

Philippines Coronavirus Disease 2019 (COVID-19) Situation Report #106

20 July 2022

Data reported by the Department of Health on 17 July 2022



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 18 July 2022

COVID-19 cases

As of 17 July 2022, a total of 3,733,101 COVID-19 cases had been recorded in the Philippines since the beginning of the COVID-19 pandemic. There were 14,640 new cases (13.30 cases per 100,000 population³) reported in week 28 (11 - 17 July 2022), that is 43.60% higher than the previous week (4 - 10 July 2022: 10,196 new cases, 9.25 cases per 100,000 population³). In week 28, the following regions recorded the highest case counts: National Capital Region (5,806 cases), Region IV-A: CALABARZON (3,535 cases), Region III: Central Luzon (1,464 cases), and Region VI: Western Visayas (1,254 cases).

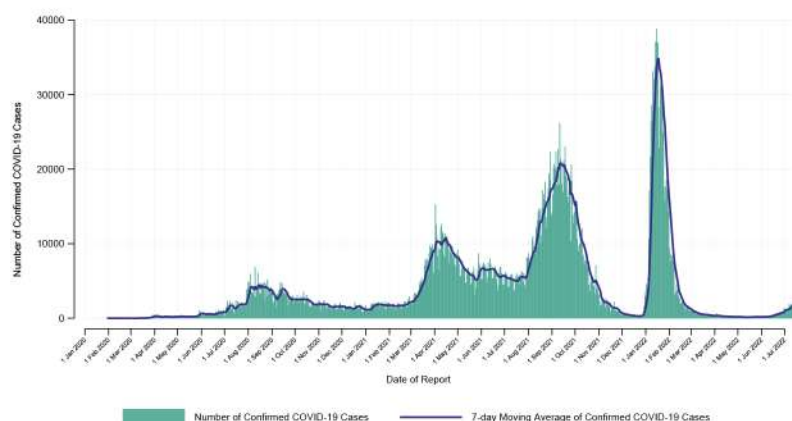


Figure 1. Daily reported COVID-19 cases in the Philippines (30 January 2020 – 17 July 2022)



We would like to know your feedback on our COVID-19 situation reports and further improve our services.

Scan the QR code or access this [link](#).

Footnotes

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

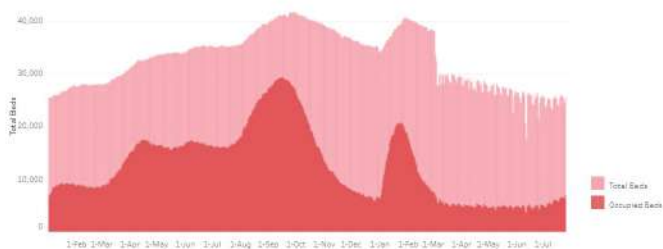
² Weekly case counts were obtained from FASSSTER COVID-19 PROJECT

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

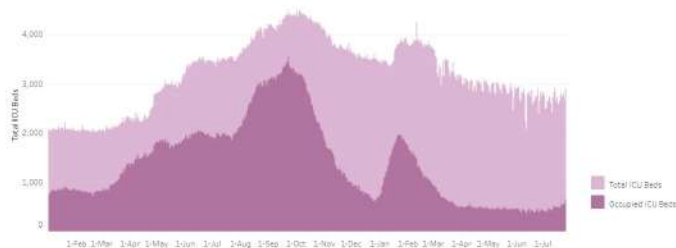
Healthcare utilization

As of 17 July 2022, the COVID-19 hospital bed and ICU bed utilization rates are at stable and low levels (Figure 2). The daily number (7-day average) of COVID-19 occupied ICU beds reported in week 28 (491 beds) increased by 12.1% from week 27 (438 beds), while the utilization of COVID-19 dedicated mechanical ventilators (7-day average) increased by 13.9%: 238 (10.6%) ventilators used in week 28, compared to 208 (9.7%) ventilators in the previous week.

