

Situation Summary

- **Out of total 197,164 confirmed cases reported in the Philippines until today, 56% are male, with the most affected age group 20-29 years (26%) followed by 30-39 years (24%)**
- 56% of cases reported from National Capital Region (NCR), followed by CALABARZON (14%), Central Visayas (9%), and Central Luzon (3%). Largest increase in new cases from NCR.
- **Out of 3,038 confirmed deaths, 61% are male, with the most affected age group 60-69 years (33%) followed by over 70 (29%)**
- 46% of deaths reported from NCR, followed by Central Visayas (33%), CALABARZON (8%), and Central Luzon (2%). Largest increase in new deaths from NCR.
- **Department of Health (DOH) and WHO emphasizing the need for compliance to, and proper implementation of, national guidelines at LGU level**
- 98.4% of health facilities daily reporting to DOH's DataCollectApp showing below 48.6 % occupancy rate of ward, ICU and isolation beds for COVID-19 patients nationally. In NCR, out of 180 health facilities, 72.7% of dedicated COVID-19 beds are occupied. In CALABARZON, 268 health facilities report 63.1% occupancy rate of dedicated COVID-19 beds.
- **Currently 83 laboratories using RT-PCR are accredited for COVID-19 testing, as well as 27 laboratories using GeneXpert. 89 laboratories still in various stages of accreditation.**
- UN staff in the Philippines affected in the past week with COVID-19: UNIDO – 1; WHO – 1

PHILIPPINES SITUATION IN NUMBERS



Upcoming Events and Priorities

The Philippine government received PHP34 million plus in-kind donations for COVID-19 response as of August 21. The Department of Foreign Affairs (DFA) reported that the from five foreign states and 40 domestic donors were coursed through the Office of Civil Defence. The government launched the Philippine Humanitarian Assistance Registry (PHAR) website (www.phar.gov.ph) as the primary source for information, inquiries, and procedures on local and foreign humanitarian aid to the government.

DOH will conduct safety and effectiveness surveillance and keep a database of recipients of the drugs or vaccines, who will be informed of the risks and benefits of the vaccination, instead of proceeding with the fourth and final phase requirement of clinical trials for COVID-19 drugs and vaccines as that could possibly take years after approval. The Department of Science and Technology (DOST) reported that clinical trials for COVID-19 drugs and vaccines may begin by the fourth quarter of 2020, while the distribution of approved vaccines to the public may start by the second quarter of 2021.

The National Task Force (NTF) Against COVID-19 is alarmed by the increase of the number of suicides, looking for support from churches and spiritual leaders in providing counsel and guidance to their members and followers suffering from depression due to loss of employment or livelihood, anxiety of being afflicted with or dying from the dreaded disease, loneliness arising from isolation, and lack of hope for a return to their normal lives.

DOH removed 4,396 cases from its official COVID-19 tally in a span of more than two months, according to DOH data analysed by the ABS-CBN Investigative and Research Group (IRG). There were also corrections on the tagging of recoveries and fatalities, with 309 patients previously announced as recovered turning out to have actually succumbed to the disease. The total of 4,377 duplicate cases removed from June 12 to Aug. 21 represent 2% of the 182,365 confirmed cases as of Aug. 21. There were also 19 other cases taken off because they were later found to be negative of COVID-19. DOH explained that it has been using "time-based tagging" for recoveries, which means mild and asymptomatic cases are considered recovered after 14 days. DOH emphasized the need for LGUs to immediately report

accurate and complete data on deaths and recoveries. DOH did not explain how deceased cases were reported as recoveries in spite of safeguards in place to check the status of COVID-19 patients.

DOH said that people who refuse to undergo swab tests for COVID-19 may face stiff fines or jail time in line with Republic Act (RA) No. 11332 or the Mandatory Reporting of Notifiable Diseases and Health Events of Public Health Concern Act, which prohibits non-cooperation of individuals. Under RA No. 11332, a violation may be punished with a fine of not less than P20,000 but not more than P50,000 or imprisonment of not less than a month but not more than 6 months.

