

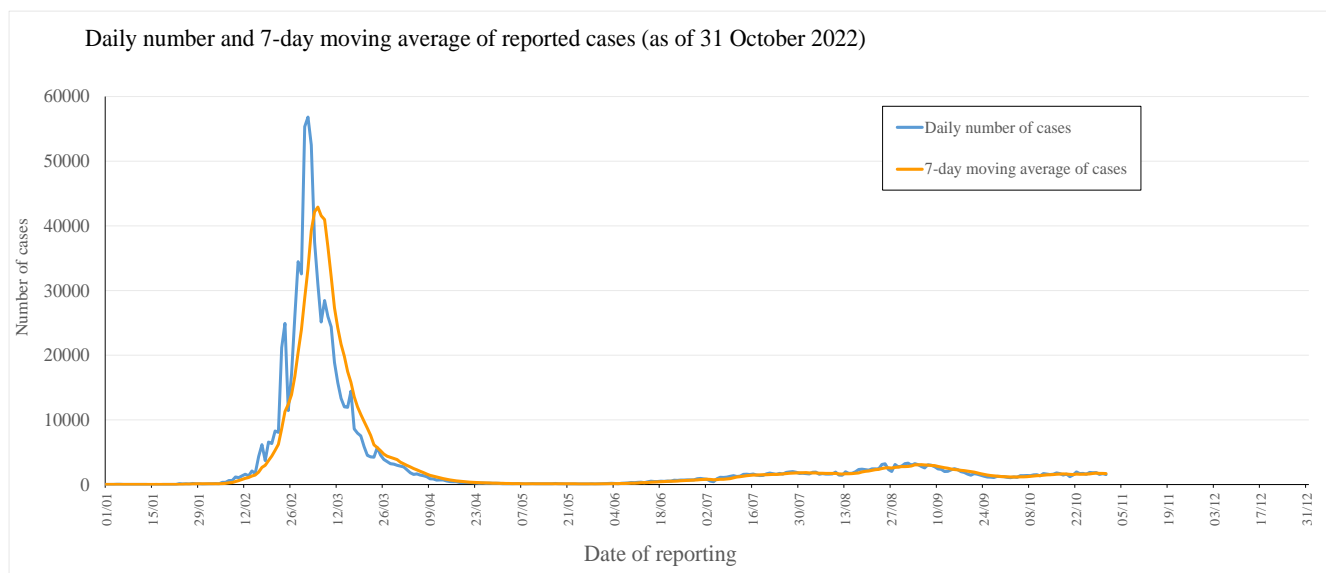
## **Latest situation of COVID-19 (as of 31 October 2022)**

The Centre for Health Protection (CHP) of the Department of Health (DH) today (31 October) announced the latest epidemic situation of COVID-19. As of 0.00am, 31 October 2022, the CHP was investigating 4320 additional locally acquired cases tested positive for the SARS-CoV-2 virus, including 1152 cases tested positive by nucleic acid tests and 3168 cases tested positive by rapid antigen tests (RATs) in the past 24 hours. Separately, 446 additional imported cases were reported, including 416 cases tested positive by nucleic acid tests and 30 cases tested positive by RATs. So far, Hong Kong has recorded a total of 998199 and 920509 cases tested positive by nucleic acid tests and RATs respectively for the SARS-CoV-2 virus.

Since the 5th wave (31 December 2021), 985568 cases and 920509 cases were tested positive by nucleic acid tests and rapid antigen tests respectively.

