

11 JANUARY 2022, TUESDAY



DENR

NEWS ALERTS

STRATEGIC COMMUNICATION AND INITIATIVES SERVICE



Aurora coastal areas get boost

Published 6 hours ago on January 11, 2022 12:10 AM

By **TDI** @tribunephil



CITY OF SAN FERNANDO, Pampanga — The Department of Environment and Natural Resources (DENR) recently donated a motorized boat to the Philippine Army to help in the monitoring and protection of the coastal areas of the province of Aurora.

DENR Central Luzon executive director Paquito Moreno Jr. said the boat — worth P500,000 — was donated to the 91st Infantry Battalion (IB) to provide support to the environmental protection efforts in the region, particularly in the forestland areas of Aurora.

Aurora has long been considered as among the hotspot areas for illegal logging in Central Luzon.

“The turn-over of this vessel to our colleagues in the Army would augment our groundworks to fulfill the marching order of Environment Secretary Roy Cimatu of preventing the cutting of trees in our forests, protected areas and watersheds,” Moreno said.

He added that it would also help deter the movement of these illegal loggers from moving their contraband via the bodies of water in the province.

The DENR, along with the Philippine Army, Philippine National Police and other environment authorities, have apprehended forest products in Region 3. The number of these illegal products has significantly decreased from more than 218,000bdf in 2020 to only 79,300bdf in 2021.

“This figure is a strong manifestation that even with limited forest rangers patrolling and monitoring our forest areas, our sustained efforts and strong alliance with partner agencies will facilitate extensive guarding and defense of our environment and natural resources from any destructive activities,” Moreno said.



DENR donates boat for coastal patrol



MOTORIZED BOAT. Department of Environment and Natural Resources donates a motorized boat to the Army 91st Infantry Battalion to boost patrolling and monitoring efforts in the coastal and forestland areas of Aurora. (DENR)

IAN OCAMPO FLORA January 10, 2022

THE Department of Environment and Natural Resources (DENR) in the City of San Fernando recently donated a motorized boat to the 91st Infantry Battalion (IB) of the Philippine Army in an effort to boost patrolling and monitoring efforts in the coastal and forestland areas of Aurora.

Paquito Moreno, Jr., executive director of the DENR in Central Luzon, said the P500,000 worth vessel would be supplemental in the heightened environmental protection efforts in the region, particularly in the forestland areas of Aurora, which has been considered as among the hotspot areas for illegal logging.

“The turnover of this vessel to our colleagues in the Army would augment our groundworks to fulfill the marching order of Environment Secretary Roy Cimatu of preventing the cutting of trees in our forests, protected areas and watersheds,” Moreno said, adding that this move would also avert unscrupulous groups from illegally transporting forest products by floating them down the river systems and other waterways.

He stressed that with the strong collaboration with the Army, Philippine National Police and other environment authorities, the number of apprehended forest products in Region 3 has significantly decreased from more than 218,000 bd. ft. in 2020 to only 79,300 bd. ft. in 2021.

“This figure is a strong manifestation that even with limited forest rangers patrolling and monitoring our forest areas, our sustained efforts and strong alliance with partner agencies will facilitate extensive guarding and defense of our environment and natural resources from any destructive activities,” Moreno ended.

For his part, 91st IB Commanding Officer Lt. Reandrew Rubio expressed his gratitude for this gesture of support they received from the DENR, noting that this would not only strengthen their environmental protection efforts, but would also aid their rescue and relief operations during calamities.

The turnover ceremony was witnessed by Cimatu during his visit in the DENR provincial office in Aurora.

Central Luzon has a total forestland area that is equivalent to 942,387 hectares. Of the seven provinces in the region, Aurora is second with highest forestland area of 191,946 hectares.

Source: <https://www.sunstar.com.ph/article/1917704/pampanga/local-news/denr-donates-boat-for-coastal-patrol>



POSIBILIDAD NG PAGKAKAROON NG WATER SHORTAGE NGAYONG TAONG 2022



January 10, 2022 @ 11:36 AM 18 hours ago

SA kabuuan ng typhoon season nitong taong 2021, labing-limang bagyo lamang ang pumasok sa Philippine Area of Responsibility na ang pinakahuli nga na si Super Typhoon Odette ay naminsala ng husto sa Visayas at Mindanao.

Kaya naman ang kabuntot ng konting pag-ulan ay mababang lebel ng tubig sa Angat Dam na siyang pinagkukunan ng tubig ng mga nasa Metro Manila at kalapit na mga lalawigan ng Bulacan, Cavite, at Rizal.

