
















Vaccination against COVID-19

Photo Credit: Social Media, Bangladesh

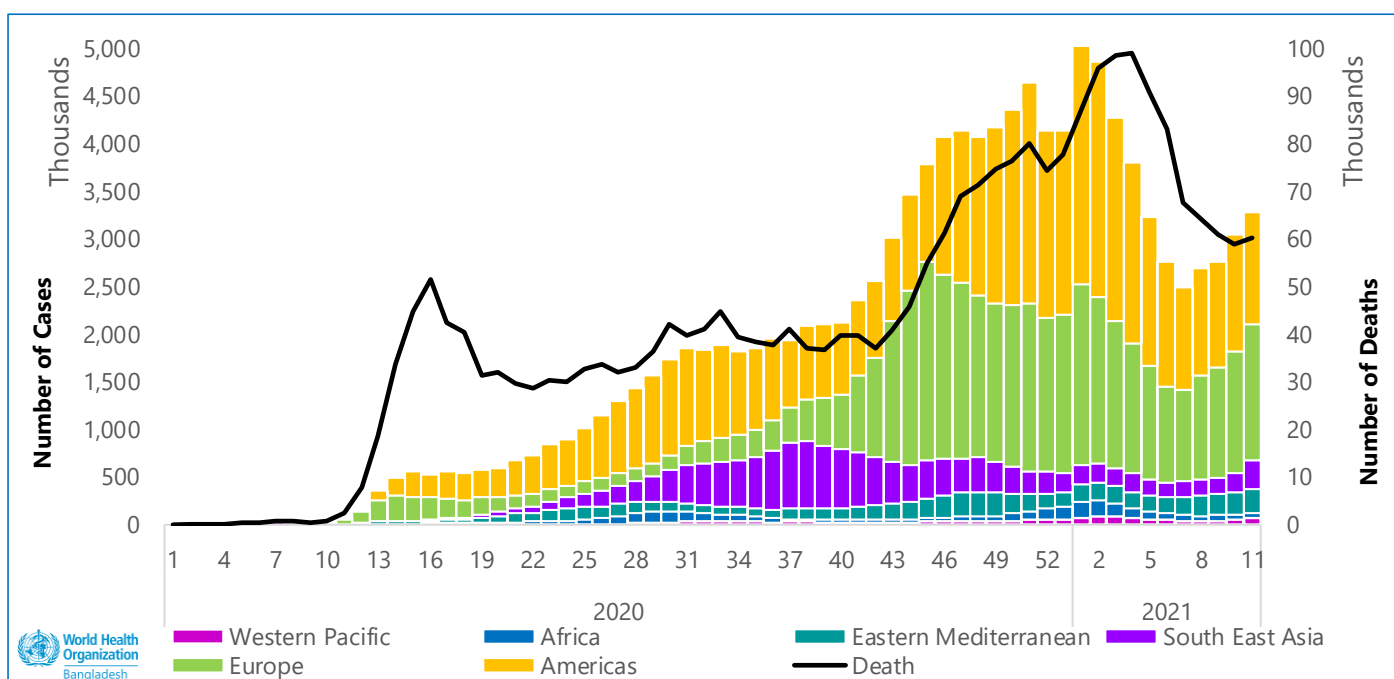
Tested	Confirmed Cases	Recovered	Death	Hotline
 4,409,119	 570,878	 522,405	 8,690	 23.93 million
Test/100,000/Week	Case/100,000/Week	Recovery Rate	CFR%	AR/100,000
84.9	7.9	91.5%	1.52	335
Lab/Centres Number Tests		PPE Stock	PoE Screening	
RT PCR Lab : 118	4,367,753	 795,415	 1,374,679	
GeneXpert Lab : 29	28,725			
Rapid Antigen : 72	12,641	 7,179,944	 73,881	
Last week daily Test average:	20,653			
Vaccination				
Persons registered	6,198,378	 263,676	 7,029	
Persons vaccinated	4,840,969			
National coverage	9.8%	 1,659,482	 481,471	
Coverage in Dhaka Metro	31.9%			

Date Source: Directorate General of Health Services, MoHFW, Bangladesh

1. Global Situation

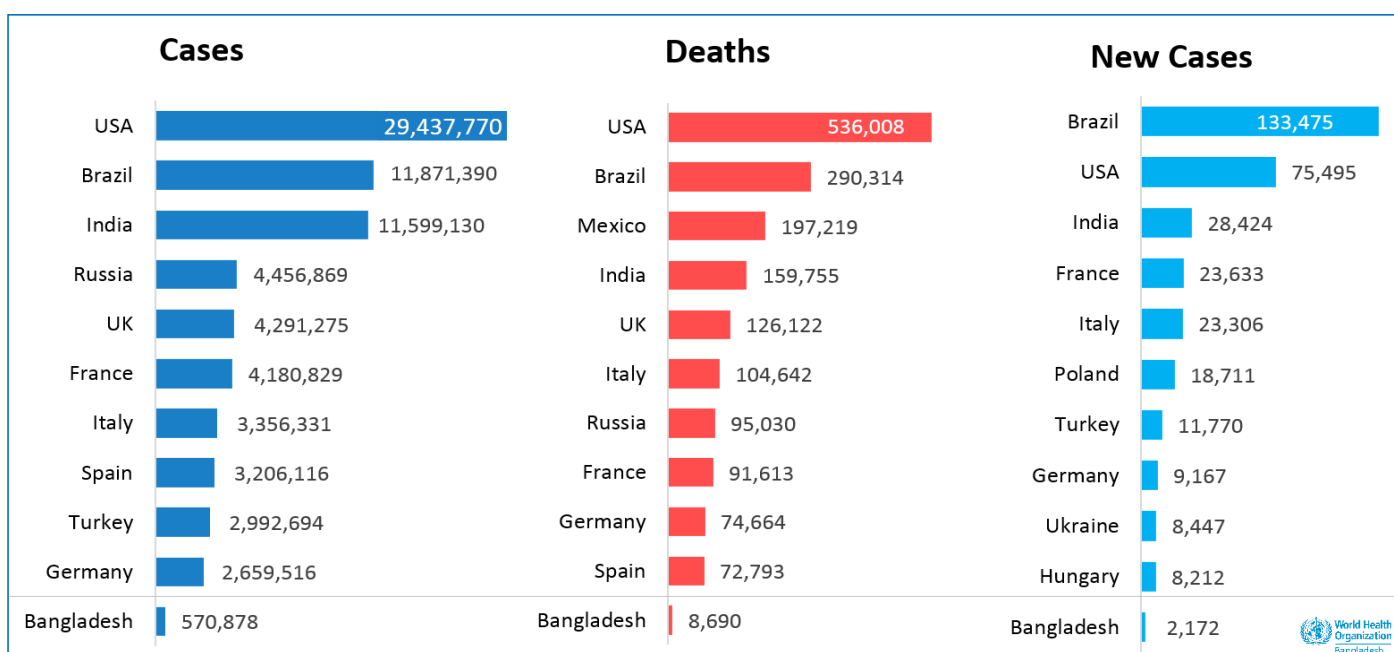
Globally, as of 7:27pm, 21 March 2021, there have been 122,524,424 confirmed cases of COVID-19, including 2,703,620 deaths, reported to WHO by the national authorities. USA, the world's worst-hit country, has counted 29,437,770 (6,1382) cases with **536,008** (1,524) deaths; followed by Brazil with **11,871,390** (90,570) cases and **290,314** (2,815) deaths; while India reported the third-highest cases of **11,599,130** (43,846) and fourth-highest deaths of **159,755** (197); Mexico reported the third-highest death of **197,219** (613) at the same cut off time.

