

PNA COVID-19 Purse Seine Dashboard

February 2022

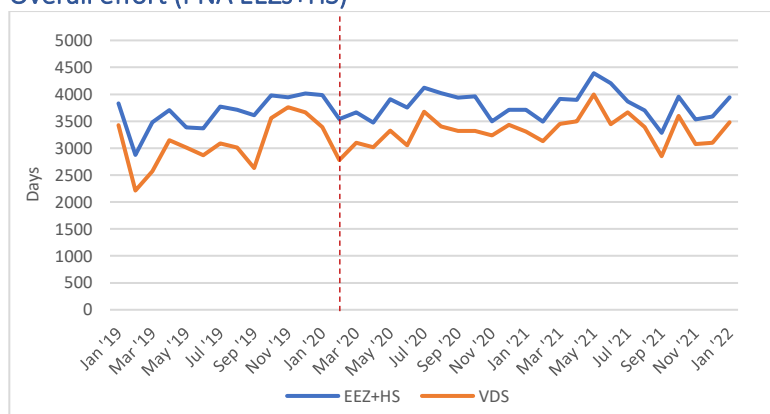


Key trends:

- Preliminary figures indicate that both overall purse seine fishing days and VDS day usage rose in January. Fishing intensity (fishing days/calendar day) also rose slightly. Note that January figures may be adjusted as NFDs are processed.
- Total purse seine catch (EEZs+HS) rose in January, up by around 15% on the December total. Increased catch was largely driven by improved SKJ catches, while large YFT catches fell. Catch and effort were highest in PNG and KI, but relatively broadly distributed across the region.
- Based on preliminary figures, overall catch rates rose to their highest levels in around five months in January. SKJ catch rates continued to rise. Catch rates of large YFT fell sharply, although remained higher than much of the 2019-21 period.
- Transshipment volumes increased in January, up by around 38% on December volumes. Transshipments remained highest in RMI, accounting for half of total volume.
- Bangkok SKJ prices averaged \$1600 in January, down from \$1750 in December, according to Thai Union figures. Singapore MGO price rose sharply in January, and continued to rise in February.
- Daily new COVID case numbers are increasing across Thailand, Indonesia and Vietnam. The Philippines and Ecuador recently experienced their highest daily case numbers of the pandemic in mid-January, but cases have since fallen, particularly in the Philippines. Amongst PNA Parties, high case numbers have been experienced in the Solomon Is, Kiribati and Palau in recent weeks. Relatively high case numbers have also been reported in PNG, although these are expected to be an underestimate.

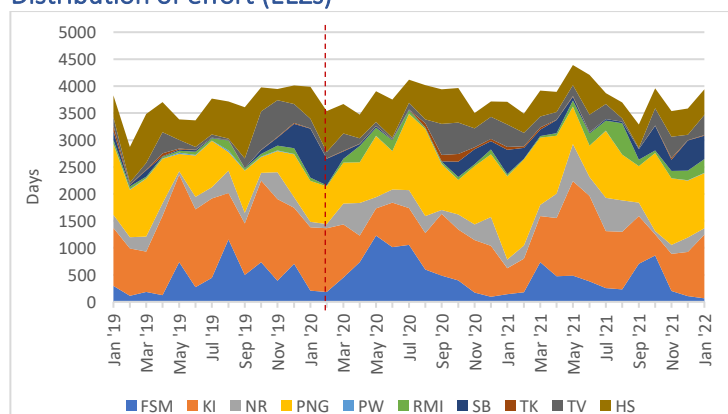
Fishing effort

Overall effort (PNA EEZs+HS)



- Both overall fishing effort (EEZ+HS) and VDS days usage rose in Jan, with VDS days up around 12% on the Dec figure. Fishing intensity (fishing days/calendar day) also rose by around 10%.

