

Situation Update #84- Coronavirus Disease 2019 (COVID-19)

WHO Country Office for Nepal

Reporting Date: 15 - 21 November 2021 (EPI Week 46)

HIGHLIGHTS

(Data published in the MoHP Situation Report as of 21 November 2021 and same data published in EDCD Report as of 22 November 2021)

- Of the total RT-PCR confirmed COVID-19 cases, 97.7% (800359) of cases have recovered, 0.9% (7,164) are active cases and 1.4% (11496) are deaths.
- Among the total active cases, 93.5% (6,696) cases are in home isolation; 6.5% (468) of cases are undergoing hospital/institutional isolation. While 3.2% (227) of active cases require ICU admission, 22.5% (51) of the ICU admitted patients require ventilator support.
- One district (Lalitpur) reported more than 500 active cases.
- Among the total new cases (2,053) reported this week, 33.1% (679) are from Kathmandu district followed by Lalitpur district with 9.9% (204). Majority of the new cases about 46.6% (956) have been reported from Kathmandu Valley (Kathmandu, Lalitpur and Bhaktapur districts), Bagmati Province.

- COVID-19 vaccination coverage status *(as of 22 November 2021, 09:00Hrs)* (Link [Here](#))

ChAdOx1-S*		Vero Cell		Janssen Vaccine		Pfizer	
First dose	: 3,058,272	First dose	: 6,071,302	Single Dose	: 1,541,221	First dose	: 15,906
Second dose	: 1,806,152	Second dose	: 4,605,013				

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

SITUATION OVERVIEW

(Data as of 21 November 2021)

NEPAL

**819,019 (RT-PCR) and
95,314 (Antigen RDT)
confirmed cases
11,496 deaths
4,558,316 RT-PCR tests and
713,005 Antigen RDT**

SOUTH-EAST ASIA REGION

**44,409,237 confirmed cases
702,762 deaths**

GLOBAL

**256,480,022 confirmed cases
5,145,002 deaths**

NEPAL EPIDEMIOLOGICAL SITUATION

- As of 21 November 2021, a total of 819,019 (17.9%) COVID-19 cases were confirmed through polymerase chain reaction (RT-PCR); 4,558,316 RT-PCR tests have been performed nationwide by designated functional COVID-19 laboratories. A total of 95,314 (13.4%) cases were confirmed through Antigen RDT; 713,005 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 in Epi Week 46 ranged from 3.1% (Bagmati Province) to 15.2% (Sudurpashchim Province), with a national positivity rate at 4.0%.

- Overall, the sex-distribution remains skewed towards males, who constitute 59% (485,479/819,019) of the RT-PCR confirmed cases. Amongst the males, 78% (377,724/485,479) are in the economically productive age group (15-54 years).

