

Animal Disease Outbreaks and News - Asia

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COVID-19 Update

Coronavirus COVID-19 death toll at 6,550,694 and confirmed cases at 623,474,913 worldwide

Date: 3 October 2022

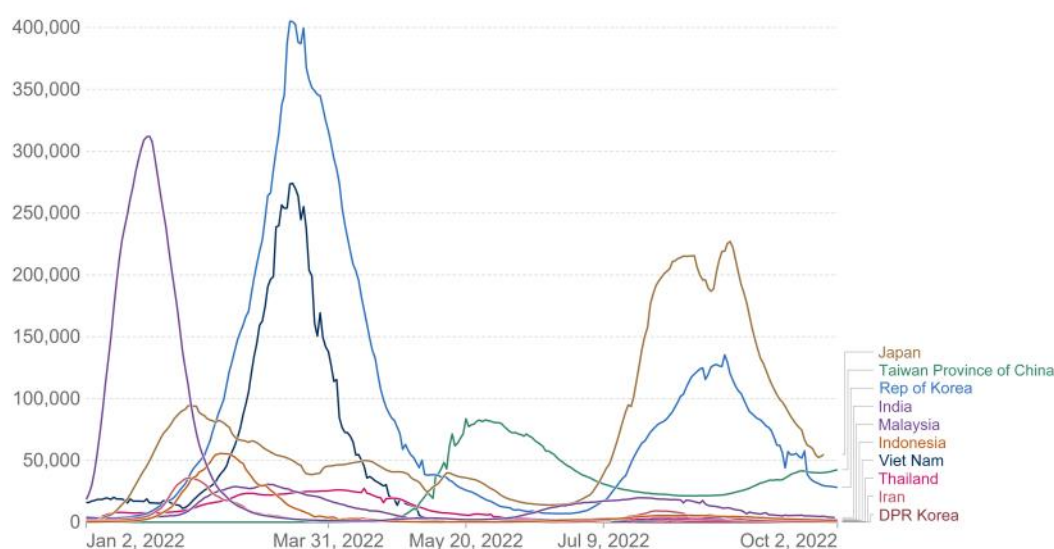
Globally, the death toll from the COVID-19 has reached 6,550,694 while the confirmed case count has reached 623,474,913. In the global scene, the top five countries reporting the total number of cases are USA, India, Brazil, France and Germany. Data sourced from: Worldometers, Government websites and Our World in Data. The table below presents the situation in Asia and the Pacific.

Table: Top ten countries with highest numbers of cumulative COVID-19 cases in Asia and the Pacific (Source: [Worldometers](#), trusted media sources, Govt. websites).

Countries	Total cumulative cases	New cases in past seven days [1]	Total cumulative deaths	New deaths in past seven days [1]	Total cumulative recovered	New recovered in past seven days [1]	Active cases	Serious/critical
India	44,597,498	↓ 25,255	528,701	↓ 171	44,032,671	32,373	36,126	698
Rep of Korea	24,831,761	↓ 197,465	28,509	↓ 263	24,235,981	399,634	567,271	361
Japan	21,330,772	↓ 263,228	44,965	↓ 590	20,398,296	76,385	887,511	162
Viet Nam	11,480,518	↓ 8,217	43,149	↓ 3	10,592,911	6,050	844,458	65
Iran	7,549,586	↓ 2,497	144,439	↓ 45	7,326,246	2,263	78,901	144
Taiwan Province of China	6,547,708	↑ 297,657	11,163	↑ 335	5,696,469	240,279	840,076	/
Indonesia	6,434,585	↓ 12,056	158,132	↓ 118	6,259,019	15,312	17,434	2,771
Malaysia	4,843,865	↓ 12,043	36,375	↓ 25	4,783,393	12,453	24,097	45
DPR Korea	4,772,813	↔ 0	74	↔ 0	4,772,739	0	0	/
Thailand	4,682,132	↓ 3,461	32,771	↓ 42	4,642,894	3,809	6,467	1,496
Global Total	623,474,913	3,170,053	6,550,694	10,229	603,436,899	2,933,338	13,487,320	39,441

