# Multi-country outbreak of monkeypox

External Situation Report 5, published 7 September 2022
Data as received by WHO national authorities by 17:00 CEST, 5 September 2022

| Risk assessment | Laboratory confirmed cases | Deaths | Countries/ areas/ territories |
|---|---|---|---|
| Global risk – Moderate<br>WHO Regional risk<br>• European Region – High<br>• African Region, Region of the Americas, Eastern Mediterranean Region, Southeast Asia Region – Moderate<br>• Western Pacific Region – Low-Moderate | 52 996 | 18 | 102 |

## Highlights

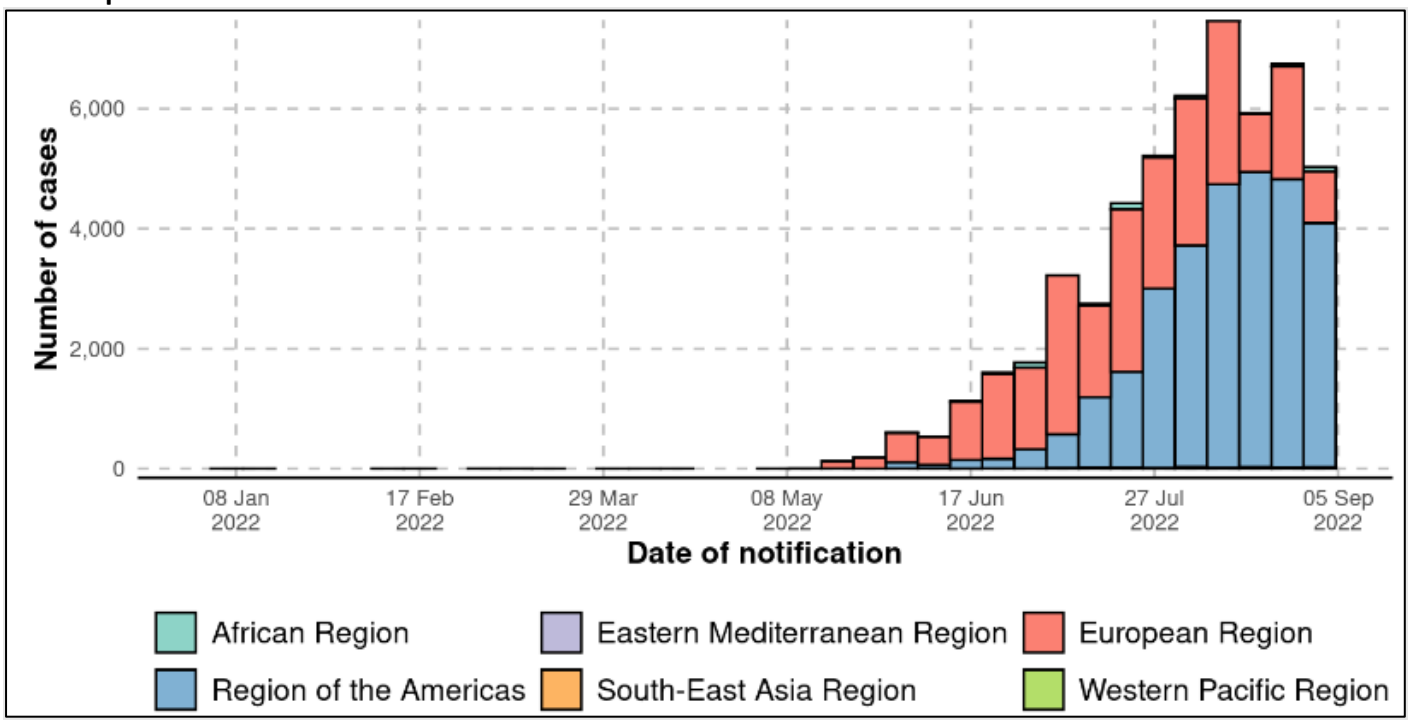
- During the week of 29 August to 4 September 2022, the number of cases reported in the regions of Europe and America declined compared to the week of 22 to 28 august, driving the observed global decrease.
- On 25 August, WHO updated the interim guidance on Surveillance, case investigation, and contact tracing for monkeypox with the latest information on symptomatology and epidemiological parameters, and to align with the Temporary Recommendations issued by the Director General, after the declaration of the Public Health Emergency of International concern (PHEIC).
- On 1 September, WHO published new public health advice on preventing stigma and discrimination: Communications and community engagement interim guidance on using inclusive language in understanding, preventing and addressing stigma and discrimination related to monkeypox.

