



This Situation Report is jointly issued by PNG National Department of Health (NDOH) and World Health Organization (WHO) once weekly. This Report is not comprehensive and covers information received as of reporting date.

Situation Summary and Highlights

- As of 27 December, PNG has officially reported a cumulative total of 36,130 confirmed cases of COVID-19 including 590 COVID-19 confirmed deaths.
- There were 71 new confirmed cases reported during the week.
- Delta cases remain at 627.
- Over 223,476 people are fully vaccinated, representing 12% of the government's 20% target for 2021 Phase I COVID-19 vaccinations. Over 286, 336 people have been vaccinated with at least one dose of a COVID-19 vaccine.

Cluster Updates & Priorities

Surveillance:

- Total number of cases at 36, 130, confirmed deaths at 590 and delta cases remain at 627 this week.
- Work continues on strengthening provincial and national level routine surveillance, to ensure reporting is able to provide a timely reflection of current COVID activity and trends.
- An enhanced surveillance package is being established to provide an early warning system over Christmas, New Year and to the end of January 2022.
- A current priority is to continue to ensure surveillance systems and reporting mechanisms are in place to be able to detect changes in case activity during and after the festive season, and in the context of the globally emerging Omicron, Variant of Concern.

Table 1. Reported COVID-19 cases in PNG¹ (27 Dec 2021)

Province	New Cases	Deaths	Cumulative Delta Variant	Cumulative Total
AROB			15	921
Central			7	826
ENB			28	2199
ES			16	688
EH			22	2156
Enga			4	1048
Gulf			10	485
Hela			31	762
Jiwaka			2	421
Madang			4	1268
Manus			11	639
Milne Bay			3	1213
Morobe			79	2491
NCD			196	9382
Ni			11	820
Northern				378
Simbu			14	1058
SH			28	1039
WNB			32	1227
WS			67	775
Western			43	3610
WH			4	2724
TOTAL	0	0	627	36 130

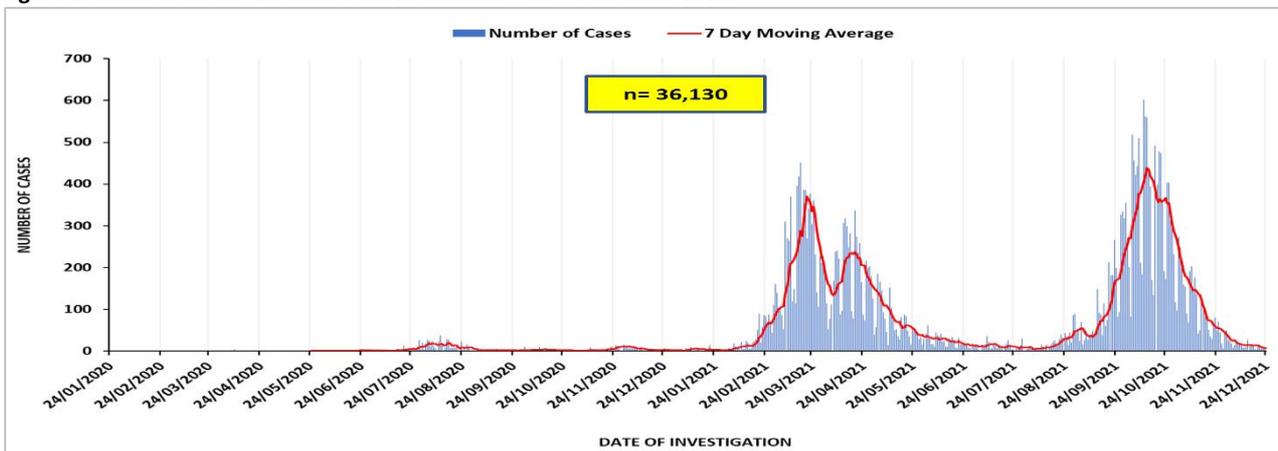
¹ As of 27/12/2021, 12:00 pm, PNG time

Table 2. COVID-19 GLOBAL AND REGIONAL UPDATE^{2b}

	Confirmed Cases	Deaths
Global	280 315 202	5 416 273
Western Pacific	11 094 403	153 889

