



# PRESS RELEASE

## **2022 Causes of Deaths in the Philippines (Preliminary as of 31 March 2022)**

Date of Release: 16 May 2022

Reference No. 2022-210

### ***Explanatory Note***

*Data on causes of death presented in this press release were obtained from the deaths registered, either timely or belatedly, at the appropriate Office of the City/Municipal Civil Registrar throughout the country and subsequently submitted for encoding to the Office of the Civil Registrar General through the Provincial Statistical Offices (PSOs) of the Philippine Statistics Authority (PSA). The information presented includes provisional deaths that occurred from January to February 2022 based on data files received by the PSA - Civil Registration Service (CRS) from the PSOs as of 31 March 2022. Thus, the figures presented herein are still preliminary and may differ from the final count. Deaths of Filipinos abroad are not yet included in this release, but Filipinos whose usual residence is abroad and foreign nationals with deaths occurring in the country during the reference period were included in this report.*

*Figures in this release, specifically for deaths due to Coronavirus disease 2019 (COVID-19), may differ from the one released by the Department of Health (DOH) because the figures in this release were obtained from the certificates of death particularly the descriptions written on the medical certificate portion therein as reviewed by the health officer of the local government unit concerned. On the other hand, the figures released by the DOH were obtained through a surveillance system.*

*Furthermore, figures in this release for deaths due to COVID-19 refer to both confirmed and probable cases as of registration. The coding of causes of death is based on the World Health Organization's (WHO) International Statistical Classification of Diseases and Related Health Problems revision 10 (ICD-10). With the emergence of COVID-19, the WHO issued two new emergency codes (Code U07.1 and Code U07.2) to be used when coding causes of death for statistical purposes.*



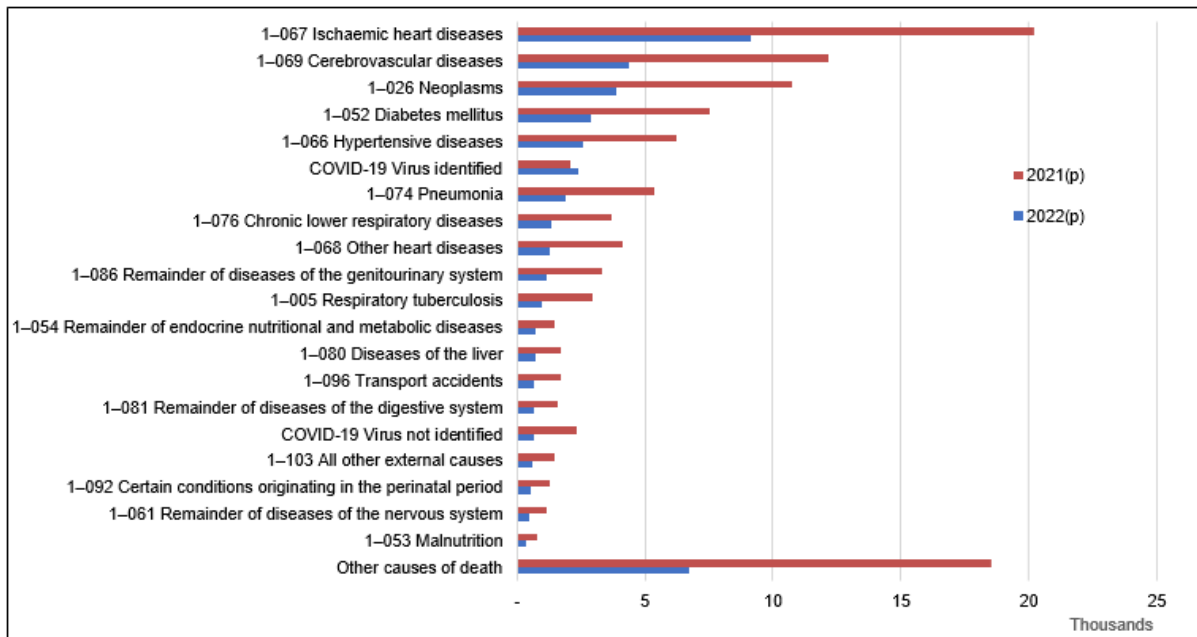
*Code U07.1 or COVID-19-virus identified is used when COVID-19 is confirmed by a laboratory test. Code U07.2 or COVID-19-virus not identified is used for suspected or probable cases as well as clinically-epidemiologically diagnosed COVID-19 cases where testing was not completed or inconclusive.<sup>1</sup> Thus, the figures in this release for deaths due to COVID-19 include both Code U07.1 and Code U07.2 while the figures released by the DOH, on the other hand, include deaths from confirmed cases only or Code U07.1.*

