

THE COVID-19 SEX-DISAGGREGATED DATA TRACKER

Western Pacific Region Data Update

ABOUT THIS BRIEF

This brief presents regional findings from the COVID-19 Sex-Disaggregated Data Tracker. The Data Tracker is the world's most comprehensive source of sex-disaggregated data on the direct health impacts of COVID-19 along the clinical pathway, collecting and reporting national data from 205 countries on vaccinations, testing, confirmed cases (including among healthcare workers), hospitalisations, ICU admissions and deaths. It also reports data on sex and age on key indicators.

Since early in the novel coronavirus pandemic, sex differences have been noted in diagnosis and outcomes. Despite known sex differences in COVID-19 and known sex differences in access to care and treatment in many countries, sex-disaggregated data is not uniformly or universally integrated into COVID-19 data reporting.

Tracking 205 countries worldwide for sex-disaggregated COVID-19 data, we have found consistent global sex differences as well as substantial cross-country variation both in the availability of sex-disaggregated data and in the measured sex differences in clinical indicators. Monitoring these sex differences can help guide the development of COVID-19 policies that address gender-specific needs in a population and help monitor gender equitable access to COVID-19 care and services.

This brief presents sex-disaggregated data from the WHO Western Pacific Region, covering 17 countries (those with fewer than 500 cumulative cases are not tracked) and providing a comparison between the WPRO Region and global sex-disaggregated data availability and sex differences in key clinical indicators.

KEY TAKEAWAYS

DATA AVAILABILITY

- 1 The sex of 2.9 million cases and more than 38,000 deaths from COVID-19 in the WPRO region is currently unknown. This means the sex of roughly 3 in 10 of all confirmed cases (30%) and deaths (28%) is not known, similar to the global picture where the sex of 28% of cases and deaths is unknown.
- 2 76% (13 of 17) of countries in the region have ever reported sex-disaggregated (SD) data on cases or deaths, with 47% (8 of 17 countries) of countries in the region reporting SD data on cases or deaths in the past month.

OUTCOMES

- 3 In the WPRO region, men are being tested slightly less than women. They account for a fairly equal amount of individuals vaccinated and confirmed cases, but more hospitalisations, ICU admissions and deaths than women. This pattern is similar to the global picture.

National data availability for sex-disaggregated case and death data

At a minimum, countries should report sex-disaggregated data on COVID-19 cases and deaths. Yet across 17 countries in the WPRO region, just eight (47%) reported sex-disaggregated data on both cases and deaths in the past month, with two additional countries reporting on one of these indicators (12%). Three countries (18%) have previously reported on both of these indicators but are no longer doing so. Four countries (24%) in the region have never reported sex-disaggregated data on cases or deaths that we could locate.

Table 1 lists the countries from the WPRO region currently included in the tracker with the date of the most recent data available for sex-disaggregated data on cases and deaths.

Table 1. Latest Reporting Date of Sex-Disaggregated Case and Death Data across tracked WPRO Countries

Country	SD Cases Data Available	SD Death Data Available	
Australia	Nov 2021	Nov 2021	Reported in past month
Brunei Darussalam	Nov 2021	Nov 2021	Reported in past month
Cambodia	May 2021	May 2021	Reported in past month
China	Jun 2021	Feb 2020	Reported in past month
Fiji	Never	Never	Never reported
French Polynesia	Oct 2020	Sep 2020	Reported in past month
Japan	Jun 2020	Nov 2021	Reported in past month
Lao People's Democratic Republic	Never	Never	Never reported
Malaysia	Oct 2021	Oct 2021	Reported in past month
Mongolia	Oct 2021	Oct 2021	Reported in past month
New Caledonia	Never	Never	Never reported
New Zealand	Nov 2021	Nov 2021	Reported in past month
Papua New Guinea	Never	Never	Never reported
Philippines	Nov 2021	Nov 2021	Reported in past month
Singapore	Oct 2021	Oct 2021	Reported in past month
South Korea	Nov 2021	Nov 2021	Reported in past month
Vietnam	Oct 2021	Jul 2021	Reported in past month

Availability of sex-disaggregated data in the WPRO Region

Of over 9.8 million cases and over 135,000 deaths reported to the WHO by 16 November 2021 in the Western Pacific Region, the sex of approximately 3 in 10 identified cases and 3 in 10 deaths is currently unknown. Data availability is similar to the global picture (see Figures 1 and 2).