Isinasagawa ng National Water Resources Board (NWRB) ang unang pagbabasa nitong Enero 3, 2021, ang lebel ng tubig ay nasa 202.80 metro, pero pagkalipas ng dalawang araw lamang, sinukat muli ang antas ng tubig, base sa ulat ibinigay sa inyong lingkod, ang antas ng tubig noong Enero 5, 2021 (8:00AM) ay nasa 202.36 metro, bahagyang bumaba at malayo na sa 212 NHWL.

Babala ni Dr. Seville David, Jr. ng NWRB sa programang Health & Travel @ Serbisyo Publiko sa DWBL 1242 AM band, palagi pa rin nating isaisip ang pagtitipid at huwag mag-aksaya sa paggamit ng tubig., sapagkat, gaano man karami ang tubig, kapag hindi tayo marunong magtitipid, siguradong magkakaroon ng kakulangan sa tubig pagpasok ng summer season.

Sa ngayon, sapat ang tubig sa Angat Dam para sa lahat ng pangangailangan, maging sa mga irigasyon. Ngunit, bago pumasok ang buwan ng tag-init, marapat lang na ang bawat isa, ay makapag – isip nang mabuting paraan kung papaano limitahan ang paggamit ng tubig. Kailangang maintindihan at paka – dibdibin ang kataga ng pagtitipid.”

Naibalita namin noong Enero 7, na mismong si Senator Grace Poe, chairperson ng Senate Committee on Public Services, ay nababahala sa posibilidad ng pagkakaroon ng water shortage ngayong taong 2022.

Araw-araw tumataas ang bilang ng mga tinatamaan ng COVID-19 na dulot ng Omicron at Delta variants.

Mabilis ang hawaan lalo pa’t isa sa mga minimum safety and health protocol na ipinatutupad ng bansa ay ang madalas na paghuhugas ng kamay gamit ang tubig at sabon.

Nasa 26,458 ang nadagdag na panibagong bilang ng mga tinamaan ng COVID-19 nitong Enero 8, 2022. Nasa 56,561 ang aktibong kaso kaya paalala ng inyong Agarang Serbisyo Lady, laging maghugas ng kamay tuwing may nahahawakan kayong mga package galing sa ibang tao o ballpen at papel dahil hindi natin alam kung sila ay asymptomatic.

Source: <https://www.remate.ph/posibilidad-ng-pagkakaroon-ng-water-shortage-ngayong-taong-2022/>



Meralco greening project

The Philippine Star January 11, 2022 | 12:00am



The climate change mitigation project includes intensive planting of trees, installation of energy-saving higher efficiency LED street lights, electrification of Meralco's vehicle fleet across its sector offices and business centers, and providing green transport options for its institutional customers and riding public through its subsidiary eSakay.

STAR / File

MANILA, Philippines — The Green EDSA Movement (GEM), together with its undersigned supporting convenor-organizations, hails the One Meralco Foundation, the corporate social responsibility arm of Manila Electric Co. (Meralco), for answering the call of the Green EDSA Movement to transform EDSA into a people-friendly green thoroughfare to create a better environment.

The climate change mitigation project includes intensive planting of trees, installation of energy-saving higher efficiency LED street lights, electrification of Meralco's vehicle fleet across its sector offices and business centers, and providing green transport options for its institutional customers and riding public through its subsidiary eSakay.

The Meralco greening project will help realize the vision of Manileños for an iconic tree-lined EDSA, aligned with the green initiatives of progressively managed cities abroad: a calmer, shaded landscaped sidewalks conducive for pedestrians to walk and even bike. This greener EDSA will foster active people mobility, develop a vibrant and dynamic streetside atmosphere conducive for commerce, recreational activities, and social interaction amidst a gentler, greener, and cleaner social milieu.

Meralco's shift to electric vehicles will support and promote the country's transition to non-polluting green vehicles. Trees and vegetation along the 24-kilometer-long EDSA will not only soften the cityscape, it will also absorb harmful carbon dioxide from vehicle exhaust emissions and reduce greenhouse gasses to mitigate the effects of climate change while creating a healthier atmosphere for the people, especially in time of pandemics.

The greening project is consistent with GEM's manifesto that is supported by the largest business, civic and green groups in our country, as well as bolster Meralco's sustainability agenda anchored on promoting the well-being of communities, creating better lives for stakeholders, and powering the good life for all, particularly in the face of the continuing threat of pandemics. Meralco has taken the initiative to start the greening of one of our major thoroughfares, and hopes that all environment-conscious business organizations can do the same.

