






Viet Nam COVID-19 Situation Report #108

Epidemiological report as of 31 March 2023, 18:00

Situation Summary

Cumulative numbers from 25 Jan 2020 – 31 Mar 2023

 <p>11,527,301 Cases (63/63 provinces)</p>	 <p>10,614,966 (92.1%) Recovered</p>	 <p>43,186 (PFC 0.4%) Deaths</p>	 <p>~46 M Lab. Tests</p>	 <p>265,987,159 Vaccine doses administered</p>
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Highlights from the current outbreak situation (from 27 April 2021 to 31 Mar 2023)¹

- The daily trend of cases and deaths continued to decline in the past four weeks (From 1 Mar to 31 Mar 2023), with a total of 384 new cases and no new deaths were reported. Compared with the previous four weeks, there is a decrease of 8.6% in the number of new cases.
- **27 out of 63 provinces have reported no new cases in the last 28 days including:** Bac Giang, Binh Duong, Dak Lak, Ca Mau, Tay Ninh, Quang Binh, Ha Giang, Binh Phuoc, Da Nang, Dong Nai, Vinh Long, Dien Bien, Bac Kan, Dak Nong, Gia Lai, Tra Vinh, Ha Tinh, Binh Thuan, Quang Ngai, Can Tho, Quang Nam, Bac Lieu, An Giang, Tien Giang, Soc Trang, Kon Tum and Ninh Thuan.
- The **Omicron** variant of concern (**VOC**) accounts for **83.5%** among the sequences uploaded from Viet Nam into the global reporting platform (GISAID) since it was first reported in country in December 2021 (5,454 out of 6,533 sequences).
- There is **no current evidence of strain on the healthcare system**, a constant decline in the number of severe cases continued to be observed in the past months.
- **Cumulatively** from April 2021 to 31 March 2023, **11,524,449 cases** have been reported including **43,151 deaths** (PFC 0.4%) from 63 cities/provinces. *See Figures 1 and 2.*
- Five (5) cities/ provinces with highest case number reported include: Ha Noi (1,636,504 cases, 1,236 deaths, PFC 0.08%); HCMC (623,474 cases, 20,475 deaths, PFC 3.31%); Hai Phong (534,002 cases, 138 deaths, PFC 0.03%), Nghe An (499,814 cases, 145 deaths, PFC 0.03%) and Bac Giang (390,203 cases, 92 deaths, PFC 0.02%).
- Continuous multisource surveillance especially using trends in hospital admissions for severe and critical cases, reports of deaths and EBS are recommended.

SPECIAL UPDATE AS OF 11 APRIL 2023

- An upward trend in both number of cases and number of hospitalizations have been observed from the beginning of April. Between 5 to 11 April, there were 639 newly reported cases from 28 out of 63 provinces/cities, without deaths. Compared to the previous 7 days, the number of cases was 3.8 times higher. Of those, Ha Noi accounted for 46.6% (298 cases), followed by Quang Ninh 10.3% (66 cases) and Hung Yen 4.7% (30 cases).
- In Ha Noi, although the city reported the highest daily number of new cases in the past week, there have been no changes in proportion of severe cases and there is no unusual observation in clinical manifestation among the hospital admissions. Hospitals around the City are well prepared, and no capacity strains being observed. Changes in weather conditions were identified as the main factor that escalates the transmission of COVID-19, influenza and other respiratory infections (*EBS*).
- In National Hospital of Tropical Diseases (NHTD) – tertiary level for COVID-19 treatment in the Northern region, there are 74 patients currently being treated, including 10 patients requiring nasal oxygen supplement and 5 patients under mechanical ventilation (*EBS*). Majority of these patients are of old age and/or with underlying conditions; and no unusual observations in clinical manifestation being reported. (*Anecdotal information for internal only*)
- In Thanh Nhan hospital, Ha Noi, there were 18 patients admitted to the hospital between 2 to 11 April, with average age of 71 years old (only one patient less than 60 years old), all of them have comorbidities. So far, 9 patients have recovered and discharged; 9 patients remain hospitalized but with stabilized condition, including 5 patients requiring nasal oxygen. (*Anecdotal information for internal only*)

¹ For updates before 1 Mar 2023, refer to previous Sitreps. While epidemiological figures are as of 31 Mar 2023, other information may cover beyond this cut-off date.

