

## Overall strategy

The World Health Organization (WHO) Regional Office for the Western Pacific (The Regional Office) encourages Member States to continue to suppress transmission of COVID-19 in order to avoid exceeding health systems capacities and protect vulnerable populations. A risk-based approach using the following tools is recommended: COVID-19 vaccination, calibrated public health and social measures, strengthened health system capacity, early detection and targeted response, and international border measures.

## Key highlights

- New cases of COVID-19 were reported in 21 countries or areas in the Western Pacific Region (WPR) within the past seven days (Australia 496 516, Brunei Darussalam 196, Cambodia 144, China 1 810, Fiji 3 010, French Polynesia 294, Guam 510, Japan 41 980, the Republic of Korea 25 197, Lao People’s Democratic Republic (PDR) 6 569, Malaysia 22 149, Mongolia 7 293, New Caledonia 350, New Zealand 441, Northern Mariana Islands 306, Palau 17, Papua New Guinea 233, the Philippines 165 418, Singapore 5 647, Solomon Islands 1, and Viet Nam 129 724).
- Six countries or areas in the WPR that had previously reported cases have reported no new cases within the past seven days: (American Samoa (33 days), Marshall Islands (420 days), Samoa (29 days), Tonga (74 days), Vanuatu (29 days), and Wallis and Futuna (257 days)).
- Eight Pacific Island countries and areas have not reported a case to date: (Cook Islands, Kiribati, Micronesia (Federated States of), Nauru, Niue, Pitcairn Islands, Tokelau, and Tuvalu).

### Epi update

COVID-19

Member States	Cases	Deaths
21 countries or areas reporting cases in the past 7 days	907 805 past 7 days	3 158 past 7 days
14 countries or areas reporting ZERO cases for more than 7 days	12 513 014 cumulative cases	160 660 cumulative deaths

### Deployments

COVID-19 response

391 total deployments	343 deployments completed	22 actively supporting country offices	11 actively supporting regional office	15 currently supporting remotely
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### Supplies and logistics for health care workers shipped to 38 destinations in the Western Pacific Region (as of 12 January 2022)



14 620 900  
surgical masks



3 923 174  
particulate respirators



977 830  
medical gowns



330 844  
goggles



1 145 749  
face shields



4 212 500  
pairs of gloves



23 940  
alcohol-based hand rub (100mL)