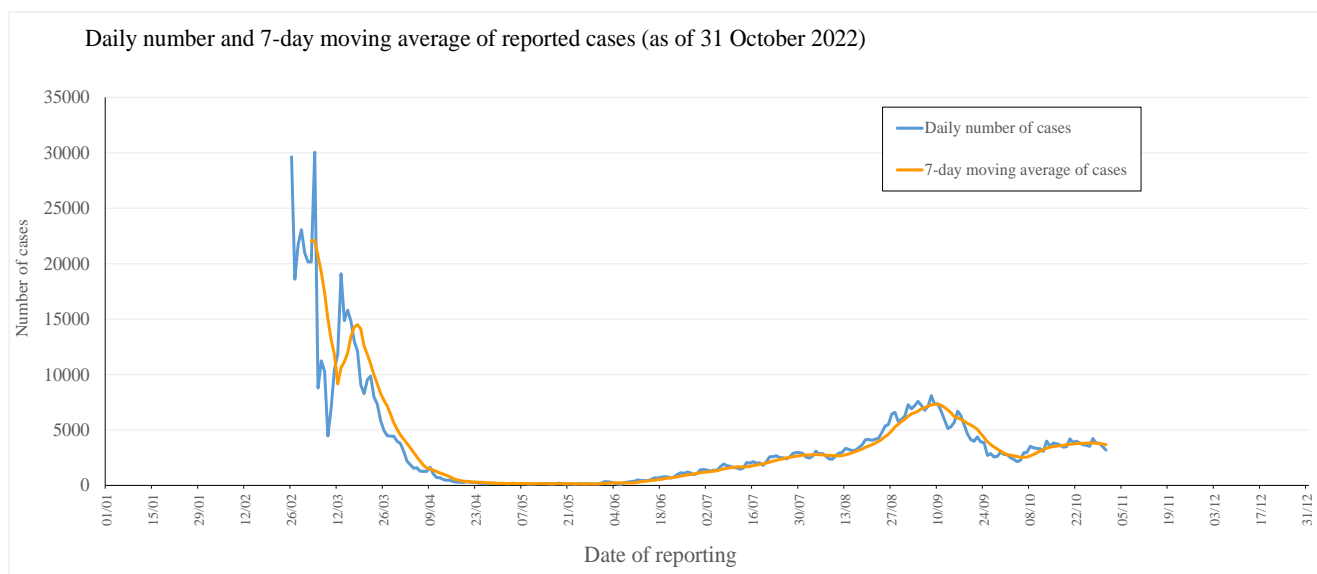
In the recent 7-day period from 25 to 31 October 2022, an average of 1713.4 cases by nucleic acid tests were reported per day, as compared with 1607.3 cases per day reported in the previous 7-day period from 18 to 24 October 2022 (Figure 1(i)).

**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**



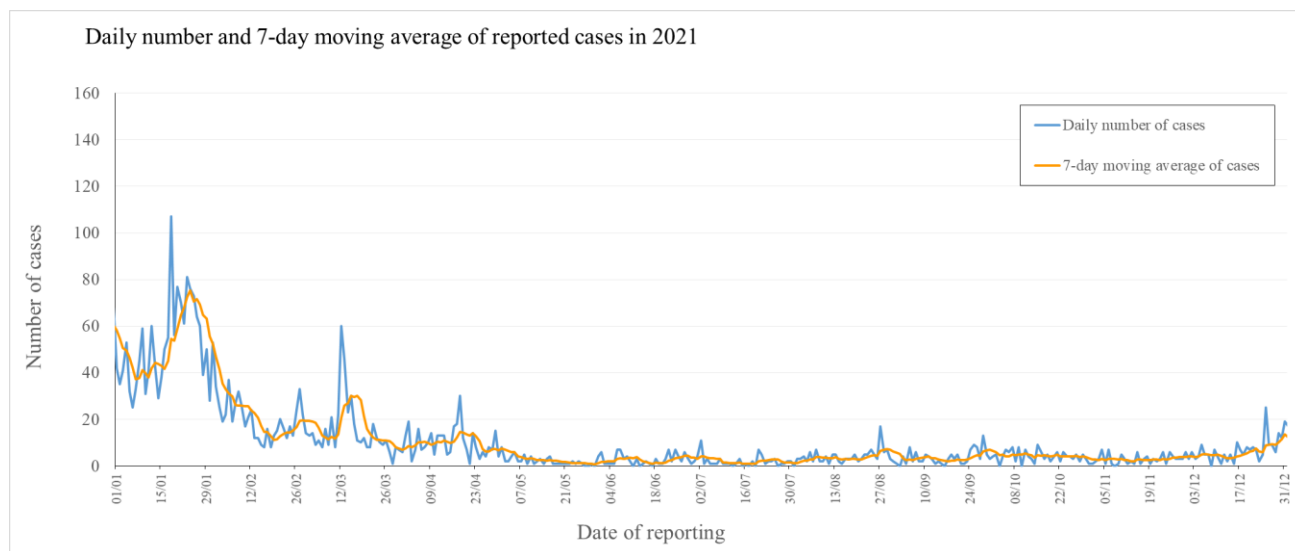
Note: Re-positive cases are excluded in Figure 1(i).