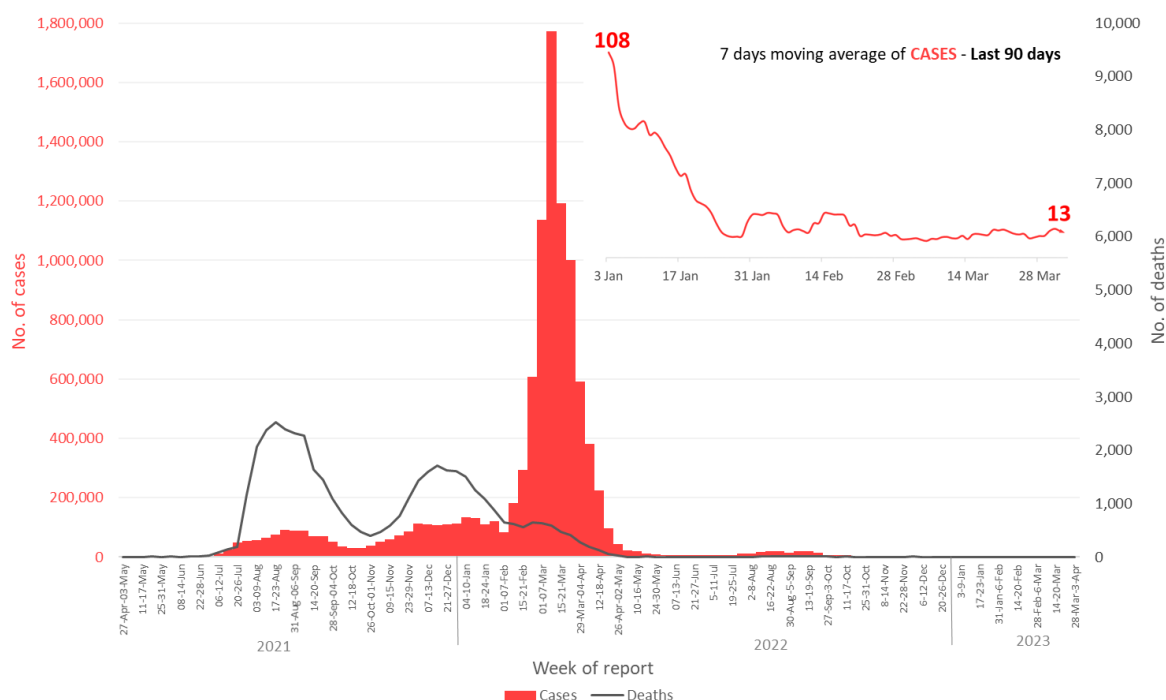


Figure 1. Epidemic curve of COVID-19 laboratory confirmed cases and deaths by week of reporting for the current outbreaks, from **27 Apr 2021 – 31 Mar 2023**, Viet Nam²

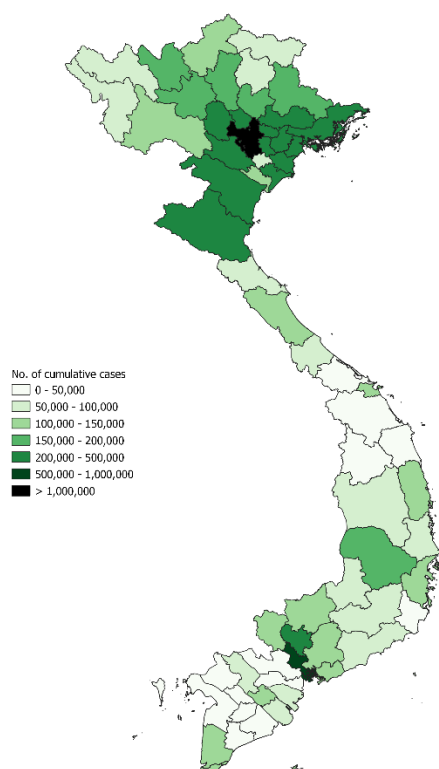


Figure 2a. Distribution of COVID-19 cumulative confirmed cases by province, **27 Apr 2021 – 31 Mar 2023**, Viet Nam