<sup>1</sup><https://www.who.int/classifications/icd/COVID-19-coding-icd10.pdf>

### ***Ischaemic heart diseases, cerebrovascular diseases, and neoplasms lead the causes of death in the Philippines***

The top three causes of death in the country from January to February of 2022 were ischaemic heart diseases, cerebrovascular diseases, and neoplasms. Incidentally, these were also the leading causes of death in the same period in 2021. From January to February of 2022, ischaemic heart diseases were the leading cause of death with 9,122 cases or 20.8 percent of the total deaths in the country. On the other hand, cerebrovascular diseases, came in second with 4,351 deaths (9.9% share). Neoplasms, commonly known as “cancer” were the third leading causes which accounted for 3,881 recorded cases (8.9% share) from January to February 2022. Deaths due to diabetes mellitus recorded 2,882 cases or 6.6 percent share, making it the fourth leading cause of death, while deaths due to hypertensive diseases, which ranked fifth recorded 2,565 cases or 5.9 percent share. Meanwhile, deaths due to COVID-19 virus identified was the sixth leading cause of death with 2,377 cases (5.4% share). (Table 1 and Figure 1)

Figure 1. All Causes of Mortality (Top 20), Philippines:  
January to February, 2021<sup>(p)</sup> and 2022<sup>(p)</sup>  
(as of 31 March 2022)



Note: Symptoms, signs, and abnormal clinical and laboratory findings, not elsewhere classified (R00-R99) are not included in the analysis due to the unspecified nature of these causes.

<sup>(p)</sup> - Preliminary

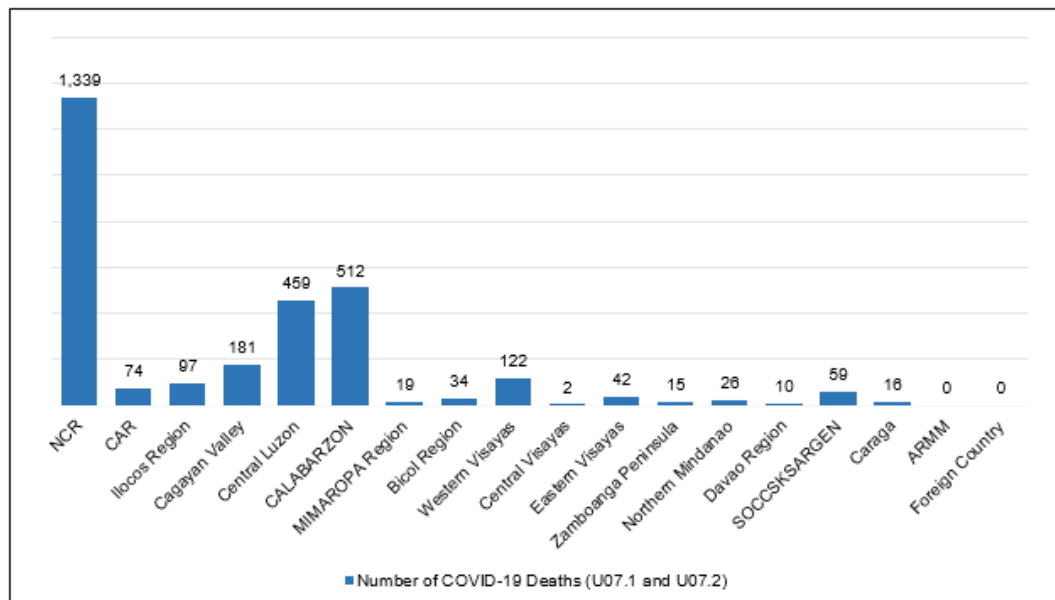
### **Coronavirus disease 2019 (COVID-19) ranks among the leading causes of death**

Registered deaths due to COVID-19 accounted for a total of 3,007 deaths or 6.9 percent of the total registered deaths from January to February 2022. By classification, COVID-19 with virus identified and COVID-19 virus not identified were both included in the 20 leading causes of death. COVID-19 with virus identified was the 6th leading cause of death in the country with 2,377 cases or 5.4 percent of the total deaths. Meanwhile, registered deaths due to COVID-19 with virus not identified accounted for 630 or 1.4 percent of the total deaths, making it the 16th leading cause of death. (Table 1 and Figure 1)