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



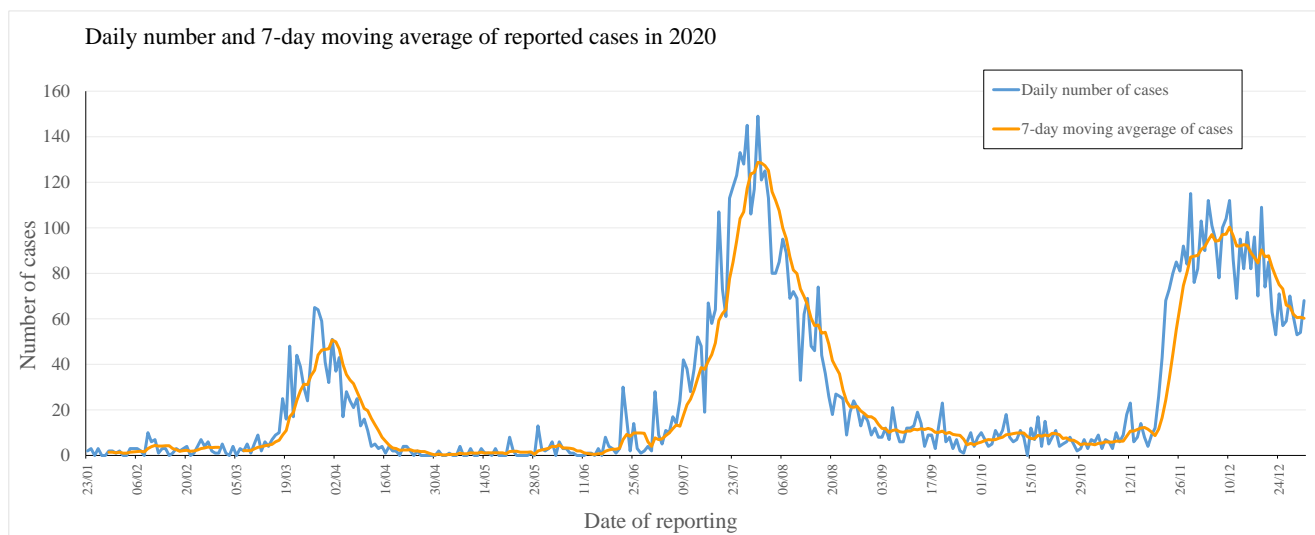
Note: Re-positive cases are excluded in Figure 1(ii).

**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**



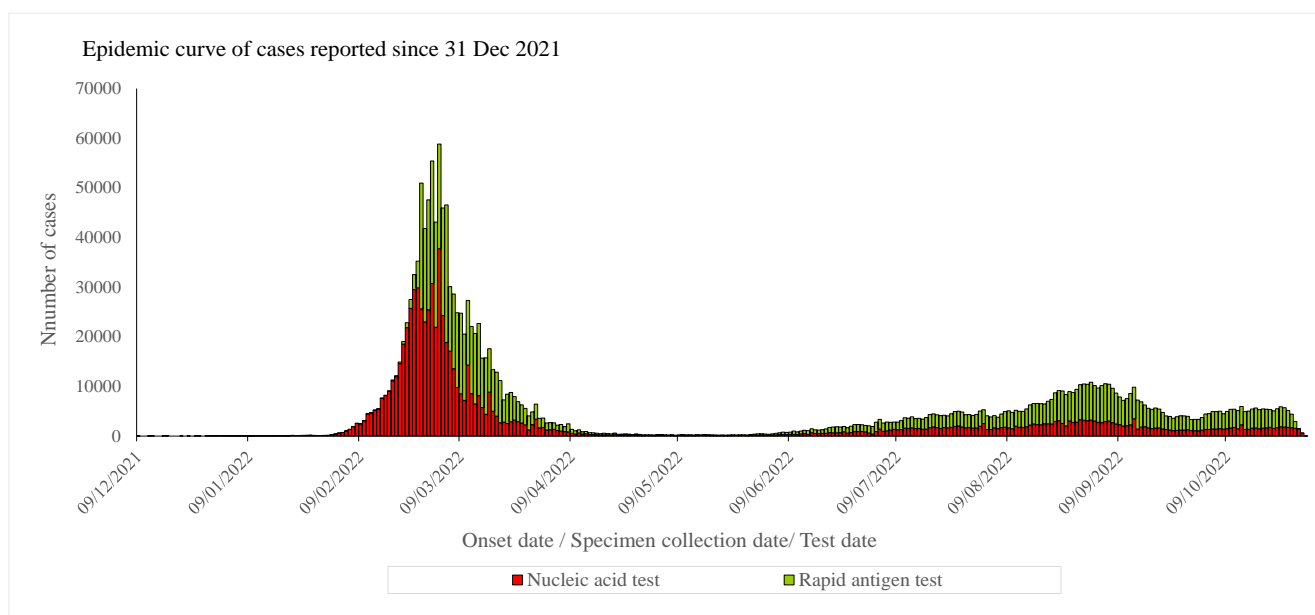
Note: Re-positive cases are excluded in Figure 1(iii).