The figure below shows COVID-19 cases reported weekly by WHO Region, and global deaths, as of 21 MAR 2021



Over **3.2 million** new cases were reported last week, an **8%** increase compared to the previous week. Weekly cases increased the highest in South-East Asia (**49%**) followed by the Western Pacific region (**29%**), Europe (**12%**) and Eastern Mediterranean (**8%**), while decreased in the Americas (**5%**) and African region (**3%**). Globally, around one-third (91) of countries/territories are seeing declines while two-third (145) are experiencing increasing numbers of new cases.

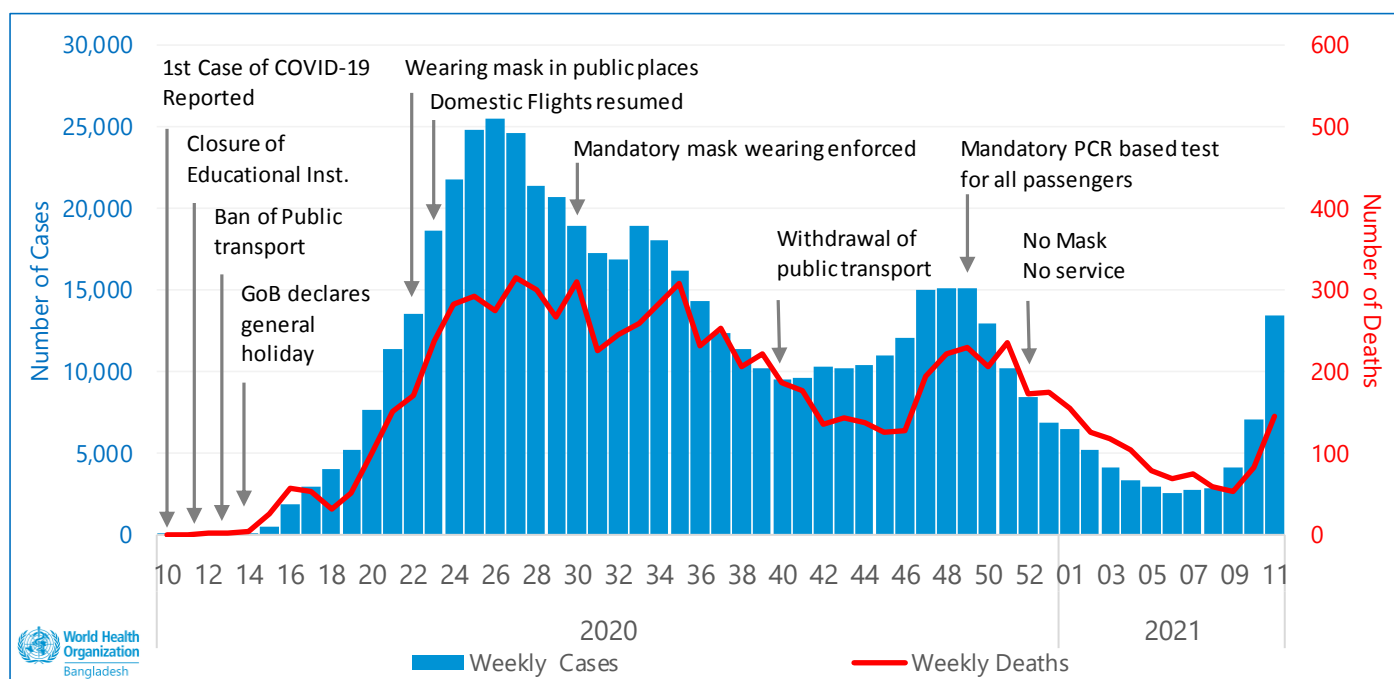
The figure below shows top-ranked countries for total Cases, Deaths and New cases of COVID-19, 01 JAN 2020 – 21 MAR 2021



