



### Highlights of the week

As of week 49, **803,811** samples have been tested for COVID-19 by both public and private laboratories. Of this number, **487,586 (60.6%)** samples were tested through public confirmatory laboratories.

In week 49, a total of **2,074** samples tested in public labs, of which **167** samples tested positive for COVID-19 (percent positivity **8.0**) and **13** new deaths were reported. This is a **20%** decrease in cases and **225%** increase in deaths compared to week 48 (**Table 1**).

Cumulatively, **157,634** confirmed cases (overall percent positivity **32.3**) of COVID-19 with **7,328** associated deaths (**CFR=4.6%**) have been reported in Afghanistan since Feb 2020.

The country doesn't have the capacity to test for variants (Omicron) and discussion are in place to send the samples to WHO reference lab for further genomic studies.

**Table 1: Afghanistan's COVID-19 epidemiological overview, as of week 49**

Indicator	New number in week 49	% of change compared to week 48	Cumulative number
# of COVID-19 samples tested in both public & private labs	7,213	22%	803,811
# of COVID-19 samples tested in public labs	2,074	2%	487,586
# of COVID-19 lab confirmed cases (Public Labs)	167	-20%	157,634
# Recovered/discharged	703	186%	141,525 (89.7%)
# of COVID-19 associated death	13	225%	7,328 (CFR=4.6)

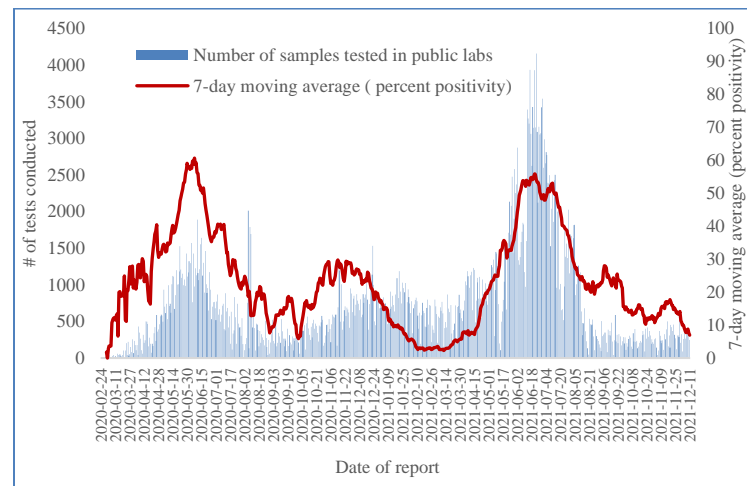
**Table 2: COVID-19 cases by region, as of week 49**

Region	Epi-curve	# of new cases in week 49 (%)	% of change compared to week 48	Cumulative number (%)
Central East		11 (7%)	-54%	44,130 (28%)
Central West		16 (10%)	-27%	13,096 (8.3%)
East		4 (2%)	0%	17,272 (11%)
North		0 (0%)	-100%	13,712 (8.7%)
North East		5 (3%)	-55%	17,283 (11%)
South		94 (56%)	65%	16,995 (10.8%)
South East		20 (12%)	NA	10,582 (6.7%)
West		17 (10%)	-80%	24,564 (15.6%)
National		167 (100%)	-20%	157,634 (100%)

In week 49, the highest number of COVID-19 cases were reported in the South and Southeast (**94** cases and **20** cases, respectively) (**Table 2**). The top five provinces that reported positive cases include Kandahar (**54** cases), Helmand (**37** cases), Ghazni (**19** cases), Herat (**17** cases), and Parwan (**13** cases).

Overall, Afghanistan has reported **4,698** confirmed cases and **96** associated deaths among healthcare workers (HCWs) since 2020. To date, Herat, Kabul, Nangarhar, Balkh and Kunar reported the highest number of positive cases among HCWs.

