

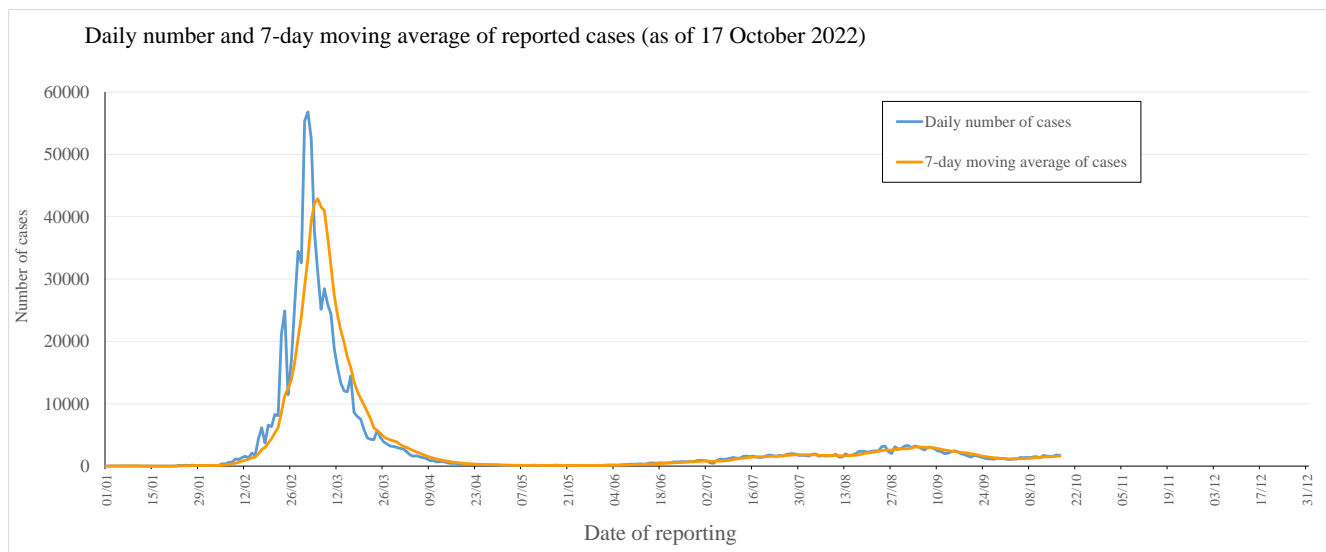
Latest situation of COVID-19 (as of 17 October 2022)

The Centre for Health Protection (CHP) of the Department of Health (DH) today (17 October) announced the latest epidemic situation of COVID-19. As of 0.00am, 17 October 2022, the CHP was investigating 4954 additional locally acquired cases tested positive for the SARS-CoV-2 virus, including 1344 cases tested positive by nucleic acid tests and 3610 cases tested positive by rapid antigen tests (RATs) in the past 24 hours. Separately, 407 additional imported cases were reported, including 367 cases tested positive by nucleic acid tests and 40 cases tested positive by RATs. So far, Hong Kong has recorded a total of 974954 and 868255 cases tested positive by nucleic acid tests and RATs respectively for the SARS-CoV-2 virus.

Since the 5th wave (31 December 2021), 962323 cases and 868255 cases were tested positive by nucleic acid tests and rapid antigen tests respectively.