Total Beds vs Occupied Beds



Total ICU Beds vs ICU Beds Occupied



Data Source: Department of Health (DOH) DataDrop

Figure 2. Total bed and ICU bed distribution over time stratified by occupancy (as of 17 July 2022)

COVID-19 deaths

Since the beginning of the COVID-19 pandemic, 60,641 COVID-19 related deaths have been reported in Philippines as of 17 July 2022 (Figure 3).

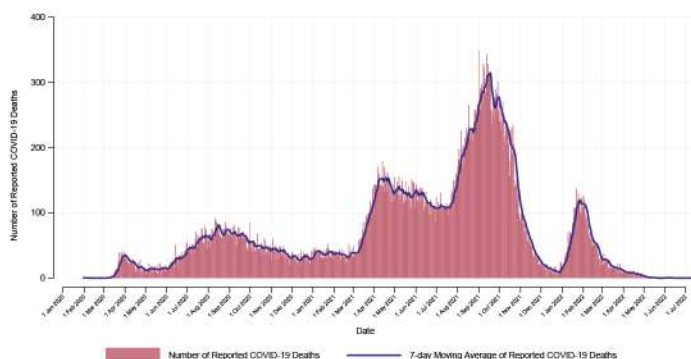


Figure 3. Daily number of COVID-19 deaths in the Philippines by date of death since 2020 (as of 18 July 2022)

Laboratory: testing rates, positivity rates and genomic surveillance

The testing rate (number of tests per 1,000 population) has increased by 8.9% in the Philippines - 1.47 tests per 1,000 population for week 28 (161,899 tests); previously at 1.35 tests per 1,000 population in week 27 (148,577 tests). The positivity rate (number of individuals that tested positive/number of individuals tested) increased by 21% - 12.1% (18,522/153,669) in week 28; 10.0% (13,822/138,629) in week 27.

On 20 July 2022, Department of Health Officer-in-Charge Dr Maria Rosario Vergeire said that from the latest Whole Genome Sequencing (WGS), 13 - 18 July 2022 results, 910 were confirmed to be Omicron Variant of Concern (VOC). The Omicron sublineages detected were: 816 BA.5, 42 BA.4, and 52 BA.2.12.1.

Twelve of the 816 BA.5 cases are Returning Overseas Filipinos (ROFs) and the 804 cases were detected in sixteen of the 17 regions [except the Bangsamoro Autonomous Region in Muslim Mindanao (BARMM)]; Region VI had the highest number of new BA.5 cases detected (Table 1). Three of the cases presented with moderate symptoms, while the remaining 813 were still being verified. Six hundred eighty six of the BA.5 cases had recovered, 78 were still under isolation, while the status of the remaining 52 was still being verified. Five hundred sixty were fully vaccinated, while the vaccination status of the remaining 256 was still being verified.

Four of the 52 BA.2.12.1 cases were ROF, while 48 came from 11 Regions - with Region XI recording the most number of cases (Table 1). Forty-nine have recovered and the condition of the remaining three was still being verified. Twenty-six of the patients were fully vaccinated, five were partially vaccinated, and the vaccination status of the remaining 21 was being verified.^{4 5 6} Overall, 1,109 cases of BA.5, 139 BA.2.12.1 cases, and 54 BA.4 cases have been confirmed from WGS in the Philippines.

Region	No. of BA.5 Cases detected	No. of BA.2.12.1 Cases detected
VI	309	2
NCR	145	11
IV-A	106	1
XI	69	15
II	56	0
CAR	41	1
III	14	3
V	13	2
IV-B	13	0
VII	12	3
XII	8	6
I	5	0
VIII	4	0
X	4	0
IX	3	3
CARAGA	2	1
BARMM	0	0
TOTAL	804	48

Table 1. Number of BA.5 and BA.2.12.1 Cases detected per Region in the Philippines, 13 – 18 July 2022 sequencing

Of the 42 BA.4 cases, 10 came from Region XII (SOCCSKSARGEN), nine were from Region XI (Davao Region), seven from Region VI, four each from NCR and Region V (Bicol Region), three from Region IV-A, and one each from Cordillera Administrative Region (CAR) and BARMM, and three are ROFs. Thirty-six have recovered, five remain under isolation, while the status of the remaining patient was being verified. Thirty-one of the patients were fully vaccinated while the vaccination status of the remaining 11 was being verified.