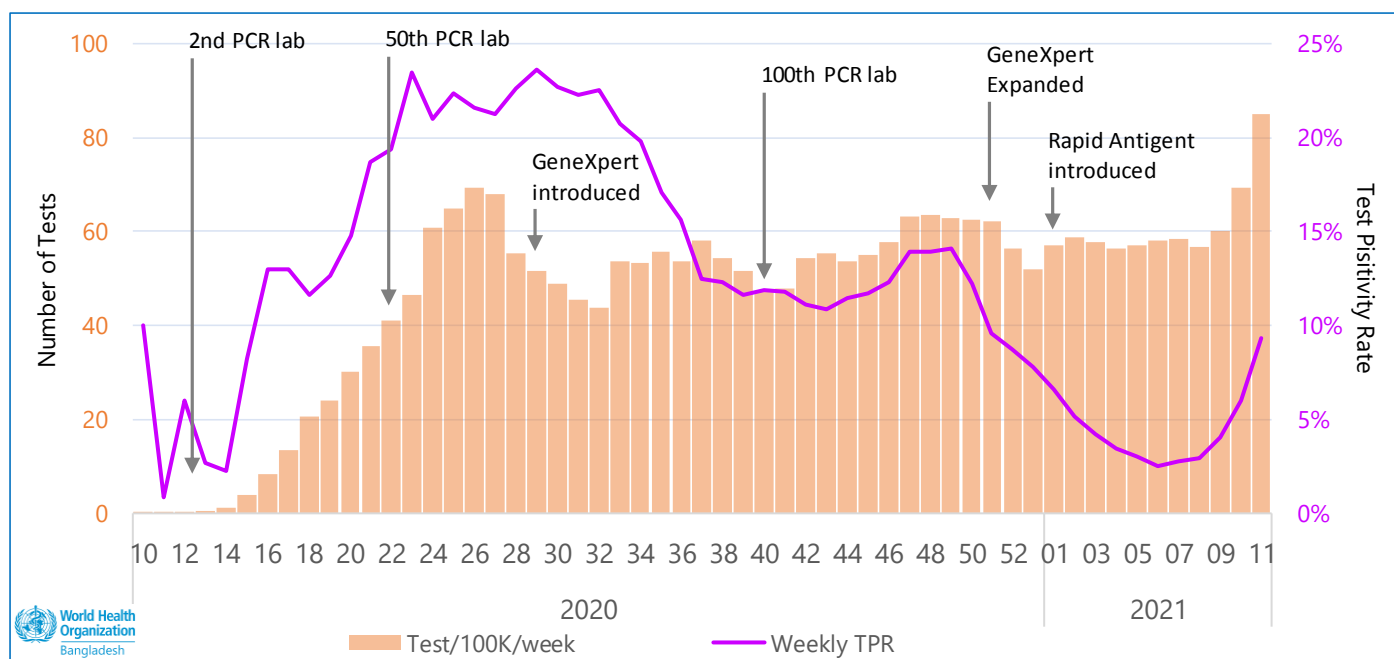
2. Bangladesh Situation

Between 8 March 2020 and 21 March 2021, according to the DGHS Press Release <<https://corona.gov.bd/press-release>> there were five hundred seventy thousand, eight hundred seventy-eight (**570,878**) COVID-19 cases confirmed by rRT-PCR, GeneXpert, and Rapid Antigen tests including eight thousand, six hundred ninety (**8,690**) related deaths (**CFR 1.52%**). Bangladesh is among the top 34 countries and accounts for **0.47%** of the COVID-19 cases of the world.

The figure below is showing COVID-19 cases reported weekly and cumulative deaths, as of 21 MAR 2021



The figure below is showing COVID-19 weekly tests and test positivity, as of 21 MAR 2021



In the past week (epidemiological week 11, 2021), Bangladesh reported **13,483** new cases, a **91% increase** compared to last week; the case per 100,000 population per week is **7.9**. The country reported **145** new death, a **75% increase**; death per 100,000 per week is **0.09**. The weekly new test is **144,568** (daily average: **20,653**), a **22% increase** than the week before; tests per 100,000 per week is **85**; the weekly average test positivity rate (TPR) is **9.3%**, TPR **increased by 56%** from last week. Overall Case Fatality Ratio (CFR) is **1.52%** which was 1.53% last week.

3. Surveillance & Laboratory

As of 21 March 2021, **69%** of reported cases were from **Dhaka** division (**55%** at Dhaka city), **Chattogram** – 13%, **Rajshahi** – 5%, **Khulna** – 4%, **Rangpur** – 3%, **Sylhet** – 3%, **Barishal** – 2% and the lowest 1% from **Mymensingh** division. While, **56%** of the reported death were from **Dhaka** division (30% at Dhaka city), **Chattogram** – 18%, **Khulna** – 7%, **Rajshahi** – 6%, **Rangpur** – 4%, Sylhet – 4%, **Barishal** – 3% and the lowest 2% from **Mymensingh** division.

The table below is showing the distribution of COVID-19 case and death, as of 21 MAR 2021, Bangladesh

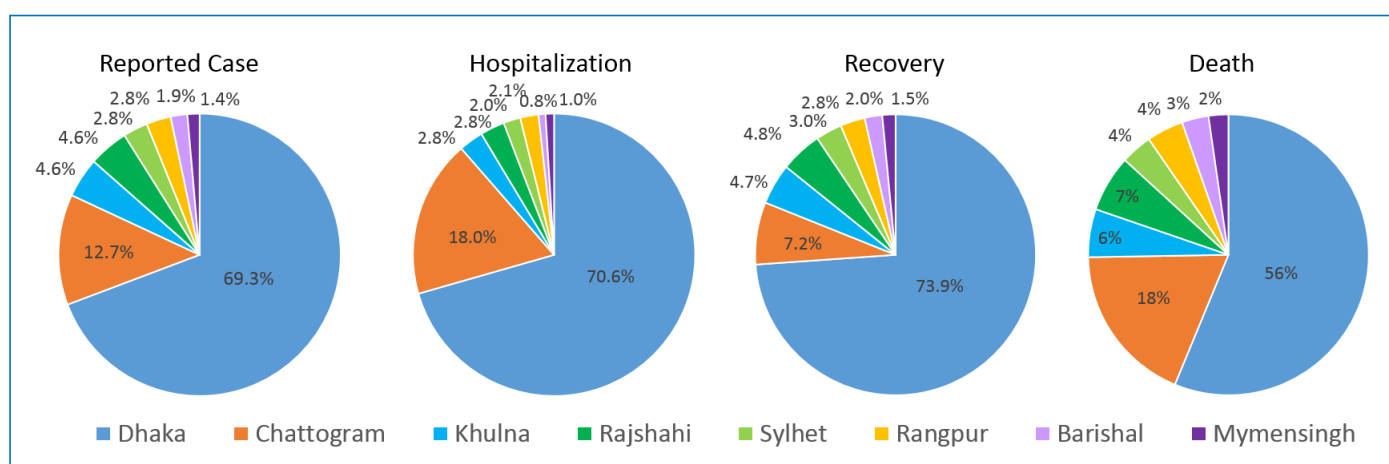
Division	08 MAR 2020 – 21 MAR 2021			Week 11, 2021 (15-21 MAR 2021)		
	Cases	Death	CFR (%)	Cases	Weekly Change	Death
Dhaka	395,432	4,887	1.2	11,073	99%	102
Chattogram	72,326	1,607	2.2	1,506	40%	17
Rajshahi	26,078	481	1.8	259	109%	5
Khulna	26,008	567	2.2	217	141%	6
Sylhet	16,117	314	1.9	201	117%	3
Rangpur	16,115	368	2.3	95	70%	4
Barishal	10,890	268	2.5	88	184%	6
Mymensingh	7,912	198	2.5	44	100%	2
National	570,878	8,690	1.5	13,483	90.8%	145

In the epi-week 11, the Barishal division has the highest growth of weekly new cases, **184%** (88 this week and 31 in the week before), followed by Khulna **141%** (217 and 90 respectively). The Dhaka division reported the highest number (11,073) of new cases, with **26** new cases per 100,000, an **increase of 99%**; followed by Chattogram (1,506), with **5** new cases per 100,000, an **increase of 40%** compared to last week.

The highest number of weekly cases (**25,481**) reported in the epi-week 26, 2020 (22 – 28 JUN), and the highest daily cases 4,019 recorded on 02 July 2020. The highest weekly death (**314**) recorded on week **27**, 2020 (29 JUN – 05 JUL), with a highest daily death of 64 on 30 June 2020. In the reported week, COVID-19 daily average cases increased to **1,926** from 1,009 in the week before.

