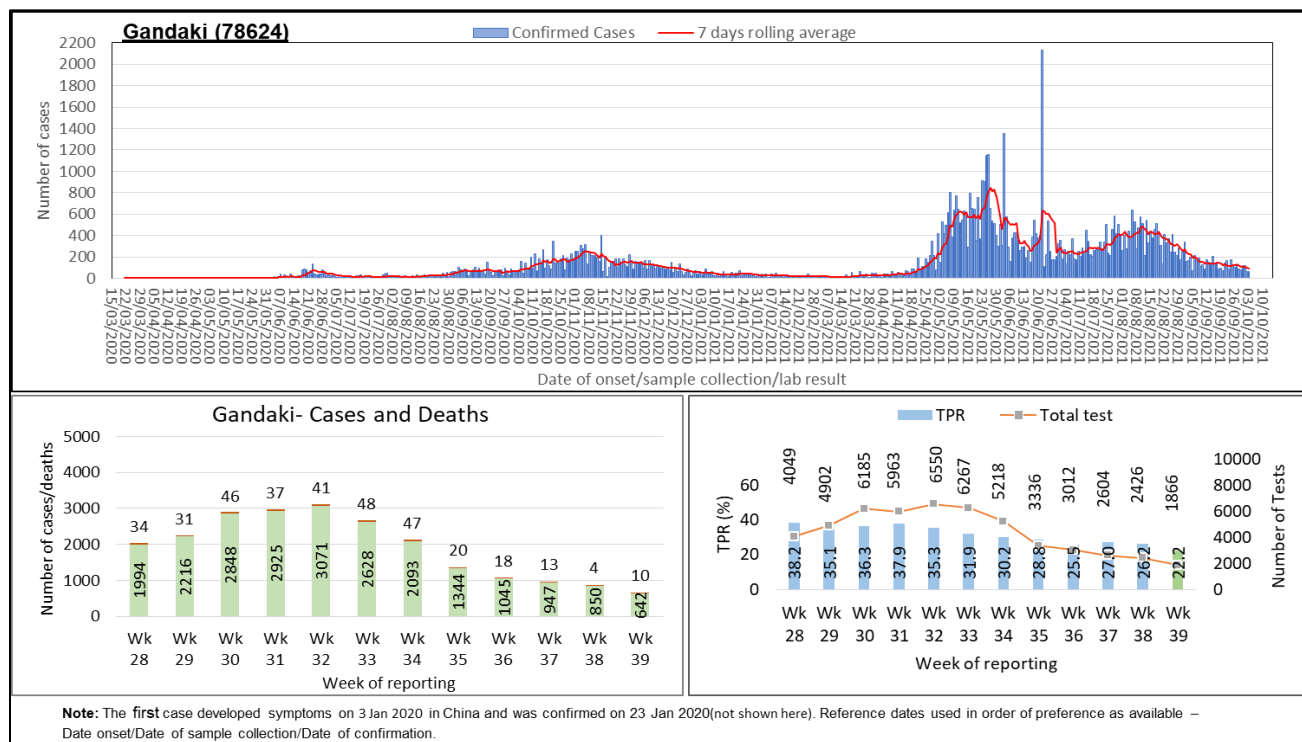
There were 1247 new cases reported in the past week in Province 1. Since a peak in week 20, new cases were continuously declining. The cases have decreased by 21% in the past week compared to the previous week. There were 13 deaths reported in the past week, 7% less than that of the previous week. The test positivity rate in Province 1 increased to 17.6% in the past week. A total of 6505 tests were performed in the past week, 28% less than that of the previous week.



There were 137 new cases reported in the past week in Province 2. Since a peak in Week 20, new cases were continuously declining. However, the cases have increased by 10% in the past week compared to the previous week. There were no deaths reported in the past week, 100% less than that of the previous week. The test positivity rate in Province 2 increased to 7.2% in the past week. A total of 939 tests were performed in the past week, 21% less than that of the previous week.

