

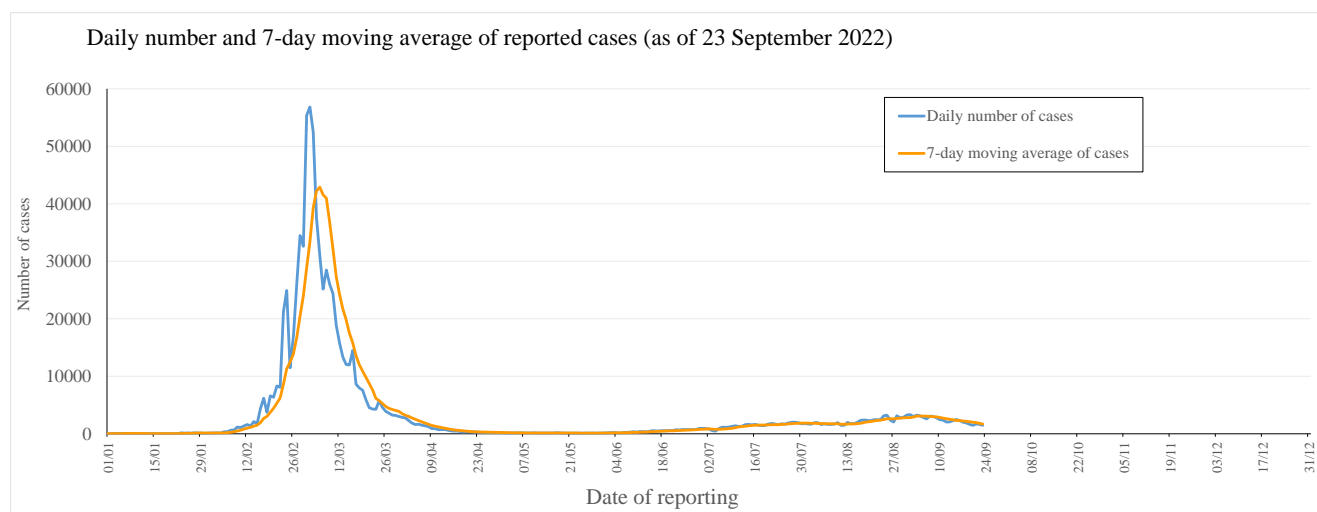
Latest situation of COVID-19 (as of 23 September 2022)

The Centre for Health Protection (CHP) of the Department of Health (DH) today (23 September) announced the latest epidemic situation of COVID-19. As of 0.00am, 23 September 2022, the CHP was investigating 5231 additional locally acquired cases tested positive for the SARS-CoV-2 virus, including 1315 cases tested positive by nucleic acid tests and 3916 cases tested positive by rapid antigen tests (RATs) in the past 24 hours. Separately, 156 additional imported cases were reported, including 142 cases tested positive by nucleic acid tests and 14 cases tested positive by RATs. So far, Hong Kong has recorded a total of 941981 and 794432 cases tested positive by nucleic acid tests and RATs respectively for the SARS-CoV-2 virus.

Since the 5th wave (31 December 2021), 929350 cases and 794432 cases were tested positive by nucleic acid tests and rapid antigen tests respectively.