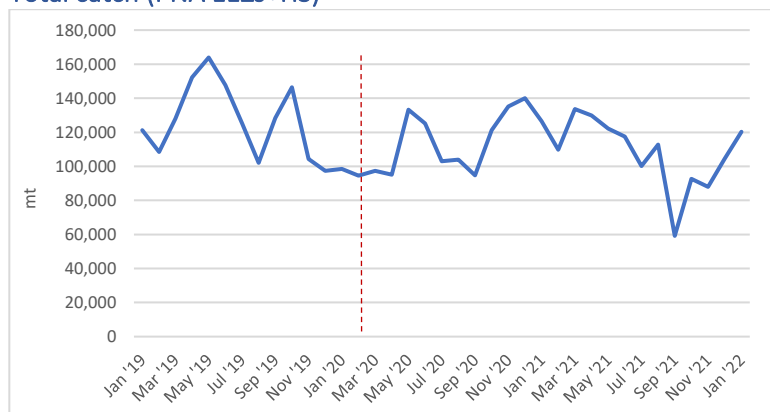
Distribution of effort (EEZs)



- Effort was relatively evenly distributed across the region in Jan, with effort highest in KI and PNG. Effort rose in TV and RMI, but fell slightly in FSM, NR and SB. Preliminary figures indicate effort has shifted westwards in Feb, with high levels of effort in PNG and SB.

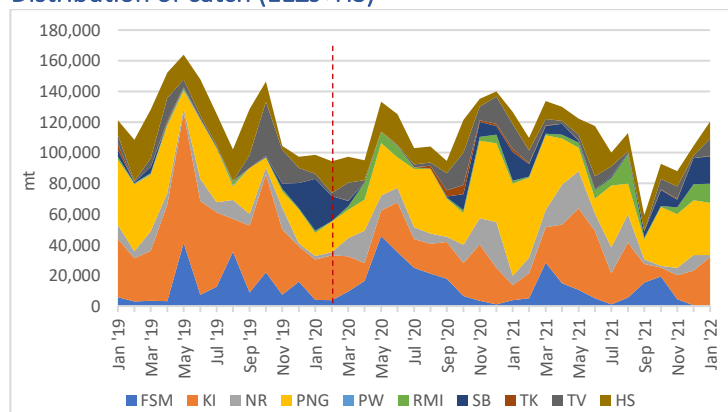
Catch

Total catch (PNA EEZs+HS)



- Total catch (EEZ+HS) rose in Jan (120,309t), up around 15% on the Dec total. The increase was largely driven by improved catches of SKJ (97,735t vs 70,214t) although catches of large YFT fell (from 26,023t to 14,810t).

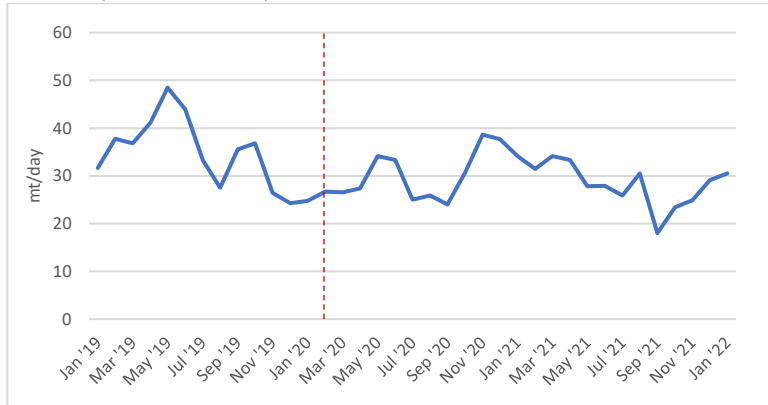
Distribution of catch (EEZs+HS)



- Catches broadly reflected effort, with catches highest in PNG and KI, collectively accounting for 55% of total EEZ+HS catch. Catches rose in TV and the HS, but fell in NR.

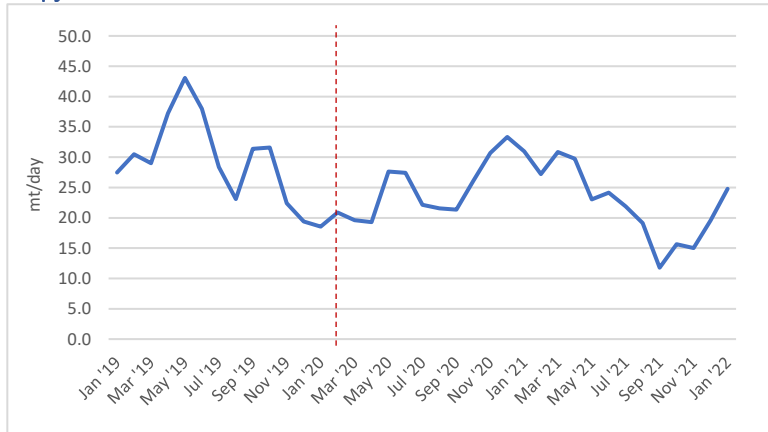
Catch rates

Overall (PNA EEZs+HS)



