

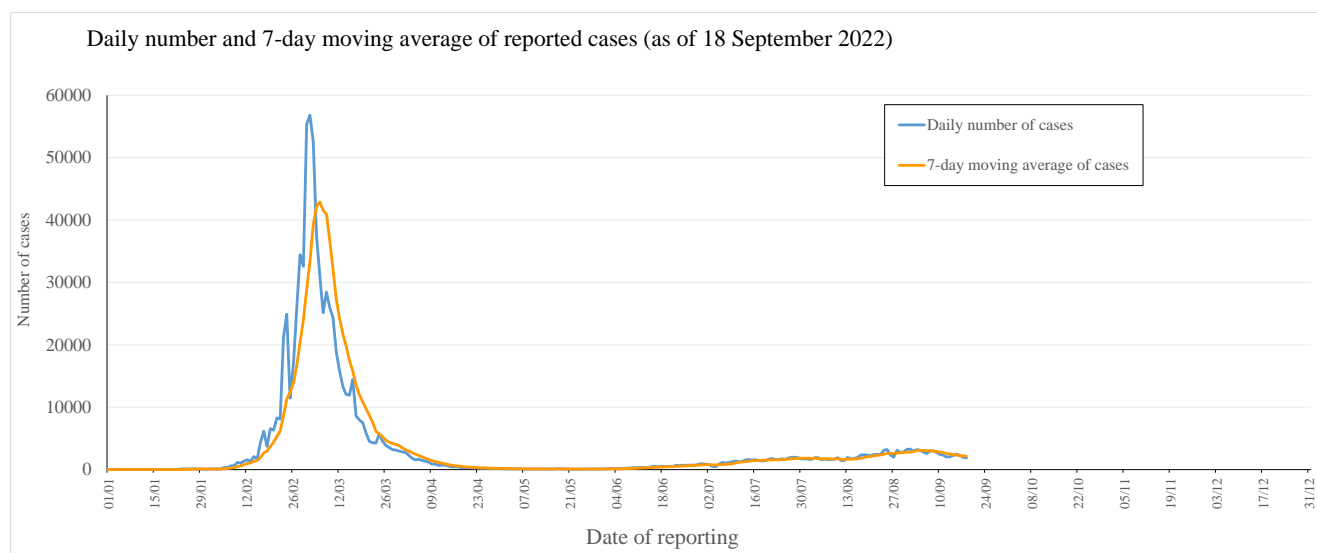
## **Latest situation of COVID-19 (as of 18 September 2022)**

The Centre for Health Protection (CHP) of the Department of Health (DH) today (18 September) announced the latest epidemic situation of COVID-19. As of 0.00am, 18 September 2022, the CHP was investigating 7190 additional locally acquired cases tested positive for the SARS-CoV-2 virus, including 1750 cases tested positive by nucleic acid tests and 5440 cases tested positive by rapid antigen tests (RATs) in the past 24 hours. Separately, 132 additional imported cases were reported, including 124 cases tested positive by nucleic acid tests and 8 cases tested positive by RATs. So far, Hong Kong has recorded a total of 934102 and 773393 cases tested positive by nucleic acid tests and RATs respectively for the SARS-CoV-2 virus.

Since the 5th wave (31 December 2021), 921471 cases and 773393 cases were tested positive by nucleic acid tests and rapid antigen tests respectively.

