

# Coronavirus disease (COVID-19)

## Situation Report 11 Philippines 28 March 2020

Data reported by the Department of Health on 28 March 2020

### Highlights

- **272 new cases of COVID-19 confirmed on 28 March, compared to 96 cases on 27 March. 14 additional deaths reported on 26 March, and 9 on 27 March.**
- Out of 1,075 confirmed cases, 44% are still under investigation. 62% are male, with people between 50 and 59 years of age among the most affected. 37% of cases are reported from the National Capital Region (NCR)
- Research Institute for Tropical Medicine (RITM) and sub national laboratories currently testing over 800 samples per day. Department of Health (DOH) to increase testing capacity at private hospital laboratories soon.
- DOH distributing available Personal Protection Equipment (PPE) to priority public hospitals. PPE shortage remains a major challenge, posing increased risk for health workers.
- WHO focus on rational use of PPE among hospital workers as well as hygiene promotion through nation-wide online training sessions to start next week. Training of Trainers for selected facilitators to be conducted on Monday 30 March.
- **Stay at home remains key message to minimise further spread of disease. Focus is on self-quarantine for those with mild symptoms to decrease stress on hospitals.**
- DOH to increase health workforce through online volunteer portal at [bit.ly/COVID19DOH](https://bit.ly/COVID19DOH). DOH making COVID-19 hotline better accessible with additional staff and volunteers
- **Health partners working together to find sustainable solutions for marginalized communities unable to home quarantine and negatively impacted by ongoing restrictions due to community quarantine.**
- DOH issuing guidelines on continuation of health services within the current restrictions due to community quarantine, with a special focus on vulnerable and high-risk groups including elderly, People With a Disability (PWD), and people living with HIV, TB and other

### PHILIPPINES SITUATION IN NUMBERS

**1,075 confirmed (368 new)**

**68 deaths (23 new)**

**804 Admitted Persons Under Investigation**

**6,321 Persons Under Monitoring**

**2,686 Cases tested**

### DOH COVID-19 HOTLINE



OPEN TO ALL CALLERS NATIONWIDE:

**(02) 894-COVID**

(02) 894-26843

FOR PLDT, SMART, SUN,  
AND TNT SUBSCRIBERS:

**1555**

We're working to have the 1555 hotline accessible for all.

f OfficialDOHgov @DOHgovph doh.gov.ph (02) 894-COVID

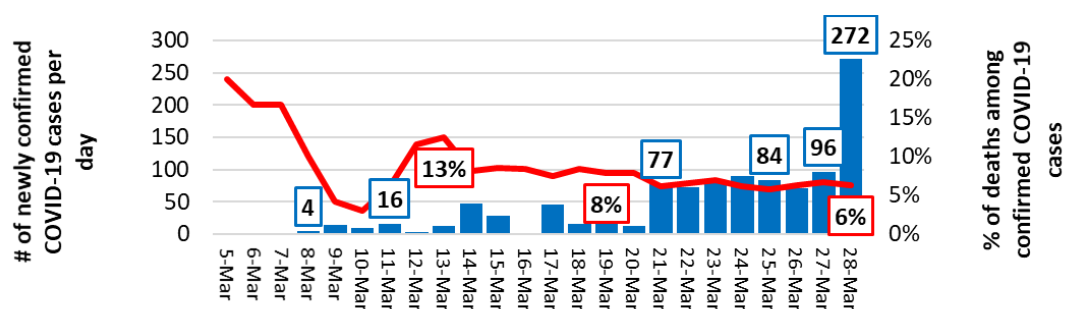
<https://ncovtracker.doh.gov.ph/>

<http://www.covid19.gov.ph/>

## Current Situation

On 28 March, 272 new cases of COVID-19 were confirmed in the Philippines, compared to 96 newly reported cases on 27 March. 14 additional deaths were reported on 28 March, compared to 9 on 27 March. There are currently 1,075 confirmed COVID-19 cases including 68 deaths in the country.