Fig 1. Availability of Sex Data for Cases in Western Pacific and Globally, November 2021

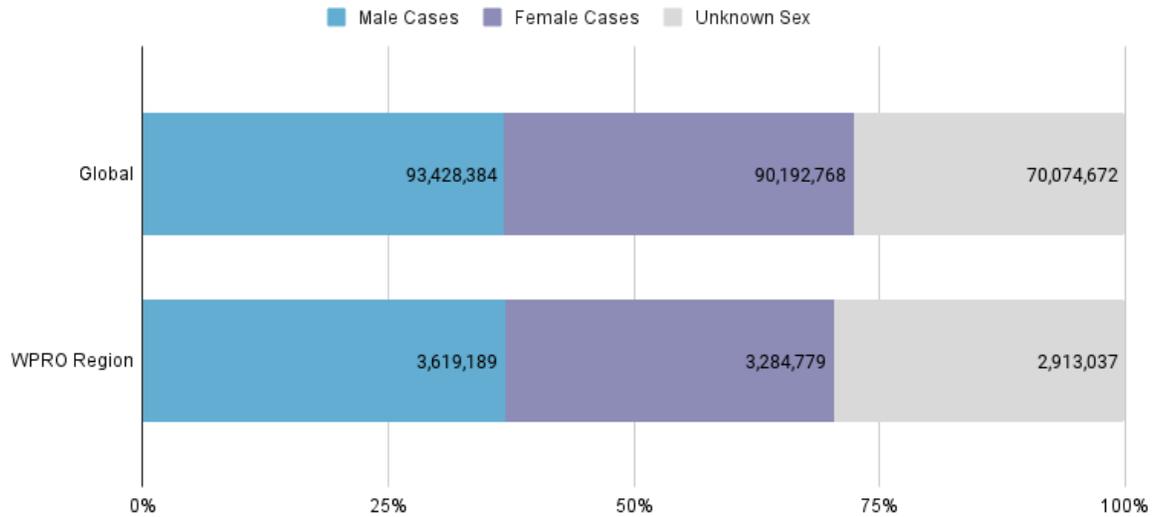
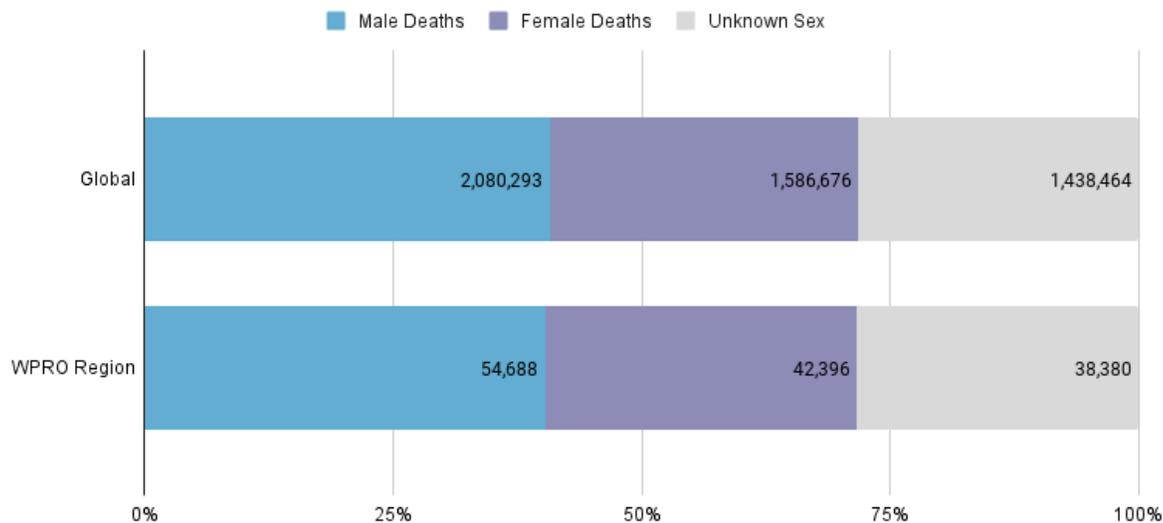


