



3,676,991
Cases



3,574,295
Recoveries



59,015
Deaths



65,640,834 (65.3%)¹
Fully Vaccinated

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

2,726 cases (21-27 Mar 2022)	48 deaths* (21-27 Mar 2022)	157,518 tests (21-27 Mar 2022)	2.2% Positivity Rate (21-27 Mar 2022)
1,044 Hospitals admitting COVID-19 patients	16% ICU bed occupancy for COVID-19 patients	3,001 ICU beds for COVID-19 cases	25,012 Non-ICU beds for COVID-19 patients
			17% Non-ICU bed occupancy for COVID-19 patients

*Obtained from FASSSTER COVID-19 death tally as of 30 March 2022

COVID-19 cases

As of 27 March, a total of 3,676,991 COVID-19 cases and 59,015 (1.6%) COVID-19 related deaths had been recorded since the beginning of the COVID-19 pandemic. There was a sudden and sharp increase in cases in late December 2021, but after peaking in early January, a decreasing trend has been continuing in the number of cases reported per day (Figure 1). There were 2,726 new cases (2.5 cases per 100,000 population³) reported in week 12 (21-27 March 2022), that is 24% lower than the previous week (14 – 20 March 2022: 3,563 new cases, 3.2 cases per 100,000 population³). For week 12, NCR, Region IV-A: CALABARZON, and Region VI: Western Visayas recorded the highest case counts at 884, 376, and 281 respectively.

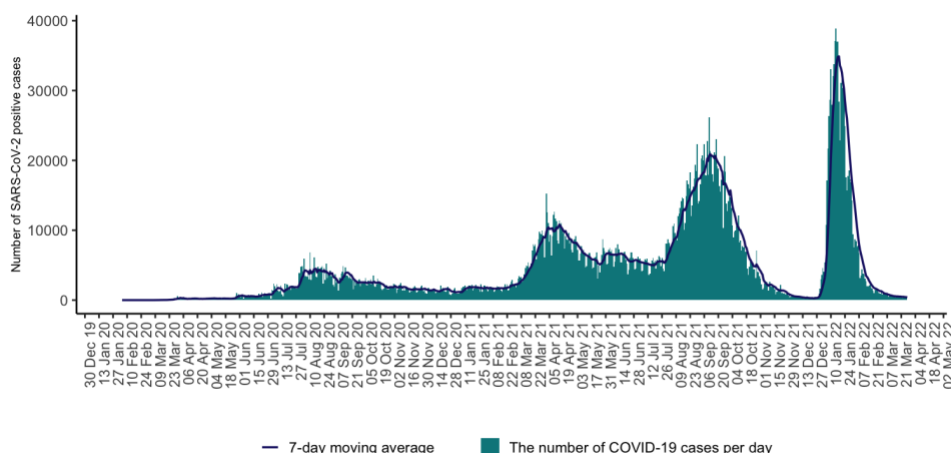


Figure 1. Daily reported COVID-19 cases in the Philippines (30 January 2020 – 27 March 2022)

¹ Percent of total eligible population (5 years and older)

² Weekly case counts were obtained from [FASSSTER COVID-19 PROJECT](#)

³ National population size used (n=110,278,979, Epidemiology Bureau of the Department of Health, 2022)



Healthcare utilization

Following the continuous decreases in COVID-19 cases over the past few weeks, COVID-19 hospital bed and ICU bed utilization has also declined in Philippines since 30 January, and it is currently maintained at stable levels (Figure 2). In week 12, the daily number (7-day average) of COVID-19 dedicated ICU beds occupied was 548, compared to 629 in the previous week. Utilization of COVID-19 dedicated mechanical ventilators (7-day average) also showed a declining trend: 276 ventilators in week 12, compared to 278 ventilators in week 11.