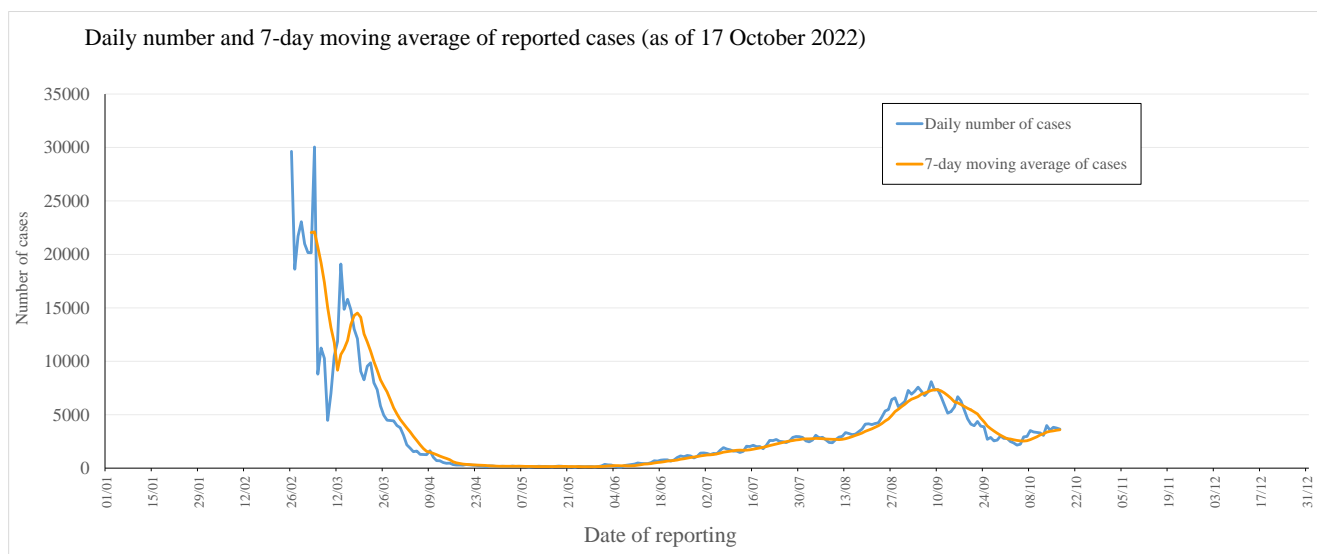
In the recent 7-day period from 11 to 17 October 2022, an average of 1624.1 cases by nucleic acid tests were reported per day, as compared with 1386.0 cases per day reported in the previous 7-day period from 4 to 10 October 2022 (Figure 1(i)).

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



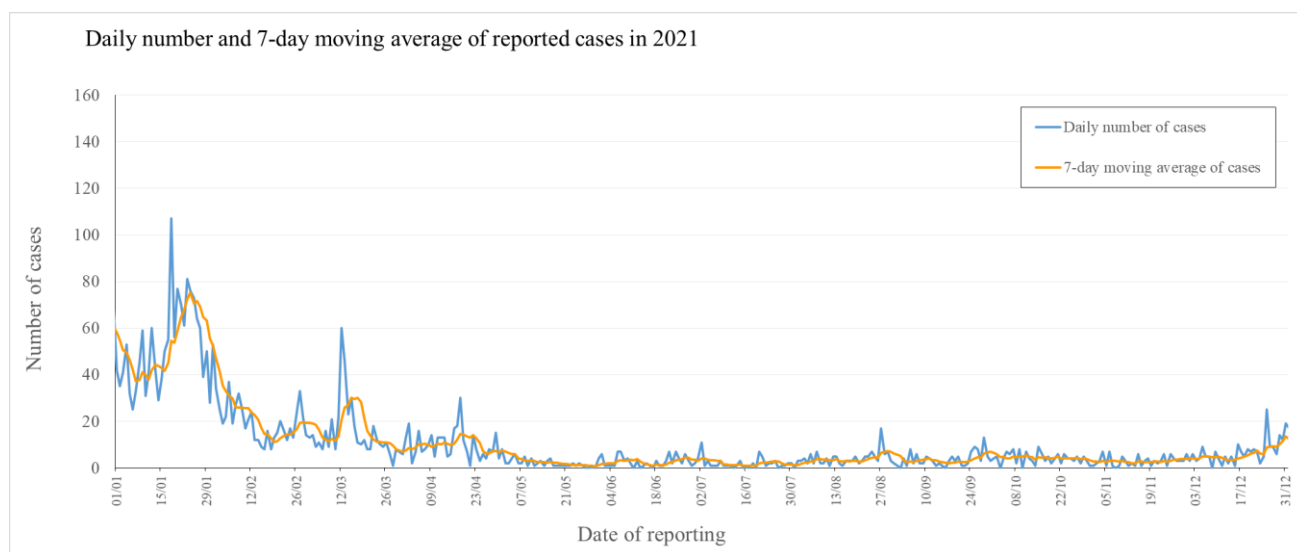
Note: Re-positive cases are excluded in Figure 1(i).