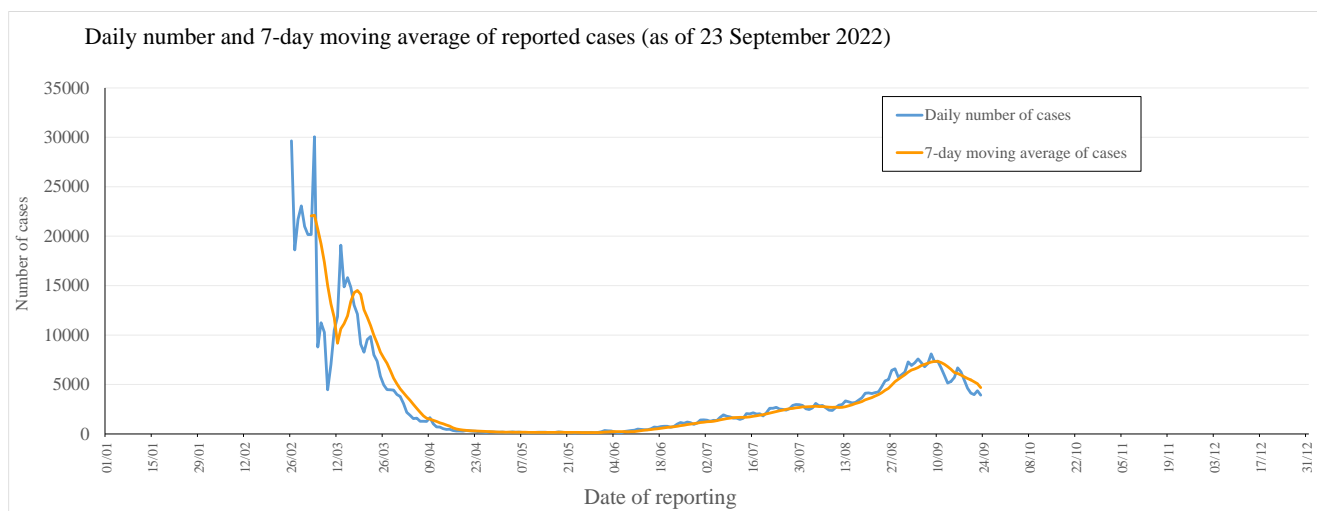
In the recent 7-day period from 17 to 23 September 2022, an average of 1679.0 cases by nucleic acid tests were reported per day, as compared with 2277.3 cases per day reported in the previous 7-day period from 10 to 16 September 2022 (Figure 1(i)).

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



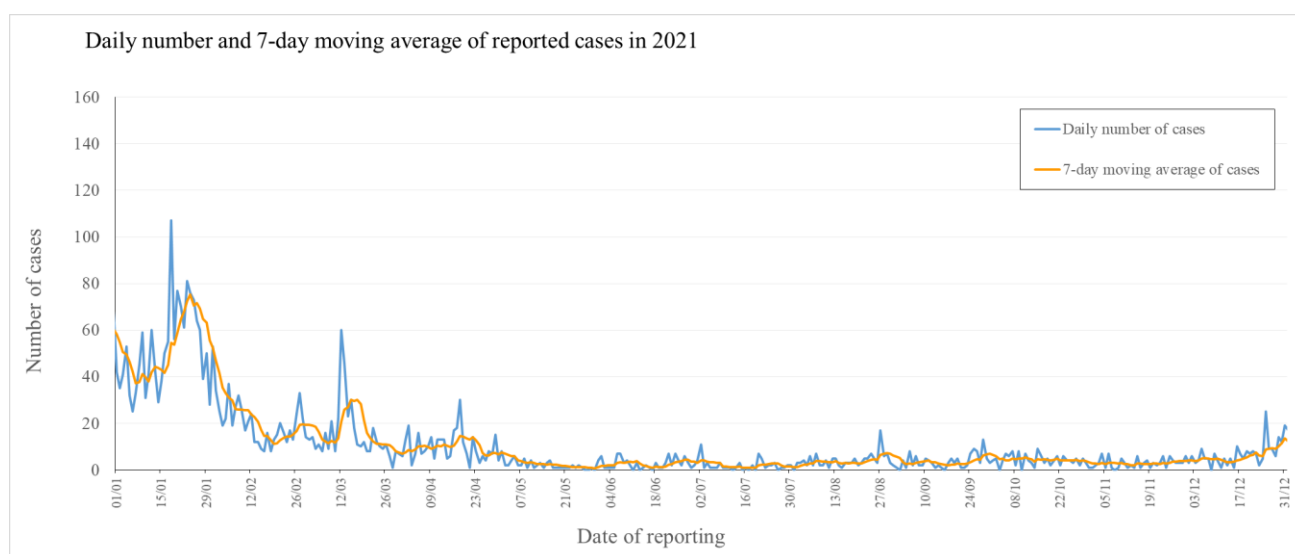
Note: Re-positive cases are excluded in Figure 1(i).