⁴ DOH: 816 more Omicron BA.5 cases detected in the Philippines | GMA News Online (gmanetwork.com)

⁵ PH detects 910 more cases of highly transmissible subvariants | ABS-CBN News

⁶ PH detects over 800 more BA.5 Omicron subvariant cases | Inquirer News

Vaccination

As of 18 July 2022, 71.0% of the target population (5 years and older) were vaccinated with the last dose of primary series. Among healthcare workers (A1 priority group), the coverage is 96.5%, with 55.9% having received the first booster dose and 13.3% with the second booster dose. The Philippine government continues to prioritize COVID-19 vaccination of the vulnerable sectors of the population - elderly population (A2 priority group), persons with comorbidities (A3) and poor population (A5); their respective vaccination coverage (vaccinated with last dose of primary series) is 77.8%, 94.4%, and 72.9% (Figure 4). On 18 July 2022, Dr Maria Rosario Vergeire, Officer-In-Charge of the Department of Health (DOH) said that DOH aims to administer at least 23 million COVID-19 booster shots within President Ferdinand Marcos Jr.'s first 100 days in office. It is equivalent to 397,000 to 400,000 people vaccinated each day for 100 days.⁷ To date, 18.4% of the eligible population for 1st booster shot received the jab. The vaccination coverage of first booster dose for A2, A3, and A5 priority groups are 26.3%, 26.9%, and 11.2%, respectively.

Sub-nationally, the vaccination coverage of A2 population is less than 70% in five regions (Table 2), and the vaccination coverage of the A5 group is below 50% in six of the seventeen regions (Table 3).