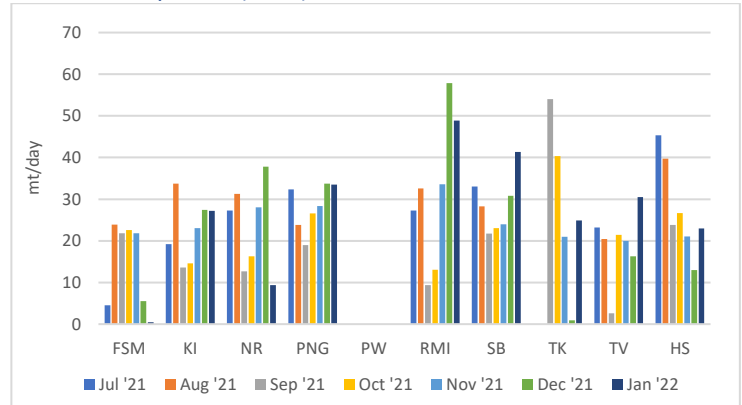
- Overall catch rates rose in Jan, reaching the highest rates for around 5 months. These figures are preliminary and may be adjusted slightly as NFDs are processed and additional e-reporting is received.

Skipjack



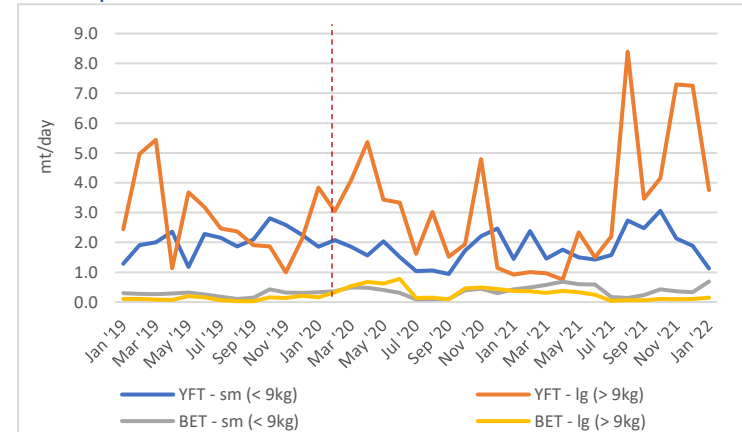
- SKJ catch rate continued to rise in Jan, reaching roughly average levels for the '19-'21 period.

Catch rate by zone (EEZs)



- Preliminary figures indicate that catch rates varied across the region. Catch rates were highest in RMI and SB. Catch rates rose in TV and the HS, but fell in NR and FSM. Catch rates in PNG and KI remained stable.

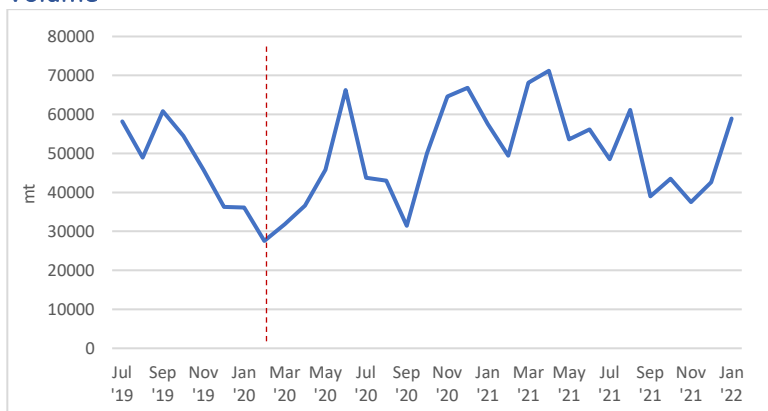
Other species



- Amongst the other purse seine species/size categories, catch rates of large YFT fell sharply although remained higher than much of the '19-'21 period. Catch rates of small YFT fell, while small BET rose.

