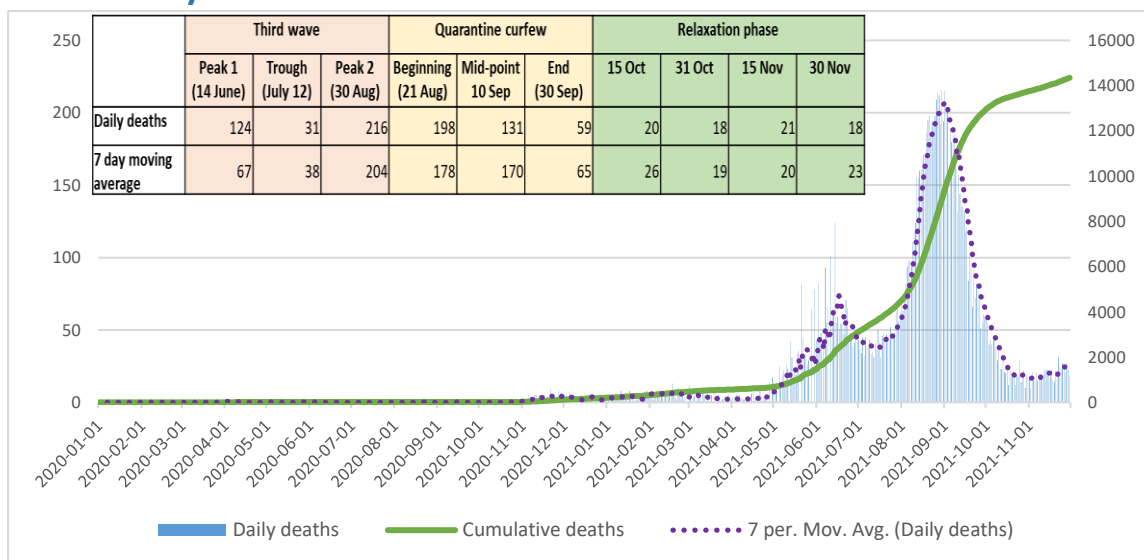




COVID -19 Situation Report

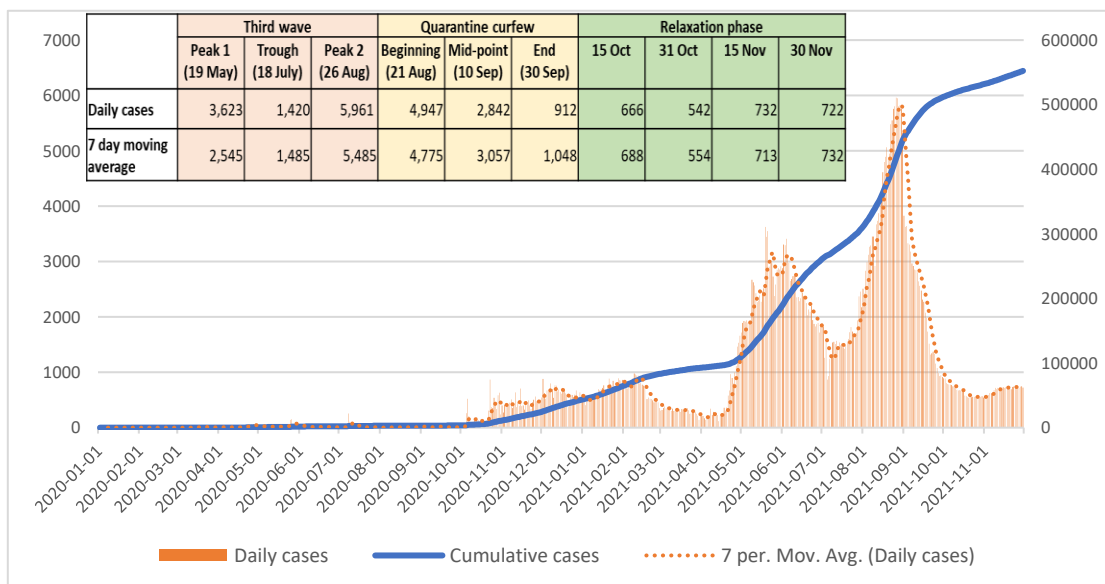
1. Daily deaths and cumulative deaths



Source: Ministry of Health. Data updated until 30 November 2021

- In the “post-quarantine curfew” phase from 1 October 2021, the lowest moving average for deaths was 16 per day (7 November) and is currently at 23 deaths per day.
- Daily deaths reported are still higher than the pre-3rd wave levels