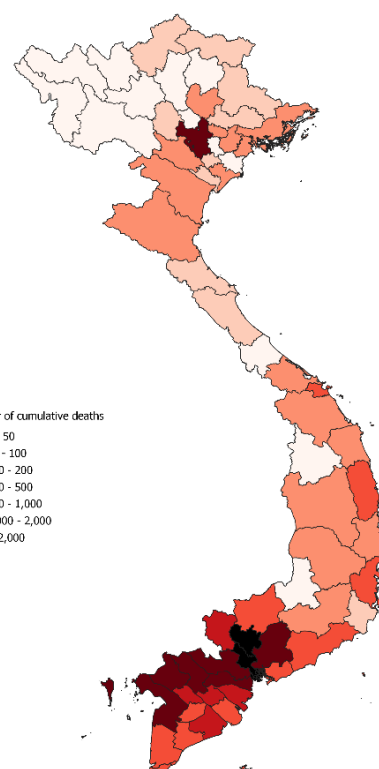


Figure 2b. Distribution of COVID-19 cumulative deaths by province, **27 Apr 2021 – 31 Mar 2023**, Viet Nam

² Figures excluded the most recent backlogs of cases reported.

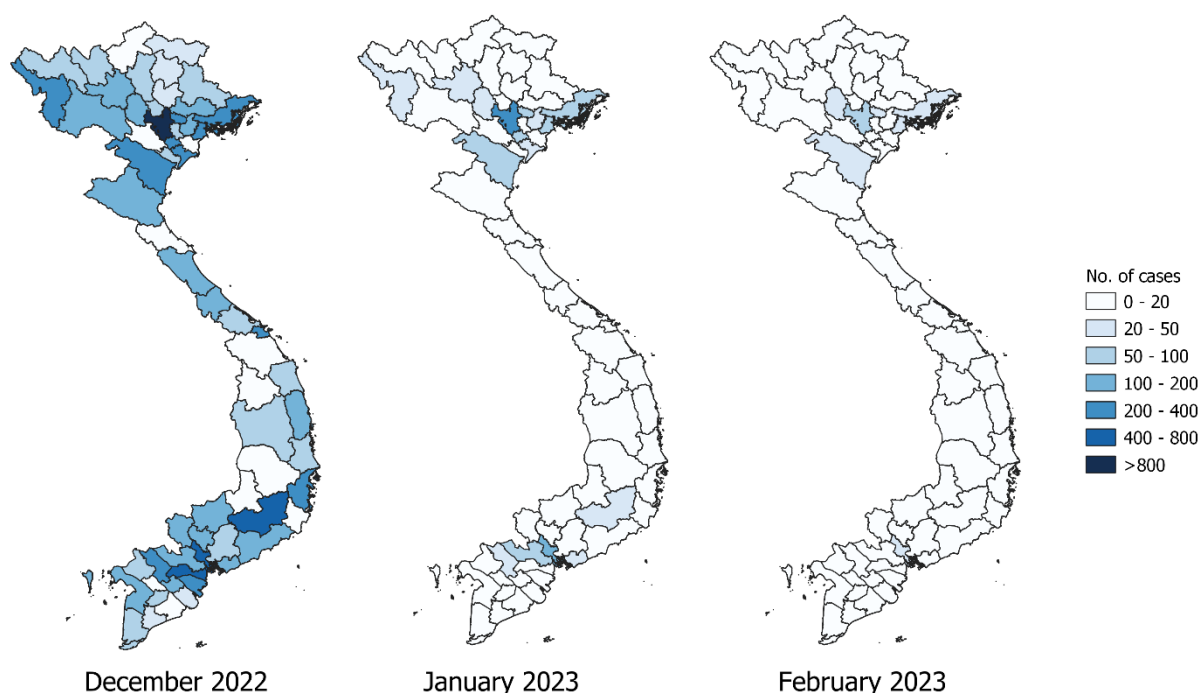


Figure 2c. Distribution of COVID-19 confirmed cases by province in recent months, Viet Nam

Age and sex distribution of COVID-19 cases: Analysis from 10,315,121 cases shows that ages of cases range from 2 months to 100 years old. About 48.5% of all cases are in the 30-69 years old age group, 3.8% are above 70 years old, and the remaining 47.7% are under 30 years old. The proportion of males vs females is 45.2% vs 54.8%.