Fig 2: Availability of Sex Data for Deaths in Western Pacific and Globally, November 2021



Data availability along the clinical pathway in the WPRO Region and Globally

The Tracker collects sex-disaggregated data for indicators along the clinical pathway, from vaccinations to testing, cases, hospitalisations, ICU admissions and deaths. A smaller of tracked countries in the WPRO region are reporting sex-disaggregated data in the past month than globally for most indicators, though more countries are providing deaths and deaths among confirmed cases by sex than globally (Figure 3).

In the past month, the most common indicators reported by WPRO countries are deaths (47%), confirmed cases (41%), and deaths among confirmed cases (41%). The least common indicator reported was cases among healthcare workers (0%), with no countries reporting.

Fig 3. Proportion of countries reporting sex-disaggregated data by Indicator in the past month, Globally and for WPRO Region, November 2021

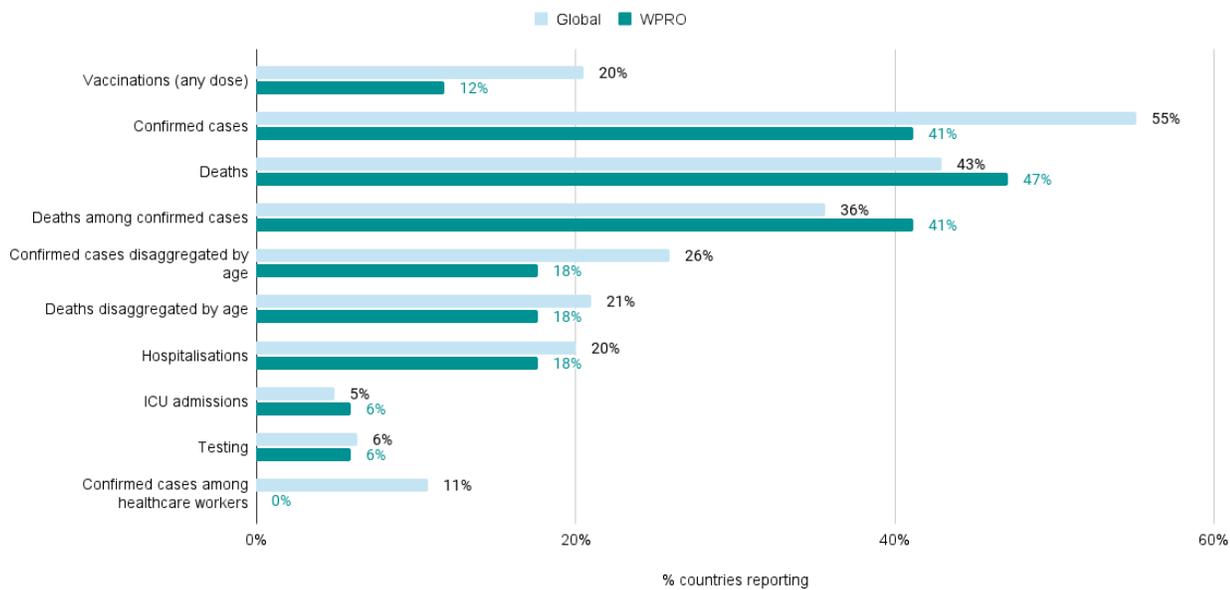
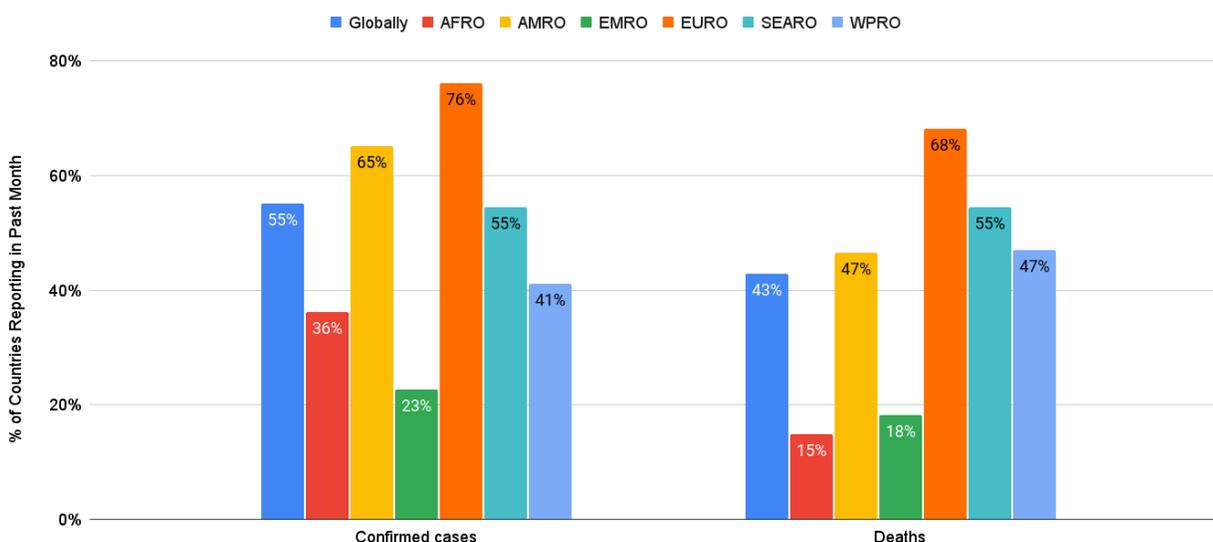