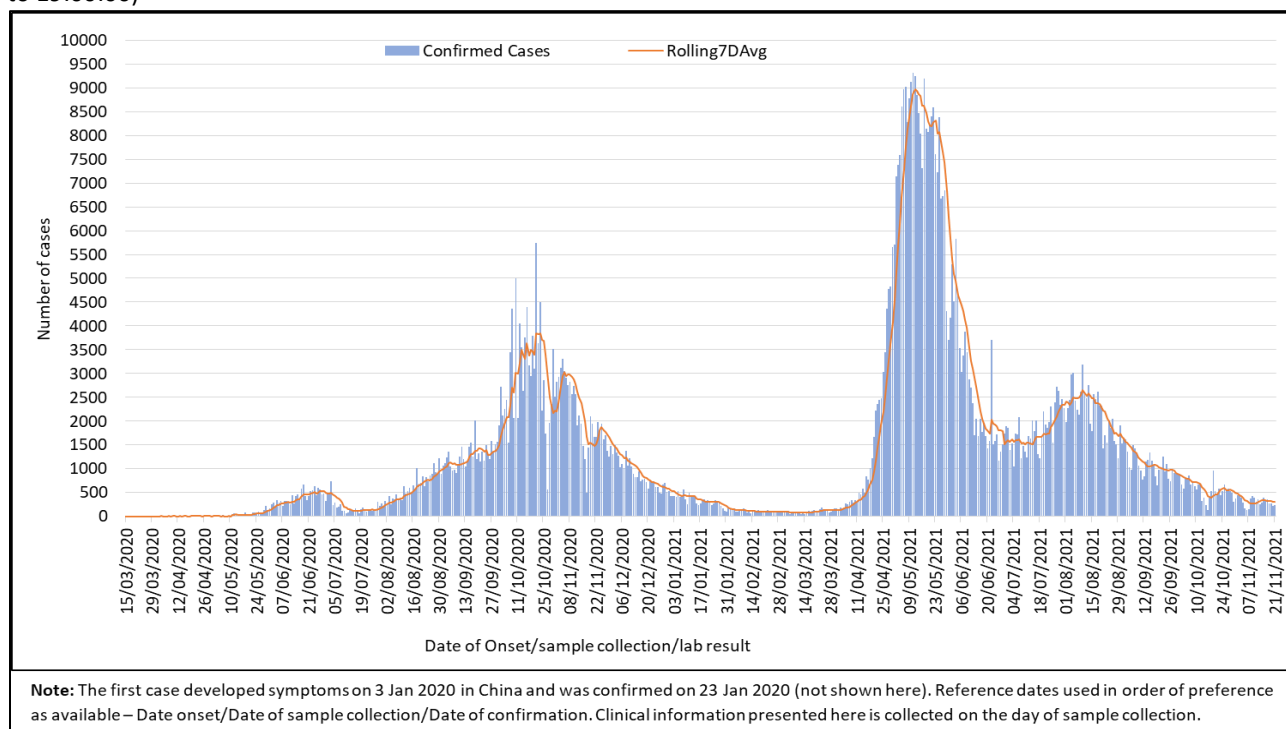
National Influenza Surveillance

- National Public Health Laboratory (NPHL) reported 11 diagnostic and surveillance samples [11 samples tested at National Influenza Centre (NIC) on EPID-week 46 (15 -21 November 2021)].
 - Three samples tested positive for Influenza B Victoria. None of the samples tested positive for SARS-CoV-2.
- Out of the total SARS-CoV-2 samples that tested negative at NPHL on EPID-week 46, 55 SARS-CoV-2 negative samples have been tested for Influenza for the same week.
 - One sample tested positive for Influenza B Victoria.
- From 4 January until 21 November 2021:
 - A total of 1097 samples have tested positive for Influenza (603 Influenza A/H3, 228 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 SARS-CoV-2 and Influenza B Victoria, 2 Influenza A(H1N1) pdm09, 257 Influenza B Un-subtyped) from 6001 samples (Sentinel and non-sentinel samples including SARS-CoV-2 negative SARI and ILI cases).
 - Similarly, 416 samples have tested positive for SARS-CoV-2 from 1835 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://covid19.who.int/>

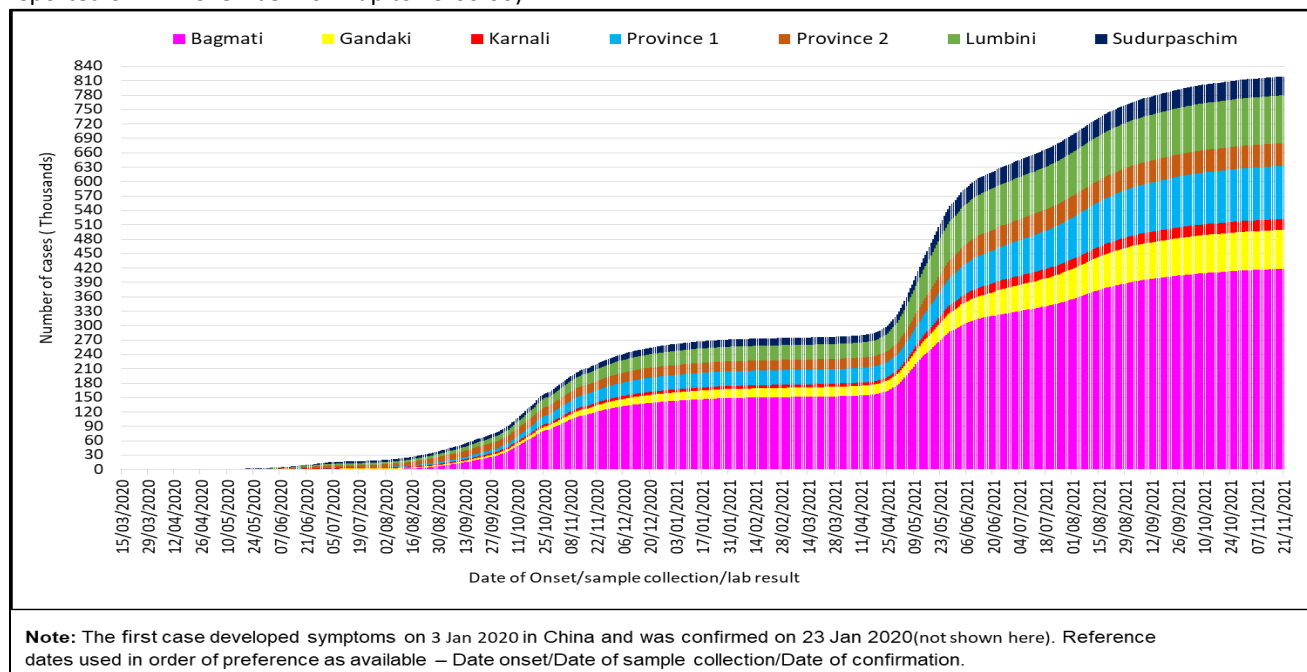
¹ These positive cases are included in the COVID-19 database.

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 = 819019)(Data reported on 21 November 2021 up to 19:00:00)



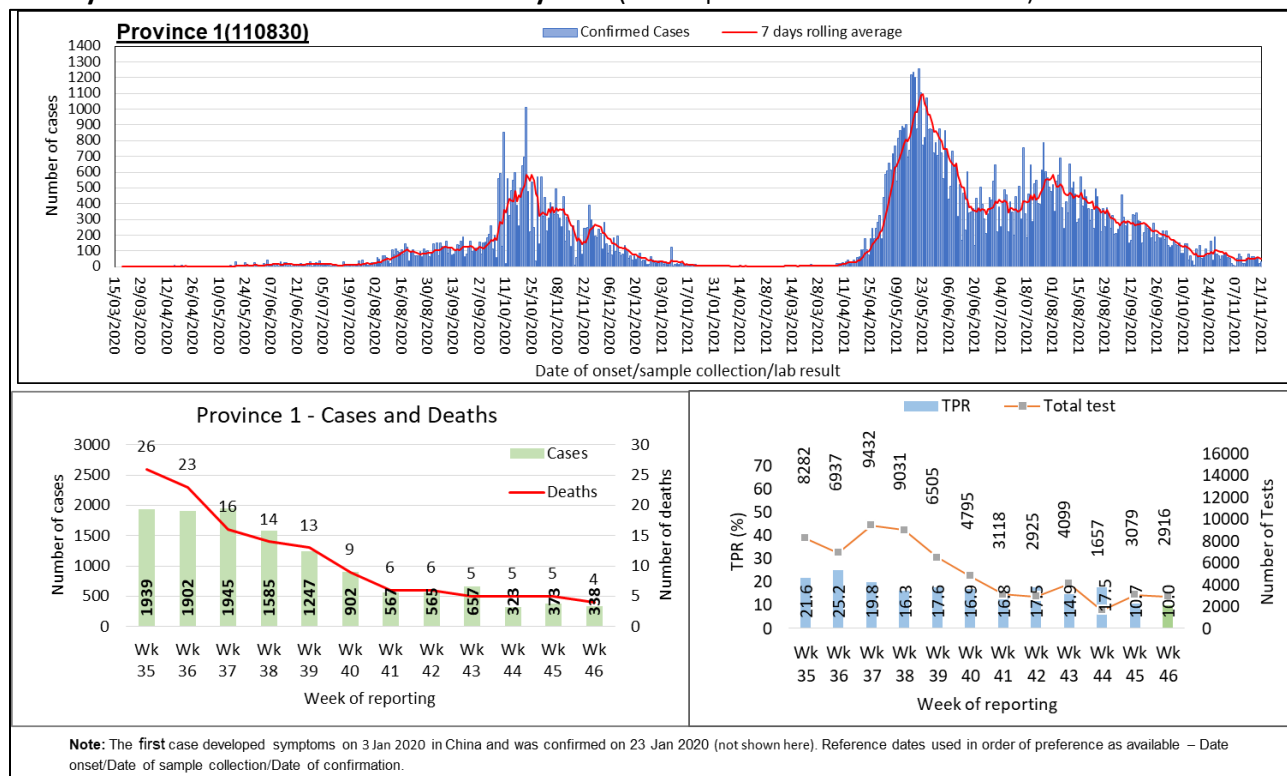
At national level, the first wave of cases between July 2020 and February 2021 was followed by the second wave from the middle of March 2021. The total RT-PCR tests done in Nepal on 21 November 2021 was 7845 which is 61% less than the number tested during the peak in the beginning of May 2021.