2. Daily cases and cumulative cases

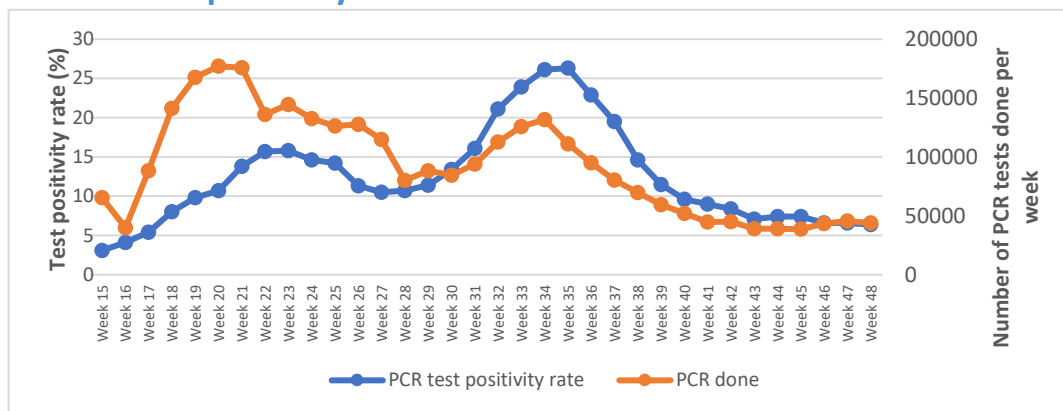


Source: Ministry of Health -Daily reported cases. Data updated until 30 November 2021

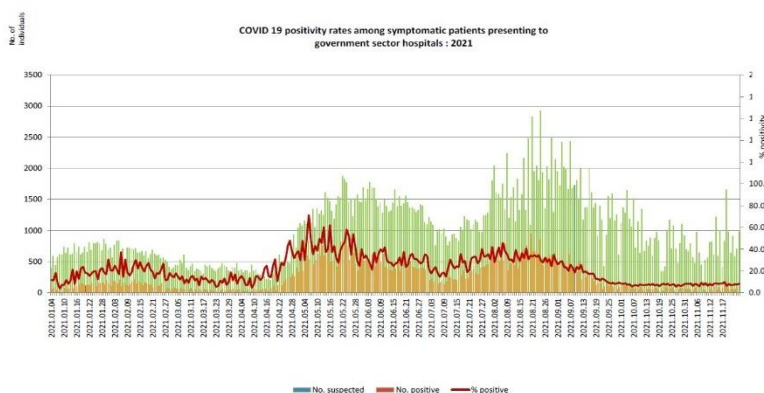
- In the “post-quarantine curfew” phase from 1 October 2021, the lowest moving average for daily reported cases was 552 (25 October) and is currently 732 cases per day
- Daily cases reported are still higher than the pre-3rd wave levels



3. Test positivity rate

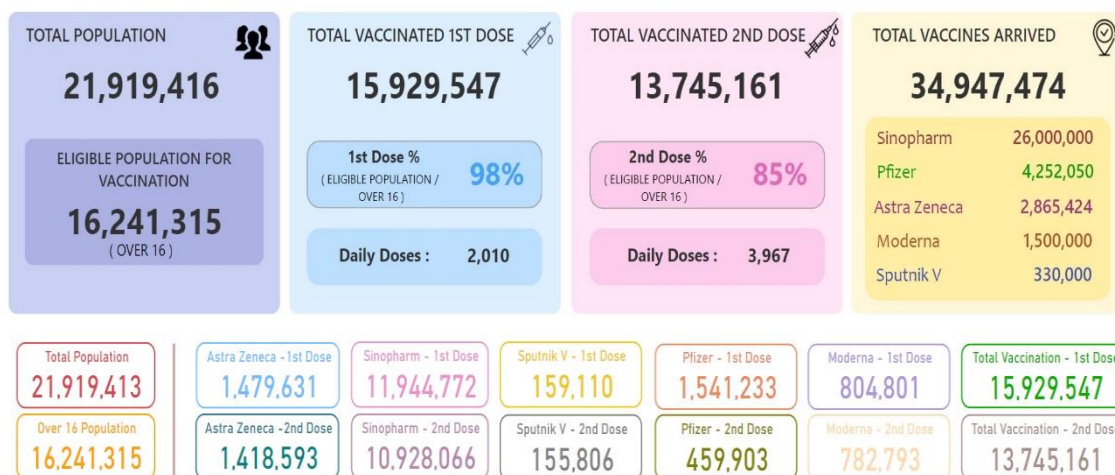


Source: Weekly test positivity rate - National COVID-19 Surveillance System of Sri Lanka. Data updated until 30 November 2021



Source: Epidemiology Unit, Ministry of Health. Data updated until 29 November 2021

