

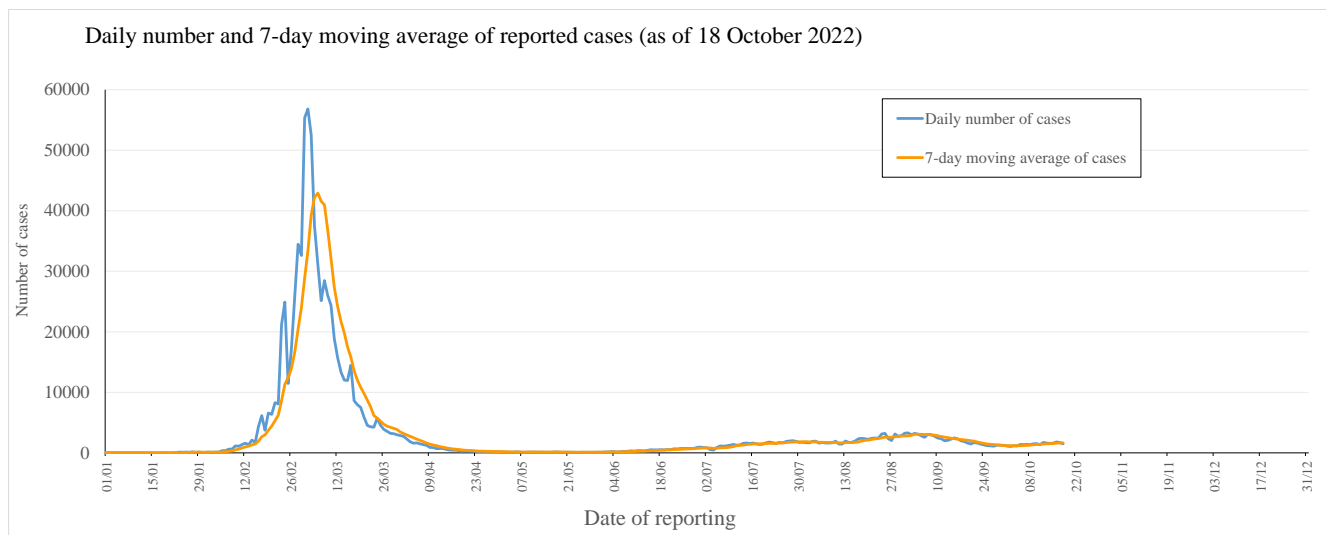
Latest situation of COVID-19 (as of 18 October 2022)

The Centre for Health Protection (CHP) of the Department of Health (DH) today (18 October) announced the latest epidemic situation of COVID-19. As of 0.00am, 18 October 2022, the CHP was investigating 4566 additional locally acquired cases tested positive for the SARS-CoV-2 virus, including 1128 cases tested positive by nucleic acid tests and 3438 cases tested positive by rapid antigen tests (RATs) in the past 24 hours. Separately, 388 additional imported cases were reported, including 363 cases tested positive by nucleic acid tests and 25 cases tested positive by RATs. So far, Hong Kong has recorded a total of 976445 and 871718 cases tested positive by nucleic acid tests and RATs respectively for the SARS-CoV-2 virus.

Since the 5th wave (31 December 2021), 963814 cases and 871718 cases were tested positive by nucleic acid tests and rapid antigen tests respectively.

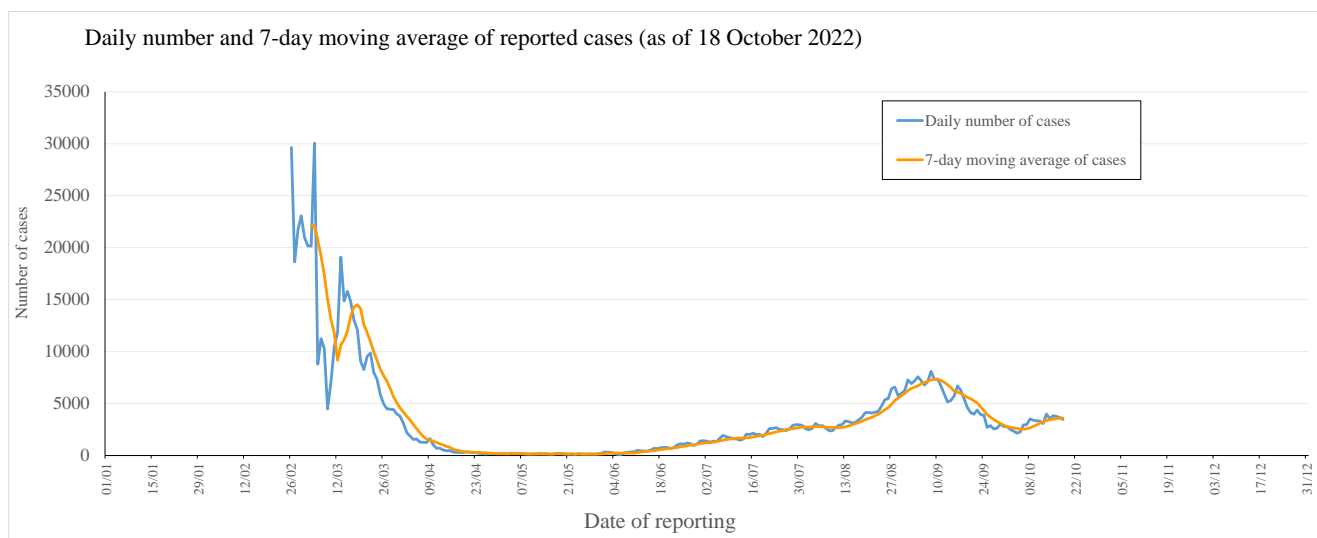
In the recent 7-day period from 12 to 18 October 2022, an average of 1644.4 cases by nucleic acid tests were reported per day, as compared with 1417.0 cases per day reported in the previous 7-day period from 5 to 11 October 2022 (Figure 1(i)).

