



**Ministry of Health
& Wellness**
Cayman Islands Government



Public Health Spotlight

Communicable and Non-Communicable Diseases

Issue 11 | 11 August 2022

Monkeypox

Overview

Internationally, 29,833 confirmed cases of monkeypox have been reported, from 90 different countries (data as of 10 August 2022). Over the past week, the number of monkeypox cases reported has increased by 25%, and in the Americas the number of monkeypox cases reported increased by 41%. The total number of monkeypox deaths reported to WHO is 11. There were four deaths reported during the past week; one in Brazil, two in Spain and one in India.

Jamaica has reported three cases of monkeypox to date and the first two had recently travelled. However the third case was locally-acquired, which means the individual had not recently travelled abroad and had no epidemiological link to the previous two cases.

Cayman Islands

There continue to be no known cases of monkeypox virus detected in the Cayman Islands, and there are no suspected cases currently being investigated.

Alzheimer's Disease

Alzheimer's disease is a progressive disease, which affects memory and cognitive skills. In the early stages, it can present as mild memory loss particularly for recently learned information, and in late stage can develop where individuals are unable to manage a conversation. Activities such as driving a car, cooking a meal or paying the bills can prove challenging to individuals with Alzheimer's. It typically occurs among individuals over the age of 65 years. There is currently no cure available. Globally, Alzheimer's disease is attributed to be the cause for 60-70% of dementia cases.

According to the recent 2021 Census in the Cayman Islands, 193 Alzheimer cases were reported in Cayman which was slightly higher in females than males, 111 cases compared to 82 cases. This equates to an incidence of 3 cases per 100,000 population. The most commonly reported difficulties in everyday life among individuals with Alzheimer's were remembering or concentrating, walking or climbing stairs, and washing all over. There are no known approaches that have been shown effective in preventing Alzheimer's disease. However, some factors such as increased physical activity, blood pressure control (among those with high blood pressures) and cognitive training may reduce the risk of cognitive decline.

COVID-19 - Epidemiological Week 31

31 July - 6 August 2022 (Data as of 08-08-2022)

International Situation

The reported weekly cases globally remained stable during Epi Week 31, and the reported weekly number of deaths decreased by 9%.

Cayman Islands Local Trends

Detection of cases continues to decline by 25% with 240 cases detected in Epi Week 31 compared to 322 in the previous week. The case rate has fallen to 345 per 100,000 population from 464 cases per 100,000 population. PCR testing has decreased by 22% with a testing rate of 785 tests per 100,000. Genomic sequencing data indicates the dominant variant circulating is BA.5 and its subvariants (data from early July).

Hospital Admissions

Eight new hospital admissions were registered during Epi Week 31, the same as the previous week. Of the nine new admissions, 4 were admitted due to COVID-19 morbidity and 4 patients were detected on screening. A total of 11 patients required inpatient treatment, the same as the previous week.

Vaccination

During Epi Week 31, there were 88 adults who received a COVID-19 vaccine (34 first dose and 54 second dose) and 10 children (8 first dose and 2 second dose).

Key Message

COVID-19 case detection and testing continue to decline in the Cayman Islands. Measures to reduce your risk of catching COVID-19 and passing it on to others include good hand hygiene, staying home when symptomatic or positive and getting your booster vaccination.

COVID-19 - Epidemiological Week 30 Statistics

Table 1: COVID-19 case numbers

Indicator	Current EpiWeek	Previous EpiWeek	Percentage change	Total
Newly confirmed cases ¹	240	322	-25%	29,653
Case rate ² per 100,000 population	346	464	-25%	41,512
Daily average (7-day rolling average)	34	46	-25%	
Number of PCR tests conducted	561	715	-22%	
New positive PCR test results	240	322	-25%	29,653
Test positivity ³	43%	45%	-4%	-
Testing rate per 100,000 population	785	1,001	-22%	-
Deaths	0	0	0%	29

¹Newly confirmed cases (PCR) reported to Public Health with a sample collection date between 00:00 to 23:59 on 31 July 2022 –6 August 2022.