Source: <https://www.philstar.com/business/2022/01/11/2153033/meralco-greening-project>



Philippines urges Indonesia to lift coal export ban

By **Reuters** - January 10, 2022 - 5:07 PM



Coal barges are pictured as they queue to be pulled along Mahakam river in Samarinda, East Kalimantan province, Indonesia, August 31, 2019. Picture taken August 31, 2019. (Reuters/Willy Kurniawan/File Photo)

- Indonesia bans coal exports to ensure enough domestic supply
- Japan, South Korea have also asked Indonesia to lift ban
- Philippines depends on Indonesia for most of its coal imports

MANILA — The Philippines' energy secretary Alfonso Cusi has appealed to Indonesia to lift its coal export ban, saying the policy will be detrimental to economies heavily reliant on the fuel for power generation, Manila's Department of Energy said on Monday.

Indonesia, the world's biggest thermal coal exporter suspended exports on Jan. 1 after its state power utility reported dangerously low inventory levels of the fuel at its domestic power stations. The Philippines' move follows similar requests from other Asian governments such as Japan and South Korea.

Cusi made the appeal in a letter sent via the Department of Foreign Affairs to Indonesia's Minister of Energy & Mineral Resources, Arifin Tasrif, the energy department said in a news release, without specifying when the letter was sent.

Cusi had asked the foreign affairs department to intercede and appeal on behalf of the Philippines through the Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN) cooperation mechanism.

The ban drove coal prices in China and Australia higher last week, while scores of vessels slated to carry coal to major buyers such as Japan, China, South Korea and India have been in limbo off Kalimantan, home to Indonesia's main coal ports.

The Philippines, which is still heavily dependent on coal for power generation, buys most of its requirements from Indonesia, and some, more expensive, supplies from Australia and Vietnam. Nearly 70% of the 42.5 million tons of Philippine coal supply in 2020 was imported, according to government data.

Power generated by coal comprises about 60% of the country's power mix, and in 2021 the country sourced 2.3 million tone's per month from Indonesia to fuel its power plants, the energy department said.

Senator Win Gatchalian, who heads the Senate energy committee, has called on the energy department to prepare contingency measures because of the export ban, including looking for other potential suppliers.

—Reporting by **Enrico Dela Cruz** Editing by **Ed Davies**

Source: <https://interaksyon.philstar.com/politics-issues/2022/01/10/208276/philippines-urges-indonesia-to-lift-coal-export-ban/>

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NEWS ALERTS

COVID-19 NEWS

STRATEGIC COMMUNICATION AND INITIATIVES SERVICE



PH breaks record anew with 33,169 COVID-19 cases today

By [CNN Philippines Staff](#)

Published Jan 10, 2022 4:05:32 PM

Updated Jan 10, 2022 9:24:00 PM



Metro Manila (CNN Philippines, January 10) — The country's total COVID-19 case count surged to nearly three million on Monday after the government reported a record high spike for the third consecutive day with 33,169 more infected.

It is the first time since the pandemic struck that new cases hit at least 30,000, beating Sunday's 28,707.

This did not yet include data from 10 testing laboratories, according to the Department of Health. It said these laboratories contributed an average of 6.2% of all samples tested and 6.3% of all positive results over the last two weeks.

Of the added cases, the DOH noted 99% or 32,972 were detected within the last 14 days. The top three contributing regions are Metro Manila with 18,535; Calabarzon with 7,443; and Central Luzon with 3,403.

The latest bulletin showed the overall tally has jumped to 2,998,530, with 157,526 or 5.3% active cases. Of the currently sick, 147,912 experience mild symptoms; 4,994 have no symptoms; 2,858 are moderate cases; 1,461 are severe; and 301 are critical.

The DOH also listed a positivity rate of 46%, a new all-time high for the sixth day in a row. This is based on 73,234 tests reported on Jan. 8.

This positivity rate, which is the percentage of infected people out of all tested, is way above the World Health Organization's benchmark of below 5%. It suggests insufficient testing and that there are likely more infected individuals who have gone undetected.

Meanwhile, the death toll rose to 52,293 after 145 more patients succumbed to COVID-19.

None of these newly reported fatalities occurred this month. The department said all were from the Davao Region and were encoded late, including three deaths that transpired in November; 18 in October; 52 in September; and 72 others in preceding months that go as far back as January 2021.

Another 3,725 recoveries, on the other hand, pushed the total to 2,788,711.



After final validation, the DOH reclassified as deaths 124 cases it previously tagged as survivors. It also removed 86 duplicate entries from its data, including 73 recoveries and two fatalities.