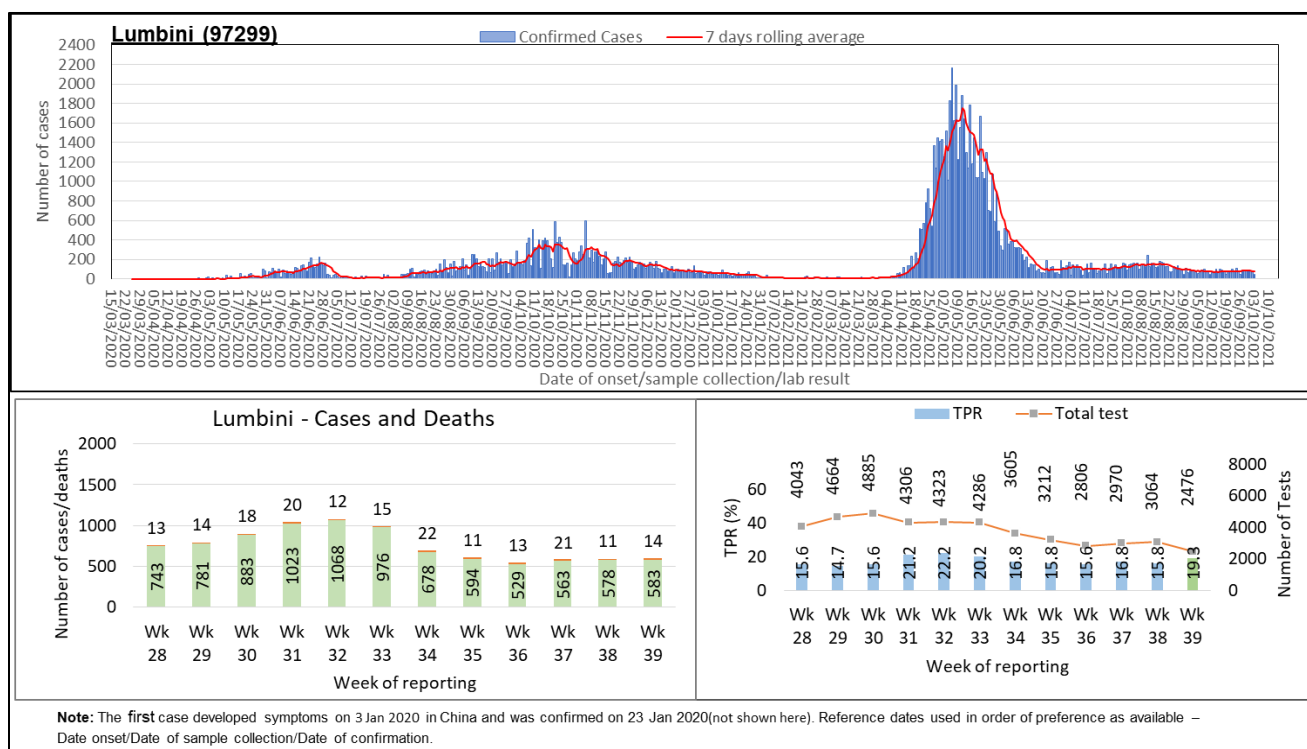


In Bagmati, 2875 new cases were reported in the past week. Since a peak in Week 19, new cases were continuously declining. The cases have decreased by 14% in the past week compared to the previous week. There were 23 deaths reported in the past week, 5% more than that of the previous week. The test positivity rate in Bagmati decreased to 6.5% in the past week. A total of 52,618 tests were performed in the past week, 1% more than that of the previous week.