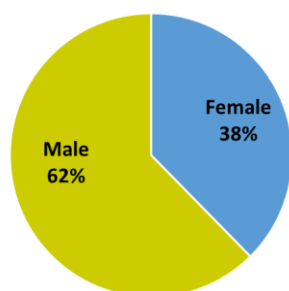
**Daily reported confirmed COVID-19 cases in the Philippines**  
5-28 March 2020 (N=1,075)



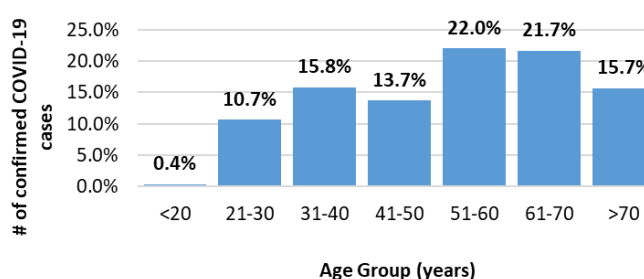
Out of total 68 deaths, 69% are male, ranging between 34 and 89 years of age with a median age of 54. 90% of deaths had either one or several known co-morbidities including diabetes, chronic kidney disease, hypertension, cardiac disease, bronchial asthma and cancer.

Among the 1,075 confirmed cases, 656 are male (62%) and 419 are female (38%). The most affected age groups are 51-60 (22%) followed by 61-70 years (21.7%)

**Gender distribution of confirmed COVID-19 cases in the Philippines in %**  
18 January-28 March 2020 (N=1,075)



**Age distribution of confirmed COVID-19 cases in the Philippines in #**  
18 January-28 March 2020 (N=1,075)



## Country readiness and response operations

### Country-level coordination

UN and NGO partners finalized the Humanitarian Country Team (HCT) COVID-19 response plan, aligned with ongoing government response clusters and interventions. The plan is to be presented to key government departments.

Many partners are increasingly concerned with the detrimental impact of ongoing restrictions due to the community quarantine, which may lead to a humanitarian crisis due to lack of access to food among marginalized communities, including the homeless, slum and displaced populations. At the same time, partners are supporting Local Government Units with setting up of tents as community quarantine facilities.

The Inter Cluster Coordination Group (ICCG) will focus on implementing the below recently published guidelines:

- *Scaling-Up Covid-19 Outbreak Readiness and Response Operations in Humanitarian Situations, Including Camps and Camp-Like Settings* (jointly developed by IFRC, IOM, UNHCR and WHO)
- *Interim Recommendations for Adjusting Food Distribution Standard Operating Procedures in the Context of the COVID-19 Outbreak* (developed by WFP)
- *COVID-19: How to include marginalized and vulnerable people in risk communication and community engagement*

All relevant government guidelines, issuances, and documents available online at [bit.ly/COVIDPH](https://bit.ly/COVIDPH).

### Risk communication and community engagement

Key advice remains STAY AT HOME and while at home, to:

- (1) Eat a healthy and nutritious diet
- (2) Limit your alcohol consumption and avoid sugary drinks.
- (3) Don't smoke
- (4) Exercise
- (5) Look after your mental health
  - a. It's normal to feel stressed, confused, and scared during a crisis
  - b. Support other people in your community
  - c. Get your information from reliable sources once or twice a day

DOH has drafted its Interim Guidelines on the Implementation of Mental Health and Psychosocial Support (MHPSS) to be issued soon.

### Surveillance

DOH is still looking for additional volunteers to support in contact tracing and case investigation, including for contact tracing teams at City Health Offices in NCR.

### National laboratory system

DOH's Food and Drug Administration (FDA) now has registered 18 different types of COVID-19 Test Kits for commercial use. <https://www.fda.gov.ph/covid-19-fda-updates/>

DOH distributed the 100,000 test kits donated by the Chinese government among the below operational laboratories, current testing over 800 samples per day:

Laboratory	Current Capacity (per day)	Areas served
Research Institute for Tropical Medicine	600	Nationwide
Baguio General Hospital and Medical Center	30	CAR/Northern Luzon
San Lazaro Hospital	30	NCR/Nearby Regions
Vicente Sotto Medical Center (Cebu)	90	Visayas Regions
Southern Philippines Medical Center (Davao)	15	Mindanao Regions
National Institute for Health (UP-NIH) (Manila)	44	NCR/Nearby Regions

### Infection prevention and control

Online Training of Trainers on IPC for public and private hospitals workers will be conducted on 30 March based on the latest version of DOH's IPC guidelines for health workers and community, which is expected to be approved soon. Online live trainings will be conducted for all public and private hospitals shortly thereafter, to be followed by video-taped trainings made available on different training platforms, including DOH.

