

# COVID-19 Weekly Epidemiological Update

Edition 55, published 31 August 2021

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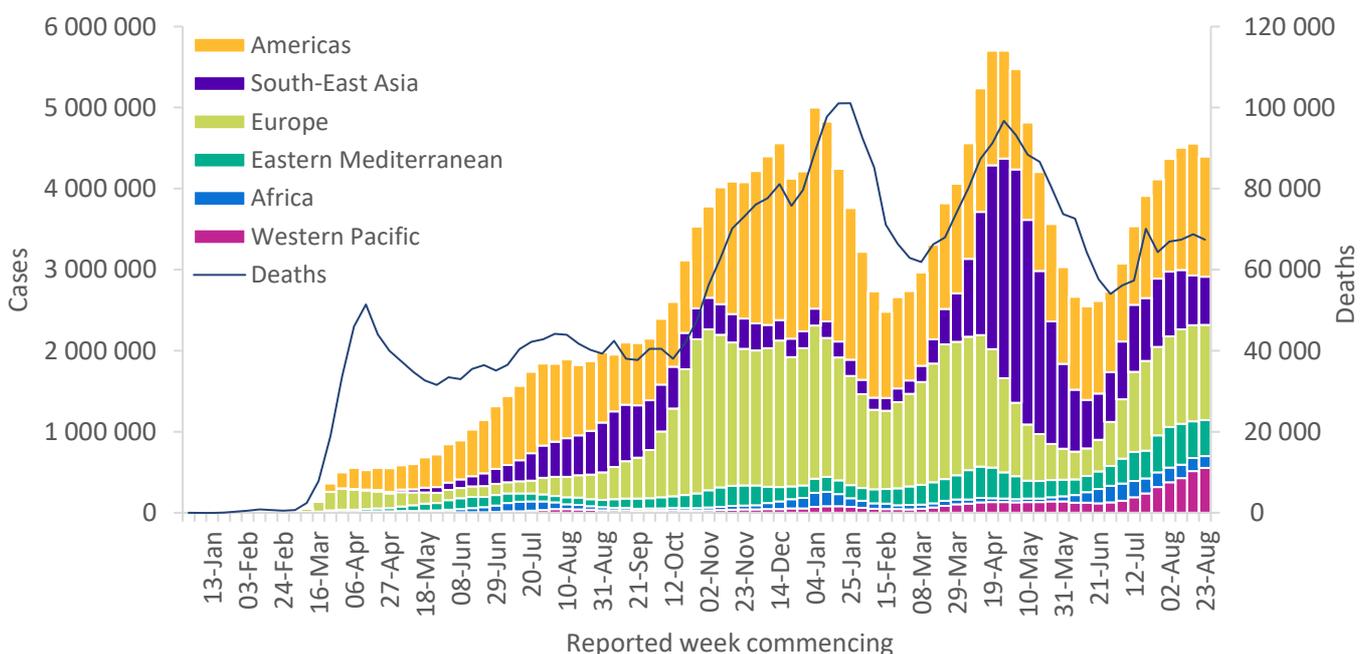
## Global overview

Data as of 29 August 2021

With just under 4.4 million new cases reported this week (23-29 August), the number of new cases reported globally remains similar to the previous week after having increased for nearly two months (Figure 1). In the past week, all regions reported either a decline (Regions of Africa and the Americas) or a similar trend (Europe, South-East Asia and Eastern Mediterranean Regions) in new cases, except for the Western Pacific Region which reported a 7% increase as compared to previous week.

The number of deaths reported globally this week was also similar to last week, with just over 67 000 new deaths reported. The Eastern Mediterranean and Western Pacific Regions reported an increase in the number of weekly deaths, 9% and 16% respectively, while the South-East Asia Region reported the largest decrease (20%). The numbers of deaths reported in the Regions of Africa, Europe and the Americas were similar to last week. The cumulative number of cases reported globally is now nearly 216 million and the cumulative number of deaths is just under 4.5 million.

**Figure 1. COVID-19 cases reported weekly by WHO Region, and global deaths, as of 29 August 2021\*\***



\*\*See [Annex 2: Data, table and figure notes](#)

The Regions reporting the highest weekly incidence rates per 100 000 population of cases and of deaths remain the same as last week: the Regions of the Americas (144.9 new cases per 100 000 population; 2.2 deaths per 100 000 population) and Europe (125.7 new cases per 100 000 population; 1.3 deaths per 100 000 population). The Eastern Mediterranean Region also reported a high incidence of weekly deaths (1.1 per 100 000 population).

The highest numbers of new cases were reported from the United States of America (938 014 new cases; 8% decrease), India (270 796 new cases; 17% increase), the Islamic Republic of Iran (254 753 new cases; similar to the previous week), the United Kingdom (237 556 new cases; 8% increase), and Brazil (175 807 new cases; 16% decrease).

Globally, cases of the Alpha variant have been reported in 193 countries (one new country since last week), territories or areas (hereafter countries), while 141 countries (no new countries) have reported cases of the Beta variant; 91 countries (five new countries) have reported cases of the Gamma variant; and 170 countries (seven new countries) have reported cases of the Delta variant.

**Table 1. Newly reported and cumulative COVID-19 cases and deaths, by WHO Region, as of 29 August 2021\*\***

WHO Region	New cases in last 7 days (%)	Change in new cases in last 7 days *	Cumulative cases (%)	New deaths in last 7 days (%)	Change in new deaths in last 7 days *	Cumulative deaths (%)
Americas	1 481 995 (34%)	-9%	83 231 838 (39%)	22 259 (33%)	1%	2 094 503 (47%)
Europe	1 172 461 (27%)	-1%	64 856 816 (30%)	12 584 (19%)	4%	1 267 494 (28%)
South-East Asia	596 456 (14%)	-3%	41 119 317 (19%)	14 010 (21%)	-20%	641 874 (14%)
Eastern Mediterranean	443 703 (10%)	-2%	14 498 768 (7%)	7 831 (12%)	9%	264 425 (6%)
Western Pacific	553 344 (13%)	7%	6 399 247 (3%)	6 835 (10%)	16%	88 168 (2%)
Africa	147 789 (3%)	-7%	5 608 074 (3%)	3 869 (6%)	-3%	134 276 (3%)
<b>Global</b>	<b>4 395 748 (100%)</b>	<b>-4%</b>	<b>215 714 824 (100%)</b>	<b>67 388 (100%)</b>	<b>-2%</b>	<b>4 490 753 (100%)</b>