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



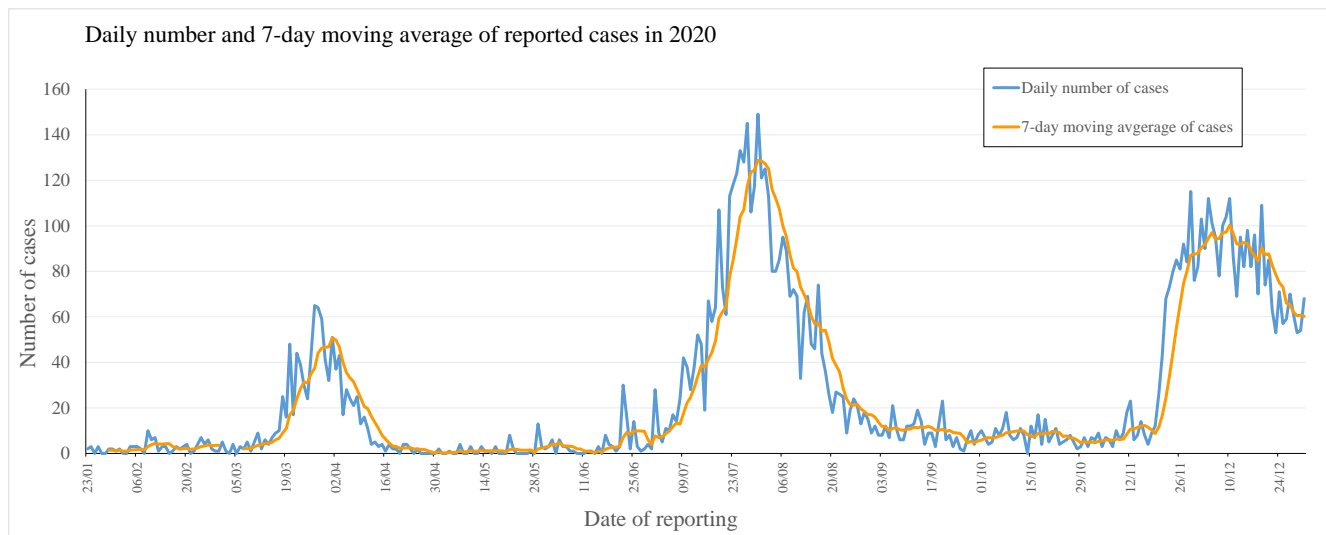
Note: Re-positive cases are excluded in Figure 1(ii).

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



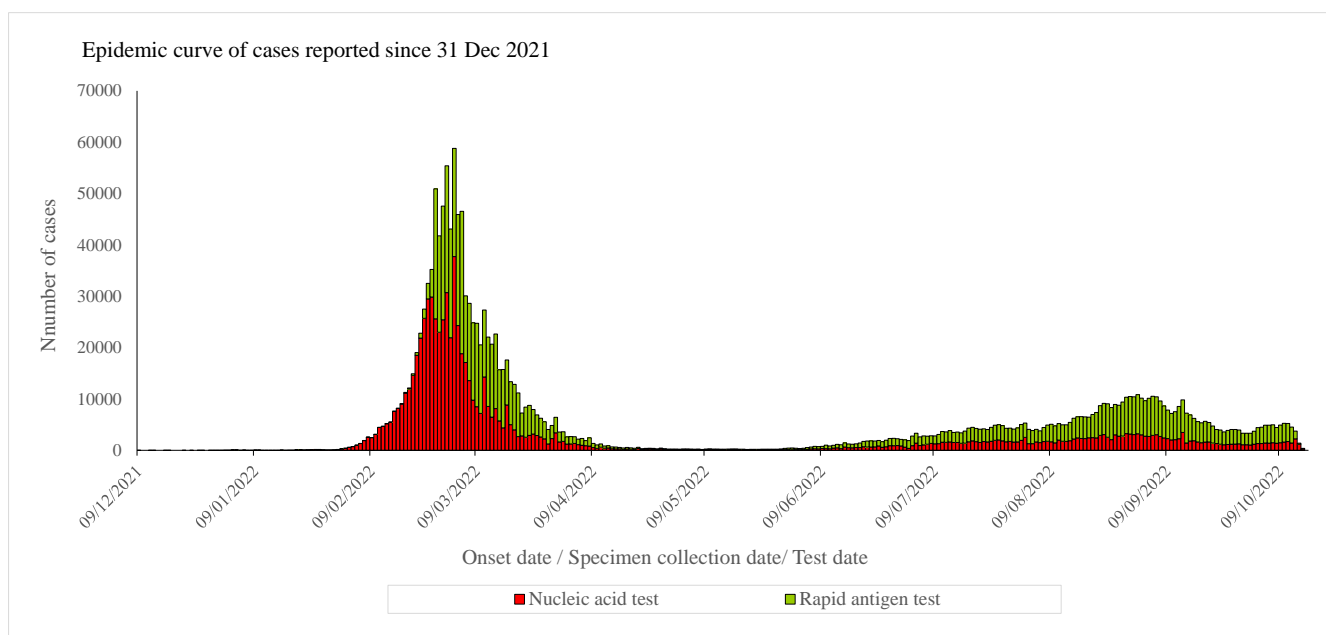
Note: Re-positive cases are excluded in Figure 1(iii).

