



# AGENCY BUDGET NOTES

For FY 2023

## DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH

### COST STRUCTURE

**P12.71B** (6.6%)

*General Admin and Support*

**P2.33B**

(1.2%)

*Support to Operations*

**P176.20B**

(92.1%)

*Operations*

### ALLOCATION BY AGENCY

**OSEC**

**P190.80B** (99.8%)

*Office of the Secretary*

**P0.40B**

(0.2%)

*National Nutrition Council*

**P0.04B**

(0.0%)

*Philippine National Aids Council*



**P191.25B**

TOTAL NEW APPROPRIATIONS FOR 2023

### BREAKDOWN OF OPERATIONS BUDGET



**P63,736.0M**

(36.2%)

*Health Facilities Operation Program*



**P43,821.4M**

(24.9%)

*Public Health Program*



**P43,172.3M**

(24.5%)

*Health Systems Strengthening Program*



**P22,394.9M**

(12.7%)

*Social Health Protection Program*



**P1,002.5M**

(0.0.6%)

*Health Regulatory Program*



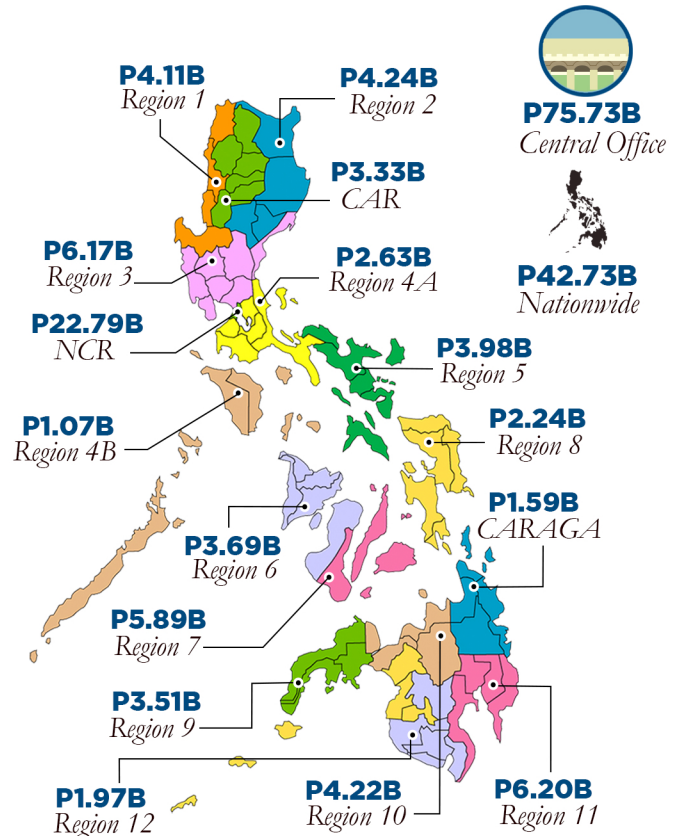
**P752.3M**

(0.4%)

*Health Emergency Management Program*

*Other Programs* **P1,323.5M** (0.7%)

### REGIONAL ALLOCATION OF THE 2023 EXPENDITURE PROGRAM (P196.08B)



# QUICK FACTS



## GOVERNMENT HEALTH WORKERS 2021

	Number	Per 10,000	Ratio to Population
Physicians	4,046	0.4	27,236
Nurses	22,713	2.1	4,852
Midwives	21,561	2.0	5,111
Barangay Health Workers	253,054	23.0	435