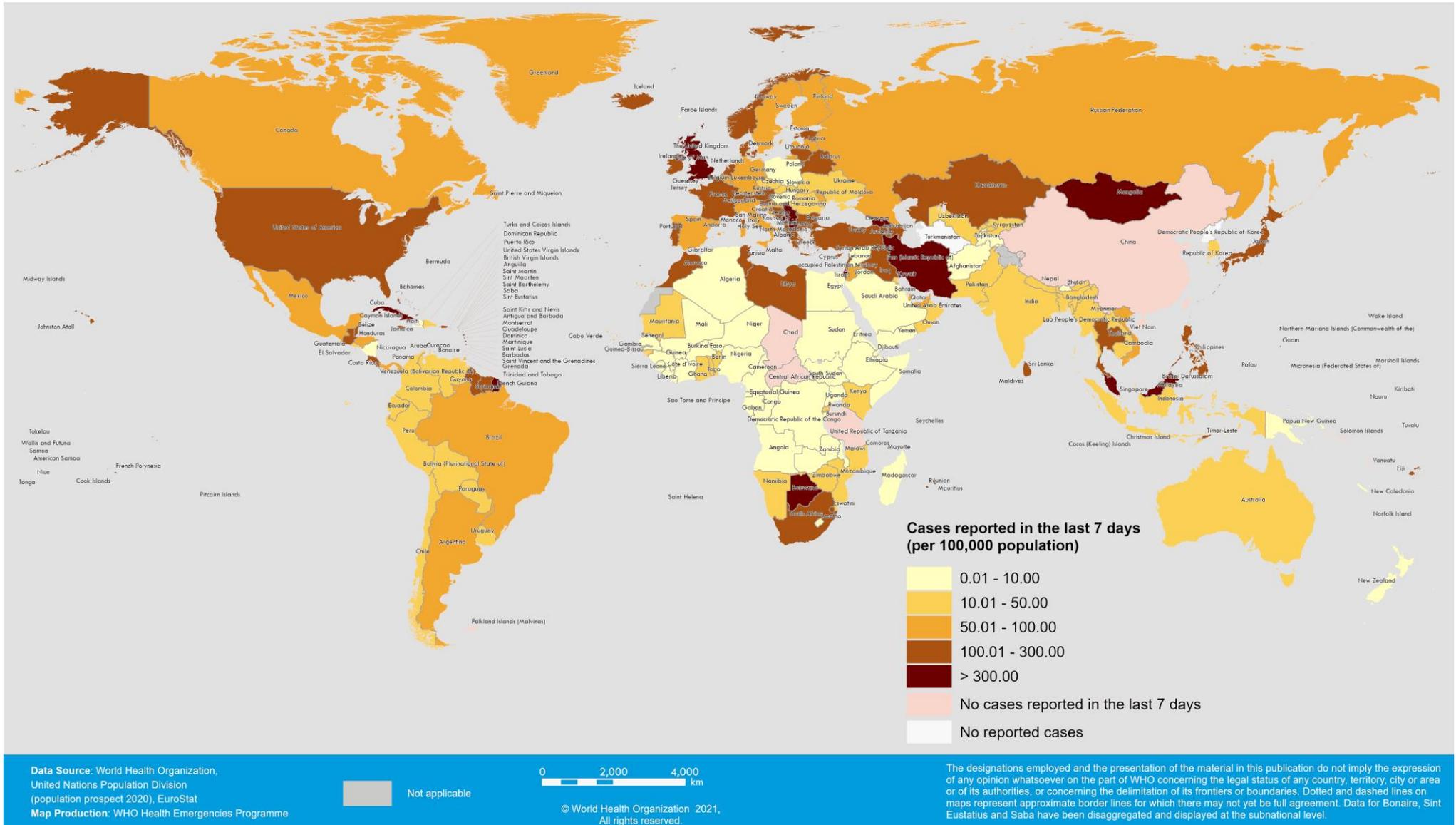
\*Percent change in the number of newly confirmed cases/deaths in past seven days, compared to seven days prior

\*\*See [Annex 2: Data, table and figure notes](#)

For the latest data and other updates on COVID-19, please see:

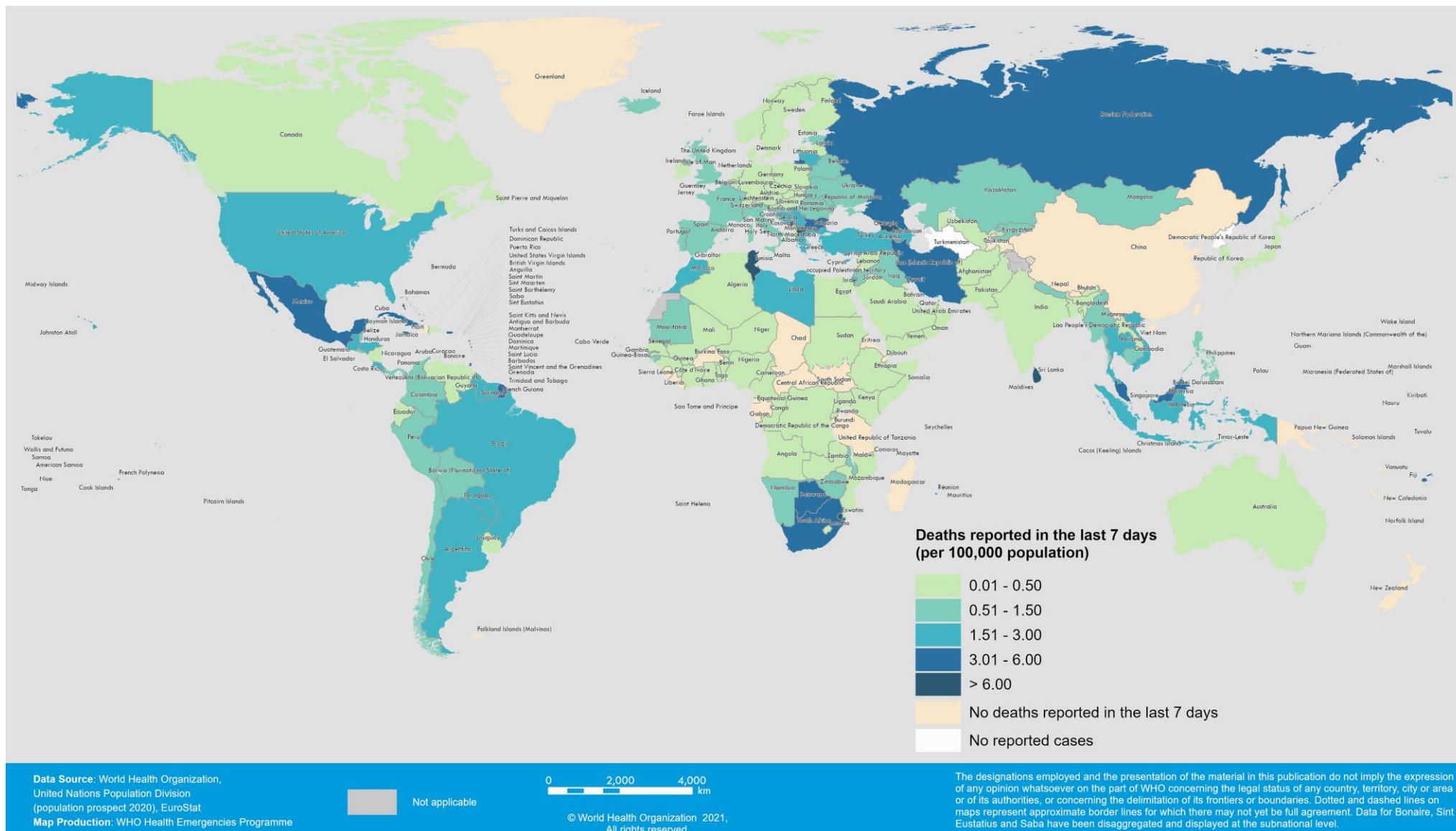
- [WHO COVID-19 Dashboard](#)
- [WHO COVID-19 Weekly Operational Update and previous editions of the Weekly Epidemiological Update](#)

