

# Situation Update #194 - Coronavirus Disease 2019 (COVID-19)

## WHO Country Office for Nepal

**Reporting Date: 25 - 31 Dec 2023 (Epi Week 52)**

### HIGHLIGHTS

In total 60,634,365 COVID-19 vaccine doses have been administered as of 07 November 2023.

### NEPAL EPIDEMIOLOGICAL SITUATION

- No updates of COVID-19 cases have been available from 21 October 2023

#### National Influenza Surveillance

- National Influenza Centre (NIC) - NPHL reported 29 diagnostic influenza samples on Epi week 52
  - Two samples tested Influenza A (H1N1) pdm09 positive
  - One sample tested Influenza B Victoria positive
  - Two samples tested positive for SARS-CoV-2 positive
- Grande International Hospital reported testing of 10 diagnostic influenza samples on Epi week 52
  - Four samples tested Influenza A(H1N1) pdm09 positive
- NIC - NPHL received 22 influenza samples from sentinel hospitals on Epi week 52
  - None of the samples tested positive for influenza and SARS-CoV-2
- Provincial Public Health Laboratories (PPHLs) reported testing 73 samples for Influenza-SARS-CoV-2 using a Multiplex kit on EPI week 52
  - Four samples tested Influenza A (yet to be subtyped) positive
  - One sample tested Influenza A (H1N1) pdm09 positive
  - Two samples tested positive for SARS-CoV-2
- From 2 January until 31 December:  
A total of 2,228 samples have been tested positive for influenza from 10,320 samples received from sentinel and non-sentinel sites.
  - 522 Influenza B (lineage not determined)
  - 211 Influenza B Victoria
  - One co-infection of Influenza A (H1N1) pdm09 & Influenza B
  - Four co-infections of Influenza A/H3 and Influenza B
  - Two co-infections of Influenza A/H3 and SARS-CoV-2
  - Four Influenza A (yet to be subtyped)
  - 1170 Influenza A/H3
  - 314 Influenza A (H1N1) pdm09

Similarly, 349 samples tested positive for SARS-CoV-2 from dual testing of Influenza and SARS-CoV-2 in 8,520 SARI and ILI samples received from sentinel and non-sentinel sites<sup>1</sup>.

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

#### SITUATION OVERVIEW

*Data as of 20 October 2023*

##### NEPAL

**Cumulative confirmed cases:**

1,157,522

**Cumulative deaths:**

12,031

**Cumulative tests:**

7,688,864

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

## PREPAREDNESS AND RESPONSE

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

- In total 60,634,365 COVID-19 vaccine doses have been administered as of 07 November 2023.

Table 1: COVID-19 Vaccination Coverage in Nepal, as of 07 Nov 2023

Total Pop (Full Dose)	24,471,043 (83.6%)
≥ 12 Yrs. (Full Dose)	21,208,649 (94.1%)
05-11 Yrs. (Full Dose)	3,262,394 (85.7%)
First booster doses	10,273,390
Second booster doses	1,558,212

Source: COVID-19 Vaccination Achievement in Nepal, MoHP

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

#### Laboratory Diagnosis

- No updates of RT-PCR and antigen tests have been available from 21 October 2023.
- WHO supported the National Public Health Laboratory (NPHL) in preparing and sending the Round-9 Proficiency Testing (PT) panel for SARS-CoV-2 to 18 operational COVID-19 laboratories.
- WHO supported the NPHL in performing and analyzing the result of genome sequencing of 12 SARS-CoV-2 positive samples.

#### Technical Expertise and Training

- Continued routine work from Technical Expertise and Training team<sup>2</sup>.

#### Operational Support and Logistics

- Continued routine work from the team of Operation Support and Logistics<sup>3</sup>.

#### Risk Communication and Community Engagement

- Preventive measures against COVID-19 to adopt during the holiday season was shared via social media platforms.
- The *Weekly WHO Nepal COVID-19 Situation Update* was uploaded on ReliefWeb (link [here](#)) and WHO, Country Office for Nepal, website (link [here](#)).
- The *Focused COVID-19 and Health Media Monitoring* was uploaded on ReliefWeb (link [here](#)).

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<sup>2</sup>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.

<sup>3</sup>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.

## What are the health clusters partners doing?

- Continued routine work from the team of Partner Coordination and Donor Relation<sup>4</sup>
- UNICEF and WHO are providing overall support for COVID-19 vaccination in close coordination with health partners and donors.

## 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 about coronavirus disease (COVID-19) 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](mailto: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](mailto: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](mailto:gurungt@who.int)

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<sup>4</sup> 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.