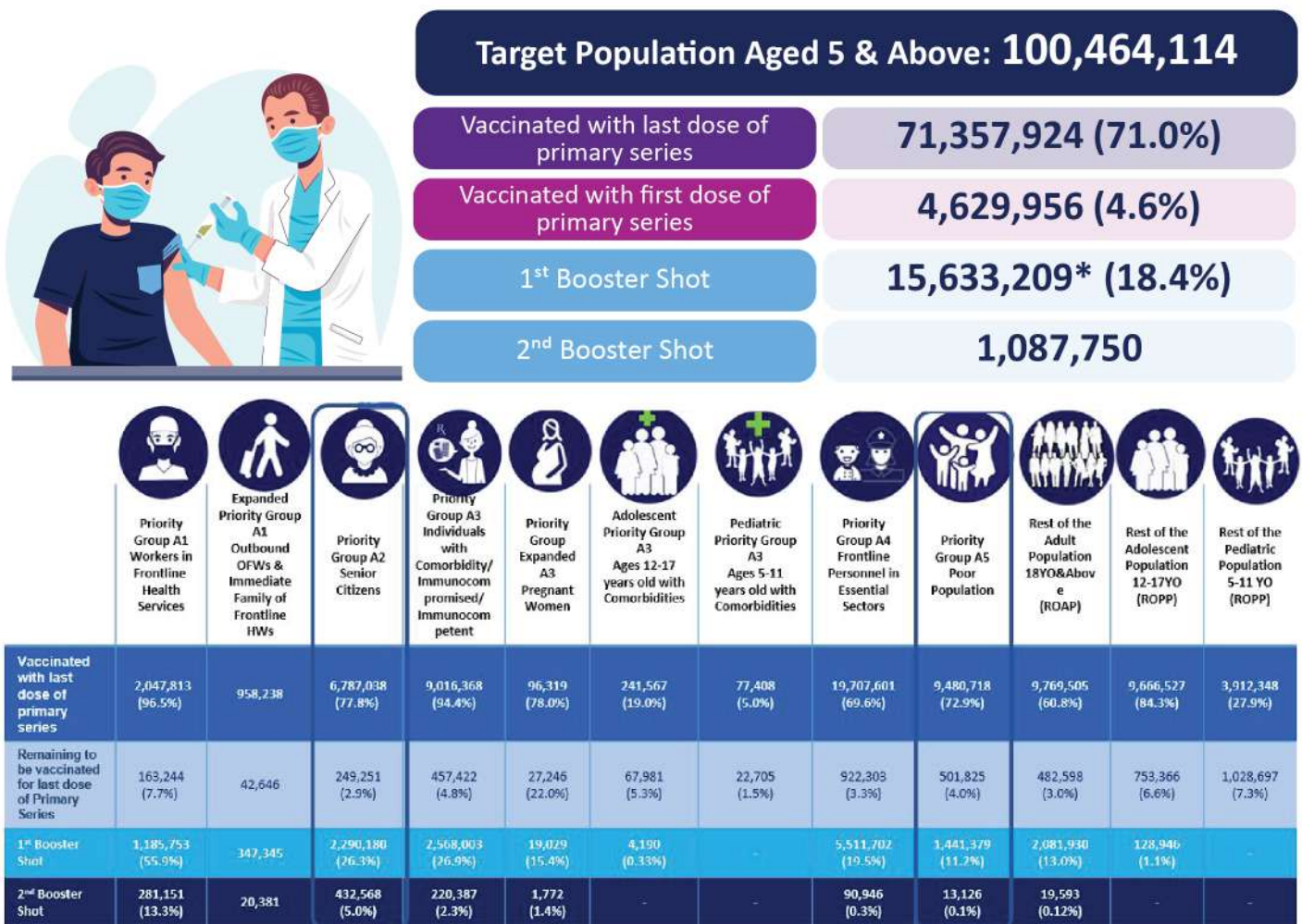
⁷ Sarao, Z. DOH aims for 23M booster shots in Bongbong Marcos' first 100 days | Inquirer News. Posted online 19 July 2022.

REGION	A2								
	Total Target Population	Unvaccinated	Partially Vaccinated	Fully Vaccinated	% Coverage (Fully)	1 st Booster	%1 st Booster	2 nd Booster	% 2 nd Booster
(B)	(D)	(E=D-F-G)	(F)	(G)	(H=G/D)	(I)	(J=I/D)	(K)	(L=K/D)
NCR	1,154,257	88,940	20,318	1,044,999	90.53%	587,078	50.86%	187,889	16.28%
CAR	135,093	6,384	6,083	122,626	90.77%	52,131	38.59%	7,344	5.44%
1	501,412	42,039	16,112	443,261	88.40%	157,381	31.39%	18,680	3.73%
2	323,017	13,070	10,111	299,836	92.82%	91,657	28.38%	9,663	2.99%
3	1,064,045	193,751	31,550	838,744	78.83%	360,335	33.86%	68,840	6.47%
4A	1,273,740	181,372	50,579	1,041,789	81.79%	389,783	30.60%	81,337	6.39%
4B	235,283	60,414	9,872	164,997	70.13%	39,129	16.63%	3,403	1.45%
5	466,893	94,378	13,544	358,971	76.89%	75,987	16.28%	6,149	1.32%
6	735,157	174,678	-5,339	565,818	76.97%	131,528	17.89%	8,240	1.12%
7	677,107	255,508	9,280	412,319	60.89%	90,522	13.37%	11,566	1.71%
8	389,645	104,395	13,965	271,285	69.62%	50,184	12.88%	3,155	0.81%
9	273,362	63,335	7,535	202,492	74.07%	43,708	15.99%	3,409	1.25%
10	384,311	90,043	13,783	280,485	72.98%	70,688	18.39%	7,321	1.90%
11	407,116	112,481	31,304	263,331	64.68%	62,487	15.35%	10,158	2.50%
12	306,824	94,413	11,975	200,436	65.33%	41,598	13.56%	2,613	0.85%
CARAGA	207,153	37,804	-5,486	174,835	84.40%	32,114	15.50%	2,393	1.16%
BARMM	186,876	71,997	14,065	100,814	53.95%	13,870	7.42%	408	0.22%
Philippines	8,721,291	1,685,002	249,251	6,787,038	77.82%	2,290,180	26.26%	432,568	4.96%