Figure 1(i): Daily number and 7-day moving average of cases tested positive for SARS-CoV-2 virus by nucleic acid tests in 2022



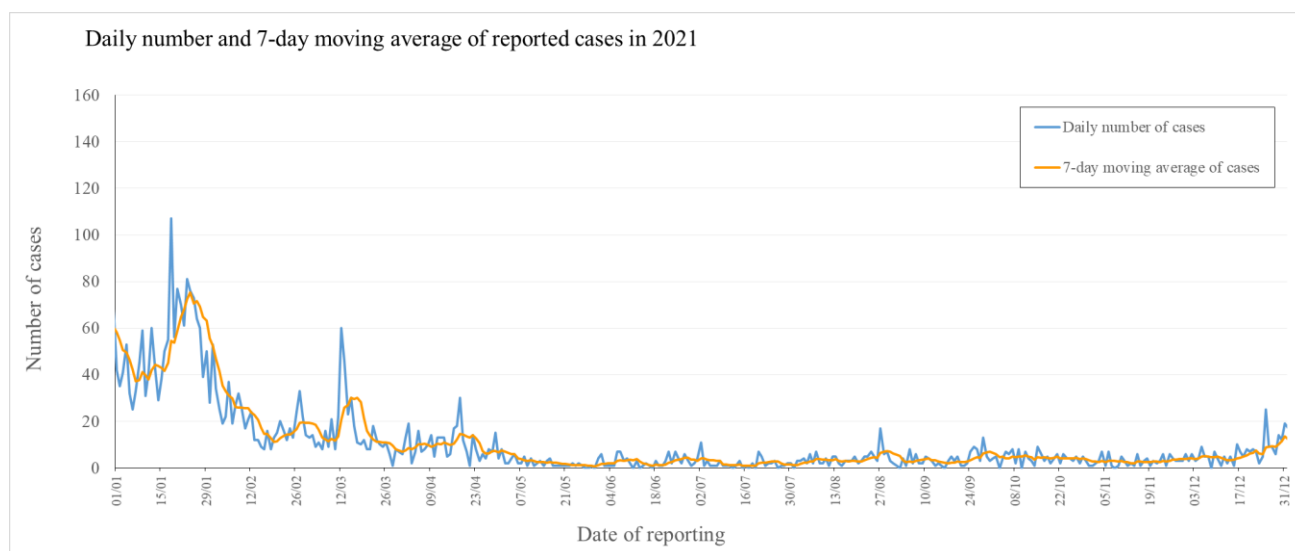
Note: Re-positive cases are excluded in Figure 1(i).

Figure 1(ii): Daily number and 7-day moving average of cases tested positive for SARS-CoV-2 virus by rapid antigen tests