From 1 January through 4 September 2022, 52 996 laboratory-confirmed cases of monkeypox and 18 deaths have been reported to WHO from 102 countries/territories/areas[i] in all six WHO Regions (Table 1). Since the last edition of this report published on 24 August 2022, 11 332 new cases (27% increase) and six new deaths were reported; and six new countries reported cases. In the past seven days, 25 countries reported an increase in the weekly number of cases, with the highest increase reported in Colombia, and one country, South Sudan, reported its first case (29 August 2022). There are 27 countries that have not reported new cases for over 21 days, the maximum incubation period of the disease.

The number of weekly new cases reported globally decreased by 25.5% in week 35 (29 August - 4 September) (n= 5029 cases) compared to week 34 (22- 28 August) (n= 6746 cases), with the largest decrease observed in the Region of the Americas (-15%) and in the European Region (-55%). Despite these decreases, the majority of cases reported in the past four weeks were in the Region of the Americas (70.7%) and the European Region (28.3%). From 22 August to 4 September 2022, a total of six deaths have been reported in Ghana (n=3), Belgium (n=1), Brazil (n=1), and Cuba (n=1).

As of 4 September, the ten countries that have reported the highest cumulative number of cases globally are the United States of America (n = 19 351), Spain (n = 6645), Brazil (n = 5197), France (n = 3646), Germany (n = 3493), the United Kingdom (n = 3413), Peru (n = 1546), Canada (n = 1289), the Netherlands (n = 1172), and Portugal (n = 871). Together, these countries account for 88.0% of the cases reported globally.

**Figure 1. Epidemiological curve of weekly aggregated confirmed cases of monkeypox by region, from 1 January to 04 September 2022 17:00 CEST*.**




*This figure shows aggregated weekly data, for completed epidemiological weeks ending on Sundays. Data on the current week will be presented in the next situation report.

**Table 1. Number of cumulative confirmed monkeypox cases and deaths reported to WHO, by WHO Region, from 1 January 2022 to 04 September 17:00 CEST**