**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).

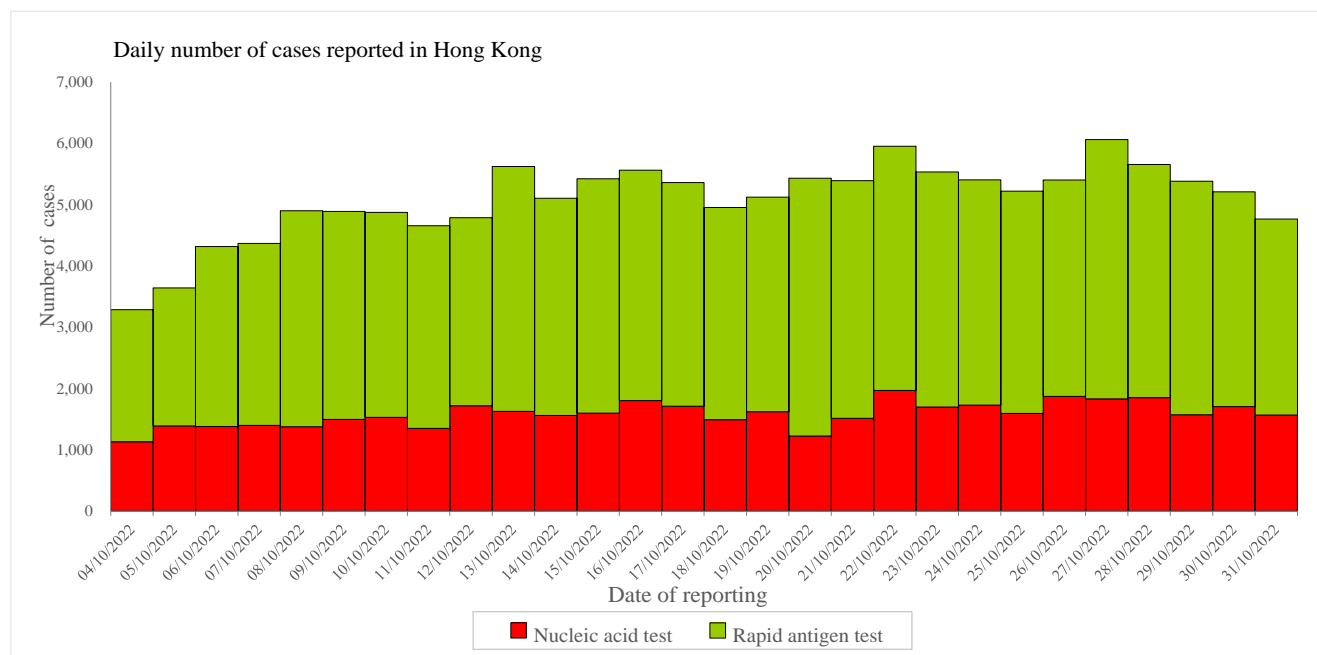
**Figure 2: Epidemic curve of cases tested positive for SARS-CoV-2 virus in Hong Kong since 31 December 2021**



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.