**CALLING ALL CONTACT TRACING VOLUNTEERS**

We are looking for health professionals who healthy and willing volunteers to commit to at least 5 days of work with the Department of Health (DOH) to assist in contact tracing in Metro Manila, with volunteer hours from 8:00 AM to 5:00 PM.

**What will volunteering involve?**

**POSSIBLE TASKS**

- Profiler (field work)
- Data Encoder (DOH Central Office)
- Call Center Staff (DOH Central Office)

**HOW TO VOLUNTEER**

1. Sign up and answer survey
2. Wait for DOH Epidemiology Bureau confirmation for fitness to participate
3. Attend orientation and training
4. Sign waiver and non-disclosure agreement
5. Show up for your shift

KNOW MORE AND SIGN UP AT:  
[bit.ly/COVID19PHContactTracing](https://bit.ly/COVID19PHContactTracing)

#OfficialDOHph @DOHphph #dohphph (02) 894-COVID

**COVID-19 INITIATIVES AS OF MARCH 26, 2020**

**36,000 SURGICAL MASKS**

Provided to our Government Frontliners in the Department of Foreign Affairs—Office of Consular Affairs and the Bureau of Customs

ALWAYS FIRST. ALWAYS READY. ALWAYS THERE.

### Case management and continuity of essential services

To ensure continuity of health services and access to medicines for vulnerable populations, DOH issued relevant guidelines allowing senior citizens and PWD to access up to 3 months of medicines except antibiotics.

Also, TB patients are urged to get up to 1 month of medicine to avoid daily visits to the health facility.

A survey conducted by UNAIDS among people living with HIV shows the need to better advocate with DOH and PhilHealth for continued access to sufficient quantities of drugs as well as condoms in NCR, Regions 3, 6, 11 and 12.



World Vision distributed 9 tents to hospitals and a prison

DOH is working with the National Privacy Commission to quickly bring onboard private providers of telemedicine services as part of the country's COVID-19 response. Telemedicine providers will interface with DOH, LGUs and volunteer physicians to provide primary care without physical contact through telecommunications technologies to lessen the case load of health facilities.

Relevant advisories on nutrition, pregnancy, childbirth and breastfeeding are being translated into local languages with support from UNICEF and UNFPA.

DOH updating its health facility database with key information on staff, services, and capacity including number of isolation units, ventilators to be made available through the WHO-led platform HerAMS (Health Resources Availability Monitoring System) <https://herams.org/>


Updated guidelines: <https://www.doh.gov.ph/2019-nCov/interim-guidelines>

To rapidly respond to increasing shortages in health workers, DOH launched a volunteer portal actively searching for skilled staff at [bit.ly/COVID19DOH](https://bit.ly/COVID19DOH) or <https://www.dohvolunteerportal.org/>

CALLING ALL

## HEALTHCARE WARRIORS

We are looking for **doctors, nurses, nurse assistants, hospital orderlies** able, healthy and willing to commit to work in the fight against COVID-19.




### What will signing up involve?

You will work in one of the three NCR COVID-19 referral hospitals (Lung Center, Philippines General Hospital and Dr. Jose N. Rodriguez Memorial Hospital). On-site accommodation will be provided for your 1 month stint.

#### HOW TO SIGN UP

1. Sign up and answer survey
2. Wait for the DOH portal confirmation of participation
3. Attend orientation and training
4. Sign waiver and non-disclosure agreement
5. Get to work

