

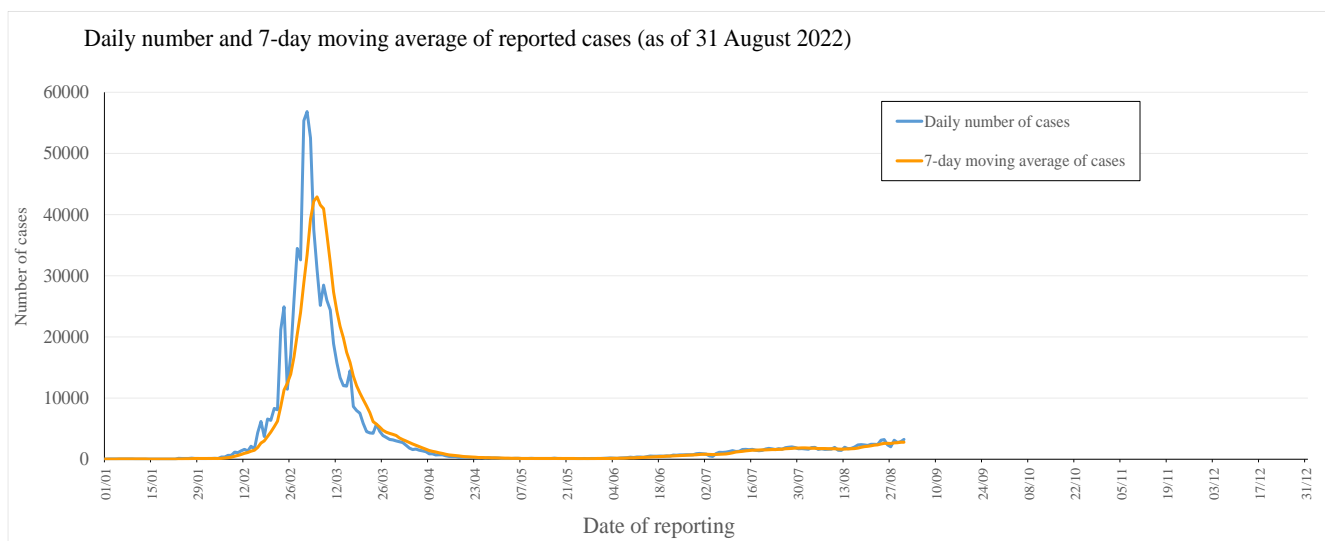
Latest situation of COVID-19 (as of 31 August 2022)

The Centre for Health Protection (CHP) of the Department of Health (DH) today (31 August) announced the latest epidemic situation of COVID-19. As of 0.00am, 31 August 2022, the CHP was investigating 9267 additional locally acquired cases tested positive for the SARS-CoV-2 virus, including 3054 cases tested positive by nucleic acid tests and 6213 cases tested positive by rapid antigen tests (RATs) in the past 24 hours. Separately, 228 additional imported cases were reported, including 193 cases tested positive by nucleic acid tests and 35 cases tested positive by RATs. So far, Hong Kong has recorded a total of 887441 and 653362 cases tested positive by nucleic acid tests and RATs respectively for the SARS-CoV-2 virus.

Since the 5th wave (31 December 2021), 874810 cases and 653362 cases were tested positive by nucleic acid tests and rapid antigen tests respectively.