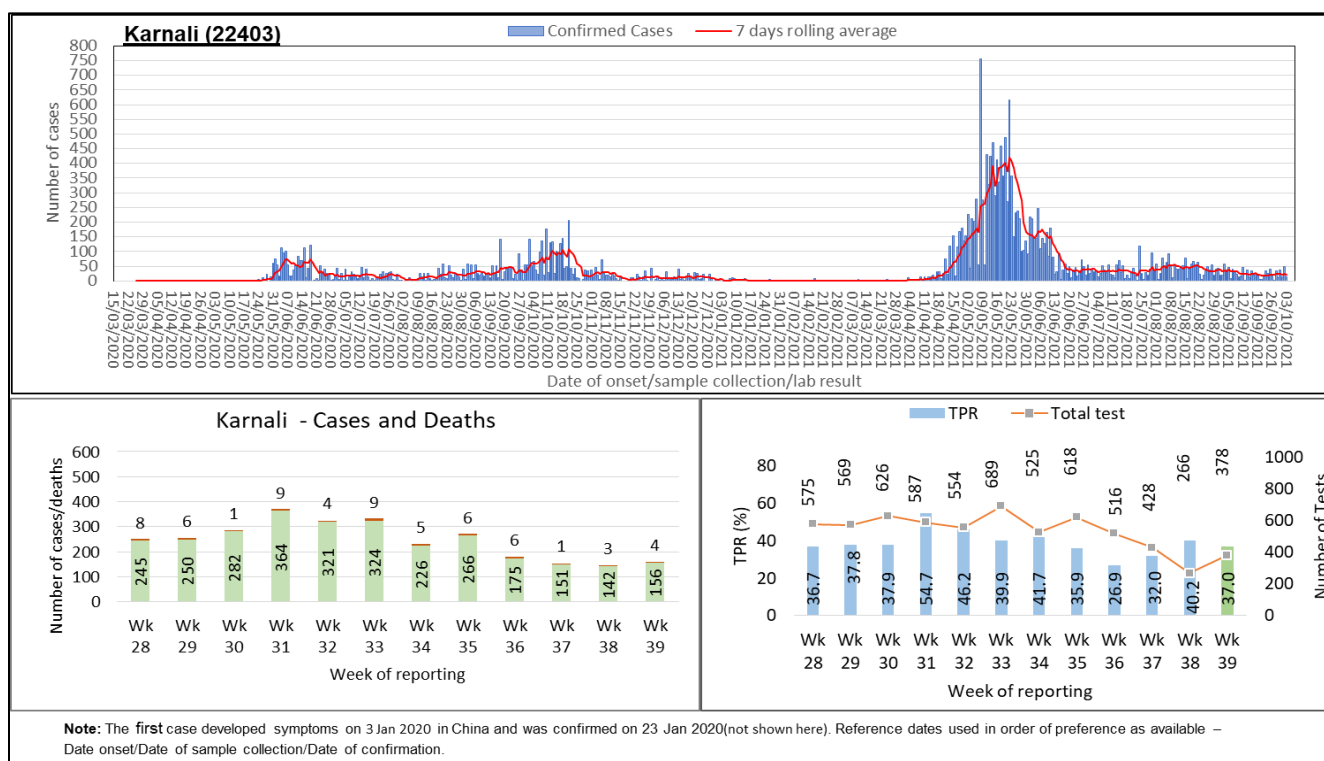


In Gandaki, 642 new cases were reported in the past week. Since a peak in Week 21, new cases were continuously declining. The cases have decreased by 24% in the past week compared to the previous week. There were 10 deaths reported in the past week, 150% more than that of the previous week. The test positivity rate in Gandaki decreased to 22.2% in the past week. A total of 1866 tests were performed in the past week, 23% less than that of the previous week.