Command center feels rising numbers

According to Health Undersecretary Leopoldo Vega, the government's One Hospital Command Center has been receiving more calls in recent days, compared to September during the peak of the Delta surge.

From around 550 to 600 calls a day during the previous wave of infections, Vega said the number of calls has climbed to over 800.

“Talagang tumaas na [It really rose], much more than the peak of last year. Umaabot na kami kahapon ng [Yesterday, we're reaching] 825 calls a day,” he told CNN Philippines' News.PH.

But he noted that the majority, or 57%, of calls were made by people looking for isolation facilities, which means they don't have severe or critical infection. Meanwhile, he said only 22% were trying to find hospitals — down from around 60% during the Delta wave.

“Ang napansin namin medyo tumaas ‘yung calls, tumaas ‘yung bilang, pero ‘yung number of severe and critical cases ay nasa low-risk position pa,” he said.”

[Translation: What we noticed was that the number of calls rose, but the number of severe and critical cases were still in the low-risk position.]



HEADLINE

No alert level shift seen soon

Published 6 hours ago on January 11, 2022 12:07 AM

By [MJ Blancaflor](#) @tribunephil_MJB



Metro Manila won't escalate to Alert Level 4 just yet, but the government won't hesitate to do so if the region's health care utilization rate hits the 70-percent mark, according to Malacañang.

The capital region has yet to meet the prerequisites of the second strictest alert level despite the recent surge in coronavirus infections, said Cabinet Secretary Karlo Nograles.

"We are actively monitoring all of the metrics and parameters that we should look into," he said in an interview with ANC. "We will not hesitate to put Metro Manila under Alert Level 4 if we see that it breaches the [health care] threshold," Nograles added.

All of the 17 mayors in the National Capital Region also agreed to maintain the current restrictions in the metropolis, said Metropolitan Manila Development Authority (MMDA) chairman Benhur Abalos.

He noted that there was a consensus among local executives that most of the Covid-19 patients are only experiencing mild or manageable symptoms, which do not warrant Alert Level 4 escalation.

"We should determine the patients who are asymptomatic and can be treated at home because if all of them will go to the hospital, then the numbers will really increase," Abalos said.

Even some doctors believe that the current restrictions are enough to manage the unprecedented growth of Covid-19 cases in recent days. For one, the Philippine College of Physicians (PCP) is not keen on recommending Alert Level 4 in the capital region.

"It appears that we are in the right direction, so we will not actually say or recommend alert level escalation," said PCP president Dr. Maricar Limpin.

"We observed that mobility has decreased," she added. "Perhaps the public has become afraid to go out because of the increasing number of cases."

Infectious disease specialist Dr. Rontgene Solante of the San Lazaro Hospital also said medical facilities in the capital can still manage the increasing number of hospital admissions due to Covid-19, but he stressed the need to monitor the movement of individuals who manifest virus symptoms.

"At this point in time, we can still [manage] it, but we need to educate those with less severe conditions to stay at home and not compromise others," he told CNN Philippines in an interview.



Presidential adviser for entrepreneurship Joey Concepcion echoed the sentiment, saying Alert Level 3 will suffice in the meantime and that business will suffer if stricter restrictions are implemented.

“Businesses are already slow,” he said. “As you raise it to alert level 4, then, of course, it gets tougher — business capacities will go down tremendously.”

At present or under Alert Level 3, companies in the metro are allowed to accommodate up to 30 percent capacity for indoor venues and 50 percent for outdoor venues.

These will be decreased to just 10 percent capacity for indoor venues and 30 percent capacity for outdoor venues under Alert Level 4, a disadvantageous situation for businesses in the capital region, which accounts for nearly 30 percent of the country’s gross domestic product.

‘Moderate’ risk

Health care rates in Metro Manila remain at “moderate risk” despite thousands of new infections reported daily.

Based on government data, 51 percent of 1,126 intensive care units and 26 percent of 1,015 mechanical ventilators in the region have been occupied as of Saturday.

About 64 percent of 4,550 ward beds and 50 percent of 4,671 isolation beds allocated for Covid-19 patients have also been used in the metro, according to the health department.

The said figures were higher than the 20-percent health care utilization rates logged in December last year but still lower than the 80-percent record at the peak of Covid-19 surge last September which was blamed for the highly contagious Delta variant.

The increase in hospital admissions came as Metro Manila saw a dramatic increase in infections last week, tallying 59,276 new cases from 2 to 8 January.

The good news, according to presidential adviser for Covid-19 response Vince Dizon, is most of the Covid-stricken residents in the metro are only experiencing mild symptoms and do not need hospitalization. He attributed this to the region’s high vaccination rates.