Figure 2: Cumulative case count of RT-PCR confirmed COVID-19 cases by province (N = 819019)(Data reported on 21 November 2021 up to 19:00:00)



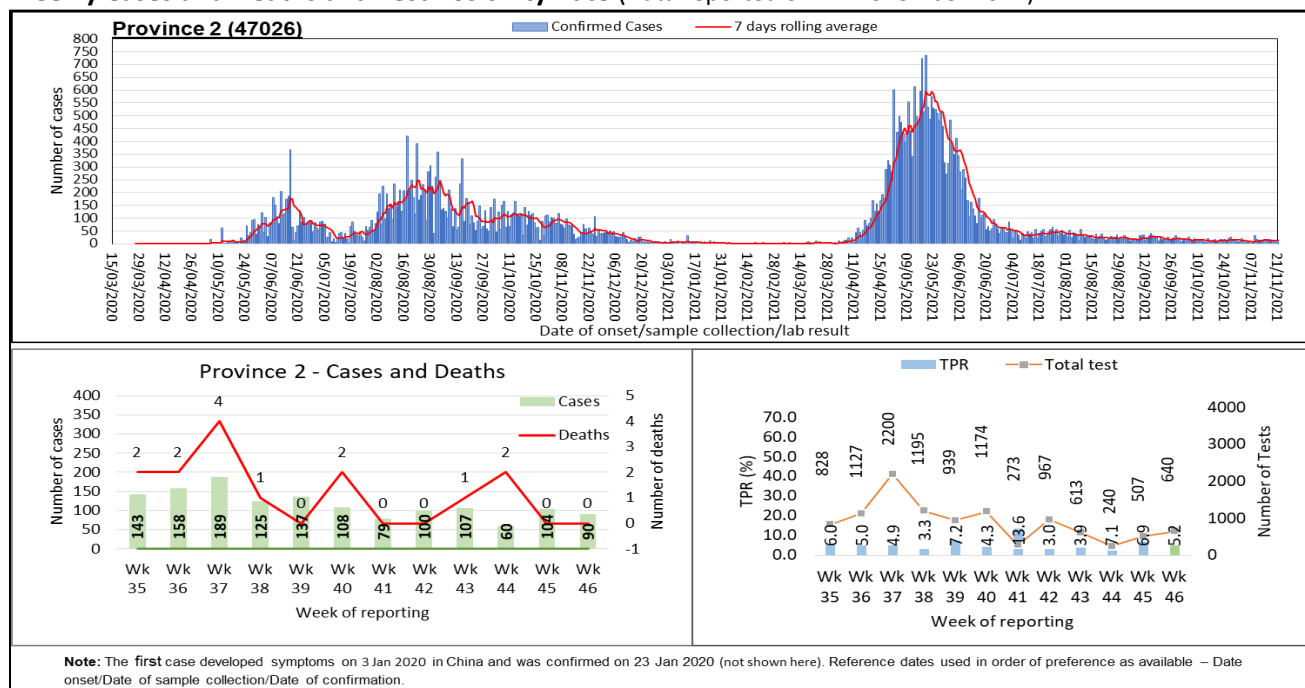
The cumulative case incidence has been increasing in Nepal since the first case confirmed on 23 January 2020. Cases have been largely reported from Bagmati Province followed by Province 1 and Lumbini Province.

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 21 November 2021)