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



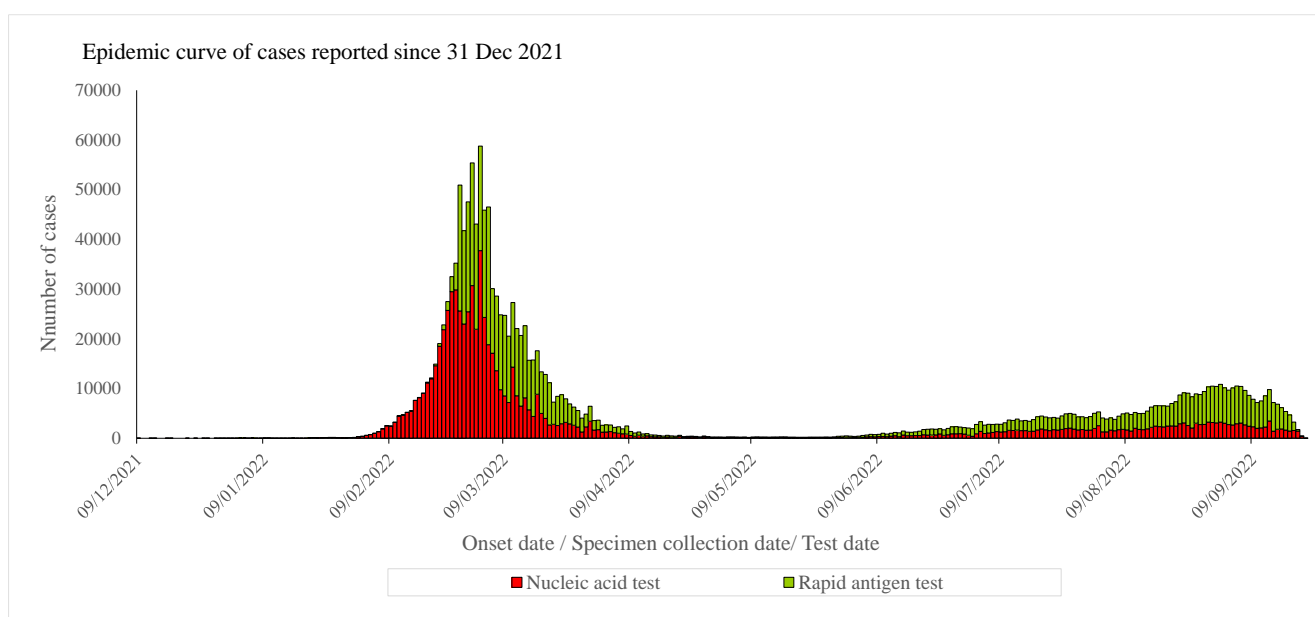
Note: Re-positive cases are excluded in Figure 1(iii).

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).