² Case Rate = proportion of persons who tested positive over population standardized to 100K population (New cases/total population)*100,000

³ Number of new positive PCR results over total number of PCR tests done (new positive PCR results/total number of PCRs conducted)*100

Figure 1: Total COVID-19 cases since March 2020 by specimen date

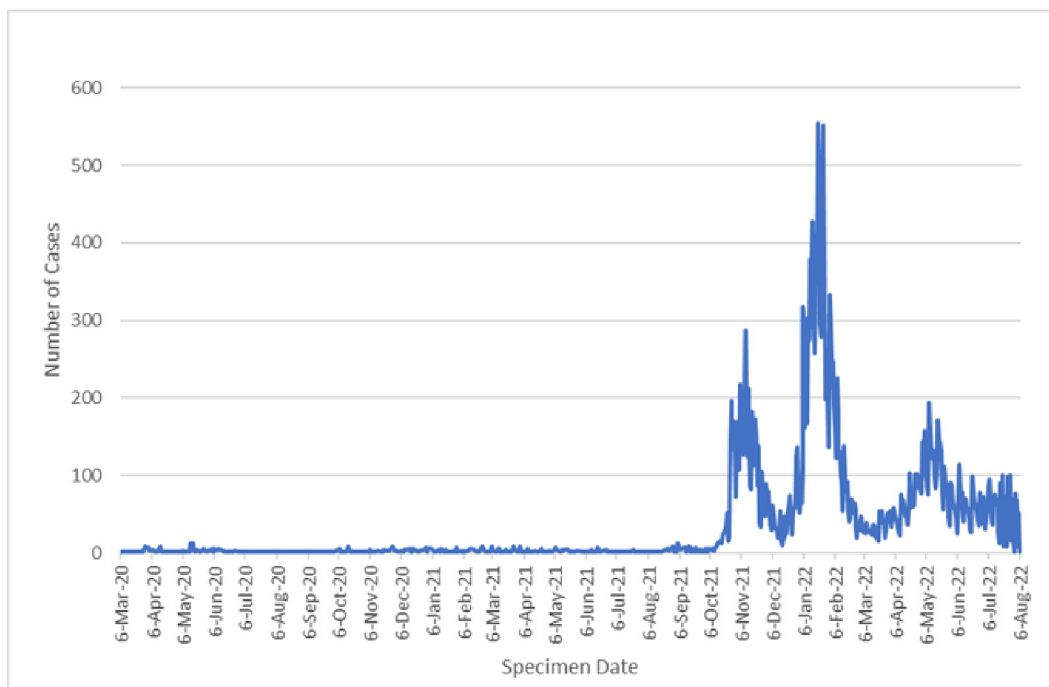
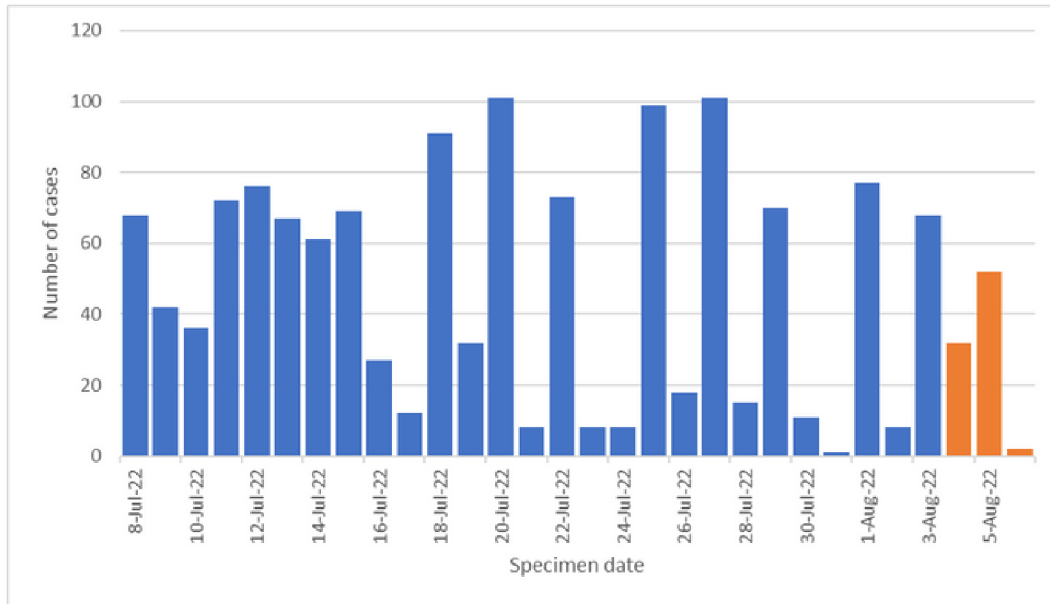
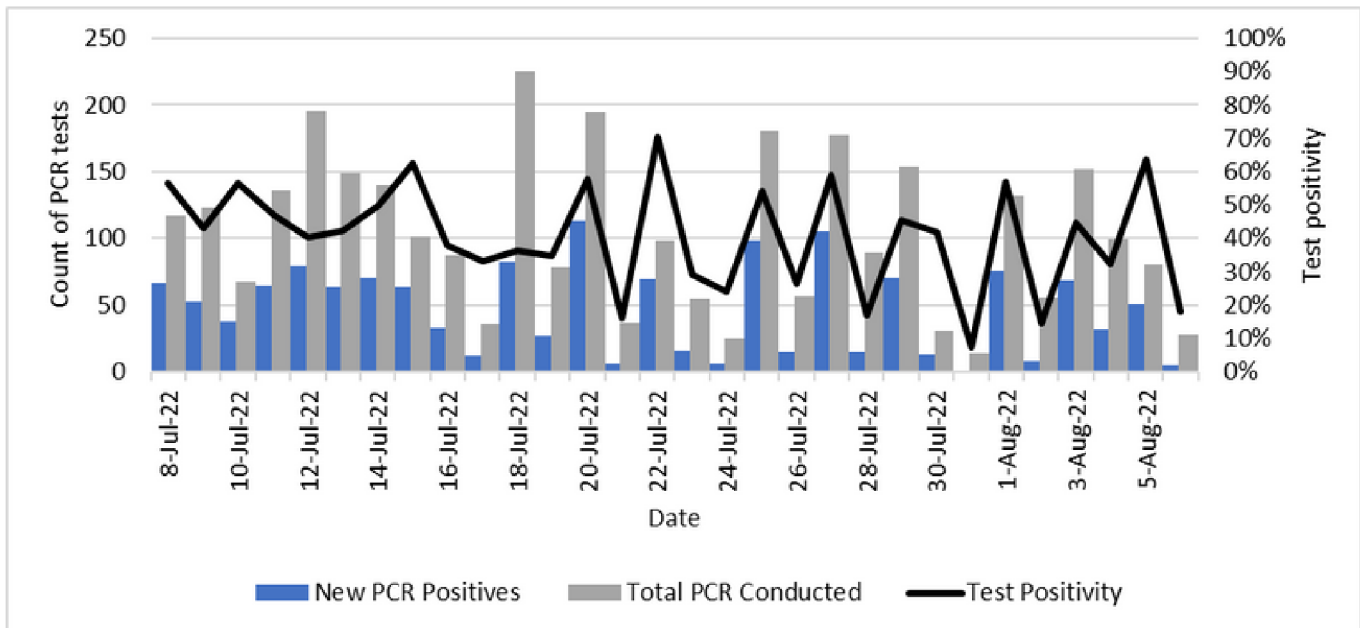


Figure 2: Number of COVID-19 cases in the last 30 days by specimen date



Orange bars indicate PCR results are pending thus figures may change.