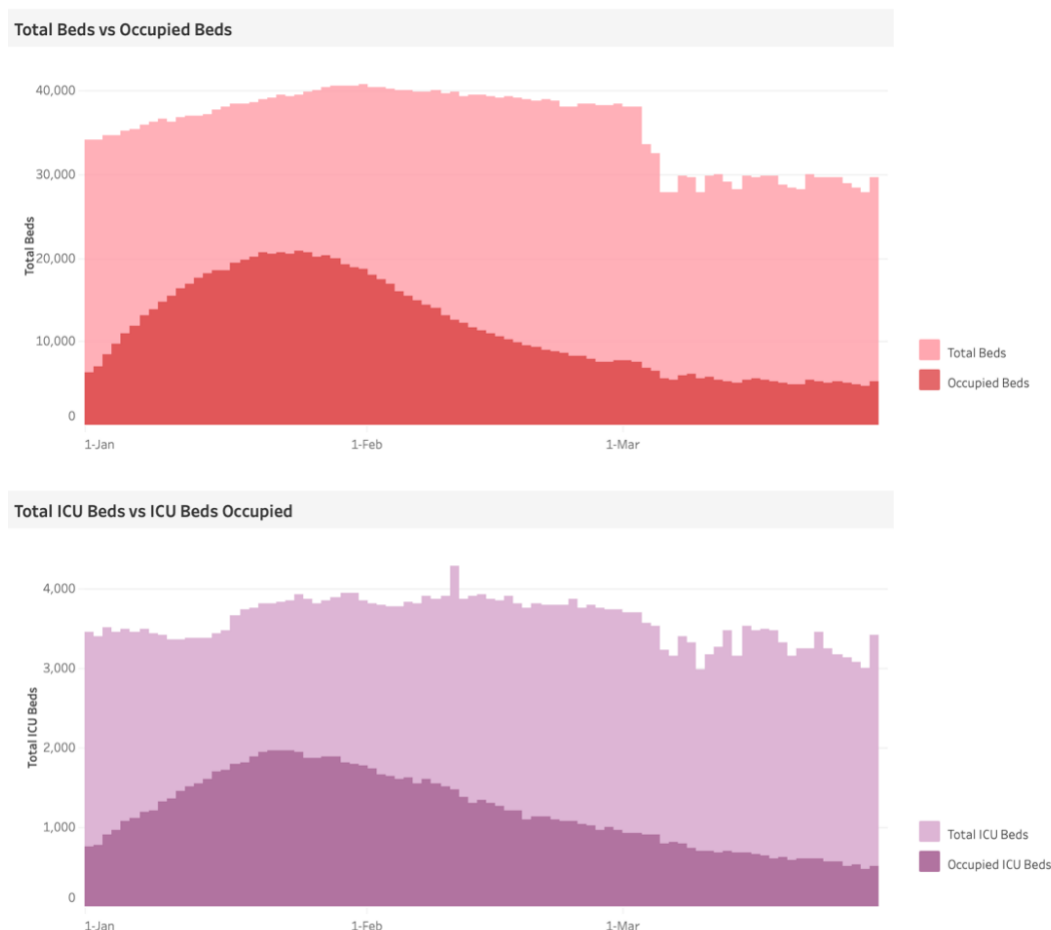


Figure 2. Total bed and ICU bed distribution over time stratified by occupancy (1 January – 28 March 2022)



COVID-19 deaths

Since the beginning of the COVID-19 pandemic, 59,015 COVID-19 deaths were reported in Philippines as of 27 March 2022 with the highest number of over 300 deaths recorded in September 2021 (Figure 3). The deaths increased during the surge in January, but after peaking in mid-January, a declining trend has continued.

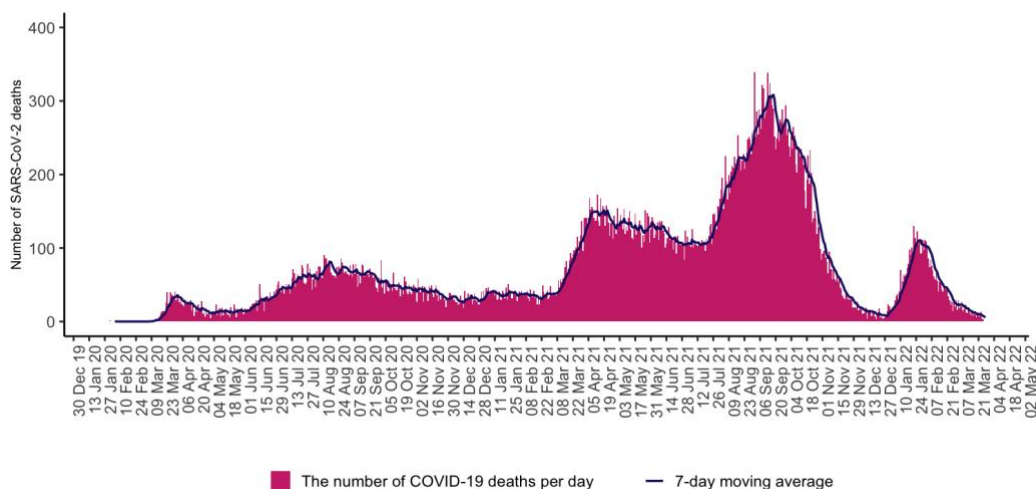


Figure 3. Daily number of COVID-19 deaths in the Philippines by date of death since 2020 (as of 27 March 2022)

Laboratory: testing rates, positivity rates and genomic surveillance

The testing rate (number of tests per 1,000 population) has decreased in the Philippines to 1.4 tests per 1,000 population for weeks 11 and 12 (previously at 1.5 tests per 1,000 population in week 10). A lower 7-day positivity rate (number of individuals that tested positive/number of individuals tested) was reported for week 12 at 2.2% (3,342/151,584), compared to week 11 at 2.7% (4,041/150,836). Omicron has become the predominant Variant of Concern (VOC) since the end of January with over 90% dominance in the recently sequenced samples.