Despite the continued increase in the number of COVID-19 cases in the Philippines, DFA received reports that five new countries (Brazil, Kiribati, United Kingdom, Benin, and Chad) have lifted inbound restrictions on Filipino travellers, subject to medical protocols such as proof of purchase of health insurance, institutional or home quarantine, and presentation of negative COVID-19 test result, among others. On the other hand, while general entry is not yet allowed in Canada, Armenia, Slovak Republic, and Kuwait, these countries have imposed stricter medical protocols for those who are exempt from entry restrictions such as their returning citizens, diplomatic, and United Nations passport holders.

National Transmission Assessment

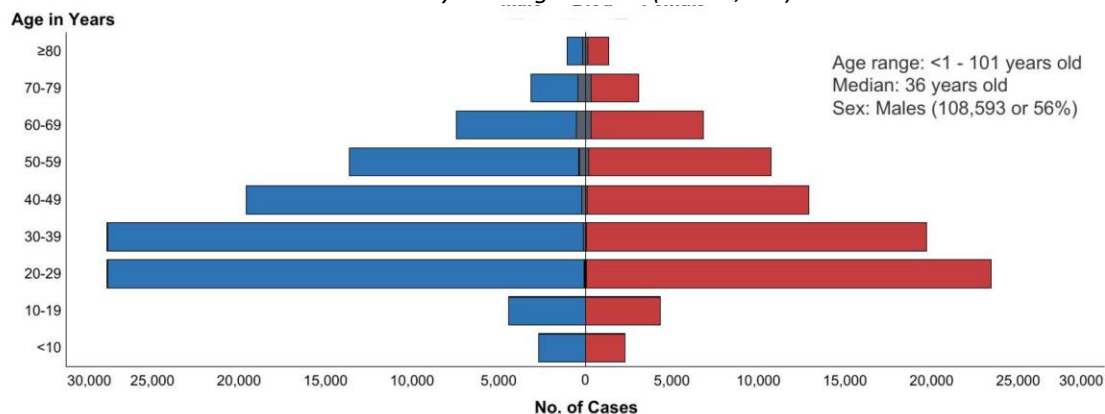
At national level, the Philippines remains in **Stage 2, localised community transmission** with some geographic areas showing higher transmission intensity and indications of wide spread community transmission. There is ongoing evidence of an increasing trend in the number of cases and higher transmission, especially in NCR, Region 3 and Region 4A. At national level, the bed occupancy rate for COVID-19 allocated beds is currently at 48.6% occupancy, with variation between Regions. Additional beds are being allocated for COVID-19 cases, as per the direction of the government. In the past weeks there has been a further increase in daily reported cases, deaths and recoveries. Recently DOH has changed the reporting of recovered cases based on the national criteria. Mild and asymptomatic cases are tagged as recovered 14 days after onset or specimen collection. Additional data validation and harmonisation efforts are ongoing. The government is responding across sectors, including through enhanced community engagement, targeted isolation and quarantine measures, expansion of contact tracing and continuous increase in laboratory capacity.