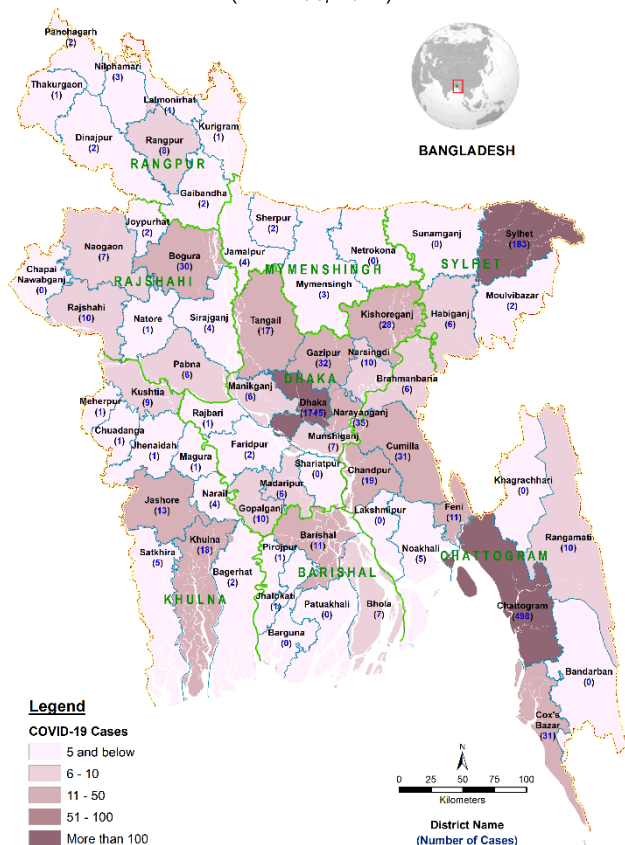
Out of **570,878** COVID-19 cases registered as of 21 March 2021, **91.5%** (522,405) **recovered**, **7%** (39,783) were **active cases** and the remaining died (previously mentioned as CFR). In epidemiological week 11, the average number of COVID-19 **active cases** increased by **2%** compared to the week before (**38,627** and 37,807 respectively); during the same time, **recovery** increased by **23%** (**10,710** in the current week and 8,692 in the week before).

The figure below shows distribution of COVID-19 cases and outcome by division, as of 21 MAR 2021

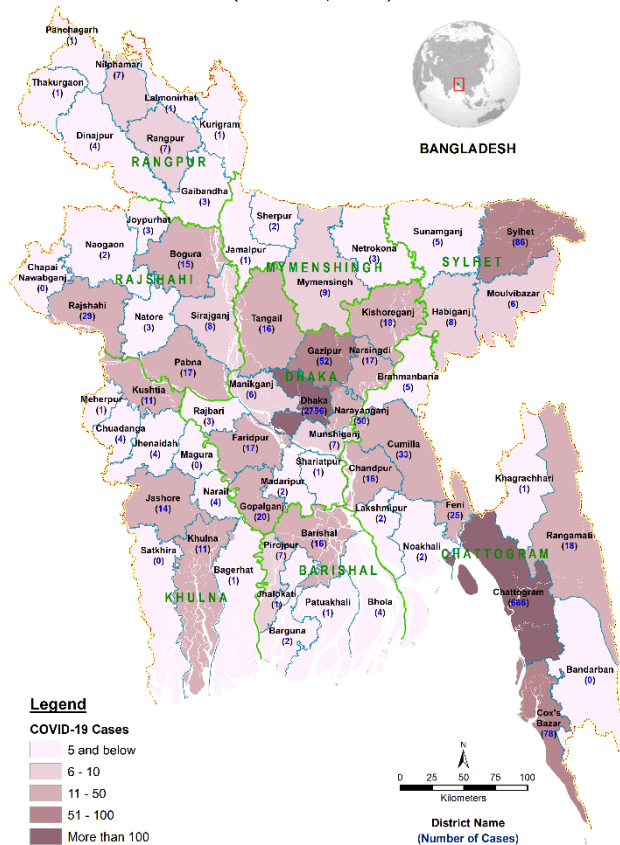


The map below is showing new cases of COVID-19, 22 FEB – 21 MAR 2021, Bangladesh

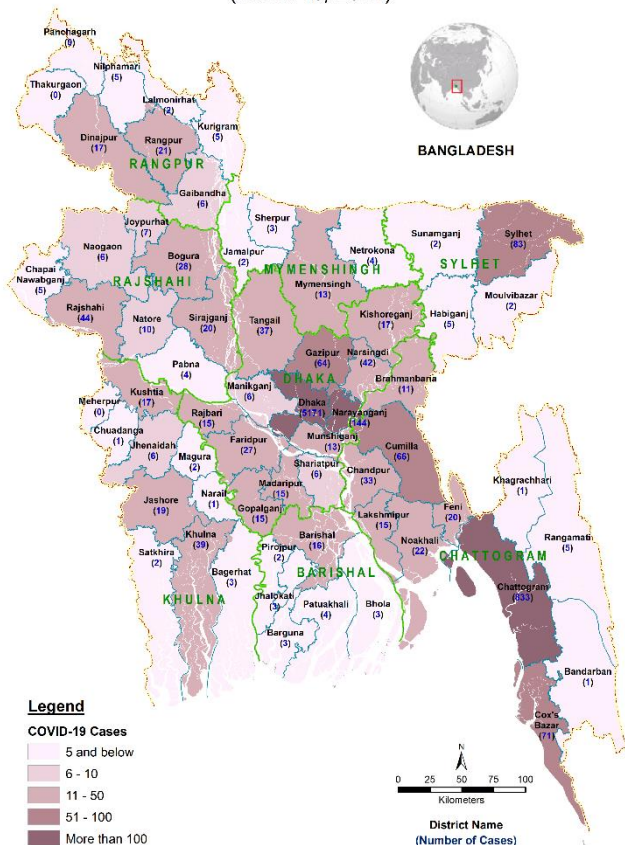
COVID-19 Case Distribution
(WEEK 08, 2021)