Some 9.58 million residents of Metro Manila’s 13 million population have been fully vaccinated against coronavirus. Of these, 1.01 million individuals have received booster shots.

“Vaccines are saving us, so as we can see, even if there are many cases, our hospitals and ICU are still not full,” Dizon said. “This is proof that vaccines work.”

Still, Nograles said that hospitals and temporary treatment and monitoring facilities nationwide should increase their bed capacities to accommodate the increasing number of coronavirus patients.

Local government units should also activate their triage system to prioritize those vulnerable such as the elderly and persons with comorbidities for hospitalization, he added.

“We call on all local government units to increase their telemedicine and telehealth capacity,” Nograles said.

WITH ALVIN MURCIA

Source: https://tribune.net.ph/index.php/2022/01/11/no-alert-level-shift-seen-soon/?utm_source=rss&utm_medium=rss&utm_campaign=no-alert-level-shift-seen-soon



Duque says omicron now the dominant COVID-19 variant in PH

ABS-CBN News

Posted at Jan 11 2022 12:40 AM | Updated as of Jan 11 2022 02:05 AM



Residents receive their COVID-19 vaccine at the BASECO Community health center in Port Area, Manila on January 10, 2022. *Jonathan Cellona, ABS-CBN News*

MANILA—Health Sec. Francisco Duque III said the COVID-19 omicron variant is now the dominant variant in the Philippines, based on the latest whole genome sequencing run.

In the latest whole genome sequencing done January 3, 29 out of the 48 samples tested were of the omicron variant, while 18 samples were of the delta variant.

"So siya na po 'yung nagdodominante na variant, whereas before it was the delta. So 60 percent of all the sequence ran, omicron na po," Duque said.

Region	Delta (B.1.617.2)	% of detected Delta to samples sequenced	Omicron (B.1.1.529)	% of detected Omicron to samples sequenced	None	Total	% to Total Samples Sequenced
NCR	10	34.48%	19	65.52%	0	29	60.42%
ROF	8	42.11%	10	52.63%	1	19	39.58%
Total	18	37.50%	29	60.42%	1	48	100.00%

- 60.42% (29) was positive from the Omicron variant (B.1.1.529; first detected in South Africa and Botswana)
- 37.50% (18) were positive from Delta variant (B.1.617.2; first detected in India)

(This is already the dominant variant, whereas before it was the delta. Sixty percent of all the sequence ran showed the omicron variant.)

Duque also said that the average daily reported cases went up by 690 percent from January 4 to 10, with an average daily increase of 20,481 cases. It was relatively lower compared to the 726 percent increase recorded from December 28 to January 3.

This also meant that the whole Philippines is at critical risk classification for COVID-19.

Besides the National Capital Region, Regions 4A and Region 3 were critical risk, while Cordillera Administrative Region, Regions 2, 1, 6, 5, 7, 4B and 11 were high risk.

Duque added there was an increase in the hospital, intensive care unit and mechanical ventilation utilization rates nationwide.



Forty percent of hospital beds nationwide are being used for COVID-19 cases, while 38 percent of intensive care units are occupied. Seventeen percent of mechanical ventilation are also being used.

"Karamihan ng mga rehiyon ay nagkaroon ng kani-kaniyang pagtaas ng tatlong panukatan, kaya naman aming pinapaalalahanan ang mga ospital na bigyang prayoridad ang pagtanggap ng ating mga moderate, severe at critical cases at makipag-ugnayan sa ating One Hospital Command Center upang mai-refer ang mga mild at asymptomatic na pasyente sa mga temporary treatment and monitoring facilities (TTMF) at kung papasa sa requirements, ay maaring sa kani-kaniyang mga bahay na po mag-isolate," Duque said, adding that this can help decongest hospitals.

(Most of the regions saw an increase in these three categories, and that's why we are reminding hospitals to prioritize moderate, severe and critical cases, and coordinate with the One Hospital Command Center for the mild and asymptomatic patients so they can be referred to temporary treatment and monitoring facilities (TTMF) and if they pass the requirements, they might even be allowed to self-isolate at home.)

HIGHER NEW CASES, BUT WITH LESS SEVERE AND CRITICAL CASES

Duque said that compared to previous surges, there were less severe and critical cases despite the surge in new cases.

Of the 8,569 total hospital admissions as of January 9, 636 or 7 percent were severe, while 271 or 3 percent were critical cases.

Duque said this showed that vaccination was effective in preventing severe and critical illness due to COVID-19.