Figure 2. COVID-19 cases per 100 000 population reported by countries, territories and areas, 23 – 29 August 2021\*\*



\*\*See Annex 2: Data, table and figure notes

Figure 3. COVID-19 deaths per 100 000 population reported by countries, territories and areas, 23 – 29 August 2021\*\*



\*\*See Annex 2: Data, table and figure notes

## Special Focus: Update on SARS-CoV-2 Variants of Interest and Variants of Concern

WHO, in collaboration with national authorities, institutions and researchers, routinely assesses if variants of SARS-CoV-2 alter transmission or disease characteristics, or impact vaccine, therapeutics, diagnostics or effectiveness of public health and social measures (PHSM) applied by national authorities to control disease spread. “Signals” of potential Variants of Concern (VOCs) or Variants of Interest (VOIs) are detected and assessed based on the risk posed to global public health.

As these risks evolve, WHO will continue to update lists of global VOIs and VOCs to support setting priorities for surveillance and research, and ultimately guide response strategies (for more information, please see the [Tracking SARS-CoV-2 variants](#) website).

National authorities may choose to designate other variants of local interest/concern and are encouraged to investigate and report on impacts of these variants.

As surveillance activities to detect SARS-CoV-2 variants are strengthened at national and subnational levels, including through the expansion of genomic sequencing capacities, the number of countries/areas/territories (hereafter countries) reporting VOCs continues to increase (Figure 4, Annex 1). This distribution should nonetheless be interpreted with due consideration of surveillance limitations, including differences in sequencing capacities and sampling strategies between countries.

As countries gradually resume non-essential international travel, the introduction of risk mitigation measures aiming to reduce travel-associated exportation, importation and onward transmission of SARS-CoV-2 should be based on thorough risk assessments conducted systematically and routinely.

### Updates to the variant classifications

As the global public health risks posed by specific SARS-CoV-2 variants become better understood, WHO will continue to update the list of global VOIs and VOCs to support the setting of priorities for surveillance and research, and ultimately to guide response strategies. These updates reflect virus evolution and the emergence of new variants, changing epidemiology, as well as our evolving understanding of the phenotypic impacts of variants as new evidence becomes available. A previously designated Alert for further monitoring which subsequently meets the [WHO working definition of a Variant of Interest \(VOI\) or Variant of Concern \(VOC\)](#) can be reclassified.

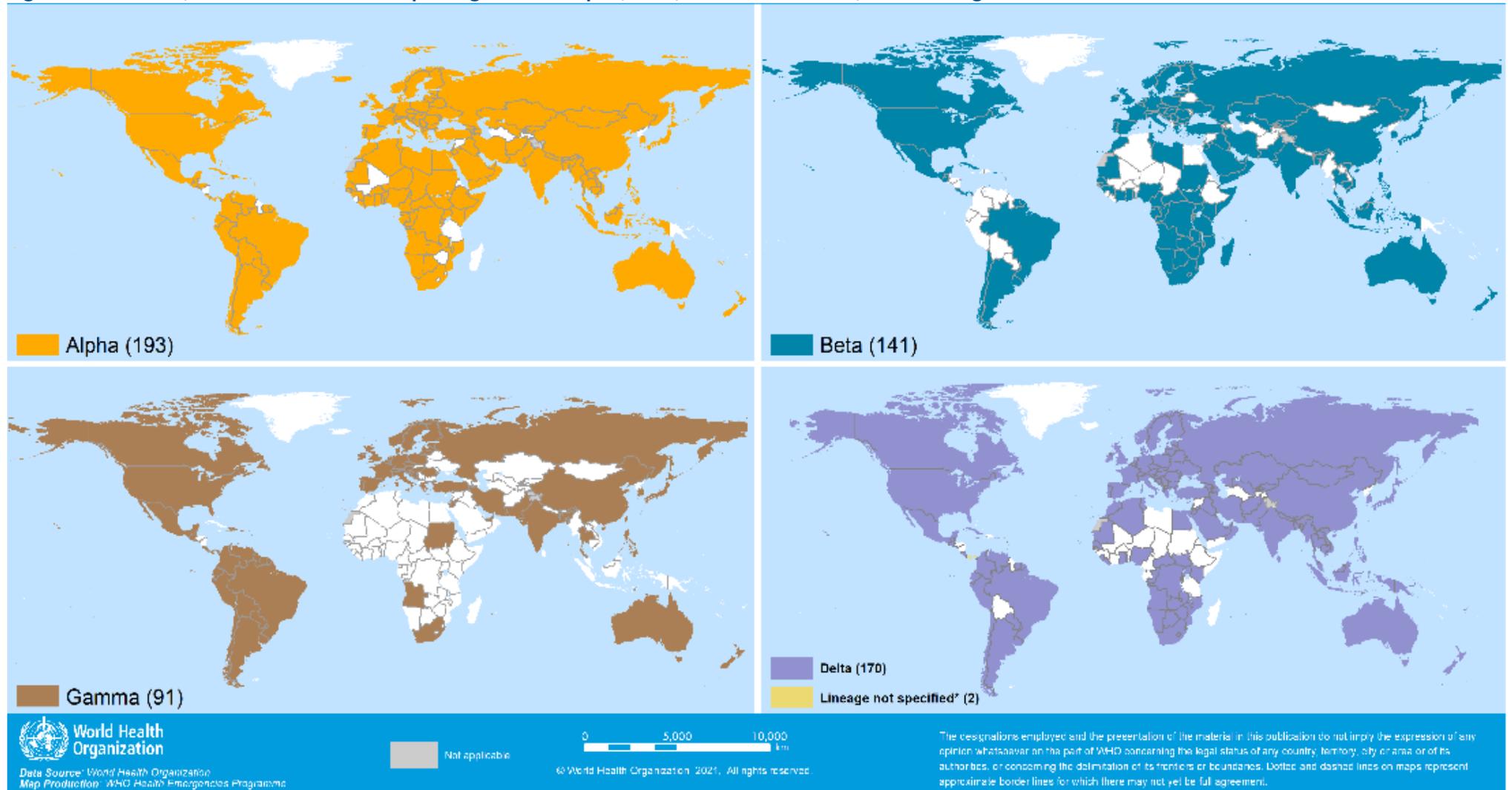
Based on the latest round of assessments, B.1.621 was classified as a VOI on 30 August 2021 and given the WHO label “Mu”. This includes the descendent Pango lineage B.1.621.1. This variant is known as 21H in Nextstrain nomenclature. The Mu variant has a constellation of mutations that indicate potential properties of immune escape. Preliminary data presented to the Virus Evolution Working Group show a reduction in neutralization capacity of convalescent and vaccinee sera similar to that seen for the Beta variant, but this needs to be confirmed by further studies.

