





Philippines

Coronavirus Disease 2019 (COVID-19)

Situation Report #115

21 November 2022
Data reported by the Department of Health on 20 November 2022



			
4,025,917 Cases	3,942,794 Recoveries	64,476 Deaths	73,699,451 (66.1%)¹ Vaccinated with last dose of primary series

Please see the Philippines Department of Health (DOH) [Daily Case Bulletins](#) and [COVID-19 Tracker](#) for further information.

Summary of the epidemiological situation in Philippines²

Key numbers

8,004 cases (14 - 20 November 2022)	23 deaths* (14 - 20 November 2022)	88,145 tests (14 - 20 November 2022)	10.2% Test Positivity Rate (14 - 20 November 2022)
20.9% ICU bed occupancy for COVID-19 patients (20 November 2022)	2,358 ICU beds for COVID-19 patients (20 November 2022)	23.1% Non-ICU bed occupancy for COVID-19 patients (20 November 2022)	20,754 Non-ICU beds for COVID-19 patients (20 November 2022)

*Obtained from FASSSTER COVID-19 death tally as of 21 November 2022

COVID-19 cases

The trend of reported COVID-19 cases in the Philippines for the last five weeks (17 October – 20 November 2022) is decreasing. There were 8,004 new cases (7.2 cases per 100,000 population³) reported on 14 - 20 November 2022 that is 12.0% lower than cases on 7 - 13 November 2022 [9,067 cases (8.1 cases per 100,000 population³)]. On 14 - 20 November, the following regions recorded the highest case counts: National Capital Region (1,916 cases), Region IV-A: CALABARZON (1,112 cases), and Region VI: Western Visayas (790 cases).

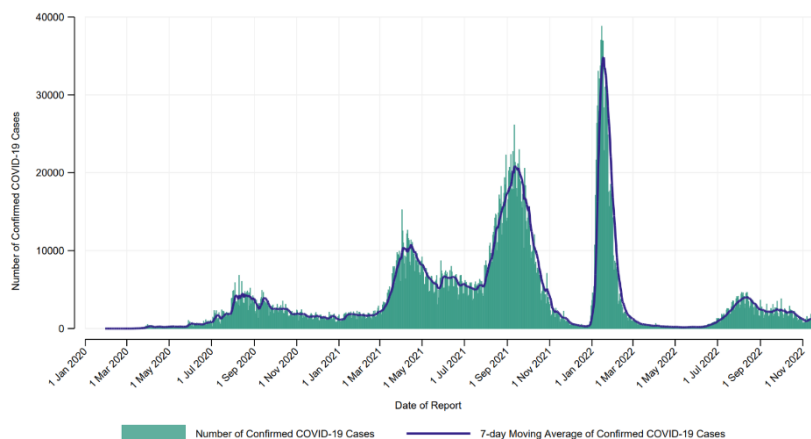


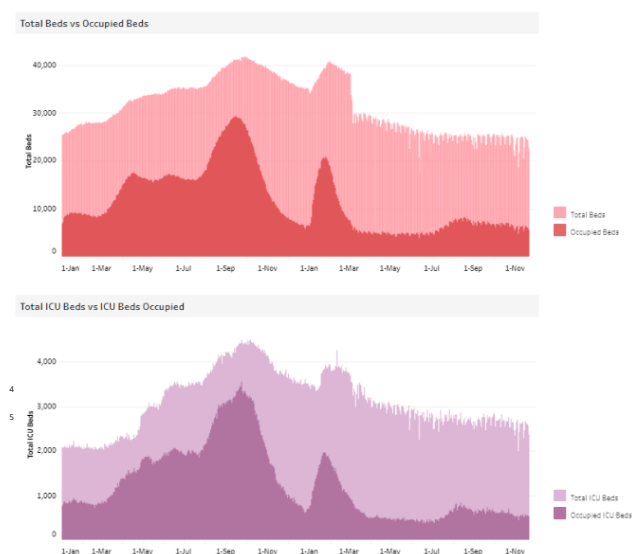
Figure 1. Daily reported COVID-19 cases in the Philippines (30 January 2020 - 20 November 2022)