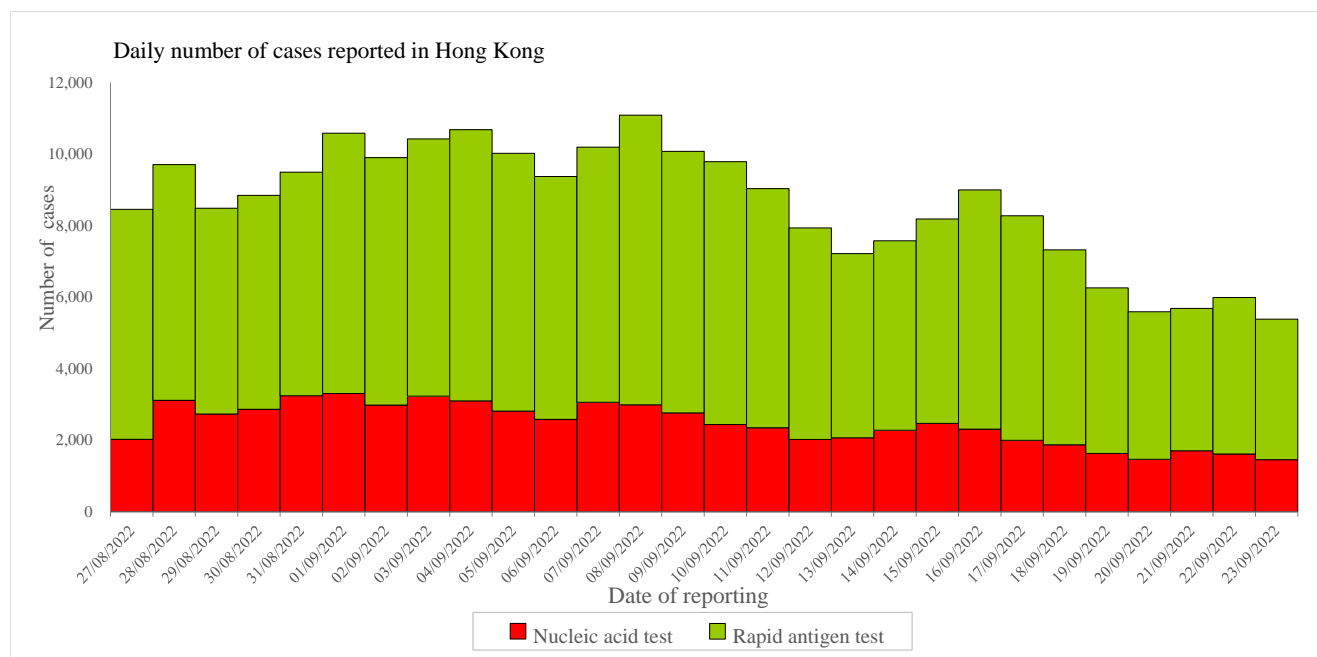
Figure 2: Epidemic curve of cases tested positive for SARS-CoV-2 virus in Hong Kong since 31 December 2021



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.

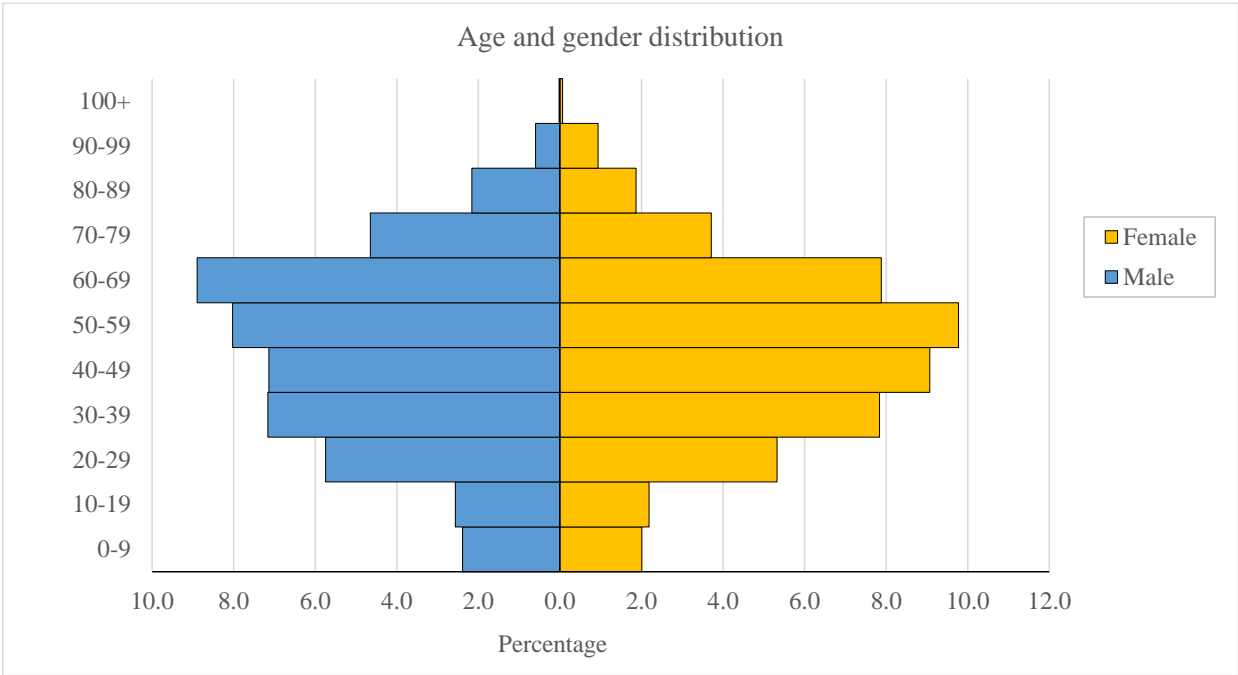
Table 1 shows the classification of cases reported since the 5th wave (since 31 December 2021).