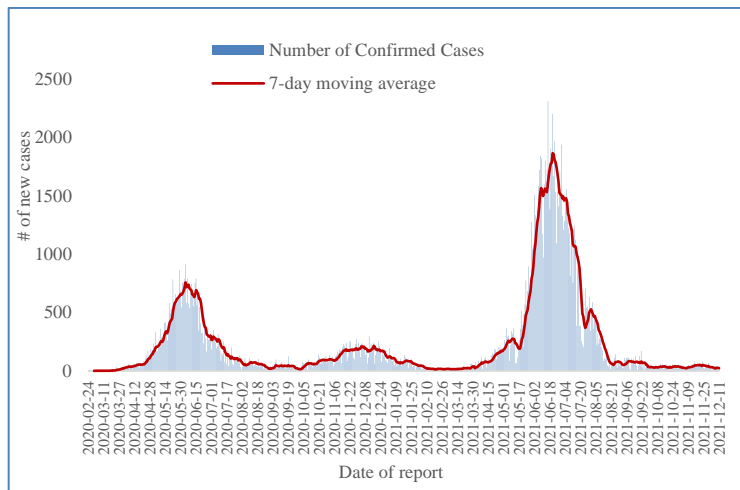
**Figure 1: Number of PCR tests conducted and 7-day moving average of percent positivity, as of 11 Dec 2021**



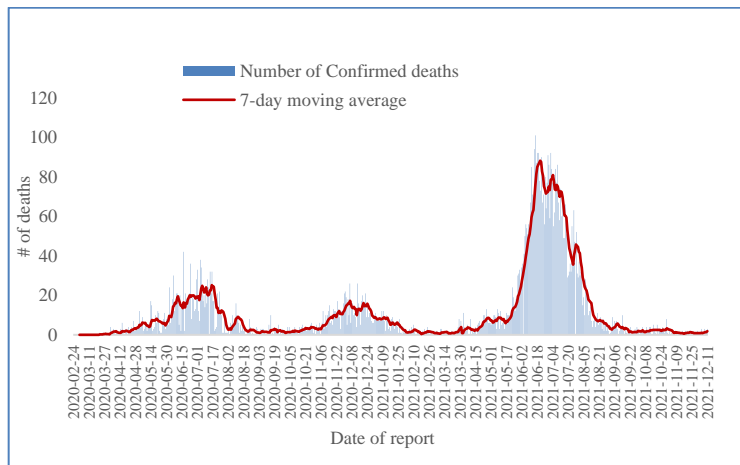
**Table 3: COVID-19 Epi-curve for the last 8 weeks by region, as of week 49**

Region	Epi-curve	Cumulative cases %
Central East		4.1
Central West		5.9
East		15.8
North		2.9
North East		10.0
South		35.6
South East		6.1
West		19.6
National		1,921(100%)

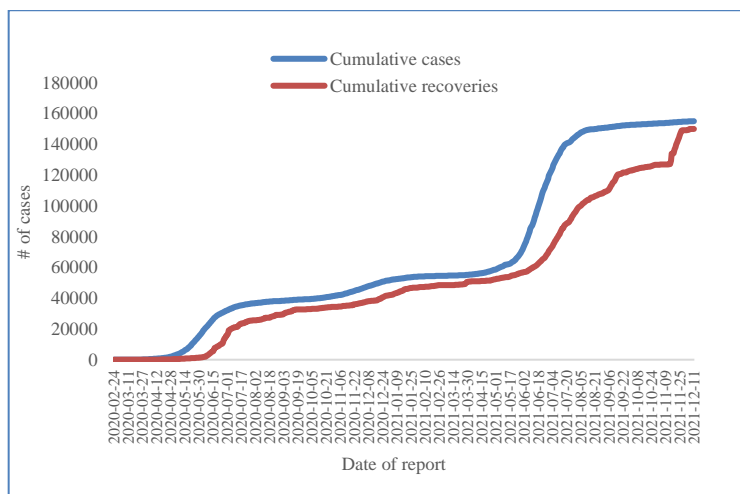
**Figure 2: Epidemiological curve of COVID-19 cases in Afghanistan, as of 11 Dec 2021**