Epidemiology

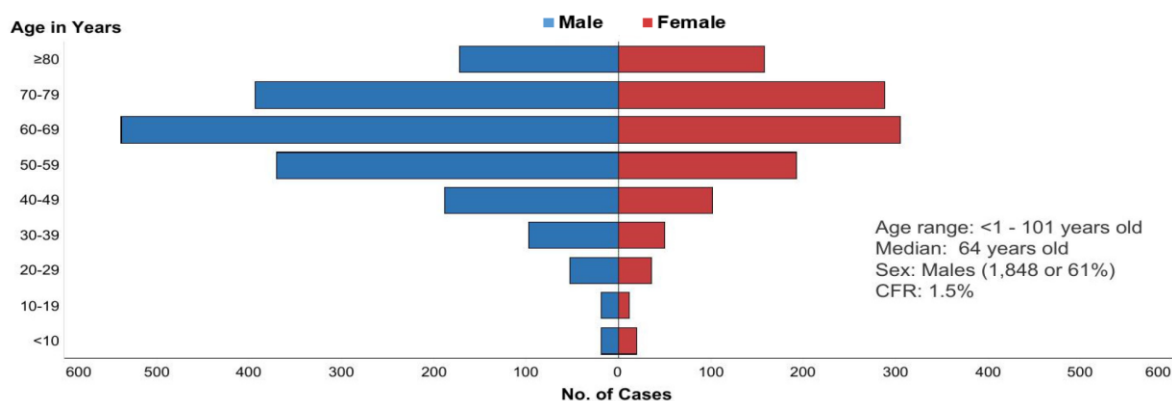
As of 25 August, a total of 197,164 confirmed COVID-19 cases including 3,038 deaths have been reported in the Philippines. The proportion of deaths among COVID-19 confirmed cases is now 1.5%.

Epidemiological Update COVID-19 <i>Data reported on 24 Aug 2020 compared with data reported on 17 Aug 2020 (% difference compared to previous 7 days)</i>	Tests 190,542 Tests past 7 days	Cases 27,951 New cases past 7 days	Deaths 347 Deaths past 7 days	ICU 54% ICU Utilization Rate past 7 days
	2,207,267 Cumulative Unique Individuals Tested	197,164 Cumulative Cases	3,038 Cumulative Deaths	1,713 ICU beds for COVID-19 patients
	10.5% Positivity rate			
Health Service Provision COVID-19	12,195 Health care workers trained on IPC	491 Healthcare worker cases reported past 7 days	1,925 Hospitals admitting COVID-19 patients	19,504 Non-ICU Hospital beds in hospitals
	11,142 Community workers trained on IPC			54,223 Hospital beds in TTMF

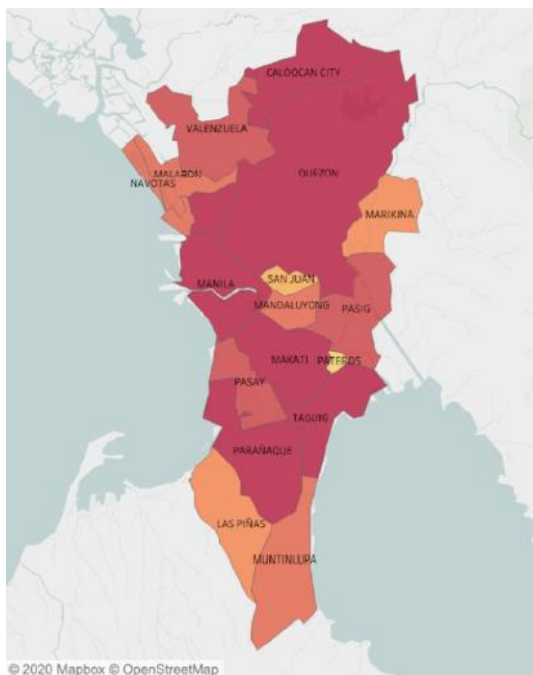
Age distribution of confirmed COVID-19 cases in the Philippines in %
18 January- 25 August 2020 (N=197,164)



