

Philippines

Coronavirus Disease 2019 (COVID-19)

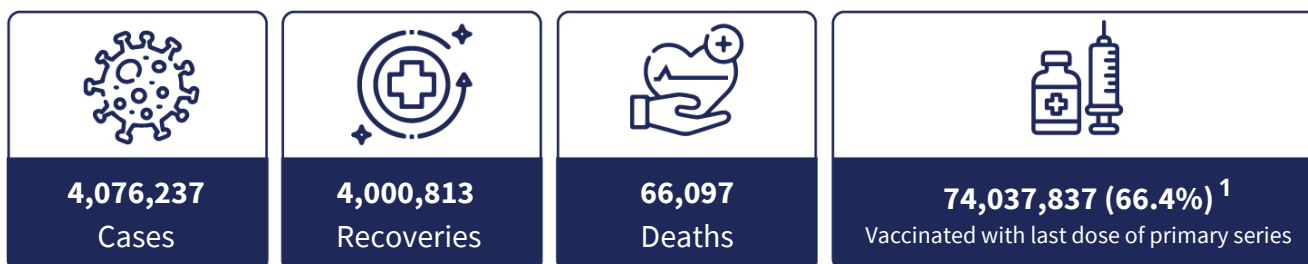
Situation Report #122

27 Feb 2023

Data reported by the Department of Health on 26 Feb 2023



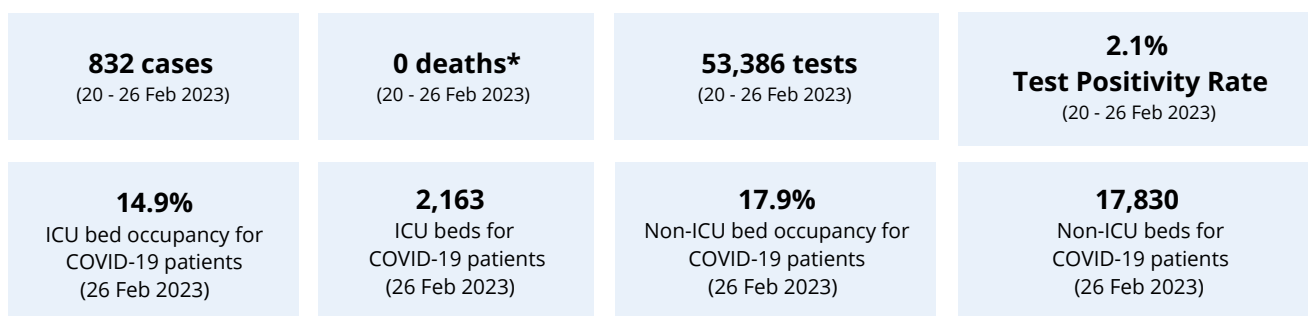
Photo credit: DOH Philippines



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



*Obtained from FASSSTER COVID-19 death tally as of 27 Feb 2023

COVID-19 cases

Following an increase on the number of reported COVID-19 cases on 6 - 12 Feb 2023, two weeks of declining trend were observed; 13-19 Feb 2023, 894 cases (0.8 case per 100,000 population³) and 20 - 26 Feb, 832 cases were reported (0.7 case per 100,000 population³). From 20-26 Feb the three regions with highest case counts were, National Capital Region reporting 221 cases, Region XI: Davao Region reporting 130 cases, and Region IV-A: CALABARZON reporting 93 cases.

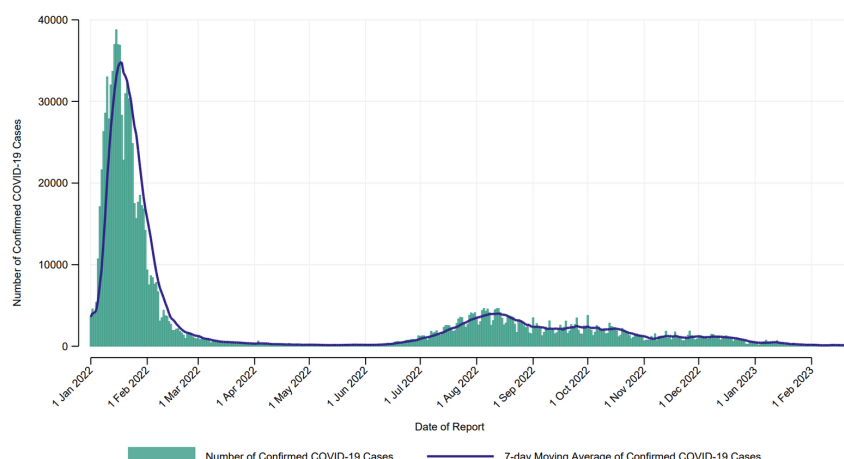


Figure 1. Daily reported COVID-19 cases in the Philippines (1 Jan 2022 - 26 Feb 2023)