**Figure 3: Epidemiological curve of COVID-19 associated deaths, as of 11 Dec 2021**

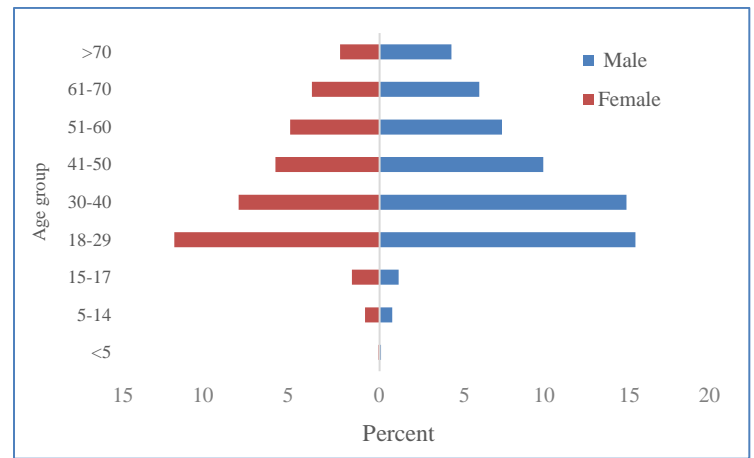


**Figure 4: Cumulative COVID-19 confirmed cases and recoveries, as of 11 Dec 2021**



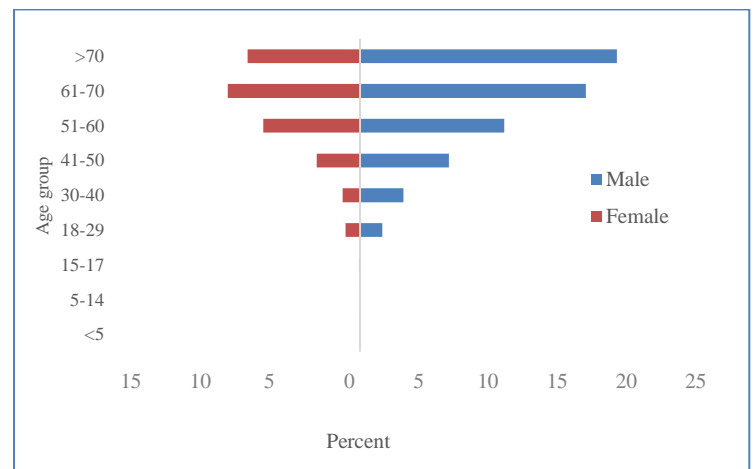
Of the confirmed COVID-19 cases, **58%** have been reported among males and **42%** among females. Majority of cases have been reported among those aged 18-40 years.

**Figure 5: Age distribution percentage of COVID-19 cases, 24 Feb 2020 to 11 Dec 2021**

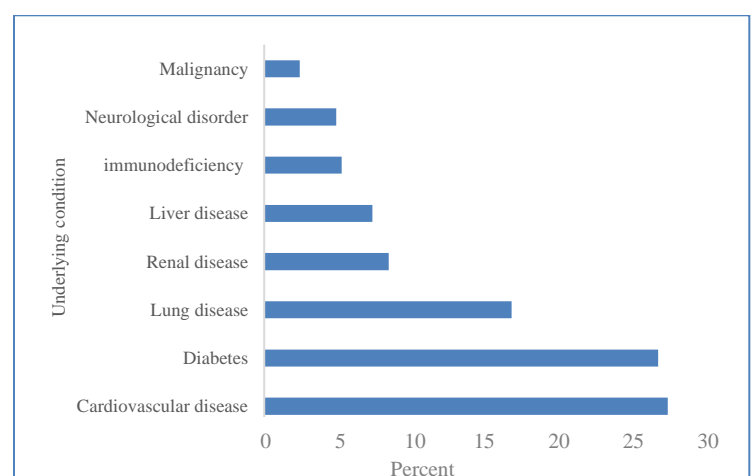


Of the COVID-19 associated deaths, **65%** were reported among males and **35%** among females. The trend indicates that deaths increased by age group, with most reported among Over 70 years old.

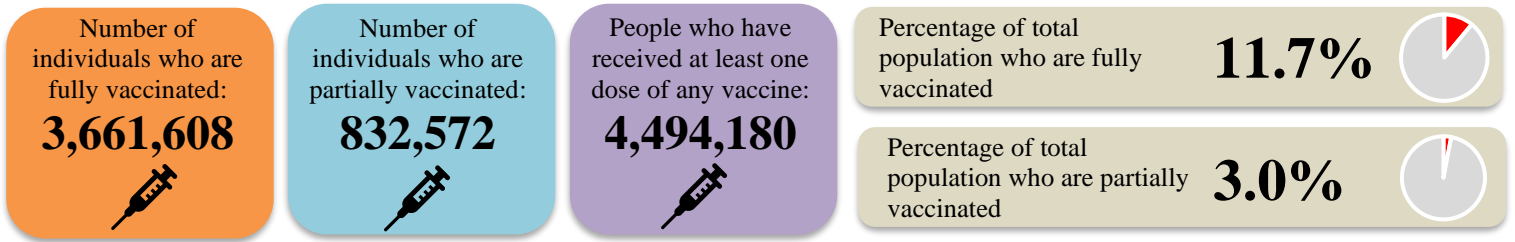
**Figure 6: Age distribution percentage of COVID-19 associated deaths, 24 Feb 2020 to 11 Dec 2021**