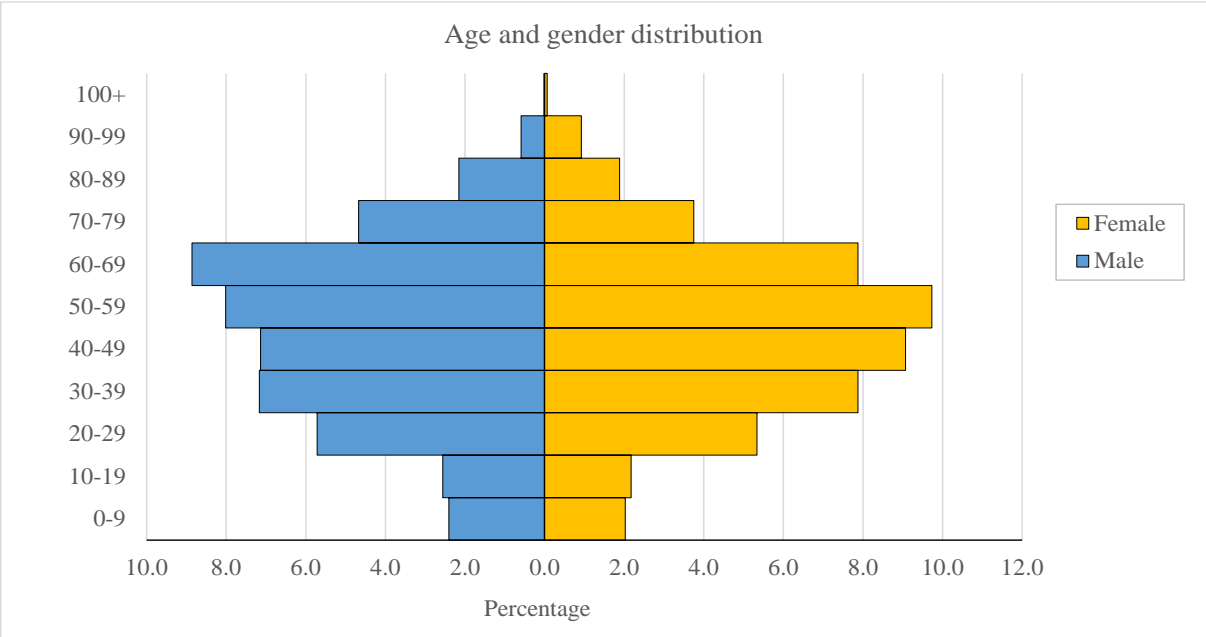
Table 1 shows the classification of cases reported since the 5<sup>th</sup> wave (since 31 December 2021).

**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	35150 (1.84%)	1870927 (98.16%)	1906077 (100.00%)
In the past 4 weeks			
04/10/2022-10/10/2022	2326 (7.68%)	27953 (92.32%)	30279 (100.00%)
11/10/2022-17/10/2022	2564 (7.02%)	33957 (92.98%)	36521 (100.00%)
18/10/2022-24/10/2022	2715 (7.18%)	35083 (92.82%)	37798 (100.00%)
25/10/2022-31/10/2022	2903 (7.70%)	34798 (92.30%)	37701 (100.00%)

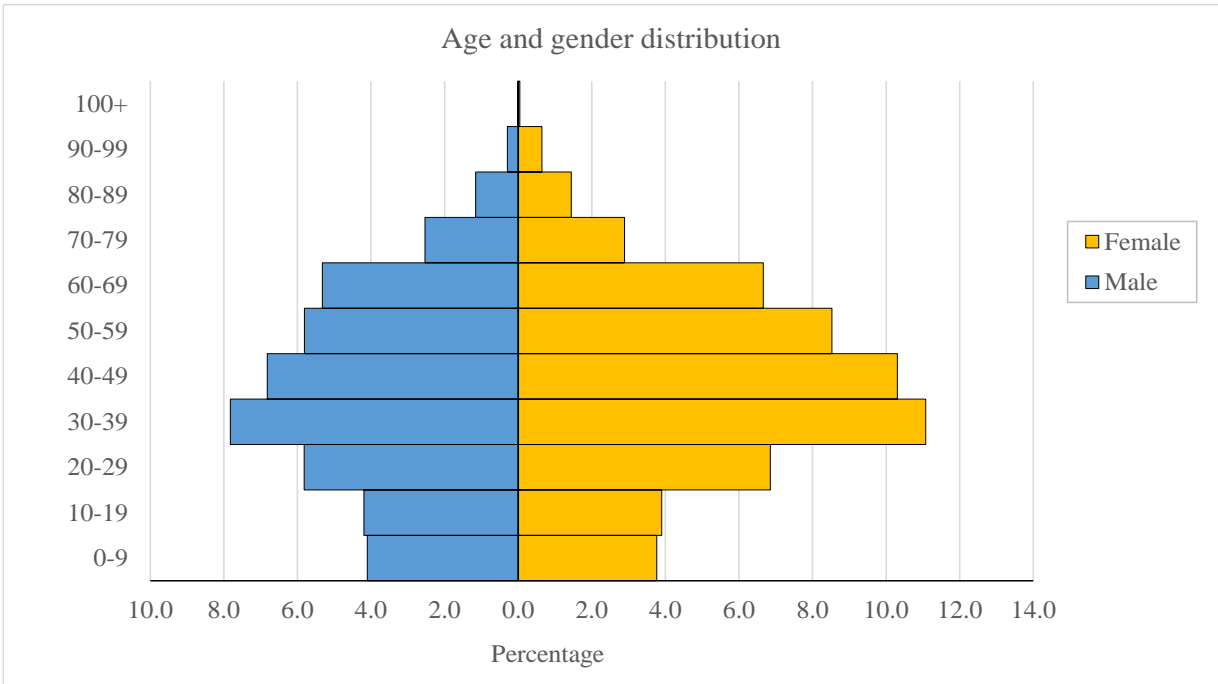
Figure 4 shows the age and gender distribution of the cases (since the 5<sup>th</sup> wave).