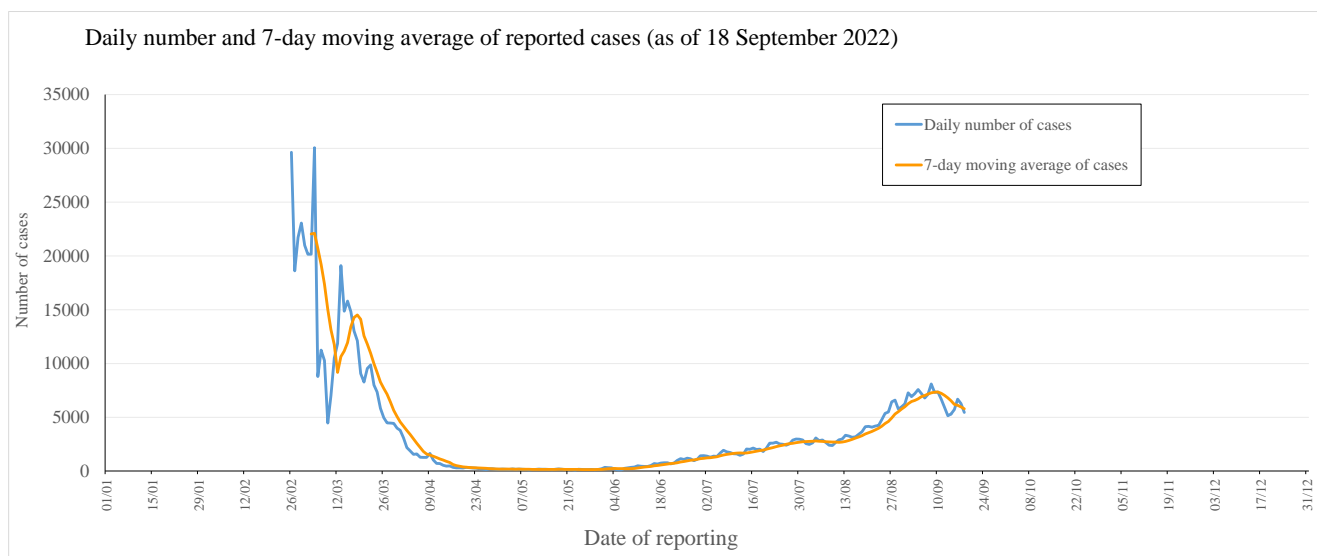
In the recent 7-day period from 12 to 18 September 2022, an average of 2146.6 cases by nucleic acid tests were reported per day, as compared with 2715.9 cases per day reported in the previous 7-day period from 5 to 11 September 2022 (Figure 1(i)).

**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**



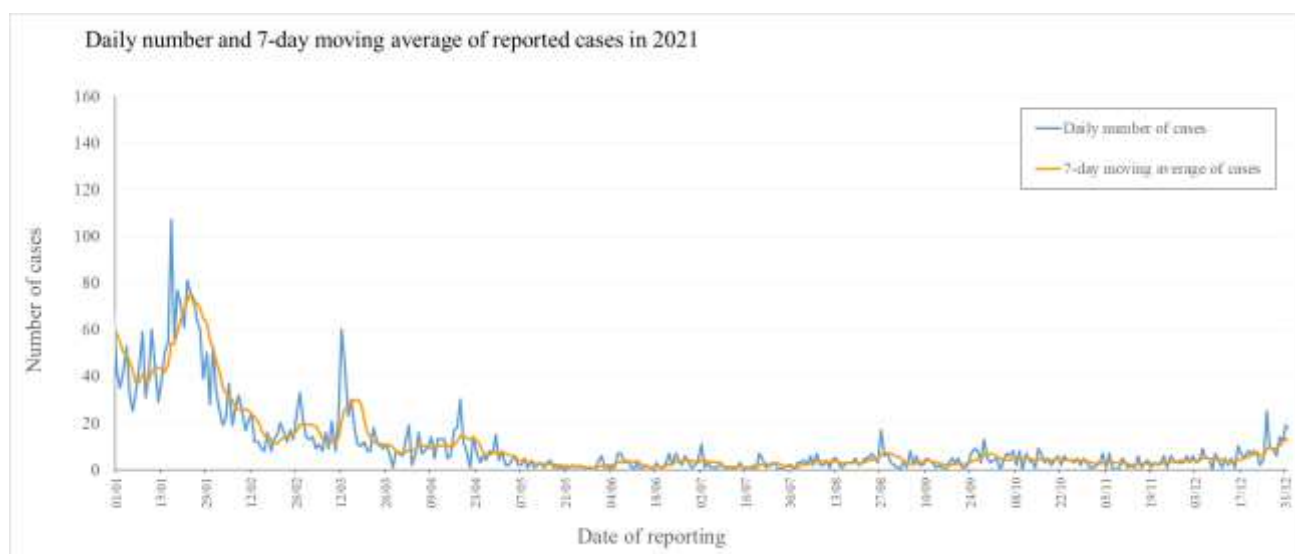
Note: Re-positive cases are excluded in Figure 1(i).