682 312  
laboratory tests



1 677 480  
point of care tests



3 146 440  
swab kits



485  
ICU ventilators



2 875  
oxygen concentrators



25 681  
pulse oximeters

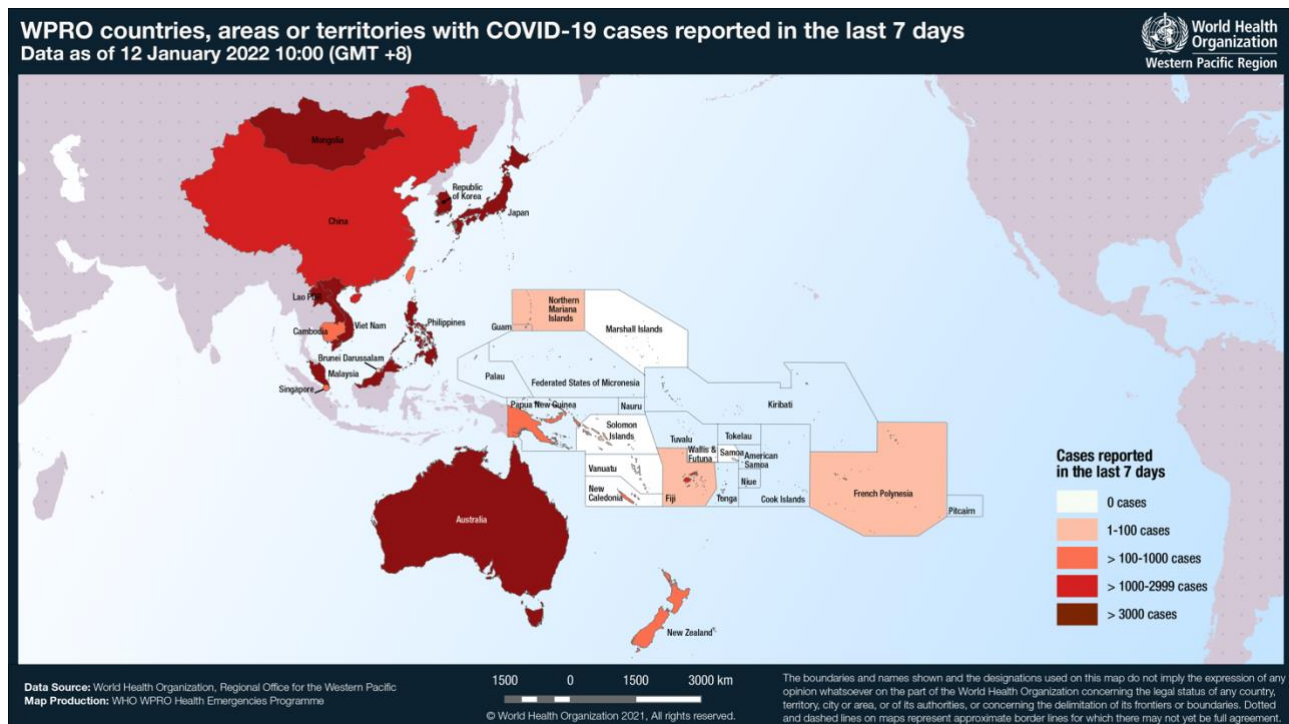


1  
pressure swing adsorption plant

## Weekly situation updates

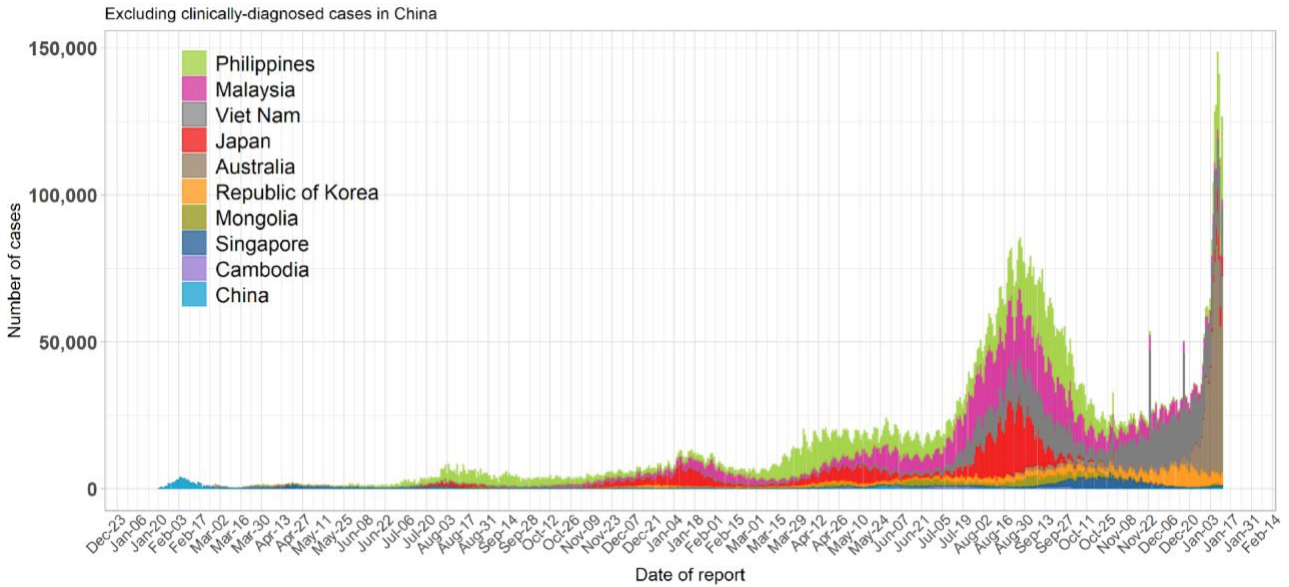
- In the WPR, 27 countries and areas have reported COVID-19 cases since December 2019. Between 5 and 11 January 2022, a total of 907 805 cases with 3 158 deaths were reported, for a cumulative 12 513 014 cases with 160 660 deaths (proportion of fatal cases (PFC) 1.3%) as of 12 January 2022, 10:00 (GMT+8). Available data indicate that countries or areas in the WPR have identified imported cases or localized community transmission, while subnational areas in some WPR countries and areas have identified large-scale community transmission. Figure 1 shows the geographical distribution of cases reported in the last seven days. Updated information about transmission stage assessment (TSA)<sup>1</sup> in each Member State is available on the [TSA map dashboard](#).
- Globally, 312 173 462 COVID-19 cases with 5 501 000 deaths have been reported in 226 countries or areas (PFC 1.8%) as of 12 January 2022 18:00 (CET). Recent daily new cases in five regions are increasing, with a sharp increasing trend in cases in the Region of the Americas, South-East Asia Region, European Region and Eastern Mediterranean Region, and a stabilization of cases in the African Region.