Figure 3: Number of PCR tests conducted, new PCR positive results and test positivity rate for the last 30 days by test date



Data refers to the percentage of patients who tested positive via PCR in the prior 30 days.

Figure 4: Case age and sex distribution for the reporting Epi Week

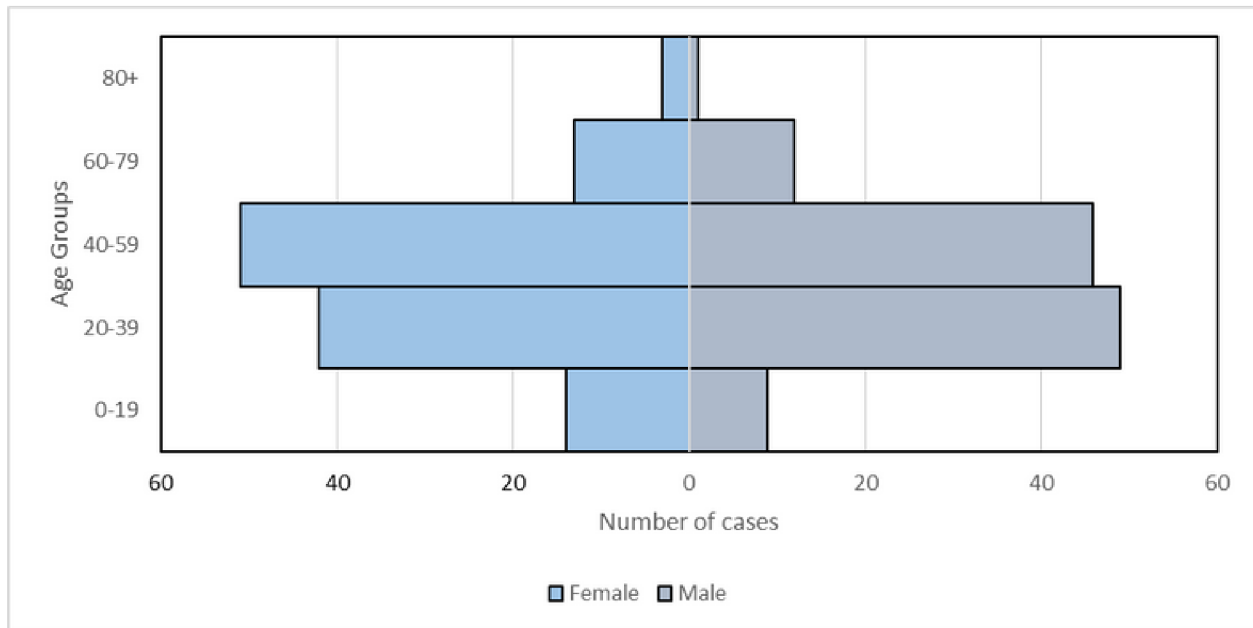


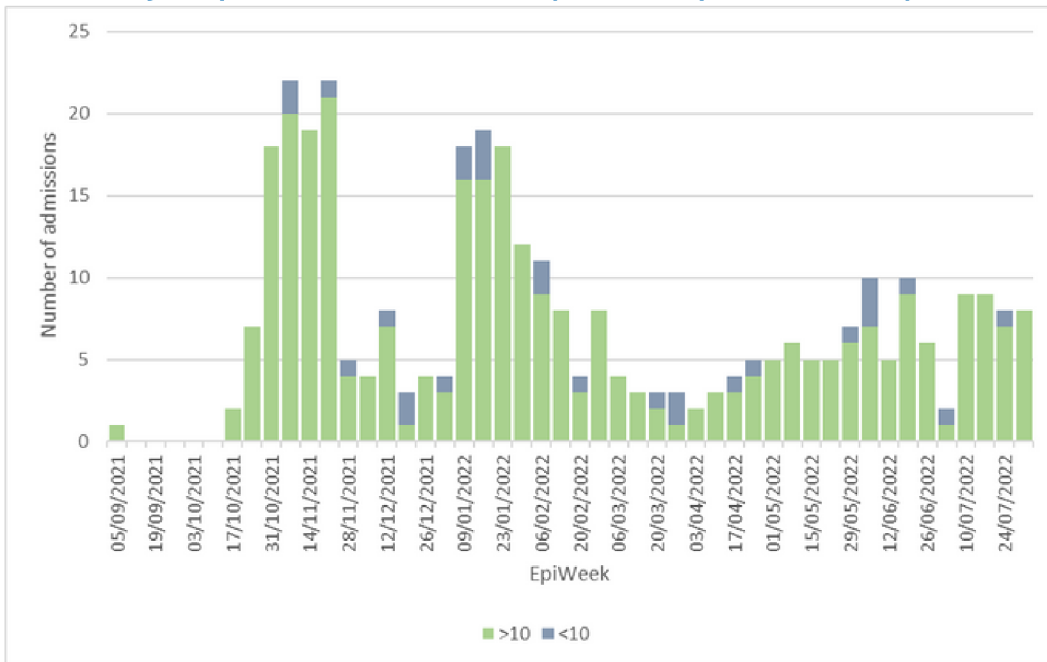
Table 2: COVID-19 patients admitted to hospital

Indicator	Current EpiWeek	Previous EpiWeek	Percentage change	Total
Total				
New COVID-19 patients admitted	8	8	0%	362
By age, vaccination, and reason for admission				
New admissions <10 years	0	1	-	28
New admissions >10 years	8	7	+14%	334
New admissions with ≥ 2 doses of a COVID-19 vaccine	7	7	0%	140
Admitted for COVID-19 morbidity	4	3	+33%	-
Admitted with COVID-19, detected by screening	4	5	-20%	-

Table 3: COVID-19 inpatients

Indicator	Current EpiWeek	Previous EpiWeek	Percentage change	Total
Total number of inpatients	11	11	0%	362
Supplemental O2 inpatients	2	3	-33%	-
ICU inpatients	3	2	+50%	-
Ventilated inpatients	0	0	-	-

Figure 5: Weekly hospitalisations and deaths (since 8 September 2021*)



*First COVID-19 patient was in March 2020, but hospitalisation figures begin September 2021 for graphical reasons.

Table 4: Hospitalisation and Death statistics March 2020 – Present.

Vaccination Status	Hospitalisations	Proportion	Deaths	Proportion
Unvaccinated	211	58%	24	83%
Partially Vaccinated	11	3%	1	3%
Fully vaccinated	109	30%	4	14%
Fully vaccinated +1 Booster	30	8%	0	0%
Fully vaccinated +2 Boosters	1	0%	0	0%
Total	362	100%	29	100%

Figure 6: Weekly COVID-19 hospital admissions stratified by those aged above and below 10