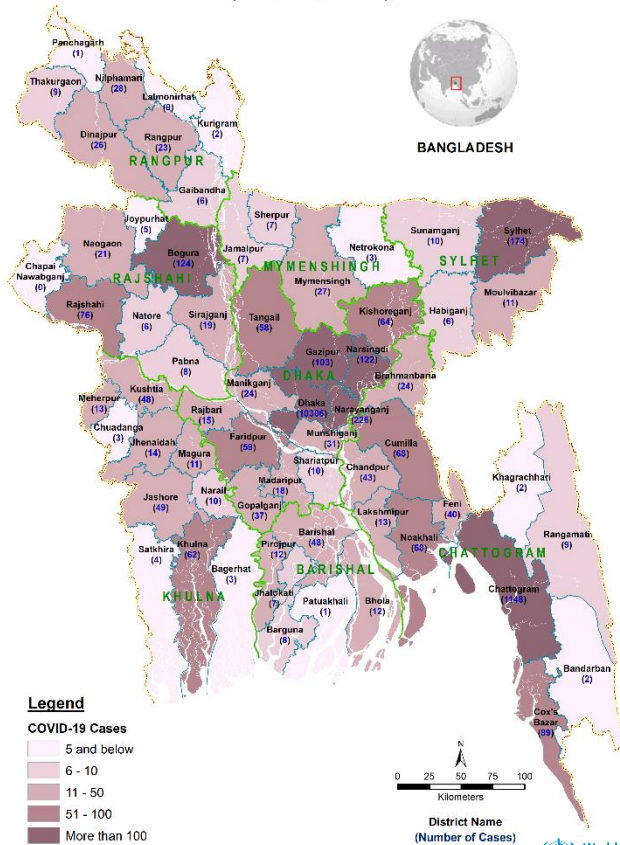
COVID-19 Case Distribution
(WEEK 09, 2021)



COVID-19 Case Distribution
(WEEK 10, 2021)

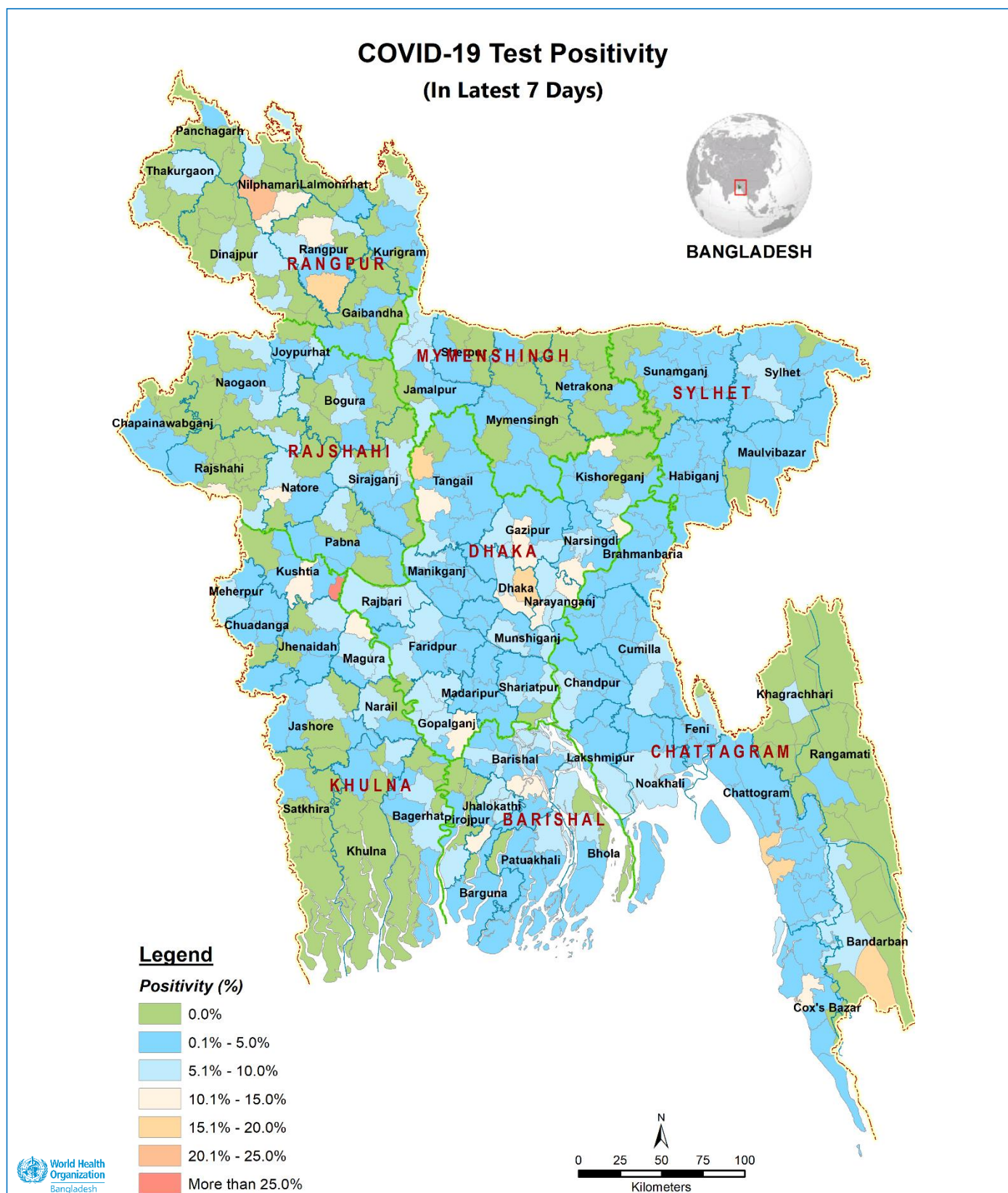


COVID-19 Case Distribution
(WEEK 11, 2021)



As of 21 March 2021, according to the DGHS Press Release, **4,409,119** COVID-19 tests (RT-PCR **99%**, GeneXpert **0.7%** and Rapid Antigen **0.3%**) were conducted in Bangladesh with an overall positivity rate of 12.95% (**10.29%** in the last 24 hours) by **219** laboratories/test centres. So far, **76.2%** of the samples (3,360,017) have been tested for COVID in government facilities (RT-PCR **51/118**, GeneXpert **27/29** and Rapid Antigen **72/72**). No test facility has been added to the network of COVID-19 testing facilities for the last two weeks. As of the reporting date, the test per case is **7.7**, which indicates the number of tests required to identify 1 case.

The map below shows COVID-19 Test Positivity Rate by Upazila, as of 19 MAR 2021, Bangladesh