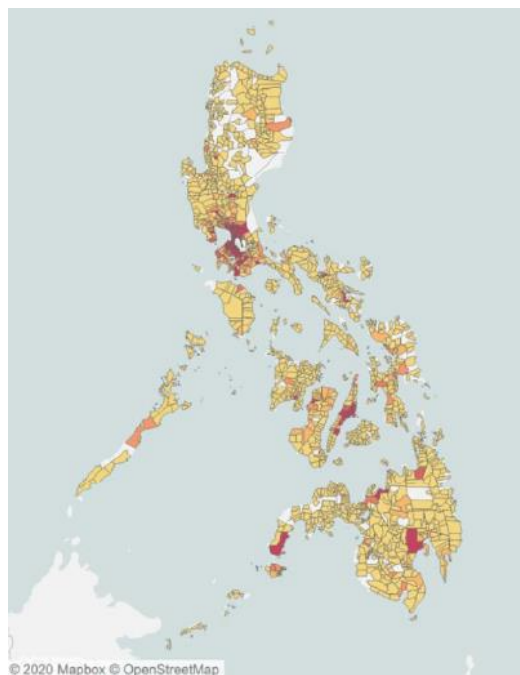
Age distribution of confirmed COVID-19 deaths in the Philippines in %
18 January- August 2020 (N=3,038)



Map of COVID-19 cases in NCR by city/municipality
18 January- 25 August 2020 (N=197,164)



Map of confirmed COVID-19 cases by city/municipality
18 January- 25 August 2020 (N=197,164)



Strategic Approach

The Department of the Interior and Local Government (DILG) said it will start hiring contact tracers once the additional P5-billion fund under the Bayanihan to Recover as One Act (Bayanihan 2) is released in September. At present, there are an estimated 85,000 contact tracers in the country. With the additional 50,000 target to be hired will reach the government's goal of 135,000 contact tracers, and to meet WHO's recommended ratio of one contact tracer for every 800 people.

Recognizing how the COVID-19 pandemic affected the mental health of students and teachers, the Department of Education (DepEd) will conduct nationwide psychosocial support sessions and other related activities for them a week prior to the Oct. 5 school opening. The DepEd explained the effort is already a "built-in" component in DepEd under its Disaster Risk Reduction Management System (DRRMS).

Several quarantine facilities are set to open in Quezon City in the coming weeks as the local government intensifies its campaign against the spread of COVID-19 by isolating suspected and confirmed patients in the city. Two new city-funded isolation facilities (HOPE 4 and HOPE 5) will be opened at the Quezon City General Hospital and at Talipapa Senior High School to accommodate some 403 more mild and asymptomatic cases, bring the total to at least 900 cases in all HOPE isolation facilities.

The Quezon City government pushed for barangay-based quarantine facilities to stop the spread of COVID-19 in communities, saying that these would help free up hospital beds for moderate, critical and severe cases. However, only COVID-19 patients with mild or no symptoms, as well as those recovering from the contagious disease may be admitted to the barangay-based facilities.

DOH is using its Coordinated Operations to Defeat the Epidemic (CODE) strategy, which includes house-to-house checks in high-risk communities for residents with symptoms and people who may be exposed to COVID-19. The strategy is similar to how the DOH conducts door-to-door immunization activities and community health campaigns. During house checks, health workers are tasked with isolating and swabbing people who are showing symptoms or may have been exposed to the disease.

The provincial government of Sarangani is planning to adopt an electronic or digital tracking system to enhance the contact-tracing for confirmed and suspected COVID-19 cases in the area, an official said on Monday. The provincial governor said they are currently conducting simulation activities for at least two contact-tracing applications that were developed to help track down the movement of people in local communities. He cited the StaySafe PH mobile application endorsed by the Department of the Interior and Local Government and the Malungon Tracking Data and Control (MTDC) system of Malungon town.

Laboratory strengthening

There are currently 83 laboratories certified to conduct COVID-19 testing by DOH using RT-PCR technology, as well as 27 laboratories using GeneXpert, with an additional 89 public and private laboratories under assessment.

Infection prevention and control

UNICEF continues to conduct training on Infection Prevention and Control for COVID-19 in Home and Community Settings, to date reaching 11,142 individuals (76% female, 24% male): 8,027 through online webinars and 3,115 through face-to-face training across 98 rural health units in BARMM. People interested to join the webinar may continue to sign up here: <https://forms.gle/WAVzGvMFC4geofdU9>

UNICEF continues to conduct its IPC PC webinar on cleaning and disinfection, reaching 1,918 (653 males, 1,265 females) participants.

