

Situational Overview

The Philippines' coronavirus cases climbed to **44,254** as of July 5, 2020 and confirmed by the Department of Health (DOH). The DOH reported that 10 more deaths due to COVID-19, raising the death toll to **1,297**.

44,254	1,297	11,942
Confirmed Cases	Deaths of confirmed cases	Facility-based recoveries/ completed 14-day home quarantine

Meanwhile, the Department of Health (DOH) would be using a simplified format of reporting COVID-19 cases to avoid confusion regarding statistics related to coronavirus patients. The DOH had shifted to using a reporting system that distinguished between fresh and late cases on May 29, just before quarantine restrictions were eased in epicenter Metro Manila and other areas. It used the term fresh cases to indicate results that came out within 3 days after testing a patient, while late cases referred to confirmed results that came 4 days or earlier.

The DOH closely monitoring several areas in Mindanao now considered as COVID-19 hotspots. definition of a hotspot is, if a place, where there is no previously identified confirmed cases, has reported even just a single case, it can be considered a hotspot already. A place can also be considered a hotspot those with existing cases that had a significant number of additional cases. These are Bukidnon, Lanao del Norte, and Misamis Occidental for Region X; Davao del Norte, Davao del Sur and Davao Oriental for Region XI; South Cotabato ang Sultan Kudarat for Region XII; and Maguindanao within the Bangsamoro Autonomous Region in Muslim Mindanao (BARMM).

There are 11 provinces in the whole country that are no longer COVID-free after recording 1 to 4 cases from June 14 to June 28. These are Zamboanga del Norte, Agusan del Sur, Zamboanga Sibugay, Sarangani and Basilan from Mindanao; Ifugao, Sorsogon, Catanduanes and Mountain Province from Luzon; and, Capiz and Guimaras from Visayas.

Eastern Samar has announced that the province is now free from the coronavirus disease (COVID-19) after all their confirmed cases have recovered. Eastern Samar, which is under the modified general community quarantine (MGCQ), has the least number of cases among the provinces and cities in the region. It has only recorded two among the 577 COVID-19 cases in Eastern Visayas. It has maintained its COVID-free status until June 13, due to the arrival of returning residents. The province enforces strict border control points in the municipalities of Lawaan and Taft, as well as Borongan, Eastern Samar. On positive note, there are eight provinces maintained zero COVID-19 cases in the said 15-day period: Aurora, Batanes, Camiguin, Dinagat Island, Quirino, Siquijor, Sulu, and Tawi-Tawi.



The DOH also cited that the return of previously stranded individuals to their home provinces could not be blamed for the spike of COVID-19 cases in the countryside. According to guidelines set by the Department of the Interior and Local Government, LSIs who wish to return home need to get a health certificate and travel permit/pass from the health office and police, respectively, where they are stranded. They must also undergo a 14-day quarantine upon arrival at their respective localities, she added. If some stranded individuals were sick with COVID-19 and had recovered from the disease, they are only allowed to go home if they are not exhibiting any symptoms.

The San Juan City government shut down the public market on July 1 after a male fish stall helper tested positive for coronavirus disease (COVID-19). The patient is now in isolation and receiving treatment at a hospital. Those who had close contact with the patient have also been tested and placed on quarantine.

Surveillance

PRC “Helpline (1158)” has been established to take calls related to COVID-19. It is operational 24/7 and run by psychosocial support trained volunteers, who will provide information and advice to people in their own language. This also help address rumors and misinformation related to COVID-19. The average calls raised to 200 calls per day seeking for guidance about the results of COVID-19 test.

Support to Healthcare Systems and Authorities

The PRC continuously support the healthcare authorities by mobilizing its medical tents. The PRC has set up 60 medical field tents, which will serve as a staging, isolation wards were set up in different parts of the country. PRC also mobilized additional 8 medical tents in Cebu and established in Cebu City Medical Center, Lapu Lapu District Hospital and Talisay District Hospital as the cases of COVID 19 is significantly increasing the province of Cebu and installed a handwashing facility to ensure that proper hygiene is maintained.



Photos: Newly established PRC medical tent in Cebu City Medical Center.

The PRC has 5 operational molecular laboratories in Luzon Island- Mandaluyong City (2), City of Manila and 2 in Central Luzon (Clark and Subic). Two molecular laboratories (Batangas and Cebu) which passed its proficiency testing in line with Department of Health standard operating procedures.