4. Points of Entry (PoE) & Quarantine

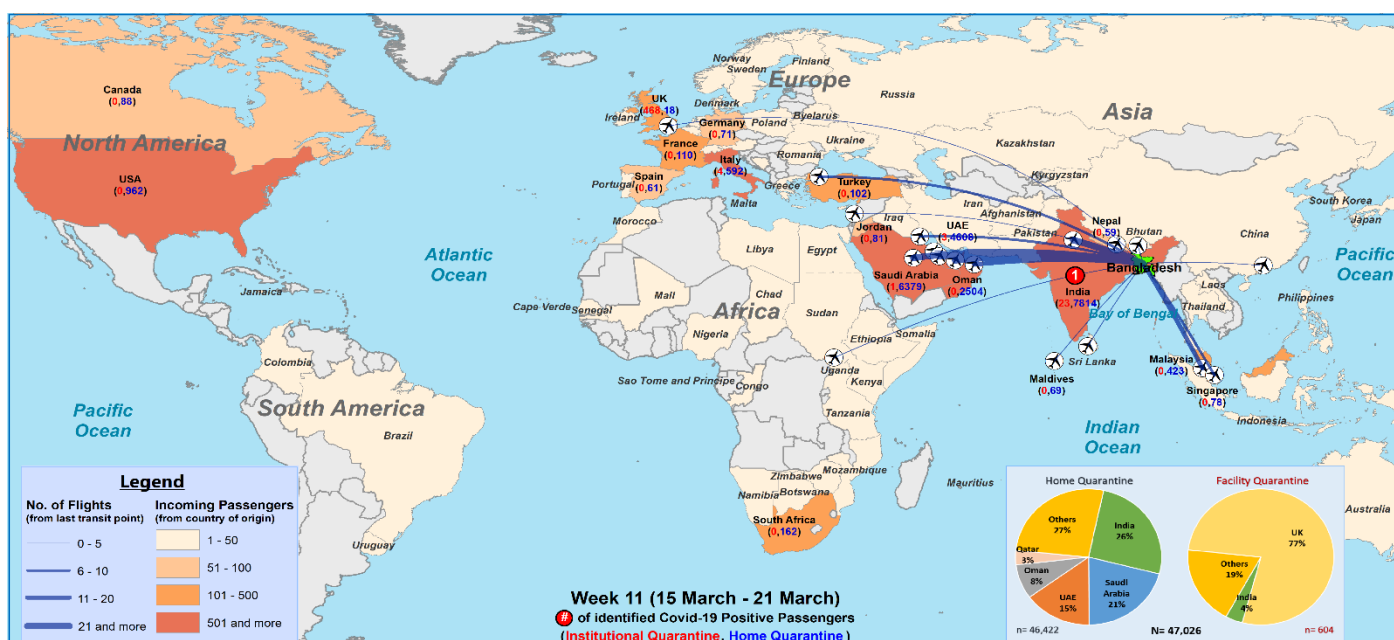
In the reported week (week 11, 2021), the number of international flights arrived at three international airports has **decreased** by 2% than the week before (289 and 294 flights respectively) and the number of incoming passengers has **decreased** by 6.0% (37,632 and 40,011 respectively). In the reported week, 604 travellers were sent to Institutional Quarantine, and 46,422 sent for Home quarantine after passenger screening at the Points of Entry.

The table below is showing the distribution of incoming travellers during 14 days sent to Home Quarantine as captured through PoE Surveillance, 08 – 21 MAR 2021, Bangladesh

Chattogram Div.	19,812	Dhaka Div.	16,268	Dhaka Div.	16,268	Sylhet Div.	4,656
Chattogram	7,025	Dhaka	7,673	Jashore	1117	Sylhet	2108
Cumilla	4115	Munshiganj	1127	Khulna	1056	Moulvibazar	1060
Noakhali	1991	Tangail	966	Bagerhat	544	Habiganj	774
Brahmanbaria	1923	Narayanganj	936	Satkhira	482	Sunamganj	714
Feni	1587	Narsingdi	841	Kushtia	436		
Chandpur	1419	Faridpur	819	Jhenaidah	357		
Lakshmipur	910	Gazipur	810	Narail	234		
Cox's Bazar	720	Madaripur	674	Magura	224		
Khagrachhari	54	Shariatpur	617	Meherpur	165		
Rangamati	38	Kishoreganj	610	Chuadanga	159		
Bandarban	30	Manikganj	545				
Rajshahi Div.	2,665	Barishal Div.	1,669	Mymensingh Div.	1018	Rangpur Div.	776
Pabna	577	Barishal	631	Mymensingh	592	Dinajpur	184
Rajshahi	498	Bhola	316	Jamalpur	205	Rangpur	174
Bogura	479	Pirojpur	236	Netrokona	156	Gaibandha	148
Chapai Nawabganj	289	Patuakhali	171	Sherpur	65	Kurigram	75
Naogaon	262	Jhalokati	161			Thakurgaon	68
Sirajganj	236	Barguna	154			Nilphamari	65
Natore	222					Lalmonirhat	44
Joypurhat	102					Panchagarh	18

According to DGHS, as of 21 March 2021, the country's current institutional quarantine capacity is represented by **629** centres across the 64 districts, which can receive **31,991** persons. A total of **50,610** individuals were placed in quarantine facilities, and **47,227** (93.3%) of them have already been released. Over the same period, a total of **102,265** individuals were isolated in designated health facilities, and **92,212** (90.2%) of them were released.

The map below is showing the geographical distribution of incoming flights and travellers captured through PoE Surveillance, week 11 (15 – 21 MAR), 2021, Bangladesh



During the reporting week 11, 2021, one (1) positive case (travelled from India) was identified at the IHR designated PoE (Benapole Land port) of the country. Out of individuals sent to Institutional Quarantine after passenger screening at active PoEs during the week, 93% travelled from UK, 5% from India, 1% from Qatar, UAE and Italy and the remaining 1% from other countries.

5. Case Management and Infection Prevention & Control

According to DGHS, as of 14 March 2021, there are **10,474** general beds in the country dedicated to COVID-19 treatment, **31.3%** (3,281) of which are in Dhaka city. Out of a total of **568** dedicated ICU beds, **51.2%** (291) are in Dhaka city. Presently **26.5%** of the general beds and **51.1%** of ICU beds are occupied across the country.

The table below is showing the bed occupancy in COVID-19 dedicated facilities, week 09 & 11, 2021

	National			Dhaka		
	21 MAR 2021	07 MAR 2021	Change	21 MAR 2021	07 MAR 2021	Change
General Beds	10,474	10,283	1.9%	3,281	3,193	2.8%
Bed Occupancy	26.5%	15.5%	71.6%	63.5%	37.5%	69.1%
ICU	568	566	0.4%	291	281	3.6%
ICU Occupancy	51.1%	31.3%	63.3%	72.2%	43.8%	64.9%

Master training on infection prevention and control for development a of pool of master trainers

The Covid-19 pandemic has stressed and reiterated how IPC is vital in managing infectious disease threats to the community. A recent survey shows that only 18.3 per cent of doctors, nurses and midwives have been trained on IPC practices.

During 08 – 16 March 2021, two batches of four days training of trainers on Infection Prevention and Control (IPC) have been conducted. WHO has provided technical support to the Directorate General of Health Services (DGHS) to train 65 physicians and nurses from all eight divisions under this training programme. Six infection prevention and control experts from WHO and the government imparted the training to roll out.