"Ang sinasalamin po nito ay ang pagiging epektibo ng ating pagbabakuna at pagsunod sa minimum public health standards," he said.

(This shows that vaccines and following minimum public health standards are effective.)

Duque said the Philippines so far has had four surges, excluding the current one.

"We actually already have four surges, ito 'yung March-April, July-August, March-April, August-September," he said.

The Philippines on Monday logged 33,169 new COVID-19 cases, the 3rd straight day it reported a record-high daily tally, data from the health department showed.

The health agency announced 26,458 and 28,707 new infections on Saturday and Sunday, respectively.

The Philippines' total case count has climbed to 2,998,530 cases, of which 157,526 or 5.3 percent were active infections, based on DOH data.

This the highest number of active cases since Sep. 24, 2021 when 173,408 were announced, according to the ABS-CBN Investigative and Research Group.

The current active cases are broken down as follows: 301 critical, 1,461 severe, 2,858 moderate, 147,912 mild, and 4,994 asymptomatic.

COVID-related deaths increased by 145 to 52,293. All of the new deaths were from Davao region, according to the DOH.

Source: <https://news.abs-cbn.com/news/01/11/22/duque-omicron-now-dominant-variant-in-philippines>



Face shields in QC required only in medical facilities

By Marita Moaje **January 10, 2022, 8:59 pm**



(PNA file photo)

MANILA – The use of face shields in Quezon City is mandatory only inside hospitals and quarantine facilities, the city government clarified on Monday as it thrashed yet another fake news.

In a phone interview on Monday, Mayor Joy Belmonte denied the false information that has been circulating on social media.

“I would like to make it clear that as far as the city ordinance, the IATF (Inter-Agency Task Force) protocols, it’s inside hospitals only and quarantine facilities and any high-risk places,” Belmonte said as she urged the public not to fall prey to fake news.

QC’s Ordinance No. 3079 states that the use of face shields is not mandatory in public places and will only be required under Alert Level 5.

“Under Alert Level 5, all persons shall, at all times, wear face shield on top of a face mask while onboard public transportation, inside markets, or in indoor and enclosed spaces of identified commercial establishments and workplaces in Quezon City, regardless of the length of time in such public transportation, markets, or indoor and enclosed spaces of identified commercial establishments and workplaces, purpose for being there, or proximity to another person,” the ordinance read.

Also on Monday, the mayor dispatched a team to a mall in Cubao District and a supermarket in Barangay Kamuning following complaints that clients were refused entry because they were not wearing face shields.

“*Kung meron silang sariling patakaran na ipinasa ng kanilang private management, sana ay ipaskil nila ang board resolution na ‘yan sa pinaka-visible part ng kanilang premises para ang taong bayan ay makita na ito ay patakaran ng* (If the private management passed a resolution, they should post it in the most visible area of their premises so that people will know that this is the rule of the) mall,” Belmonte said.

Otherwise, the private establishment may be penalized, she added.

Unless there is a resolution requiring face shields, the public can report such incidents to the city hotline 122.

As of Sunday, the city has 20,402 Covid-19 active cases. **(PNA)**

Source: <https://www.pna.gov.ph/articles/1165018>



Health spending must seek to achieve long-term resilience

Published January 11, 2022, 3:12 AM

by [Manila Bulletin](#)



E CARTOON JAN 11, 2022

Health spending has become a vital concern as the coronavirus pandemic rages on, nearly two years after the initial outbreak.

Last week, findings from the 2022 Global Medical Trends Survey showed that employer-sponsored healthcare benefit cost trends are expected to increase by 14.4 percent on average in the Philippines this year. The projected average cost growth is nearly double the global median of 8.1 percent and Asia Pacific's (APAC) 7.6 percent. The cost of healthcare insurance in the Philippines is projected to further increase this year, surpassing the global average, due to "considerable volatility" caused by the prolonged pandemic, according to a survey of medical insurers.

These findings provide a microcosm of the bigger picture of national spending on health care. In the last quarter of 2021, the Philippine Statistics Authority (PSA) reported that the country's total health spending in 2020 was 12.6 percent higher than in 2019. This is understandable considering that the coronavirus pandemic triggered a massive national health emergency from March to December 2020. Expectedly, health spending also increased significantly in 2021 during which the pandemic continued to exact a heavy toll. A look at the Department of Health's budget for 2022 provides useful indicators on how the government is steering the course of health spending. Aside from addressing COVID-19, the DOH is focusing on full implementation of the Universal Health Care (UHC) Act, building health system resilience, and assistance to local government units (LGUs) for the full devolution of health care. Starting this year, LGUs are getting a larger share of tax revenues collected by the government — and expectedly, the improvement of health care services at the provincial, municipality and barangay levels will receive greater attention.