Vaccination

As of 28 March 2022, 65% of the target population (5 years and older) were fully vaccinated. Among healthcare workers, who are at increased risk of exposure to SARS-CoV-2, the coverage is high over 94%, with 48% already received a booster dose. Currently, there is particular focus to increase coverage of vulnerable populations; elderly population (A2 priority group), persons with comorbidities (A3) and poor population (A5). Their respective vaccination coverage in Philippines is over 71%, 93%, and 70% (Figure 4). However, it is important to note that there is variation in vaccination coverage between regions, for example, coverage of the A2 population is below 50% in region 7 and BARMM, and below 60% in region 11 and 12 (Table 1). Vaccination coverage of the A5 group is below 50% in 8 regions (Table 2).

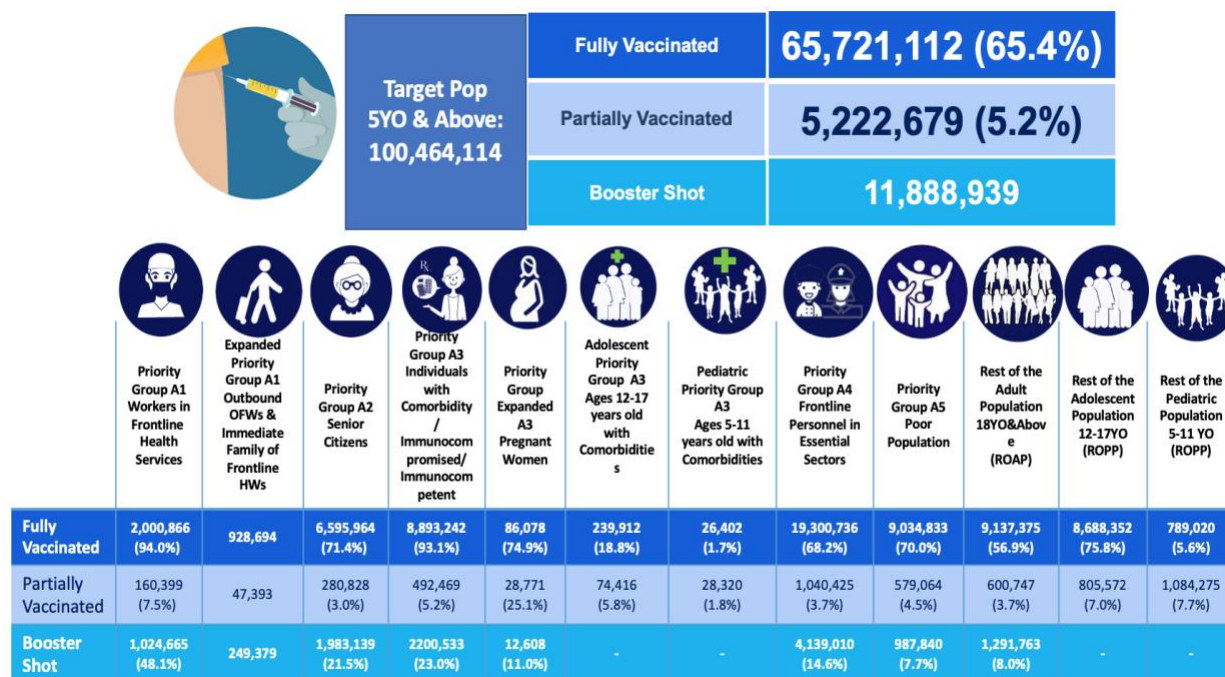


Figure 4. Overview of COVID-19 vaccination status of Philippines' population as of 28 March 2022