4. Vaccination



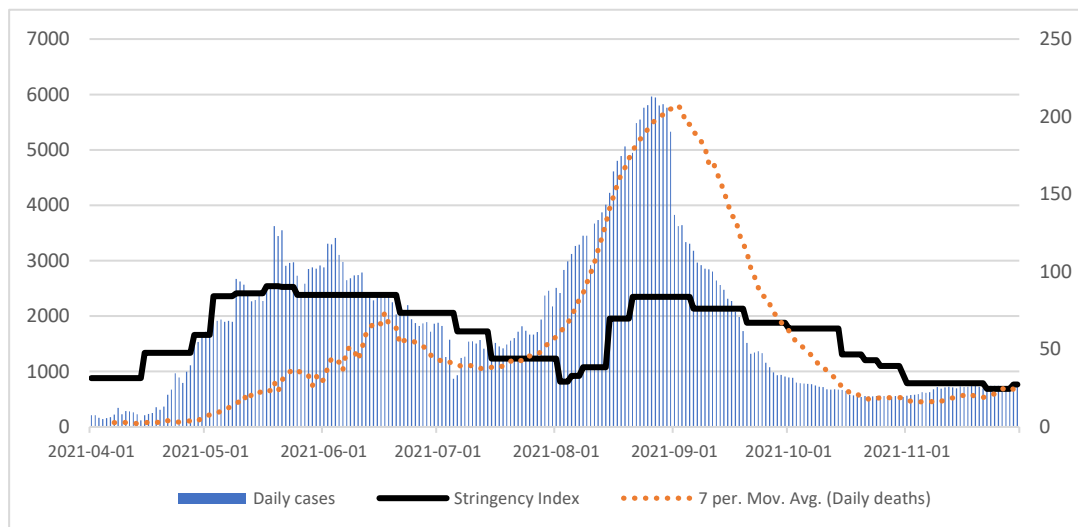
Source: <https://www.presidentsoffice.gov.lk/index.php/vaccination-dashboard/>. Accessed on 30 November 2021

- PCR test positivity rate has plateaued over the past 3-4 weeks
- COVID-19 positivity rates among symptomatic patients presenting to government sector hospitals has also been fairly constant over the past 3-4 weeks
- Around 44,000 PCR tests were conducted over the past week (Nov 22-28). Rapid Antigen Tests are also widely used for testing
- A review/revision of the existing testing strategy is an area that needs urgent attention

- The accelerated vaccination effort has now covered 85% of the over 16 year population and 62.7% of the total population with both doses, i.e. over 32 million doses have been administered
- A third dose (with Pfizer vaccine) has been administered to 459,000 persons as of 29 November 2021



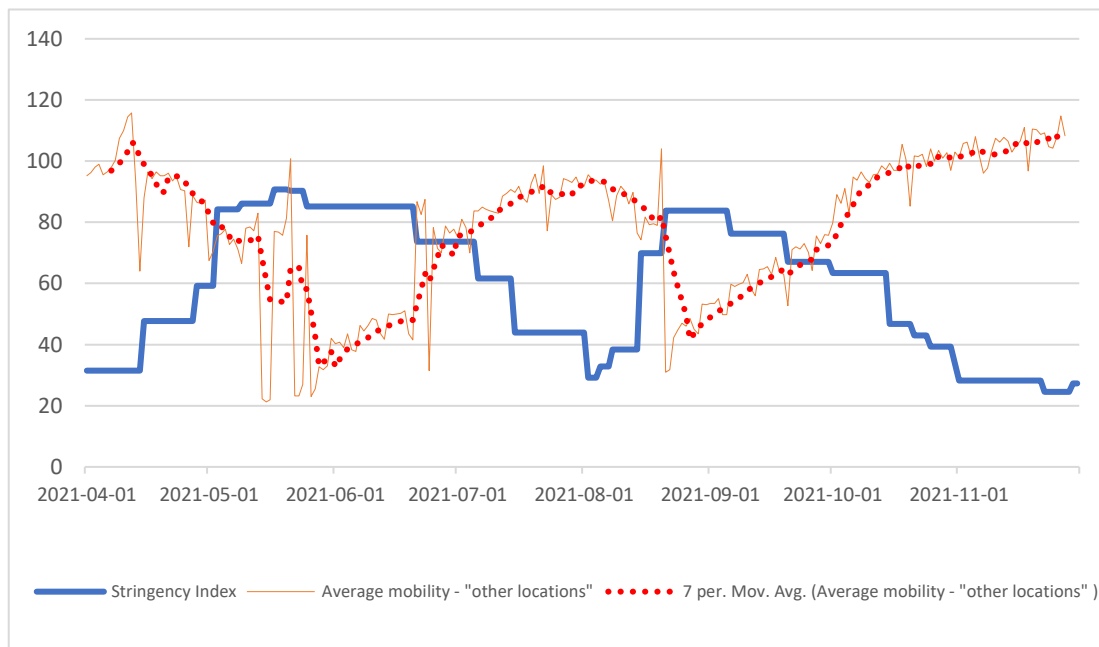
5. The impact of increased stringency on deaths and cases