¹Percent of total population (n = 111,572,254)
²Weekly case counts were obtained from FASSSTER COVID-19 PROJECT
³Total population (n=111,572,254)

Healthcare utilization

The daily number (7-day average) of COVID-19 occupied ICU beds had plateaued in the past two weeks (7 - 20 November 2022) following two weeks (24 October - 6 November) of decreasing trend. The number of ICU beds occupied per week are as follows: 14 - 20 November (539 beds); 7 - 13 November, (537 beds); 31 October - 6 November (509 beds); and 24 - 30 October (551 beds).

The utilization of COVID-19 dedicated mechanical ventilators (7-day average) is in declining trend. As of 20 November 2022, there were 252 ventilators utilized. Two hundred eighty two (282) ventilators were utilized on 14 - 20 November which is 6.0% lower than the 300 ventilators utilized on 7 - 13 November. On 31 October - 6 November, 273 ventilators were utilized; on 24 - 30 October, 289 ventilators.



Data Source: Department of Health (DOH) DataDrop

Figure 2. Total bed and ICU bed distribution over time stratified by occupancy (as of 20 November 2022)

COVID-19 deaths

As of 20 November 2022, 64,476 COVID-19 related deaths have been reported in Philippines since the beginning of the COVID-19 pandemic (Figure 3). From 14 - 20 November 2022, there were 23 deaths reported.

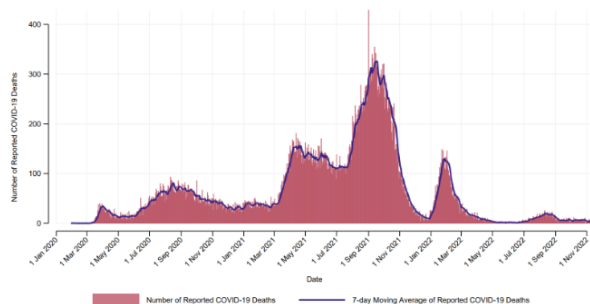


Figure 3. Daily number of COVID-19 deaths in the Philippines by date of death since 2020 (as of 20 November 2022)

Laboratory: testing rates, positivity rates and genomic surveillance

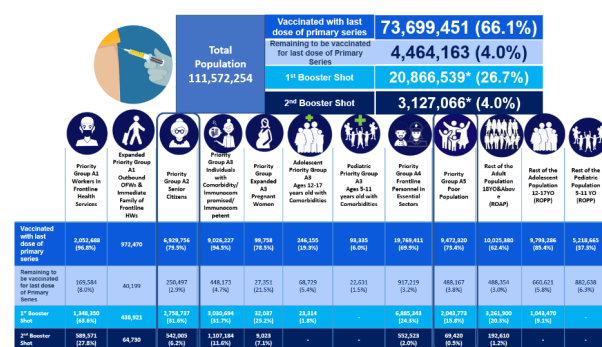
The number of RT-PCR tests conducted and test positivity rates are in decreasing trend. On 14 - 20 November 2022, the testing rate is 0.8 tests per 1,000 population (88,145 tests) which is 7.0% lower than previous week [7 - 13 November: 1.0 tests per 1,000 population (94,754 tests)]. On 31 October - 6 November 2022, the testing rate was 0.7 tests per 1,000 population (82,635 tests). On 14 - 20 November 2022, the test positivity rate is 10.2%; positivity rate reported on 7 - 13 November was 10.3%.

There were no updates on genomic surveillance from the Department of Health between 7 - 20 November 2022.

Vaccination

As of 20 November 2022, 66.1% of the total population were vaccinated with the last dose of primary series. From 14 - 20 November 2022, 256,142 jabs were administered. Among healthcare workers (A1 priority group), the coverage is 96.8%, with 63.6% having received the first booster dose and 27.8% received the second booster dose. The vaccination coverage (last dose of primary series) of the vulnerable sectors of the population - elderly population (A2 priority group), persons with comorbidities (A3) and poor population (A5), were 79.5%, 94.5%, and 73.4% (Figure 4).