Cumulative Coverage Rate % (A2)							
REGION	Projected Pop (Priority Group A2)	Fully Vaccinated	%	Partially Vaccinated	%	Booster Shot	%
2	342,018	300,573	87.9%	11,334	3.3%	81,719	23.9%
NCR	1,222,154	1,033,548	84.6%	22,143	1.8%	524,400	42.9%
CAR	143,040	119,584	83.6%	6,175	4.3%	45,960	32.1%
1	530,907	437,405	82.4%	18,848	3.6%	135,115	25.4%
4A	1,348,666	1,035,363	76.8%	54,701	4.1%	343,469	25.5%
CARAGA	219,338	166,983	76.1%	(3,191)	-1.5%	25,524	11.6%
3	1,126,636	827,824	73.5%	34,875	3.1%	315,159	28.0%
5	494,357	355,622	71.9%	14,140	2.9%	64,493	13.0%
6	778,402	551,279	70.8%	(518)	-0.1%	112,693	14.5%
9	289,442	199,658	69.0%	8,283	2.9%	35,136	12.1%
10	406,917	274,623	67.5%	14,897	3.7%	57,389	14.1%
Mimaropa	249,124	163,048	65.4%	9,974	4.0%	33,091	13.3%
8	412,565	265,359	64.3%	15,602	3.8%	41,662	10.1%
11	431,064	257,990	59.8%	32,023	7.4%	53,235	12.3%
12	342,690	196,941	57.5%	11,589	3.4%	36,859	10.8%
7	716,936	345,266	48.2%	17,715	2.5%	70,194	9.8%
BARMM	180,050	64,898	36.0%	12,238	6.8%	7,041	3.9%
PHIL	9,234,308	6,595,964	71.4%	280,828	3.0%	1,983,139	21.5%

Table 1. Overview of vaccination of A2 population per region in Philippines (28 March 2022)

Cumulative Coverage Rate % (A5)							
REGION	Projected Priority Group A5	Fully Vaccinated	%	Partially Vaccinated	%	Booster Shot	%
NCR	663,588	2,140,741	322.6%	69,374	10.5%	444,991	67.1%
4A	955,143	1,202,483	125.9%	49,748	5.2%	162,084	17.0%
6	967,299	940,529	97.2%	(89,560)	-9.3%	74,139	7.7%
CAR	179,565	147,662	82.2%	7,834	4.4%	15,332	8.5%
2	315,918	228,101	72.2%	23,067	7.3%	15,042	4.8%
3	882,423	627,064	71.1%	54,679	6.2%	91,826	10.4%
1	618,150	403,153	65.2%	36,734	5.9%	37,782	6.1%
11	771,534	421,558	54.6%	42,013	5.4%	21,950	2.8%
7	854,691	463,803	54.3%	44,812	5.2%	26,722	3.1%
9	896,151	440,409	49.1%	35,433	4.0%	24,045	2.7%
5	1,111,587	443,639	39.9%	55,122	5.0%	13,988	1.3%
8	839,772	331,203	39.4%	45,825	5.5%	12,663	1.5%
10	798,837	300,527	37.6%	28,796	3.6%	15,349	1.9%
CARAGA	566,586	212,468	37.5%	28,949	5.1%	9,114	1.6%
Mimaropa	583,026	201,918	34.6%	18,145	3.1%	9,727	1.7%
12	743,511	235,330	31.7%	31,200	4.2%	5,116	0.7%
BARMM	1,163,412	294,245	25.3%	96,893	8.3%	7,970	0.7%
PHIL	12,911,193	9,034,833	70.0%	579,064	4.5%	987,840	7.7%

Table 2. Overview of vaccination of A5 population per region in Philippines (28 March 2022)



Strategic approach to COVID-19 Prevention, Detection and Control

Risk Communication and Community Engagement

WCO published micro videos and photos featuring the field visit of WHO teams in Regions III, IV-A, VI, VII, and VIII during the first week of March. Dr Sukadeo Neupane, WHO Consultant for Immunization, [underscores](#) the importance of protecting the elderly and prioritizing their vaccination. Dr Achyut Shrestha, Medical Officer of WHO Philippines, [appeals](#) to local chief executives to improve access to vaccines.





WCO published quote cards of acting WHO Representative to the Philippines (WR) and COVID-19 Incident Manager (IM), from their opinion piece regarding sustained management of COVID-19 in the Philippines.



An op-ed by Dr Rajendra Yadav, acting WR, and Dr Sangjun Moon, COVID-19 IM, “[Is the pandemic ending soon?](#)” was featured in [Business World](#) on 20 March 2022.

WCO conducted a post-project field visit and evaluation of the COVID-19 CSO Initiative in Manicani Island, Guiuan, Eastern Samar. The visit was done on 12 March, 2022 with People In Need (PIN). WHO and PIN met with community members, barangay officials and Barangay Health Workers who shared positive feedback of the project to the community’s perceptions and behaviour on COVID-19 prevention and vaccine uptake. The project started with a baseline of 30% vaccination coverage and after a 10-week completion of the project, they achieved a 79.9% vaccination coverage.

WCO published a [micro-video](#) communicating to continue to do all protective measures to protect people who are at increased risk of getting severe COVID-19, and those who visit and live with them.