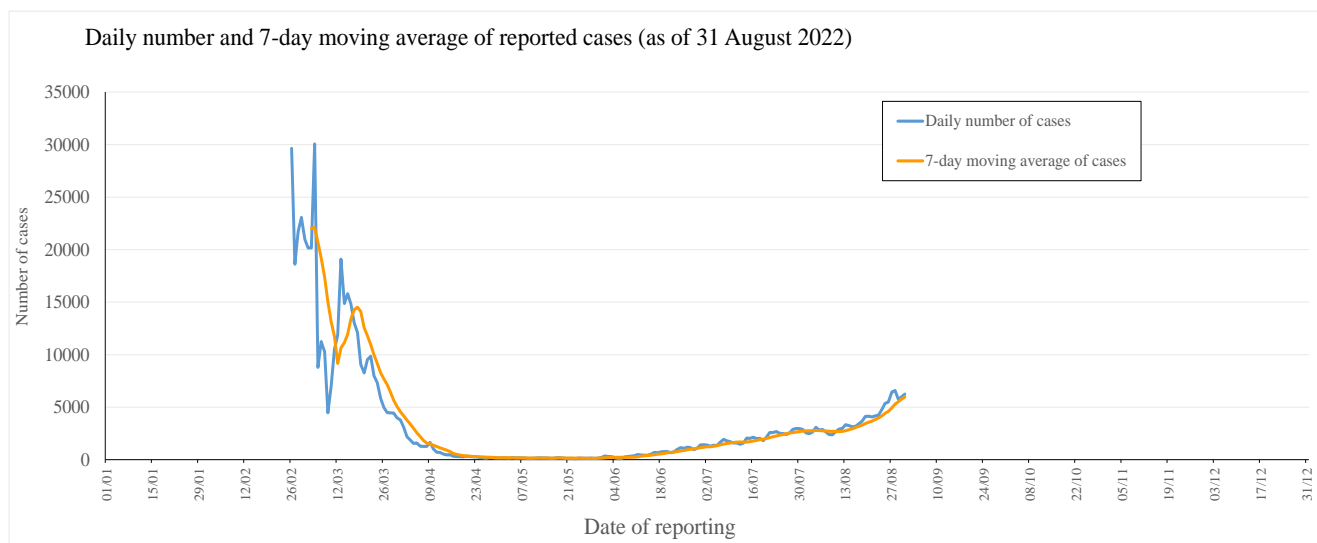
In the recent 7-day period from 25 to 31 August 2022, an average of 2793.6 cases by nucleic acid tests were reported per day, as compared with 2480.1 cases per day reported in the previous 7-day period from 18 to 24 August 2022 (Figure 1(i)).

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 2}



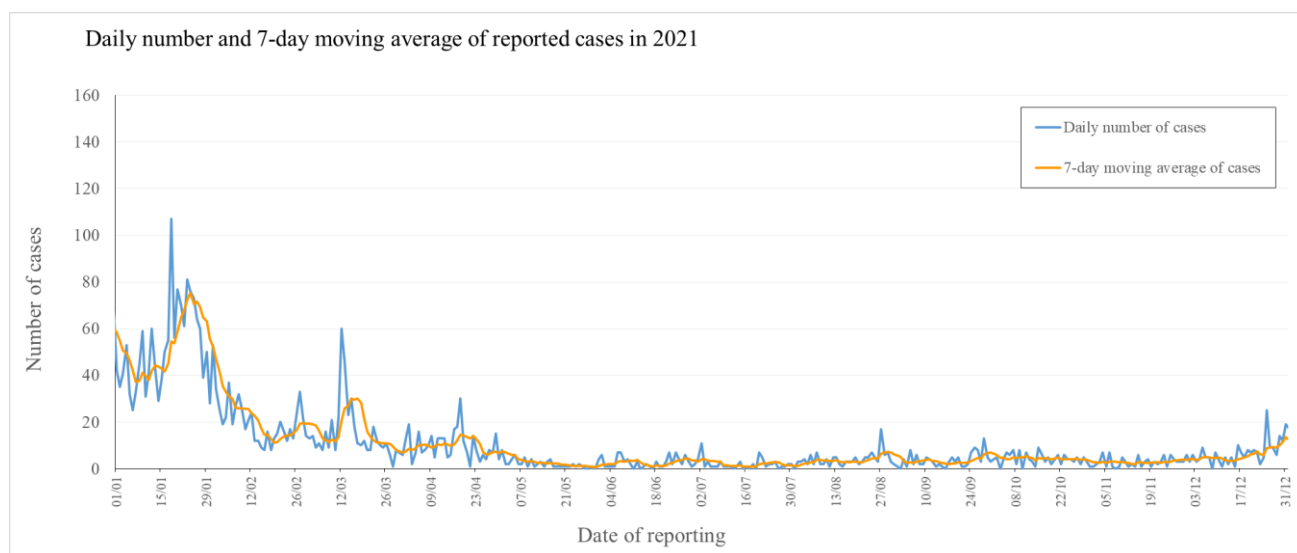
Note: Re-positive cases are excluded in Figure 1(i).