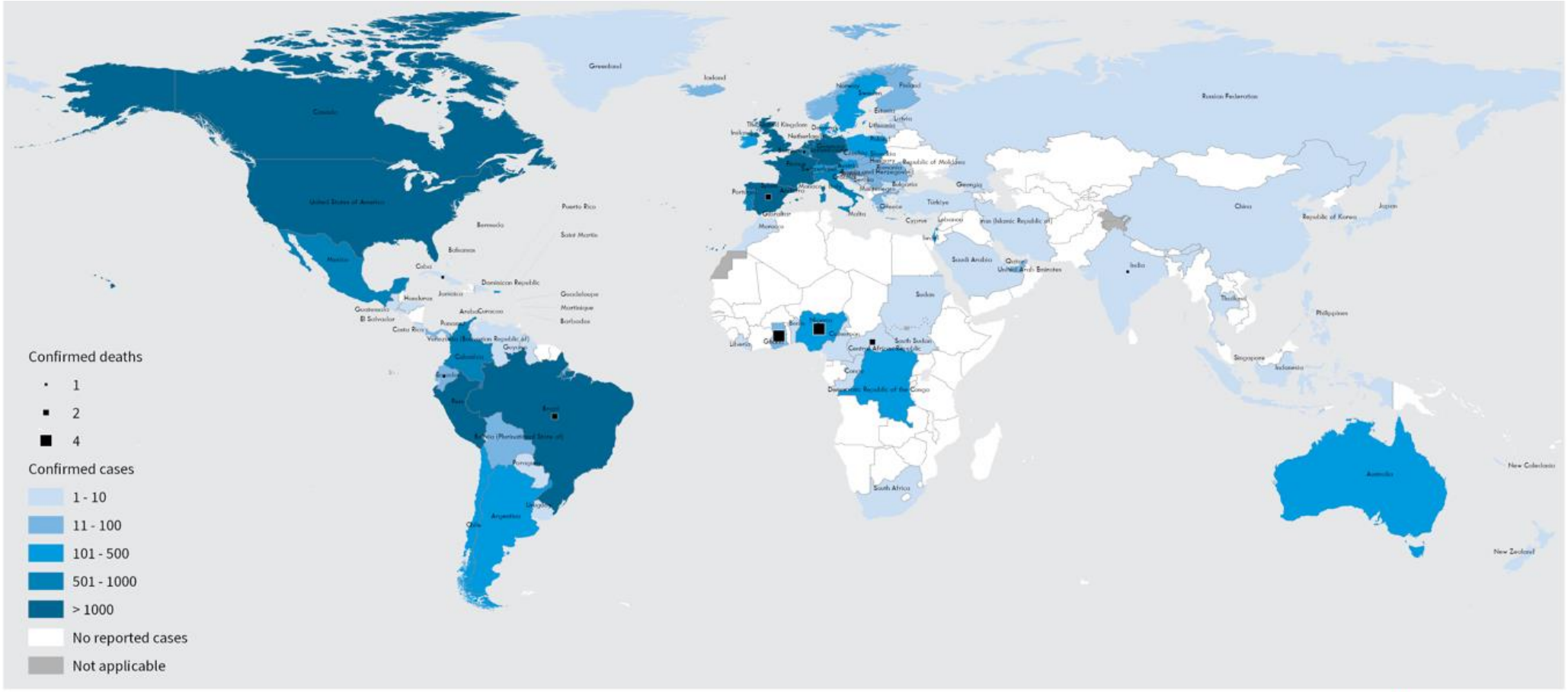
| WHO Region | Confirmed cases | Deaths |
|---|---|---|
| African Region | 521 | 10 |
| Region of the Americas | 29 338 | 4 |
| Eastern Mediterranean Region | 39 | 0 |
| European Region | 22 921 | 3 |
| South-East Asia Region | 18 | 1 |
| Western Pacific Region | 159 | 0 |
| **Cumulative** | 52 996 | 18 |

Other key epidemiological findings:

- The outbreak continues to affect primarily young men, with 98.2% (26 953/27 449) of cases with available data being men with a median age of 36 years (Interquartile range: 30-43 years). Less than 1% of cases with age data available are aged 0-17 years, out of which 43 (0.2%) were aged 0-4 years. This proportion differs between Regions, with the largest proportion of cases aged 0-17 being reported from the African Region (65 /163; 40%).
- Among cases with sexual orientation reported, 95.2% (11 923/12 530) identified as gay, bisexual and other men who have sex with men. Of all reported types of transmission, transmission through skin and mucosal contact during sexual activities was most commonly reported, with 7824 of 8601 (91.0%) of all reported transmission events.
- The majority of cases with reported exposure settings were likely exposed in a party setting with sexual contacts, with 2921 of 4867 (60.0%) of all likely exposure categories.
- Among cases with known HIV status, 44.9% (5576/12 411) are HIV positive.

For further information, please see the WHO Multi-country Monkeypox Outbreak – Global Trends.

**Figure 3. Geographic distribution of confirmed cases of monkeypox reported to or identified by WHO from official public sources from 1 January 2022 to 04 September 17:00 CEST**




The designations employed and the presentation of the material in this publication do not imply the expression of any opinion whatsoever on the part of WHO concerning the legal status of any country, territory, city or area or of its authorities, or concerning the delimitation of its frontiers or boundaries. Dotted and dashed lines on maps represent approximate border lines for which there may not yet be full agreement.

Data Source: World Health Organization
Map Production: WHO Health Emergencies Programme
Map Date: 6 September 2022

© WHO 2022. All rights reserved.

## Updates and WHO Advice

WHO continues to closely monitor and respond to the outbreak and support international coordination and information sharing with the Member States and partners. Clinical and public health incident response have been activated by Member States to coordinate comprehensive case finding, contact tracing, laboratory investigation, supported isolation, clinical management, implementation of infection prevention and control measures, risk communication and community engagement, and vaccination activities, as well as support ongoing epidemiological and countermeasures research.