[1] Number of newly confirmed cases and deaths since past seven days; / indicates the information is not available

Figure 1. Daily new confirmed COVID-19 cases in the top 10 countries with highest numbers of cumulative cases in Asia and the Pacific (Source: [Our World in Data](#) sourced from Johns Hopkins University CSSE COVID-19 Data)



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Figure 2. Daily new confirmed COVID-19 deaths in the top 10 countries with highest numbers of cumulative cases in Asia and the Pacific (per million people)

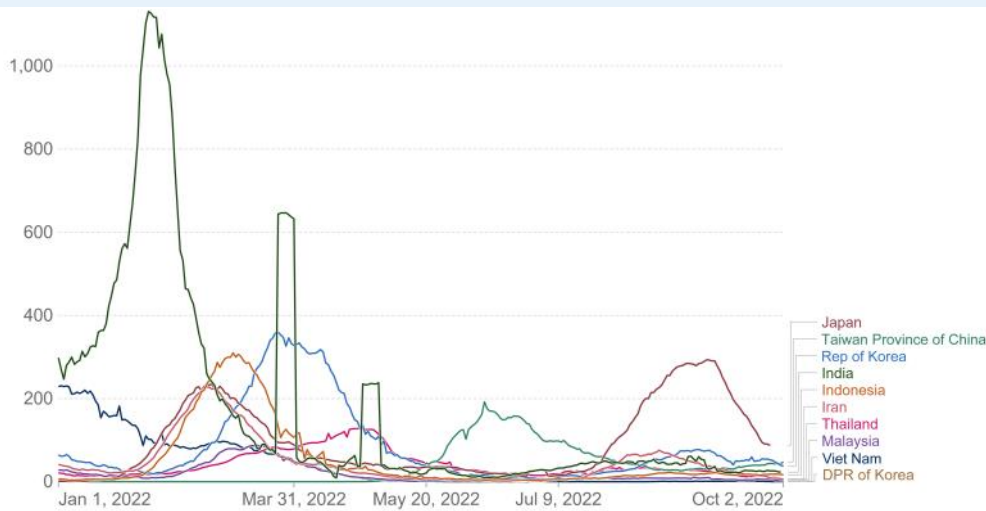


Figure 3. Share of people vaccinated against COVID-19 in the top 10 countries with highest numbers of cumulative cases in Asia and the Pacific (Source: [Our World in Data](#))