**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).

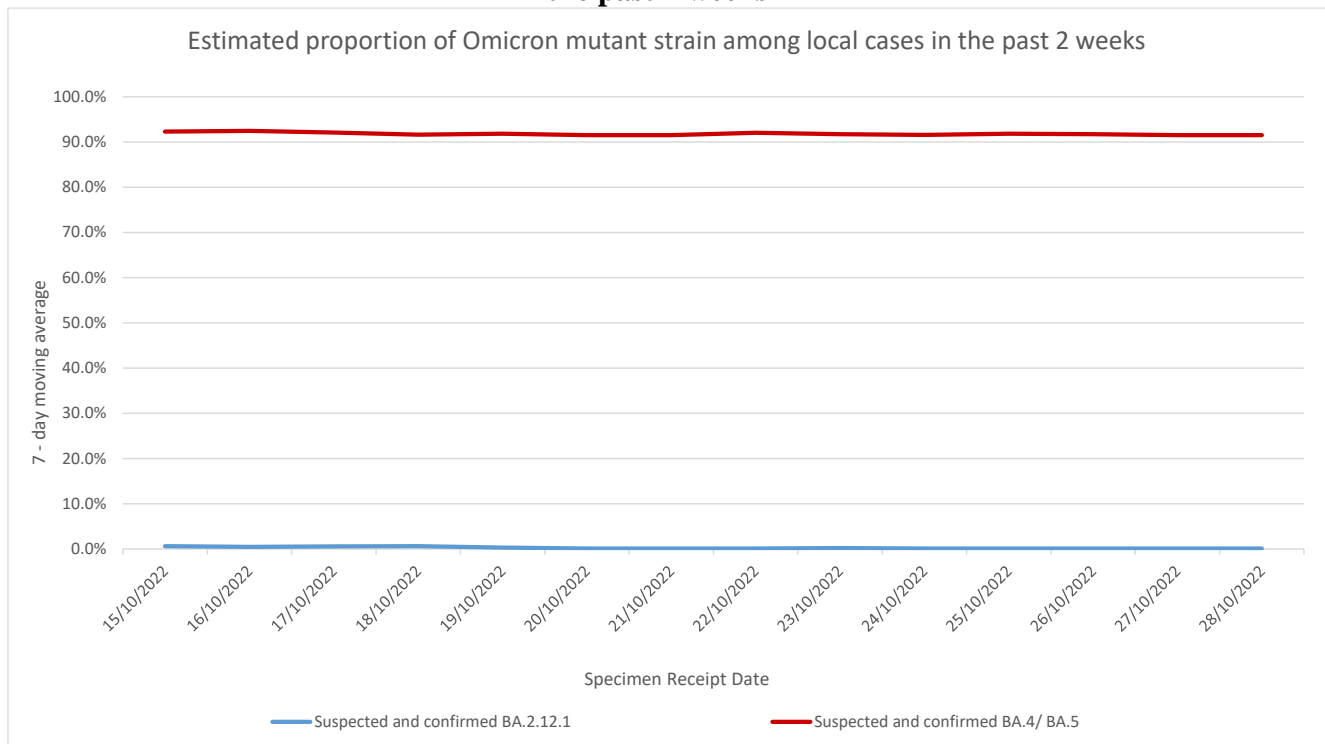
**Figure 4(ii): Age and gender distribution of cases tested positive for SARS-CoV-2 virus by rapid antigen tests in Hong Kong**