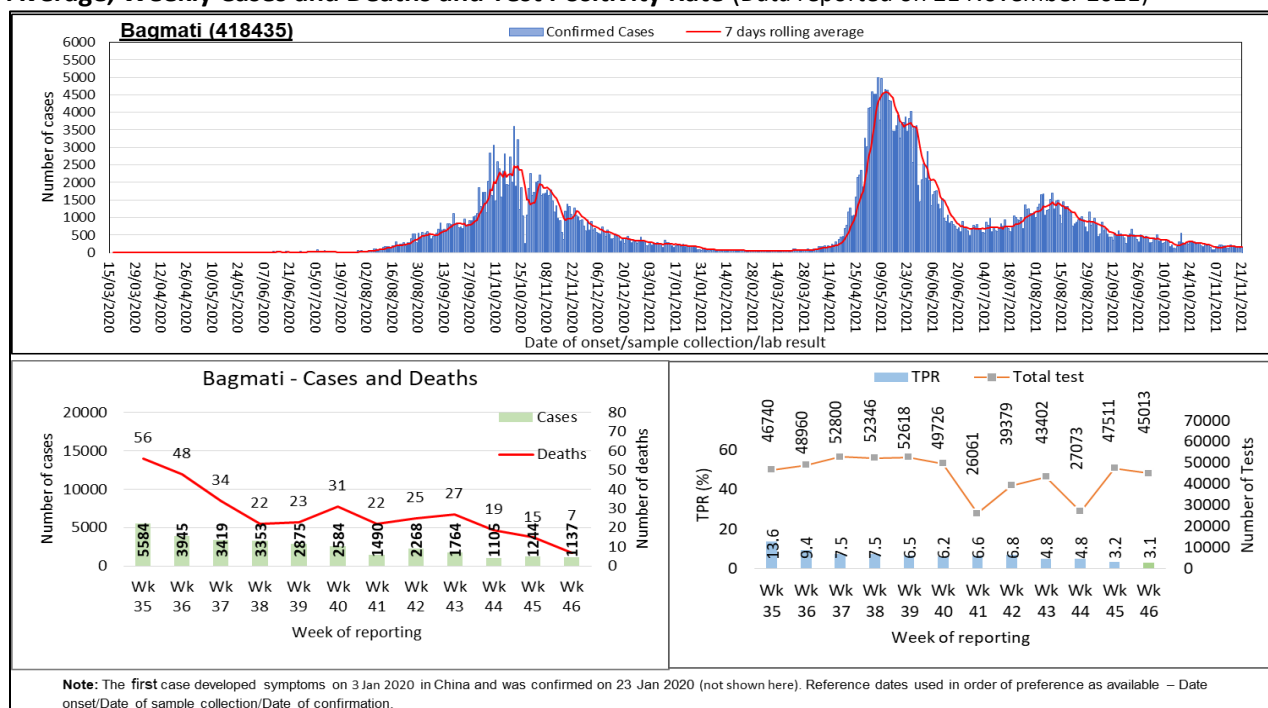
There were 338 new cases reported in the past week in Province 1. Since a peak in Week 20, new cases were continuously declining. The cases have decreased by 9% in the past week compared to the previous week. There were 4 deaths reported in the past week, 20% less than in the previous week. The test positivity rate in Province 1 decreased to 10.0% in the past week. A total of 2916 tests were performed in the past week, 5% less than that of the previous week.

Figure 3A2: RT- PCR confirmed COVID-19 cases in Province 2: Trend of Cases, 7 days Rolling Average, Weekly Cases and Deaths and Test Positivity Rate (Data reported on 21 November 2021)



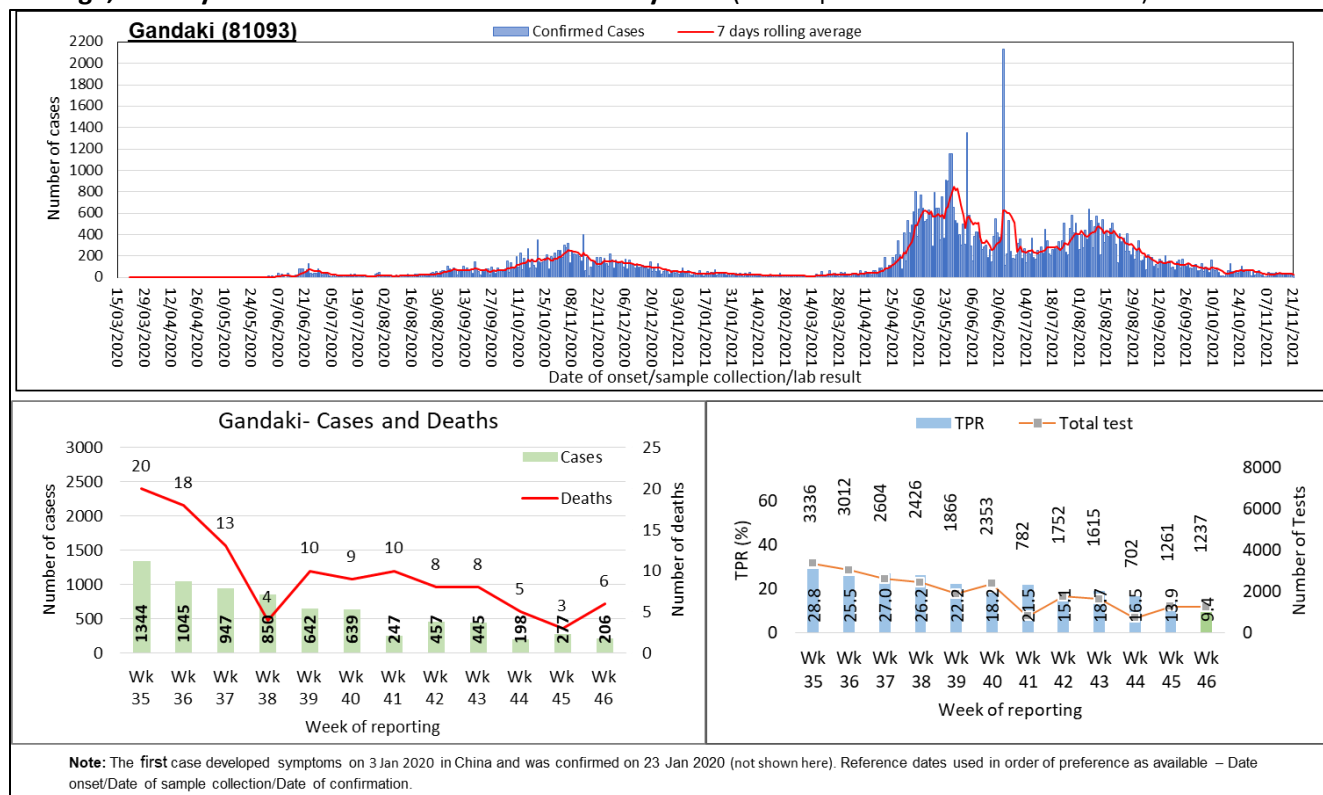
There were 90 new cases reported in the past week in Province 2. Since a peak in Week 20, new cases were continuously declining. The cases have decreased by 13% in the past week compared to the previous week. There were no deaths reported in the past week, same as that in the previous week. The test positivity rate in Province 2 decreased to 5.2% in the past week. A total of 640 tests were performed in the past week, 26% less than that of 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 21 November 2021)