Although not explicitly discussed in the DOH assessment, it is important to point out that the Philippine Health Insurance Corporation (PhilHealth) is expected to improve its ability to provide meaningful health insurance to the citizenry as part of its mandate under the Universal Health Care Act. Continuing concerns on its ability to reimburse private hospitals must be addressed decisively. As the year began, a few private hospitals signaled their intention to declare a "PhilHealth holiday" but shelved this plan on account of a renewed COVID-19 upsurge.



As the public sector focuses on preventive care, primary care and health literacy, the private sector is geared toward providing specialized services that require significant investments in technology and advanced tertiary care. This opens the possibility for public-private partnerships between national and local government entities on one hand, and private enterprises on the other. The National Kidney and Transplant Institute has partnered with Fresenius Medical Care for the modernization of its hemodialysis unit that is ISO-certified and capable of doing 2,400 dialysis procedures per month. The Asian Development Bank has presented this partnership as a model for replication.

In envisioning post-pandemic scenarios, strengthening the country's healthcare system definitely ranks as a high priority. Health spending should be channeled toward building health system resilience.



KASO, PATAY SA COVID, LUMULUNDAG PATAAS



January 10, 2022 @ 11:40 AM 18 hours ago

SINO ang may sabi na pagdating ng Omicron variant sa bansa, maaaring simula na rin ng pagtigil ng pananalasa ng COVID-19?

Kapag manalasa na umano kasi ang Omicron variant at dadapan ang marami sa atin nang higit sa pagdapo ng Delta variant at orig na COVID virus, bakunado man tayo o hindi, magkakaroon na umano tayo ng immunity o resistansya ng katawan na hindi kayang igupo ng COVID.

Kapag naligtasan natin ang Omicron variant, nakatanim na umano ang panlaban natin sa COVID, anoman ang variant ng mga ito, kaya dapat umano tayong umasa na malapit nang darating ang katapusan ng pandemya.

Kaya i-welcome at pasalamat natin ang Omicron variant na umano'y hindi kasimbagsik sa buhay ng orig at ibang mga variant ng COVID?

POR DIOS POR SANTO

Heto ngayon ang nagaganap, mga Bro.

Sinasabing lumalaganap na ang Omicron variant bagama't wala pang 50 ang nakumpirmang kaso.

Isang malaking palatandaan ang sobrang bilis na pagdami ng mga nagkaka-COVID na siyang palatandaan ng Omicron variant.

Pero heto ang higit na nakatatakot.

Habang dumarami ang mga kaso, dumarami rin ang patay.

Halimbawa, noong Enero 5, 2021, may 10,626 kaso at 58 patay; Enero 6 – 17,172 kaso at 81 patay; Enero 7 – 21,747 kaso at 128 patay; at Enero 8 – 26,211 at 264 patay.

Tanong: Alin ang higit na pumapatay?

Delta variant ba, orig na virus ba, ibang variant ba o Omicron variant ba?

'DI BALE NA LANG

Kung patungo sa mas maraming kaso at patay ang pananalasa ng Omicron variant, anak ng tokwa, 'di bale na lang.

Kahit pa hindi ang variant na 'to ang higit na pumapatay dahil mild lang daw ito at bibihira ang patungo sa ospital at kritikal na makapitan nito.

Wala tayong dapat ipagpasalamat sa variant na ito.



Isa pa, paano ang pananalasa ng Omicron variant sa lahat ng miyembro ng pamilya, mula senior citizen hanggang sa mga baby?

Matitigil lahat, lalo na ang paghahanapbuhay dahil kailangang magkwarentina sa bahay o sa quarantine facility ang may tama.

At kasunod na rito ang gutom at malaking gastos sa pagpapagamot.

May mga nagsara na nga ring mga establisimyento kaya lugi rin ang negosyo.

Pati mga eroplano, nagsimula nang magsitigil bumiyaha dahil pati ang kanilang mga piloto, sterwardess at iba pa ay nagkakasakit na.

May mga ospital na punuan na rin at ayaw nang tumanggap ng pasyente at nagkakasakit din ang mga doktor, nars at iba pa.

OMICRON HINDI BAKUNA

Pinakamagandang paniwalaan ang sinasabi ng World Health Organization na hindi bakuna ang Omicron variant dahil virus pa rin ito na nagdadala ng sakit.