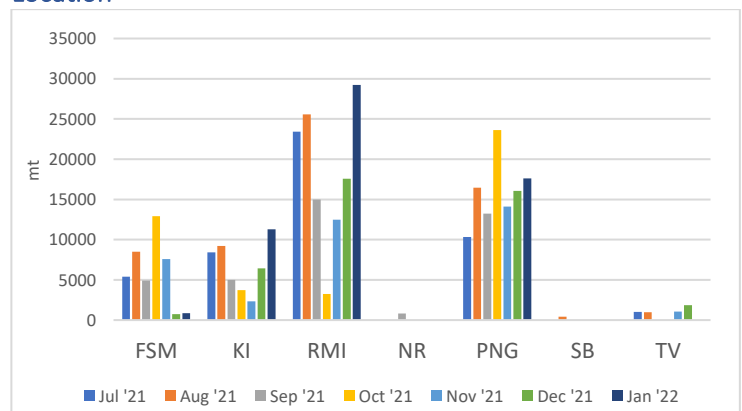
Transshipment

Volume



- Transshipment volumes in PNA ports rose sharply in Jan, up by around 38% on Dec volumes (from 42,626t to 58,985t).

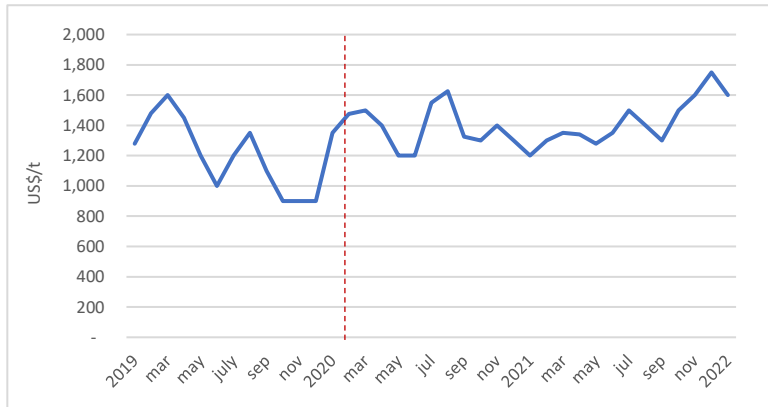
Location



- Transshipment volumes were highest in RMI, accounting for half of total volume. Volumes rose in KI and PNG, but remained at very low levels in other ports.

Prices

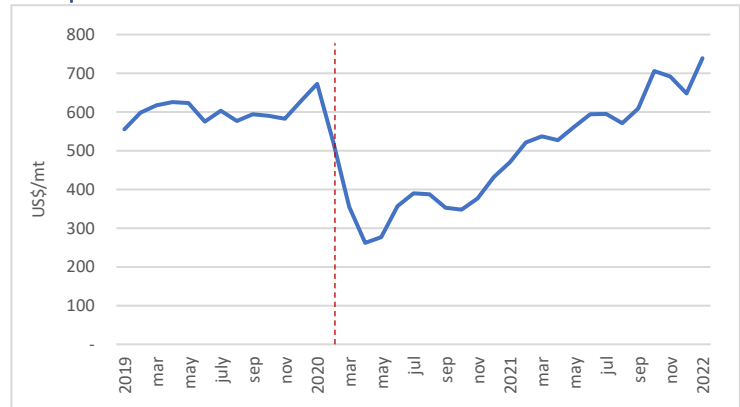
SKJ Price



https://investor.thaiunion.com/raw_material.html

- Thai Union report that Bangkok SKJ prices averaged around \$1600 in Jan, down from \$1750 in Dec. The Jan '22 price is the highest Jan monthly price since 2017.