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).

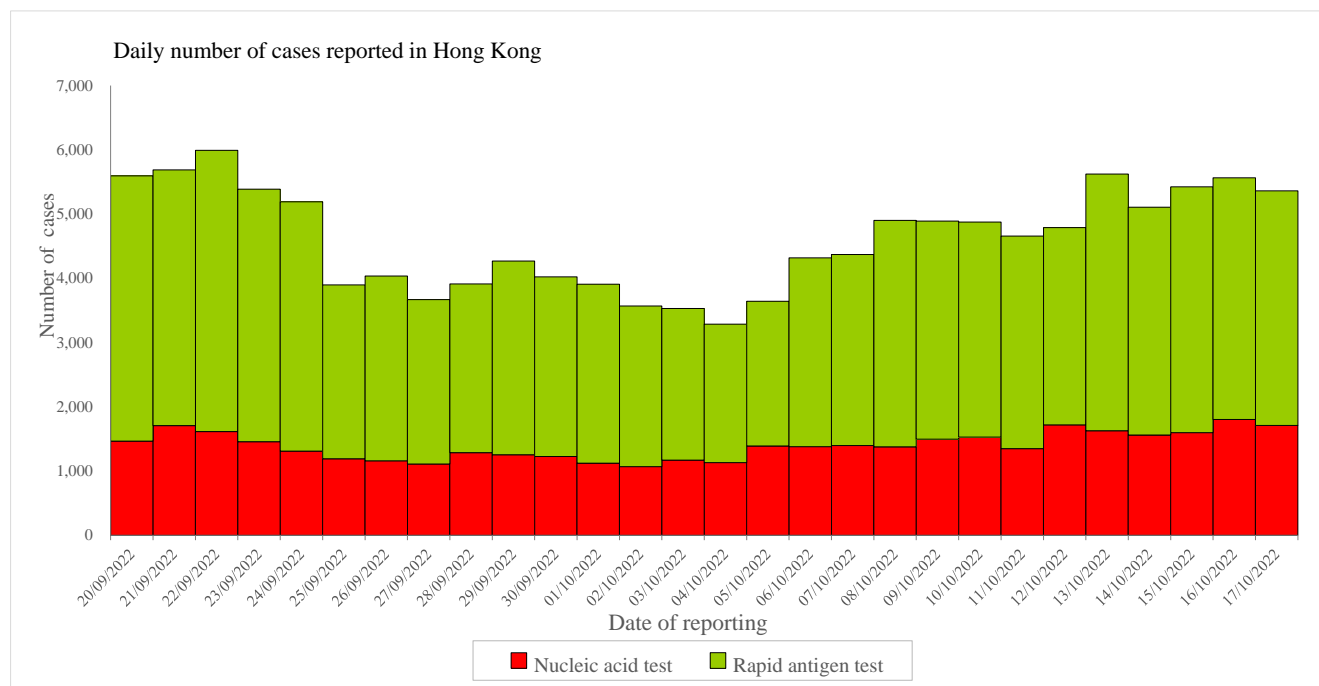
Figure 2: Epidemic curve of cases tested positive for SARS-CoV-2 virus in Hong Kong since 31 December 2021



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.