Best Practices / Lessons Learned

UNICEF

As of 24 August 2020, UNICEF, in partnership with Philippine Red Cross (PRC), has already provided the following COVID-19 WASH response to highly vulnerable communities, healthcare facilities (HCFs) and community-based quarantine and isolation centers (CBQICs) in NCR and Region 7 (Cebu):

- Temporary water points for drinking, sanitation and hygiene were installed in 2 hospitals, San Juan Lingap Center and Gat Andres Bonifacio, in NCR.
- 5,700 people were provided with 1,038 water kits, and 4,739 people received 1,000 hygiene kits distributed in Quezon City and Mandaluyong City.

- 22 portable toilets in 4 hospitals (National Kidney and Transplant Institute; Amang Rodriguez; Rizal Medical Center; Gat Andres Bonifacio) and an evacuation center (Barangay Addition Hills, Mandaluyong City) in NCR for 3,529 people (additional data on people reached are being gathered).
- 57 handwashing facilities in 6 cities, of which 37 are installed in HCFs.
- 39,359 people reached through various hygiene promotion activities through combined online and face-to-face activities

There are ongoing activities such as construction of bathing and toilet facilities in Quezon Institute and distribution of 200 sets of cleaning and disinfection kits for HCFs and CBQICs in NCR. More WASH activities are planned for Cebu which include distribution of modified family cleaning and hygiene kits and cleaning and disinfection kits with PPEs for HCFs and CBQICs, training on infection prevention and control, hygiene promotion, and installation of WASH facilities (i.e., water supply, handwashing facilities, temporary toilets) for HCFs and CBQICs.

UNICEF Mindanao Field Office completed the following activities in BARMM in the previous weeks:

- 496 disinfection kits distributed to 72 health care facilities.
- 200 hygiene and dignity kits, 200 water kits, two 72 sqm tents were provided to locally stranded 405 individuals bound for BARMM island provinces.
- 100 temporary handwashing facilities were installed in BARMM, 26 of which are in health care facilities.
- As a result of using the WASH FIT tool (previous version), 23 hands-free portable handwashing facilities are ready for delivery to 23 health care facilities.
- In North Cotabato, 1,865 hygiene kits (with alcohol, face masks) were distributed to an estimated 9,325 high-risk people and 40 hands-free portable handwashing facilities were installed in North Cotabato.

More WASH emergency supplies (e.g., six water bladders, 12 water quality testing kits, 1,500 water kits, 1,500 hygiene and dignity kits, materials for 45 emergency toilet construction) have been dispatched to BaSulTa Provinces for returning Filipinos from Sabah.