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



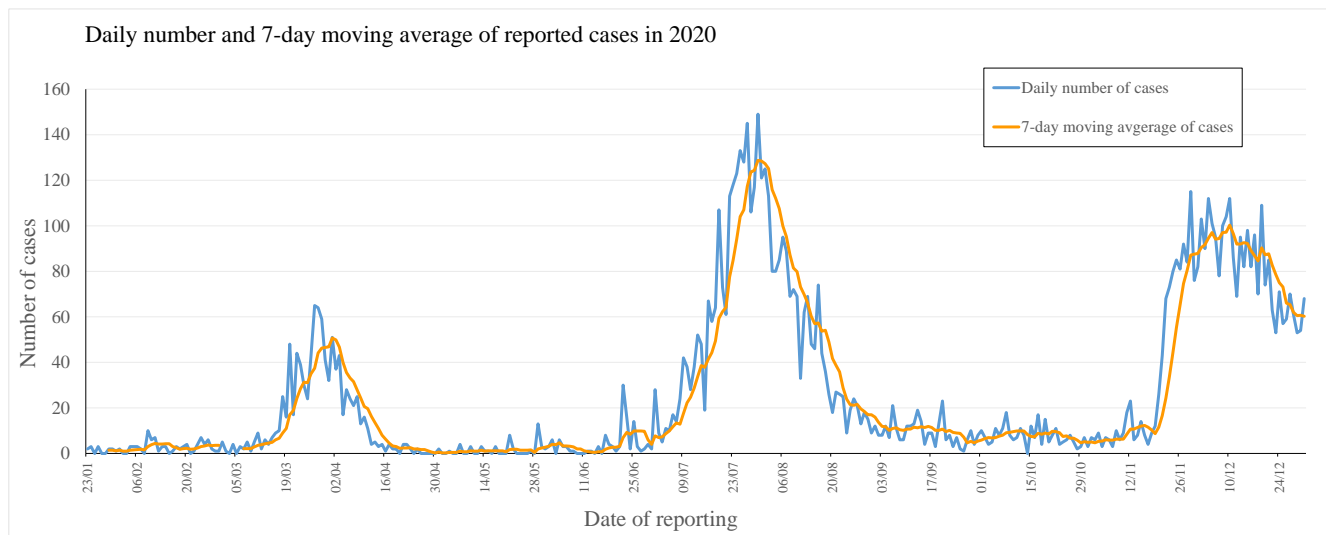
Note: Re-positive cases are excluded in Figure 1(ii).

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



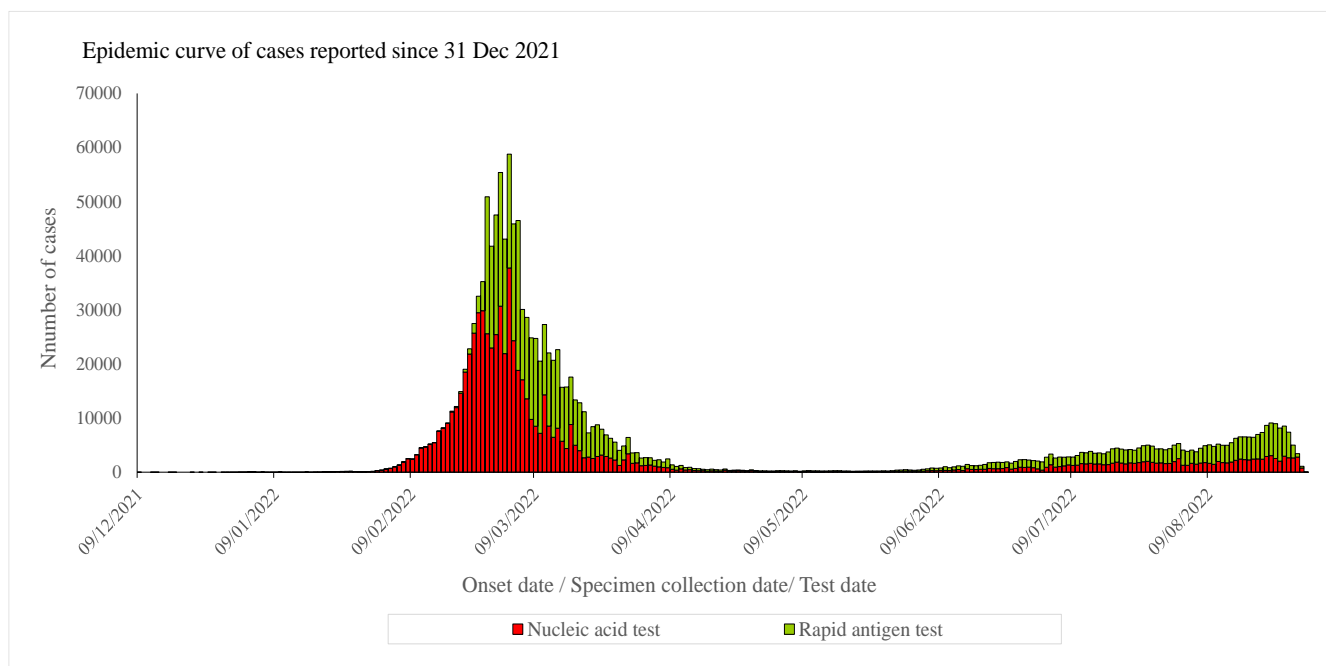
Note: Re-positive cases are excluded in Figure 1(iii).