The RCCE team supported the DOH Communication Office in its week-long nationwide workshop, *BIDA ANG RESBAKUNA! Workshop on the Guidelines for AEFI Community Management and Reporting*. The workshop was attended by around 1,600 participants – from public information officers, health education and promotion officers, development management officers, regional directors, and assistant regional directors – from all 17 regions. WHO Philippines' Communication Officer and RCCE Pillar Lead, Rocel Ann Junio, presented about how to effectively communicate AEFI to families and the public.

Effective AEFI Communication to Families and the Public

Rocel Ann Junio
Communication Officer & RCCE Pillar Lead, WHO Philippines

21-25 March 2022

The RCCE team supported the IMT in preparing a [Technical Advisory](#) on Reaching the Unreached with COVID-19 Vaccines, which promotes key strategy adjustments to prepare for the next possible surge.

TECHNICAL ADVISORY
Reaching the Unreached with COVID-19 Vaccines

25 March 2022
Prepared by WHO Philippines

RATIONALE

The Philippines has a narrow window of opportunity to prepare for a potential surge of COVID-19, which may happen soon. Though COVID-19 is at a record low, high risks remain due to the likelihood of unsafe gatherings during the upcoming Holy Week, Ramadan, and election-related activities. In addition, the world faces a high possibility of new Variants of Concern emerging from other countries that have high COVID-19 transmission.

The country has made tremendous efforts in scaling up the national COVID-19 vaccine rollout, with 65% of the eligible population fully vaccinated (as of 21 March 2022). On the other hand, the country is still facing significant challenges in reaching the unreached priority groups, particularly the elderly and indigent populations. An estimated 2.4 million senior citizens (26%, A2) have not received even the first dose of COVID-19 vaccines.

Unvaccinated people could serve as a significant driver of COVID-19 transmission while being at high risk of severe forms of COVID-19. Further, the unvaccinated priority groups are often among the most vulnerable and have the highest risk of dying, which we could prevent through COVID-19 vaccination.

STRATEGY ADJUSTMENTS

After one year of COVID-19 vaccination operations, WHO recommends that the country takes urgent actions to reach the unreached using the following strategies:

Focus on the priority groups that remain unreached

Intensified action is urgently needed to identify and protect unvaccinated people from the priority groups using the primary series and boosters of COVID-19 vaccines.

The national and local governments need to do everything in their power to identify the local government units (LGUs) with the highest number of unvaccinated and mobilize all possible resources to intensify vaccination in those areas. Furthermore, the country needs to only use the "National Vaccination Day" approach in priority LGUs.

For the LGUs with high coverage for the primary series of COVID-19 vaccines, further efforts are essential to accelerate the pace of administering booster doses, mindful of the prioritization principle.

Several reasons justify the use of COVID-19 vaccine booster doses:

- Waning protection against infection or disease, particularly severe disease, over time – i.e. waning immunity

Bring people closer to services

WHO strongly recommends leveraging the current opportunity provided by low COVID-19 transmission to identify and engage barangay-level influencers who can address concerns on vaccine safety. Barangay health workers should also be provided with additional resources – from transportation and meal allowances to printed copies of relevant information materials – to support their social mobilization.

WHO also encourages national and sub-national official channels of the Department of Health to intensify social media campaigns on the benefits of getting vaccinated before another COVID-19 surge hits the country. These campaigns need to motivate people to actively seek COVID-19 vaccination for the primary series and booster doses.

MOVING FORWARD

The coming weeks present a crucial but narrow window of opportunity to protect more people with COVID-19 vaccines. Missing this opportunity for community-based vaccinations poses a threat to hard-earned gains from two years of pandemic response.

No one should be left behind. No one is safe until everyone is safe.



Operations Support Logistics

WCO facilitated air transport of mental health training supplies bound for Cotabato Airport and receipt of the supplies of 240,000 aquatabs, transferred from WHO Western Pacific Regional Office, bound for Mati City in response to the Diarrheal Outbreak.

Partner Coordination

Updates from UNICEF

Support to the COVID-19 vaccination roll-out

Implementation Review of COVID-19 Vaccination Rollout in Bicol Region

Rounding off the *Bayanihan, Bakunahan National COVID-19 Vaccination Days (NVD)* Part IV, the Bicol Region successfully organized its Implementation Review of the COVID-19 Vaccination Rollout on the 16th and 17th of March in Irosin, Sorsogon. The workshop was made possible through the COVID-19 Vaccine Delivery Support (CDS) funding. The activity aimed to assess the status of the regional COVID-19 vaccine deployment and vaccination, identify implementation issues and bottlenecks, and agree on the next actions to address the gaps.