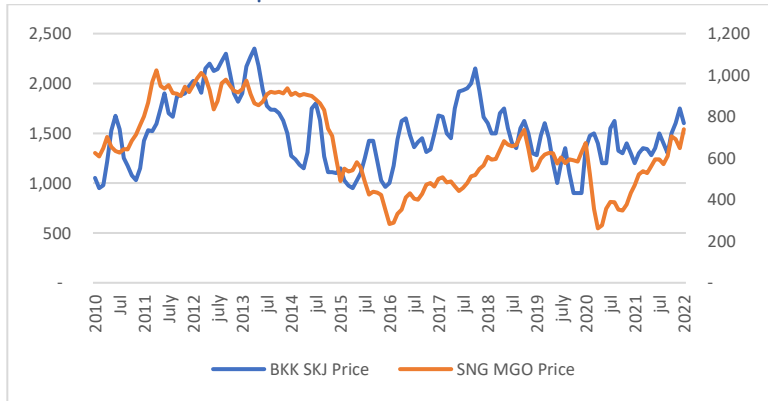
Fuel price



<https://shipandbunker.com/prices/apac/sea/sg-sin-singapore#MGO>

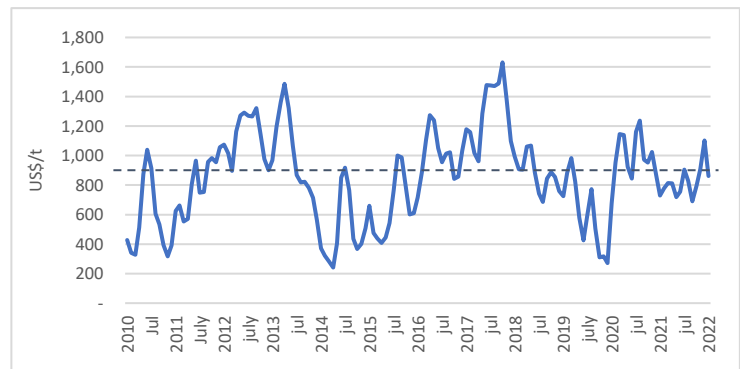
- Singapore MGO price rose sharply in Jan, averaging US\$739/mt, up from US\$648/mt in Dec. Price has continued to rise since then, sitting at \$844/mt on 16th Feb.

BKK SKJ Price vs Fuel price



- The BKK SKJ price and Singapore MGO price index lines converged sharply in Jan, driven by the fall in SKJ price and sharp rise in fuel price.

Price differential (BKK SKJ – Fuel)



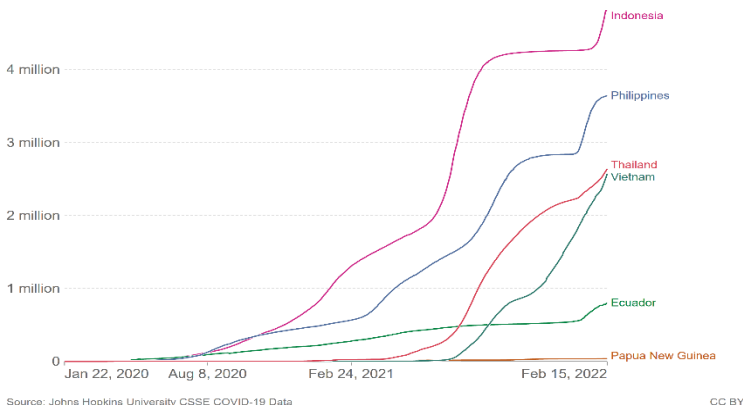
- The price differential between BKK SKJ price and Singapore MGO fell to US\$861 in Jan, down from \$1102 in Dec. The differential was around the 10yr average of around US\$884.

COVID-19 in processing countries

Total cases

Cumulative confirmed COVID-19 cases

Due to limited testing, the number of confirmed cases is lower than the true number of infections.