Source: 2021 Annual Field Health Services Information System

## 110,198,654 Total Population

**1 : 20,000**  
Ideal Ratio of Government  
Physicians to Population

**1 : 10,000**  
Ideal Ratio of Government  
Nurses to Population

Source: DOH National Objectives for Health 2017-2022

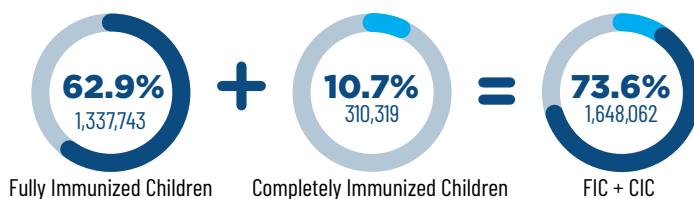


## HEALTH FACILITIES BY REGION 2022

	Barangay Health Station	Rural Health Unit	City Health Office	Infirmary	Birthing Home	Hospital	Total
<b>PHILIPPINES</b>	<b>23,528</b>	<b>2,610</b>	<b>18</b>	<b>643</b>	<b>2890</b>	<b>1,386</b>	<b>31,075</b>
NCR	23	501	1	19	338	184	1066
CAR	922	98	0	34	18	33	1105
Ilocos	1821	152	0	36	149	80	2238
Cagayan Valley	1478	97	0	35	137	71	1818
Central Luzon	2122	291	5	37	356	196	3007
CALABARZON	2793	226	1	42	408	230	3700
MIMAROPA	1163	81	0	35	51	31	1361
Bicol	1949	130	3	61	217	56	2416
Western Visayas	2026	146	3	33	70	64	2342
Central Visayas	2351	163	2	51	226	68	2861
Eastern Visayas	926	166	2	37	189	51	1371
Zamboanga Peninsula	796	97	0	26	97	45	1061
Northern Mindanao	1254	121	0	35	78	72	1560
Davao	1196	69	0	54	175	69	1563
SOCCSKSARGEN	1152	62	0	51	141	82	1488
CARAGA	928	82	1	35	93	23	1162
BARMM	628	128	0	22	147	31	956

Source: National Health Facility Registry nhfr.doh.gov.ph

## Immunization Program



Fully immunized children (FIC) received one dose of BCG, three doses each of OPV, DPT, and Hepatitis B vaccines, and one dose of measles vaccine before reaching one year of age.

Completely immunized children (CIC) received the above vaccines between 12 and 23 months of age.

Source: 2020 Annual Field Health Service Information System, DOH

## COVID-19 Vaccination Update

March 1, 2021 - September 1, 2022

Total Doses Administered	160,755,975
First Dose	70,094,542
Complete Dose	72,574,454
Booster Dose	18,086,979
Average Daily Dose*	82,248
Target Population	90 million

\* Average daily doses (1st, 2nd and booster) administered in the last 7 days.  
Source: <https://doh.gov.ph/vaccines>

## Reproductive Health Statistics

	Contraceptive Prevalence	Crude Live Birth	Infant Mortality	Maternal Mortality
2016	47.9	17.8	8.2	66.5
2017	52.9	17.2	7.5	53.8
2018	56.7	16.2	7.7	56.8
2019	25.7	14.0	9.0	52.9
2020	26.3	13.8	10.7	70.7

Sources: 2020 Annual Report on the Implementation of RPRH Law, DOH & 2020 Annual Field Health Service Information System, DOH

## Nutrition Status of Children less than 2 years old

in %, 2019

	0-5 Months	6-11 Months	12-23 Months
Underweight	7.3	11.1	18.6
Stunting	10.9	14.4	30.9
Wasting	7.7	7.2	6.5
Overweight	5.2	2.4	2.9