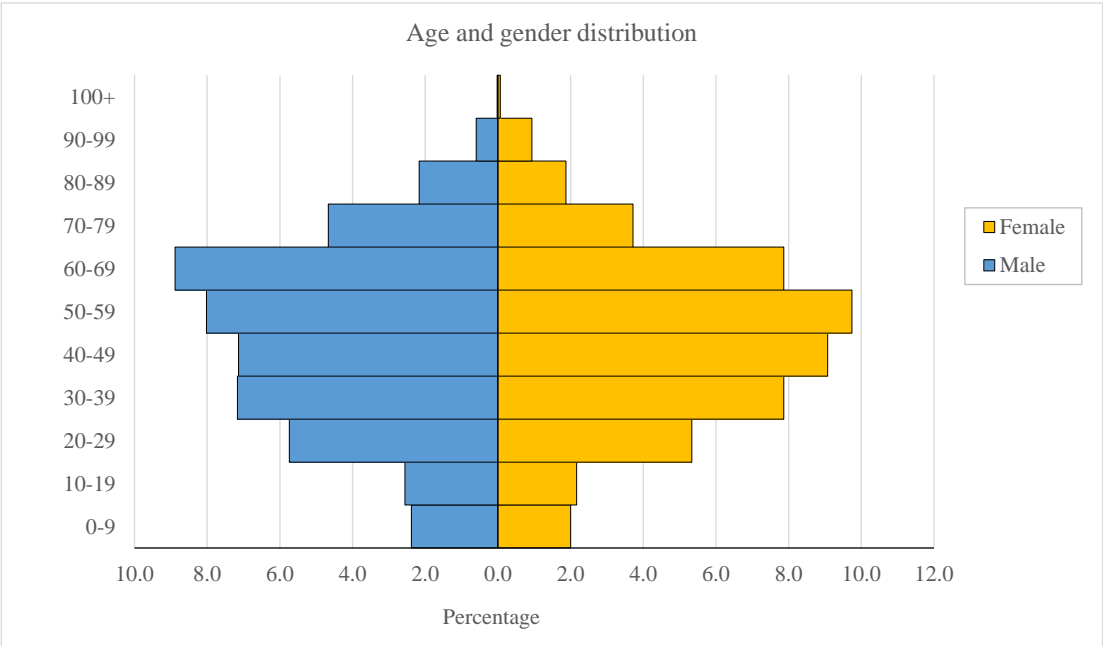
Table 1 shows the classification of cases reported since the 5th wave (since 31 December 2021).

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	29536 (1.61%)	1801042 (98.39%)	1830578 (100.00%)
In the past 4 weeks			
20/09/2022 - 26/09/2022	1057 (2.95%)	34722 (97.05%)	35779 (100.00%)
27/09/2022 - 03/10/2022	1643 (6.11%)	25232 (93.89%)	26875 (100.00%)
04/10/2022 - 10/10/2022	2326 (7.68%)	27953 (92.32%)	30279 (100.00%)
11/10/2022 - 17/10/2022	2568 (7.03%)	33953 (92.97%)	36521 (100.00%)