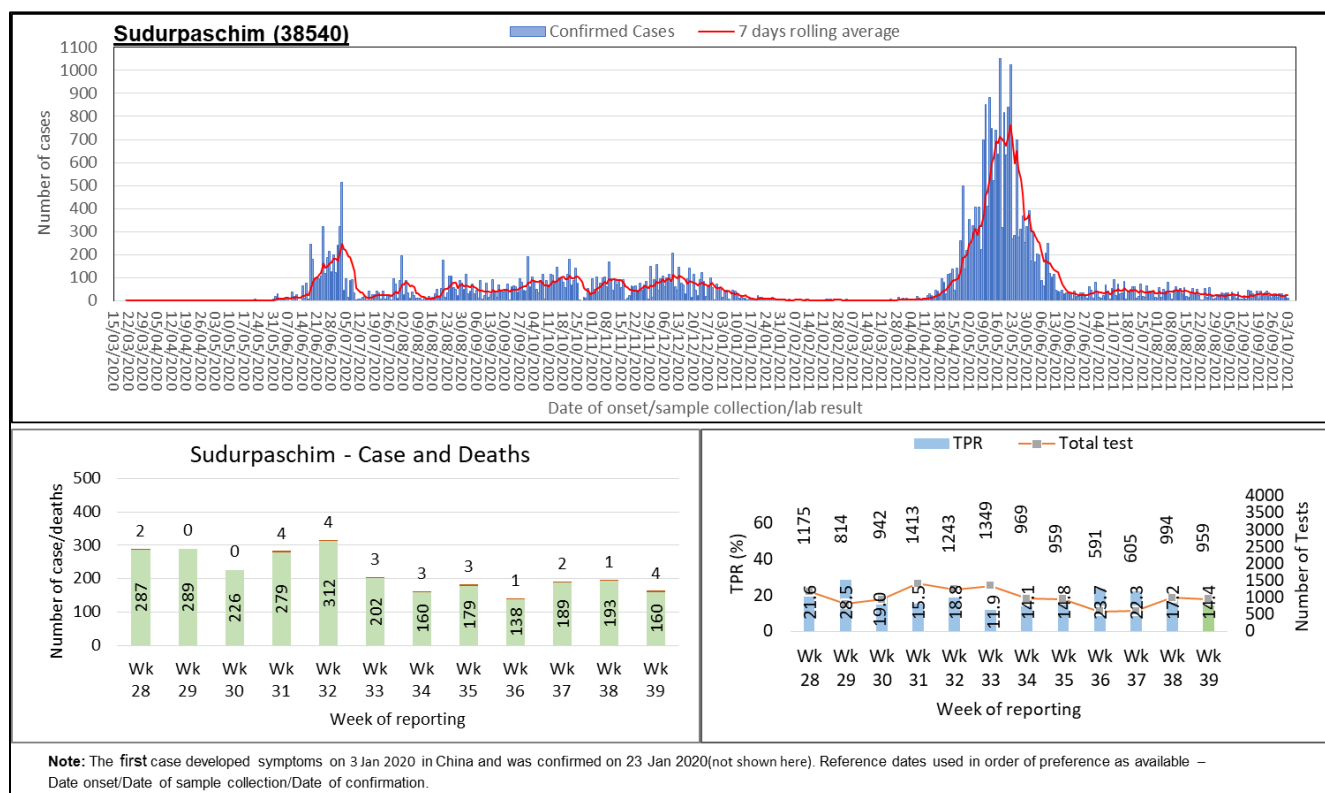




Lumbini reported 583 new cases in the past week. Since a peak in Week 19, new cases were continuously declining. However, the cases have increased by 1% in the past week compared to the previous week. There were 14 deaths reported in the past week, 27% more than that of the previous week. The test positivity rate in Lumbini increased to 19.8% in the past week. A total of 2476 tests were performed in the past week, 19% less than that of the previous week.