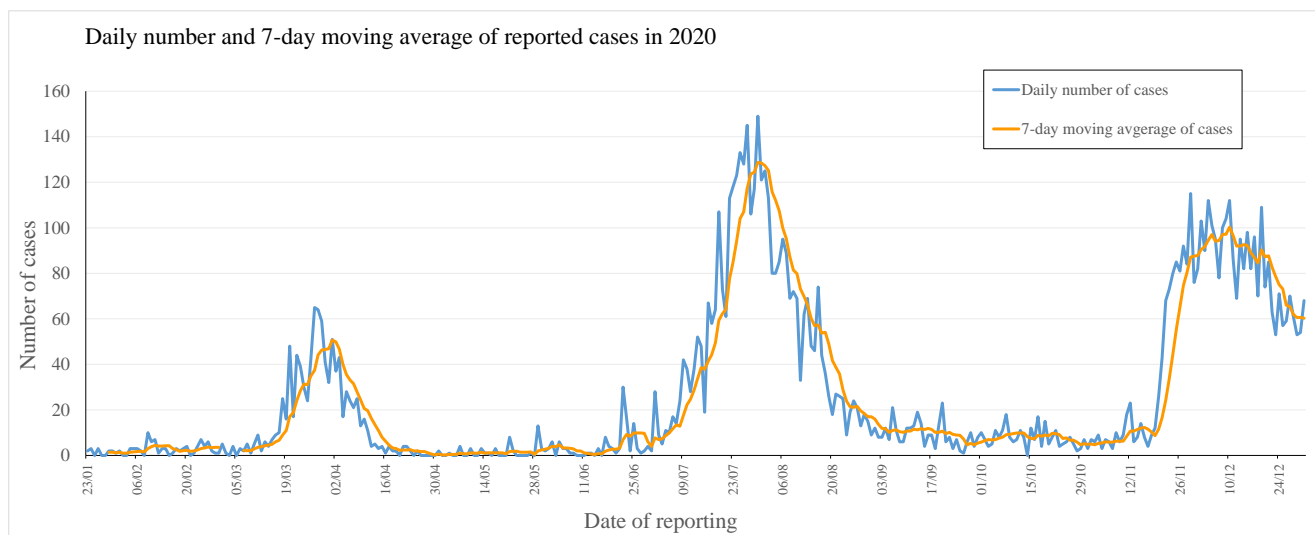
Note: Re-positive cases are excluded in Figure 1(ii).

Figure 1(iii): Daily number and 7-day moving average of cases tested positive for SARS-CoV-2 virus by nucleic acid tests in 2021



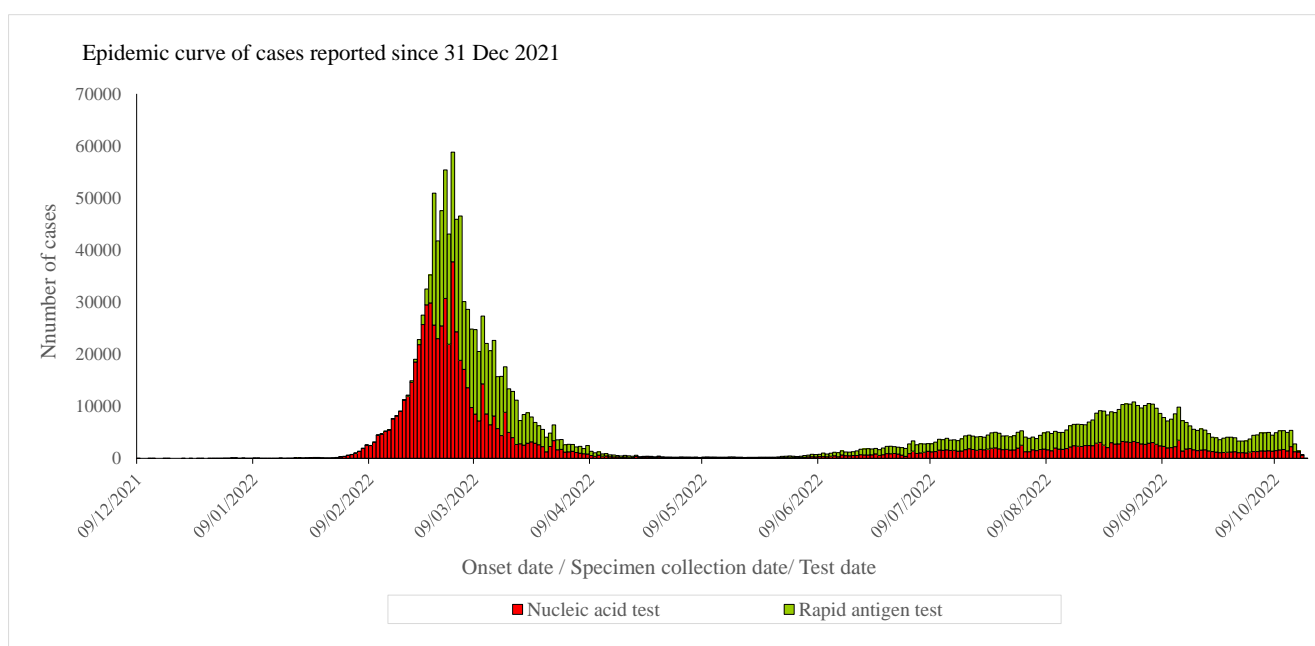
Note: Re-positive cases are excluded in Figure 1(iii).

Figure 1(iv): Daily number and 7-day moving average of cases tested positive for SARS-CoV-2 virus by nucleic acid tests in 2020



Note: Re-positive cases are excluded in Figure 1(iv).