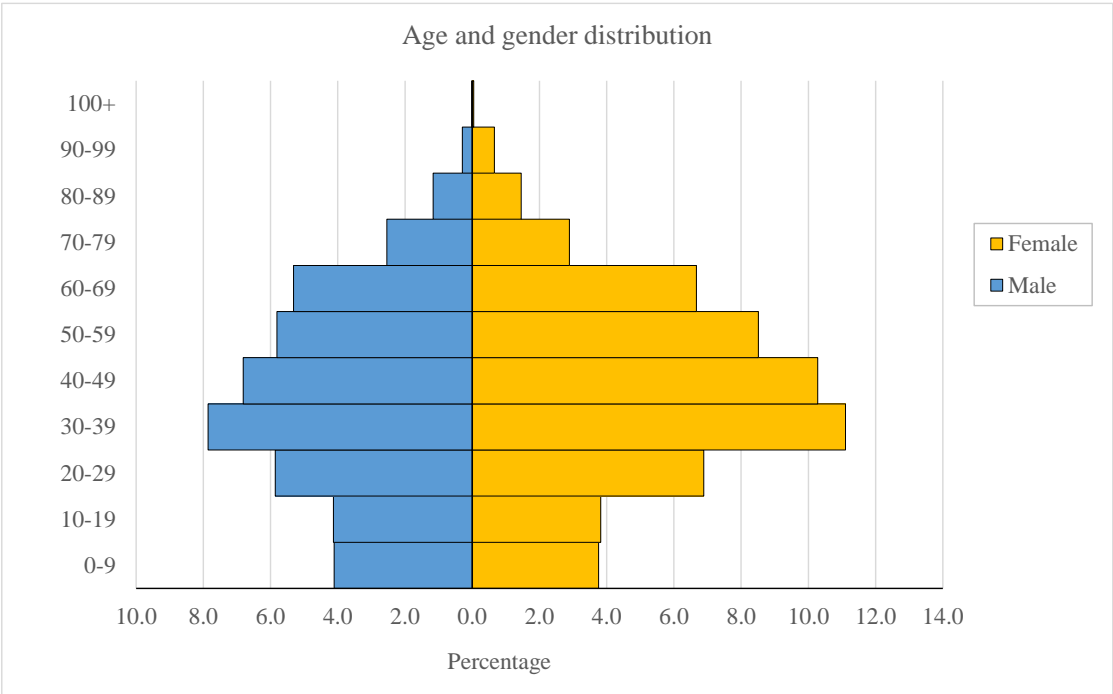
Figure 4 shows the age and gender distribution of the cases (since the 5th wave).

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).

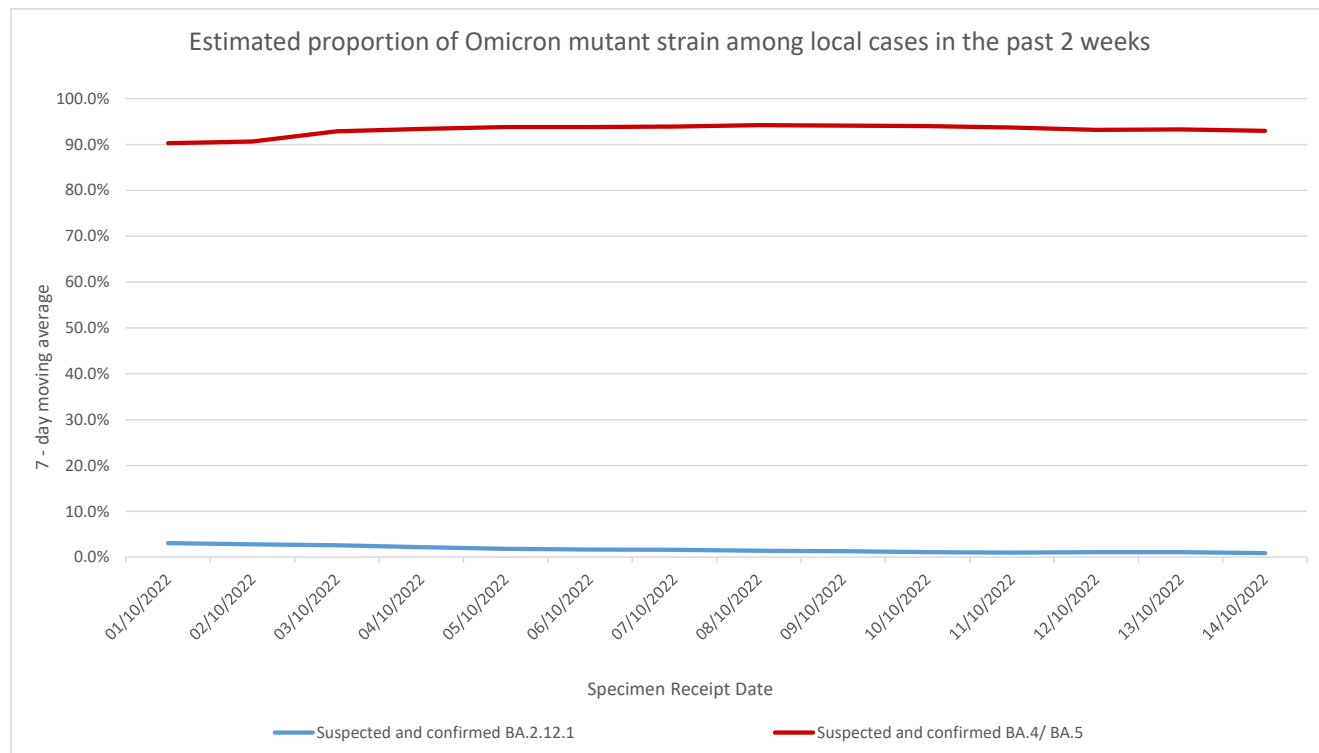
Figure 4(ii): Age and gender distribution of cases tested positive for SARS-CoV-2 virus by rapid antigen tests in Hong Kong