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 22 to 28 October for verification testing of local cases, about 0.1% and 91.5% 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**

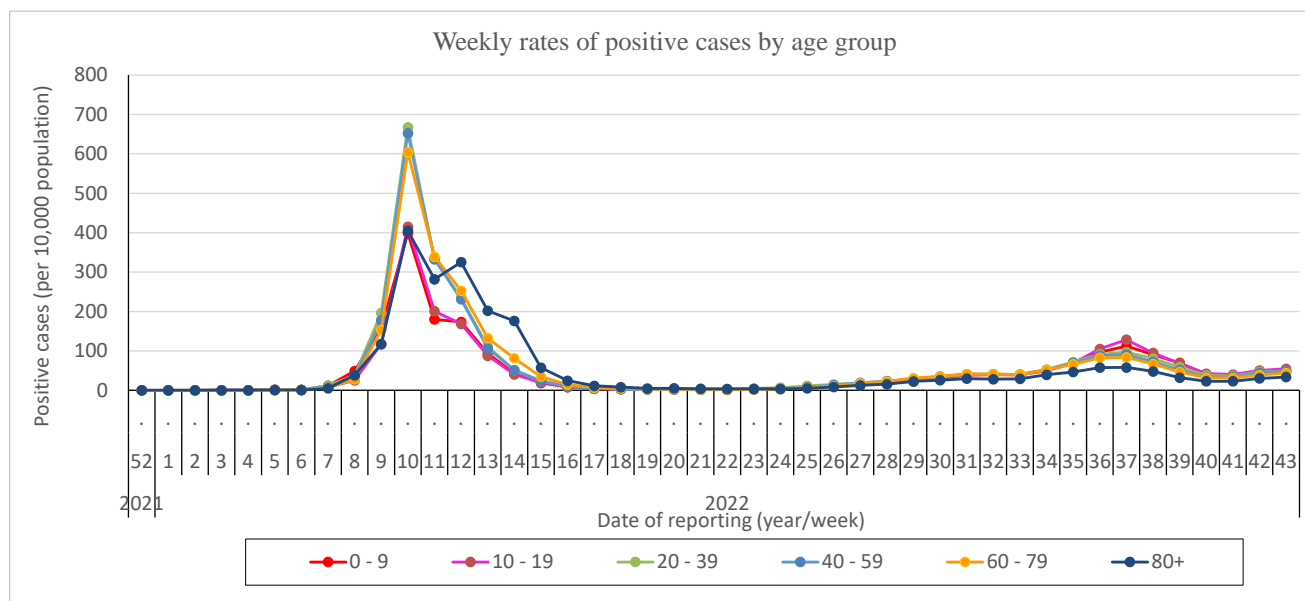


Note:

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 17 - 23 October 2022, 95.5% were BA.5. (to be updated weekly)

In addition, as of 31 October, PHLSB had identified 202 cases of sub-lineage XBB, 6 of XBD, 8 of BA.2.75.2, 6 of BA.4.6, 11 of BF.7 and 22 of BQ.1.1 among imported cases in Hong Kong, while 6 cases of sub-lineage XBD, 1 of BA.2.75.2 and 7 of BQ.1.1 have also been detected among local cases.

**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	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct
Hong Kong	1687.2	Central and Western	1426.8	92.3	147.6	217.3	95.6
		Wan Chai	1315.0	89.8	161.4	213.7	98.9
		Eastern	1846.4	124.2	223.8	285.2	127.1
		Southern	1838.3	136.6	200.6	265.0	124.0
Kowloon	2162.0	Kowloon City	1798.6	102.4	199.2	257.9	111.1
		Kwun Tong	2395.6	127.5	232.4	294.7	118.8
		Sham Shui Po	2127.5	109.8	178.7	238.4	95.0
		Wong Tai Sin	2368.4	121.8	220.6	284.7	111.7
		Yau Tsim Mong	1909.1	93.1	165.9	205.9	98.7
New Territories East	2008.5	Islands	1667.6	142.1	203.5	234.2	107.1
		North	2078.8	158.9	285.5	340.5	130.3
		Sai Kung	1924.4	133.3	252.9	334.7	134.1
		Sha Tin	2132.8	129.4	259.3	330.0	125.7
		Tai Po	1996.9	193.5	260.4	298.2	123.9
New Territories West	2119.1	Kwai Tsing	2289.8	109.0	181.5	241.4	100.9
		Tsuen Wan	1970.4	121.7	213.8	273.4	126.1
		Tuen Mun	2218.1	127.1	248.9	280.5	108.5
		Yuen Long	1990.0	135.1	237.8	300.9	114.2