The activity was headed by Center for Health Development - Bicol Regional Director Arnie Vera and was participated in by the Provincial and City COVID-19 and National Immunization Program Coordinators, Heads of Provincial Department of Health (DOH) Offices, Regional Vaccine Operations Center (RVOC) Members, Barangay Health Workers and UNICEF. UNICEF Immunization Specialist Dr. Carla A. Orozco delivered a presentation to the group entitled 'COVID-19 Vaccination Future Plans: Global Perspective and Philippine Context'. DOH Assistant Secretary Nestor Santiago was also present and together with the Center for Health Development - Bicol and UNICEF teams provided inputs and recommendations that had greatly helped the region re-strategize and create a more robust campaign to further improve the vaccination coverage.

UNICEF support has greatly contributed to the Bicol Region's accomplishments in *Bayanihan, Bakunahan NVD* Part IV, having been able to administer **43,613 primary doses** exceeding the 38,170 target, and **26,075 second doses** exceeding the 20,760 target. The region was able to administer jabs to **2,192 senior citizens** and **13,191 fully vaccinated individuals** for booster shots, according to National Vaccine Operations Center (NVOC) report as of 19 March 2022.

UNICEF's ongoing support for the Bicol Region's COVID-19 vaccination rollout is comprised of technical assistance provision through a UNICEF-deployed consultant, CDS funds, and cold chain equipment that includes a Walk-in Cold Room unit for both the CHD and Provincial Health Office in Masbate.



CHD Bicol Region Team led by Regional Director Arnie Vera with ASec. Nestor Santiago and UNICEF Immunization Specialist Dr. Carla Ante-Orozco during the Implementation Review of COVID-19 Vaccination. © UNICEF/2022/NPastrana



Dr. Carla Ante-Orozco presenting 'COVID-19 Vaccination Future Plans: Global Perspective and Philippine Context' during the Implementation Review of COVID-19 Vaccination. © UNICEF/2022/NPastrana

Supporting the National COVID-19 Vaccination Days Part IV in BARMM

UNICEF continues its support in scaling-up COVID-19 vaccination efforts in the Bangsamoro Autonomous Region in Muslim Mindanao (BARMM), particularly the *Bayanihan, Bakunahan* NVD Part IV through field-level implementation monitoring and technical assistance. During the campaign, UNICEF was able to visit vaccination sites in the municipalities of Maluso and Hadji Muhtamad in Basilan.

During the *Bayanihan, Bakunahan* NVD Part IV, BARMM was able to administer **26,532 primary doses**, **18,480 second doses**, and **4,905 booster doses**. BARMM was also able to administer jabs to **1,676 senior citizens**, according to NVOC report as of 19 March 2022.

UNICEF is also providing support for (1) mobilization efforts for delivery of vaccination services, (2) Risk Communication and Community Engagement (RCCE) through its partner Health Organization for Mindanao, and (3) strengthening the cold chain system through the installation of solar refrigerators in primary care units and Walk-in Cold Room units in each of the five Provincial Health Offices.



UNICEF visiting one of the vaccination sites in the municipality of Hadji Muhtamad in Basilan Province during the National Vaccination Days Part IV. © UNICEF/2022/ACatacutan



Dr. Amador Catacutan, UNICEF Immunization Officer, visiting one of the vaccination sites in the municipality of Maluso in Basilan Province during the National Vaccination Days Part IV. ©



Risk communication and community engagement (RCCE)

UNICEF, through its implementing partner Relief International, continues to support risk communication and community engagement for COVID-19 prevention and vaccination in select local governments in Regions VI (Iloilo and Guimaras), IV-A (Laguna and Quezon), and NCR (Parañaque and Navotas). Through the technical support, 14 local governments have continued to update their demand generation plans; 4,477 health workers and volunteers were trained on COVID-19 RCCE; 6,129 local officials, 2,408 local leaders, and 127 community-based groups have been engaged to support the COVID-19 campaign; and 5.4 million people, including eligible populations, were reached with COVID-19 messages through various channels. The technical support is now focused on increasing uptake among the remaining unvaccinated (zero-dose) and partially vaccinated individuals through social mobilization, health education sessions with vulnerable groups, and house-to-house vaccine promotion activities.



UNICEF and Relief International strategize with barangay health workers in Pavia, Iloilo on how to target the remaining unvaccinated and vulnerable vaccine-eligible people in the municipality. © Relief International/2022



UNICEF and Relief International hold a health education session on COVID-19 vaccination in a small IP community in Sibunag, Guimaras. © Relief International/2022

UNICEF is also supporting demand generation for COVID-19 vaccination in Region IX through its partnerships with Relief International and Human Development and Empowerment Services Inc. (HDES). Through the UNICEF-HDES support on COVID-19 and routine immunization, over 35,545 COVID-19 vaccine-eligible individuals and parents and caregivers of children under 2 years old were reached with messages on COVID-19 and routine immunization through social mobilization and community-based awareness-raising activities such as *bandillo* (roving vehicles with loudspeakers). In implementing the UNICEF-Relief International support, 682 health workers and other frontline workers have been trained on COVID-19 risk communication, 397 local leaders (religious, indigenous peoples [IP], and other influencers) were engaged to support the COVID-19 vaccination and prevention campaign, and over 9,000 people eligible for vaccination were reached with messages regarding COVID-19 vaccination and prevention.