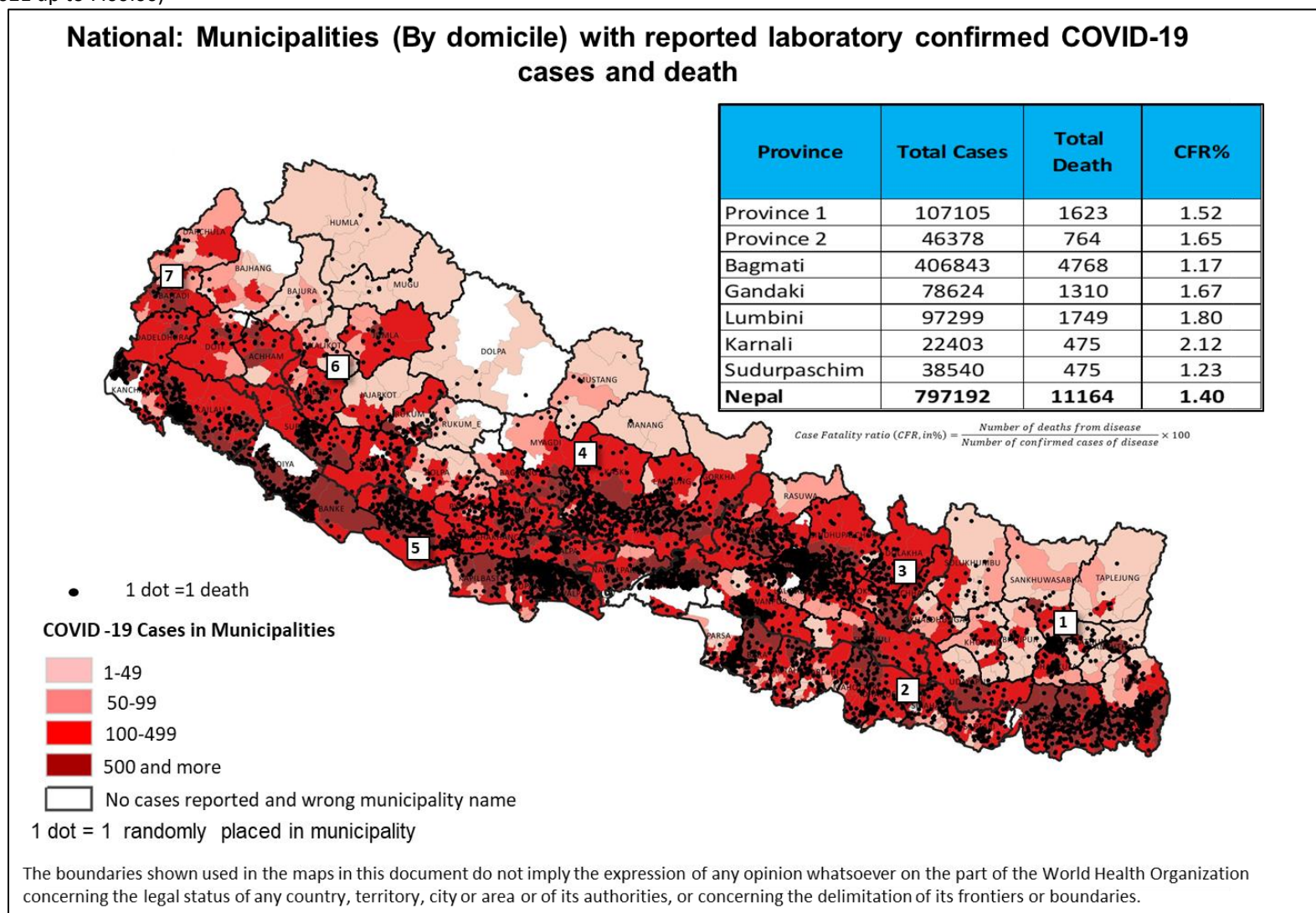
In Karnali, 156 new cases were reported in the past week. Since a peak in Week 20, new cases were continuously declining. However, the cases have increased by 10% in the past week compared to the previous week. There were 4 deaths reported in the past week, 33% more than that of the previous week. The test positivity rate in Karnali decreased to 37.0% in the past week. A total of 378 tests were performed in the past week, 42% more than that of the previous week.



In Sudurpashchim, 160 new cases were reported in the past week. Since a peak in Week 20, new cases were continuously declining. The cases have decreased by 17% in the past week compared to the previous week. There were 4 deaths reported in the past week, 300% more than that of the previous week. The test positivity rate in Sudurpashchim decreased to 14.4% in the past week. A total of 959 tests were performed in the past week, 4% less than that in the previous week.



**Figure 3: National -Municipalities (By domicile) with reported laboratory-confirmed COVID-19 cases and deaths (N = 797192)(Data reported on 4 October 2021 up to 7:00:00)**



*Cases and deaths have been reported in high numbers from Bagmati Province, mostly from Kathmandu valley area. The overall case fatality ratio of Nepal is 1.40%. However, the CFR is relatively high in Karnali Province with 2.12% and Lumbini Province with 1.80%.*

**Table 1: Summary of laboratory-confirmed COVID-19 cases, deaths and transmission by provinces.** (Data reported on 4 October 2021 up to 07:00:00)