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

From 30 Jan - 26 Feb 2023, the daily number (7-day average) of COVID-19 occupied ICU beds (Figure 2) and the number of utilized COVID-19 dedicated mechanical ventilators (7-day average) were both stable.

The number of ICU beds occupied per week are as follows: 20 - 26 Feb (296 beds), 13 - 19 Feb (313 beds), 6 - 12 Feb (320 beds), and 30 Jan - 5 Feb (326 beds). The ICU utilization as of 26 Feb 2023 is 14.9%.

The number of COVID-19 dedicated mechanical ventilators utilized per week are as follows: 20 - 26 Feb (194 ventilators), 13 - 19 Feb (208 ventilators), 6 - 12 Feb (199 ventilators), and 30 Jan - 5 Feb (210 ventilators). As of 26 Feb 2023, 166 ventilators were utilized.

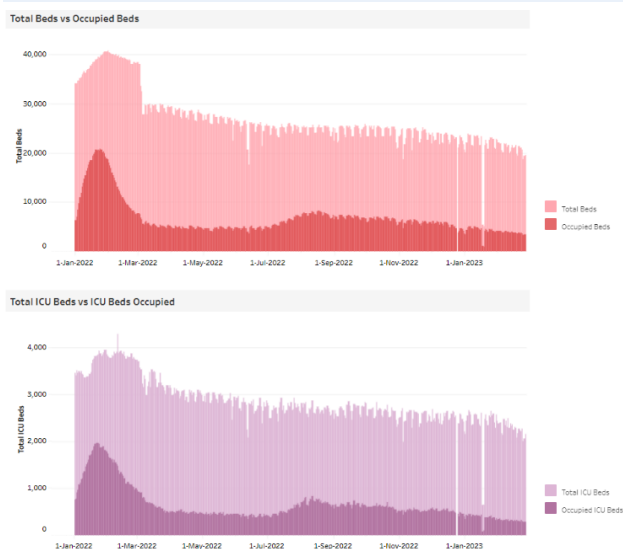


Figure 2. Total bed and ICU bed distribution over time stratified by occupancy (1 Jan 2022 - 12 Feb 2023)

COVID-19 deaths

As of 26 Feb 2023, 66,097 COVID-19 related deaths have been reported in Philippines since the beginning of the COVID-19 pandemic (Figure 3). No deaths were reported on 20 - 26 Feb 2023.

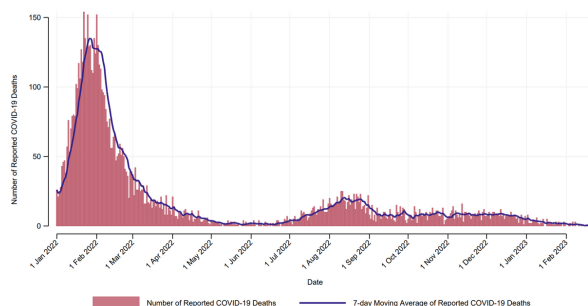


Figure 3. Daily number of COVID-19 deaths in the Philippines by date of death since 2020 (1 Jan 2022 - 26 Feb 2023)

Laboratory: testing rates, positivity rates and genomic surveillance

From 9 Jan - 26 Feb 2023, the number of RT-PCR tests conducted were compared to previous weeks. On 20 - 26 Feb, 53,386 tests were conducted; 13 - 19 Feb: 62,544 tests; 6 - 12 Feb: 64,520 tests; 30 Jan - 5 Feb: 67,803 tests; 23 - 29 Jan, 70,482 tests; 16 - 22 Jan: 76,041 tests; and on 9 - 15 Jan: 78,251 tests.