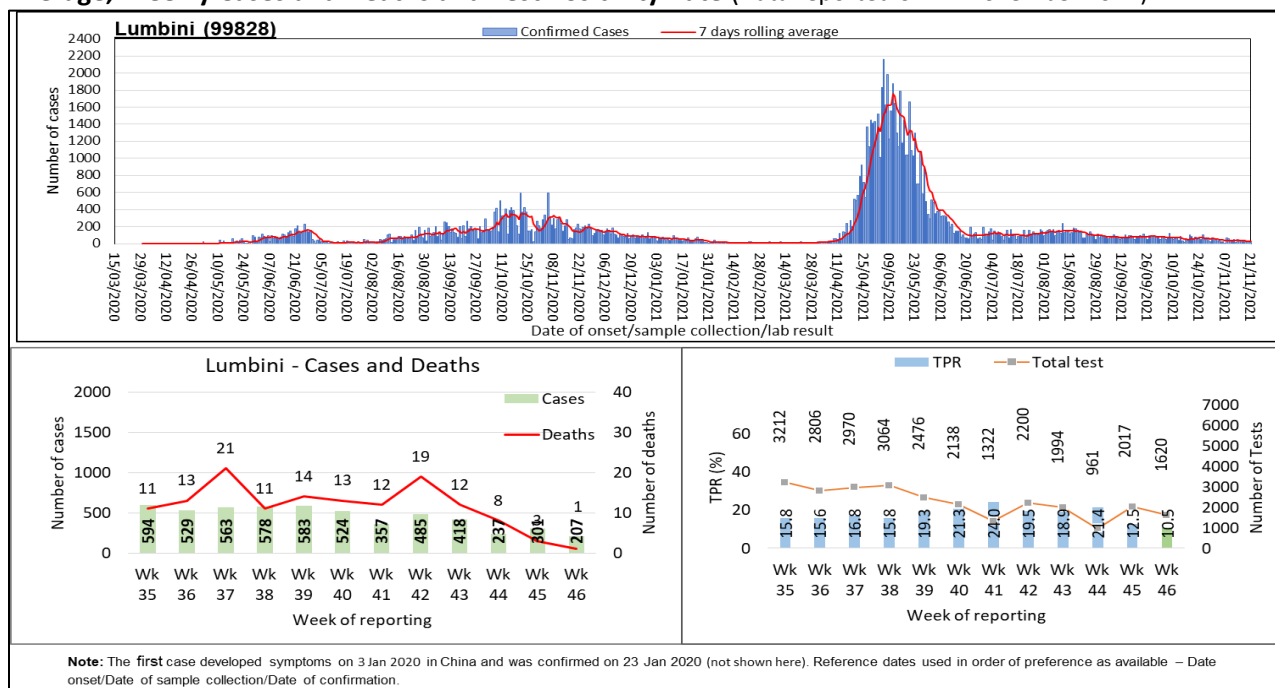
In Bagmati, 1137 new cases were reported in the past week. Since a peak in Week 19, new cases were continuously declining. The cases have decreased by 9% in the past week compared to the previous week. There were 7 deaths reported in the past week, 53% less than that in the previous week. The test positivity rate in Bagmati decreased to 3.1% in the past week. A total of 45,013 tests were performed in the past week, 5% less than that of 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 21 November 2021)



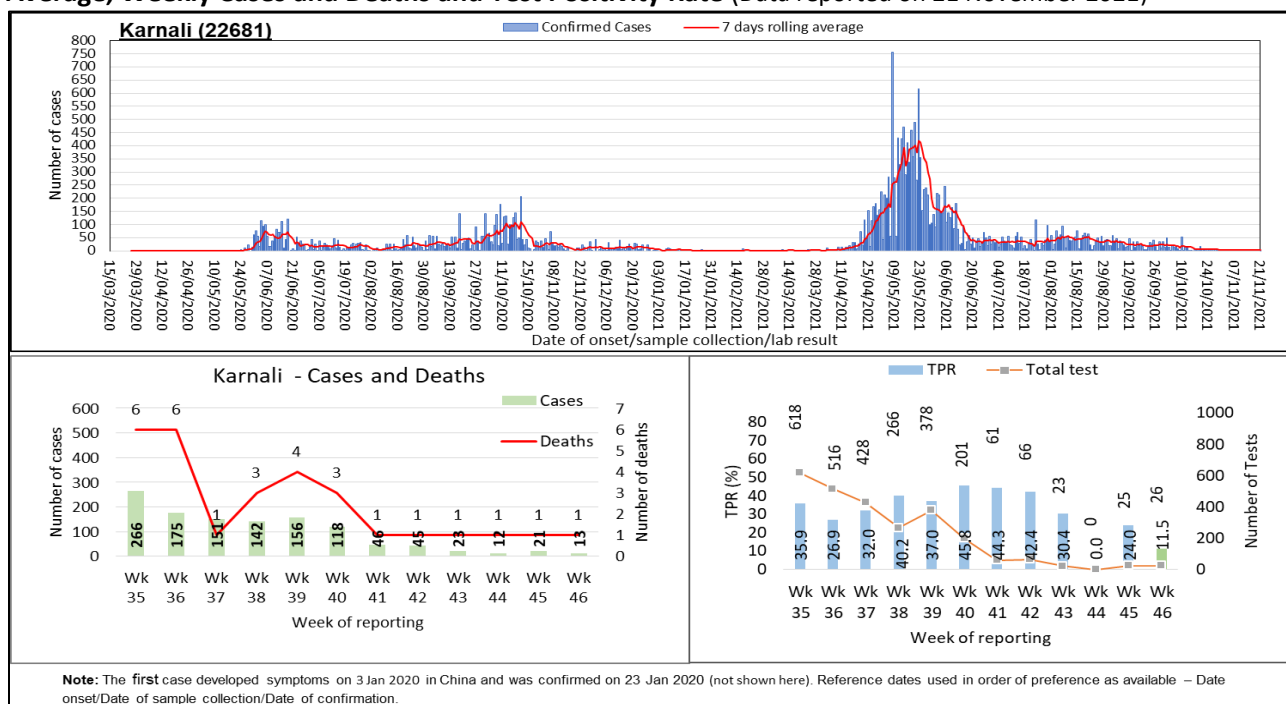
In Gandaki, 206 new cases were reported in the past week. Since a peak in Week 21, new cases were continuously declining. The cases have decreased by 26% in the past week compared to the previous week. There were 6 deaths reported in the past week, 100% more than that in the previous week. The test positivity rate in Gandaki decreased to 9.4% in the past week. A total of 1237 tests were performed in the past week, 2% less than that of 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 21 November 2021)