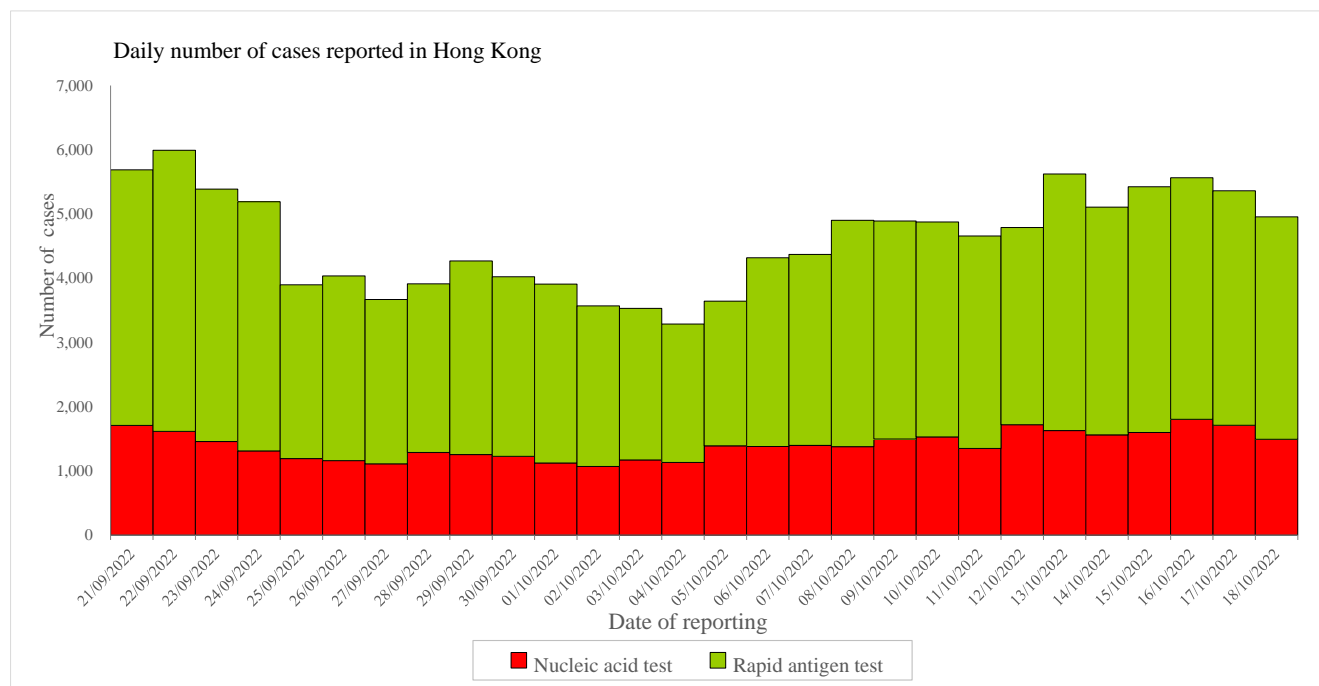
Figure 2: Epidemic curve of cases tested positive for SARS-CoV-2 virus in Hong Kong since 31 December 2021



Note:

1. Specimen collection dates are used for cases without information of onset dates.
2. Cases still under investigation are excluded in Figure 2.
3. Starting from 29 August 2022, the CHP only verifies cases reported via the "Declaration System for individuals tested positive for COVID-19 using Rapid Antigen Test" by sampling with nucleic acid test.

Figure 3: Daily number of cases tested positive for SARS-CoV-2 virus reported in the past 4 weeks



Note:

Starting from 29 August 2022, the CHP only verifies cases reported via the "Declaration System for individuals tested positive for COVID-19 using Rapid Antigen Test" by sampling with nucleic acid test.

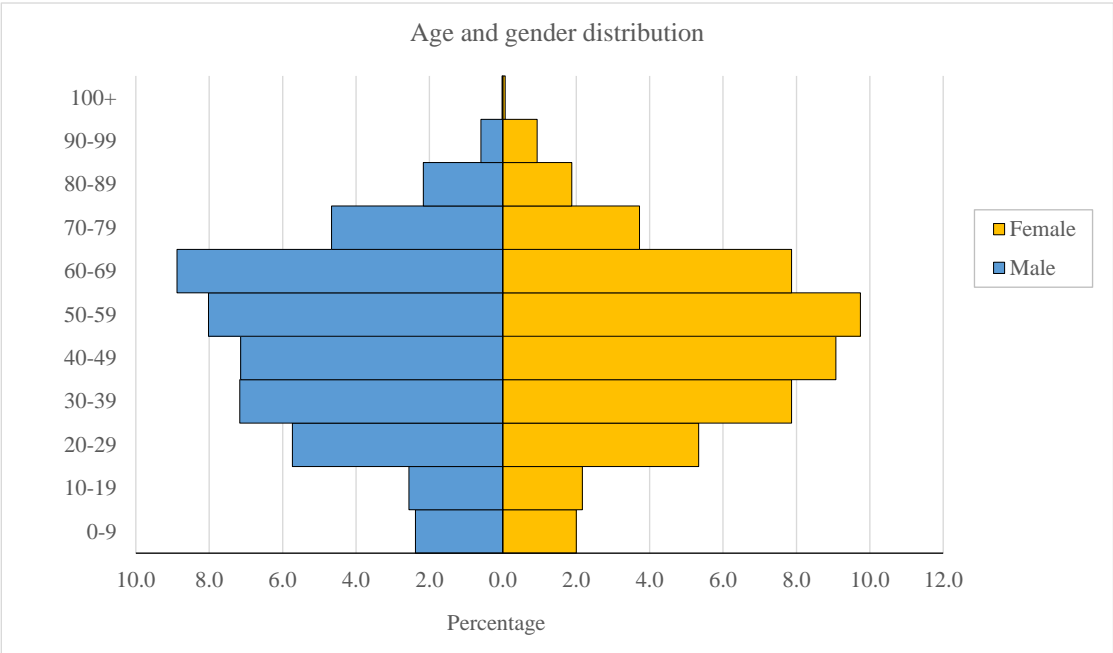
Table 1 shows the classification of cases reported since the 5th wave (since 31 December 2021).