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



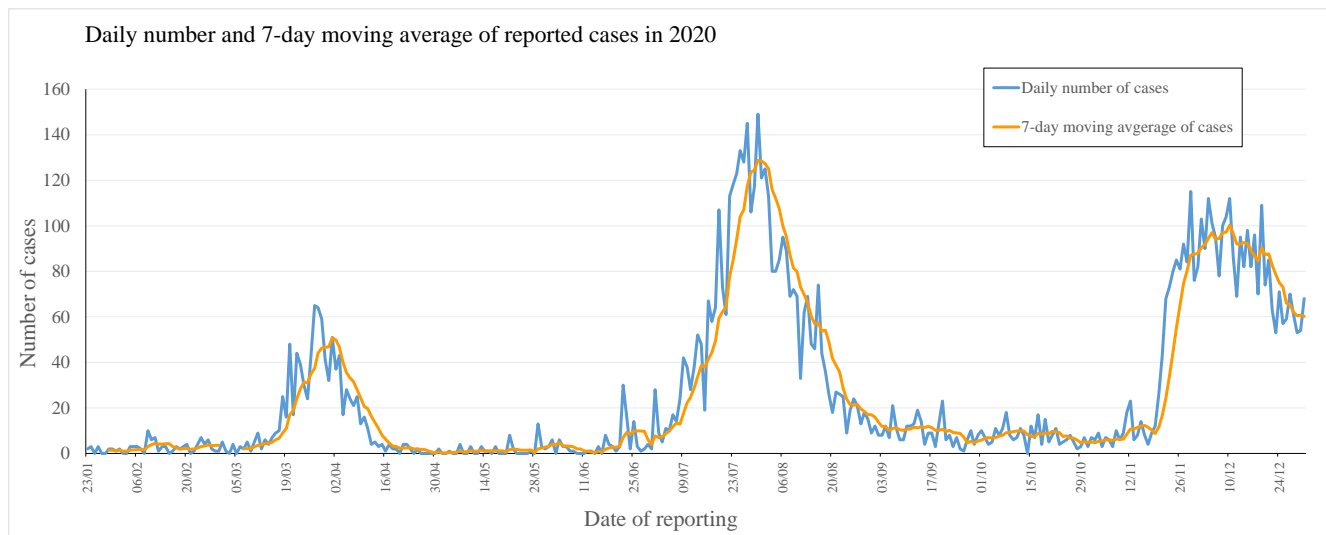
Note: Re-positive cases are excluded in Figure 1(ii).

**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**



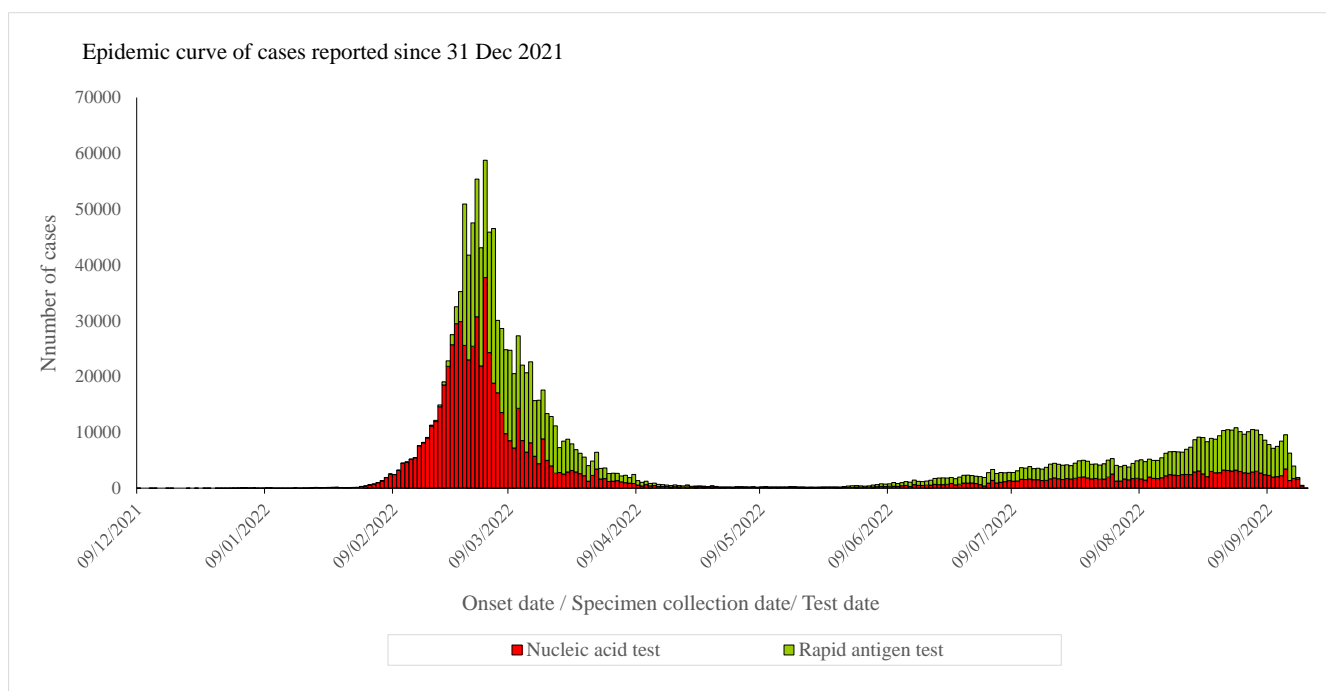
Note: Re-positive cases are excluded in Figure 1(iii).