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).

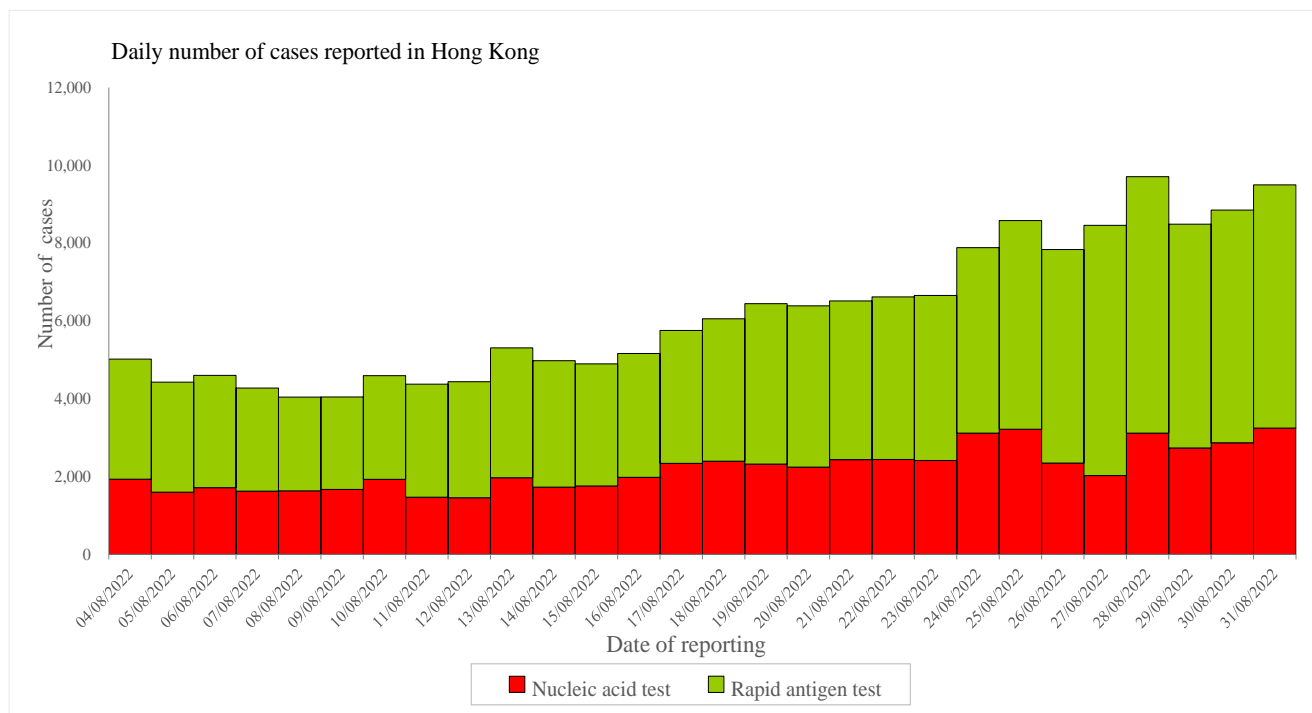
Figure 2: Epidemic curve of cases tested positive for SARS-CoV-2 virus in Hong Kong since 31 December 2021



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. Relevant test results are reflected in the caseload announced from 31 August 2022 onwards.

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. Relevant test results are reflected in the caseload announced from 31 August 2022 onwards.