Source: Expanded National Nutrition Survey 2019, FNRI

## HIGHLIGHTS

- ❑ *Expenditure Program.* The DOH will have P196.08 billion in total available appropriations in FY 2023. Of this amount, P191.25 billion will come from new appropriations, and P4.83 billion will come from automatic appropriations. The OSEC will receive 99.8% share or P195.63 billion of the Department's total appropriations. By expense class, maintenance and other operating expenses will get P93.57 billion or 47.7%, followed by personal services — P78.52 billion or 40.0%, and capital outlay — P23.99 billion or 12.2%.
- ❑ *New Appropriations by Cost Structure.* The *Operations* budget of P176.20 billion or 92.1% will account for the largest share of DOH's new appropriations for 2023 followed by *General Administration and Support* at P12.71 billion or 6.6%, and *Support to Operations* at P2.33 billion or 1.2%.
- ❑ *Allocation by Major Programs.* The Health Facilities Operations Program will get the highest allocation of P63.74 billion, equivalent to 36.2% of the total *Operations* budget in 2023. The Public Health Program will receive the second highest allocation of P43.82 billion or 24.9%, followed by Health Systems Strengthening Program with P43.17 billion, or 24.5% of the proposed appropriations for programs for 2023.
- ❑ *Regional Allocation.* All regions will see increases in their allocation for next year. The National Capital Region will receive P22.79 billion or 11.6% of the total DOH budget in 2023. The Nationwide allocation of P42.73 billion for 2023 is 45.3% lower than the P78.07 billion in 2022 while the Central Office will receive P75.73 billion which is 38.6% of the 2023 DOH budget.
- ❑ *Status of COVID-19 Releases.* The DOH received P177.71 billion for COVID-19 initiatives, of which P48.99 billion was authorized under Bayanihan 1 (RA 11469) and P48.04 billion from Bayanihan 2 (RA 11494). Of the total allotments, P22.07 billion remained unobligated as of 31 December 2021— of which P12.90 billion can be traced to the FY 2021 GAA mainly for the procurement of vaccines and other related expenses under the Health System Enhancement to Address and Limit COVID-19 and the Emergency Response Project loan assistance programs of the ADB-AIIB and World Bank. This is quite unfortunate considering that the funds are loans and were meant for the purchase of sorely needed vaccines.
- ❑ *Budget Utilization and Unused Appropriations.* The DOH and its agencies recorded a 93.5% obligations-appropriations ratio in 2021. The unused appropriations of the Department decreased by 42.2% from P28.58 billion in 2020 to P16.52 billion in 2021. On the other hand, the DOH had a 72.4% disbursement rate in 2021 as it disbursed P180.44 billion of its P249.35 billion appropriations.

In terms of major programs, the Health Facilities Operations Program recorded the highest disbursement rate at 89.3% in 2021. This program involves the operation of DOH hospitals in Metro Manila and the regions and other health facilities. Under the Health Systems Strengthening Program, the Health Facilities Enhancement Program, a critical program to improve essential primary health care services delivery, had a disbursement rate of only 35.2%. On the other hand, the Health Human Resource sub-program posted a 93.8% disbursement rate which can be traced to the high disbursement rate of the regular HRH deployment at 94.0%.

- ❑ *Compliance with Audit Recommendations.* As of 31 December 2021, the DOH-OSEC failed to implement 86 of the Commission's 168 recommendations from previous years. The OSEC also received an adverse opinion on its financial statements due to misstatements and the agency's failure to make the necessary corrections.

The NNC did not implement 33 or 80.5% of the recommendations from COA in the previous years.

## TABLE OF CONTENTS

	Page
I. Mandates and Organizational Outcomes	1
II. Sources of Appropriations	3
Table 1    Sources of Funds (DOH), 2021-2023	3
III. Expenditure Program	3
Table 2    Expenditure Program by Agency, 2021-2023	4
Table 3    Expenditure Program by General Expense Class, 2021-2023	4
Table 4    Number of Authorized and Unfilled Positions by Agency, 2020-2023	5
Table 5    Regional Distribution of the (Department) Budget, 2021-2023	6
IV. Spending for COVID-19 Initiatives	6
Table 6    Status of COVID-19 Releases to DOH As of 31 Dec 2021	8
V. New Appropriations	9
Table 7    New Appropriations by Agency and Cost Structure, 2023	9
Table 8    Summary of Programs for 2021-2023	10
VI. Performance Review	11
Table 9    Obligations-Appropriations Ratio and Unused Appropriations, 2019-2021	12
Table 10   Disbursement Rate by Agency, 2020-2021	12
Table 11   Budget Utilization by Major Program, 2021	14
Table 12   Performance Indicators of Major Programs, 2021-2023	16
VII. COA Findings and Recommendations	17
Table 13   Status of Implementation of COA Recommendations	17
ANNEX    Expenditure Program by Agency and by General Expense Class, 2021-2023	20

# DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH\*

## I. MANDATE AND ORGANIZATIONAL OUTCOMES

### 1.1. Mandate

- 1.1.1. As part of its strategy to reduce the vulnerability of Filipinos, the Administration commits to provide quality healthcare services through accessible facilities, increased manpower, and ramping up vaccination and booster intake among the vulnerable sectors.
- 1.1.2. The Department of Health (DOH) is the lead government agency in ensuring Filipinos' access to public health services. Its role can be summarized in three points – (1) being the leader in health, (2) helping and capacitating different stakeholders, and (3) administering specific services. The agency also ensures the quality of health care and regulates providers, goods, and services.
- 1.1.3. DOH envisions to be a “global leader for attaining better health outcomes, competitive and responsive health care system, and equitable health financing” by 2030. Its mission is “to guarantee equitable, sustainable, and quality health for all Filipinos, especially the poor, and to lead the quest for excellence in health.”
- 1.1.4. The Department has three major agencies under it – the Office of the Secretary (OSEC), the National Nutrition Council (NNC), and the Philippine National AIDS Council (PNAC).
  - ❑ OSEC includes the essential bureaus and services of the DOH, as well as regional offices and hospitals. An Undersecretary of Health supervises each office, which is a cluster of bureaus and services. The units under these offices deliver various functions according to DOH's mandate.
  - ❑ The NNC, created in 1974 through Presidential Decree No. 491, is the highest policy-making body on nutrition, in charge of coordinating nutrition-related initiatives. The Secretary of Health sits as Chairperson of the governing board with thirteen members.

---

\* This document was prepared by Rommel V. Asuncion as input to the deliberations of the House Committee on Appropriations on the FY 2022 proposed National Budget. The report benefitted from discussions with and inputs of SPRS Director Rosemarie R. Savali and SERB Executive Director Manuel P. Aquino, and from the overall guidance of CPBRD Director General Romulo E.M. Miral, Jr. Ph.D and BPRS Director Pamela Diaz-Manalo. The layout/design of the infographics by Alexiz S. Taaca is also acknowledged. The views, perspectives, and interpretations in this ABN do not necessarily reflect the positions of the House of Representatives as an institution or its individual Members. A copy of this publication is available at the CPBRD's website: [cpbrd.congress.gov.ph](http://cpbrd.congress.gov.ph).

- ❑ The PNAC, established in 1992 through Executive Order No. 39, acts as the national advisory body to review and recommend policies on and direct national approaches against HIV/AIDS. Republic Act Nos. 8504 and 11166 reconstituted and strengthened the Council to become the central advisory, planning, and policy-making body for comprehensive and integrated HIV/AIDS prevention and control programs in the Philippines.

1.2. **Organizational Outcomes.** Organizational Outcome (OO) is a short to medium-term result produced by an agency that contributes to realizing its legislated mandate, and achieved through the delivery of its programs. Overall, the Department focuses on four significant outcomes, namely:

- ❑ Access to promotive and preventive health care services improved;
- ❑ Access to curative and rehabilitative health care services improved;
- ❑ Access to safe and quality health commodities, devices, and facilities ensured;
- ❑ Access to social health protection assured.

The 2023 Proposed Budget aims to build resilience and mainstream health in all aspects of the budget priorities. It addresses the COVID-19 pandemic, the bulk of which will go to funding for health-related programs such as establishing new facilities, implementing the Universal Health Care Act, purchasing COVID-19 vaccines, and providing personal protective equipment, among others. The budget will also sustain the regular health-related programs of the DOH.

