



Republic of the Philippines  
Department of Health  
**OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY**

## **PRIVACY AND CONFIDENTIALITY STATEMENT**

### **MANDATES AND COMMITMENTS**

The Department of Health (DOH) is committed to protect and promote public health, and to enhance transparency and accountability through freedom of information and open governance pursuant to:

1. Section 28, Article II of the 1987 Constitution, whereby the State adopts and implements a policy of full public disclosure of all its transactions involving public interest, subject to reasonable conditions prescribed by law;
2. Section 7, Article III of the same Constitution, which guarantees the right of people to information on matters of public concern;
3. Republic Act No. 10173, or the Data Privacy Act of 2012, and its implementing rules and regulations, which strengthens the fundamental human right of privacy and communication while ensuring the free flow of information to promote innovation and growth;
4. Executive Order No. 2, series of 2016, which ensures that every Filipino shall have access to information, official records, public records and to documents and papers pertaining to official acts, transactions or decisions, as well as to government research data used as basis for policy development; and
5. Republic Act No. 11332, or the Mandatory Reporting of Notifiable Diseases and Health Events of Public Health Concern Act of 2018, which requires the mandatory reporting of reportable diseases and health events of public health concern.

### **DUTY TO PUBLISH INFORMATION**

The DOH shall regularly publish, print, and disseminate in an accessible form, in accordance with Republic Act No. 9485, Anti-Red Tape Act of 2007, and through their website, timely, true, accurate and updated key information. All datasets created, collected, processed, disseminated by the DOH through the use of public funds to the extent permitted by applicable laws and subject to individual privacy, confidentiality, national security or other legally-mandated restrictions, shall be fully disclosed publicly in open formats.

### **PROTECTION OF PRIVACY AND CONFIDENTIALITY**

DOH shall afford full protection to a person's right to privacy in compliance with the Data Privacy Act of 2012 and other existing laws and/or policies. All identifiers, personal and sensitive personal information have been removed in this anonymized datasets to protect the privacy and confidentiality of the respondents/data subjects.

## **RESPONSIBLE USE OF GOVERNMENT DATA**

Information published by the DOH through its website, FOI platform and/or Open Data portals are provided free for public consumption and shall be used only in accordance with existing laws, policies, procedures, rules, and regulations. The DOH assumes no liability for any errors, omissions or inaccuracies in the data and its interpretations as information may change at any time without notice.

The use of information herewith shall be subject to the following terms and conditions:

1. DOH advocates the access, use, re-use, and free sharing of the government data without restrictions. However, in all such use, proper attribution or acknowledgement of the data source shall be made.
2. DOH does not have controls over the end-use of data. Hence, DOH cannot vouch for any analyses conducted using data retrieved from DOH publication, FOI, and Open Data portals.
3. The data shall only be used in accordance with existing laws, policies, procedures, rules, and regulations. Malicious use of information is punishable by law.
4. Data users are encouraged to report to DOH any errors, inaccuracies, oversight or sensitive personal information found when accessing and using published data.

## **DOH AND NPC JOINT STATEMENT ON THE DISCLOSURE OF COVID-19 RELATED DATA**

The DOH and the National Privacy Commission uphold the Republic Act No. 11332 or the Mandatory Reporting of Notifiable Diseases and Health Events of Public Health Concern Act and the Data Privacy Act of 2012 in processing COVID-19 patient data in pursuit of disease surveillance and response. We stand firm against any form of unbridled public disclosure of patients' personal data that has been proven to cause a real risk of severe harm to patients, and guarantee that the data privacy rights of these patients are protected in any form of disclosure.

For feedback or to report concerns, please email [covidtracker@doh.gov.ph](mailto:covidtracker@doh.gov.ph) or [dohdatadrop@gmail.com](mailto:dohdatadrop@gmail.com).