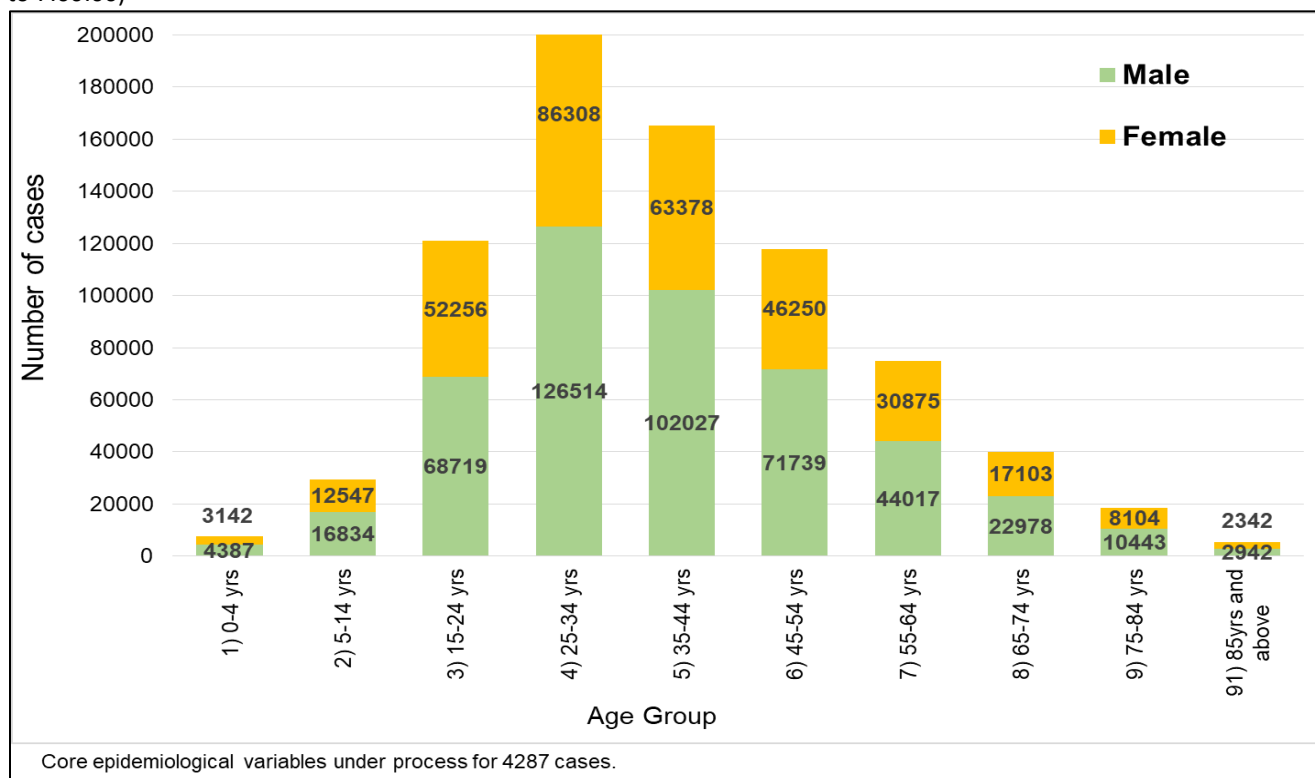
Reporting Province	Total confirmed cumulative cases RT-PCR Tests	Total Confirmed cumulative cases Antigen RDT test	Total confirmed cumulative cases	% of total confirmed cumulative cases	Total cumulative deaths	Transmission classification	Total confirmed cases in last 14 days Antigen RDT test	Total confirmed 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	107105	25240	132345	15.1	1623	Community transmission	765	3046	3811	23.6	27
Province 2	46378	486	46864	5.3	764	Community transmission	11	273	284	1.8	1
Bagmati	406843	19469	426312	48.5	4768	Community transmission	432	6493	6925	42.9	45
Gandaki	78624	16391	95015	10.8	1310	Community transmission	478	1586	2064	12.8	14
Lumbini	97299	14405	111704	12.7	1749	Community transmission	975	1209	2184	13.5	25
Karnali	22403	3085	25488	2.9	475	Community transmission	110	314	424	2.6	7
Sudurpashchim	38540	2341	40881	4.7	475	Community transmission	104	361	465	2.9	5
<b>National Total</b>	<b>797192</b>	<b>81417*</b>	<b>878609</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>11164</b>	<b>Community transmission</b>	<b>2875</b>	<b>13282</b>	<b>16157</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>124</b>

*\*Total reported in HEOC Sitrep of 3 October 92034 ; but IMU reported 81417*

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 a city's 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 based on location of the laboratories rather than place of residence.