For more details, visit: [COVID-19 Dashboard](#) of the General Department of Preventive Medicine (GDPM)/MOH.

Cumulatively from Jan 2020 to 31 Mar 2023, Viet Nam has reported a total of **11,527,301 laboratory confirmed cases** from all 63 provinces including **43,186 deaths (PFC 0.4%)**.

❖ Vaccine supply and vaccination (See Annex 1)

- As of 31 Mar 2023, a total of **263,253,798 doses of COVID-19 vaccines have arrived in Viet Nam**. In which: COVAX: 71,078,942 doses; donation from countries: 56,352,000 doses; and bilateral procurement: 135,822,856 doses.
- As of 31 Mar 2023, a total of **265,987,159 doses have been administered** (data quality assessment was performed in the last month and some adjustments were made by provinces): 90,229,632 people from 5 years and above got **first dose (91.9% of total population)** and number of people from 5 years and above completed **second dose** has reached 85,863,665 (**87.5% of total population**). There are 12,852,504 immunocompromised people and high-risk people got additional dose and **57,814,234 people** who are **fully vaccinated and got initial booster dose (58.9% of total population** or 72.0% of target population from 12 years old and above). There are 17,709,546 people got **second booster dose (18.0% of total population)**.
- As of 31 Mar 2023, a total of 9,130,472 adolescents **12-17 years of age got first dose (~100%)** and 9,021,054 got **full doses (~100%)**. **66.3%** of this age group (5,813,288 adolescents) got initial booster dose.
- As of 31 Mar 2023, 10,191,890 children **5-11 years old** vaccinated with **first dose (85.9% of targeted children)** and 8,393,926 children get **full dose (70.8% of targeted children)**.
- To date, nine vaccines in Emergency Use Authorization by NRA of Viet Nam: AstraZeneca, Pfizer, Moderna, Johnson & Johnson (Janssen), Sinopharm BIBP, Sputnik V, and Hayat-Vax COVID-19 (Sinopharm manufacturing site), Abdala and Covaxin (produced by Bharat Biotech International Limited, India).

❖ Government direction and key public health and social measures (PHSM)

- **4 Mar 2023**- the Government issued a Resolution No. 30/NG-CP on continuing to ensure adequate drug, medical equipment and supplies and payment for medical treatment to be covered by health insurance. The Government directed MOH to revise legal documents regarding payment for medical treatment by health insurance, and MOH in collaboration with MoF and MPI to develop legal documents regarding bidding and procurement of drug, chemicals, biology materials in health sector [EBS].
- **10 Mar 2023**- MOH issued a National Plan for Infectious Disease Prevention and Control. The plan aims to minimize the morbidity and mortality from infectious diseases compared to the average of the year 2016-2020; and timely control and minimize the risk of disease outbreaks to contribute to the improvement of people's health and socio-economic development.
- **13 Mar 2023**- MOH issued a letter to Chairpersons of City and Provincial People's Committees (PPC) to request the cities/provinces to strengthen border health quarantine activities to prevent possible emerging infectious diseases imported to the country [EBS].
- **20 Mar 2023**- MOH issued an official letter to Chairpersons of PPCs and the regional Pasteur/Hygiene and Epidemiology Institutes on strengthening surveillance, prevention and control Marburg disease [EBS].
- **12 Apr 2023** – MOH issued an urgent dispatch No. 2116/BYT-DP to Chairpersons of PPCs on strengthening COVID-19 prevention and control in the context of increasing the number of cases across the country from April [EBS]