Fig 4. Proportion of countries reporting sex-disaggregated case and death data across WHO regions and globally, November 2021



A look along the Clinical Pathway

The sex differences seen across clinical pathway indicators in the WPRO region are largely consistent with what has been reported globally (see Figure 5).

In the Western Pacific men are being tested slightly less than women, but they account for more reported ICU admissions and deaths than women. In the Western Pacific, as in the global picture, male and female vaccinations and confirmed cases are nearly equal, with men comprising slightly more confirmed cases than women. Additionally, roughly the same numbers of men are hospitalised as women in the region. No data is available on the sex of healthcare workers with confirmed cases from WPRO countries. Figure 6 shows percentage of male outcomes along the clinical pathway indicators for all WHO regions.

Fig. 5. Percent of Males Reported for Clinical Pathway Indicators in WPRO Region and Globally, November 2021

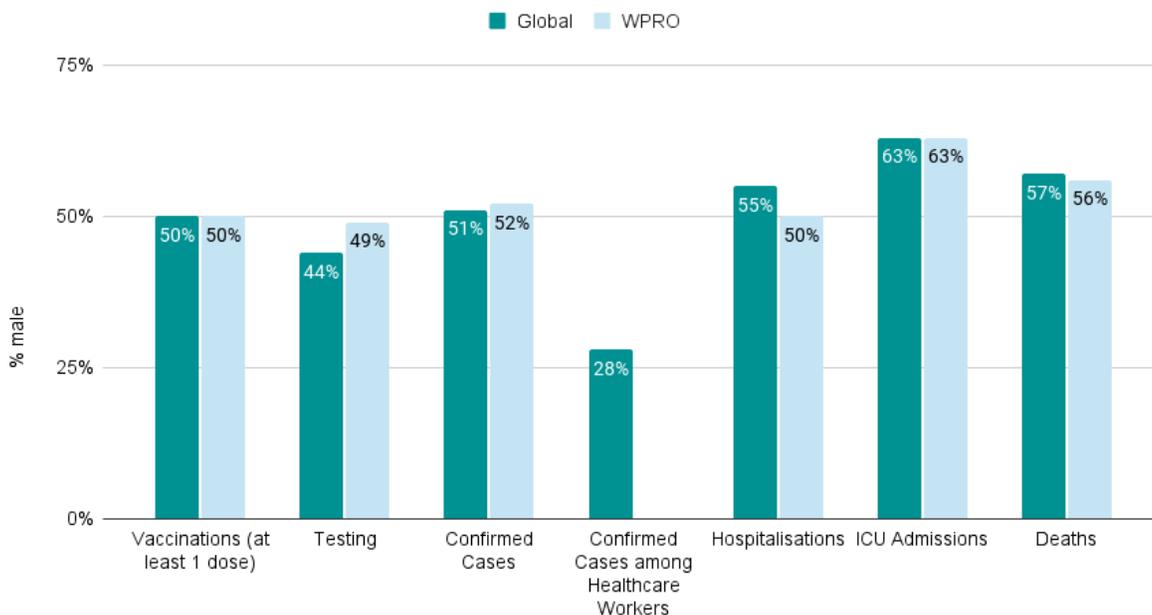
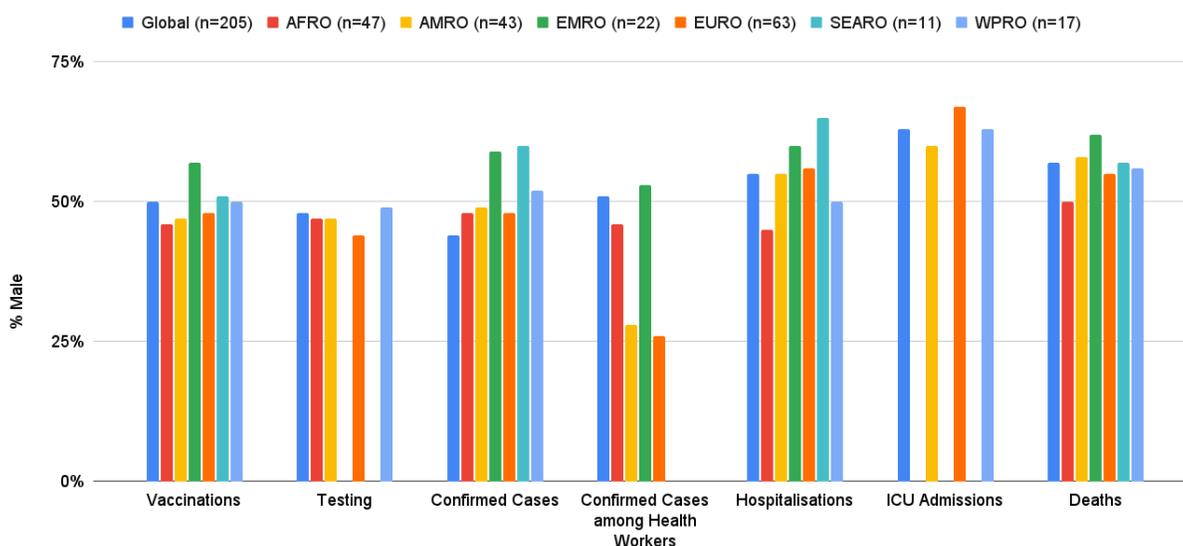


Fig. 6. Percent of Males Reported for Clinical Pathway Indicators by WHO Region, November 2021



About the COVID-19 Sex-Disaggregated Data Tracker

The COVID-19 Sex-Disaggregated Data Tracker is the world's largest database of sex-disaggregated data on COVID-19 health outcomes. The tracker currently collects data from 200+ countries on testing, confirmed cases (including among health workers), hospitalisations, intensive care unit (ICU) admissions, and deaths among women and men. It is also tracking the availability of data disaggregated by other social and demographic characteristics as well as data on pre-existing comorbidities. Data is collected directly from official national sources, including ministry of health websites, national statistics sites, death registers and government social media accounts. The Tracker is updated once a month.

About the Sex, Gender and COVID-19 Project

The Sex, Gender and COVID-19 Project is a partnership of Global Health 50/50, the International Center for Research on Women and the African Population and Health Research Center. Together, these partners are investigating the roles sex and gender are playing in the outbreak, building the evidence base of what works to tackle gender disparities in COVID-19 health outcomes, and advocating for effective gender-responsive approaches to COVID-19.

Learn more about sex, gender and COVID-19 and explore the Sex-Disaggregated Data Tracker here: <https://globalhealth5050.org/the-sex-gender-and-covid-19-project/>

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If you are aware of countries that are reporting data that we have not been able to locate or collect, we would be grateful if you could make us aware by emailing us at info@globalhealth5050.org and sharing a link to where the data can be found.

Engage with us: [@GlobalHlth5050](#) [@APHRC](#) [@ICRW](#)