\*\*\*

# TECHNICAL NOTES

## DATASETS

1. Case Information
2. DOH Data Collect Daily Report
3. DOH Data Collect Weekly Report
4. Testing Data

## RELEASE NOTES

### May 27, 2020

- The DOH is currently migrating its data to the COVIDKAYA information system. Due to the ongoing migration, the release of the datasets to the DOH DataDrop is scheduled for 10:00 AM the following day.

### May 26, 2020

- [Case Information]
  - We are adding a new column to the case list "validation\_status." Cases where the validation status is flagged as "For Review" are known to have some missing, inconsistent, or potentially invalid values that the DOH Epidemiology Bureau is striving to investigate and correct. Examples of these issues include:
    - Missing dates of death or recovery
    - Inconsistent PSGC codes
    - Duplicate location names per PSGC code
    - Other invalid data values for age, admission status, or health status
  - There are several cases of PSGC codes that do not match the location names. DOH is currently cleaning up for the next data drop.
  - In future data drops, we will work on making the validation status messages more descriptive of the errors encountered. Thank you for your patience as we strive to continually improve data quality.

### May 24, 2020

- [Testing Data]
  - ERRATUM: In the May 22 and 23 testing aggregates data drop, the column for "remaining\_available\_tests" incorrectly showed the figures for "daily\_output\_invalid." This was due to an error in data processing and has since been corrected on the May 24 data drop as of 10AM May 25. Please use the latest May 24 data drop file for the corrected information. We apologize for this error.

## **May 22, 2020**

- [Testing Data]
  - The cumulative testing aggregates per laboratory have been recomputed based on laboratories' reported daily outputs. As such, these new cumulative figures may differ from the daily cumulative figures that were self-reported by the labs in previous data drops.
  - Prior to May 16, the number of daily output negative individuals was imputed based on the unique individuals minus positive individuals reported. Starting May 16, the laboratories will be reporting separately on their daily output for negative individuals, as well as equivocal and invalid results of samples.
  - Detoxicare Laboratory's daily testing statistics prior to May 14 are undergoing correction by the lab and have been removed from the dataset. Only May 14 onwards is included.
  - While the labs have been asked to strive to count each individual once, unique individuals should still be taken as approximate, since there is still the possibility that the same individual could have been counted twice if they took more than one test on different days or even across different labs.
  - Several laboratories started operations before data was reported and included in the DOH DataDrop. This explains why other laboratories have cumulative baselines that do not begin at zero. It includes tests conducted prior to the start of reporting.
- [DOH Data Collect Daily and Weekly Report] New Columns: Location Name, PSGC Codes, and Coordinates.

## **May 17, 2020**

- [Testing Data]
  - Only the data on the daily output of laboratories is available for release. Data on cumulative tests conducted is still undergoing validation with the laboratories.

## **May 15, 2020**

- [Testing Data]
  - The total number of tests conducted is not equivalent to the number of test kits used. There are test kits used for controls, repeat tests, reruns, and Proficiency Testing (PT) panels for monitoring. The different brands of test kits also have varying conversion factors.
  - The Remaining Available Tests column in the DOH Data Drop pertains to how many tests the laboratories can still do based on the PCR kits on hand. However, other reports may show numbers that are self-determined by the laboratories based on their supplies (kits, reagents, and consumables to make one test).
  - No testing data will be released until inconsistencies in the self-reported data are clarified with the laboratories.

**May 14, 2020**

- [Case Information] New Columns: Pregnant, DateOnset. Pregnant is a binary variable (Yes/No) indicating if the case is pregnant at any point during their COVID-19 condition. DateOnset is the date of onset of symptoms

**May 13, 2020**

- [Case Information] New Sheet: “Case Info Changelog” contains (1) Change in values from yesterday and today per case and (2) summary of most common changes.