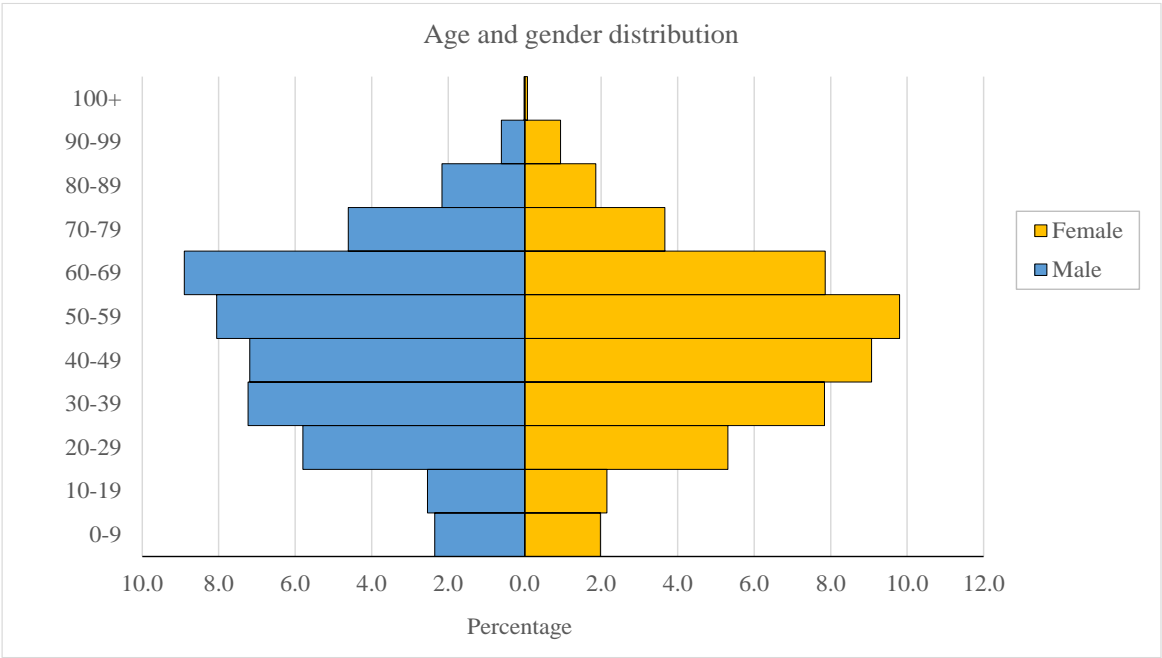
Table 1 shows the classification of cases reported since the 5th wave (since 31 December 2021).

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	18755 (1.23%)	1509417 (98.77%)	1528172 (100.00%)
In the past 4 weeks			
04/08/2022-10/08/2022	1715 (5.53%)	29287 (94.47%)	31002 (100.00%)
11/08/2022-17/08/2022	1476 (4.23%)	33441 (95.77%)	34917 (100.00%)
18/08/2022-24/08/2022	1532 (3.29%)	45024 (96.71%)	46556 (100.00%)
25/08/2022-31/08/2022	1613 (2.63%)	59797 (97.37%)	61410 (100.00%)