**Figure 1. Countries or areas with reported confirmed cases of COVID-19, covering the period from 5 to 11 January 2022, as of 12 January 2022 10:00 (GMT+8)**

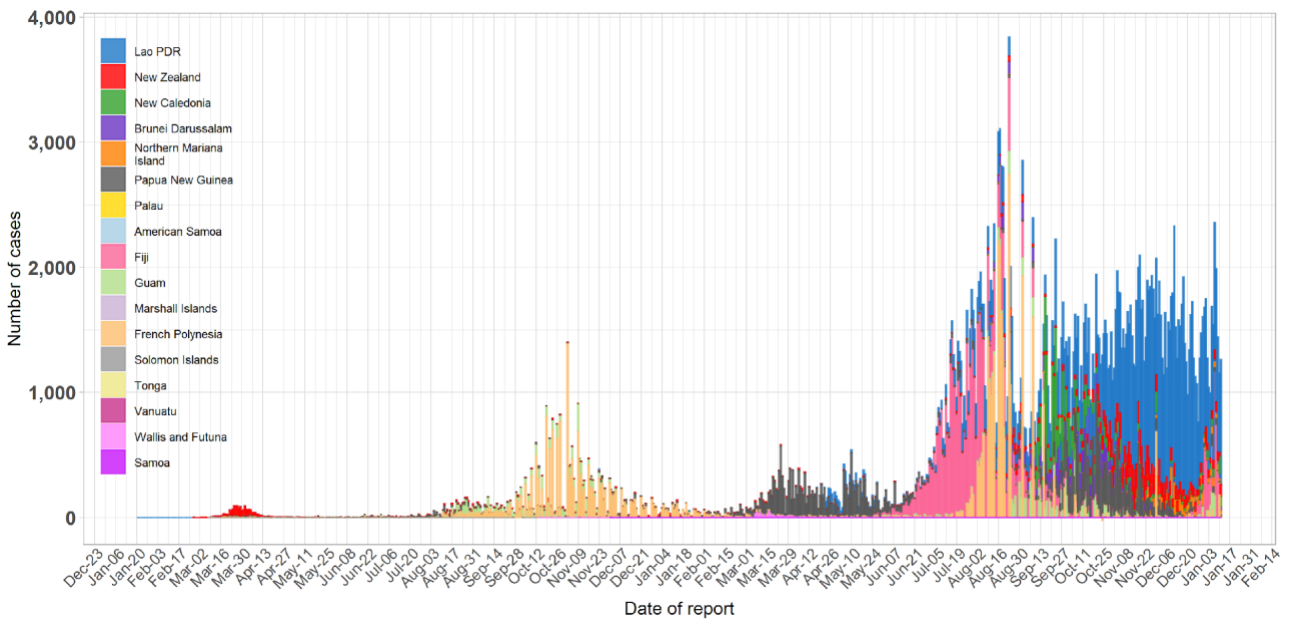


<sup>1</sup> 0-No cases: no cases detected and no clear signals of transmission for at least 28 days (or two incubation periods); 1-Imported cases: cases reported in the past 28 days are imported or linked to importation within 3 generations, and there are no clear signals of local transmission; 2-Localized community transmission: cases reported in the past 28 days are localized and cannot be linked to importations, though most are linked to a cluster, and there are no clear signals of large-scale community transmission; 3-Large-scale community transmission: most cases reported in the past 28 days have no known link to a cluster and are spread across the area, and there are clear signals of increasing transmission and severe outcomes.

**Figure 2. Epidemic curve of confirmed COVID-19 cases in countries or areas with the highest number of cases, as of 12 January 2022 10:00 (GMT+8)**



**Figure 3. Epidemic curve of confirmed COVID-19 cases in countries or areas with the lowest number of cases, as of 12 January 2022 10:00 (GMT+8)**



**Table 1. Countries or areas with reported laboratory-confirmed COVID-19 cases and deaths, covering the period from 5 to 11 January 2022, as of 12 January 2022 10:00 (GMT+8) (n = 12 513 014)**