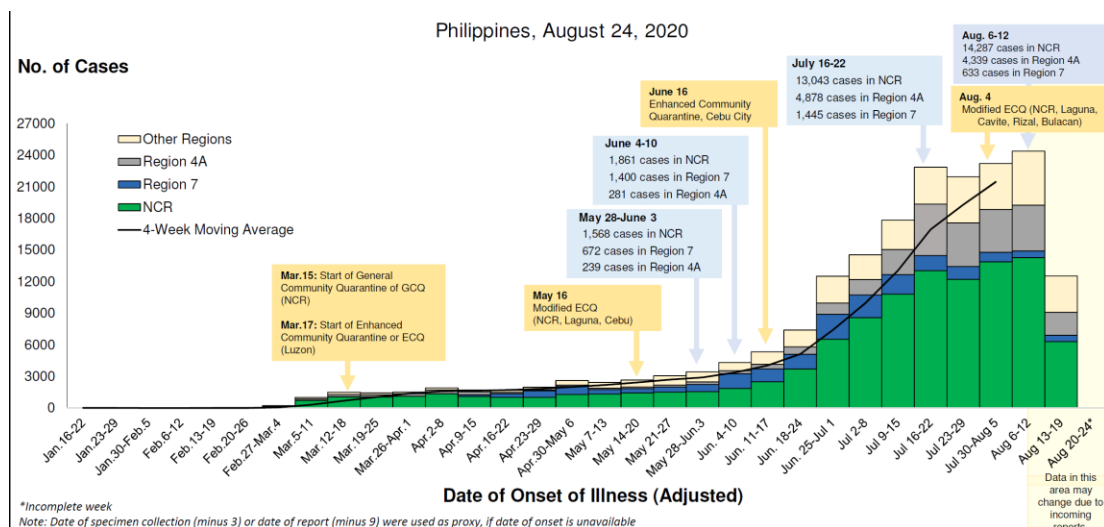
Americares

Americares distributed 18,500 surgical masks and 29,350 KN95 masks to various hospitals, DRRMOs, quarantine facilities and RHUs in Luzon, Visayas and Mindanao.



Non-Pharmaceutical Interventions (NPI)

Figure: Timeline of NPIs with EPI curve combined with NPI implementation dates
16 January-25 August 2020