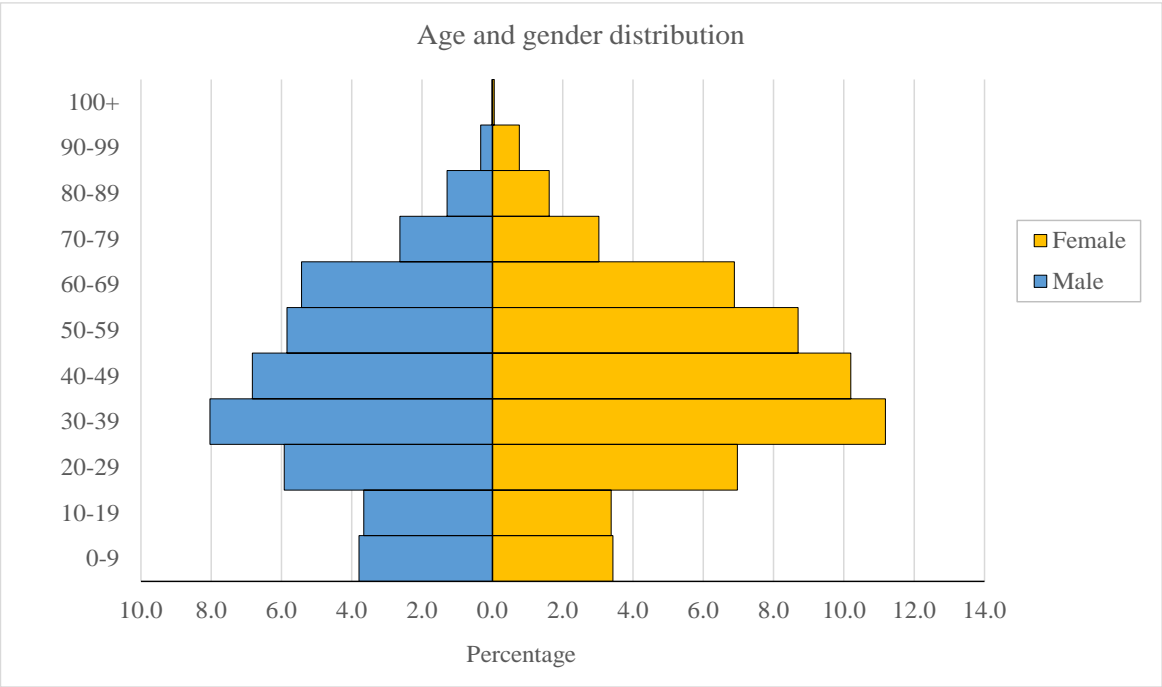
Figure 4 shows the age and gender distribution of the cases (since the 5th wave).

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).

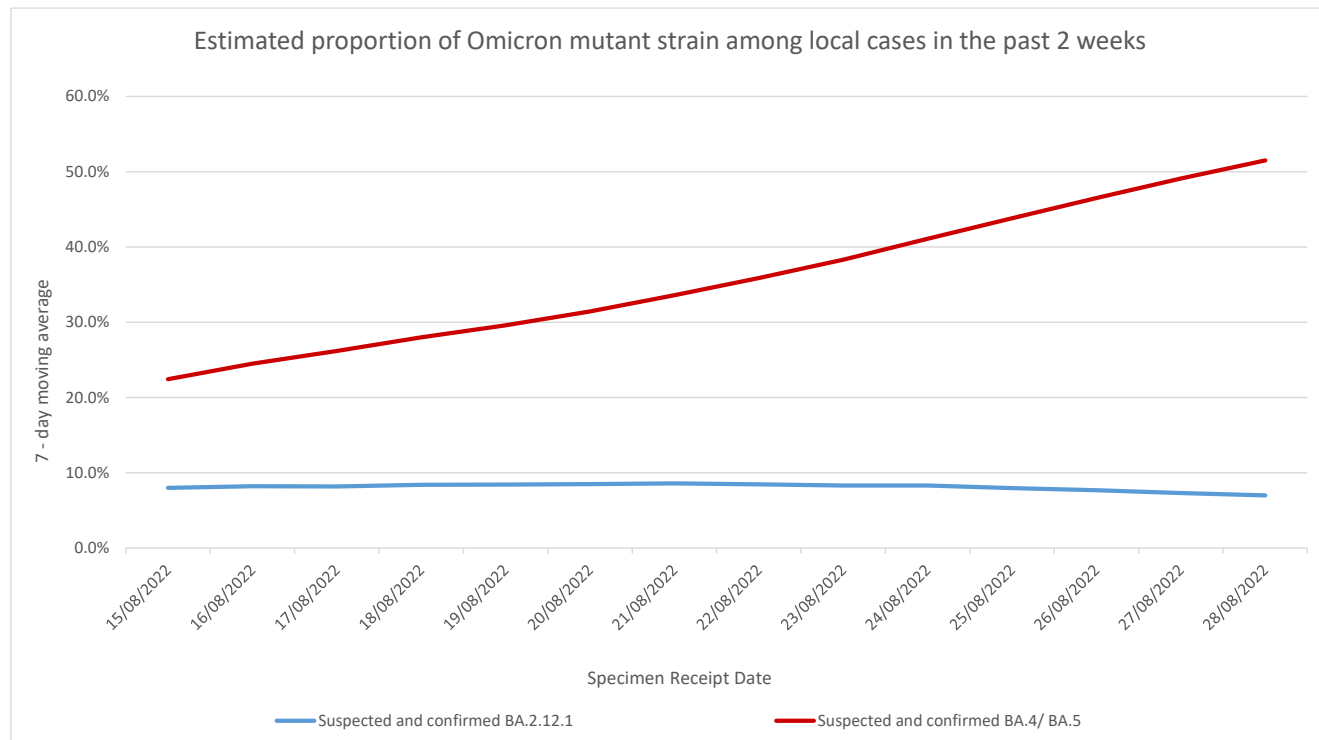
Figure 4(ii): Age and gender distribution of cases tested positive for SARS-CoV-2 virus by rapid antigen tests in Hong Kong