Country or area	New cases (cumulative)	New deaths (cumulative)	Change in 7-day average of cases	Days since last reported case
American Samoa	0 (11)	0 (0)	0.00	33
Australia	496 516 (1 043 855)	145 (2 416)	38 910.29	0
Brunei Darussalam	196 (15 712)	2 (59)	20.14	0
Cambodia	144 (120 670)	0 (3 015)	12.43	0
China	1 810 (134 711)	0 (5 699)	32.00	0
Cook Islands	0 (0)	0 (0)	-	-
Fiji	3 010 (58 287)	12 (714)	124.43	0
French Polynesia	294 (46 768)	0 (636)	28.86	0
Guam	510 (16 018)	1 (274)	43.29	0
Japan	41 980 (1 778 827)	10 (18 407)	5 357.43	0
Kiribati	0 (0)	0 (0)	-	-
Korea, Republic of	25 197 (674 863)	328 (6 166)	-505.57	0
Lao PDR	6 569 (120 520)	54 (457)	51.14	0
Malaysia	22 149 (2 792 035)	132 (31 723)	-129.14	0
Marshall Islands	0 (4)	0 (0)	0.00	420
Micronesia (Federated States of)	0 (0)	0 (0)	-	-
Mongolia	7 293 (398 173)	11 (2 003)	739.86	0
Nauru	0 (0)	0 (0)	-	-
New Caledonia	350 (13 383)	0 (281)	20.43	0
New Zealand	441 (14 471)	1 (52)	3.86	0
Niue	0 (0)	0 (0)	-	-
Northern Mariana Islands	306 (3 698)	2 (20)	-17.57	0
Palau	17 (32)	0 (0)	1.71	0
Papua New Guinea	233 (36 429)	5 (595)	24.86	0
The Philippines	165 418 (3 026 388)	907 (52 511)	20 478.43	0
Pitcairn Islands	0 (0)	0 (0)	-	-
Samoa	0 (2)	0 (0)	0.00	29
Singapore	5 647 (287 243)	6 (838)	351.43	0
Solomon Islands	1 (25)	0 (0)	0.14	5
Tokelau	0 (0)	0 (0)	-	-
Tonga	0 (1)	0 (0)	0.00	74
Tuvalu	0 (0)	0 (0)	-	-
Vanuatu	0 (7)	0 (0)	0.00	29
Viet Nam	129 724 (1 930 428)	1 542 (34 787)	1 429.29	0
Wallis and Futuna	0 (453)*	0 (7)	0.00	257
Total	907 805 (12 513 014)	3 158 (160 660)	66 977.86	

Note: Data continues to be collected and may change according to Member States' daily reports.

\*historical data correction has changed (-1) cumulative cases since 7 May 2021 ([source](#)).

**Table 2. Countries or areas in the Western Pacific Region that have reported variants of concern, as of 12 January 2022 10:00 (GMT+8)**

Country or area	Variant detected				
	B.1.1.7 (Alpha)	B.1.351 (Beta)	P.1 (Gamma)	B.1.617.2 (Delta)	B.1.1.529 (Omicron)
Australia	X	X	X	X	X
Brunei Darussalam	X	X		X	X
Cambodia	X	X		X	X
China	X	X	X	X	X
Fiji				X	X
French Polynesia	X	X	X	X	X
Guam	X	X	X	X	
Japan	X	X	X	X	X
Lao PDR	X			X	X
Malaysia	X	X		X	X
Mongolia	X			X	X
New Caledonia	X			X	X
New Zealand	X	X	X	X	X
Northern Mariana Islands				X	
Papua New Guinea				X	
The Philippines	X	X	X	X	X
Republic of Korea	X	X	X	X	X
Singapore	X	X	X	X	X
Solomon Islands				X	X
Viet Nam	X	X		X	X
Vanuatu				X	
Wallis and Futuna	X				

## New guidance

On 7 January, WHO Headquarters published the fifth version of the [Enhancing Readiness for Omicron \(B.1.1.529\): Technical Brief and Priority Actions for Member States](#).

This new version updated the **Global Risk Assessment**, concluding that: **The overall risk related to VOC Omicron remains very high**, as it spreads faster in communities than Delta. While current data indicates Omicron causes less severe disease, a rapid increase in cases will lead to an increase in hospitalizations, which may result in strains on the health system and other sectors.

The main conclusions of the latest version include:

- A total of 110 countries across all six WHO regions have reported Omicron cases.
- Omicron is rapidly outpacing the Delta variant where community transmission occurs, with a higher growth rate than previously observed during the COVID-19 pandemic.
- The clinical severity of Omicron appears lower than that of Delta, but increased transmission may pose overwhelming demands of health care systems and lead to significant morbidity, particularly in vulnerable populations.
- Preliminary evidence from epidemiological studies on reinfection, neutralization studies, modelling estimates, and the considerably altered antigenic profile of the Omicron spike protein suggests a significant degree of humoral immune evasion.
- Early results from vaccine effectiveness against symptomatic disease have shown significant reductions in protection from Omicron compared to Delta.

## New communication materials



When doing daily errands such as shopping for food, especially in indoor settings, continue to practice #COVID19 protective measures such as physical distancing 🚶, mask wearing 😷, and cleaning hands 🧼 even if you're fully vaccinated.

If possible, consider:

- 👍 Online shopping
- 👍 Shopping during off-peak hours
- 👍 Shopping at outdoor markets

[View the Facebook post.](#)



## Key information and announcements

### Information and planning

- The Regional Office continues to monitor COVID-19 incidence and transmission levels within countries and areas across the Region. Updated information is available on the [dashboard for the Western Pacific Region](#).

### Strategic communications

- A [joint statement](#) from the Philippines Department of Health (DOH) and the WHO Philippines Country Office was issued to urge devotees to safely observe Traslacion at home.