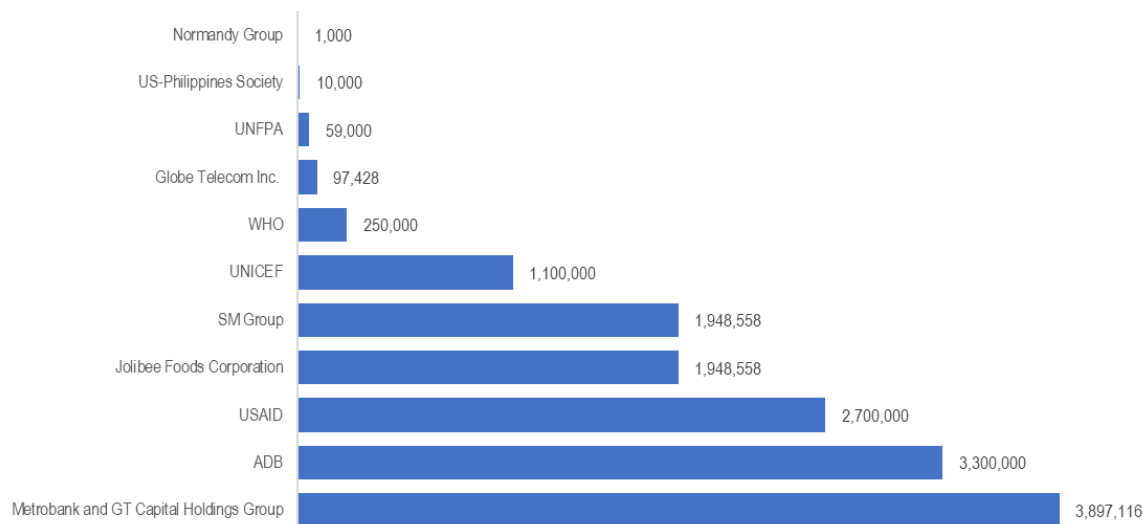
KNOW MORE AND SIGN UP AT:

 [bit.ly/COVID19DOH](https://bit.ly/COVID19DOH)

## Resource mobilization

### Grant

DOH has received grants from the below donors up to date:



#### Notes:

*Jollibee Foods corporation donation of food worth 100 million pesos (\$1,948,558)*

*Globe telecom donated medical supplies worth 5 million pesos (\$97,428) through Red Cross*

*US-Philippine Society donated \$10,000 to Philippine Army for Hazmat B Suits.*

Please see for details of all items distributed so far by DOH: <https://bit.ly/DOHCommDistribution>

As of 23 March, WHO received more than US\$ 240.9 million and an additional US\$ 29.4 million in pledges to its global appeal. This includes €114 million from the European Union to support 80 priority countries with weakened health care systems and capacity including the Philippines.

Furthermore, 20 top business groups raised over 1.5 billion PHP in cooperation with the Philippine Disaster Resilience Foundation (PDRF) to help poor families that were economically displaced by the ongoing Enhanced Community Quarantine in Metro Manila.

### Loan



# 100M

World bank

**Logistics, procurement, and supply management**

Who	What	Delivered	Expected
Americares	N95 masks	1,440	
Chinese government	COVID-19 test kits	100,000	
	PPE sets (details to follow)	10,000	
IMC	PPE	200	
PRC	Medical tents for isolation and treatment	30	
	Face masks	36,000	
	PPE	2,000	
UNFPA	Medical supplies, masks, alcohol, food	6 Manila district hospitals	
	Face masks	110,000	
	Handheld thermometers	1,130	
	PPE	206,059	48,780
	Medical Triage Tents and equipment sets		6
	Hygiene kits for women		1,600
	Clean delivery packs		500
	Women Friendly Space Tents		3
UNICEF	Women and Child Protection Unit equipment		1
	Tents for triage and isolation purposes	20	24
	Disinfection kits	100	
	Coverall (M, L and XL)		72,380
	Masks		41,232
	Face shields		33,000
WHO	PPE	12,000	
	<b>Laboratory supplies</b>		
	<i>E-gene EAV kits</i>	115	
	<i>RdRP-gene kits</i>	95	
	<i>N gene/E gene/RdRp gene vials</i>	12	
	<b>Universal Transport Media</b>		
	<i>UTM Viral transport kit</i>	2,350	
	<i>Regular Flocked Swab</i>	2,000	
	<i>Flexible Mini Tip</i>		2,000
	<b>Extraction kits</b>		
	<i>QIAGEN Qlamp Viral RNA Mini Kit</i>	14	11
	<i>SuperScript III Platinum One-step qRT-PCR</i>	3	2
World Vision	Mobile Storage Unit 10 x 32m	4	
	Tents (child-friendly space) 7 x 6m	17	