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	22542 (1.31%)	1701240 (98.69%)	1723782 (100.00%)
In the past 4 weeks			
27/8/2022 - 2/9/2022	1577 (2.41%)	63906 (97.59%)	65483 (100.00%)
3/9/2022 - 9/9/2022	1234 (1.72%)	70630 (98.28%)	71864 (100.00%)
10/9/2022 - 16/9/2022	1087 (1.85%)	57654 (98.15%)	58741 (100.00%)
17/9/2022 - 23/9/2022	1035 (2.32%)	43483 (97.68%)	44518 (100.00%)

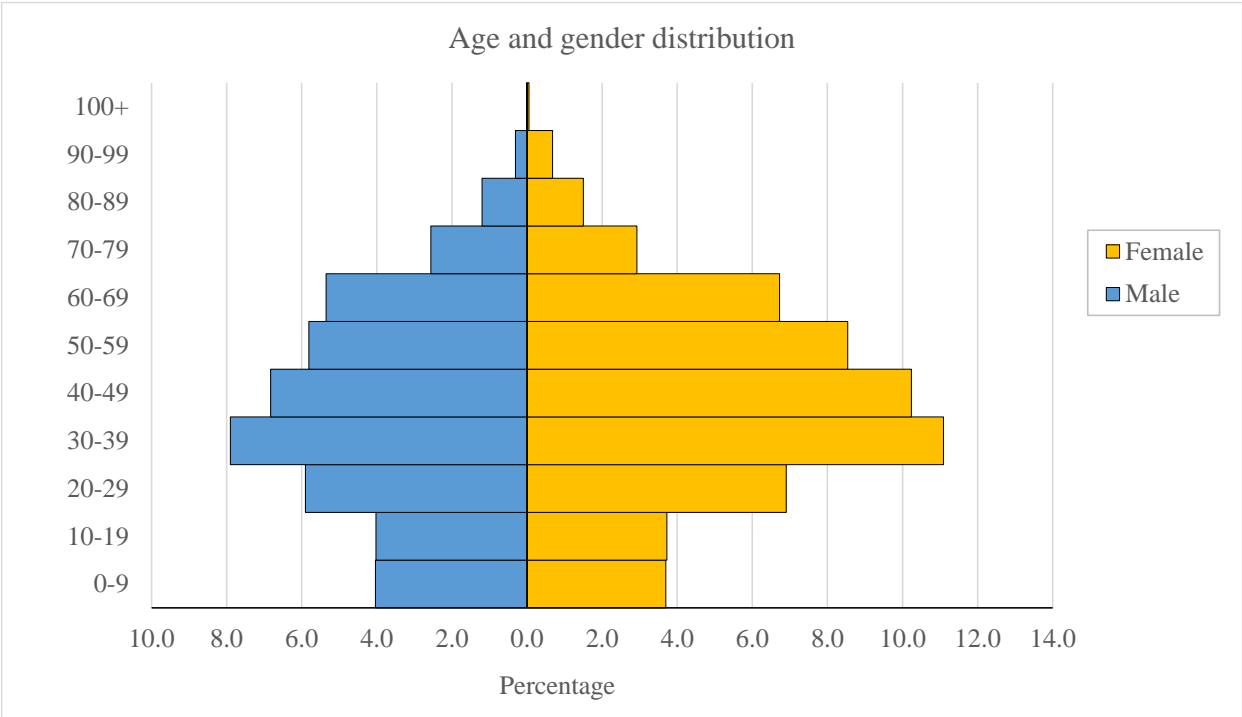
Figure 4 shows the age and gender distribution of the cases (since the 5th wave).