Since its first identification in Colombia in January 2021, there have been a few sporadic reports of cases of the Mu variant and some larger outbreaks have been reported from other countries in South America and in Europe. As of 29 August, over 4500 sequences (3794 sequences of B.1.621 and 856 sequences of B.1.621.1) have been uploaded to [GISAID](#) from 39 countries. Although the global prevalence of the Mu variant among sequenced cases has declined and is currently below 0.1%, the prevalence in Colombia (39%) and Ecuador (13%) has consistently increased. The reported prevalence should be interpreted with due consideration of sequencing capacities and timeliness of sharing of sequences, both of which vary between countries. More studies are required to understand the phenotypic and clinical characteristics of this variant. The epidemiology of the Mu variant in South America, particularly with the co-circulation of the Delta variant, will be monitored for changes.

## **Additional resources**

- [Tracking SARS-CoV-2 Variants](#)
- [COVID-19 new variants: Knowledge gaps and research](#)
- [Genomic sequencing of SARS-CoV-2: a guide to implementation for maximum impact on public health](#)
- [Considerations for implementing and adjusting public health and social measures in the context of COVID-19](#)

Figure 4. Countries, territories and areas reporting variants Alpha, Beta, Gamma and Delta, as of 31 August 2021\*\*



\*Includes countries/territories/areas reporting the detection of B.1.617 without further specification of lineage at this time. These will be reallocated as further details become available.

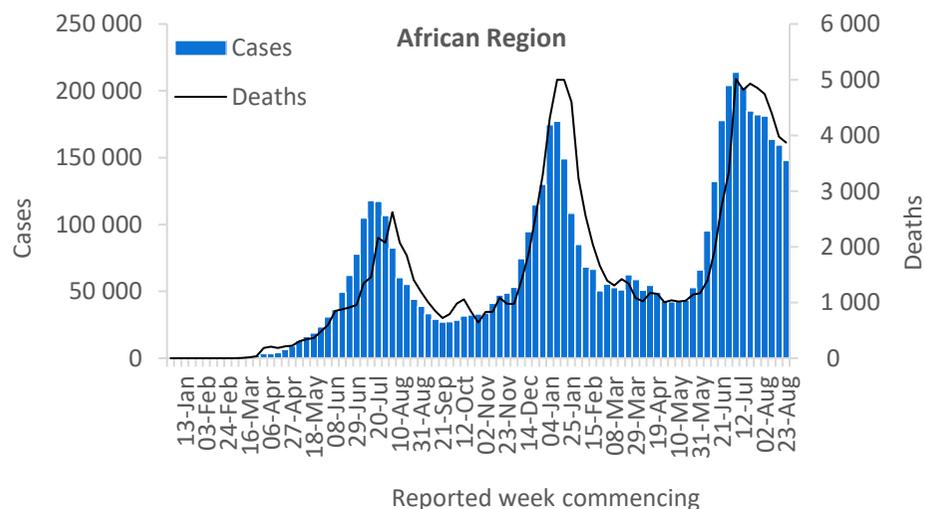
\*\*Countries/territories/areas highlighted include both official and unofficial reports of VOC detections, and do not presently differentiate between detections among travellers (e.g., at Points of Entry) or local community cases. Please see [Annex 2](#) for further details.

## WHO regional overviews – Epidemiological week 23 – 29 Aug 2021

### African Region

This week the African Region reported over 147 000 new cases, a 7% decrease as compared to the previous week as the Region continued its decreasing trend. In the past week, two countries, South Africa and Ethiopia, accounted for over half (59%) of all the new cases reported in the Region. Over 3800 new deaths were reported in the Region this week, a similar number to that reported during the previous week. However, there are still a number of countries reporting worrying mortality trends; in the past week, eight countries reported increases of over 50% in weekly deaths. The highest numbers of new cases were reported from South Africa (76 966 new cases; 129.8 new cases per 100 000 population; a 9% decrease), Ethiopia (10 058 new cases; 8.7 new cases per 100 000; a 61% increase), and Botswana (7332 new cases; 311.8 new cases per 100 000; a 24% decrease).

The highest numbers of new deaths were reported from South Africa (2210 new deaths; 3.7 new deaths per 100 000 population; a 7% decrease), Kenya (227 new deaths; <1 new death per 100 000; a 53% increase), and Algeria (195 new deaths; 0.4 new deaths per 100 000; an 11% decrease).

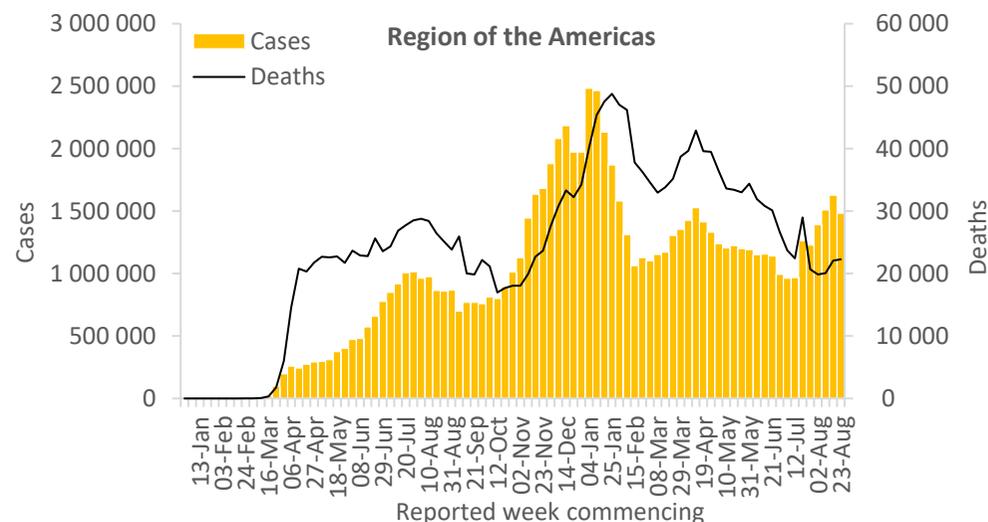


Updates from the [African Region](#)