Table 1: Number of cases tested positive for SARS-CoV-2 virus by nucleic acid tests and rapid antigen tests by classification

Reporting period	Imported case	Locally acquired case	Period total
Since the 5th wave	29920 (1.63%)	1805612 (98.37%)	1835532 (100.00%)
In the past 4 weeks			
21/09/2022 - 27/09/2022	1115 (3.29%)	32737 (96.71%)	33852 (100.00%)
28/09/2022 - 04/10/2022	1722 (6.50%)	24772 (93.50%)	26494 (100.00%)
05/10/2022 - 11/10/2022	2427 (7.67%)	29222 (92.33%)	31649 (100.00%)
12/10/2022 - 18/10/2022	2579 (7.00%)	34240 (93.00%)	36819 (100.00%)

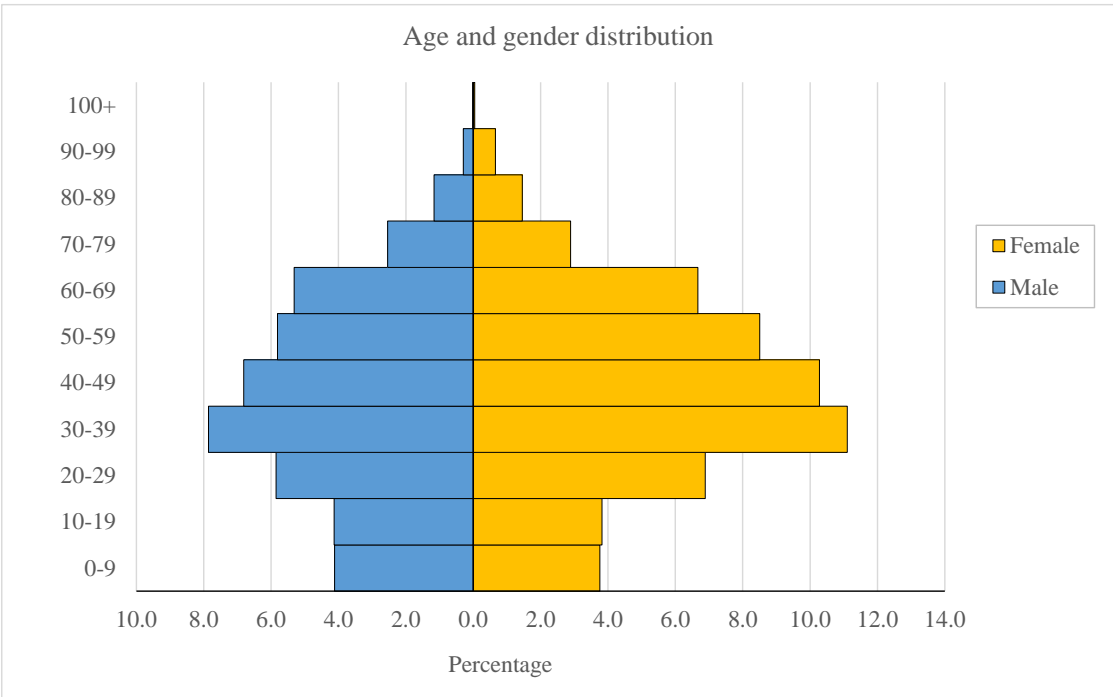
Figure 4 shows the age and gender distribution of the cases (since the 5th wave).

Figure 4(i): Age and gender distribution of cases tested positive for SARS-CoV-2 virus by nucleic acid tests in Hong Kong



Note: Re-positive cases and cases pending investigation are excluded in Figure 4(i).