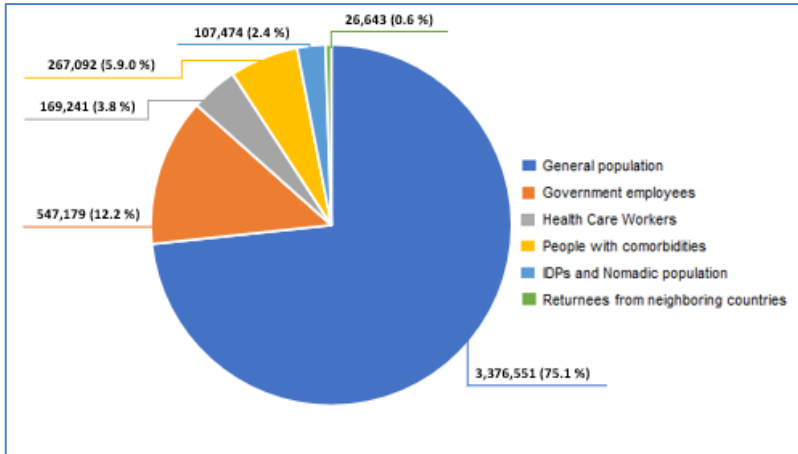
**Figure 7: Proportion underlying conditions among COVID-19 associated deaths, as of 11 Dec 2021**



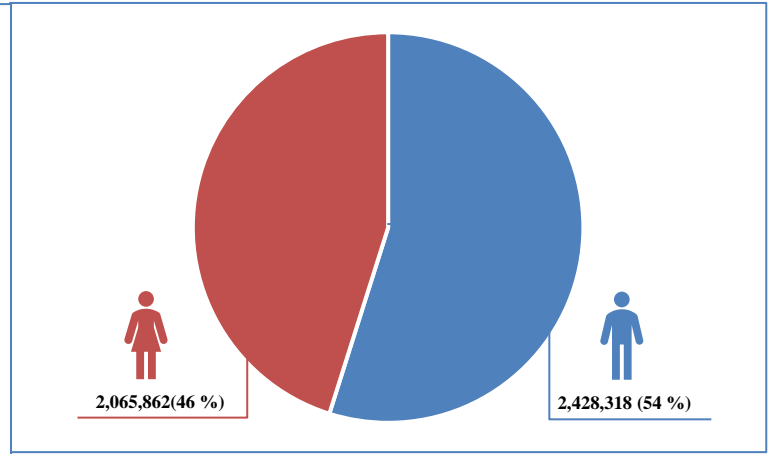
# COVID-19 Vaccination highlights



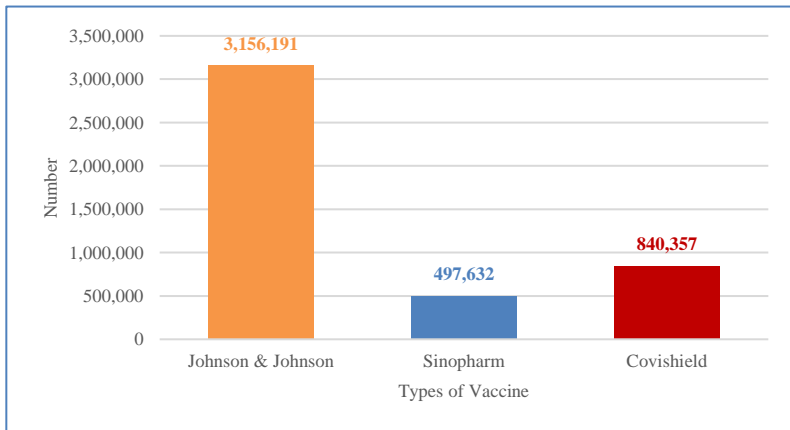
**Figure 8: Percentage of vaccinated individuals in target groups, as of 11 Dec 2021**



**Figure 9: Vaccinated individuals by gender, as of 11 Dec 2021**



**Figure 10: Vaccination doses administered by vaccine type, as of 11 Dec 2021**



Data source: DHIS2-MoPH-Afghanistan  
 Total population: 31,390,171 (Ref: <http://covid.moph-dw.org/#/>)  
 Public dashboard: <http://covid.moph-dw.org/#/>