An increase in test positivity was observed in the week of 20-26 Feb, following three weeks of plateau (30 Jan - 19 Feb). The test positivity rate on 20 - 26 Feb (2.1%) was 16.7% higher than the previous week. The test positivity rates recorded on 13 - 19 Feb, 6 - 12 Feb, 30 Jan - 5 Feb were all 1.8%.

Of the 64 samples sequenced by Southern Philippines Medical Center (SPMC) and UP-Philippine Genome Center (UP-PGC) between 13 - 17 Feb 2023: 28 (43.8%) were BA.2.3.20, 16 (25.0%) were XBB, eight (12.5%) were other Omicron sublineages, two (3.1%) were BQ.1, and two (3.1%) were XBC.

All 28 BA.2.3.20 cases were local cases from Regions I, III, IV-A, IV-B, V, VI, XII, and NCR while of the 16 XBB cases, one was a Returning Overseas Filipino (ROF) and 15 were local cases from Regions III, IV-A, VI, XII, XIII, and NCR. The two BQ.1 cases were from Region VI and NCR while the two XBC cases were from Region XI.⁴

⁴LATEST COVID-19 BIOSURVEILLANCE REPORT | Department of Health website (doh.gov.ph)

Vaccination

As of 27 Feb 2023, 66.4% of the total population were vaccinated with the last dose of primary series, 27.8% of the eligible population have received their first booster dose, and 4.5% received the second booster dose.

From 20 - 26 Feb, 79,795 jabs were administered. Among healthcare workers (A1 priority group), 96.8% have received last dose of primary series, 64.7% have received the first booster dose and 29.7% received the second booster dose.

Among individuals with comorbidity/ immunocompromised/ immunocompetent (A3 priority group), 94.6% were vaccinated with last dose of primary series, 32.3% received the first booster and 13.1% with the second booster dose.

Among the elderly population (A2 priority group), 79.6% were vaccinated with last dose of primary series, 32.2% received the first booster, and 6.4% with the second booster dose. Fourteen of the 17 regions have vaccinated (last dose of primary series) at least 70.0% of their A2 priority group (Table 1).

Cumulative Coverage Rate % (A2)								
REGION	Projected Pop (Priority Group A2)	Vaccinated with last dose of primary series	%	Vaccinated with first dose of primary series	%	1st Booster Shot	%	2nd Booster Shot
NCR	1,154,257	1,102,149	95.5%	19,359	1.7%	677,951	58.7%	309,869
CAR	135,093	123,108	91.1%	6,084	4.5%	62,932	46.6%	18,035
1	501,412	454,873	90.7%	14,886	2.9%	220,589	44.0%	17,858
2	323,017	301,735	93.4%	10,109	3.1%	123,734	38.3%	9,251
3	1,064,045	844,478	79.4%	30,412	2.9%	403,445	37.9%	66,054
4A	1,273,740	1,051,654	82.6%	48,359	3.8%	435,561	34.2%	78,577
Mimaropa	235,283	167,002	71.0%	10,535	4.5%	54,556	23.2%	3,225
5	466,893	363,464	77.8%	15,851	3.4%	95,424	20.4%	5,816
6	735,157	569,174	77.4%	(5,447)	-0.7%	146,839	20.0%	7,769
7	677,107	411,371	60.8%	9,362	1.4%	105,251	15.5%	10,990
8	389,645	274,958	70.6%	14,747	3.8%	72,036	18.5%	2,951
9	273,362	209,544	76.7%	8,873	3.2%	65,929	24.1%	3,221
10	384,311	287,748	74.9%	15,943	4.1%	116,152	30.2%	7,136
11	407,116	287,921	70.7%	32,138	7.9%	82,717	20.3%	9,910
12	306,824	219,557	71.6%	12,478	4.1%	57,470	18.7%	2,727
CARAGA	207,153	185,390	89.5%	(6,148)	-3.0%	51,281	24.8%	2,244
BARMM	186,876	108,163	57.9%	10,398	5.6%	33,538	17.9%	193
PHIL	8,721,291	6,942,287	79.60%	247,439	2.8%	2,805,487	32.2%	555,726

Table 1. Overview of vaccination of A2 priority group, per region in the Philippines (27 Feb 2023)

Strategic approach to COVID-19 Prevention, Detection and Control

Risk Communications

WHO Philippines republished local [video](#) on things to remember when wearing a mask.



WHO Philippines republished campaign on the benefits of getting one's COVID-19 vaccine and booster.