**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).

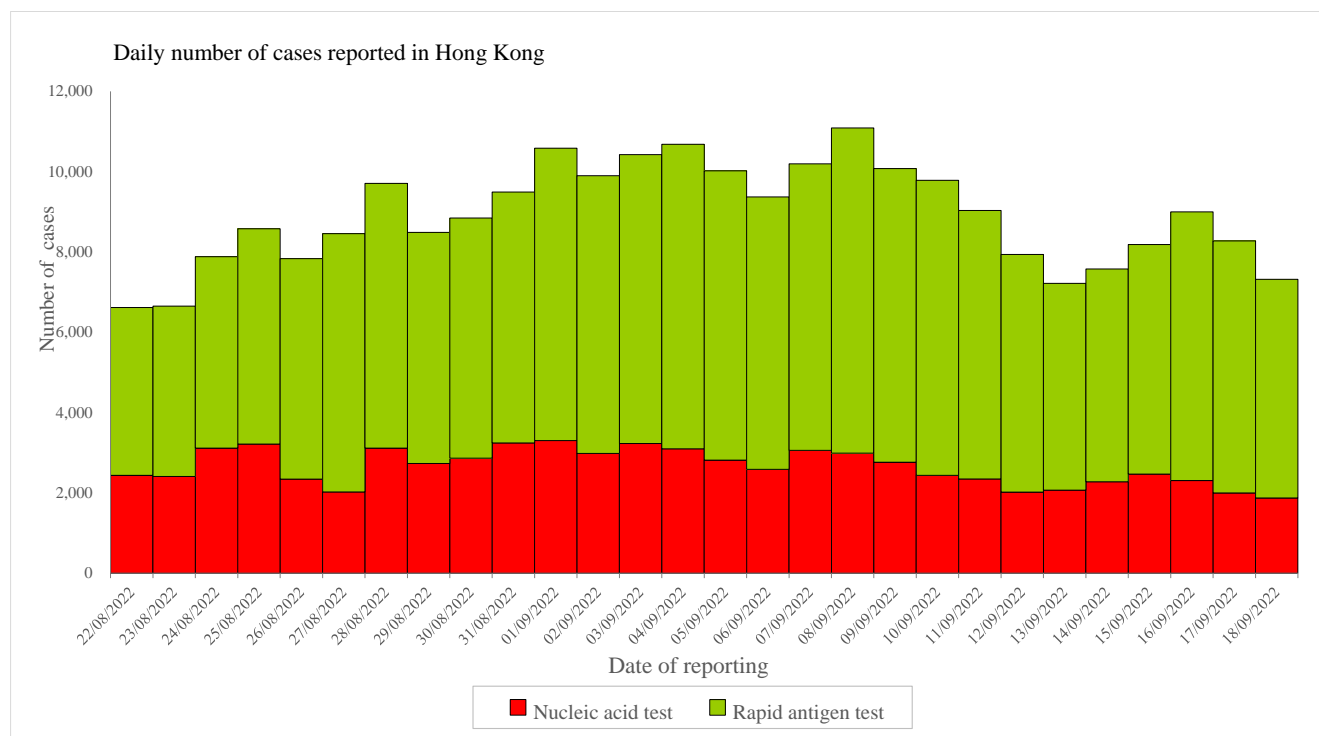
**Figure 2: Epidemic curve of cases tested positive for SARS-CoV-2 virus in Hong Kong since 31 December 2021**



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.