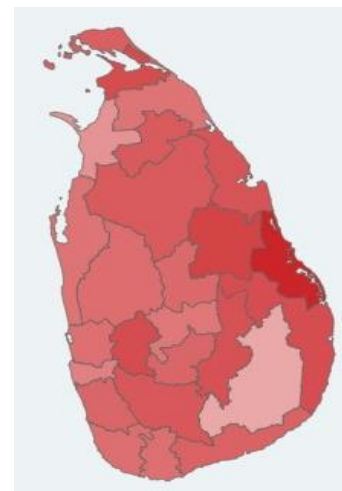
- The stringency continues to be low and is currently 27%.

Source: Oxford Stringency Index (SI) values are considered. Data until 21 June accessed from Oxford COVID Government Response Tracker; same methodology used for calculations of SI from 21 June onwards. Data updated until 30 November 2021.

6. Mobility



Source: Google Community Mobility data are considered. Data available until 27 November















Source: Facebook mobility data.
Average mobility from 1 Oct – 24 Nov 2021

- The average mobility is above the baseline (pre-COVID levels) since mid-October
- The evidence on mobility underlines that for restrictions to be effective, Public Health and Social Measures (PHSM) advocacy must be strengthened for better individual/ household compliance particularly, in non-urban areas

- Subnational variations in mobility levels continue to be observed

7. Regional situation *(Updated as of 1 December 2021)*

Country		New cases (last 7 days)	% change in new cases	Cumulative cases	New deaths (last 7 days)	% change in new deaths	Cumulative deaths	Test Positivity Rate (last 7DMA)	% change in TPR
India		61,013	-11.8	34,596,776	2,663	9.5	469,247	0.9	-6.5
Thailand		38,766	-13.4	2,120,758	270	-21.7	20,814	8.9	-10.4
Sri Lanka		4,384	-25.5	563,989	141	-4.7	14,346	11.3	-1.3
Myanmar		2,671	-36.0	522,402	55	-25.7	19,104	2.3	-26.1
Indonesia		2,244	-10.2	4,256,687	74	8.8	143,840	0.2	-2.4
Nepal		1,647	-16.4	821,651	16	-46.7	11,529	3.6	-13.5
Bangladesh		1,336	-23.0	1,576,284	20	-25.9	27,981	1.3	5.5
Maldives		604	-22.6	91,650	2	100.0	250	3.1	-21.1
Bhutan		7	75.0	2,640	0	0.0	3	0.0	0.0
Timor-Leste		5	-28.6	19,825	0	0.0	122	0.2	-66.0
DPR Korea		0	0.0	0	0	0.0	0	NA	NA
SEAR total		112,677	-14.0	44,572,662	3,241	4.0	707,236	NA	NA

Source: WHO SEARO

8. New Variant of Concern: Omicron

On 26 November 2021, WHO designated the variant B.1.1.529 as a variant of concern (VOC), and has been given the name Omicron. It has not yet been detected in Sri Lanka.

Some of the key measures recommended by the WHO are as follows;

- Enhance surveillance and sequencing efforts to better understand circulating variants, including Omicron
- Use of a risk-based approach to adjust international travel measures in a timely manner. However, WHO does not recommend blanket travel bans as a means of prevention of international spread of the virus
- **The use of masks, physical distancing, ventilation of indoor space, crowd avoidance, and hand hygiene remain key to reducing transmission even with the emergence of the Omicron variant**

Sri Lanka enforced a travel ban after assessing the risk of Omicron, in persons with a travel history (including transit) in the past 14 days to South Africa, Namibia, Botswana, Lesotho, Zimbabwe and Eswatini. The ban is in effect from 0000 hrs 28 November 2021.



Additional resources on Omicron variant:

1. WHO update on Omicron: <https://www.who.int/news/item/28-11-2021-update-on-omicron>
2. WHO advice for international traffic in relation to the SARS-CoV-2 Omicron variant: <https://www.who.int/news-room/articles-detail/who-advice-for-international-traffic-in-relation-to-the-sars-cov-2-omicron-variant>
3. Guideline from the Ministry of Health on travel restrictions for travellers arriving from South African countries: https://www.epid.gov.lk/web/images/pdf/Circulars/Corona_virus/Travel_restriction_for_travellers_from_South_African_Countries.pdf