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 8 to 14 October for verification testing of local cases, about 0.9% and 93.0% 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



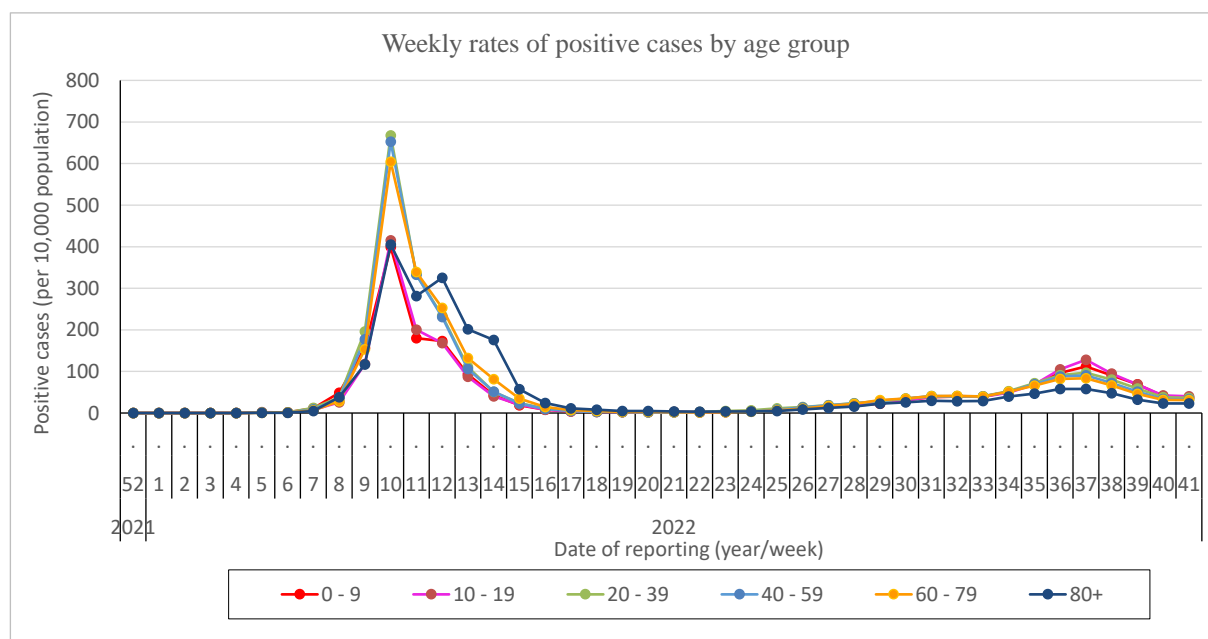
Note:

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 55, 4, 1 and 5 cases of sub-lineages XBB, BA.2.75.2, BA.4.6 and BQ.1.1 respectively have been identified by the PHLSB among imported 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	1603.6	Central and Western	1359.2	92.3	147.6	217.3	28.1
		Wan Chai	1243.2	89.8	161.4	213.7	27.1
		Eastern	1754.1	124.2	223.8	285.1	34.9
		Southern	1749.9	136.6	200.5	265.0	35.6
Kowloon	2085.0	Kowloon City	1720.1	102.4	199.2	257.9	32.8
		Kwun Tong	2311.5	127.5	232.4	294.6	34.9
		Sham Shui Po	2059.6	109.8	178.7	238.3	27.2
		Wong Tai Sin	2289.5	121.8	220.6	284.7	32.8
		Yau Tsim Mong	1839.3	93.1	165.9	205.9	29.0
New Territories East	1919.3	Islands	1587.5	142.1	203.4	234.1	27.0
		North	1984.3	158.9	285.5	340.5	35.9
		Sai Kung	1831.5	133.3	252.9	334.7	41.3
		Sha Tin	2044.5	129.4	259.3	330.0	37.6
		Tai Po	1911.0	193.5	260.4	298.2	38.1
New Territories West	2041.0	Kwai Tsing	2219.0	109.0	181.5	241.3	30.3
		Tsuen Wan	1879.3	121.7	213.8	273.4	35.1
		Tuen Mun	2143.7	127.1	248.9	280.5	34.3
		Yuen Long	1909.9	135.1	237.8	300.9	34.2