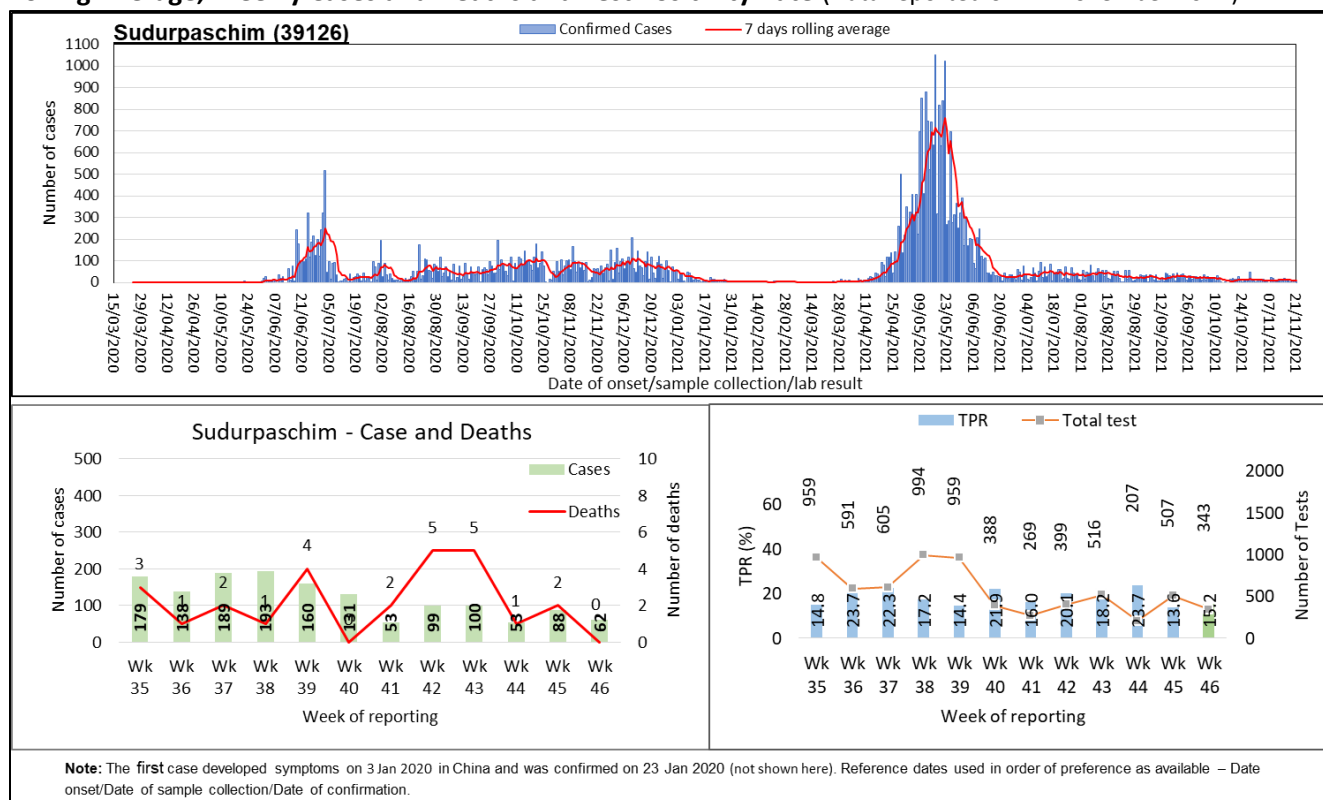
Lumbini reported 207 new cases in the past week. Since a peak in Week 19, new cases were continuously declining. The cases have decreased by 31% in the past week compared to the previous week. There was 1 death reported in the past week, 67% less than that in the previous week. The test positivity rate in Lumbini decreased to 10.5% in the past week. A total of 1620 tests were performed in the past week, 20% less than that of 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 21 November 2021)



In Karnali, 13 new cases were reported in the past week. Since a peak in Week 20, new cases were continuously declining. The cases have decreased by 38% in the past week compared to the previous week. There was 1 death reported in the past week, same as that in the previous week. The test positivity rate in Karnali decreased to 11.5% in the past week. A total of 26 tests were performed in the past week, 4% more than that of the previous 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 21 November 2021)



In Sudurpashchim, 62 new cases were reported in the past week. Since a peak in Week 20, new cases were continuously declining. The cases have decreased by 30% in the past week compared to the previous week. There were no deaths reported in the past week, 100% less than that in the previous week. The test positivity rate in Sudurpashchim increased to 15.2% in the past week. A total of 343 tests were performed in the past week, 32% less than that in the previous week.