Photo: PRC conducts swabbing to the locally stranded individuals in Port Area.

PRC tested **184,470** specimens which comprise 26% of the national tests output in the Philippines.

PRC also conducts hygiene promotion sessions for those who acquire swabbing services to raise awareness on preventive measures in terms of COVID19.

PRC together with Philippine Ports Authority conducted swabbing to the locally stranded individuals in Pier 8. PRC aimed to really get our people tested so that we can immediately isolate those who are affected and prevent the non-carriers from acquiring the virus.

PRC Ambulances are continuously mobilized to support DOH with the transportation of suspected and confirmed with COVID-19 individuals. A total of **643** suspected and confirmed COVID19 cases were catered.



Photos: Transporting COVID19 patient using the negative pressure ambulance unit.

Community Action

The cash assistance together with IFRC interventions is being conducted in Metro Manila, which will include an assessment and feasibility study, risk management for cash assistance. The primary objective is to support families whom have been affected by the national state of calamity for the COVID-19 Enhanced Quarantine situation to meet their immediate needs through the provision of multi-purpose cash grants, taking good practice to scale in a coordinated Movement response channelled through a strongly anchored local partners



Photos: (1-2) Cash distribution in Tondo Manila supported by IFRC. (3) relief distribution of ICRC in Maguindanao assisted by PRC volunteers from Cotabato Chapter.

To date, **572,592** people were reached with hygiene awareness activities. The key messages include use of mask, physical distancing, hand hygiene and respiratory etiquette. PRC also put **1,614** handwashing facilities in different parts of the country.



Photos: (1) installation of handwashing facility in one of the health center in Maguindanao. (2) hygiene promotion session in PRC Swabbing Center in Mandaluyong City.

Business Continuity

The PRC National Headquarter (NHQ) units and all 103 active Chapters across the country is adapting has adapted to the new norm. This also includes adjusted measures to ensure continuity of the 95 blood service facilities and one (1) dialysis center that are being operated by PRC.

Infection control measures are strengthened and posting of IEC materials were installed at PRC chapters.



Photo: Infection Control Banner posted in PRC Ozamis Chapter

Resource Mobilization, Adaptation and Coordination

The PRC continues to mobilize its many volunteers for a plethora of activities throughout the country, with a strong focus on distribution of PPE, tents for isolation and treatment of suspect and confirmed cases, hygiene kits, community surveillance, community WASH, mental health and psychosocial support including the game changer intervention the setting-up of molecular laboratories across the country.

PRC aimed to raise 3 Billion Php and currently received at least 29% of the funding requirements to support 3 million people across the country. PRC also uses online donation platforms that will increase its resources to respond based on the context. Below is the table showing the support received by PRC according to PRC COVID-19 pillars:

List of Partners	Pillar 1 (Surveillance)	Pillar 2 (Support to healthcare system and authorities)	Pillar 3 (Community Action)	Pillar 4 (Business Continuity)	List of Partners	Pillar 1 (Surveillance)	Pillar 2 (Support to healthcare system and authorities)	Pillar 3 (Community Action)	Pillar 4 (Business Continuity)
International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies (IFRC)	✓	✓	✓	✓	International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC)	✓	✓	✓	✓
American Red Cross (ARC)	✓		✓	✓	The Netherlands Red Cross (NLRC)	✓		✓	✓
Irish Red Cross		✓			Singapore Red Cross		✓		
Australian Government	✓	✓		✓	UNICEF	✓	✓	✓	✓
Chinese Embassy			✓						
Megaworld		✓			OKADA Foundation Inc.		✓		
Nestle Philippines		✓			Bloomerry Foundation		✓		
Makati Development Corporation		✓			Metrobank Foundation		✓		
LT Group Inc		✓			Security Bank Foundation		✓		
Liwayway Marketing Corporation		✓			BPI Foundation		✓		
Jack Ng		✓			Puregold Price Club Inc.		✓		
Transco		✓			Nickel Asia Corporation		✓		
Philippine Jaycees Senate Foundation		✓	✓	✓	FF Cruz Company Inc		✓		
Grab Philippines		✓	✓	✓	Estelito Mendoza		✓		
RCBC REWARD PROGRAMS		✓	✓	✓	Supreme Master Ching Hai		✓		
ZALORA PHIL		✓	✓	✓	LAZADA			✓	✓
SHOPEE		✓	✓	✓	Nickel Asia Corporation		✓		

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