Ang pangunahing remedyo dapat ay magpabakuna lahat ng pwedeng mabakunaan dahil kumpleto na tayo ng suplay ng bakuna para sa herd o community immunity.

At kambalan ang pagbabakuna ng pagsunod sa mga health protocol at pinaiiral na mga Alert Level na pangkontrol sa galaw ng tao.

Magsuot tayo ng mask, mag-social distancing, manatili sa bahay ang mga walang bakuna at iba pa.



#OneDENR

**Covid-19
Situation and Response**



DOH COVID-19 CASE BULLETIN # 667

ENERO 10, 2022

Para sa kumpletong detalye at impormasyon,
bisitahin lamang ang aming pampublikong site:
<https://ncovtracker.doh.gov.ph/>

PORSYENTO NG AKTIBONG KASO

5.3%

TOTAL NG AKTIBONG KASO
157,526

PORSYENTO NG GUMALING

93.0%

TOTAL NG GUMALING
2,788,711

PORSYENTO NG NAMATAY

1.74%

TOTAL NG NAMATAY
52,293

MGA BAGONG KASO **33,169**

MGA BAGONG GUMALING **3,725**

MGA BAGONG NAMATAY **145**

KABUANG BILANG NG KASO **2,998,530**

MGA NAGPOSITIBO HULING ENERO 8

DATOS NGAYONG ENERO 10
AYON SA REPORTS NOONG ENERO 8

46.0%

PORSYENTO NG MGA
NAGPOSITIBO

73,234

BILANG NG
TINEST

HALOS
97.1%
ANG MILD AT
ASYMPTOMATIC
NA KASO!

BAWAL
WALANG
FACE MASK

KABUANG PILIPINAS PUNO NA BA ANG ATING MGA OSPITAL?

NATIONAL CAPITAL REGION PUNO NA BA ANG ATING MGA OSPITAL?

KALAGAYAN NG MGA AKTIBONG KASO

ICU BEDS (3.4K TOTAL BEDS)	38% Utilized
ISOLATION BEDS (19.5K TOTAL BEDS)	41% Utilized
WARD BEDS (13.5K TOTAL BEDS)	41% Utilized
VENTILATORS (2.9K TOTAL VENTILATORS)	17% Utilized

ICU BEDS (1.1K TOTAL BEDS)	52% Utilized
ISOLATION BEDS (4.7K TOTAL BEDS)	54% Utilized
WARD BEDS (4.8K TOTAL BEDS)	67% Utilized
VENTILATORS (1.0K TOTAL VENTILATORS)	25% Utilized

4,994 Asymptomatic
147,912 Mild
2,858 Moderate
1,461 Severe
301 Critical

DOH HOSPITAL HOTLINES

For health concerns and emergencies, you may access here the DOH hospital hotlines across the country:

bit.ly/DOHHospitalHotlines

DOH ONE HOSPITAL COMMAND CENTER (OHCC) HOTLINES

• 1555 • 0915-777-7777
• 02-886-505-00 • 0919-977-3333

bit.ly/OHCCHotline

DOH TELEMEDICINE CONTACT DETAILS

bit.ly/DOHTelemedicine

SeeYouDoc
seeyoudoc.com
SeeYouDoc

KonsultaMD
konsulta.md
KonsultaMD

CloudPx
cloudpx.ph/

Telimed and Medgate
medgate.ph/shop/telimedplan/purchase

MedCheck
medcheck.com.ph/find-a-doctor/SeeYouDoc

TelAventusMD
TelAventusMD@aventusmedical.com.ph
TelAventusMD

HealthNow
healthnow.ph/
help@healthnow.ph
HealthNow



Manatiling ligtas!

I-download ang StaySafe App
o gamitin ang WEBAPP
at pumunta sa Staysafe.ph



Walang internet or load?
Report via SMS

2158-5779 (for Globe users)
225-655-779 (for other users)



May tanong ukol sa COVID-19?
I-chat na si KIRA!

VIBER: Kira Kontra COVID by DOH
MESSENGER: Department of Health PH
KONTRACOVDPH: kontracovid.ph

MAYROON PANG KATANUNGAN? SUMANGGUNI LAMANG SA SUMUSUNOD:

[OfficialDOHgov](https://www.facebook.com/OfficialDOHgov)

[@DOHgovph](https://twitter.com/DOHgovph)

[doh.gov.ph](https://www.doh.gov.ph)

[02\) 894-COVID / 1555](tel:02894COVID)

11 JANUARY 2022, TUESDAY



DENR

NEWS ALERTS

VLOGS

STRATEGIC COMMUNICATION AND INITIATIVES SERVICE



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