Table 2. Overview of vaccination of A2 population per region in Philippines (18 July 2022)

REGION	A5									
	Total Population	Total Target Population	Unvaccinated	Partially Vaccinated	Fully Vaccinated	% Coverage (Fully)	1 st Booster	%1 st Booster	2 nd Booster	% 2 nd Booster
(B)	(C)	(D)	(E=D-F-G)	(F)	(G)	(H=G/D)	(I)	(J=I/D)	(K)	(L=K/D)
NCR	663,588	663,588	-1,565,372	62,587	2,166,373	326.46%	573,108	86.37%	3,902	0.59%
CAR	179,565	179,565	22,412	6,995	150,158	83.62%	23,761	13.23%	57	0.03%
1	618,150	618,150	177,767	34,711	405,672	65.63%	67,725	10.96%	269	0.04%
2	315,918	315,918	63,527	19,842	232,549	73.61%	29,244	9.26%	140	0.04%
3	882,423	882,423	194,456	52,589	635,378	72.00%	124,946	14.16%	562	0.06%
4A	955,143	955,143	-306,226	48,090	1,213,279	127.03%	223,729	23.42%	3,741	0.39%
4B	583,026	583,026	356,023	16,431	210,572	36.12%	17,064	2.93%	50	0.01%
5	1,111,587	1,111,587	609,560	49,540	452,487	40.71%	29,101	2.62%	290	0.03%
6	967,299	967,299	96,755	-101,686	972,230	100.51%	103,804	10.73%	2,421	0.25%
7	854,691	854,691	322,163	20,105	512,423	59.95%	49,085	5.74%	478	0.06%
8	839,772	839,772	459,650	41,931	338,191	40.27%	25,194	3.00%	430	0.05%
9	896,151	896,151	414,791	30,834	450,526	50.27%	51,048	5.70%	92	0.01%
10	798,837	798,837	466,508	28,059	304,270	38.09%	30,879	3.87%	93	0.01%
11	771,534	771,534	300,094	38,129	433,311	56.16%	33,065	4.29%	583	0.08%
12	743,511	743,511	484,645	29,685	229,181	30.82%	11,933	1.60%	33	0.00%
CARAGA	566,586	566,586	321,835	24,746	220,005	38.83%	16,957	2.99%	83	0.01%
BARMM	1,163,412	1,163,412	609,869	107,069	446,474	38.38%	33,725	2.90%	114	0.01%
Philippines	12,911,193	12,911,193	3,028,457	509,657	9,373,079	72.60%	1,444,368	11.19%	13,338	0.10%

Table 3. Overview of vaccination of A5 population per region in Philippines (18 July 2022)



*eligible population for booster

Figure 4. Overview of COVID-19 vaccination status of Philippines' population as of 18 July 2022

Strategic approach to COVID-19 Prevention, Detection and Control

Risk Communication and Community Engagement (RCCE)

WHO Philippines released the next set of cards for its ongoing campaign to motivate more Filipino people to get their COVID-19 primary series or booster vaccine. The campaign features photos of vaccinated people to appeal to those who fear needles, one of the sentiments among vaccine-hesitant populations.



