



This Situation Report is jointly issued by PNG National Department of Health (NDOH) and World Health Organization (WHO) once weekly. This Report is not comprehensive and covers information received as of reporting date.

Situation Summary and Highlights

- As of 02 January 2022, PNG has officially reported a cumulative total of 36,192 confirmed cases of COVID-19 including 590 COVID-19 confirmed deaths.
- There were 62 new confirmed cases reported during the week.
- Over 224,073 people are fully vaccinated, representing 12% of the government’s 20% target for 2021 Phase I COVID-19 vaccinations. Over 286,837 people have been vaccinated with at least one dose of a COVID-19 vaccine.

Cluster Updates & Priorities

Surveillance:

- Total number of cases at 36,192, confirmed deaths at 590 and delta cases at 627 this week.
- Work continues on strengthening provincial and national level routine surveillance, to ensure reporting is able to provide a timely reflection of current COVID activity and trends.
- An enhanced surveillance package is being established to provide an early warning system over Christmas, New Year and to the end of January 2022.
- A current priority is to continue to ensure surveillance systems and reporting mechanisms are in place to be able to detect changes in case activity during and after the festive season, and in the context of the globally emerging Omicron, Variant of Concern (VOC).

Table 1. Reported COVID-19 cases in PNG¹ (02 Jan 2022)

Province	New Cases	Deaths	Cumulative Delta Variant	Cumulative Total
AROB			15	921
Central			7	827
ENB			28	2210
ES			16	688
EH			22	2156
Enga			4	1048
Gulf			10	492
Hela			31	762
Jiwaka			2	421
Madang			4	1268
Manus			11	639
Milne Bay			3	1213
Morobe			79	2491
NCD			196	9393
NI			11	825
Northern				404
Simbu			14	1058
SH			28	1039
WNB			32	1227
WS			67	775
Western			43	3610
WH			4	2725
TOTAL	0	0	627	36 192

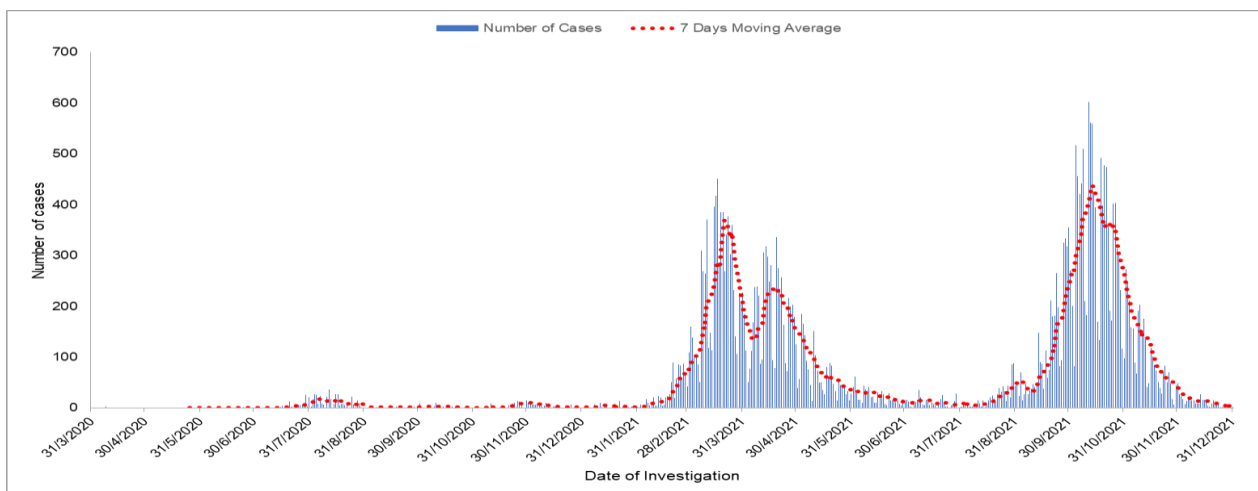
¹ As of 02/01/2022, 12:00 pm, PNG time

Table 2. COVID-19 GLOBAL AND REGIONAL UPDATE^{2b}

	Confirmed Cases	Deaths
Global	289 667 713	5 457 154
Western Pacific	11 389 301	156 549