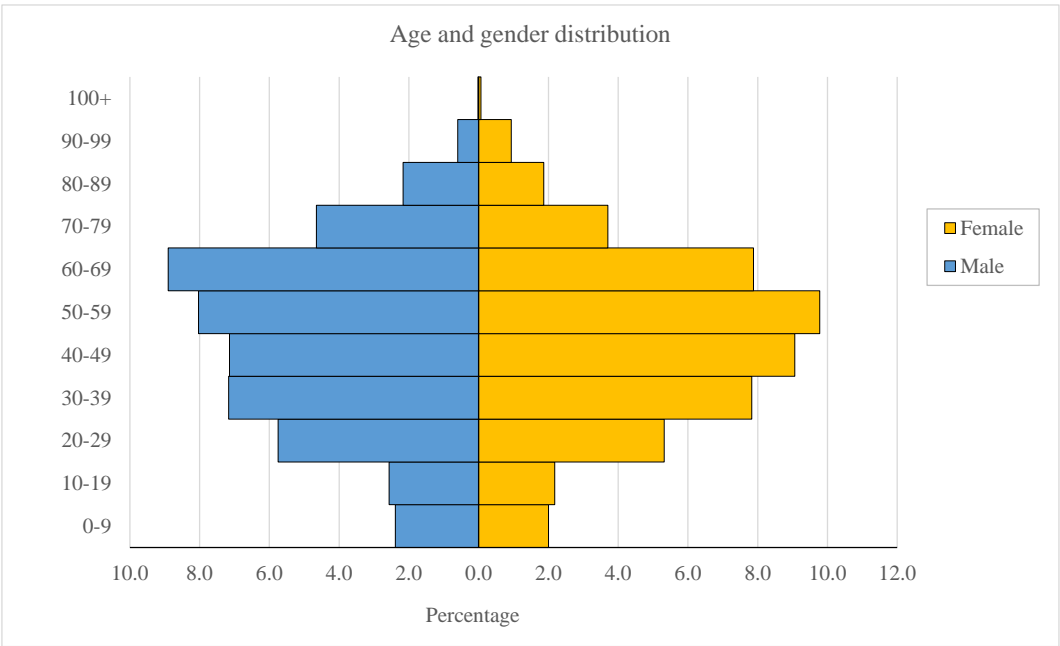
Table 1 shows the classification of cases reported since the 5<sup>th</sup> wave (since 31 December 2021).

**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	21768 (1.28%)	1673096 (98.72%)	1694864 (100.00%)
In the past 4 weeks			
22/8/2022 - 28/8/2022	1600 (2.87%)	54134 (97.13%)	55734 (100.00%)
29/8/2022 - 4/9/2022	1529 (2.23%)	66898 (97.77%)	68427 (100.00%)
5/9/2022 - 11/9/2022	1151 (1.65%)	68424 (98.35%)	69575 (100.00%)
12/9/2022 - 18/9/2022	1034 (1.86%)	54487 (98.14%)	55521 (100.00%)

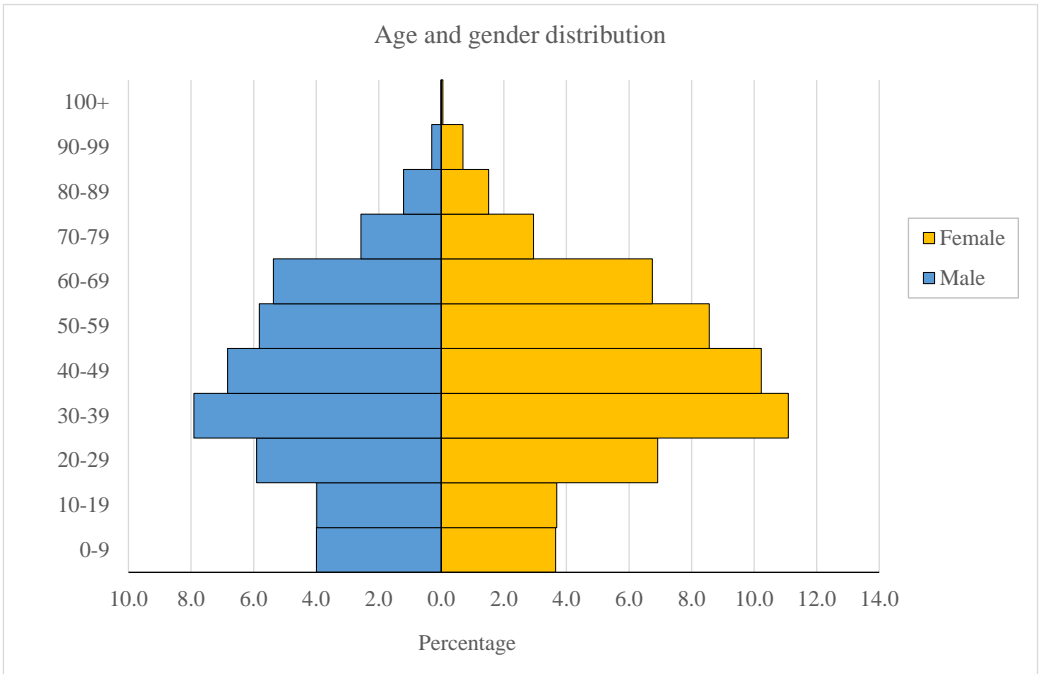
Figure 4 shows the age and gender distribution of the cases (since the 5<sup>th</sup> wave).