### Region of the Americas

Despite reporting the largest proportional decrease (9%) in cases this week, the Region of the Americas reported over 1.4 million new cases, the largest number of cases reported globally; the United States of America continued to report the largest number of cases in the Region accounting for 63% of all new cases reported this week. Notable increases in cases were also observed in Canada (28% increase) and Guatemala (23% increase) this week. The Region reported over 22 000 new deaths this week, similar to the number reported during the previous week. The highest numbers of new cases were reported from the United States of America (938 014 new cases; 283.4 new cases per 100 000; an 8% decrease), Brazil (175 807 new cases; 82.7 new cases per 100 000; a 16% decrease), and Mexico (114 209 new cases; 88.6 new cases per 100 000; an 11% decrease).

The highest numbers of new deaths were reported from the United States of America (7323 new deaths; 2.2 new deaths per 100 000; a 9% increase), Mexico (5070 new deaths; 3.9 new deaths per 100 000; a 9% increase), and Brazil (4815 new deaths; 2.3 new deaths per 100 000; a 15% decrease).

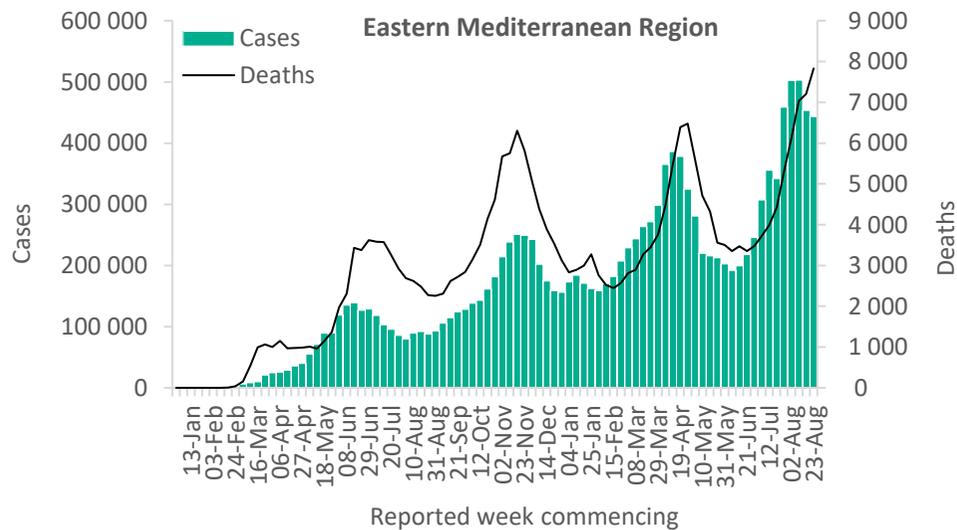


Updates from the [Region of the Americas](#)

## Eastern Mediterranean Region

While the number of new cases reported in the Eastern Mediterranean Region this week remained similar to the previous week with over 443 000 new cases reported, the Region reported over 7800 new deaths, a 9% increase compared to the previous week. This increasing trend in mortality can be attributed to the number of deaths increasing in 9 of the 22 countries (41%) in the region this week. The highest numbers of new cases were reported from the Islamic Republic of Iran (254 753 new cases; 303.3 new cases per 100 000; similar to the previous week), Iraq (48 897 new cases; 121.6 new cases per 100 000; similar to the previous week), and Morocco (43 244 new cases; 117.2 new cases per 100 000; a 20% decrease).

The highest numbers of new deaths were reported from the Islamic Republic of Iran (4547 new deaths; 5.4 new deaths per 100 000; a 10% increase), Tunisia (760 new deaths; 6.4 new deaths per 100 000; a 7% increase), and Pakistan (687 new deaths; <1 new death per 100 000; a 35% increase).

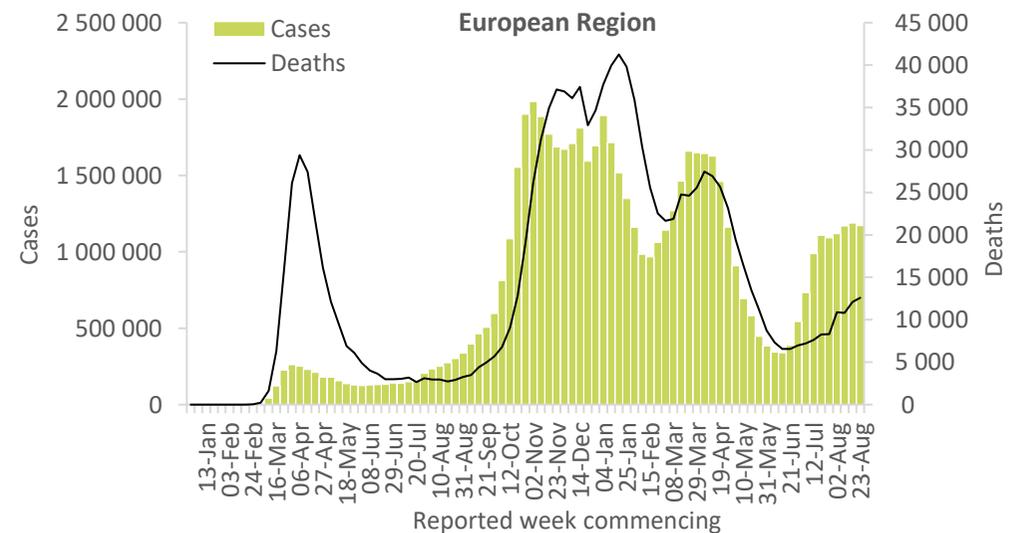


Updates from the [Eastern Mediterranean Region](#)

## European Region

Overall, in the European Region the numbers of new cases and deaths reported this week remained similar to the previous week, with over 1.1 million new cases and over 12 000 new deaths. Although the number of new weekly cases seem to be plateauing, the number of new deaths, while showing signs of slowing, has continued to increase in many countries in the Region, and should continue to be closely monitored. The highest numbers of new cases were reported from the United Kingdom (237 556 new cases; 349.9 new cases per 100 000; an 8% increase), the Russian Federation (135 740 new cases; 93.0 new cases per 100 000; a 7% decrease), and Turkey (132 508 new cases; 157.1 new cases per 100 000; similar to the previous week).