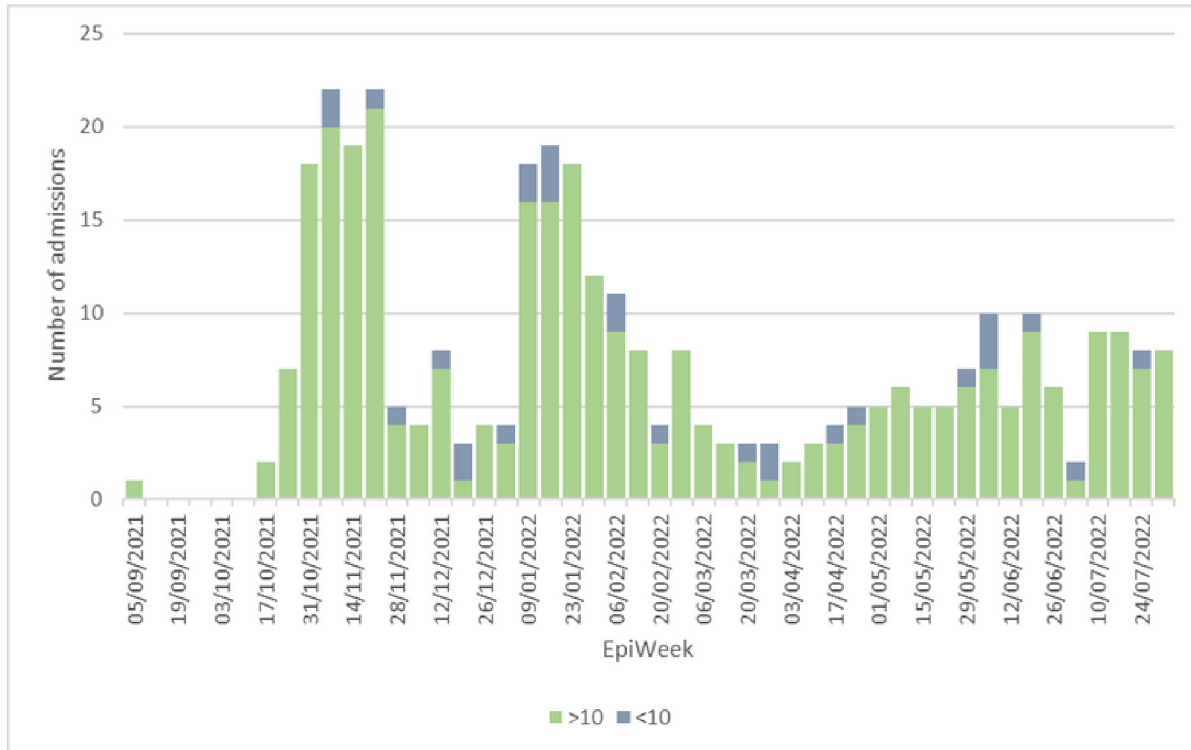


Table 5: COVID-19 vaccine uptake and coverage reporting previous Epi Week

Dose Number	Number administered in the week	Total Count	Coverage of Total Population*	Coverage of population over 5*
1	42	61,607	86.2%	95.1%
2	56	60,057	84.1%	92.8%
3	54	23,842	33.4%	36.8%
4	121	2,268	3.2%	3.5%

Based on total population of 71,432

Table 6: COVID-19 paediatric vaccine doses administered and booster coverage reporting previous Epi Week

Indicator	Total
Number of paediatric 1st doses administered within the EpiWeek	8
Number of paediatric 2nd doses administered within the EpiWeek	2
Number of children (5-11) immunized with the paediatric vaccine	810
Booster (3rd dose) coverage for population >20 (Fig.7)	43.5%