**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).

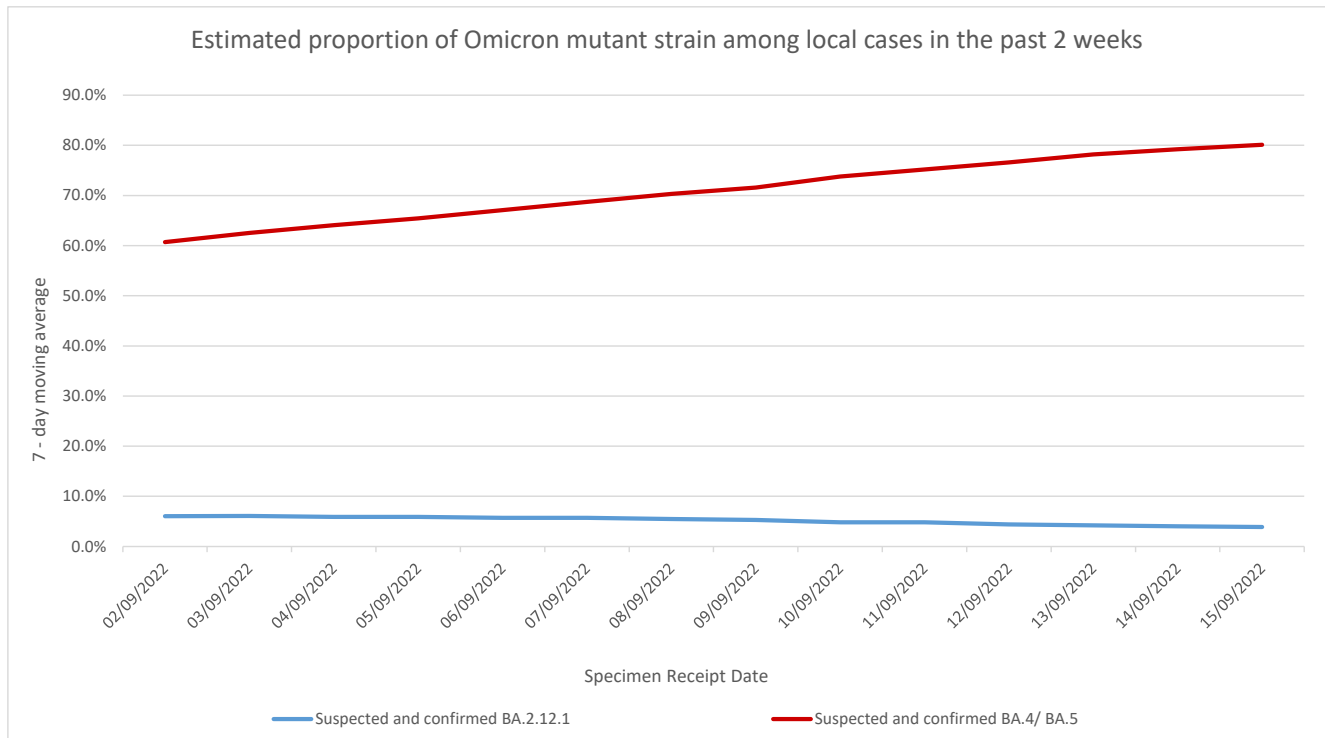
**Figure 4(ii): Age and gender distribution of cases tested positive for SARS-CoV-2 virus by rapid antigen tests in Hong Kong**