### Surveillance

WHO continues to collect regular information on the daily number of monkeypox cases and deaths through IHR communication, as well as detailed information through the case reporting form (CRF). The reference document for monkeypox surveillance remains the interim guidance on surveillance, case investigation and contact tracing for monkeypox, updated on 25 August 2022. Currently, WHO has received the CRF for around 89% of the total confirmed cases reported at the global level, and the latest epidemiological information is included in the online 2022 Monkeypox outbreak: Global trends.

WHO is currently working with partners to investigate the use of wastewater surveillance for monkeypox, its benefits for monitoring the presence or transmission of the virus in the community, and challenges, both technical and resource-related.

### Risk Communication and Community Engagement

WHO is conducting risk communication and community engagement (RCCE) activities on monkeypox, prioritizing the most affected populations. Informed by regular social listening activities highlighting questions and concerns from the public, the monkeypox Q&A page and other materials have been regularly updated, with a focus on sharing updated information on symptoms, recovering from monkeypox at home, and the risk of transmission through skin and mucosal contact during sexual activities.

WHO has conducted several community consultations with representatives of the HIV, hepatitis and sexually transmitted infections (HHS) technical advisory group to drive strategy and co-develop materials. Several iterations of the public health guidance for gay, bisexual and other men who have sex with men have been released with key messages and health advice.

The reference document to guide RCCE activities for this outbreak continues to be the interim guidance published on 24 June 2022. On 1 September, WHO published additional public health advice: Communications and community engagement interim guidance on using inclusive language in understanding, preventing and addressing stigma and discrimination related to monkeypox.

WHO is currently developing health advice for sex workers, and a strategy to support RCCE around monkeypox vaccination.

## Gatherings

WHO has engaged with organizers of public gatherings (large and small), including those likely to be conducive for encounters of an intimate sexual nature or that may include sex-on-premises, to promote personal protective measures and behaviours, encourage organizers to apply a risk-based approach to the holding of such events, and discuss the possibility of postponing events for which risk measures cannot be put in place. All necessary information should be provided for risk communication on personal choices and for infection prevention and control, including regular cleaning of event venues.

## Technical guidance and other resources

**International Health Regulations Emergency committee and Temporary Recommendations of the Director-General**

- WHO Second meeting of the International Health Regulations (2005) (IHR) Emergency Committee regarding the multi-country outbreak of monkeypox, 23 July 2022. https://www.who.int/news/item/23-07-2022-second-meeting-of-the-international-health-regulations-(2005)-(ihr)-emergency-committee-regarding-the-multi-country-outbreak-of-monkeypox
- WHO Director-General's statement at the press conference following IHR Emergency Committee regarding the multi-country outbreak of monkeypox, 23 July 2022. https://www.who.int/director-general/speeches/detail/who-director-general-s-statement-on-the-press-conference-following-IHR-emergency-committee-regarding-the-multi--country-outbreak-of-monkeypox--23-july-2022

**WHO Interim Guidance and Public Health Advice**

- WHO Vaccines and immunization for monkeypox: Interim guidance, 24 August 2022. https://apps.who.int/iris/bitstream/handle/10665/361894/WHO-MPX-Immunization-2022.2-eng.pdf
- WHO Global clinical data platform for monkeypox case report form (CRF), 15 July 2022. https://www.who.int/publications/i/item/WHO-MPX-Clinical_CRF-2022.2
- Public health advice for gatherings during the current monkeypox outbreak, 28 June 2022: https://www.who.int/publications/i/item/WHO-MPX-Gatherings-2022.1
- WHO Surveillance, case investigation and contact tracing for Monkeypox: Interim guidance, 24 June 2022. https://www.who.int/publications/i/item/WHO-MONKEYPOX-surveillance-2022.2
- Clinical management and infection prevention and control for monkeypox: Interim rapid response guidance, 10 June 2022. https://www.who.int/publications/i/item/WHO-MPX-Clinical-and-IPC-2022.1
- WHO Technical brief (interim) and priority actions: enhancing readiness for monkeypox in WHO South-East Asia Region, 7 July 2022. https://cdn.who.int/media/docs/default-source/searo/whe/monkeypox/searo-mpx-tbrief22.pdf

