

Please see the Philippines Department of Health (DOH) Daily Case Bulletins and COVID-19 Tracker for further information.

# Summary of the epidemiological situation in Philippines<sup>2</sup>

#### **Key numbers** 28,629 34% 3,913 13.6% cases 167 deaths 225,689 tests ICU beds for ICU **Positivity Rate** (7-13 Feb (7-13 Feb 2022) (7-13 Feb 2022) COVID-19 cases (7-13 Feb 2022) occupancy 2022) Not available 1,288 39,392 29% 110,689 COVID-19 hospital Hospitals admitting Total hospital beds for COVID-19 TTMF HCW active COVID-19 patients COVID-19 patients beds occupied (13 Feb 2022) cases

#### **COVID-19** cases

As of 13 February, a total of 3,637,280 COVID-19 cases and 54,930 (1.5%) COVID-19 related deaths had been recorded since the beginning of the COVID-19 pandemic. In late December 2021, there was a sudden and sharp increase of cases, peaking in early January and currently on downward trend (Figure 1). There were 28,629 new cases (26 cases per 100,000 population<sup>3</sup>) reported in week 6 (7-13 February 2022), that is 55% lower than the previous week (31 January 2021 – 6 February 2022: 64,019 new cases, 58 cases per 100,000 population<sup>3</sup>). For week 6, NCR, Region VI: Western Visayas, and Region IV-A: CALABARZON recorded the highest case counts at 4,152, 3,479, and 2,886 respectively.

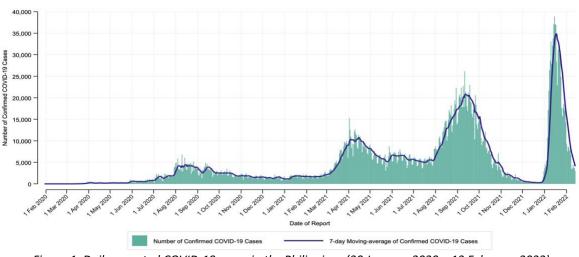


Figure 1. Daily reported COVID-19 cases in the Philippines (30 January 2020 – 13 February 2022)

Vaccinated

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> Percent of total eligible population (5 years and older)

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> Weekly case counts were obtained from FASSSTER COVID-19 PROJECT

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>3</sup> National population size used (n=110,278,979, Epidemiology Bureau of the Department of Health, 2022)



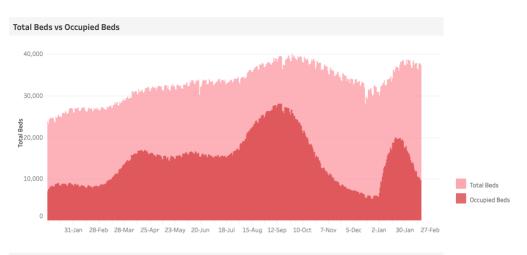


### Clinical characteristics of COVID-19 cases and healthcare utilization

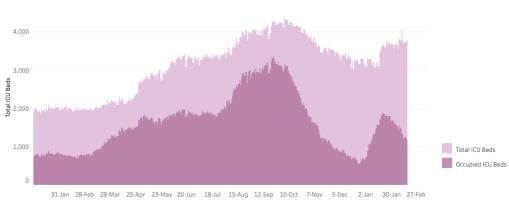
DOH recorded 81,394<sup>4</sup> active cases as of 13 February 2022, with the breakdown of active cases (based on the time case investigation form was completed) as follows:

- Asymptomatic: 4,546 (5.59%)
- Mild: 71,994 (88.45%)
   Moderate: 3,068 (3.77%)
- Severe: 1,460 (1.79%)
- Critical: 326 (0.40%)

Following the surge of COVID-19 cases in early January, COVID-19 hospital bed and ICU bed utilization in Philippines started to increase in January 2022 (Figure 2). However, a decreasing trend has been observed in both hospital beds and ICU occupancy for COVID-19 patients since 30 January. In week 6, the daily number (7-day average) of COVID-19 dedicated ICU beds occupied was 1,408, compared to 1,611 in the previous week. Utilization of COVID-19 dedicated mechanical ventilators (7-day average) also showed a declining trend (559 ventilators in week 6, compared to 681 ventilators in week 5).







*Figure 2. Total bed and ICU bed distribution over time stratified by occupancy (Philippines)* 

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>4</sup> Data as of 13 February 2022 can be found in <u>DOH Case Bulletin</u>.