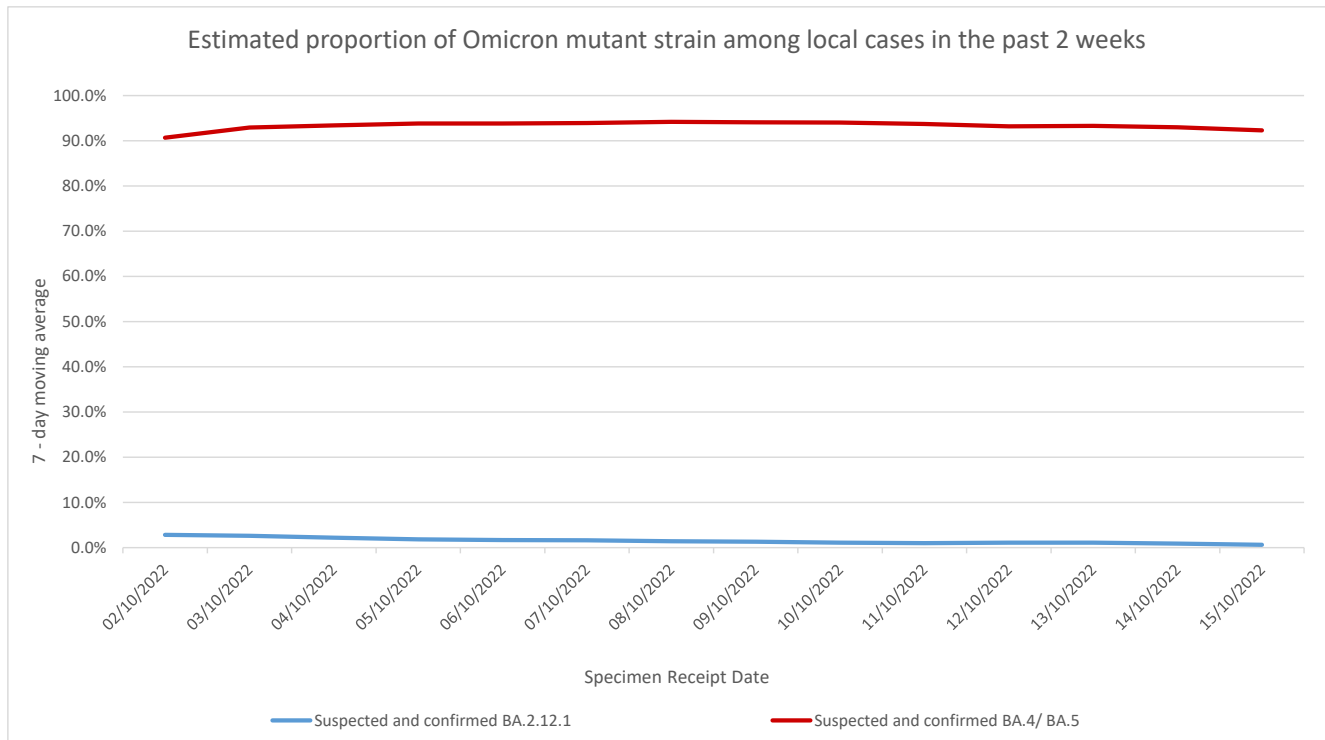
Figure 4(ii): Age and gender distribution of cases tested positive for SARS-CoV-2 virus by rapid antigen tests in Hong Kong



Source of data: Data from the Centre for Health Protection of the Department of Health with available information on age and gender.

Among the specimens received by the Public Health Laboratory Services Branch during 9 to 15 October for verification testing of local cases, about 0.6% and 92.3% of them (7-day moving average) are related to the sub-lineages BA.2.12.1 and BA.4/BA.5* (including suspected cases) of the Omicron mutant strain respectively.

Figure 5: Estimated proportion of Omicron mutant strain among local cases in the past 2 weeks