Partner Coordination

Updates from UNICEF

Support to COVID-19 vaccination

The Embassy of Japan in the Philippines and UNICEF handed over a walk-in cold room and other cold chain equipment to the Batangas Provincial Government to help strengthen its COVID-19 vaccination and routine immunization services. The cold storage will ensure vaccines are stored in temperature-controlled environments from the manufacturing date to the time it is administered. Around 35 provinces across the Philippines, including geographically isolated areas, will receive this support as part of the partnership between Japan and UNICEF Philippines. A post about the event reached 56,383 users on Facebook.



The Government of Japan and UNICEF hand over a walk-in cold storage system for vaccines to the Province of Batangas on 4 July 2022. ©UNICEF Philippines/2022/Larry Monserate Piojo

In partnership with the Government of Australia, UNICEF Philippines is helping to strengthen the vaccine storage capacity in the country as part of the COVID-19 response of the Government of the Philippines. On 12 July, the Department of Health, Cordillera received a walk-in cold storage system from the partnership to support its efforts in protecting families in the region from COVID-19 and other vaccine-preventable diseases. The partnership will reach other geographically isolated communities, including Regions XIII (CARAGA), XI (Davao Region) and Bangsamoro Autonomous Region in Muslim Mindanao (BARMM).



The Government of Australia and UNICEF Philippines hand over a walk-in cold storage system for vaccines to the Department of Health-Cordillera on 12 July, 2022. ©UNICEF Philippines/2022/Larry Monserate Piojo

Risk Communication and Community Engagement (RCCE)

UNICEF and Relief International continue to support 20 partner municipalities and cities in Zamboanga del Norte, Zamboanga del Sur, and Zamboanga Sibugay. Ongoing RCCE activities promoting COVID-19 vaccination have reached 1.2 million people as of 15 July 2022 through various communication platforms, including radio and mobile loudspeakers. Through these activities, messages on COVID-19 home care practices, hygiene, and handwashing were also disseminated. The same messages were shared with communities through in-person activities such as group learning sessions and house visits, reaching a total of 31,260 vaccine-eligible individuals encouraging them to get vaccinated. Of these, 236 were pregnant and lactating women; 102 belong to indigenous communities, 50 were fisherfolks; and 518 were farmers.

Relief International trained a total of 3,672 community health workers on communicating COVID-19 vaccination and addressing vaccine hesitancy. Through advocacy dialogues, a total of 1,311 local officials have been engaged to help facilitate access to vaccination among eligible populations.

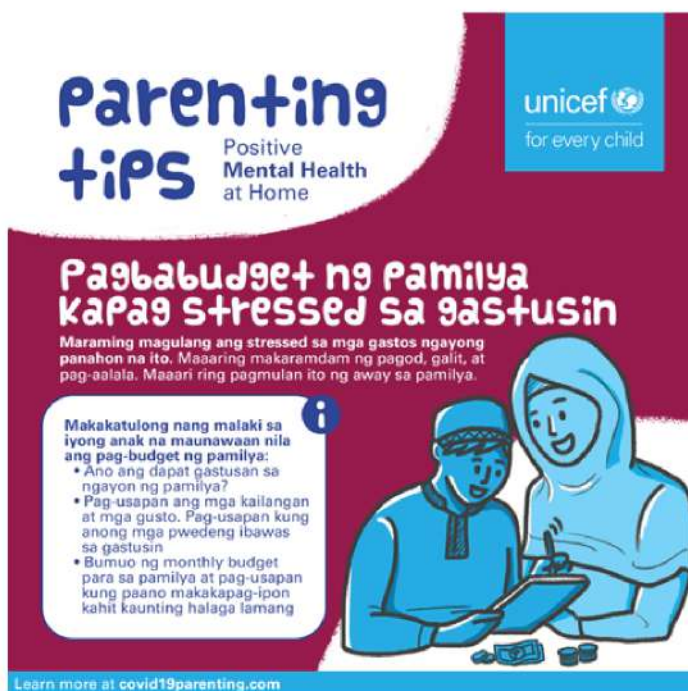
Relief International also continues to mobilize community-based organizations, influential local groups, and/or networks to maximize community support for COVID-19 vaccination. Among those who have been mobilized are nursing students from the Mindanao State University-Buug Campus, Sangguniang Kabataan Federation in the Municipality of Roseller T Lim, Zamboanga Sibugay, and Binibining Ipil in Zamboanga Sibugay.