# Transmission stage assessment

Based on epidemiological indicators (number of cases, weekly incidence, positivity and testing rate, ICU bed occupancy, mechanical ventilator occupancy) and event-based surveillance, the Philippines remains at Stage 2, localised community transmission. However, NCR, Region III, and Region IV-A are at Stage 3, large-scale community transmission.

### **COVID-19 deaths**

Since the beginning of the COVID-19 pandemic 54,930 COVID-19 deaths were reported in Philippines. The highest number of reported COVID-19 deaths occurred in September 2021 (Figure 3).

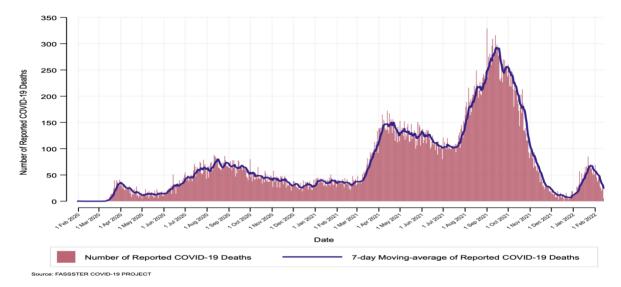


Figure 3. Daily number of COVID-19 deaths in the Philippines by date of death since 2020

# Laboratory: testing rates, positivity rates and genomic surveillance

The testing rate (number of tests per 1,000 population) has decreased in the Philippines to 1.9 tests per 1,000 population for week 6 (previously at 2.5 tests per 1,000 population). A lower 7-day positivity rate (number of individuals that tested positive/number of individuals tested) was reported for week 6 at 13.6% (28,960/213,419), compared to week 5 at 22.4% (59,073/263,148).

As of 7 February 2022, according to the press release of DOH<sup>5</sup>, Omicron is the predominant Variant of Concern (VOC). Over 90% of samples recently sequenced were confirmed as Omicron.

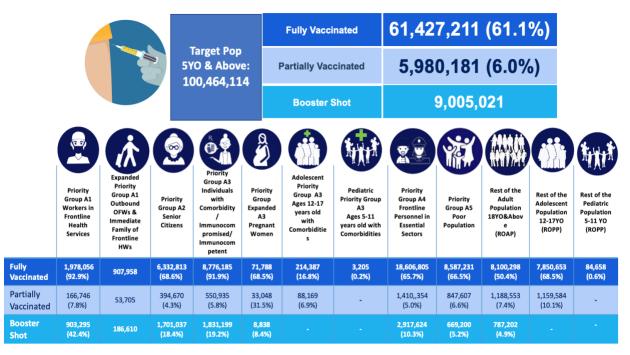
<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>5</sup> Link to DOH press release





#### Vaccination

As of 12 February 2022, 61% of the target population (5 years and older) were fully vaccinated. Vaccination of children aged 5-11 has started since 7 February. Among healthcare workers, who are at increased risk of exposure to SARS-CoV-2, the coverage is high 93%, with 42% 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 69%, 92%, and 67% (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 9 regions (Table 2).



\*as of 12 February 2022

Figure 4. Overview of COVID-19 vaccination status of Philippines' population as of 12 February 2022





Cumulative	Coverage	Rate %	(A2)

		Cumulative	overag	e Rate % (Az			
REGION	Projected Pop (Priority Group A2)	Fully Vaccinated	%	Partially Vaccinated	%	Booster Shot	%
2	342,018	291,435	85.2%	14,922	4.4%	69,656	20.4%
NCR	1,222,154	1,017,587	83.3%	31,022	2.5%	463,367	37.9%
CAR	143,040	117,378	82.1%	6,625	4.6%	39,107	27.3%
1	530,907	418,790	78.9%	28,835	5.4%	108,295	20.4%
4A	1,348,666	1,006,446	74.6%	68,035	5.0%	305,387	22.6%
3	1,126,636	798,020	70.8%	51,010	4.5%	276,332	24.5%
5	494,357	343,890	69.6%	20,027	4.1%	56,196	11.4%
6	778,402	524,982	67.4%	13,484	1.7%	96,053	12.3%
9	289,442	190,678	65.9%	12,379	4.3%	27,248	9.4%
CARAGA	219,338	144,294	65.8%	(500)	-0.2%	18,989	8.7%
10	406,917	262,587	64.5%	19,856	4.9%	45,333	11.1%
Mimaropa	249,124	154,456	62.0%	12,324	4.9%	28,348	11.4%
8	412,565	251,209	60.9%	22,673	5.5%	34,710	8.4%
11	431,064	246,835	57.3%	34,978	8.1%	46,951	10.9%
12	342,690	187,720	54.8%	15,345	4.5%	28,743	8.4%
7	716,936	315,710	44.0%	31,235	4.4%	50,506	7.0%
BARMM	180,050	60,796	33.8%	12,420	6.9%	5,816	3.2%
PHIL	9,234,308	6,332,813	68.6%	394,670	4.3%	1,701,037	18.4%