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 September for verification testing of local cases, about 3.9% and 80.1% 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**

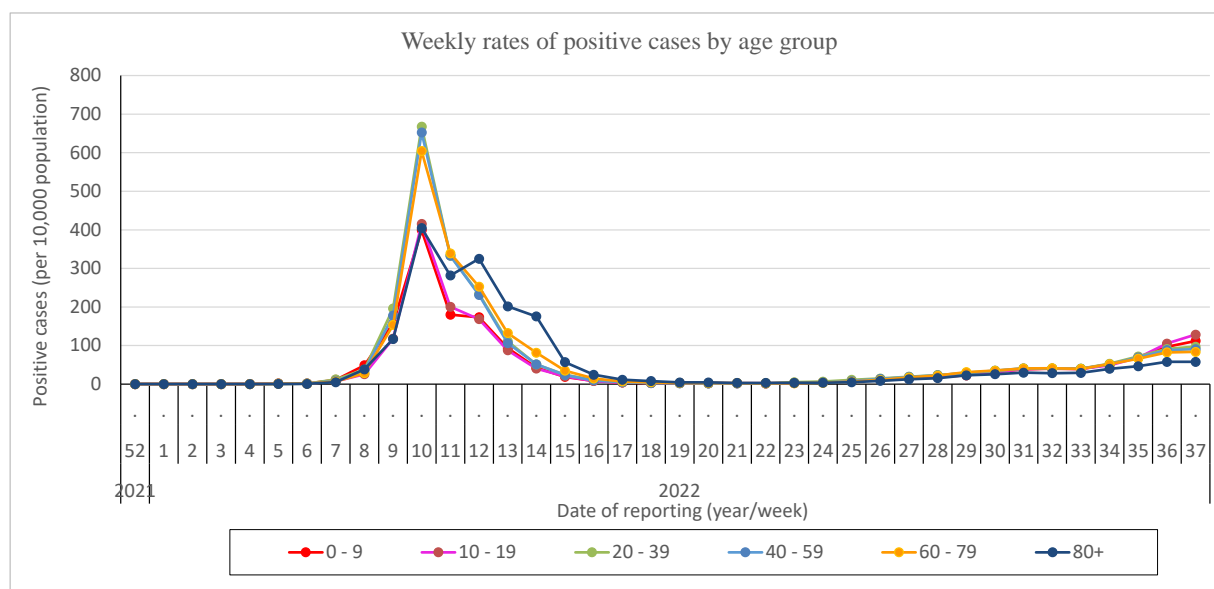


Note:

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 5 - 11 September 2022, 88.5% were BA.5.

**Figure 6: Weekly rates of positive cases tested by nucleic acid tests and rapid antigen tests (by age group) since the 5<sup>th</sup> 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	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep
Hong Kong	1426.5	Central and Western	1205.4	55.9	92.3	147.6	91.5
		Wan Chai	1094.9	53.4	89.8	161.4	92.1
		Eastern	1561.2	39.4	124.1	223.8	127.3
		Southern	1565.6	46.3	136.5	200.5	116.5
Kowloon	1912.6	Kowloon City	1547.6	38.1	102.4	199.1	118.3
		Kwun Tong	2123.5	31.4	127.5	232.4	141.5
		Sham Shui Po	1898.7	28.7	109.8	178.7	105.1
		Wong Tai Sin	2107.7	26.6	121.7	220.6	135.8
		Yau Tsim Mong	1697.8	41.6	93.1	166.0	93.3
New Territories East	1708.7	Islands	1426.3	41.9	142.1	203.3	100.2
		North	1766.3	38.0	158.9	285.4	158.4
		Sai Kung	1600.8	39.4	133.3	252.9	145.4
		Sha Tin	1833.8	37.2	129.3	259.3	156.7
		Tai Po	1710.1	52.6	193.5	260.4	135.5
New Territories West	1858.4	Kwai Tsing	2060.0	26.2	109.0	181.4	112.5
		Tsuen Wan	1705.3	39.0	121.7	213.8	134.6
		Tuen Mun	1960.2	37.5	127.1	248.8	131.1
		Yuen Long	1706.7	35.2	135.0	237.8	132.2

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
14/08/2022-20/08/2022	179	285	83
21/08/2022-27/08/2022	250	494	174
28/08/2022-03/09/2022	846	1527	406
04/09/2022-10/09/2022	1542	6842	1249

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
14/08/2022 - 20/08/2022	48	73	22
21/08/2022 - 27/08/2022	57	79	13
28/08/2022 - 03/09/2022	55	84	17
04/09/2022 - 10/09/2022	50	66	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 9891 fatal cases.