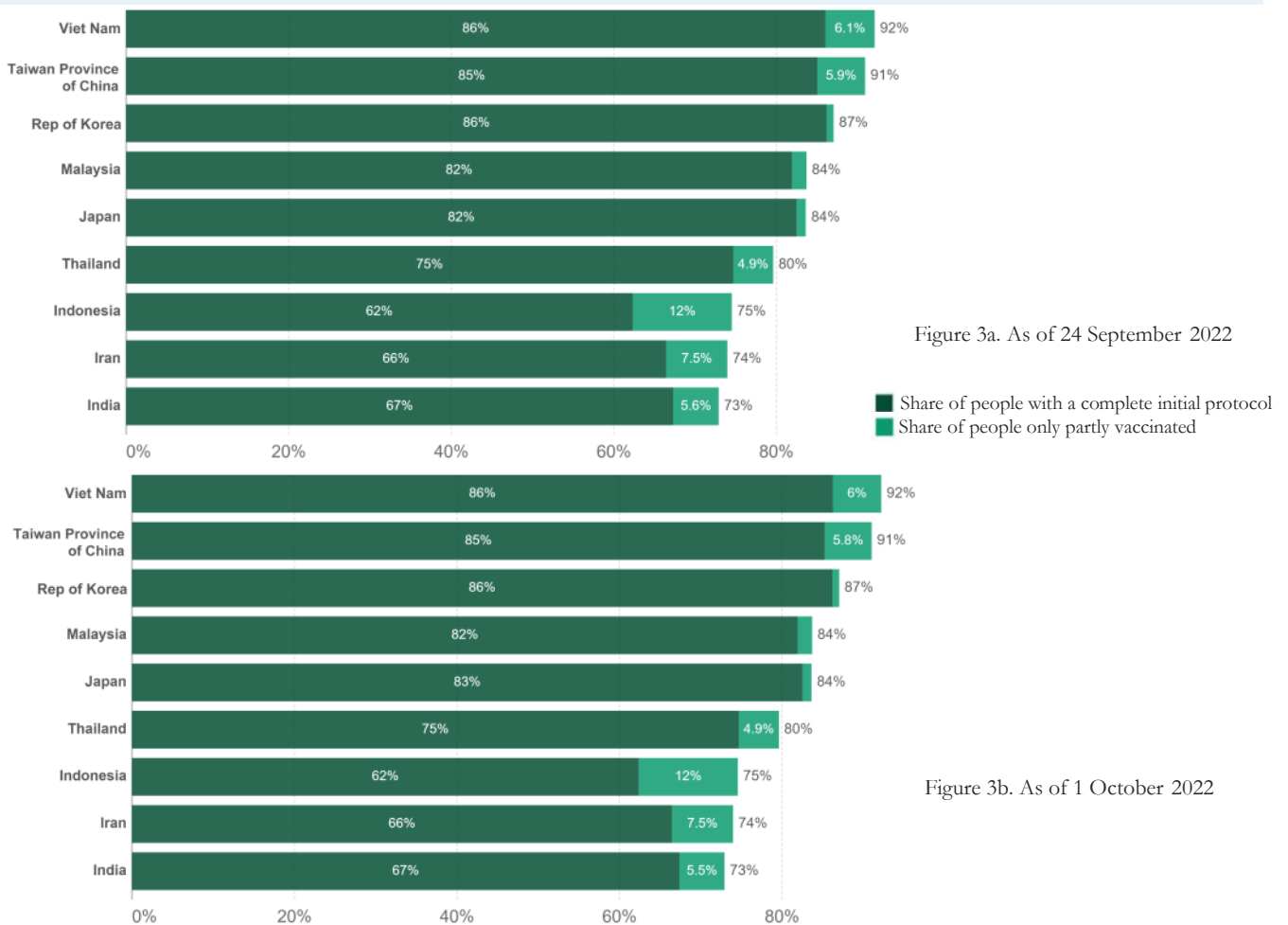


Figure 3a. As of 24 September 2022

Figure 3b. As of 1 October 2022

World Rabies Day 2022: Rabies: One Health, Zero Deaths

World Rabies Day is celebrated every year on 28 September. This year, the theme is: Rabies: **One Health, Zero Deaths** highlighted the connection of the environment with both people and animals. Various events and programs were organized on this day all around the world.

Global events are listed in [Rabies Alliance](#), [WHO](#). **Rabies Free Africa celebrates World Rabies Day by hitting 2.5 million dogs vaccinated**, reports [Asian News](#).

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In an opinion piece, [Deveux](#) writes on **what we can learn from the rabies response in Southeast Asia**. The report adds approximately 45% of worldwide rabies deaths occur in Asia, with more than 1.4 billion people in Southeast Asia at risk of rabies infection. Until we recognize and respond to the interdependence of human, animal, and environmental health, we are setting ourselves back in the face of future pandemics

India: On the occasion of WRD, the Union health minister of India, in a tweet, urged those who have pets to get them vaccinated and to take a pledge to ensure that no one dies of rabies, reports [The Federal](#). Also read India's effort on Rabies management as reported by [Greater Kashmir](#). [Rising Kashmir](#) reports that One Health approach is the best possible way for rabies elimination.

Vietnam: 40 human rabies deaths reported in first 8 months of 2022

Date: 28 September 2022; Disease: Rabies; Location: Vietnam

In the first eight months of 2022, Vietnam had 40 human rabies deaths. Although the number of deaths from rabies in some provinces decreased significantly, the number of deaths still increased compared to the previous period. Despite some progress over the past 10 years, Vietnam continues to report between 70 and 100 deaths from rabies each year. The number of deaths from rabies in some provinces has decreased significantly, but the number of deaths from 2017 to 2021 is still increased in 20 provinces compared with the period 2011-2016. Read more at [Outbreak News Today](#).