Table 1. Overview of vaccination of A2 population per region in Philippines (12 February 2022)

		Cumulative	Coverage	e Rate % (A5)	)		
REGION	Projected Priority Group A5	Fully Vaccinated	%	Partially Vaccinated	%	Booster Shot	%
NCR	663,588	2,077,327	313.0%	115,136	17.4%	331,311	49.9%
4A	955,143	1,179,273	123.5%	66,641	7.0%	122,352	12.8%
6	967,299	867,247	89.7%	(43,945)	-4.5%	55,909	5.8%
CAR	179,565	141,365	78.7%	9,183	5.1%	5,981	3.3%
2	315,918	219,254	69.4%	28,812	9.1%	5,746	1.8%
3	882,423	601,318	68.1%	73,041	8.3%	60,991	6.9%
1	618,150	392,554	63.5%	45,477	7.4%	11,340	1.8%
11	771,534	402,980	52.2%	48,219	6.2%	15,773	2.0%
7	854,691	419,237	49.1%	75,929	8.9%	11,084	1.3%
9	896,151	410,550	45.8%	55,247	6.2%	9,617	1.1%
5	1,111,587	416,998	37.5%	71,296	6.4%	8,261	0.7%
8	839,772	309,645	36.9%	59,344	7.1%	6,351	0.8%
10	798,837	290,320	36.3%	36,205	4.5%	6,662	0.8%
CARAGA	566,586	193,027	34.1%	38,250	6.8%	4,150	0.7%
Mimaropa	583,026	186,141	31.9%	24,707	4.2%	6,550	1.1%
12	743,511	220,859	29.7%	39,951	5.4%	1,976	0.3%
BARMM	1,163,412	259,136	22.3%	104,114	8.9%	5,146	0.4%
PHIL	12,911,193	8,587,231	66.5%	847,607	6.6%	669,200	5.2%

 Table 2. Overview of vaccination of A5 population per region in Philippines (12 February 2022)





# Strategic approach to COVID-19 Prevention, Detection and Control

#### **Risk Communication and Community Engagement**

WCO supported DOH Communications Management Unit (CMU) with co-branded messages on complying with minimum public health standards during the celebration of the Lunar New Year. The materials were published in English and Filipino.



WCO prepared a "Communication Guidance on Increasing COVID-19 Vaccination Uptake Among Senior Citizens" to be sent to Health Education and Promotion Officers (HEPOs) and Development Management Officers (DMOs) as a quick reference to scenario-based interventions.

ommunication Guidance on Increasing COVID-19 Vacc ext Updated 4 Feb 2022	ination Uptake Am	ong Senior Citizens
Nexture [This short guide arms to support NEPOs, social mobilizer intermeting content-specific interventions for increasing the CONID- inolity group A2), amid the wider milliout to other priority groups and regram Geal [To reach NMMs coverage among the Priority Group - Assess your local government unit's situation in vaccinati	19 vaccination uptake an the rest of the populatio A2s by June 2022.	nong senior citizens n
Plasess your local government unit's situation in vaccinate Determine the priority issues that need to be addressed. The issues risk communication and community engagement (RCCE) intervention	can be addressed by op	
<b>b</b>	Interventio	ns Needed
losues	Operational	RCCE
No identified daily target for the number of A2s to be vaccinated	×	
No microplan to reach the A2 daily target	1	
Vaccine supplies for fully vaccinating A2s are not enough. e.g., available daily vaccines are less than the daily target	×	
Low public awareness of the need to prioritize A2s		×
Access and service delivery issues: Difficulty in registration, limited mobility to vaccination sites, limited resources for vaccination teams and additional vaccination sites	~	×
Vaccine hesitancy: refusing or delaying vascination	×	×
Note that vaccine hesitancy is a broad term. The specific drivers of e.g., confidence – concerns on vaccine safety and efficacy and trust makers; complacency – low risk perception of disease; and convenies services.	in vaccine service provid	ers and decision-
Determine priority communication interventions.		
Based on your situation assessment, determine the priority commu A list of available resources is also provided. The table is not an exit locally developed solutions.		
Page 1 of 3		