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 August 22 to 28 for verification testing of local cases, about 7.0% and 51.5% 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

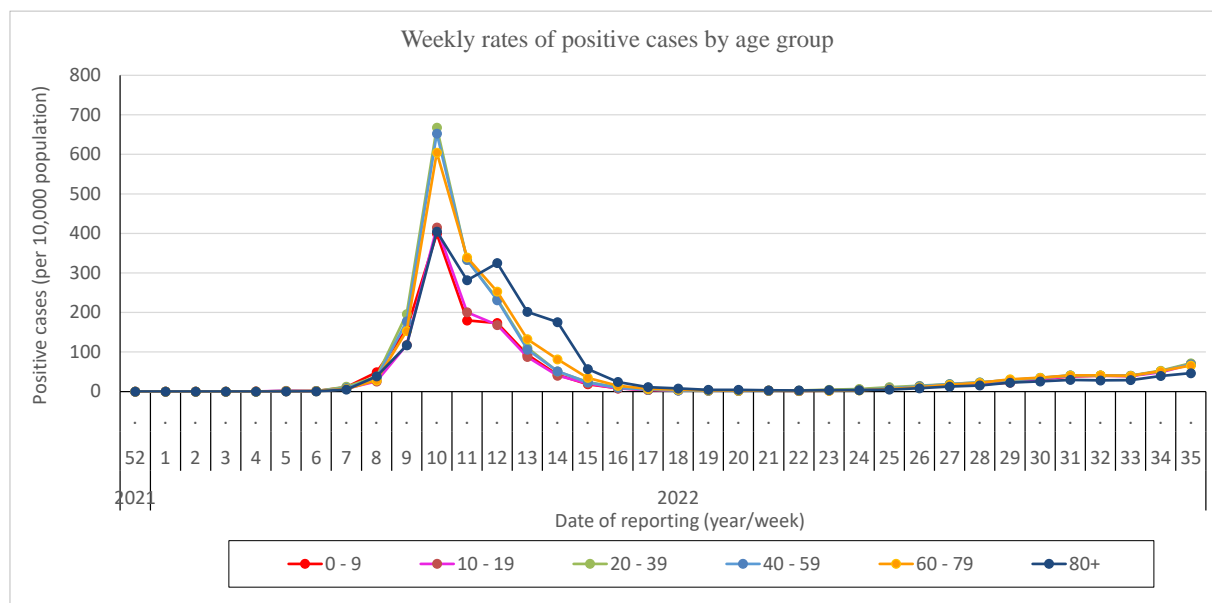


Note:

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 22 to 28 August 2022, 88% were BA.5.

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	May	Jun	Jul	Aug
Hong Kong	1118.3	Central and Western	966.0	12.4	55.9	92.3	115.9
		Wan Chai	841.3	8.2	53.4	89.8	128.8
		Eastern	1209.7	8.1	39.4	124.1	178.7
		Southern	1248.2	7.3	46.3	136.5	161.9
Kowloon	1585.0	Kowloon City	1229.8	7.3	38.1	102.4	157.1
		Kwun Tong	1749.2	8.3	31.4	127.5	185.4
		Sham Shui Po	1614.3	9.8	28.7	109.8	143.2
		Wong Tai Sin	1750.7	6.8	26.6	121.7	173.7
		Yau Tsim Mong	1438.0	9.2	41.6	93.1	131.6
New Territories East	1306.1	Islands	1122.5	7.8	41.9	142.0	162.8
		North	1322.1	12.3	37.9	158.9	230.4
		Sai Kung	1202.3	9.8	39.4	133.3	203.0
		Sha Tin	1417.4	9.8	37.2	129.3	202.0
		Tai Po	1314.1	8.9	52.6	193.4	212.1
New Territories West	1508.0	Kwai Tsing	1765.8	9.1	26.2	109.0	143.5
		Tsuen Wan	1356.7	11.8	39.0	121.7	169.2
		Tuen Mun	1579.8	8.3	37.5	127.0	202.5
		Yuen Long	1336.4	8.9	35.2	135.0	192.3