**Data management**

- Case and contact investigation form (CIF), 16 June 2022. https://www.who.int/publications/m/item/monkeypox-minimum-dataset-case-reporting-form-(crf)
- The WHO Global Clinical Platform for monkeypox, 14 June 2022. https://www.who.int/tools/global-clinical-platform/monkeypox
- Global clinical data platform for monkeypox case report form (CRF), 14 June 2022. https://www.who.int/publications/i/item/WHO-MPX-Clinical-CRF-2022.1
- WHO Go.Data: Managing complex data in outbreaks. https://www.who.int/tools/godata
- Monkeypox Case investigation form (CIF) and minimum dataset Case reporting form (CRF). 19 August 2022. https://www.who.int/publications/m/item/monkeypox-minimum-dataset-case-reporting-form-(crf)

**Risk communication and community engagement**

- Monkeypox Q&A, 23 August 2022. https://www.who.int/philippines/news/feature-stories/detail/frequently-asked-questions-about-monkeypox
- Monkeypox: public health advice for gay, bisexual and other men who have sex with men, 18 July 2022. https://www.who.int/publications/m/item/monkeypox-public-health-advice-for-men-who-have-sex-with-men
- Risk communication and community engagement (RCCE) for monkeypox outbreaks: Interim guidance, 24 June 2022. https://www.who.int/publications/i/item/WHO-MPX-RCCE-2022.1
- Interim advice for public health authorities on summer events during the monkeypox outbreak in Europe, 2022. 14 June 2022. https://www.who.int/europe/publications/m/item/interim-advice-for-public-health-authorities--on-summer-events-during-the-monkeypox--outbreak-in-europe--2022

- Interim advice on Risk Communication and Community Engagement during the monkeypox outbreak in Europe, 2022. Joint report by WHO Regional office for Europe/ECDC, 2 June 2022. https://www.euro.who.int/__data/assets/pdf_file/0009/539046/ECDC-WHO-interim-advice-RCCE-Monkeypox-2-06-2022-eng.pdf
- WHO Monkeypox outbreak: update and advice for health workers, 26 May 2022. https://www.who.int/docs/default-source/coronaviruse/risk-comms-updates/update_monkeypox-.pdf?sfvrsn=99baeb03_1
- Risk communication and community engagement. Public health advice on the recent outbreak of monkeypox in the WHO European Region, 24 May 2022. https://www.euro.who.int/__data/assets/pdf_file/0004/538537/public-health-advice-monkeypox-eng.pdf

**Laboratory and diagnostics**

- Monkeypox: experts give virus variants new names, 12 August 2022. https://www.who.int/news/item/12-08-2022-monkeypox--experts-give-virus-variants-new-names
- WHO Laboratory testing for the monkeypox virus: Interim guidance, 23 May 2022. https://apps.who.int/iris/handle/10665/354488
- WHO Guidance on regulations for the transport of infectious substances 2021-2023, 25 February 2021. https://www.who.int/publications/i/item/9789240019720
- Genomic epidemiology of monkeypox virus. https://nextstrain.org/monkeypox?c=country

**Disease Outbreak News and situation reports**

- Monkeypox outbreak 2022: https://www.who.int/emergencies/situations/monkeypox-oubreak-2022
- Multi-country outbreak of monkeypox, External situation report #3 - 10 August 2022: https://www.who.int/publications/m/item/multi-country-outbreak-of-monkeypox--external-situation-report--3---10-august-2022
- WHO Multi-country outbreak of monkeypox, External situation report #2 – 25 July 2022: https://www.who.int/publications/m/item/multi-country-outbreak-of-monkeypox--external-situation-report--2---25-july-2022
- WHO Multi-country outbreak of monkeypox, External situation report #1 - 6 July 2022: https://www.who.int/publications/m/item/multi-country-outbreak-of-monkeypox--external-situation-report--1---6-july-2022
- WHO disease outbreak news: Monkeypox, all items related to multi-country outbreak: https://www.who.int/emergencies/emergency-events/item/2022-e000121
- WHO disease outbreak news: Monkeypox, all previous items including endemic countries and traveler-associated outbreaks: https://www.who.int/emergencies/emergency-events/item/monkeypox