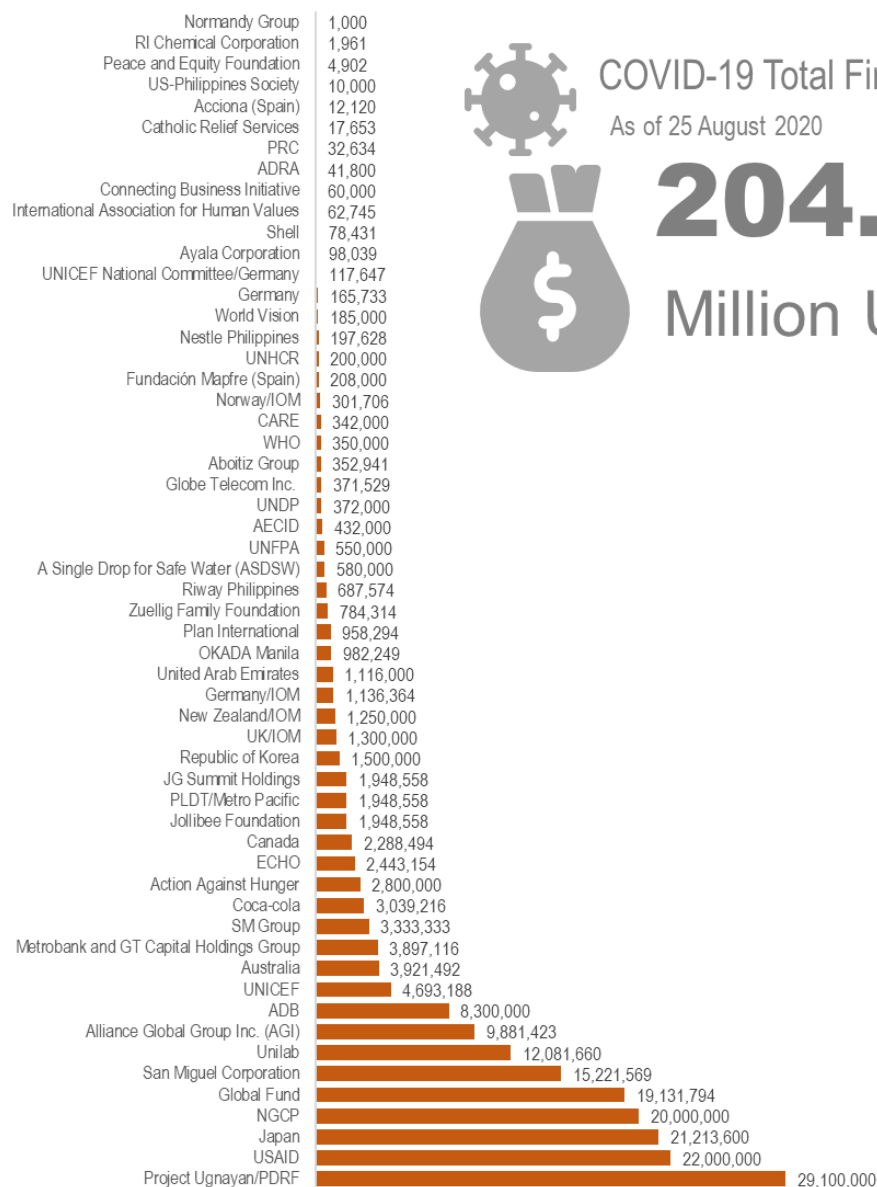


NPI	Monitoring status					
	Date first implemented	Date last modified	Implementation		Lifted for some areas	Lifted for all areas
Wearing Face Masks, Hand Hygiene, Respiratory Etiquette	13 March	-	National	Required	No	No
School Closure	10 March – Metro Manila	3 June	National	Required	3 June with limitations	No
Workplace Closure	13 March	4 Aug	National	Required	15 May	No
Mass Gatherings	10 March – Metro Manila	4 Aug	National	Required	3 June with limitations	No
Stay at Home	13 March	4 Aug	National	Required	15 May	No
Restrictions on Internal Movement (within country)	13 March	4 Aug	National	Required	1 June	No
Restrictions on International Travel	31 Jan - China	4 Aug	National	Required	1 June	No
Others; specify in narrative	None	None	-	-	-	-

Important links:

- <https://covid19.healthphilipinas.ph/>
- <https://www.doh.gov.ph/covid19tracker>
- <http://www.covid19.gov.ph/>
- <https://www.lguvsocovid.ph/>

Annex: Resource mobilization



Logistics, procurement, and supply management

Who	What	Delivered	Expected
ADB	Laboratory facility for 45,000 tests	1	
Americares	N95 masks	73,120	33,800
	Surgical masks	17,500	36,500
	Face shields	60	
	Thermal scanners	3	
	Disinfectant alcohol (1 gallon)	6	
	Oxygen tanks with accessories	3	
	Water tanks	5	
CARE	PPE (full set)	2,029	
	Thermal scanners	23	
	Hygiene kits	9,364	
	Water station facilities	5	
Chinese government	COVID-19 test kits	100,000	
	PPE (full set minus goggles)	10,000	
	N95 masks	10,000	
	Surgical masks	100,000	
IAHV	N95/KN95 Masks	34,922	
IMC	PPE (full set)	200	
	Examination gloves	767,184	
	Surgical masks	666,200	
	N95 masks	150,445	
	Surgical gowns	5,115	
	Goggles	470	
	Electric fans	20	
	HTH Chlorine (Kg)	225	
	Stethoscope	2	
	Sphygmomanometer	2	
	Digital thermometer	6	
	Sprayer	2	
	Sanitizer (Lt)	225	
	Body bags	50	
	Hospital Beds	2	
	Cot beds	10	
	Breast milk container, 180ml	160	
	Electric fan	20	
	Scrub suits	90	
	Folding table, 72in x 30 in	2	
	Rubber apron	40	
	Stretcher	2	
	Metal bench, 3 seater	6	
	Tent, 6mx 10m, x 2m	1	
	Tent, 11ft x 11 ft x 7ft	2	
	Canopy tents, 3m x 3m	3	
IOM	Surgical mask	15,000	
	Gloves	5,000	
	Face shields	400	
	Isolation gowns and shoe cover	300	
	Suits/coveralls	300	
	Thermal scanner	50	
	Multipurpose tents	3	
Japan government	PPE	12,000	
National Grid	Decontamination chambers	2	
Corporation of the Philippines (NGCP)	Ventilators	12	
	Powered air purifying respirators	32	
	Closed suction system	200	
	Test kits	10,000	
	Gallons of 70% alcohol	42,000	
	Gallons of disinfecting solutions	3,800	
	Infrared thermometers	2,100	
	Hazmat suits	3,000	
	Goggles	45,000	
	Surgical caps	60,000	
	Full face shields	65,000	
	Disposable gowns	75,000	
	Pairs of shoe covers	85,000	
	N95 and surgical masks	3,300,000	
	Gloves	3,300,000	
PRC	Medical tents for isolation and treatment	30	
	Face masks	36,000	
	PPE (full set)	2,000	
	Medical supplies, masks, alcohol, food	6 Manila hospitals	
Samaritan's Purse	Medical tents for isolation and treatment	3	
	Mattresses	200	
	KN95 mask	1,300	
	Face Shield	1,300	
	Gown	1,300	
	Gloves	54,000	
	Surgical Mask	3,600	
	Hygiene kits	810	