Table 1: Summary of confirmed COVID-19 cases, deaths, and transmission by provinces. (Data reported on 21 November 2021 up to 19:00:00)

Reporting Province	Total confirmed cumulative cases RTPCR 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	110830	25742	136572	15.1	1663	Community transmission	104	717	821	16.2	9
Province 2	47026	495	47521	5.3	769	Community transmission	2	197	199	3.9	0
Bagmati	418435	20004	438439	48.5	4914	Community transmission	73	2506	2579	50.9	22
Gandaki	81093	16782	97875	10.8	1359	Community transmission	52	487	539	10.6	9
Lumbini	99828	15735	115563	12.8	1817	Community transmission	194	510	704	13.9	4
Karnali	22681	3185	25866	2.9	484	Community transmission	13	35	48	0.9	2
Sudurpashchim	39126	2470	41596	4.6	490	Community transmission	24	150	174	3.4	2
National Total	819019	84413*	903432	100	11496	Community transmission	462	4602	5064	100	48

**Total reported in HEOC Sitrep as of 21 November 95314; but IMU reported 84413*

Notes:

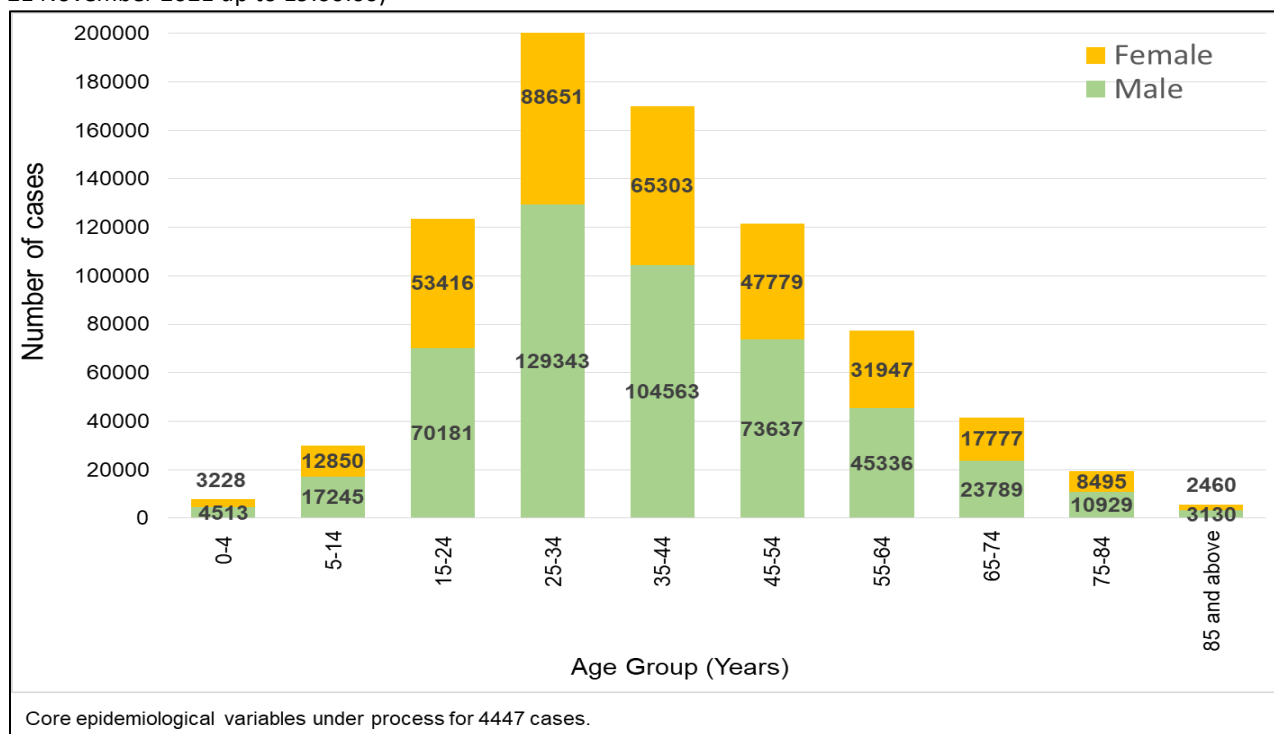
1. The source for case data used in this update is from RT- PCR test positivity reported by laboratories from various locations across Nepal, as shared by HEOC Sitrep and IMU/IHIMS.
2. Case data is screened and cleaned by our data team for double entry, wrong entry and manual errors such as a city's 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.

Situation Update #84 – Corona virus Disease 2019 (COVID-19)

WHO Country Office for Nepal

Friday 26 November 2021

Figure 4: Distribution of RT-PCR positive COVID-19 cases by age and sex (N = 814572)(Data reported on 21 November 2021 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 = 819019)(Data reported on 21 November 2021 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	7741	16	21	13	0.48
5-14	30095	13	7	10	0.07
15-24	123597	88	88	62	0.14
25-34	217994	367	257	135	0.29
35-44	169866	858	438	262	0.76
45-54	121416	1348	623	522	1.62
55-64	77283	1626	765	711	3.09
65-74	41566	1576	842	872	5.82
75-84	19424	1160	622	689	9.17
85+	5590	485	270	236	13.51
Unknown	4447	19	7	11	0.58
National	819019	7556	3940	3523	1.40

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

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

A total of 11,496 deaths have been reported. Out of the total deaths, 7,556 (65.7%) were males and 3,940 (34.3%) were females. Amongst the deaths, 3,523 persons (30.6%) had at least one known comorbidity. Although the overall case fatality ratio (CFR) across all ages is less than 1%, it progressively increases with age beyond 65 years of age, ranging from 5.8% to 13.5%.

PREPAREDNESS AND RESPONSE

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

- A report of the study 'Second Round Seroprevalence Survey for SARS COV 2', jointly conducted by Epidemiology and Disease Control Division (EDCD) and National Public Health Laboratory (NPHL) in collaboration with WHO Nepal, was published (Link [Here](#)) on 19 November 2021.
- COVID-19 Vaccination Campaign Update (Link [Here](#))
 - COVID-19 vaccination campaign is going simultaneously in all provinces for the first, and second doses of Covishield/AstraZeneca, Sinopharm and 1st dose of Pfizer BioNTech vaccine (from 24 hospitals) to specific target group as specified by MoHP and as per National Deployment and Vaccination Plan.
 - Till now, Nepal has received 25,470,630 doses of COVID-19 vaccine from various sources.
 - Nepal received 1,470,708 doses of Vero Cell vaccine from China government (ADB - COVAX cost sharing) on 15 November, 2021.
 - Nepal also received 348,000 doses of AstraZeneca vaccine from Canadian government (COVAX facility) on 16 November, 2021.
 - As of 21 November 2021, a total of 17,097,866 doses of COVID-19 vaccines (different types) have been safely administered.
 - Among the total population aged 18 years and above: 45.9% (9,145,480) have received the first dose while 39.9% (7,952,386) have received the full dose as of 21 November 2021.
 - Family Welfare Division has circulated vaccine specific interim guidance to all provincial, district and local levels for COVID-19 vaccination campaign.