The highest numbers of new deaths were reported from the Russian Federation (5593 new deaths; 3.8 new deaths per 100 000; similar to the previous week), Turkey (1631 new deaths; 1.9 new deaths per 100 000; a 23% increase), and the United Kingdom (785 new deaths; 1.2 new deaths per 100 000; a 13% increase).

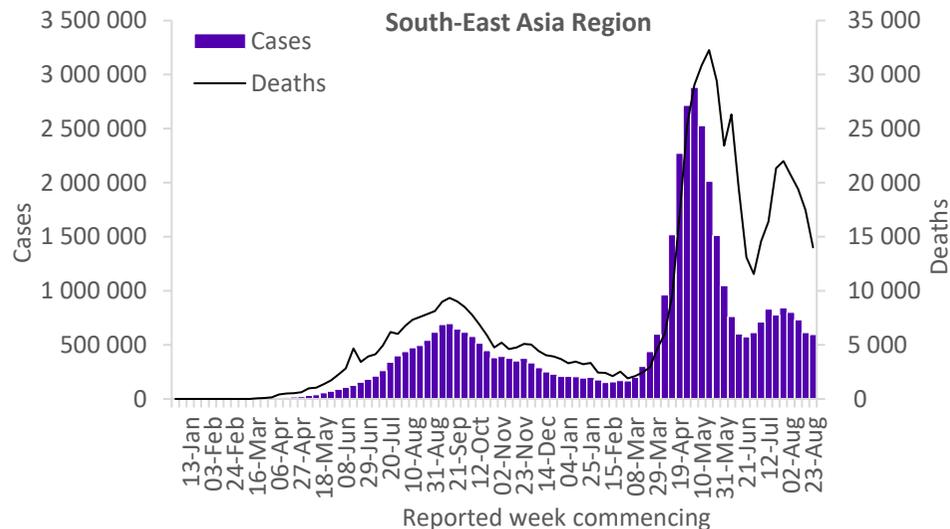


Updates from the [European Region](#)

## South-East Asia Region

The South-East Asia Region reported a relatively similar case incidence as compared to the previous week with over 596 000 new cases. Despite a regional decrease in deaths, three countries reported increases of over 15% this week: Timor-Leste (32%), Sri Lanka (19%) and India (17%). The Region reported over 14 000 new deaths, a 20% decrease compared to the previous week, largely due to 60% (6/10) of countries in the Region reporting decreases in weekly mortality during the past week. The highest numbers of new cases were reported from India (270 796 new cases; 19.6 new cases per 100 000; a 17% increase), Thailand (124 796 new cases; 178.8 new cases per 100 000; a 12% decrease), and Indonesia (94 375 new cases; 34.5 new cases per 100 000; a 25% decrease).

The highest numbers of new deaths were reported from Indonesia (5551 new deaths; 2.0 new deaths per 100 000; a 37% decrease), India (3463 new deaths; <1 new death per 100 000; a 10% increase), and Thailand (1823 new deaths; 2.6 new deaths per 100 000; similar to the previous week).

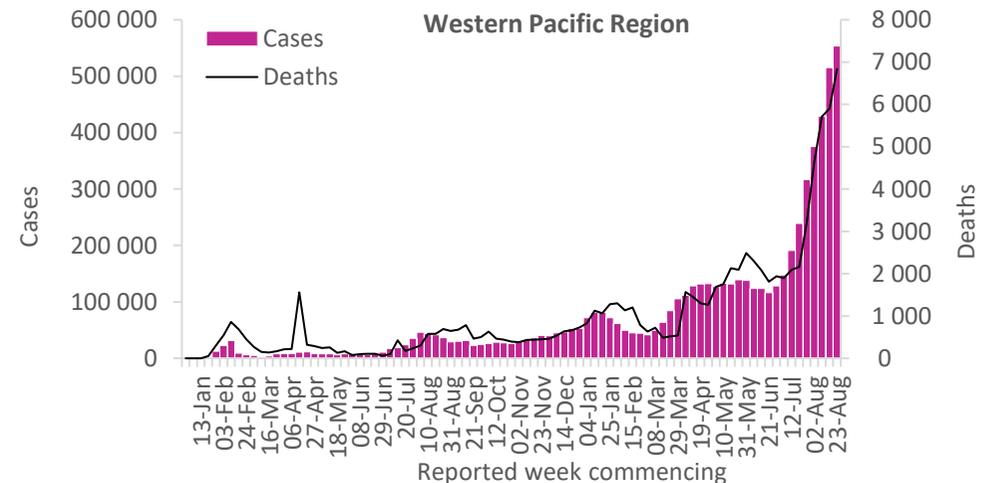


Updates from the [South-East Asia Region](#)

## Western Pacific Region

For the past two months, the Western Pacific Region has reported an increasing trend in the numbers of weekly cases and deaths. In the past week, the Region reported over 553 000 new cases and over 6800 new deaths, increases of 7% and 16%, respectively, as compared to the previous week. Nearly half (48%) of all countries in the Region reported increases this week. The Western Pacific Region reported the highest proportionate increase in new deaths this week, an increase driven by substantial increases in case incidence in French Polynesia (86%), Japan (53%) and Viet Nam (36%). The highest numbers of new cases were reported from Japan (156 931 new cases; 124.1 new cases per 100 000; a 5% increase), Malaysia (150 224 new cases; 464.1 new cases per 100 000; similar to the previous week), and the Philippines (111 904 new cases; 102.1 new cases per 100 000; a 16% increase).

The highest numbers of new deaths were reported from Viet Nam (2865 new deaths; 2.9 new deaths per 100 000; a 36% increase), Malaysia (1866 new deaths; 5.8 new deaths per 100 000; a 9% increase), and the Philippines (1412 new deaths; 1.3 new deaths per 100 000; a 7% decrease).



Updates from the [Western Pacific Region](#)

## Summary of the COVID-19 Weekly Operational Update

The [Weekly Operational Update](#) (WOU) is a report provided by the COVID-19 Strategic preparedness and response plan (SPRP) monitoring and evaluation team which aims to update on the ongoing global progress against the [COVID-19 SPRP 2021](#) framework.

In this week's edition of the COVID-19 Weekly Operational Update, published on 30 August, highlights of country-level actions and WHO support to countries include:

- GeneXpert machine donated to Belize's Central Medical Laboratory
- Supporting quality management implementation, coordination and costing as part of the COVID-19 laboratory response in Kyrgyzstan
- 15 000 kg of medical supplies arrive in Fiji to support the response to a surge in COVID-19 cases
- Extending COVID-19 vaccination to Rohingya refugees in Cox's Bazar camps in Bangladesh
- Responding to COVID-19 in Jordan: The Innovative Use of Online Platforms
- The Elsje Finck-Sanichar College COVAB in Suriname embraces OpenWHO and online learning during COVID-19 pandemic
- Progress on a subset of indicators from the SPRP 2021 Monitoring and Evaluation Framework
- Updates on WHO's financing to support countries in SPRP 2021 implementation and provision of critical supplies.