**Three regions report more than three-fourths of COVID-19 deaths among other regions**

Among the 17 regions, National Capital Region (NCR) registered the highest number of deaths due to COVID-19 with 1,339 or 44.5 percent of the total COVID-19 deaths from January to February 2022. Region IV-A (CALABARZON) ranked second with 512 deaths (17.0%), while Central Luzon came in third with 459 deaths (15.3%). On the other hand, no deaths due to COVID-19 were reported in Autonomous Region in Muslim Mindanao (ARMM). (Table 2 and Figure 2)

Figure 2. Number of Registered Deaths Due to COVID-19 by Region of Usual Residence, Philippines: January to February 2022<sup>(p)</sup> (as of 31 March 2022)

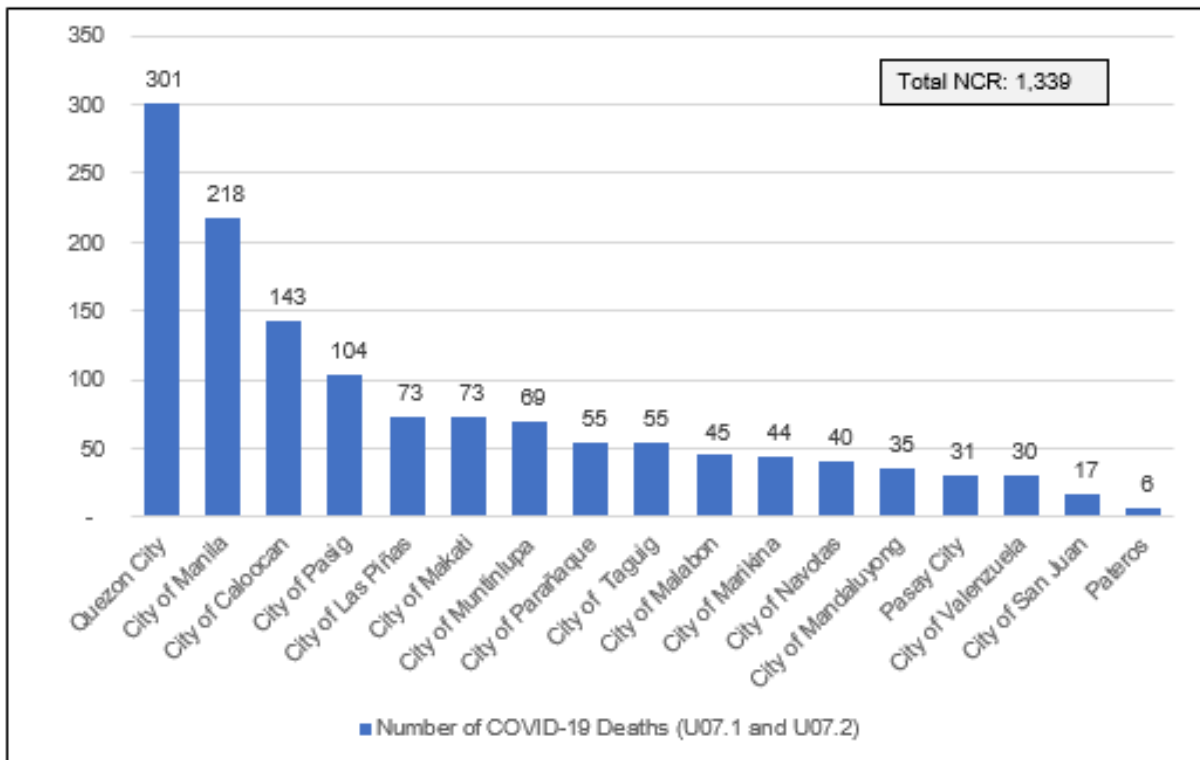


(p) - Preliminary

**Quezon City registers most COVID-19 deaths in NCR**

In NCR, Quezon City reported the highest number of deaths due to COVID-19, with 301 deaths or 22.5 percent of the total COVID-19 deaths in the region from January to February 2022. This was followed by the City of Manila and City of Caloocan with 218 (16.3%) and 143 (10.7%) COVID-19 deaths, respectively. (Table 3 and Figure 3)

Figure 3. COVID-19 Deaths in NCR, January to February 2022<sup>(p)</sup>  
 (as of 31 March 2022)



<sup>(p)</sup> - Preliminary

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