**Training and Education**

- WHO monkeypox outbreak toolbox, June 2022. https://www.who.int/emergencies/outbreak-toolkit/disease-outbreak-toolboxes/monkeypox-outbreak-toolbox
- WHO factsheet on monkeypox, 19 May 2022. http://www.who.int/news-room/fact-sheets/detail/monkeypox
- Health topics – Monkeypox: https://www.who.int/health-topics/monkeypox
- Open WHO. Online training module. Monkeypox: Introduction. 2020
  English: https://openwho.org/courses/monkeypox-introduction
  Français: https://openwho.org/courses/variole-du-singe-introduction
- Open WHO. Extended training. Monkeypox epidemiology, preparedness and response. 2021.
  English: https://openwho.org/courses/monkeypox-intermediate;
  Français: https://openwho.org/courses/variole-du-singe-intermediaire

**Other Resources**

- WHO AFRO Weekly Bulletin on Outbreaks and Other Emergencies, all previous items: https://www.afro.who.int/health-topics/disease-outbreaks/outbreaks-and-other-emergencies-updates
- WHO 5 moments for hand hygiene. https://www.who.int/campaigns/world-hand-hygiene-day
- WHO One Health. https://www.who.int/health-topics/one-health
- World Organisation for Animal Health, founded as OIE: Monkeypox. https://www.woah.org/en/disease/monkeypox/
- Joint WHO Regional Office for Europe - European Centre for Disease Prevention and Control, Monkeypox surveillance bulletin Situation reports (who.int)
- Joint WHO Regional Office for Europe - European Centre for Disease Prevention and Control, Monkeypox Resource toolkit to support national authorities and event organizers in their planning and coordination of mass and large gathering events. https://www.who.int/europe/tools-and-toolkits/monkeypox-resource-toolkit-for-planning-and-coordination-of-mass-and-large-gathering-events/
- WHO. Monkeypox & mass gatherings. Recommendations for mass gatherings during a monkeypox outbreak. https://cdn.who.int/media/docs/default-source/epi-win/update78_monkeypox-mass-gatherings.pdf?sfvrsn=dfc9ee5a_1&download=true
- WHO European Region Interim advice for public health authorities on summer events during the monkeypox outbreak in Europe, 2022 https://www.who.int/europe/publications/m/item/interim-advice-for-public-health-authorities--on-summer-events-during-the-monkeypox--outbreak-in-europe--2022
- Weekly epidemiological record (WER) no.11, 16 March 2018, Emergence of monkeypox in West Africa and Central Africa 1970-2017. http://apps.who.int/iris/bitstream/handle/10665/260497/WER9311.pdf;jsessionid=7AB72F28D04CFE6CE24996192FC478FF?sequence=1 Jezek Z., Fenner F.: Human Monkeypox. Monogr Virol. Basel, Karger, 1988, vol 17, pp 1-5. doi: 10.1159/isbn.978-3-318-04039-5
- Clinical management and infection prevention and control for monkeypox: Interim rapid response guidance, 10 June 2022. https://www.who.int/publications/i/item/WHO-MPX-Clinical-and-IPC-2022.1

## Annex 1: Data, table and figure notes

Caution must be taken when interpreting all data presented. Differences are to be expected between information products published by WHO, national public health authorities, and other sources using different inclusion criteria and different data cut-off times. While steps are taken to ensure accuracy and reliability, all data are subject to continuous verification and change. Case detection, definitions, testing strategies, reporting practice, and lag times differ between countries/territories/areas. These factors, amongst others, influence the counts presented, with variable underestimation of true case and death counts, and variable delays to reflecting these data at the global level.

[i]'Countries' may refer to countries, territories, areas or other jurisdictions of similar status. The designations employed, and the presentation of these materials do not imply the expression of any opinion whatsoever on the part of WHO concerning the legal status of any country, territory, or area or of its authorities, or concerning the delimitation of its frontiers or boundaries.