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
11/09/2022 - 17/09/2022	1449	5750	903
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

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
11/09/2022 - 17/09/2022	48	69	10
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

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 10278 fatal cases.

Since the 5th wave, a total of 10065 fatal cases have been recorded.

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

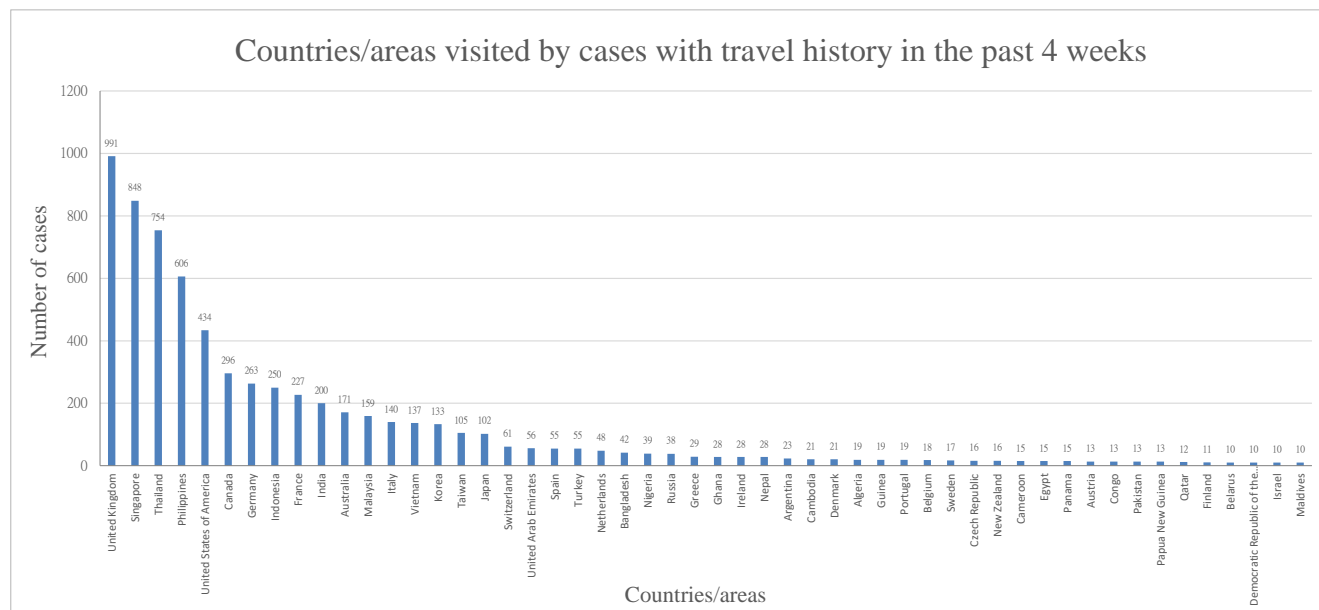
Age Group	CFR of locally acquired cases	CFR of locally acquired cases with history of at least 2 doses of COVID-19 vaccine	CFR of locally acquired cases with history of 1 dose of COVID-19 vaccine or unvaccinated
0-9	0.01%	0.00%	0.01%
10-19	0.00%	0.00%	0.01%
20-29	0.01%	0.01%	0.03%
30-39	0.01%	0.00%	0.04%
40-49	0.02%	0.01%	0.11%
50-59	0.10%	0.04%	0.49%
60-69	0.33%	0.10%	1.21%
70-79	1.33%	0.38%	3.32%
80+	8.39%	2.69%	12.53%
Overall	0.57%	0.12%	1.95%

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.