Philippines: With over 200 average deaths yearly, the country far from rabies-free status

Date: 28 September 2022

With "high risk" classification, rabies is still one of the most prevalent threats to public health in the Philippines, the Research Institute for Tropical Medicine (RITM) said. The Department of Health (DOH) said that in the Philippines, an average of 200 to 300 individuals die yearly because of rabies, a viral disease that attacks the central nervous system. Read more at [Asia News Network](#). Quoting the Department of Health Center for Health Development (DOH-CHD) in Bicol, [Inquirer](#) reports that six patients had died from rabies. The number of cases is higher compared to 2021, covering the same period that logged only 25,736.

Afghanistan: Zero recorded rabies cases in Kabul thanks to mass rabies vaccination programme

Date: 27 September 2022

Mayhew Afghanistan, alongside Kabul Municipality, Afghan Ministry of Agriculture, Irrigation & Livestock and Kabul University Vet Faculty, are working in a dynamic and unique partnership to eradicate rabies in Kabul. The global profile and awareness of rabies is being raised through public advocacy and awareness efforts and delivery of a city-wide mass vaccination programme. Almost 95,000 dogs in Kabul have now been vaccinated. As a result of this epic initiative, there have been no recorded canine-mediated rabies deaths in humans for the past 18 months in Kabul. And to date, there have been no confirmed cases of rabies in dogs in the city since April 2021, a landmark achievement being celebrated on World Rabies Day 2022 on 28 September, reports [Mayhew](#).

Malaysia: Eight death due to rabies reported in Sarawak in 2022

Date: 27 September 2022; Disease: Rabies; Location: Sarawak, Malaysia

Rabies has so far killed seven people in Sarawak this year. As such, the State Food Industry, Commodities and Regional Development Minister advised those bitten by a dog to immediately seek treatment, reports [Sarawak Tok](#) and [Borneo Post](#).

India: Rabies from wild animals a threat in Kerala's forest fringes

Date: 26 September 2022

The statewide anti-rabies vaccination drive for stray dogs seems to have overlooked the threat posed by the infection in wild animals, especially in the forest fringe areas. Wild animals are considered reservoirs of viruses including Rabies lyssavirus which causes rabies. Frequent encounters between wild and domestic animals leave a spillover effect that would reduce the impact of vaccination campaigns being conducted in the state, say experts. Read more at [New Indian Express](#). [East Coast Daily](#) reports that there have been 21 rabies deaths and 1.96 lakh dog bite incidents documented in Kerala so far this year.

Disease Outbreaks

Japan: Highly pathogenic avian influenza (HPAI) outbreak

Date: 30 September 2022; Disease: HPAI (H5N1); Location: Isehara City, Japan

A wild bird Peregrin falcon was reported to be dead due to HPAI (H5N1) in Isehara City, Japan. The event is marked as ongoing. Read more at [WOAH](#).

Neighbouring Countries

Russian Federation: Lumpy skin disease (LSD) outbreak

Date: 28 September 2022; Disease: LSD; Location: Dus-Dag, Oryurskiy rayon, Russian Federation

Out of 905 susceptible cattle population 139 case of LSD was confirmed in domestic cattle where none of the animals died. 540 of these animals were vaccinated. The event is ongoing. Read more at [WOAH](#).

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News and Updates

Guiding principles for the design of avian influenza active surveillance in Asia

Date: 3 October 2022

These guidelines aim at supporting countries in the elaboration and planning of active surveillance schemes at national level for the monitoring and early detection of HPAI viruses. The document addresses the principles for HPAI active surveillance and the aspects that should be considered by countries when planning such activity: selection of sites, animal species, sample types and sample size, sampling frequency, and data collection. These guidelines are purposely concise for countries to get an overview of the components of HPAI active surveillance. Furthermore, the guidelines link to FAO technical publications which provide more details for field staff on practical aspects of HPAI active surveillance. Read more at [FAO](#).