For more information, see the [Weekly operational update on COVID-19](#)

## Annex

COVID-19 confirmed cases and deaths reported in the last seven days by countries, territories and areas, and WHO Region (reported in previous issues) are now available at: <https://covid19.who.int/table>.

### Annex 1. List of countries/territories/areas reporting Variants of Concern as of 31 August 2021\*\*

Country/Territory/Area	Alpha	Beta	Gamma	Delta	Unspecified B.1.617
Afghanistan	●	-	-	●	-
Albania	●	-	-	○	-
Algeria	●	-	-	●	-
Andorra	○	○	-	○	-
Angola	●	●	●	●	-
Anguilla	●	-	-	●	-
Antigua and Barbuda	●	●	●	●	-
Argentina	●	●	●	●	-
Armenia	●	-	-	●	-
Aruba	●	●	●	●	-
Australia	●	●	●	●	-
Austria	●	●	●	●	-
Azerbaijan	●	-	-	○	-
Bahamas	●	-	-	-	-
Bahrain	●	●	●*	●	-
Bangladesh	●	●	●*	●	-
Barbados	●	-	●	●	-
Belarus	●	-	-	○	-
Belgium	●	●	●	●	-
Belize	●	-	●	●	-
Benin	●	-	-	-	-
Bermuda	●	●	-	●	-
Bhutan	●	●	-	●	-
Bolivia (Plurinational State of)	●	-	●	-	-
Bonaire	●	-	●	●	-

Country/Territory/Area	Alpha	Beta	Gamma	Delta	Unspecified B.1.617
Bosnia and Herzegovina	●	●	●	○	-
Botswana	○	●	-	●	-
Brazil	●	●	●	●	-
British Virgin Islands	●	-	●	●	-
Brunei Darussalam	●	●	-	○*	-
Bulgaria	●	●	-	●	-
Burkina Faso	●	-	-	-	-
Burundi	●	●	-	●	-
Cabo Verde	●	-	-	●	-
Cambodia	●	●	-	●	-
Cameroon	●	●	-	-	-
Canada	●	●	●	●	-
Cayman Islands	●	●	●	●	-
Central African Republic	●	●	-	●	-
Chad	●	-	-	-	-
Chile	●	●	●	●	-
China	●	●	●	○	-
Colombia	●	-	●	●	-
Comoros	●*	●	-	-	-
Congo	●	○	-	●	-
Costa Rica	●	●	●	●	-
Croatia	●	●	●	○	-
Cuba	●	●	-	●	-
Curaçao	●	●	●	●	●
Cyprus	●	●	-	○	-

Country/Territory/Area	Alpha	Beta	Gamma	Delta	Unspecified B.1.617
Czechia	●	●	●	●	-
Côte d'Ivoire	●	●	-	-	-
Democratic Republic of the Congo	●	●	-	●	-
Denmark	●	●	●	●	-
Djibouti	●	●	-	-	-
Dominica	●	-	-	-	-
Dominican Republic	●	-	●	-	-
Ecuador	●	-	●	●	-
Egypt	●	-	-	●	-
El Salvador	●	-	●	●	-
Equatorial Guinea	●	●	-	-	-
Estonia	●	●	○	○	-
Eswatini	-	●	-	●	-
Ethiopia	●	-	-	-	-
Falkland Islands (Malvinas)	●	●	-	-	-
Faroe Islands	●	-	●	-	-
Fiji	-	-	-	●	-
Finland	●	●	●	●	-
France	●	●	●	●	-
French Guiana	●	●	●	●	-
French Polynesia	●	●	●	●	-
Gabon	●	●	-	-	-
Gambia	●	-	-	●	-
Georgia	●	○	-	●	-

Country/Territory/Area	Alpha	Beta	Gamma	Delta	Unspecified B.1.617
Germany	●	●	●	●	-
Ghana	●	●	-	●	-
Gibraltar	●	-	-	○*	-
Greece	●	●	●	●	-
Grenada	●	-	-	●	-
Guadeloupe	●	●	●	●	-
Guam	●	●	●	●	-
Guatemala	●	●	●	●	-
Guinea	●	○	-	-	-
Guinea-Bissau	●	●	-	-	-
Guyana	-	-	●	-	-
Haiti	●	-	●	-	-
Honduras	●	-	-	-	-
Hungary	●	○	●	○	-
Iceland	●	-	-	-	-
India	●	●	●	●	-
Indonesia	●	●	-	●	-
Iran (Islamic Republic of)	●	●	●	●	-
Iraq	●	●	-	●	-
Ireland	●	●	●	●	-
Israel	●	●	●	●	-
Italy	●	●	●	●	-
Jamaica	●	-	-	●	-
Japan	●	●	●	●	-
Jordan	●	●	●	●	-
Kazakhstan	●	○	-	●	-
Kenya	●	●	-	●	-
Kosovo[1]	●	○	-	○	-
Kuwait	●	●	-	●	-
Kyrgyzstan	●	●	-	●*	-

Country/Territory/Area	Alpha	Beta	Gamma	Delta	Unspecified B.1.617
Lao People's Democratic Republic	●	-	-	●	-
Latvia	●	●	●	○	-
Lebanon	●	-	-	●	-
Lesotho	-	●	-	●	-
Liberia	●	-	-	○*	-
Libya	●	●	-	-	-
Liechtenstein	●	-	-	○*	-
Lithuania	●	●	●	○	-
Luxembourg	●	●	●	●	-
Madagascar	-	●	-	-	-
Malawi	●	●	-	●	-
Malaysia	●	●	-	●	-
Maldives	●	-	-	●	-
Malta	●	○	●	○	-
Martinique	●	●	●	●	-
Mauritania	●	●	-	●	-
Mauritius	●	●	-	●	-
Mayotte	●	●	-	-	-
Mexico	●	●	●	●	-
Monaco	●	●	-	●	-
Mongolia	●	-	-	●	-
Montenegro	●	-	○*	○	-
Montserrat	●	-	●	-	-
Morocco	●	●	-	●	-
Mozambique	●	●	-	●	-
Myanmar	●	-	-	●	-
Namibia	●	●	-	●	-
Nepal	●	-	-	●	-
Netherlands	●	●	●	●	-
New Caledonia	●	-	-	-	-