WCO joined the DOH and Inter-Agency Task Force (IATF) at the ceremonial launch events that marked the expansion of COVID-19 vaccination campaign to include children aged 5 to 11 years. In a message of support delivered by Medical Officer for Immunization Dr Achyut Shrestha, Acting WHO Representative to the Philippines Dr Rajendra Yadav emphasizes the safety of COVID-19 vaccines for children and the importance of completing the primary doses of vulnerable people.



WCO published stories of vaccinated individuals from Eastern Samar and Iligan City in time for the National Vaccination Days Part 3 on February 10 to 11.



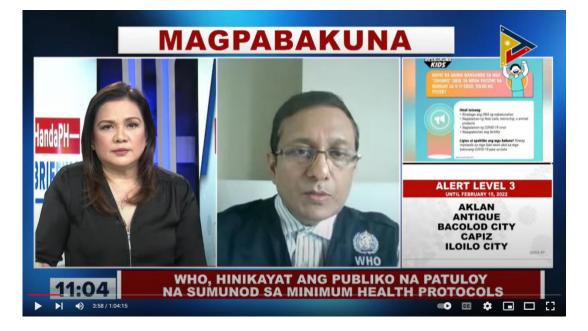




On 11 Feb 2022, CNN Philippines aired its interview with Dr Rajendra Yadav, Acting WHO Representative to the Philippines, about the COVID-19 situation in the country, updates on variants being monitored by WHO, and the potential impact of reopening the country to fully vaccinated foreign tourists. <u>Watch the video here</u>.



On 11 Feb 2022, Dr Yadav was interviewed on PTV Laging Handa PH about the vaccination coverage, the pandemic exit plan of the Philippines, and the measures to take to ensure preventing another COVID-19 surge. Watch the video here.







# **Operations Support Logistics**

WCO facilitated dispatch of 2,000 Rapid Antigen Test Kits bound for Cagayan Valley Center for Health Development.

# **Partner Coordination**

#### **Updates from USAID**

USAID's Meeting Targets and Maintaining Epidemic Control (EpiC) Project, in partnership with MOH BARMM and RGMeditron, installed two of the US-donated mechanical ventilators in Maguindanao Provincial Hospital. The installation was coupled with a virtual User's training for health staff and 20 breathing circuits for patients requiring mechanical ventilation. The two ventilators are part of the 100 US-donated equipment. These ventilators will strengthen the hospital capacity to manage critically ill COVID-19 patients and help save lives.



User's training for staff at the Maguindanao provincial hospital

USAID's Infectious Diseases Detection and Surveillance Project (IDDS) mobile swabbing initiative brings COVID-19 diagnostic services closer to communities of Rizal Province. In collaboration with the Rizal Provincial Epidemiology and Surveillance Unit of the Provincial Government of Rizal, the IDDS team provided on site swab collection to bring COVID-19 diagnostic services to the communities and vulnerable population when needed.



Mobile specimen collection at the patient's home





USAID's IDDS handed over Roche PCR extraction kits, equivalent to 8,700 tests, to Bulacan Medical Center to increase its testing capacity. In addition, IDDS provided specimen transport boxes to Bulacan Provincial Health Office and Rizal Provincial DOH Office in January 2022. These improved laboratory testing capacity and safe transport of specimens.



L-R: Michaella Sayo (BMC Biosafety Officer), Dr. Hjordis Marushka Celis (Provincial Health Officer II-Bulacan), and Jorina Lastima (IDDS Central Coordinator)

L-R: Jorina Lastima (IDDS Central Coordinator), Noemi de Jesus (Bulacan PHO Nurse), Chrysdahl Fajardo (Bulacan PHO Nurse)

L-R: Gerardo G. Mejorada (MD Development Management Officer-Rizal PDOHO), Ma. Concepcion Villamarin (IDDS Field Implementation Coordinator), and Desiree Mae Samson (Disease Surveillance Officer-Rizal PDOHO)

USAID's ReachHealth project in partnership with the Philippine Red Cross Cebu Chapter trained 74 contact tracers from Cebu City's Emergency Operations Center on risk communication and community engagement, and infection prevention and control. Participants learned effective crisis and empathic communications through lectures and demonstrations.