**Figure 4: Distribution of COVID-19 cases by age and sex (N = 792905)**(Data reported on 4 October 2021 up to 7:00:00)



*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 COVID-19 confirmed cases (N = 797192)**(Data reported on 4 October 2021 up to 7:00:00)

Age Group	Total confirmed cases	Death (male)	Death (female)	Deaths with any known comorbid condition	Age specific case fatality ratio (%)
0-4 yrs	7529	16	20	13	0.48
5-14 yrs	29381	13	7	10	0.07
15-24 yrs	120975	87	83	61	0.14
25-34 yrs	212822	360	250	131	0.29
35-44 yrs	165405	834	422	270	0.76
45-54 yrs	117989	1319	608	514	1.63
55-64 yrs	74892	1594	743	705	3.12
65-74 yrs	40081	1529	816	851	5.85
75-84 yrs	18547	1117	598	653	9.25
85+ yrs	5284	461	262	231	13.68
Unknown	4287	18	7	10	0.58
<b>National</b>	<b>797192</b>	<b>7348</b>	<b>3816</b>	<b>3449</b>	<b>1.40</b>

$$\text{Case Fatality ratio (CFR, in\%)} = \frac{\text{Number of deaths from disease}}{\text{Number of confirmed cases of disease}} \times 100$$

*COVID-19 positive lab result is temporally associated with death; causal association under investigation.*

*A total of 11,164 deaths have been reported. Out of the total deaths, 7,348 (65.8%) were males and 3,816 (34.2%) were females. Amongst the deaths, 3,449 persons (30.9%) had at least one known comorbidity. Although the overall case fatality ratio (CFR) across all ages is less than 1%, the CFR progressively increases with age beyond 65 years of age, ranging from 5.9% to 13.7%.*

## **PREPAREDNESS AND RESPONSE**

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

- COVID-19 Vaccination Campaign Update
  - COVID-19 vaccination campaign is going simultaneously in all provinces for the first, and second doses of AstraZeneca and Sinopharm to specific target group as specified by MoHP and as per National Deployment and Vaccination Plan.
  - Nepal has received 17,758,710 doses of COVID-19 vaccine from various sources as of 4 October 2021.
  - A total of 14,189,855 doses of COVID-19 vaccines (different types) have been safely administered.
  - As of 4 October 2021 10:00AM, among the total population aged 18 years and above: 39% (7,805,683) have received the first dose while 32% (6,384,172) have received the full dose.

### **What is the WHO Country Office for Nepal doing?**

#### ***Laboratory Diagnosis***

- WHO Nepal has been providing technical support to National Public Health Laboratories (NPHL) in the following activities:
  - Monitoring the quality standard of designated COVID-19 laboratories in the country through the National Quality Assurance Program (NQAP). A total of 17 designated COVID-19 laboratories participated in NQAP this week. The result of all the participating laboratories were ≥90% satisfactory.
  - Validation of newly established COVID-19 laboratories, National Path Lab, Maharajgunj, Kathmandu and Greencity Hospital Private Limited, Dhapasi, Kathmandu. The designated laboratories sent 10 COVID-19 positive samples and 10 COVID-19 negative samples tested at their lab for validation to NPHL. The result showed 100% concordance with NPHL result. WHO provided support in result verification, result preparation and report dissemination to the designated COVID-19 laboratories.
  - Validation of Promotor Nucleic Acid Isolation kit and the result is awaited.

#### ***Technical Planning and Operations***

- WHO team had a meeting with Curative Service Division (CSD) to discuss on the development of software for the telemedicine program on 27 September 2021. The IT

expert from DPR technology shared the software developed for the telemedicine program. The next meeting is scheduled after 2 weeks following Dashain festival.

- Planning meeting on Model One stop Approach to Post COVID-19 and other Rehabilitation Conditions was conducted at Dhulikhel Hospital on 27 September 2021. WHO Nepal team and staff from Dhulikhel Hospital attended the meeting. The meeting led to following decisions:
  - Three-tier approach to ascertain case load and for developing trans-disciplinary interventions and training package.
  - Inception activities (next 2 weeks) were scheduled
  - Multi-disciplinary rehabilitation expert team to be formed by engaging external experts where internal expertise not available.
  - Request from Dhulikhel Hospital to modify procurement list – to be discussed with WCO procurement team in next meeting.