❖ Laboratory testing

- As of 31st Mar 2023, approximately 46 million RT-PCR tests (both single and pooled samples) have been conducted since Jan 2020. For the current outbreak, approx. more than 40 million RT-PCR tests (both single and pooled samples) have been conducted.
- **Whole Genome Sequencing:** As of 31st Mar 2023, Viet Nam has uploaded a total of 8,769 SARS-CoV-2 sequences to the GISAID platform (since the beginning of the pandemic), 180 additional sequences have been uploaded since the last Sitrep (since 28th Feb 2023). Of the 6,533 sequences uploaded from 24 Dec 2021 to 31 Mar 2023, 5,454 sequences (83.5%) were Omicron.
- Currently, there are 403 confirmatory laboratories for COVID-19 by RT-PCR established in country (167 from Northern region, 40 from Central-coastal region, 9 from Central-highland region, and 187 from Southern region).

❖ Case management

- As of 31st March 2023, **110 COVID-19 cases** are being isolated, monitored, or treated in the country. Of those, **3 severe cases are requiring oxygen** including **no cases under invasive ventilation**, and no cases under ECMO. (Source).

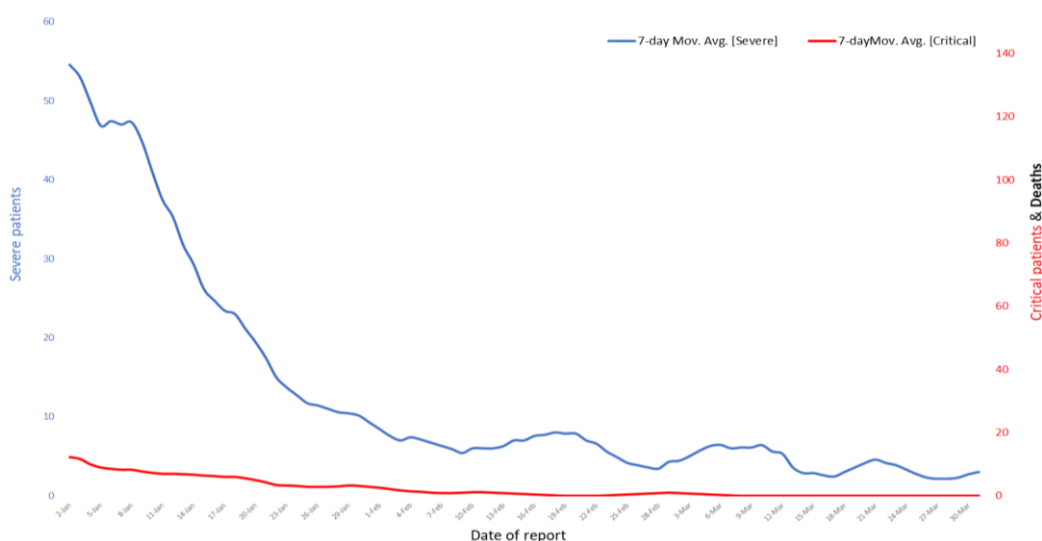


Figure 4. Trend of severe/critical COVID-19 patients by type of management in Viet Nam, in the past 90 days (2 Jan 2023 to 31 Mar 2023) (Source)



❖ Risk communication

- With COVID-19 still circulating, including Omicron sub-variants, WHO Viet Nam continues to encourage the community to follow MOH 2K+ guidelines for adults and children, with a particular emphasis on mask wearing in crowded places and enclosed spaces, regular hand washing and maintaining protection against severe illness and death with COVID-19 vaccines. In particular, for high-risk and vulnerable groups, and for adults and eligible children 12 years and older, to get their recommended booster doses according to schedule, and for eligible children 5 years and older to get fully vaccinated.
- Updated guidance to the public from MOH and WHO are available through multiple channels, including on the MOH Facebook page: [VNM MOH Sức khỏe Việt Nam](#) and the WHO Facebook page: [World Health Organization Viet Nam](#).