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
31/07/2022 - 06/08/2022	987	2126	465
07/08/2022 - 13/08/2022	764	1425	409
14/08/2022 - 20/08/2022	179	285	83
21/08/2022 - 27/08/2022	250	492	174

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
31/07/2022 - 06/08/2022	29	28	14
07/08/2022 - 13/08/2022	48	50	21
14/08/2022 - 20/08/2022	48	73	22
21/08/2022 - 27/08/2022	57	79	13

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 9690 fatal cases.

Since the 5th wave, a total of 9477 fatal cases have been recorded.

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

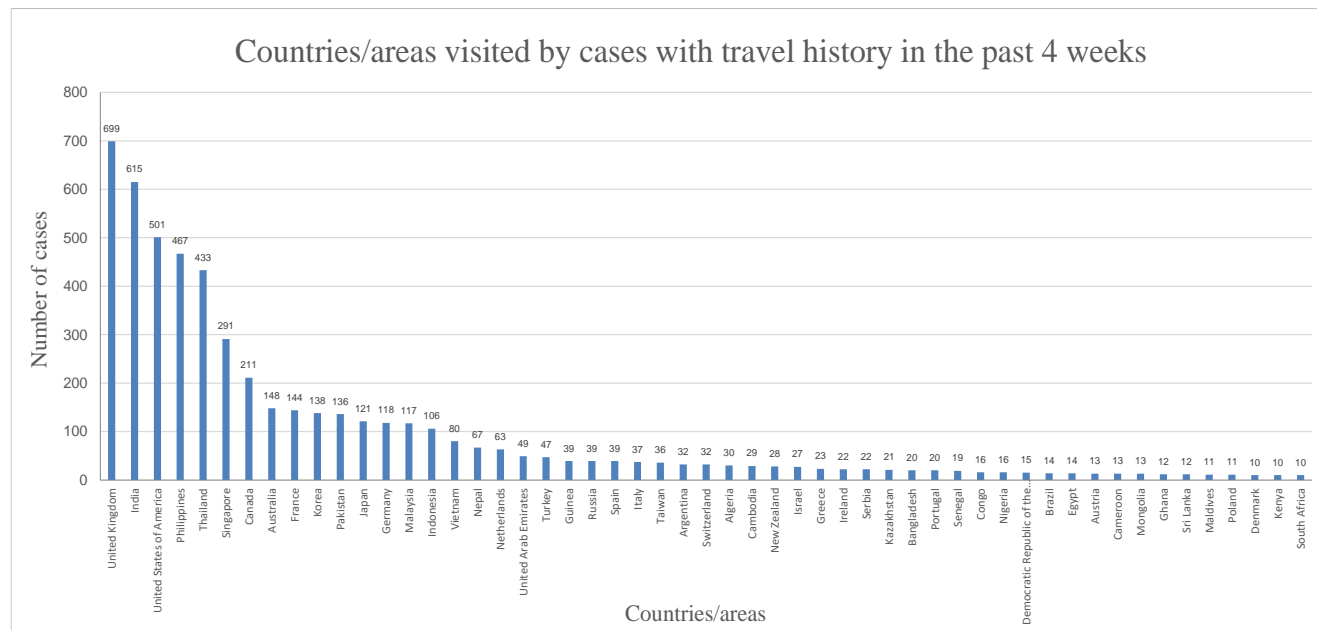
Age Group	CFR of locally acquired cases	CFR of locally acquired cases with history of at least 2 doses of COVID-19 vaccine	CFR of locally acquired cases with history of 1 dose of COVID-19 vaccine or unvaccinated
0-9	0.01%	0.00%	0.01%
10-19	0.01%	0.00%	0.01%
20-29	0.01%	0.00%	0.02%
30-39	0.01%	0.00%	0.04%
40-49	0.03%	0.01%	0.12%
50-59	0.11%	0.04%	0.50%
60-69	0.36%	0.11%	1.21%
70-79	1.48%	0.39%	3.36%
80+	8.92%	2.77%	12.44%
Overall	0.64%	0.12%	2.04%

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.