African swine fever (ASF) Asia and Pacific situation update

Date: 29 September 2022

Highlights from the most recent ASF situation update in the Asia and Pacific region includes confirmation of ASF outbreaks in four pig farms in the Republic of Korea; reports of ASF outbreaks in two commercial pig farms in Perak State in Malaysia; and confirmation of ASF in Haryana State, India. Read more at [FAO](#).

Tackling antimicrobial use and resistance in food-producing animals

Date: 29 September 2022

This publication describes the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland's multisectoral voluntary approach to antibiotic stewardship in food-producing animals, developed as a collaboration between industry and government. It is a tribute to all those involved for their tremendous efforts, commitment, and continuous work to improve responsible use of antibiotics and achieve significant reductions in their use across livestock sectors. Keys to success include the development of strong relationships between producers, veterinarians and government, industry-led target-setting and cross-sectoral learning and sharing of experiences. This has built a collective sense of ownership and responsibility, resulting in effective behaviour change for improved stewardship. Read more at [FAO](#).

Indonesia applied 3 million foot-and mouth disease (FMD) vaccinations

Date: 28 September 2022

The Indonesian Ministry of Agriculture said some 3.13 million animals have been vaccinated with mapping showing the disease continued to be contained to western two thirds of the country. The three million mark comes as questions are being asked over the official 'FMD free' status of the island of Bali, which is set to host the G20 Heads of State and Government Summit in mid-November. The national broadcaster, the ABC, claimed over the weekend it had videoed and seen other videos of livestock displaying FMD symptoms, including lesions on the feet and foam at the mouth. Read more at [Farm Online](#).

Philippines: Officials urge flood-affected residents to get treatment for leptospirosis

Date: 27 September 2022

The Department of Health (DOH) urged residents affected by Typhoon Karding-induced floods to get prophylaxis or treatment to avoid leptospirosis. The officer-in-charge said that prophylactic medicines are available in the nearest health centers. The latest data from the DOH indicated that the country recorded 1,770 leptospirosis cases from 1 January to 27 August, which is 36 percent higher than the leptospirosis cases logged during the same period last year at 1,229. Read more at [Inquirer](#).

Pakistan: Crimean-Congo Hemorrhagic Fever (CCHF) case series: a chronology of biochemical and hematological parameters

Date: 26 September 2022

CCHF is a widespread tick-borne zoonotic disease. Sporadic outbreaks of CCHF occur in endemic regions, including Pakistan. A study was conducted on patients aged 16 years and above admitted to the isolation unit of Hayatabad Medical Complex, Peshawar, Pakistan between 1 July and 30 July 2022 with the diagnosis of CCHF were included in this case series. The study concluded that a persistently raised alanine aminotransferase (ALT) and C-reactive protein (CRP) level, a persistently low or decreasing platelet count, and acute kidney injury (AKI) were associated with mortality. Blood group B was the commonest blood group among patients of CCHF, which is not reflective of the blood group distribution of the general population from which this case series has been reported. Read full text at [Cureus](#).

Update on lumpy skin disease: Emergence in Asian part of Eurasia

Date: 1 August 2022

Lumpy skin disease (LSD) is an infectious disease mostly of cattle. The typical clinical picture is usually characterized by the appearance of multiple nodules on the skin and internal organs. They can cover the entire body of the animal in the course of severe illness. This disease causes serious economic damage despite the fact that mortality of cattle with LSD is often low. Now LSD is a serious danger for cattle in the Asian part of Russia (part of the territory of the Russian Federation geographically belonging to Asia) and the Southeast Asia. Initially LSD was an endemic disease in many Sub-Saharan African countries, then it spread to Asia and

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Europe. In order to prevent the spread of the lumpy skin disease virus (LSDV), strict quarantine is introduced, vector control is carried out and various other LSD control measures are implemented. An effective vaccination campaign is required to significantly reduce the morbidity. However, the risk of spreading this transboundary disease to neighbouring LSDV virus-free countries and regions of Asia, remains high enough. This article contains a summary of the available information about the spread of LSD in Asian part of Eurasia for the period of 1984 - February 2022. We are also discussing the latest available findings on the epidemiology of LSD and the methods currently used for the prevention and control of the LSDV. Read more at [Acta Veterinaria](#).

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