UNICEF and HDES support the implementation of community-based awareness-raising activities such as bandillo (roving vehicles with loudspeakers) in Zamboanga City. © HDES/2022



UNICEF and Relief International train barangay health workers on COVID-19 risk communication and community engagement in Ipil, Zamboanga Sibugay. © Relief International/2022

UNICEF, through its implementing partners Relief International and HDES, has also supported its partner local governments in implementing the NVD Part IV. The support focused on creating demand among unvaccinated, vulnerable and marginalized populations through intensified social mobilization and house-to-house health education.



During the fourth NVD, a social mobilizer from Relief International joins barangay health workers in implementing mobile vaccination in hard-to-reach areas in Tiaong, Quezon to conduct house-to-house vaccine promotion and education. © Relief International/2022



As part of its support to the fourth NVD, UNICEF and Relief International visit a mobile vaccination site for farm workers in Pavia, Iloilo and conduct a feedback session with the Municipal Health Officer. © Relief International/2022

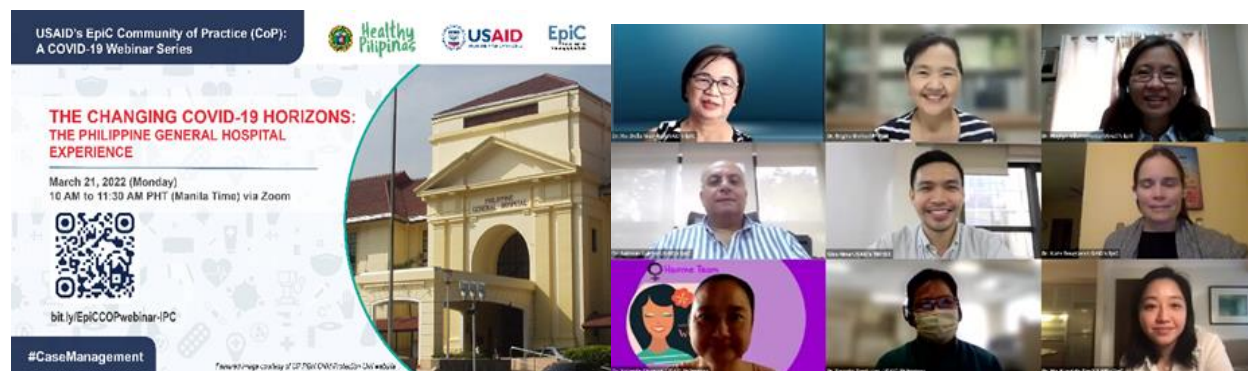


Updates from USAID

USAID features UP-PGH experience on IPC adaptation. More than 400 health care workers from the public and private sectors across the country participated in the Community of Practice (CoP) webinar on infection prevention and control (IPC) hosted by the USAID's Meeting Targets and Maintaining Epidemic Control (EpiC) Project in the Philippines in collaboration with the Department of Health. Led by FHI 360, this webinar showcased how the University of the Philippines-Philippine General Hospital (UP-PGH), the country's premier and one of the largest tertiary-care government hospitals, addressed IPC challenges during various COVID-19 case surges.

Dr. Regina Berba, an infectious disease specialist and head of the Hospital Infection Control Unit of UP-PGH, shared her expertise, experience, and insights in implementing and adapting IPC measures. She identified the significant COVID-19 events that influenced IPC policy-decisions at the PGH and described the hospital management challenges and adaptations on IPC implemented during the various COVID-19 pandemic surges.

If you missed the live webinar, you could still watch the recording on-demand by registering here: <https://bit.ly/EpiCCoPwebinar-ipc>



USAID hands over essential supplies for critical care and specimen handling. On March 24, 2022, USAID's Meeting Targets and Maintaining Epidemic Control (EpiC) Project collaborated with the USAID's Infectious Disease Detection and Surveillance (IDDS) Project in a series of handover activities and facility site visits in Puerto Princesa City, Palawan as part of the integrated health portfolio field visit of the USAID/Philippines Office of Health.

EpiC supports Ospital ng Palawan, the only public COVID-19 referral hospital in mainland Palawan. Through EpiC, USAID provided 50 adult breathing circuits, 150 heat and moisture exchange filters, and three oxygen regulators to augment hospital supplies for COVID-19 clinical case management. These procured essential consumables and supplies will ensure that the three U.S. Government-donated ventilators are functional when patients require respiratory support.