Who	What	Delivered	Expected
UNDP	Ventilators		15
UNFPA	Face masks	110,000	
	Handheld thermometers	1,130	
	PPE (full set)	386,355	
	Medical Triage Tents and equipment sets	4	2
	Hygiene kits for women	750	350
	Clean delivery packs		500
	Women Friendly Space Tents	1	2
UNHCR	Women and Child Protection Unit equipment	1	
	PPE	12,152	
	Sleeping mats	64	
	Hygiene kits	64	
	Blankets	64	
	Plastic sheets	1,020	
	Solar lamps	1,020	
UNICEF	Mosquito nets	1,020	
	Tents for triage and isolation purposes 72m² and 42 m²	74	
	Coveralls for health workers	20,860	51,520
	Face shields	33,000	
	N95 masks for health workers	35,680	
	Surgical masks	38,750	370,450
	Gloves, heavy-duty, rubber/nitrile	1,000	
	Goggles, protective, indirect-side-venti	500	
	Apron, protection, plastic, reusable	500	
	Boots, rubber/PVC, reusable, pair	500	
	Coveralls for cleaning and disinfection personnel	1,000	
	N95 masks for cleaning and disinfecting personnel	15,000	
	Cleaning and disinfection kit	500	
US government	Cots	1,300	
	Disposable shoe cover	14,000	
	Disposable head cap	14,000	
	Disposable surgical gown	12,600	
	KN95 mask	9800	
	Face shield	2800	
	Goggles	2800	
	Nitrile gloves	119,000	
	Pulse oximeter	210	
	Infrared thermometer	210	
US Defense Threat Reduction Agency (DTRA)	Medical Mask		23,920
	N95 Mask		15,140
	Gloves (pair)		21,220
	Gown		12,000
	Face Shield		9,370
	Shoe Cover		1,640
	Alcohol (500ml Bottle)		5,590
WFP	Mobile Storage Unit	3	
	50 kVA generator	2	
	Shower/toilet unit	1	
WHO (with USAID funding)	Laboratory supplies		
	E-gene EAV kits	335	
	RdRP-gene kits	99	
	N gene/E gene/RdRp gene vials	12	7
	Sanger sequencing reagents vials	3	
	Universal Transport Media viral kit	89,350	
	Flexible Mini Tip	2,000	10,000
WHO (with DFAT funding)	Extraction kits		
	QIAgen QIamp RNA Kit	235	
	SuperScript III Platinum One-step qRT-PCR	109	
	Goggles	1,200	
	Gloves	31,000	
	N95 masks	900	
	Surgical masks	100,000	
	Surgical gowns	817	
	Hand sanitizer	240	
	Face shields	640	
World Vision	Bio bags	400	
	Mobile Storage Unit 10 x 32m	4	
	Tents (child-friendly space) 7 x 6m	17	
	PPE (full set)	458	
	Disinfectant kits	30	