² WHO COVID-19 Dashboard as of 02/01/2022, 22:45 CEST

Figure 1: Trend of COVID-19 cases from 20 Jan 2020 – 02 January 2022



Laboratory:

- The National Department of Health (NDOH) continued to ramp up resources with WHO support to expand molecular diagnostics capacity and in-country whole genome sequencing.
- WHO supported the National Department of Health (NDOH) and surveillance to establish laboratory surge indicators for an enhanced surveillance.
- WHO continued to support the COVID-19 laboratories and NDOH with forecasting and procurement list for 6 month consumptions to ensure uninterrupted supply.
- WHO Lab team visited CPHL laboratory to introduce the laboratory technical officer and to understand the workflow and identity areas for improvement of the turnaround time.
- Virological surveillance: 100% of samples sequenced by the Microbiological Diagnostic Unit (MDU), Peter Doherty Institute, Melbourne, in the last consignment were VOC Delta (n=68, collection dates 23 Sept - 18 Nov 2021). Whole Genome Sequencing (WGS) from cases tested after 18 Nov 21 are not yet available. The next WGS report is expected to be received in mid-January.

Logistics and Supplies:

- Continued processing of monthly orders received from provinces/facilities and dispatching of oxygen (O₂) consumables and concentrators.
- Continue with mapping of biomed devices in health facilities in the provinces.

Quarantine & Points of Entry:

- There were 4 reported COVID-19 cases of international travellers during this reporting period (27 Dec 2021 – 02 Jan 2022). All individuals are in 14 days isolation.

Table 3. Persons Screened by Point of Entry

Total Number of Travelers Screened before SOE (Until 22 March 2020)	29,387	
Total Number of Travelers Screened during SOE (23 March – 16 June 2020)	3,788	
Total Number of Travelers Screened after SOE (17 June 2020 – 01 January 2022)	Air	35,144
	Sea	2,109
	Land	6

National Vaccination Rollout

- Over 224,073 people are fully vaccinated, representing 12% of the government’s 20% target for 2021 Phase I COVID-19 vaccinations.
- Over 286,837 people have been vaccinated with at least one dose of a COVID-19 vaccine.

Figure 2: Daily reported number of doses administered

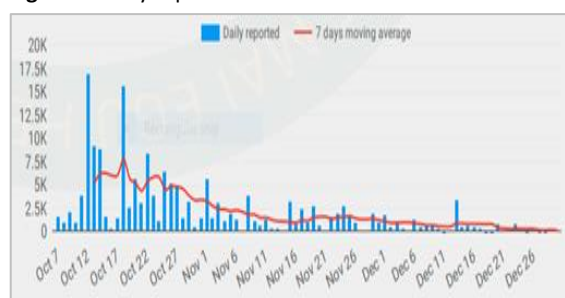
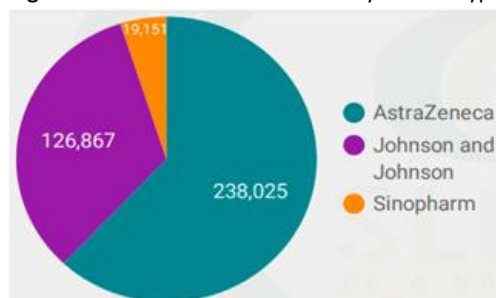


Figure 3: Total doses administered by vaccine type



National and Provincial Health Update

- The Pandemic Response Coordination Group and the Health Operations Team continued to meet regularly at the National Control Centre.
- Full details of all containment measures can be found at www.covid19.info.gov.pg

Partner Coordination Activities

- The final Health Cluster meeting for 2021 was held on the 7 December. Please email osheaj@who.int if you or your organisation wishes to join the cluster meetings and present activities. These meetings are strategic and are used to align all partner activities.
- Currently, NCDPHA, WNBPHA, CPHA and WPHA have expressed interest or are holding weekly partner coordination meetings via zoom. If PHA's wish to engage in similar meetings, please contact Jack O'Shea who can assist in facilitating this.
- Partners are also advised that there will be a shared drive created for direct updates for health cluster members to update each week. This will be shared post the Health Cluster meetings each fortnight.
- The next health cluster meeting will be held on the 25 January 2022 at 1pm PNG Time.

For more information about this Situation Report, please contact:

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