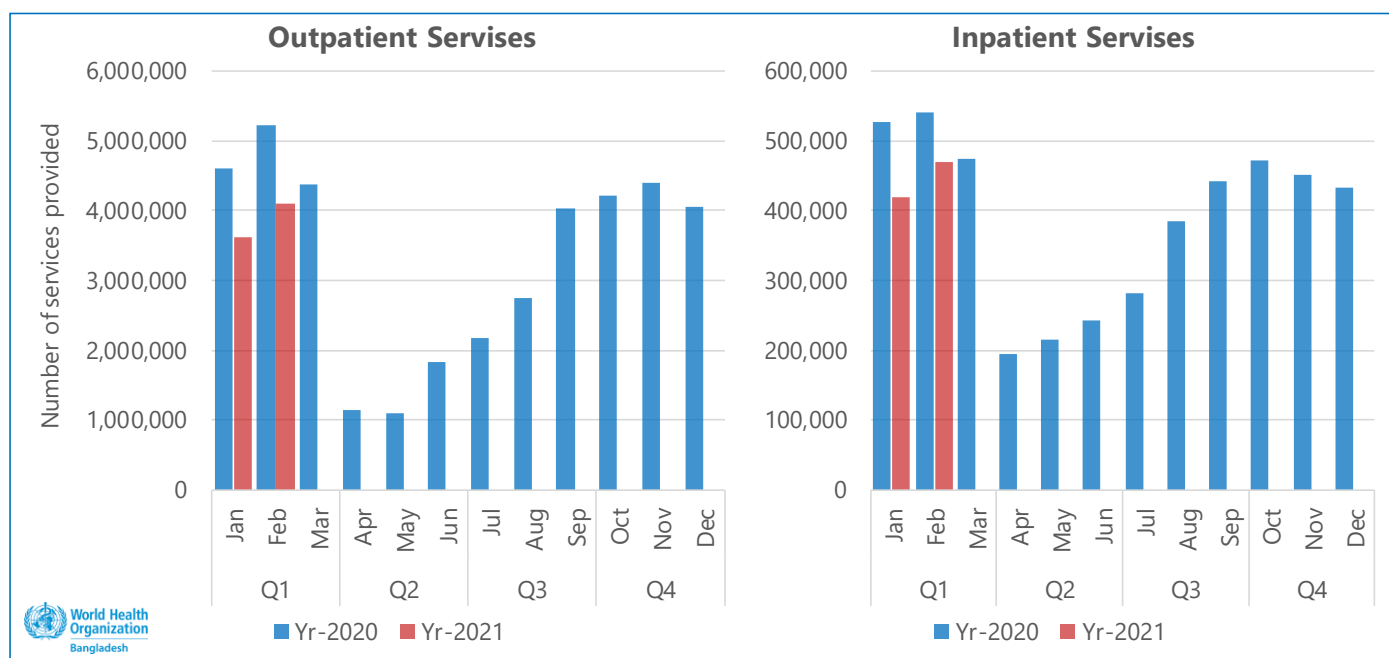


6. Essential Health Services

More than 4 million Outpatient (OP) services were provided by the public health facilities in Bangladesh in February 2021. The OP service utilization in Feb 2021 has increased by 13% compared to that of January 2021. However, OP utilization of Feb 2021 is 21% lower than that of the OP utilization in Feb 2020 (which was before the pandemic), indicating more efforts needed to bring it back to the level that was in the past.

More than four hundred thousand inpatient services were provided by public health facilities in February 2021. Inpatient services have increased by 12% as compared to the previous month. However, it is 13% lower than that of Feb 2020.

The figure below is showing the number of Outpatient and Inpatient services, as of 28 FEB 2021



7. Vaccination

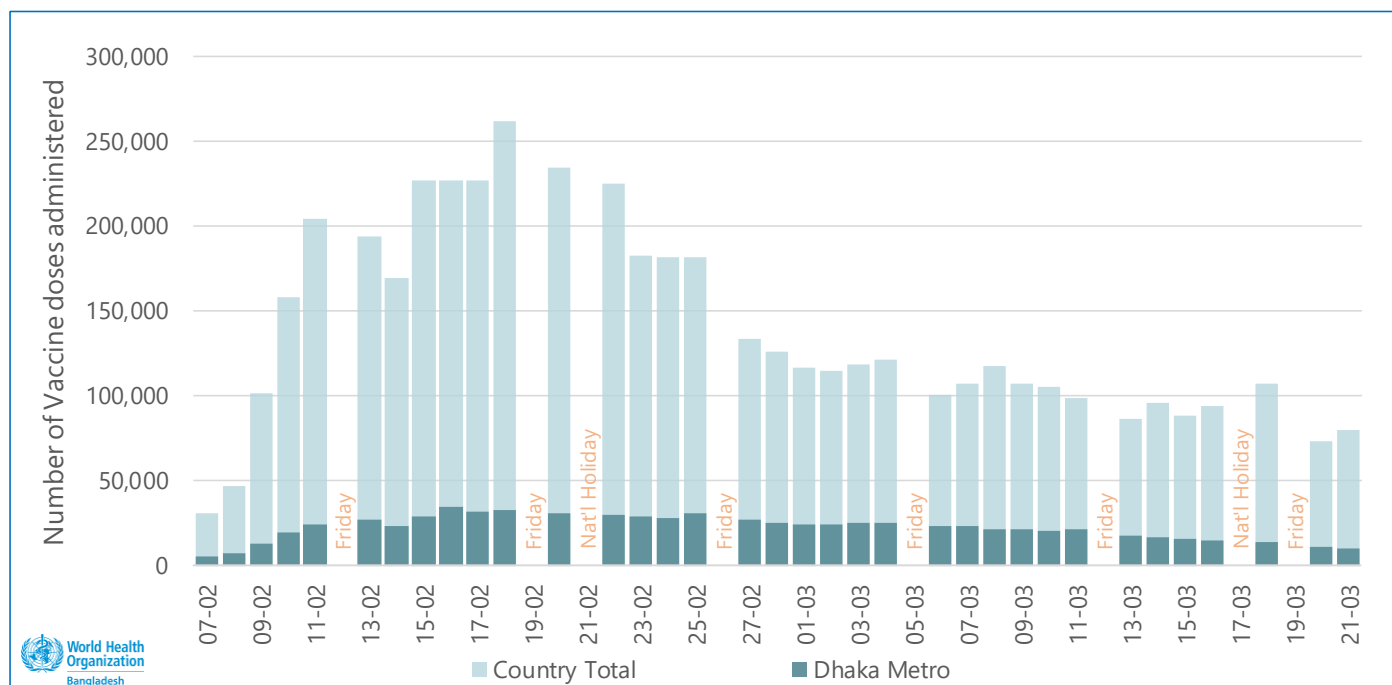
Since the launch of COVID-19 vaccination campaign, as of 21 March 2021, **4,840,969** (81%) doses of vaccine were administered out of the 6 million doses distributed across the country. A total of **3,040,522** (63%) males and **1,800,447** (37%) females received their 1st dose of vaccine. So far, **9.8%** of the country's eligible population has been vaccinated, while in Dhaka metropolitan the coverage is **31.9%**.