² WHO COVID-19 Dashboard as of 27/12/2021, 22:45 CEST

Figure 1: Trend of COVID-19 cases from 20 Jan 2020 – 27th December 2021



Niupla Pasin (NP):

- Niupela Pasin team this week received 10 event requests including 9 indoor events and 1 outdoor event. 10 approvals were granted for various events and meetings around the country on commitment to strictly observe Niupela Pasin (NP).
- Events ranged from Christmas celebrations, meetings, workshops and private functions across the country with strict observations of NP which includes mandatory mask wearing, temperature checks, hand sanitizing and observing social distancing.
- Mass gatherings events were discouraged at this time in light of delta variant spread in the provinces. People are strongly encouraged to adhere to Niupla Pasin measures.
- Continue distribution of IEC materials to the provinces and followed up with provinces for their budget plans and provincial NP officers.
- Work-in-progress on the team’s Annual Report.

Risk Communication and Community Engagement (RCCE):

- Conducted radio Talkbacks Show with NBC and FM100.
- Provided advocacy session with media houses on their role in ensuring the spread of correct information and ethical reporting.
- Developed and disseminated Vaccine messages for the Air magazine throughout the country this festive season.
- Submitted the RCCE Annual Report this week.

Logistics and Supplies:

- Continued processing of monthly orders received from provinces/facilities and dispatching of oxygen (O2) consumables and concentrators.
- Continue with mapping of biomed devices in health facilities in the provinces.

Quarantine & Points of Entry:

- No international traveller(s) under quarantine after the 10 December, 2021 as per COVID-19 measure released on 26th September, 2021.
- There was no reported COVID-19 case of international travellers during the reporting period.

Table 3. Persons Screened by Point of Entry

Total Number of Travelers Screened before SOE (Until 22 March 2020)	29,387	
Total Number of Travelers Screened during SOE (23 March – 16 June 2020)	3,788	
Total Number of Travelers Screened after SOE (17 June 2020 – 25 December 2021)	Air	34,822
	Sea	1,998
	Land	6

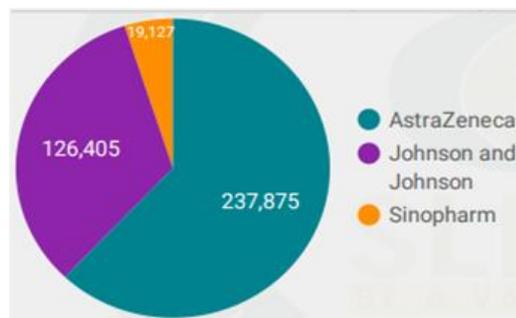
National Vaccination Rollout

- Over 223,476 people are fully vaccinated, representing 12% of the government's 20% target for 2021 Phase I COVID-19 vaccinations.
- Over 286,336 people have been vaccinated with at least one dose of a COVID-19 vaccine.

Figure 2: Daily reported number of doses administered



Figure 3: Total doses administered by vaccine type



National and Provincial Health Update

- The Pandemic Response Coordination Group and the Health Operations Team continued to meet regularly at the National Control Centre.
- Full details of all containment measures can be found at www.covid19.info.gov.pg

Partner Coordination Activities

- The final Health Cluster meeting for 2021 was held on the 7 December. Please email osheaj@who.int if you or your organisation wishes to join the cluster meetings and present activities. These meetings are strategic and are used to align all partner activities.
- Currently, NCDPHA, WNBPHA and WPHA have expressed interest or are holding weekly partner coordination meetings via zoom. If PHA's wish to engage in similar meetings, please contact osheaj@who.int who can assist in facilitating this.
- Partners are also advised that there will be a shared drive created for direct updates for health cluster members to update each week. This will be shared post the Health Cluster meetings each fortnight.
- The next health cluster meeting will be held on the 25 January 2022 at 1pm PNG Time.

For more information about this Situation Report, please contact:

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