Since the 5<sup>th</sup> wave, a total of 9678 fatal cases have been recorded.

**Table 5: Case fatality rate (CFR) by age group and vaccination status (since the 5<sup>th</sup> wave)**

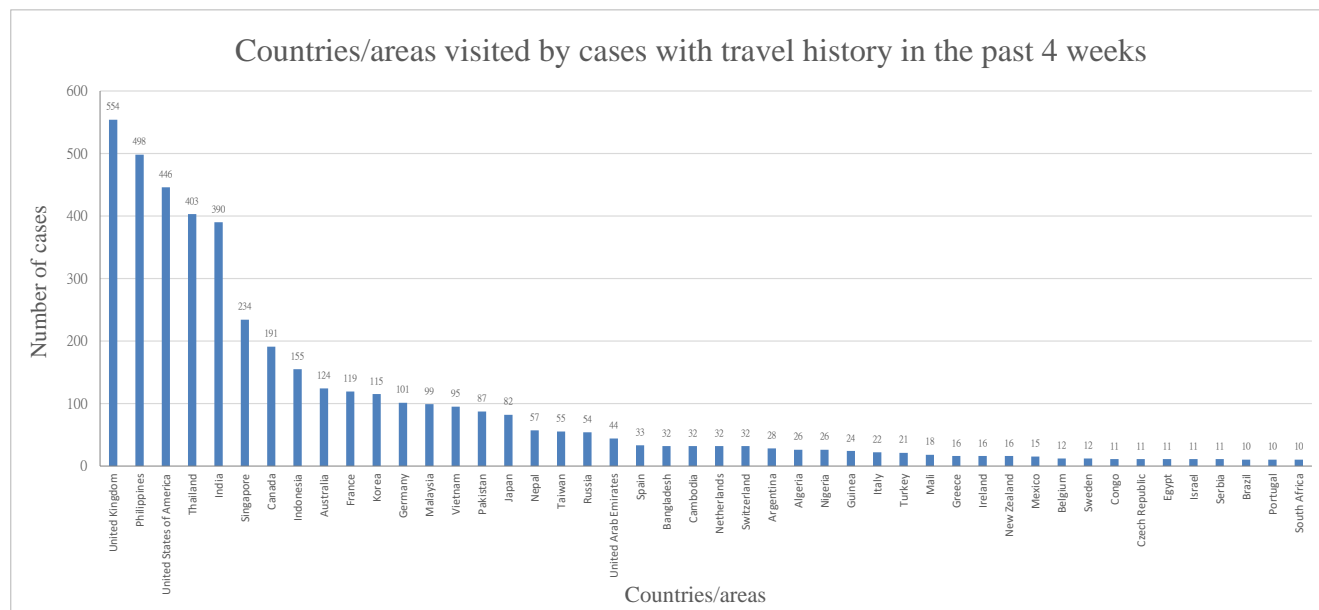
<b>Age Group</b>	<b>CFR of locally acquired cases</b>	<b>CFR of locally acquired cases with history of at least 2 doses of COVID-19 vaccine</b>	<b>CFR of locally acquired cases with history of 1 dose of COVID-19 vaccine or unvaccinated</b>
<b>0-9</b>	0.01%	0.00%	0.01%
<b>10-19</b>	0.01%	0.00%	0.01%
<b>20-29</b>	0.01%	0.00%	0.03%
<b>30-39</b>	0.01%	0.00%	0.04%
<b>40-49</b>	0.02%	0.01%	0.11%
<b>50-59</b>	0.10%	0.03%	0.49%
<b>60-69</b>	0.34%	0.10%	1.19%
<b>70-79</b>	1.38%	0.37%	3.32%
<b>80+</b>	8.54%	2.64%	12.37%
<b>Overall</b>	<b>0.59%</b>	<b>0.12%</b>	<b>1.98%</b>

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.