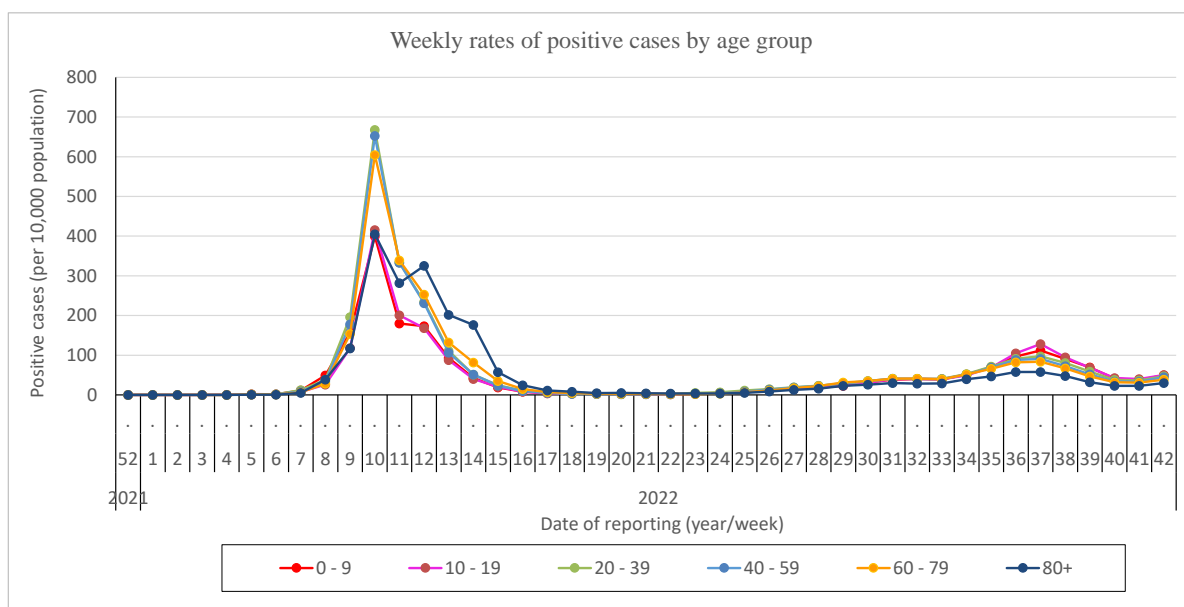


Note:

1. Related percentages are estimated from the specimens received by the PHLSB for verification testing of local cases.
 2. Data may be subject to changes when there is new information available.
- *Based on sampling by PHLSB for further characterisation, among specimens related to BA.4/BA.5 received from 3 - 9 October 2022, 94.8% were BA.5. (to be updated weekly)

In addition, as of 17 October, a total of 90, 1, 4, 1, 3, and 7 cases of sub-lineages XBB, XBD, BA.2.75.2, BA.4.6, BF.7 and BQ.1.1 respectively have been identified by the PHLSB among imported cases, while one case of XBD has also been detected among local cases.

Figure 6: Weekly rates of positive cases tested by nucleic acid tests and rapid antigen tests (by age group) since the 5th wave



Note:

1. Both imported and re-positive cases are excluded in Figure 6.
2. Data in Figure 6 may be subject to changes when there is new information available.
3. Figure 6 (with data as of the preceding week) will be updated every Tuesday.

Table 2: Incidences of cases tested positive for SARS-CoV-2 virus by nucleic acid tests and rapid antigen tests by residential districts in 2022

Region	Cumulative Incidence	District	Cumulative Incidence	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct
Hong Kong	1646.1	Central and Western	1395.1	92.3	147.6	217.3	63.9
		Wan Chai	1277.8	89.8	161.4	213.7	61.7
		Eastern	1801.2	124.2	223.8	285.2	81.9
		Southern	1794.6	136.6	200.6	265.0	80.2
Kowloon	2124.3	Kowloon City	1758.6	102.4	199.2	257.9	71.2
		Kwun Tong	2354.6	127.5	232.4	294.7	77.9
		Sham Shui Po	2093.4	109.8	178.7	238.4	61.0
		Wong Tai Sin	2331.2	121.8	220.6	284.7	74.6
		Yau Tsim Mong	1875.9	93.1	165.9	205.9	65.5
New Territories East	1965.3	Islands	1627.8	142.1	203.4	234.2	67.3
		North	2029.0	158.9	285.5	340.5	80.6
		Sai Kung	1881.0	133.3	252.9	334.7	90.7
		Sha Tin	2090.4	129.4	259.3	330.0	83.4
		Tai Po	1956.5	193.5	260.4	298.2	83.6
New Territories West	2079.9	Kwai Tsing	2254.4	109.0	181.5	241.4	65.6
		Tsuen Wan	1928.4	121.7	213.8	273.4	84.3
		Tuen Mun	2180.1	127.1	248.9	280.5	70.6
		Yuen Long	1948.5	135.1	237.8	300.9	72.7

Note:

1. Cases with multiple/ pending/ unknown residential address are excluded in Table 2.
2. Data in Table 2 are shown as number of cases per 10,000 population.
3. Table 2 (with data as of the preceding week) will be updated every Tuesday.

**Table 3 : Number of cases tested positive for SARS-CoV-2 virus reported
among schools in the past 4 weeks**

Reporting Period	No. of schools with case(s) reported	No. tested positive reported by schools	
		Student	Staff
18/09/2022-24/09/2022	1316	4101	684
25/09/2022-01/10/2022	1101	2810	478
02/10/2022-08/10/2022	1112	2972	528
09/10/2022-15/10/2022	1224	3530	686

Note:

1. Number of schools is deduplicated based on the reporting week.
2. Table 3 (with data as of the preceding week) will be updated every Tuesday.