Ospital ng Palawan, led by Medical Center Chief Dr. Melecio Dy shared how the ventilators helped save Palaweños during the most challenging times of the COVID-19 pandemic.



Handover of COVID-19 testing supplies and commodities to Ospital ng Palawan by USAID/Philippines Health Director Ms. Michelle Lang-Alli (left) and received by Dr. Melecio Dy, Medical Center Chief (Middle). Also present were USAID Deputy Health Director Dr. Yolanda Oliveros (Left most) and EpiC Country Lead Dr. Soliman Guirgis (2nd to the left), Dr. Cristy Andaya of CHD MIMAROPA (middle left)

The USAID's Infectious Disease Detection and Surveillance (IDDS) Project turned over specimen transport boxes and personal protective equipment (PPE) to COVID-19 referral laboratories and allocated COVID-19 rapid antigen test kits equivalent to 12,000 tests to the province of Palawan. This ensures the provision of support to detect COVID-19, protecting health care workers and laboratory personnel from infection, and providing safe and timely COVID-19 specimen transport in the province.



Ms. Michelle Lang-Alli, Director of Office of Health, delivered the USAID message of support to partners, including the Department of Health (DOH)-Center for Health Development MIMAROPA, Palawan Provincial Health Office (PHO), and Puerto Princesa City Health Office (CHO).



Dr. Ricardo Panganiban, City Health Officer, Puerto Princesa CHO delivered the message of thanks to the USAID and IDDS Project.



Handover of COVID-19 testing supplies and commodities to Palawan PHO represented by Dr. Justyne Barbosa (Medical Specialist) and Mary Charrie Pe-Mapanao (Disease Surveillance Office/PESU COVID-19 Coordinator)



Handover of COVID-19 testing supplies and commodities to Palawan PDOHO on behalf of Culion Sanitarium General Hospital, with Dr. Cristy Andaya (CHD MIMAROPA Infectious Disease Cluster Head) and Mr. Tirso Lagrosa Jr. (Palawan PDOHO-Disease Surveillance Officer)

USAID supports COVID-19 vaccination of kids in Metro Manila. USAID's ReachHealth project worked with the Manila City, Caloocan City, and Quezon City local governments in vaccinating about 11,500 children ages 5 to 11 during the nationwide launch of COVID-19 vaccination for the younger population. USAID ReachHealth mobilized its mobile vaccination teams and data encoders, and deployed jeepneys to three sites in Caloocan City and 12 Sites in Manila City.

To protect the younger population against COVID-19, the national government has swiftly planned and rolled-out the COVID-19 vaccination for children ages 17 years old and below, as soon as it was approved and deemed safe for the said age group. USAID has supported the Philippine government in rolling out the vaccines to the pediatric population in several project sites through deployment of mobile vaccination teams and on-site data encoders, provision of vaccines and medical supplies, and transportation for health personnel and vaccinees.



Left: DOH vaccinator Mr. Alfred Moreno inoculating a child at the Manila Zoo grounds as part of the nationwide launch of pediatric COVID-19 vaccination. The newly rehabilitated Manila Zoo has been chosen as a site for pilot vaccination for kids for its child friendly facilities and kids were encouraged to take a tour after their jabs.

Right: A Caloocan City Health Department vaccinator giving a COVID-19 jab on a child at the Caloocan City Sports Complex, one of the pilot sites for 5-11 pediatric vaccination.

USAID supports COVID-19 workplace testing. USAID's ReachHealth project supported the Quezon City Government in its initiative to do workplace testing for COVID-19 starting with swabbing 100 employees of the Department of Agriculture national office. USAID ReachHealth deployed mobile testing teams composed of six swabbers and six medical technologists.

The free COVID-19 testing activity is part of USAID's support to the local government units in conducting free routine testing for all citizens and frontline and essential workers. Since 2020, the United States government has been supporting the Philippine government's efforts to expand testing and fast-track the roll-out of the nationwide vaccination program.



USAID-supported mobile testing team member Karen San Pascual swabbing a Department of Agriculture employee at the Agricultural Training Institute in Quezon City.



USAID helps vaccinate people in Mindanao against COVID-19. Through the support of USAID's ReachHealth project, close to 40,000 Filipinos received their COVID-19 vaccine during a vaccination drive in Maguindanao, Cotabato City, and Cagayan de Oro City. Aside from providing medical supplies and transportation, USAID ReachHealth also deployed its mobile vaccination teams, data encoders and IT consultants to key vaccination hubs.

This is part of the United States government's long-standing development partnership with the Philippines. USAID has provided long-term recovery and financial aid to the country through direct assistance to its COVID-19 response and nationwide vaccination roll-out.



Vaccinees lined up for health screening at a vaccination hub in Cotabato City