**May 12, 2020**

- [Case Information]
  - Erratum: Due to an error in data processing steps that began on May 8, cases in Pateros were miscategorized under the City of Manila. The error has since been corrected on the public dashboard starting yesterday, and on the Data Drop starting today.
  - The PSGC of CityMunicipality is now included again in the DataDrop.

**May 11, 2020**

- [Case Information] The “Province Name” for cases in NCR has changed from Metro Manila to NCR.

**May 9, 2020**

- [Case Information]
  - Due to ongoing system migration in DOH’s information systems, the PSGC fields are not available for release.
  - The “Province Name” for cases in NCR has changed from NCR to Metro Manila.

**May 8, 2020**

- [Case Information] Due to ongoing system migration in DOH’s information systems, the PSGC fields are not yet available for release.
- [DOH Data Collect Daily and Weekly Report] Records with blank hfhudcode and cfname columns have been removed and will not be included moving forward.

**May 7, 2020**

- [Case Information] Due to ongoing system migration in DOH’s information systems, the new cases for today are missing province and city Philippine Standard Geographic codes.

**May 6, 2020**

- [Case Information] There had been errors in the CaseCodes assignment and the age of C896134 yesterday. These are corrected in today’s release. Please use the latest release. Date Formats are also updated to YYYY-MM-DD.

**April 29, 2020**

- [Case Information] New Field: Quarantined (Yes/No). Definition: Ever been in home quarantine, not necessarily currently in home quarantine.

**April 28, 2020**

- [Case Information] The names of the DateRecovered and DateDied columns were reversed in previous data drops. This has been corrected.
- [Case Information] Location Columns changed to RegionRes, ProvRes, CityMunRes. PSGC Columns: RegionPSGC, ProvincePSGC, CityMuniPSGC. Note: PSGCs are still undergoing validation.

**April 27, 2020**

- [Case Information] Location Columns changed to RegionRes, ProvRes, CityMunRes. PSGC Columns: CityMuniPSGC. Note: PSGCs are still undergoing validation.

**April 26, 2020**

- [Case Information] PSGC Columns added: RegionPSGC, ProvincePSGC, MunCityPSGC. Note: PSGCs are still undergoing validation.

**April 25, 2020**

- [Case Information] PSGC Columns are removed. System changes are ongoing.

**April 24, 2020**

- [Case Information] New column added: Health Status (Asymptomatic, Mild, Severe, Critical, Recovered, Died)

**April 22, 2020**

- [Case Information] New columns added: RegionPSGC, ProvPSGC, MunCityPSGC
- [Case Information] A few case codes had incorrect age and sex information yesterday due to a data processing error. This has been corrected today.

**April 21, 2020**

- [Testing Data] Variable “Remaining Number of Tests” changed to “Remaining Available Tests”

**April 20, 2020**

- [DOH DataCollect Weekly] The tracker is updated to a new version (v3) and variables may have changed. The Daily Report and Weekly Report in the Dashboard and Data Drop are using v3. For the Weekly report, some variables were changed.

**April 19, 2020**

- [Testing Data] 8 new testing centers added. Testing centers may be added daily as new data comes in.

## **April 18, 2020**

- [Case Information] Erratum: There had been an error in the assignment of Case Codes in releases before April 18, 2020. Please always refer to the latest release.

## **April 17, 2020**

- [DOH DataCollect Daily] DataCollect is currently being updated to a new version (v3). The Daily Report is updated as of April 17 but hospital submission is ongoing for the Weekly report. The Weekly Report is this Data Drop is as of April 15, 2020 and new data is expected by April 20, 2020. For the Daily report, some variables were changed.

## **Case Information**

Data is extracted from the COVID-19 Information System by the DOH Epidemiology Bureau (EB) every 12 noon daily.

Data is encoded from mostly paper case investigation forms (CIFs), therefore some encoding discrepancies may occur. All case data are dynamically updated daily as more accurate information is triangulated from a variety of official sources.