On 9 July 2022, Relief International and UNICEF organized a fun run with the Catholic Youth Ministry of Labason Parish and the Department of Health to promote COVID-19 vaccination in the Municipality of Labason, Zamboanga del Norte.



Candidates vying for the Binibining Ipil local beauty pageant talk to a community member in the Municipality of Ipil, Zamboanga Sibugay regarding the importance of COVID-19 vaccination and following the preventive measures, including wearing of masks. Relief International trained a total of 12 pageant candidates on how to effectively communicate with communities on COVID-19 vaccination and prevention. ©Relief International/2022

As of 14 July 2022, UNICEF reached an estimated 128,000 users on Facebook with parenting tips on how to support children's mental health during the pandemic. This is in partnership with the Parenting for Lifelong Health, which provides open-source and evidence-based parenting resources for parents and caregivers during the pandemic and beyond. For more information or to access the resources, visit covid19parenting.com.



Updates from USAID

USAID released June 2022 results of COVID-19 News Monitoring and Social Listening Scan

USAID's Breakthrough-Action project shared some insights and recommendations based on the results of its COVID-19 news monitoring and social listening scan covering 1 - 30 June 2022. The report highlighted the complacency found among the general public to get booster shots. Analysis of the scanned news reports and social media posts reveals multiple factors contributing to the complacency of people to get boosters, including, relatively low severity and death rates of COVID-19 infection, booster vaccinations being viewed as optional, and low risk perception of getting infected with the new COVID-19 variants. The relaxed travel restrictions, greater freedom of mobility, and large events being organized in the "new normal" also contribute to people's current low risk perception of the pandemic, resulting in low uptake of booster shots. The report also notes the continuing challenge of vaccinating the elderly and people in hard-to-reach areas.



USAID's Meeting Targets and Maintaining Epidemic Control (EpiC) partners organize a Community of Practice on mental health to increase awareness of compassion fatigue among healthcare workers

More than 600 participants joined USAID's EpiC's Community of Practice webinar on mental health centering on compassion fatigue among health workers on July 15, 2022. Part of a monthly webinar series, this webinar on mental health was a collaborative learning activity of the Department of Health's Disease Prevention and Control Bureau and Health Emergency Management Bureau, the National Center for Mental Health (NCMH) Crisis Hotline and Center for Wellness, and USAID's EpiC COVID-19 Project led by FHI (Family Health International) 360. The webinar aimed to provide healthcare workers with the capabilities to identify indicators of compassion fatigue and strategies to overcome burnout and achieve a positive mental health state. Mental health professionals from EpiC-supported hospitals and NCMH shared their challenges, lessons learned, and best practices in setting healthy boundaries and establishing goals to break the compassion fatigue cycle.



Panelists and representatives from USAID, EpiC project, DOH, NCMH, and hospital partners joined together to highlight the importance of acknowledging and addressing compassion fatigue.

USAID's EpiC visits three hospitals in Luzon as part of its continuing technical assistance and field monitoring support

USAID's EpiC project met key hospital management and staff from three EpiC-supported hospitals in Luzon, namely Bataan General Hospital and Medical Center, Benguet General Hospital and Medical Center, and Pangasinan Provincial Hospital. During these hospital visits, EpiC discussed with each facility the technical assistance support that the project could provide, particularly on case triaging and management, oxygen ecosystem, and mental health of healthcare workers. EpiC also conducted a site visit to the hospital's oxygen source and storage, and validated the results of the rapid oxygen and COVID-19 response assessment conducted in February 2022.



USAID's EpiC project meets with the hospital management and staff of Bataan General Hospital and Medical Center. EpiC also handed over ventilator consumables and supplies to the hospital.