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).

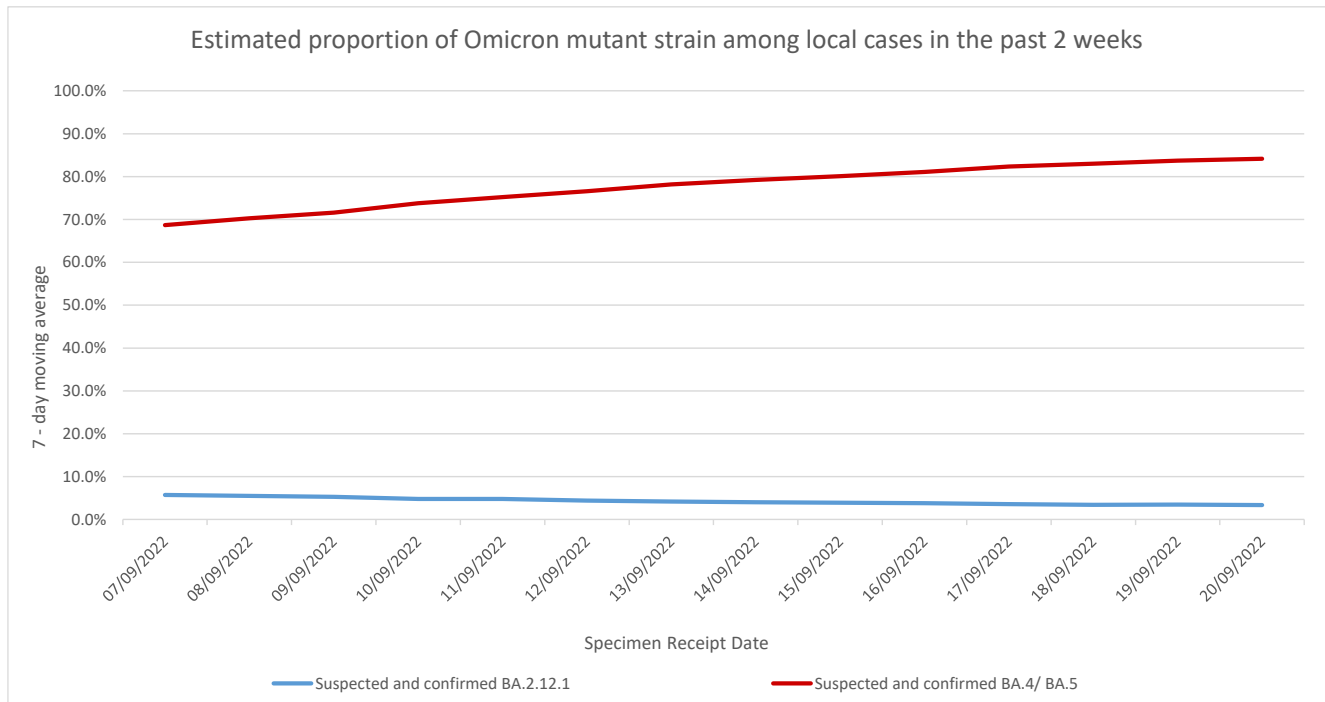
Figure 4(ii): Age and gender distribution of cases tested positive for SARS-CoV-2 virus by rapid antigen tests in Hong Kong