Country/Territory/Area	Alpha	Beta	Gamma	Delta	Unspecified B.1.617
New Zealand	●	●	○	○	-
Niger	●	-	-	-	-
Nigeria	●	●	-	●	-
North Macedonia	●	●	-	○	-
Northern Mariana Islands (Commonwealth of the)	○	-	-	○	-
Norway	●	●	●	●	-
Occupied Palestinian Territory	●	●	-	●	-
Oman	●	●	-	●	-
Pakistan	●	●	●	●	-
Panama	●	●	●	●	●
Papua New Guinea	-	-	-	●	-
Paraguay	●	-	●	●	-
Peru	●	-	●	●	-
Philippines	●	●	●	●	-
Poland	●	○	●	●	-
Portugal	●	●	●	●	-
Puerto Rico	●	●	●	●	-
Qatar	●	●	-	●	-
Republic of Korea	●	●	●	●	-
Republic of Moldova	●	-	-	●	-
Romania	●	●	●	●	-
Russian Federation	●	●	○	●	-
Rwanda	●	●	-	●	-
Réunion	●	●	●	○	-
Saba	-	-	-	●	-
Saint Barthélemy	●	-	-	-	-
Saint Kitts and Nevis	-	-	-	●*	-
Saint Lucia	●	-	-	●	-
Saint Martin	●	●	-	-	-
Saint Pierre and Miquelon	-	-	-	●	-

Country/Territory/Area	Alpha	Beta	Gamma	Delta	Unspecified B.1.617
Saint Vincent and the Grenadines	-	-	-	●	-
Sao Tome and Principe	○	-	-	-	-
Saudi Arabia	●	●	-	●	-
Senegal	●	●	-	●	-
Serbia	●	-	-	●	-
Seychelles	●	●	-	●	-
Sierra Leone	-	-	-	○	-
Singapore	●	●	●	●	-
Sint Maarten	●	●	●	●	-
Slovakia	●	●	-	●	-
Slovenia	●	●	●	●	-
Somalia	●	●	-	-	-
South Africa	●	●	○*	●	-
South Sudan	●	●	-	●	-

Country/Territory/Area	Alpha	Beta	Gamma	Delta	Unspecified B.1.617
Spain	●	●	●	●	-
Sri Lanka	●	●	-	●	-
Sudan	●	●	●*	-	-
Suriname	●	●	●	●	-
Sweden	●	●	●	●	-
Switzerland	●	●	●	●	-
Thailand	●	●	●	●	-
Timor-Leste	●	-	-	●	-
Togo	●	●	-	○*	-
Trinidad and Tobago	●	-	●	●	-
Tunisia	●	●	-	●	-
Turkey	●	●	●	●	-
Turks and Caicos Islands	●	-	●	●	-
Uganda	●	●	-	●	-

Country/Territory/Area	Alpha	Beta	Gamma	Delta	Unspecified B.1.617
Ukraine	●	○	-	○	-
United Arab Emirates	●	●	●	●	-
United Kingdom	●	●	●	●	-
United Republic of Tanzania	-	●	-	-	-
United States Virgin Islands	●	●	-	●	-
United States of America	●	●	●	●	-
Uruguay	●	●	●	●	-
Uzbekistan	●	●	-	○	-
Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of)	●	-	●	●	-
Viet Nam	●	●	-	●	-
Wallis and Futuna	●	-	-	-	-
Yemen	●	●	-	-	-
Zambia	●	●	-	●	-
Zimbabwe	-	●	-	●	-

\*Newly reported in this update.

“Unspecified B.1.617” reflects countries/territories/areas reporting detection of B.1.617 without further specification of lineage at this time. These will be reallocated as further details become available.

“●” indicates that information for this variant was received by WHO from official sources.

“○” indicates that information for this variant was received by WHO from unofficial sources and will be reviewed as more information become available.

\*\*Includes countries/territories/areas reporting the detection of VOCs among travelers (e.g., imported cases detected at points of entry), or local cases (detected in the community). Excludes countries, territories, and areas that have never reported the detection of a variant of concern

See also [Annex 2: Data, table and figure notes](#).

## Annex 2. Data, table and figure notes

Data presented are based on official laboratory-confirmed COVID-19 case and deaths reported to WHO by country/territories/areas, largely based upon WHO [case definitions](#) and [surveillance guidance](#). While steps are taken to ensure accuracy and reliability, all data are subject to continuous verification and change, and caution must be taken when interpreting these data as several factors influence the counts presented, with variable underestimation of true case and death incidence, and variable delays to reflecting these data at global level. Case detection, inclusion criteria, testing strategies, reporting practices, and data cut-off and lag times differ between countries/territories/areas. A small number of countries/territories/areas report combined probable and laboratory-confirmed cases. Differences are to be expected between information products published by WHO, national public health authorities, and other sources. Due to public health authorities conducting data reconciliation exercises which remove large numbers of cases or deaths from their total counts, negative numbers may be displayed in the new cases/deaths columns as appropriate. When additional details become available that allow the subtractions to be suitably apportioned to previous days, graphics will be updated accordingly.

A record of historic data adjustment made is available upon request by emailing [epi-data-support@who.int](mailto:epi-data-support@who.int). Please specify the country(ies) of interest, time period(s), and purpose of the request/intended usage. Prior situation reports will not be edited; see [covid19.who.int](https://covid19.who.int) for the most up-to-date data.

The designations employed, and the presentation of these materials do not imply the expression of any opinion whatsoever on the part of WHO concerning the legal status of any country, territory or area or of its authorities, or concerning the delimitation of its frontiers or boundaries. Dotted and dashed lines on maps represent approximate border lines for which there may not yet be full agreement. Countries, territories and areas are arranged under the administering WHO region. The mention of specific companies or of certain manufacturers' products does not imply that they are endorsed or recommended by WHO in preference to others of a similar nature that are not mentioned. Errors and omissions except, the names of proprietary products are distinguished by initial capital letters.

<sup>[1]</sup> All references to Kosovo should be understood to be in the context of the United Nations Security Council resolution 1244 (1999). In the map, number of cases of Serbia and Kosovo (UNSCR 1244, 1999) have been aggregated for visualization purposes.

## Technical guidance and other resources

- [WHO technical guidance](#)
- [WHO COVID-19 Dashboard](#)
- [WHO Weekly Operational Updates on COVID-19](#)
- [WHO COVID-19 case definitions](#)
- [COVID-19 Supply Chain Inter-Agency Coordination Cell Weekly Situational Update](#)
- [Research and Development](#)
- [OpenWHO courses on COVID-19](#) in official UN languages and in [additional national languages](#)
- [WHO Academy COVID-19 mobile learning app](#)
- [The Strategic Preparedness and Response Plan](#) (SPRP) outlining the support the international community can provide to all countries to prepare and respond to the virus
- Recommendations and advice for the public:
  - [Protect yourself](#)
  - [Questions and answers](#)
  - [Travel advice](#)
- [EPI-WIN: tailored information for individuals, organizations and communities](#)