## II. SOURCES OF APPROPRIATIONS

2.1 The total available appropriations of the DOH for FY 2023 will amount to P196.08 billion (*Table 1*). Of this amount, P191.25 billion will come from new appropriations, and P4.83 billion will come from automatic appropriations. The bulk or 53.4%, 92.9%, and 97.5%, respectively, of the Department's total available appropriations for the period 2021 to 2023 came from new appropriations.

**TABLE I**  
**SOURCES OF FUNDS, 2021-2023**  
**DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH**

Particulars	Amounts (In Million Pesos)			Share to Total Appropriations		
	2021	2022	2023	2021	2022	2023
New Appropriations	134,941.5	183,887.2	191,245.4	53.4	92.9	97.5
Supplemental Appropriations	-	-	-	-	-	-
Automatic Appropriations	4,837.7	4,474.4	4,832.1	1.9	2.3	2.5
Continuing Appropriations	40,740.2	9,518.4	-	16.1	4.8	-
Budgetary Adjustments	72,270.3	-	-	28.6	-	-
<b>Total Available Appropriations</b>	<b>252,789.6</b>	<b>197,880.0</b>	<b>196,077.6</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>
LESS: Unused Appropriations	16,515.6	9,518.4	-	6.5	4.8	-
<b>Total Obligations</b>	<b>236,274.0</b>	<b>188,361.6</b>	<b>196,077.6</b>	<b>93.5</b>	<b>95.2</b>	<b>100.0</b>

Source of basic data: NEP 2023

## III. EXPENDITURE PROGRAM

3.1 **By agency.** The proposed 2023 DOH budget of P196.08 billion is 3.9% higher than the P188.77 billion budget in 2022 (*Table 2*). As in previous years, the OSEC with an allotment of P195.63 billion will have the lion's share or 99.8% of the department's total budget. The P326.7 million allocation of the NNC is only 0.2% of the total department budget. This proposed amount is also 32.5% lower compared to the budget the NNC received in 2022. Beginning in 2022, the PNAC has its budget separate from the DOH as mandated by Republic Act No. 11166 or the Philippine HIV and AIDS Policy Act.

3.2 For 2021, the DOH received P72.27 billion in budgetary adjustments mostly lodged with the OSEC of which P63.85 billion were transfers from unprogrammed funds for budgetary support to foreign assisted projects (P63.05 billion) and social protection programs due to the COVID 19 pandemic (P0.80 billion). The Department of Budget and Management defines unprogrammed appropriations as those which provide standby authority to incur additional agency obligations for priority programs or projects when revenue collection exceeds targets and when additional grants or foreign funds are generated.



**TABLE 2**  
**EXPENDITURE PROGRAM BY AGENCY, 2021-2023**

Particulars	Amounts (In Million Pesos)			Share to Total (%)		
	2021	2022	2023	2021	2022	2023
Office of the Secretary	235,825.4	188,248.2	195,625.9	99.8	99.7	99.8
NNC	448.6	484.3	326.7	0.2	0.3	0.2
PNAC	-	35.5	43.9	-	0.0	0.0
<b>TOTAL DOH</b>	<b>236,274.0</b>	<b>188,768.0</b>	<b>196,077.6</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>

Source of basic data: BESF 2023

*By expense class.* The maintenance and other operating expenses (MOOE) will comprise the greater part of the total budget for the DOH and its attached agencies in 2023 (Table 3). The MOOE budget of P93.57 billion accounts for 47.7% of the DOH budget, followed by personal services (PS) at P78.52 billion or 40.0% and capital outlay (CO) at P24.0 billion or 12.2%.