Source: Johns Hopkins University CSSE COVID-19 Data

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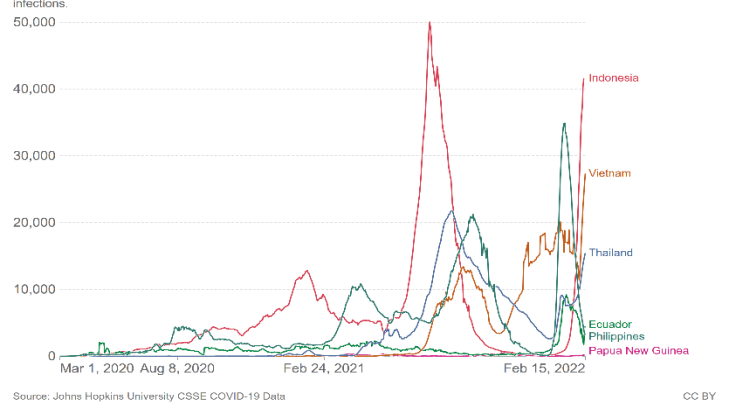
<https://ourworldindata.org/covid-cases>

- Total case numbers have continued to increase across key SE Asian processing countries, with Indonesia, Thailand and Vietnam currently undergoing a spike in cases.

Daily confirmed cases

Daily new confirmed COVID-19 cases

7-day rolling average. Due to limited testing, the number of confirmed cases is lower than the true number of infections.



Source: Johns Hopkins University CSSE COVID-19 Data

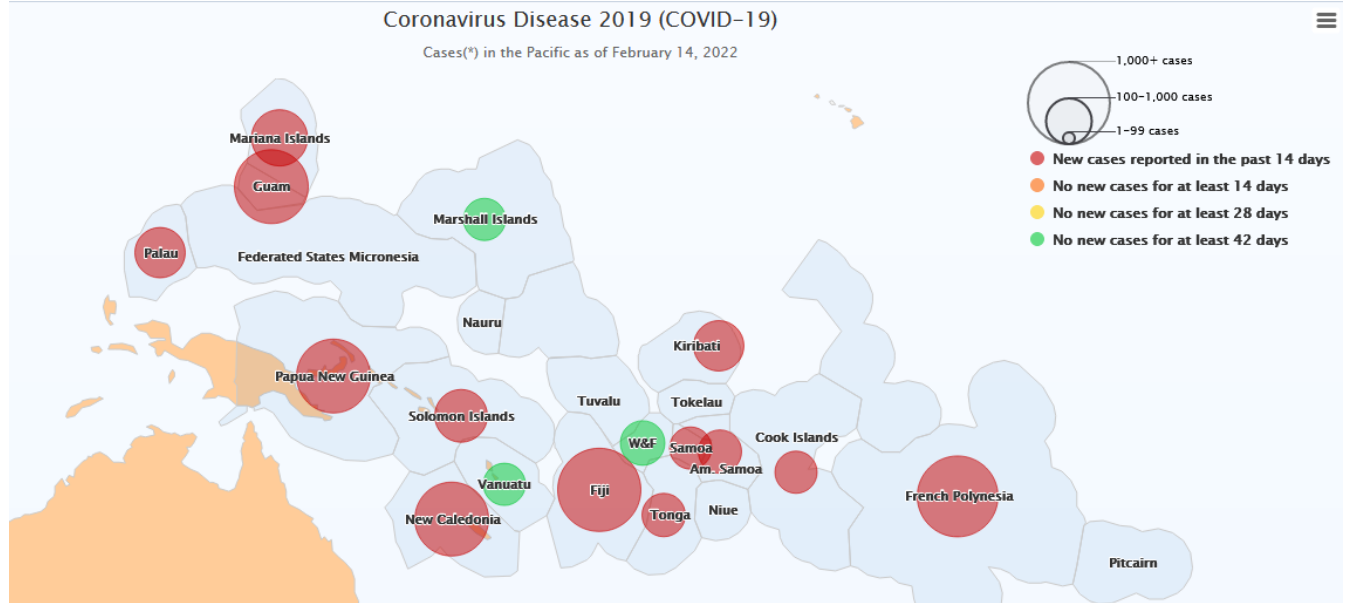
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<https://ourworldindata.org/covid-cases>