What is the WHO Country Office for Nepal doing?

Laboratory Diagnosis

- WHO Nepal has been providing technical support to National Public Health Laboratory (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 7 designated COVID-19 laboratories participated in NQAP this week. The results are pending.
 - Preparation of 750 SARS-CoV-2 positive samples to be sent to PHE lab, United Kingdom.
- WHO Nepal facilitated submission of WHO-PHE UK NEQAS External Quality Assurance Panel test results for Respiratory Syncytial Virus (RSV) real time PCR assay.

Technical Planning and Operations

- WHO Nepal provided financial & technical support for the training, 'Management of Post Covid 19 Conditions: Training of primary and secondary level health care staff of Kavre district (Catchment of Dhulikhel hospital)' on 19 November 2021. Few additions to the assessment sheet (variables) and interventions (when to intervene?) were made & follow-up of training and data flow was planned during the meeting. There were 15 participants which included medical officers, AHW (Auxiliary Health Worker), HA (Health Assistant), ANM (Auxiliary Nursing & Midwives) and nursing supervisor for the training.



Management of Post COVID-19 Conditions: Training of primary and secondary level health care staff of Kavre district (Catchment of Dhulikhel hospital)' on 19 November 2021; Photo Credit - WHO Nepal/I. Joshi.

- WHO Nepal has been providing technical and financial support to the National Health Training Center (NHTC) for capacity building training of service providers (doctors and nurses) in all the provinces. This training program is being organized in coordination with Nepal Pediatric Society (NEPAS) for the provincial-level Pediatric Essential Critical Care Training PECCT service providers. The training is being conducted at Dhangadi District, Sudurpashchim province from 20 to 23 November 2021. There are 16 participants and 7 trainers in the training. So, far this training has already been conducted in four provinces (Province 1, Province 2, Gandaki Province and Lumbini Province) with 64 trained health workers.



Pediatric Essential Critical Care Training (PECCT) at Sudurpashchim Province, (Left) Basic Airway Session, (Right) Breakout session- Basic Airway Management. Photo Credit: WHO Nepal/S.Thapaliya

- WHO attended a meeting with Curative Service Division (CSD) on 15 November 2021 to finalize the date and schedule for the orientation program on Telemedicine to be held at Province 7. The dates (24 & 25 November 2021) and the resource persons for the orientation program was finalized during the meeting.

Risk Communication and Community Engagement

- WHO Nepal's support to the National Health Education Information and Communication Center (NHEICC) continued this week by providing risk communication expertise through staff embedded at the NHEICC.
- Science in 5 videos translated, dubbed, and published:

Episodes	Titles	Language	Links
60	Lead Poisoning Prevention and COVID-19	Nepali	OneDrive (downloadable link); Facebook link ; YouTube link
60	Lead Poisoning Prevention and COVID-19	Maithili	OneDrive (downloadable link); Facebook link ; YouTube link
61	Antimicrobial Resistance and COVID-19	Nepali	OneDrive (downloadable link); Facebook link ; YouTube link

- Science in 5 podcast series released on Soundcloud (link [here](#)) with details below:

Episodes	Titles	Language	Links
8	Taking care of a COVID-19 patient at home	Nepali	The news was shared via Facebook (link here) and Twitter (link here (English); link here (Nepali)). The teaser was also shared via Facebook (link here).

- A video message by WHO Representative to Nepal highlighting the relationship between COVID-19 and antimicrobial resistance (AMR), and raising awareness on AMR, was shared via Facebook (link [here](#)), Twitter (link [here](#)), and YouTube (link [here](#)).

- The news of the donation of Pfizer vaccines, by the US Government through the COVAX Facility (a partnership between CEPI, Gavi, the Vaccine Alliance, UNICEF, and WHO), was shared via Facebook (link [here](#)) and Twitter (link [here](#)). The vaccines are being administered to persons with chronic diseases (above 12 years) for the first time in the country. The vaccines, which have been authorized for emergency use by WHO, are being rolled out in 24 health facilities across Nepal, and the first dose will be administered from November 14 to November 20.
- 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*.
- IEC materials on the following topics were shared via WHO, Country Office for Nepal, social media:
 - I. Public health and social measures against COVID-19,
 - II. Importance of public health and social measures against COVID-19 after vaccinations,
 - III. Importance of routine immunization during COVID-19,
 - IV. Safety of COVID-19 vaccinations,
 - V. Importance of COVID-19 vaccinations, and
 - VI. *World Antimicrobial Awareness Week* and COVID-19.

What are the health clusters partners doing?

- Provincial Ministries and Health Directorate Offices are organizing Provincial Health Cluster Coordination meeting for COVID-19 response, as and when required.
- UNICEF and WHO are providing support in micro planning, training/orientations, logistics, information recording and reporting, risk communication and community engagement, and other required technical assistance for COVID-19 vaccination campaign in close coordination with External Development Partners (EDPs).
- All members of the Health Cluster are advocating swift supply of COVID-19 vaccines to Nepal through available channels.
- Health partners are continuing their technical, operational, and logistics support for COVID-19 responses to health-related offices and institutions throughout the country.
- WHO has been supporting health cluster lead in 3W mapping of health partners' support and is disseminated from Health Emergency Operation Center's website (<https://heoc.mohp.gov.np/update-on-novel-corona-virus-covid-19/>).
- 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](#)

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