**TABLE 3**  
**EXPENDITURE PROGRAM BY GENERAL EXPENSE CLASS, 2021-2023**  
**(AMOUNTS IN MILLION PESOS)**

Particulars	Amounts (In Million Pesos)			Share to Total (%)		
	2021	2022	2023	2021	2022	2023
PS	70,768.9	74,622.5	78,520.2	30.0	39.5	40.0
MOOE	147,686.8	87,108.8	93,565.6	62.5	46.1	47.7
CO	17,818.3	27,036.7	23,991.8	7.5	14.3	12.2
<b>TOTAL DOH</b>	<b>236,274.0</b>	<b>188,768.0</b>	<b>196,077.6</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>

Source of basic data: BESF 2023

- 3.4. *Unfilled positions.* The DOH had 21,074 unfilled positions out of its 89,365 and 91,638 authorized positions in 2021 and 2022, respectively (Table 4). Data for the proposed year usually reflects the same figure as the current year. The number of unfilled positions in the NNC remained relatively the same in the years covered. The PNAC has yet to fill almost all its allowed positions. The number of unfilled positions in the DOH OSEC remains significant at 23% to 25% of authorized positions from 2020 to 2022. Considering that the COVID-19 pandemic efforts are still ongoing and demand massive health workers, the OSEC should have prioritized filling these vacancies. Moreover, the unfilled positions raise the question of whether these are redundant or the agency still needs them. Assuming that the posts are no longer required or duplicative, the resources could have been allocated to more productive expenditure items or spent creating new items that are much more relevant to and sorely needed by the agency, especially during the COVID-19 pandemic.

**TABLE 4**  
**NUMBER OF AUTHORIZED AND UNFILLED POSITIONS BY AGENCY, 2020-2023**

Agency	Authorized Positions				Unfilled Positions			
	2020	2021	2022	2023	2020	2021	2022	2023
OSEC	79,131	89,206	91,480	91,480	19,986	21,038	21,038	19,986
NNC	115	127	126	126	37	36	36	37
PNAC	-	32	32	32	28	23	23	28
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>79,246</b>	<b>89,365</b>	<b>91,638</b>	<b>91,638</b>	<b>20,023</b>	<b>21,074</b>	<b>21,074</b>	<b>20,023</b>

Source: Staffing Summary 2022-2023

- 3.5. **Regional Allocation.** All regions will see increases in their allocation for next year. The National Capital Region will receive P22.79 billion or 11.6% of the total DOH budget in 2023. Two regions will receive below one percent share of the budget: Region IV-B or MIMAROPA with P1.07 billion (0.5%) and CARAGA with P1.6 billion (0.8%). The other regions have shares of the total 2023 budget that range from 1.0% to 3.2%, which are slightly higher than their respective shares in 2022. (Table 5).
- 3.6. The Nationwide Allocation of P42.73 billion for 2023 is 45.3% lower than the P78.07 billion in 2022. This allocation consists of special purpose funds and lump sums that will be distributed to various regions during the budget year. The Central Office allocation of P75.73 billion is managed by the head office of departments/agencies for their respective units.