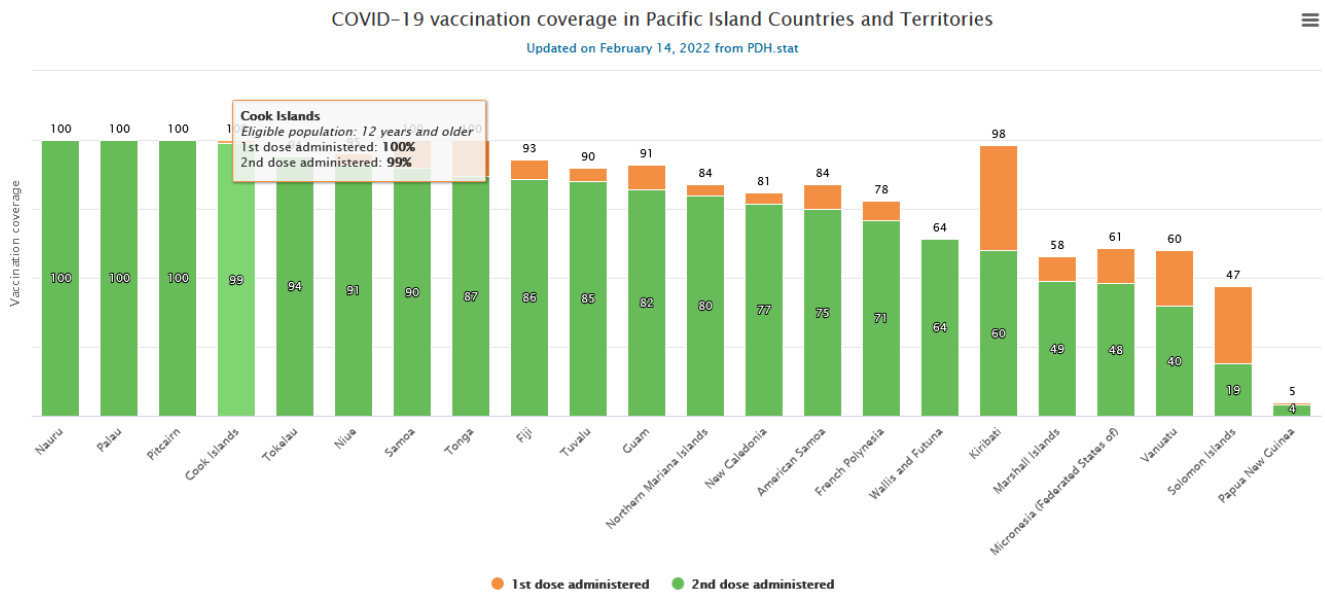
- Vietnam is experiencing it's highest daily case numbers since the start of the pandemic, with Indonesia and Thailand also undergoing a wave in cases. The Philippines also briefly experienced it's highest daily case numbers in mid-Jan at close to 35,000/day, but cases have since dropped rapidly to fewer than 4,000/day in mid-Feb.

Other issues:

- Substantial increases in COVID case numbers have been reported in Solomon Islands, Kiribati and Palau in recent weeks. As at Feb 14th, SPC reports that these countries have reported 3,341, 2,122 and 1,623 new cases respectively in the past 14 days¹. PNG has also recorded 1,401 new cases, although numbers are expected to be an underestimate. Trends in COVID-19 case numbers in the Pacific as of 14th Feb (as reported through the SPC ‘COVID-19: Pacific Community Updates’ website²) are set out below:



- SPC report that, amongst PNA Parties, vaccination rates are very high in NR, PW, TK and TV. Rates of vaccination in KI are rapidly increasing with 98% of eligible citizens receiving at least one dose, while rates remain low in PNG.



Notes:

- Data on catch, effort, catch rates and transshipment is based on electronic reporting through iFIMS as at 17th February, 2022. Some data may change as more information is added over time. Figures for January 2022 should be considered preliminary.
- The EEZs+HS effort figures in the fishing effort graph do not include a VDS vessel size adjustment factor. The actual VDS usage figures are adjusted for vessel size. HS days may include some non-fishing time. HS effort figures are those for the eastern high seas and HSPs 4 and 5.
- A dashed-red line has been on many graphs at February 2020 to provide an indication of the time in which COVID-related restrictions were becoming more common globally and regionally.

¹ <https://www.spc.int/updates/blog/2022/02/covid-19-pacific-community-updates#CurrentStatus>

² <https://www.spc.int/updates/blog/2021/12/covid-19-pacific-community-updates#CurrentStatus>