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
25/09/2022-01/10/2022	1101	2810	478
02/10/2022-08/10/2022	1112	2972	528
09/10/2022-15/10/2022	1224	3529	686
16/10/2022-22/10/2022	1205	3595	602

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
25/09/2022 - 01/10/2022	27	42	3
02/10/2022 - 08/10/2022	37	56	4
09/10/2022 - 15/10/2022	41	59	4
16/10/2022 - 22/10/2022	47	66	5

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 10397 fatal cases.

Since the 5<sup>th</sup> wave, a total of 10184 fatal cases have been recorded.

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

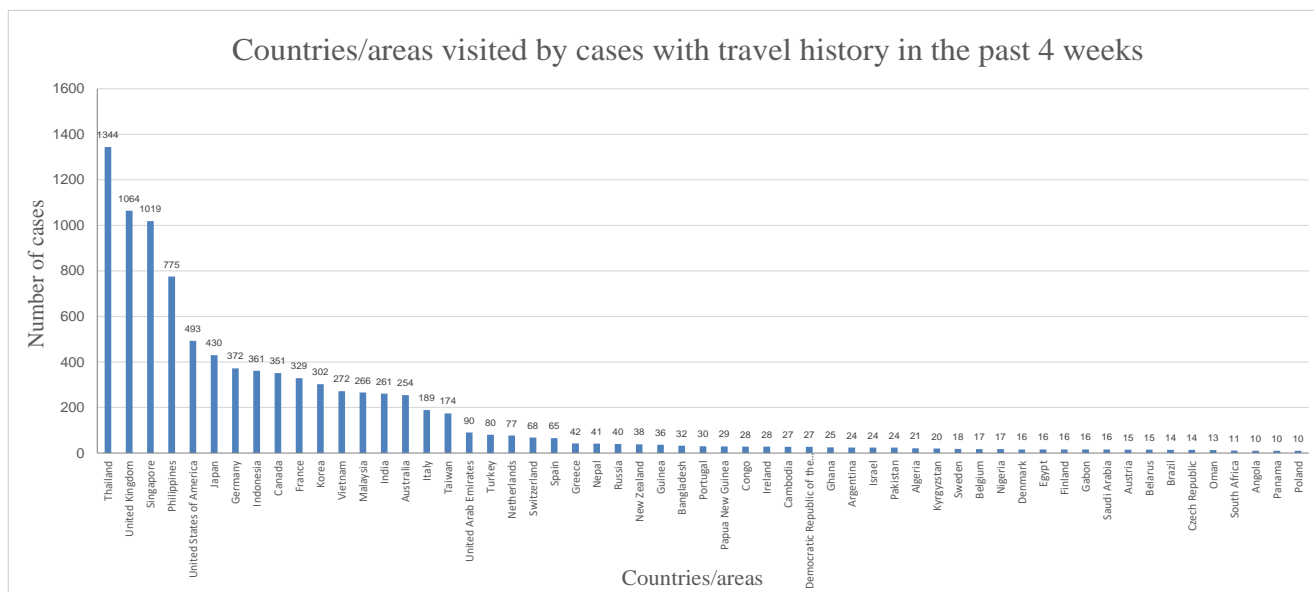
<b>Age Group</b>	<b>CFR of locally acquired cases</b>	<b>CFR of locally acquired cases with history of at least 2 doses of COVID-19 vaccine</b>	<b>CFR of locally acquired cases with history of 1 dose of COVID-19 vaccine or unvaccinated</b>
<b>0-9</b>	0.01%	0.00%	0.01%
<b>10-19</b>	0.01%	0.00%	0.01%
<b>20-29</b>	0.01%	0.01%	0.02%
<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%	0.04%	0.49%
<b>60-69</b>	0.32%	0.10%	1.20%
<b>70-79</b>	1.29%	0.37%	3.30%
<b>80+</b>	8.24%	2.69%	12.49%
<b>Overall</b>	<b>0.55%</b>	<b>0.12%</b>	<b>1.92%</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.