**TABLE 5**  
**REGIONAL DISTRIBUTION OF THE DOH BUDGET, 2021-2023**  
**(AMOUNTS IN MILLION PESOS)**

Region	2021 Actual		2022 Program		2023 Proposed	
	Amount	Share (%)	Amount	Share (%)	Amount	Share (%)
Nationwide	-	-	78,068.3	41.4	42,729.5	21.8
Central Office	106,220.1	45.0	44,091.8	23.4	75,729.5	38.6
NCR	32,807.9	13.9	20,186.5	10.7	22,789.4	11.6
CAR	5,307.5	2.2	2,906.7	1.5	3,333.4	1.7
Region 1	7,392.1	3.1	3,668.4	1.9	4,109.4	2.1
Region 2	6,808.6	2.9	3,481.8	1.8	4,237.4	2.2
Region 3	9,579.4	4.1	5,209.5	2.8	6,169.7	3.1
Region 4A	7,145.6	3.0	2,212.8	1.2	2,629.0	1.3
Region 4B	2,555.4	1.1	883.1	0.5	1,068.1	0.5
Region 5	6,711.9	2.8	3,089.8	1.6	3,978.4	2.0
Region 6	6,374.8	2.7	3,040.1	1.6	3,686.2	1.9
Region 7	10,986.7	4.6	4,930.2	2.6	5,885.9	3.0
Region 8	4,538.3	1.9	1,885.8	1.0	2,239.4	1.1
Region 9	5,964.8	2.5	2,958.9	1.6	3,506.8	1.8
Region 10	7,303.2	3.1	3,529.1	1.9	4,216.1	2.2
Region 11	8,872.4	3.8	5,470.9	2.9	6,203.4	3.2
Region 12	4,125.9	1.7	1,523.8	0.8	1,973.1	1.0
CARAGA	3,579.3	1.5	1,224.2	0.6	1,593.0	0.8
BARMM	-	-	-	-	-	-
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>236,274.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>188,361.6</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>196,077.6</b>	<b>100.0</b>

Source of basic data: BESF 2023

#### **IV. SPENDING FOR COVID-19 INITIATIVES**

- 4.1. Table 6 shows that total budget releases to the DOH for COVID 19 Initiatives as of 31 December 2021 amounted to P177.71 billion, of which P48.99 billion was authorized under Bayanihan 1 (RA 11469), and P48.0 billion was from Bayanihan 2 (RA 11494).
- 4.2. Of the total allotment received, the Department obligated P155.63 billion, which translates to P22.07 billion in unobligated funds. The unobligated amount could have further helped the government in its efforts to address the ongoing pandemic and heed the clamor of the health sector to provide more financial support for managing the COVID-19 emergency.
- 4.3. The P48.99 billion received under the *Bayanihan I* fund went to the following: implementation of tasks and projects under the law at P45.72 billion, the procurement of RT-PCR kits at P1.91 billion, hiring emergency workers for the pandemic response at P764.2 million, among others. The DOH obligated P47.62 billion of the total amount and disbursed some P47.35 billion.

On the other hand, the DOH received P48.0 billion under *Bayaniban II*, obligated P41.52 billion, and disbursed P39.29 billion of the funds. Of the total amount, P21.59 billion was for the DOH's continuous COVID-19 laboratory testing services and the hiring of HRH personnel, of which the DOH obligated P19.02 billion and disbursed s P18.64 billion. Additionally, DOH received P14.91 billion for the implementation of identified programs and tasks under the law, of which P368.3 million was left unobligated as of 31 December 2021.

- 4.4. Under its regular budget for 2021, the DOH had an allotment of P77.23 billion. The bulk of the allotment amounting to P71.60 billion was for the advance procurement of COVID-19 vaccines and related expenditures under the Health System Enhancement to Address and Limit (HEAL) COVID-19 Project under foreign loan assistance from the Asian Development Bank (ADB) and the Asian Infrastructure Investment Bank (AIIB), and COVID-19 Emergency Response Project (ERP) under a foreign loan from the World Bank. As of 31 December 2021, the Department has only obligated P64.33 billion of the total and disbursed P41.56 billion of the obligated amount. Only P12.90 billion, roughly 16.3%, remains unobligated from the total amount. However, the amount in nominal terms is still substantial and could have been put into better use considering that the funds are loans and meant for the purchase of vital vaccines and other expenses to address the pandemic.