World Health Organization

## Annex 2: Confirmed cases of monkeypox by WHO region and country from 1 January 2022 to 04 September 2022, 17:00 CEST*

| WHO Region | Country | Total Confirmed Cases | Total Deaths |
|---|---|---|---|
| African Region | Benin | 3 | 0 |
| | Cameroon | 7 | 0 |
| | Central African Republic | 8 | 2 |
| | Congo | 3 | 0 |
| | Democratic Republic of the Congo | 195 | 0 |
| | Ghana | 76 | 4 |
| | Liberia | 2 | 0 |
| | Nigeria | 220 | 4 |
| | South Africa | 5 | 0 |
| | South Sudan | 2 | 0 |
| Eastern Mediterranean Region | Iran (Islamic Republic of) | 1 | 0 |
| | Lebanon | 6 | 0 |
| | Morocco | 3 | 0 |
| | Qatar | 3 | 0 |
| | Saudi Arabia | 8 | 0 |
| | Sudan | 2 | 0 |
| | United Arab Emirates | 16 | 0 |
| European Region | Andorra | 4 | 0 |
| | Austria | 273 | 0 |
| | Belgium | 706 | 1 |
| | Bosnia and Herzegovina | 3 | 0 |
| | Bulgaria | 4 | 0 |
| | Croatia | 27 | 0 |
| | Cyprus | 5 | 0 |
| | Czechia | 53 | 0 |
| | Denmark | 177 | 0 |
| | Estonia | 10 | 0 |
| | Finland | 24 | 0 |
| | France | 3646 | 0 |
| | Georgia | 2 | 0 |
| | Germany | 3493 | 0 |
| | Gibraltar | 6 | 0 |
| | Greece | 58 | 0 |
| | Greenland | 2 | 0 |
| | Hungary | 70 | 0 |
| | Iceland | 12 | 0 |
| | Ireland | 144 | 0 |
| | Israel | 239 | 0 |
| | Italy | 773 | 0 |
| | Latvia | 4 | 0 |

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| | Lithuania | 5 | 0 |
| | Luxembourg | 53 | 0 |
| | Malta | 31 | 0 |
| | Monaco | 3 | 0 |
| | Montenegro | 2 | 0 |
| | Netherlands | 1172 | 0 |
| | Norway | 82 | 0 |
| | Poland | 141 | 0 |
| | Portugal | 871 | 0 |
| | Republic of Moldova | 2 | 0 |
| | Republic of Türkiye | 1 | 0 |
| | Romania | 36 | 0 |
| | Russian Federation | 1 | 0 |
| | Serbia | 31 | 0 |
| | Slovakia | 14 | 0 |
| | Slovenia | 44 | 0 |
| | Spain | 6645 | 2 |
| | Sweden | 163 | 0 |
| | Switzerland | 476 | 0 |
| | The United Kingdom | 3413 | 0 |
| **Region of the Americas** | Argentina | 170 | 0 |
| | Aruba | 2 | 0 |
| | Bahamas | 2 | 0 |
| | Barbados | 1 | 0 |
| | Bermuda | 1 | 0 |
| | Bolivia (Plurinational State of) | 86 | 0 |
| | Brazil | 5197 | 2 |
| | Canada | 1289 | 0 |
| | Chile | 381 | 0 |
| | Colombia | 582 | 0 |
| | Costa Rica | 3 | 0 |
| | Cuba | 2 | 1 |
| | Curaçao | 1 | 0 |
| | Dominican Republic | 7 | 0 |
| | Ecuador | 53 | 1 |
| | El Salvador | 1 | 0 |
| | Guadeloupe | 1 | 0 |
| | Guatemala | 10 | 0 |
| | Guyana | 2 | 0 |
| | Honduras | 4 | 0 |
| | Jamaica | 7 | 0 |
| | Martinique | 1 | 0 |
| | Mexico | 504 | 0 |
| | Panama | 11 | 0 |
| | Paraguay | 1 | 0 |

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| | Peru | 1546 | 0 |
| | Puerto Rico | 114 | 0 |
| | Saint Martin | 1 | 0 |
| | United States of America | 19 351 | 0 |
| | Uruguay | 4 | 0 |
| | Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of) | 3 | 0 |
| **South-East Asia Region** | India | 10 | 1 |
| | Indonesia | 1 | 0 |
| | Thailand | 7 | 0 |
| **Western Pacific Region** | Australia | 124 | 0 |
| | China | 3 | 0 |
| | Japan | 4 | 0 |
| | New Caledonia | 1 | 0 |
| | New Zealand | 5 | 0 |
| | Philippines | 4 | 0 |
| | Republic of Korea | 2 | 0 |
| | Singapore | 16 | 0 |
| **Cumulative** | 102 countries/territories/areas | 52 996 | 18 |