Topline values are processed and validated by DOH EB. Regional and provincial/highly urbanized city/independent component city breakdowns of cases, recoveries, and deaths may vary from official values reported by Regional Epidemiology Surveillance Units (RESUs) as validation of reported residence in CIFs are ongoing.

Please always refer to the latest release.

## **Health Facility Capacity from the DOH Data Collect**

Health facility data as of 8:00 AM is encoded and submitted daily, for bed occupancy and mechanical ventilator utilization as intended for Covid-19 cases, and weekly, for select logistics inventory, by hospitals and infirmaries through the DOH DataCollect BedTracker App v3.1. As of May 25, 2020, the response rates for the DOH DataCollect BedTracker App are at 99.5% for hospitals and 99.5% for infirmaries.

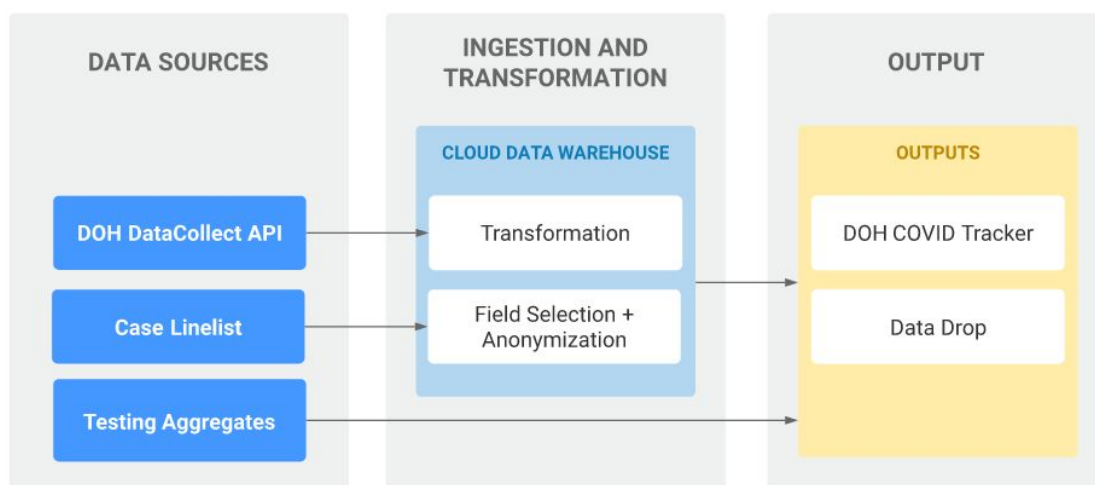
Submitted data as of 11:59PM of the previous day is extracted for analysis. The last observation carried forward (LOCF) imputation method is being implemented to correct for missing values incurred by non-submission of some health facilities for the current cut-off date of analysis. It is necessary to include the most recent submission of all unique facilities so that the total number beds and equipment will not be affected by the daily submission rate. Summary estimates are released on DOH Facebook and BeatCovid Situationer every 4pm of the current day.

## Testing Aggregates

Data is extracted from tracking sheets accomplished daily by COVID-19 Testing Laboratories. It is then collated from laboratory results released as of 6pm daily, and are approved after a verification process by the representatives of each laboratory. These results have to undergo processing and case validation by DOH EB.

## DOH Data Drop and COVID-19 Dashboard

Data is pulled daily from 3 data sources at around 4pm daily. Data from DOH DataCollect API and the Case Linelist are ingested into a Cloud Data Warehouse. These are then transformed into the necessary format and views needed for the DOH COVID Dashboard and the Data Drop. The Case Linelist undergoes additional processing steps in compliance with Patient Confidentiality: (1) release or restrict selected fields and (2) case number anonymization.



Link to DOH Data Drop (05/29): [bit.ly/3gCUmQQ](https://bit.ly/3gCUmQQ)

Link to the Previous Releases:  
[bit.ly/DataDropArchives](https://bit.ly/DataDropArchives)