Chris Pinzon, 41, one of the 74 contact tracers who joined the training





Even before the surge of COVID-19 cases in Davao City, USAID's ReachHealth project led a Surge Planning Workshop for the city's 18 COVID-19 Cluster Clinic (CCC) Heads. The planning workshop generated contingency plans and strategies to manage surges, identified potential and existing implementation gaps, and reviewed the CCC referral system. The USAID-supported CCCs serve as a one-stop shop for COVID-19 services in the city, providing free and quality COVID-19 care for all.



Ms. Farah Mae Clamor, Davao City Epidemiologist and Data Management Head, giving the latest COVID-19 situation of the city.

USAID, through its ReachHealth project, donated a total of 118 medical oxygen tanks and 30 units of oxygen regulators to COVID-19 temporary treatment and monitoring facilities (TTMFs) in Cotabato City and JR Borja General Hospital in Cagayan de Oro City. The donated oxygen tanks and regulators will help combat the latest COVID-19 surge caused by the Omicron variant in Mindanao where oxygen supplies are scarce. In Cotabato City alone, there is only one hospital in the city accepting COVID-19 patients as other hospitals lack human resources and oxygen supplies and equipment to manage the cases.



USAID supported TTMFs and health facilities to preposition oxygen supplies to manage anticipated surge of new cases. Lourdes Fernandez (2nd from left to right), CHO Planning Officer IV, and Dr. Meyasser T. Patadon, City Health Officer, formally receiving the donated oxygen supplies.



Dr. Liova de Guia (2nd from right), Medical Specialist III and Core Team Leader for COVID-19 Response at JR Borja general Hospital, and Mr. Alexander Cabico (rightmost), Administrative Aide III of the hospital, receiving the USAID-donated oxygen tanks and regulators.





### **Updates from ECHO**

Action Against Hunger together with consortium partners CARE International, and Oxfam International with funding from the European Civil Protection and Humanitarian Aid Operations (ECHO) is assisting with vaccination roll-out in Mindanao particularly for the A2 and A3 priority groups through the project called Response to the Unmet Humanitarian Needs of the Most Vulnerable Populations in Mindanao affected by Disasters and the COVID-19 Pandemic (REACH). The project aims to increase coverage of COVID 19 vaccines for targeted hard-to-reach and remote conflict-affected communities. Key activities under this project includes facilitating access to COVID-19 vaccines as well as assisting local governments and health care authorities in implementing vaccination campaigns and demand generation in order to ensure that marginalized people in Mindanao's 19 municipalities better understand the benefits of vaccination. The project is implemented through the RHUs and LGUs in the nineteen (19) selected Municipalities in the region. Key activities and achievements are as follows:

Activity 1: Demand Generation for COVID 19 vaccines and COVID-related health services

- Amplify COVID-19 vaccine messaging to increase awareness and demand for vaccines among targeted priority groups
- Coordinated with the provincial health offices and the municipal RHUs to plan for and implement COVID-19 awareness campaigns for the A2 and A3 priority groups
- Supported printing and installing materials (e.g. tarpaulins) showing facts and fallacies about COVID-19 and information on common concerns and fears around vaccination
- Supported announcements and radio programs on COVID-19, barangay house to house visits and provision of communication allowance, snacks and meals for health workers
- Provided logistical support to the weekly mobile public address or "bandillo" in the targeted municipalities
- Mobilized community volunteers to conduct community dialogue and orientation on Covid-19 vaccines and worked with religious and traditional leaders in promoting vaccination and address concerns about the vaccine

Activity 2: Reinforce capacities of local government and health units to administer COVID-19 vaccines to target communities

- Helped deliver vaccines in target areas through providing fuel vouchers for vehicles used. Vaccines are transported daily to the RHU/vaccination sites since LGUs lack the capacity to store the vaccines with standard temperature
- Deployed and provided logistical support to mobile health teams to administer vaccines to target communities (engaged trained health workers to augment RHUs vaccination team)
- Helped in setting up new vaccination sites that are accessible to communities especially in GIDA barangays in addition to fix points at the RHUs and municipal gymnasium
- Supported with transport to vaccinees going to vaccination sites, especially in hard-to-reach barangays
- Provided basic PPEs, supplies and materials for the RHUs vaccination teams such as BP apparatus, thermal scanner, pulse oximeter, facemasks, gloves, alcohol/disinfectant, cotton balls and medical plastic strips