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 14 to 20 September for verification testing of local cases, about 3.4% and 84.2% 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

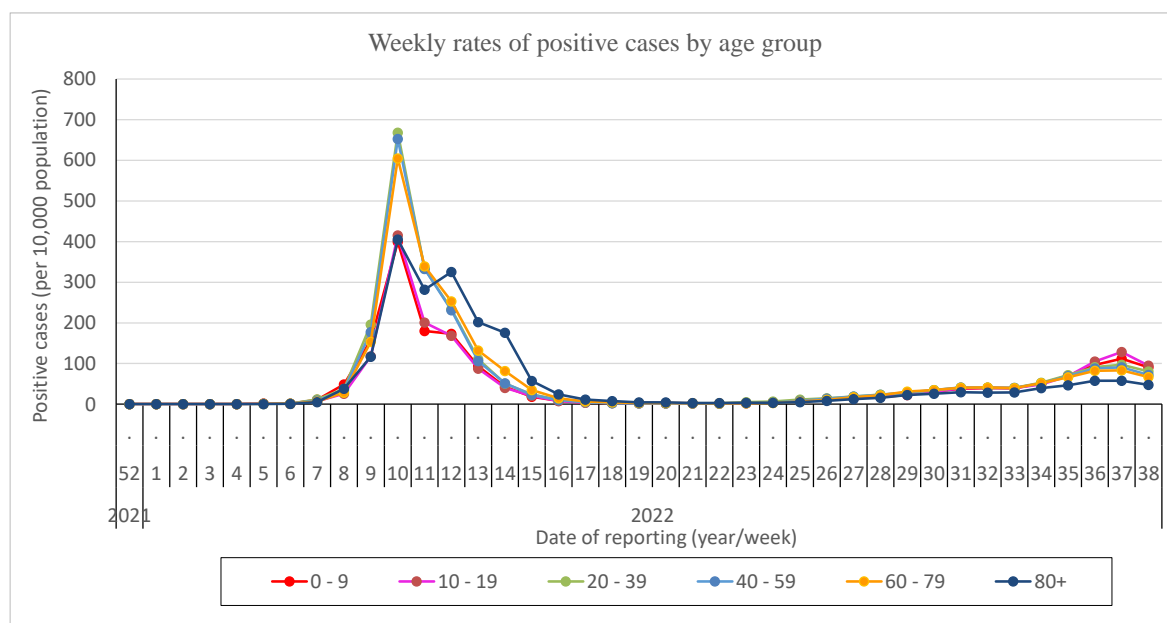


Note:

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 12 - 18 September 2022, 92.3% 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	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep
Hong Kong	1493.9	Central and Western	1265.2	55.9	92.3	147.6	151.2
		Wan Chai	1153.7	53.4	89.8	161.4	150.8
		Eastern	1633.5	39.4	124.2	223.8	199.5
		Southern	1635.5	46.3	136.5	200.5	186.3
Kowloon	1978.5	Kowloon City	1609.7	38.1	102.4	199.1	180.4
		Kwun Tong	2196.1	31.4	127.5	232.4	214.1
		Sham Shui Po	1960.8	28.7	109.8	178.7	167.1
		Wong Tai Sin	2180.4	26.6	121.7	220.6	208.4
		Yau Tsim Mong	1750.1	41.6	93.1	166.0	145.5
New Territories East	1791.4	Islands	1487.4	41.9	142.1	203.3	161.3
		North	1854.8	38.0	158.9	285.4	246.8
		Sai Kung	1689.9	39.4	133.3	252.9	234.4
		Sha Tin	1918.0	37.2	129.3	259.3	240.8
		Tai Po	1786.9	52.6	193.5	260.4	212.1
New Territories West	1928.6	Kwai Tsing	2121.8	26.2	109.0	181.4	174.3
		Tsuen Wan	1770.4	39.0	121.7	213.8	199.8
		Tuen Mun	2029.8	37.5	127.1	248.9	200.6
		Yuen Long	1785.8	35.2	135.0	237.8	211.1

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
21/08/2022 - 27/08/2022	250	494	174
28/08/2022 - 03/09/2022	846	1527	406
04/09/2022 - 10/09/2022	1543	6854	1252
11/09/2022 - 17/09/2022	1449	5757	899

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

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 10099* fatal cases.