Figure 7: Vaccine coverage

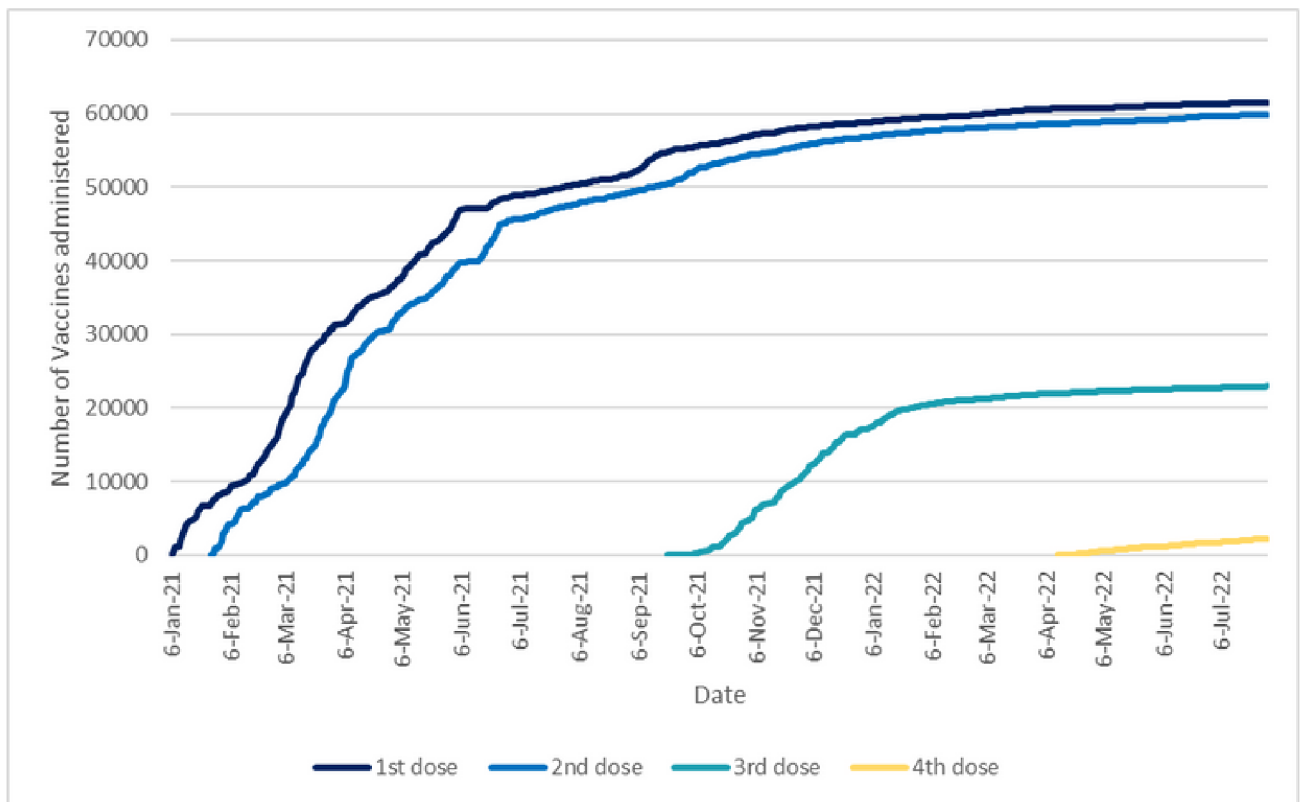


Figure 8: Booster (3rd dose) Vaccine Coverage per Age Group

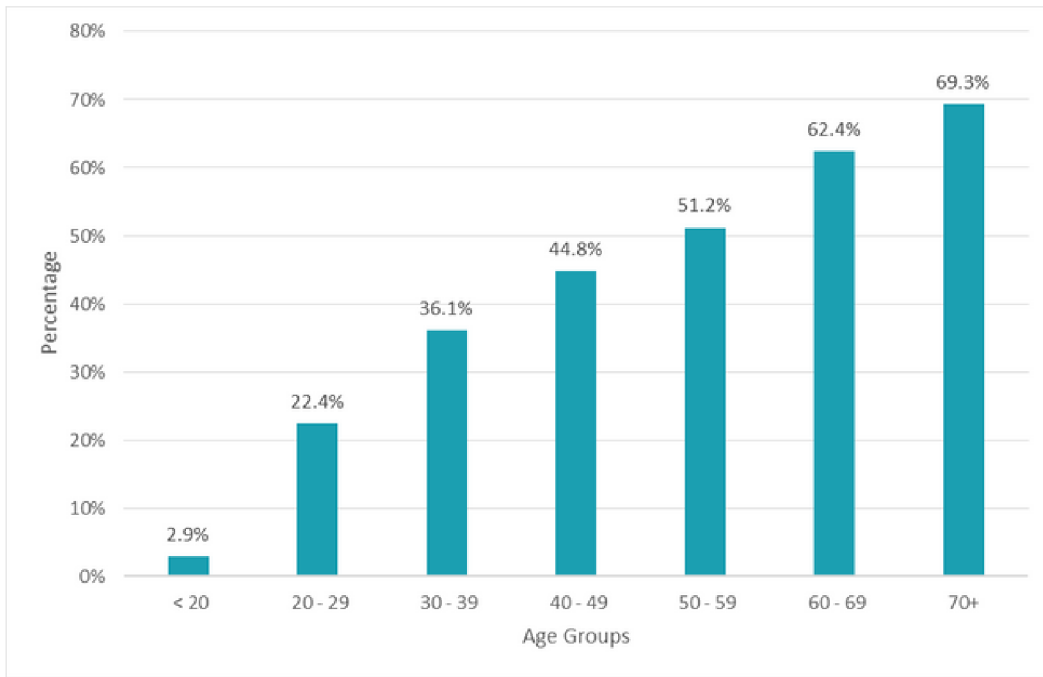
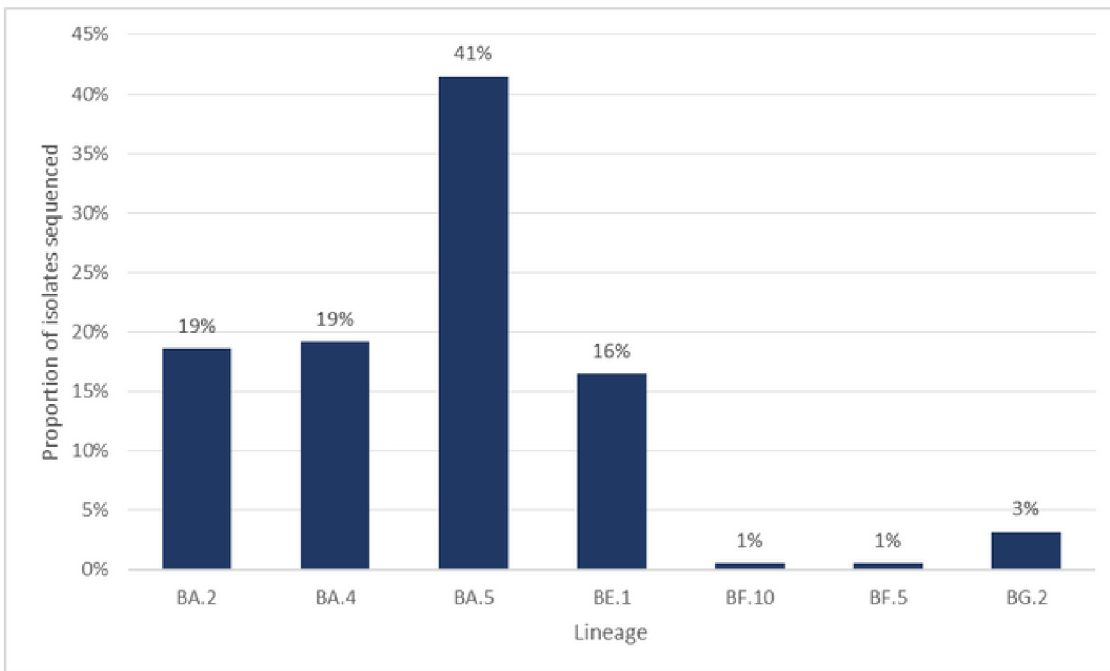


Figure 9: Genomic sequencing of positive SARS-CoV2 isolates (N=188) from Epi Week 27



Further genomic sequencing data of positive SARS-CoV2 isolates shows that Omicron BA.5 and its subvariants attribute the highest proportion among isolates sequenced (41%). This aligns to the genomic landscape reported internationally. As this is a relatively small sample of 188 isolates that have been sequenced and PCR testing is falling, this provides an indication of what is circulating in the population however cannot determine prevalence. The variant BA.2.75 recently included under WHO monitoring has not been detected to date in Cayman Islands.