Activity 3: Improve targeting and reporting (Work with Rural Health Units (RHUs) and health workers to validate the master list of A2-A3)

- Provided transport to community volunteers deployed by the RHUs to collect baseline data at the barangay level, and to come up with a master list of A2 and A3
- Deployed at least two (2) Encoders per municipality to support improve the reporting of daily vaccination outputs and provided support for prepaid internet load allowance

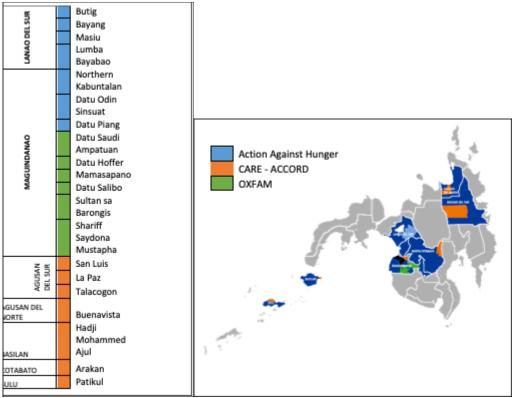


World Health Philippines Organization Coronavirus Disease 2019 (COVID-19) Situation Report #95

Representative Office 14 February 2022

for the Philippines Data reported by the Department of Health on 13 February 2022





Project target municipalities

# **Updates from ICRC**

# Support to Philippine Red Cross (PRC)

ICRC continued financial and technical support to PRC on its vaccination efforts in close collaboration with health authorities at local government unit (LGU), regional and national levels. From August to December 2021, the following have been accomplished through ICRC support to the PRC:

Total No. of Doses Administered	Total No. of Fully Vaccinated Persons	Total No. of Booster Doses Administered	Total No. of Vaccinators Deployed	Total No. of Support Volunteers Deployed
183,766	24,282	642	76	346

Fixed-site Bakuna Centers attached to PRC chapters offer vaccination to children and adults. Information dissemination and counselling are provided to clients here.

	Total No. of Doses Administered	Total No. of Fully Vaccinated Persons	Total No. of Booster Doses Administered	Total No. of Vaccinators Deployed	Total No. of Support Volunteers Deployed
Bakuna Centers	71,536	24,282	642	31	225





Bakuna Teams are deployed to augment vaccination efforts of the LGU. Reported doses are for those vaccinated directly by the PRC Bakuna Team, along with the total no. of clients assisted in these mobile vaccination sites.

	Total No. of Doses Administered	Total No. of Clients Assisted	Total No. of Vaccinators Deployed	Total No. of Support Volunteers Deployed
Bakuna Teams	112,230	319,469	45	121

Bakuna Centers (fixed site)
ılligan City Zamboanga City Davao City



PRC Bakuna Center in Zamboanga City has administered more than 25,000 doses of vaccine.



PRC staff and volunteers support LGU vaccination efforts in Butuan City (left) and Lanao del Sur (right).





#### **Support to Health Authorities**

ICRC provided quarterly medical assistance to 10 hospitals in Mindanao, including medical equipment, PPEs, drugs and medical supplies. In 2021, there were 21 hospitals directly supported with 14500 sets of PPEs, 1200 L of disinfectants and other basic medical supplies and hygiene materials.



PPEs and medical supplies provided to Adela Serra Ty Memorial Medical Center in Tandag City, 03 Feb 2022.

#### **Vaccination in Places of Detention**

ICRC engaged with follow-up and continuing advocacy and support of detention with health authorities to ensure vaccination for persons deprived of liberty (PDLs) in jails and prisons. 120, 293 PDLs fully vaccinated (96%) in different jails at municipal, district, city and provincial levels under the care of Bureau of Jail Management and Penology (BJMP). 22, 095 inmates (77%) in New Bilibid Prison (NBP) under Bureau of Corrections (BuCor) have been fully vaccinated. More than 20,000 others have received at least one dose of the vaccine, out of 48,500 PDLs in BuCor prisons and penal colonies. ICRC continued to monitor COVID-19 cases and access to vaccination among PDLs within its regular visits to places of detention (PODs) to support authorities in improving living conditions of inmates and prevent adverse consequences to health.