**Table 4 : Number of cases tested positive for SARS-CoV-2 virus reported
among residential care homes (RCHs) in the past 4 weeks**

Reporting Period	No. of RCHs with case(s) reported	No. tested positive reported by RCHs	
		Resident	Staff
18/09/2022 - 24/09/2022	41	56	5
25/09/2022 - 01/10/2022	27	42	3
02/10/2022 - 08/10/2022	37	56	4
09/10/2022 - 15/10/2022	41	59	4

Note:

1. Number of RCHs is deduplicated based on the reporting week.
2. Table 4 (with data as of the preceding week) will be updated every Tuesday.

Since 31 December 2019, the CHP of the DH has recorded a total of 10285 fatal cases.

Since the 5th wave, a total of 10072 fatal cases have been recorded.

Table 5: Case fatality rate (CFR) by age group and vaccination status (since the 5th wave)

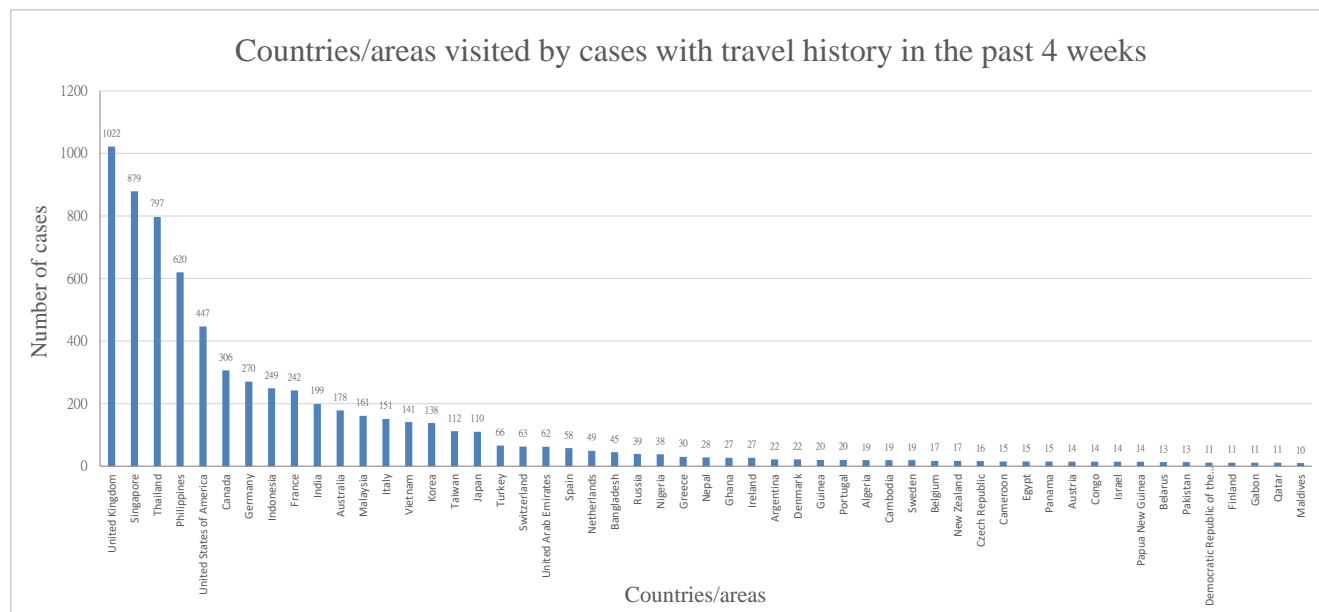
Age Group	CFR of locally acquired cases	CFR of locally acquired cases with history of at least 2 doses of COVID-19 vaccine	CFR of locally acquired cases with history of 1 dose of COVID-19 vaccine or unvaccinated
0-9	0.01%	0.00%	0.01%
10-19	0.01%	0.00%	0.01%
20-29	0.01%	0.01%	0.02%
30-39	0.01%	0.00%	0.04%
40-49	0.02%	0.01%	0.11%
50-59	0.10%	0.04%	0.49%
60-69	0.32%	0.10%	1.20%
70-79	1.31%	0.38%	3.31%
80+	8.32%	2.69%	12.51%
Overall	0.56%	0.12%	1.94%

Source of data: Data from the Centre for Health Protection of the Department of Health with available information on age and vaccination status.

Note: Table 5 (with data as of the preceding week) will be updated every Tuesday.

Figure 7 shows the countries/areas visited by the cases tested positive by nucleic acid tests reported in the past 4 weeks with travel history outside Hong Kong during the incubation period.

Figure 7: Countries/areas visited by cases tested positive by nucleic acid tests reported in the past 4 weeks with travel history



Note:

1. Some cases had visited more than one country/area.
2. Re-positive cases are excluded in Figure 7.
3. Only countries/ areas visited by 10 or more cases are included in Figure 7.