### ***Risk Communication and Community Engagement***

- WHO Nepal's support to the NHEICC continued this week by providing risk communication expertise through staff embedded at the NHEICC.
- The OpenWHO course on Clinical management of patients with COVID-19: Investigations and care for mild, moderate and severe disease was translated in Nepali and uploaded on the platform (link [here](#)).
- The web story "Healthcare workers trained on essential critical care of pediatric population" was published on the WHO Nepal website (link [here](#)).
- The teasers for the launch of the Science in 5 podcast in Nepali language was shared via Facebook (link [here](#)) and Twitter (link [here](#) (English); link [here](#) (Nepali)).
- A message from Dr. Rajesh Sambhajirao Pandav, WHO Representative to Nepal, on the opening session of Nepal Conference on Geriatrics 2021, was shared via Facebook (link [here](#) (English); link [here](#) (Nepali)) and Twitter (link [here](#) (English); link [here](#) (Nepali)). A glimpse of the conference was shared on Facebook (link [here](#)) and Twitter (link [here](#)). The conference raised awareness of the demographic changes among the elderly in Nepal; engage policymakers in the health, rehabilitation and social care needs of the elderly; address how the role of elders has changed within families in the context of increasing economic opportunities in cities; and identify related gaps and challenges in view of the COVID-19 pandemic.
- A message by WHO Representative to Nepal at the 1st Nepal Medical Association (NMA) National Health Summit 2021, highlighting the importance of public health and safety measures even after COVID-19 vaccinations, was shared via Facebook (link [here](#) (English); link [here](#) (Nepali)) and Twitter (link [here](#) (English); link [here](#) (Nepali)).
- The following documents were uploaded on ReliefWeb (link [here](#)):
  - I. Daily Focused COVID-19 Media Monitoring,
  - II. Weekly COVID-19 EPI Dashboard, and
  - III. The latest Weekly WHO Nepal COVID-19 Situation Update.

- Infographics on the following topics were shared via WHO, Country Office for Nepal, social media:
  - I. Importance of public health and social measures even after COVID-19 vaccinations,
  - II. Importance of public health and social measures in schools,
  - III. Tuberculosis and COVID-19,
  - IV. Obesity and COVID-19,
  - V. Solidarity towards health workers,
  - VI. Geriatrics, Healthy Ageing, and COVID-19,
  - VII. Dengue and COVID-19,
  - VIII. Air Pollution and COVID-19,
  - IX. Importance of immunization during COVID-19,
  - X. COVID-19 re-infection,
  - XI. World Contraception Day,
  - XII. The role of Ivermectin in COVID-19 treatment, and
  - XIII. National COVID-19 vaccination plans.

### ***Field Operations and Logistics Support***

- WHO Operations Support and Logistics Pillar facilitated in organizing the WHE Operational Review Meetings in Pokhara, Gandaki Province, which was held from 1-3 October 2021.

### **What are the health clusters partners doing?**

- Ministry of Health and Population and Provincial Health Directorate Offices are organizing Provincial Health Cluster Coordination meeting for COVID-19 response and other meetings with relevant stakeholders for non-COVID responses as and when required.
- Health partners are continuing their technical, operational, and logistics support for COVID and non-COVID responses to health-related offices and institutions throughout the country.
- UNICEF and WHO are providing following support for COVID-19 vaccination campaign in close coordination with External Development Partners (EDPs).
  - Micro planning including financing for the procurement of vaccination
  - Training/orientations – To health personnel at various level, local governments
  - Logistics – Vehicle, cold chain boxes, delivery of vaccines, transportation of beneficiaries to the vaccination site
  - Information Technology – Registration, information communication, data management
  - Risk communication and community engagement – Production and dissemination of messages, public awareness campaign
  - Technical Assistance
- All members of the Health Cluster are advocating swift supply of vaccines to Nepal through available channels.



- 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

## 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 regarding 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

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