Since the 5th wave, a total of 9886* fatal cases have been recorded.

*Having checked with the confirmed COVID-19 case name list with the CHP, the HA noted that adjustments are needed for the number of death cases, after which there would be a net increase of 153 fatal cases reported by the HA. They were all fatal cases during the peak months from February to April this year.

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

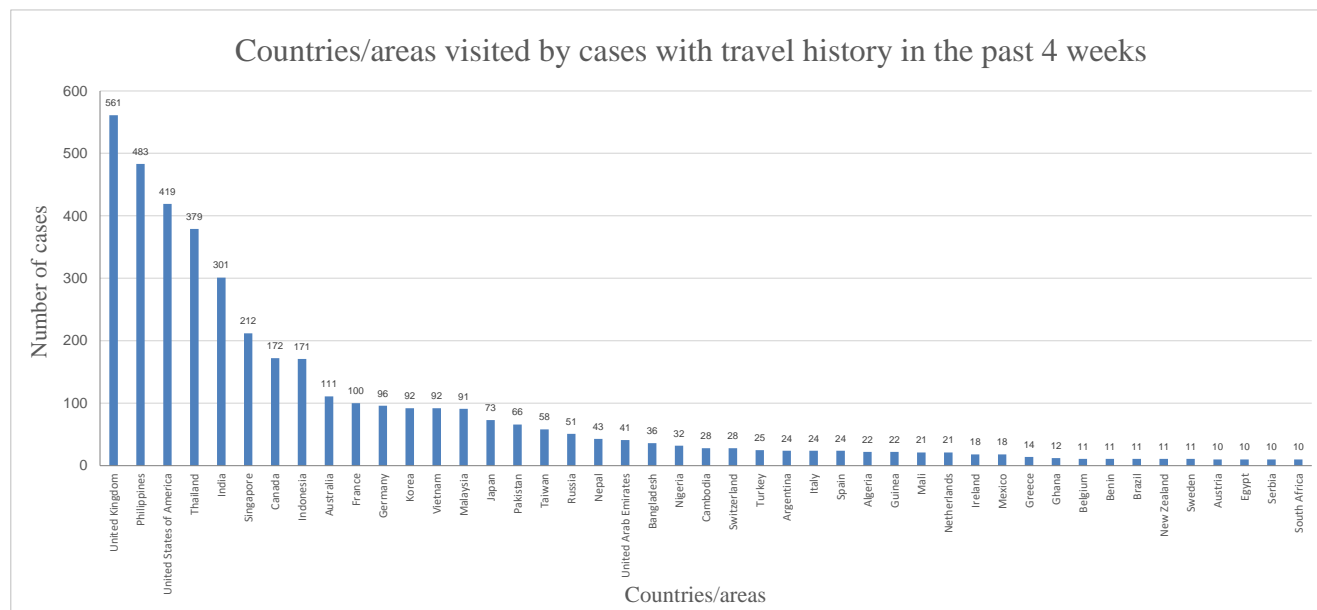
Age Group	CFR of locally acquired cases	CFR of locally acquired cases with history of at least 2 doses of COVID-19 vaccine	CFR of locally acquired cases with history of 1 dose of COVID-19 vaccine or unvaccinated
0-9	0.01%	0.01%	0.01%
10-19	0.00%	0.00%	0.01%
20-29	0.01%	0.00%	0.03%
30-39	0.01%	0.00%	0.04%
40-49	0.02%	0.01%	0.11%
50-59	0.10%	0.03%	0.49%
60-69	0.33%	0.10%	1.19%
70-79	1.35%	0.37%	3.32%
80+	8.41%	2.63%	12.33%
Overall	0.58%	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.