WHO's support

WHO continues to support the MOH in various technical areas, such as providing technical advice with scientific evidence related to sustained management of COVID-19; monitoring variants of concern (VOCs); vaccination roll-outs; calibration of PHSMs including those reflecting the most recent changes in COVID-19 management policy in China; supporting data management, reporting and information sharing; supporting periodic review and update of strategies and technical guidelines including surveillance, testing, outbreak level assessment, quarantine; after-action review (AAR) and intra-action review (IAR); and effective communication; supported development of the *National COVID-19 Prevention and Control Program, 2022-2023* which was issued via the Government Resolution 38 on 17 March 2022. Supported review and revision of the national response plan for COVID-19 based on the WHO's updated [Strategic Preparedness, Readiness and Response Plan \(SPRRP\)](#). Supported the development of the Implementation Plan for the Government's Resolution 38, issued via the MOH Decision No.2282/QĐ-BYT dated 24 Aug 2022, using the WHO latest version SPRRP and the recommendations and updated recommendations from the 12th, 13th and 14th IHR (2005) Emergency Committee meetings on new coronavirus disease (COVID-19) pandemic that was held on 8 July, 13 October 2022 and 27 January 2023, respectively, as key references.

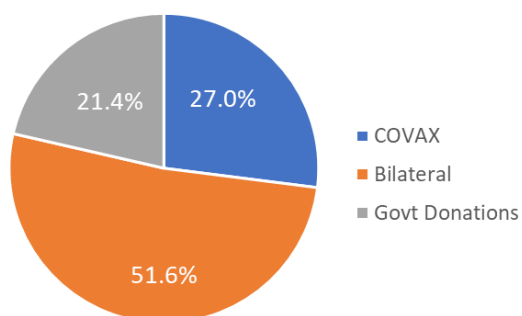
WHO has facilitated a consultation with Member States including Viet Nam to develop a "Learning and Improving through COVID-19" document which highlighted key lessons identified in our region during the response to COVID-19 and how they have led to improvements in our response to COVID-19 and future pandemics.

WHO is providing consultation and advice to the MOH on necessary adjustments in preventive and response measures (if any) in light of WHO's possible declaration of the end of PHEIC for COVID-19 sometime this year (the next EC meeting is scheduled for 4 May 2023).

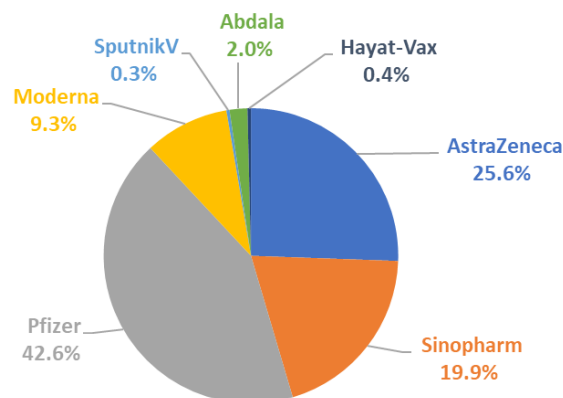
WHO Country Office team continues to facilitate the consultation process with MSs in the development of a new Asia Pacific Health Security Action Framework (HSAF), taking the lessons learned from COVID-19 response. This HSAF is expected to be endorsed towards the end of 2023. On 7 April 2023, the WHO Country Office convened a hybrid consultation meeting with the key MOH counterparts (including representatives from GDPM, VAMS, ICD, and 4 Regional Pasteur/ Hygiene and epidemiology Institutes) to provide the update on the development process of HSAF and to obtain inputs and comments from the counterparts on this development. Attended the meeting, there were the WHO Representative to Viet Nam (Dr Angela Pratt) and the Regional Emergency Director (RED) for WHO Western Pacific Region (Dr Babatunde Olowokure) together with the Health Emergencies Team/ WHO Viet Nam.

ANNEX 1 – COVID-19 vaccines supply and deployment as of 31 March 2023

Vaccine by source (received)



Vaccine by product (received)



Progress of vaccine usage and primary vaccination coverages per total pop, as of 31 March 2023

Vaccine uptake in Viet Nam