The table below shows the utilization of COVID-19 Vaccine doses, 27 JAN – 21 MAR 2021

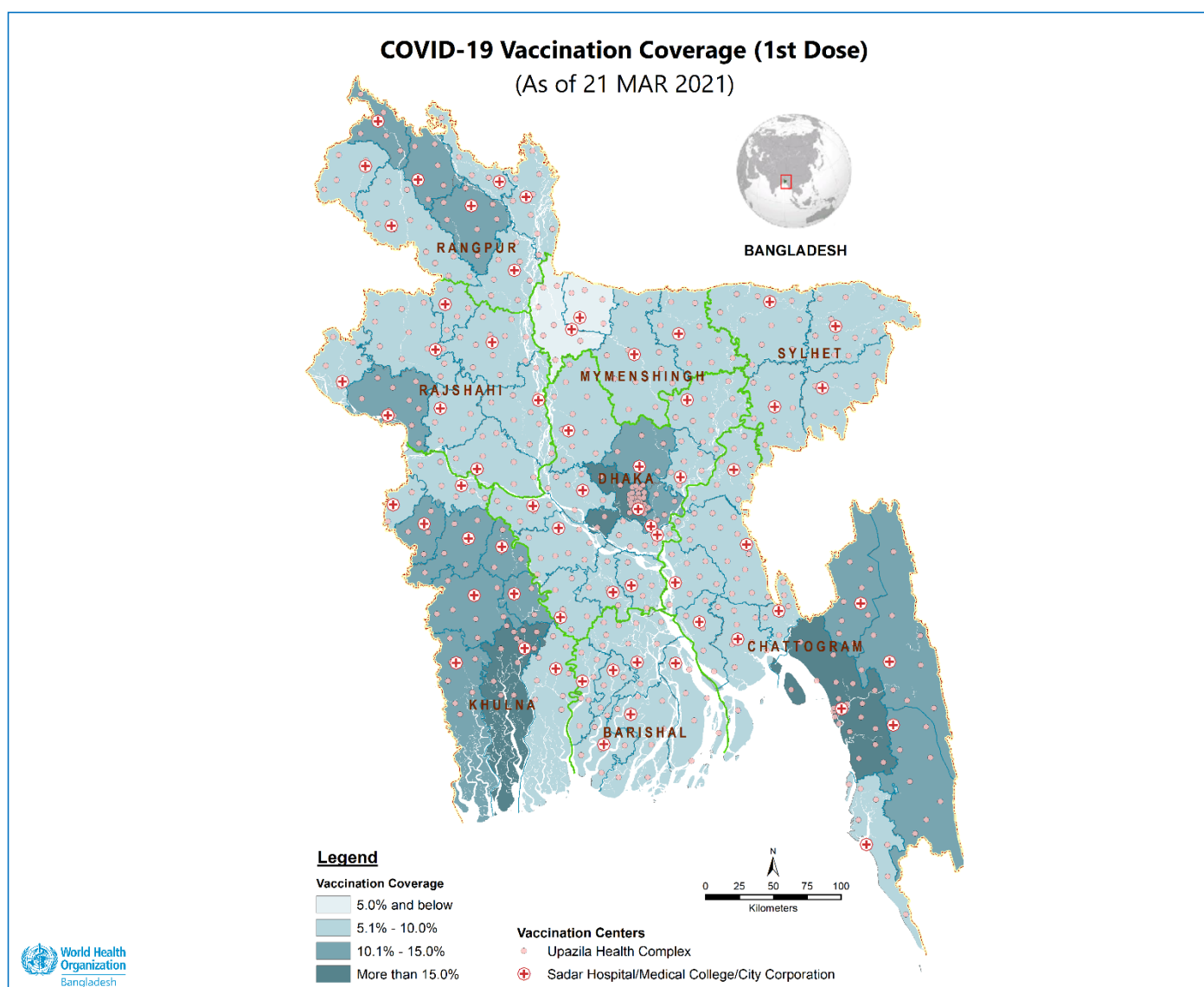
Division	No. of Vaccine Doses supplied	No. of Vaccine Doses utilized	Utilization Rate (%)*	% of population vaccinated**
Barishal	243,000	216,284	89%	7.6%
Chattogram	1,346,000	988,079	73%	10.1%
Dhaka	1,793,000	1,517,069	85%	12.1%
Khulna	693,000	632,488	91%	11.7%
Mymensingh	291,000	216,221	74%	5.7%
Rajshahi	672,000	537,648	80%	8.5%
Rangpur	600,000	478,258	80%	8.8%
Sylhet	362,000	254,922	70%	7.5%
Total	6,000,000	4,840,969	81%	9.8%

* Wastage rate not considered, **Eligible population >40 years old

The figure below shows the daily number of COVID-19 vaccine administered, as of 21 MAR 2021



The map below is showing COVID-19 Vaccination coverage, as of 21 MAR 2021



8. Useful links for more information

- WHO Bangladesh COVID-19 Situation Reports:
[https://www.who.int/bangladesh/emergencies/coronavirus-disease-\(covid-19\)-update/coronavirus-disease-\(covid-2019\)-bangladesh-situation-reports](https://www.who.int/bangladesh/emergencies/coronavirus-disease-(covid-19)-update/coronavirus-disease-(covid-2019)-bangladesh-situation-reports)
- WHO Cox's Bazar Situation reports:
<https://ln2.sync.com/dl/f33b85a60/99r3nuhb-zebna3tg-kun4acy3-mvyxqv56>
- COVID-19 Situation in the WHO South-East Asia Region:
<https://experience.arcgis.com/experience/56d2642cb379485ebf78371e744b8c6a>
- WHO global Weekly Epidemiological Update and Weekly Operational Update:
<https://www.who.int/emergencies/diseases/novel-coronavirus-2019/situation-reports/>
- WHO Bangladesh awareness and risk communication materials in Bengali:
[https://www.who.int/bangladesh/emergencies/coronavirus-disease-\(covid-19\)-update](https://www.who.int/bangladesh/emergencies/coronavirus-disease-(covid-19)-update)
- COVID-19 WHO Online Training modules: <https://www.who.int/emergencies/diseases/novel-coronavirus-2019/training/online-training>
- COVID-19 updates from the Directorate General of Health Services, Ministry of Health and Family Welfare, Government of The People's Republic of Bangladesh:
<https://dghs.gov.bd/index.php/en/component/content/article?id=5393>
- Institute of Epidemiology, Disease Control and Research (IEDCR):
<https://iedcr.gov.bd/covid-19/covid-19-general-information>