For the booster shots, 26.7% of the eligible population received the first booster while 4.0% received the second booster jab.



*eligible population for booster
Figure 4. Overview of COVID-19 vaccination status of Philippines' population, as of 20 November 2022

On 5 - 7 December 2022, the Department of Health will launch the *Bakunahang Bayan: Special Vaccination Days*. Priority vaccinations include those aged 12 years old and above for the first booster dose and 5 to 11 years old for the completion of primary series (1st and 2nd dose). The targets of this special vaccination days are (1) 50.0% first booster coverage for 12 years old and above, and (2) further increase vaccination coverage for children 5 to 11 years old.

Strategic approach to COVID-19 Prevention, Detection, and Control

Risk Communication and Community Engagement (RCCE)

Community Engagement

On 7-11 November 2022, WHO Philippines and UNICEF Philippines supported the Risk Communication and Community Engagement Microplanning (RCCEM) training of the Health Education and Promotion Unit of DOH Region 8 (Eastern Visayas) Center for Health Development. Over 80 selected HEPO designates and RHU staff from the provinces of Leyte and Samar were trained by DOH and its development partners on demand generation microplanning tools for COVID-19 vaccination plans. It also provided the participants to plan activities for routine immunization.

WHO's Ava Sharon Batay-an and UNICEF's Aly Narvaez served as resource speakers during the training. The team also conducted a supportive supervision visit to the rural health units of Sta. Rita, Villareal and Pinabacdao in the province of Samar.



Batch 3: Leyte participants



Batch 4: Samar participants

Field visits to Sta. Rita, Villareal and Pinabacdao

The team provided supportive supervision to the RHUs on actively monitoring its demand generation microplans. Likewise, RHU was also encouraged to use existing monitoring tools to track progress of the LGU's COVID-19 vaccination and routine immunization activities.



Sta. Rita



Villareal



Pinabacdao

Partner Coordination

Updates from USAID

US Second Gentleman advocates for COVID-19 prevention and control at a Caloocan elementary school

Second Gentleman of the United States, Douglas Emhoff, visited Gregoria De Jesus Elementary School in Caloocan and met with Department of Health OIC Secretary Maria Rosario Singh-Vergeire to strengthen the U.S.-Philippines health alliance for safe return of learners to school and intensifying health education on COVID-19 and tuberculosis. The Second Gentleman also announced that the United States government is providing an additional USD\$5 million in COVID-19 assistance through USAID to accelerate COVID-19 vaccine rollout in the Philippines.



US Second Gentleman Emhoff handing over part of the COVID-19 supplies donation to Caloocan City Mayor Dale Gonzalo Malapitan, with DOH OIC Secretary Maria Rosario Vergeire looking on.



School children at Gregoria de Jesus Elementary School in Caloocan City interact briefly with US Second Gentleman Emhoff.

USAID's Infectious Disease Detection and Surveillance (IDDS) American Rescue Plan Act: COVID-19 Specimen Referral and Transport and handover of COVID-19 testing supplies

IDDS continues to support the transport of COVID-19 specimens by hiring dedicated vehicles with drivers and field coordinators. Specimen transport activities are operational in all IDDS project sites. IDDS also provides support to increase testing capacity in project sites (e.g. Bulacan Provincial Health Office, Bulacan Medical Center, Bulacan Molecular Diagnostic Laboratory, and Cavite Provincial Epidemiology and Surveillance Unit).



Transporting specimens from Meycauayan City Health Office to Philippine Red Cross Molecular Laboratory Manila Port Area Chapter. From Left to Right: Ezra Lynn Flores (FIC Bulacan) and Earl Audrey Francisco (Radiological Technologist)



Handed over 800 rapid antigen test kits, equivalent to 16,000 tests, to Cavite Provincial Epidemiology and Surveillance Unit. From Left to Right: Ainnah Marielle O. Torres (FIC Cavite), Erika Carcha (Mobile Swabber Cavite), Cristina A. Amulong (PESU Coordinator, Sanitation Inspector III), Dr Nelson Soriano (Provincial Health Officer I)