**TABLE 6**  
**STATUS OF COVID-19 RELEASES TO DOH, AS OF 31 DEC 2021**  
**(AMOUNTS IN MILLION PESOS)**

<b>Program/Purpose</b>	<b>Allotment Released</b>	<b>Obligations</b>	<b>Disbursements</b>	<b>Unobligated Allotment</b>
<b>I. Bayanihan 1</b>	<b>48,994.58</b>	<b>47,616.11</b>	<b>47,351.16</b>	<b>1,378.47</b>
To cover the funding requirements for the procurement of RT-PCR Detection Kits	1,912.50	1,912.37	1,812.37	0.13
To cover additional funding requirements for the immediate and continued response to emerging diseases	100.00	100.00	100.00	-
To cover the funding requirements for the implementation of Bayanihan 1	45,717.90	44,742.29	44,637.44	975.60
Funding requirements to address the emerging threat of the COVID-19	500.00	485.65	454.25	14.35
To cover the continued hiring of emergency workers for COVID-19 response.	764.18	375.79	347.09	388.39
<b>II. Bayanihan 2</b>	<b>47,997.15</b>	<b>41,520.97</b>	<b>39,293.57</b>	<b>6,476.17</b>
To cover the implementation of various public health programs and procurement of medicines of DOH-Central Office.	205.00	134.55	45.67	70.45
Funding requirements for the advance procurement of COVID-19 vaccine, and related expenditures, under the Health System Enhancement to Address and Limit (HEAL) COVID-19 Project under a foreign loan assistance from the ADB and AIIB, COVID-19 Emergency Response Project (ERP) under a foreign loan assistance from the World Bank.	3,882.57	479.67	453.67	3,402.90
To cover the funding requirements for the deficiency in salaries and other personnel benefits of deployed Human Resources for Health (HRH).	959.83	956.89	899.16	2.94
To cover the funding requirements for the efficient implementation of Bayanihan II.	14,913.67	14,545.40	13,961.72	368.27
To cover the continuous COVID-19 laboratory testing services of the DOH, and the hiring of HRH personnel.	21,593.31	19,020.04	18,643.05	2,573.27
<b>III. Regular Fund (FY 2020 GAA)</b>	<b>3,485.39</b>	<b>2,169.18</b>	<b>2,160.18</b>	<b>1,316.21</b>
To cover the funding requirements for the Philippines COVID-19 Emergency Response Project (ERP) under a foreign loan assistance from the World Bank.	2,691.34	1,375.13	1,366.13	1,316.21
To cover funding requirements for the deficiency in salaries and other personnel benefits of deployed HRH personnel.	794.05	794.05	794.05	-
<b>IV. Regular Fund (FY 2021 GAA)</b>	<b>77,231.36</b>	<b>64,327.30</b>	<b>41,556.14</b>	<b>12,904.06</b>
To cover the funding requirements for the advance procurement of COVID-19 vaccine, and related expenditures, under the HEAL COVID-19 Project under a foreign loan assistance from the ADB and AIIB, COVID-19 ERP under a foreign loan assistance from the World Bank.	71,601.64	61,248.71	39,514.06	10,352.94
To cover funding requirements for the COVID-19 vaccine procurement	5,183.98	2,688.28	1,667.56	2,495.70
To cover the COVID-19 Special Risk Allowance of public health workers	445.74	390.32	374.52	55.42
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>177,708.48</b>	<b>155,633.56</b>	<b>131,261.04</b>	<b>22,074.92</b>

Source: Status of COVID 19 Releases, As of 31 December 2021 (DBM website)

## V. NEW APPROPRIATIONS

5.1. *New Appropriations by Agency and Cost Structure.* The proposed new appropriations of the DOH and its attached agencies for 2023 will amount to P191.25 billion of which 99.8% or P190.80 billion is accounted for by the OSEC. The allocation for *Operations* will receive the largest share of total new appropriations for 2023 amounting to P176.20 billion or a 92.1% share (*Table 7*). *Operations* consist of programs and corresponding expenditures that relate to the primary purpose for which an agency has been created and involves direct production of goods or delivery of services or direct engagement in regulations. *General Administration and Support* (GAS) will receive the second-highest share at 6.6%, followed by *Support to Operations* (STO) at 1.2%.

**TABLE 7**  
**NEW APPROPRIATIONS BY AGENCY AND COST STRUCTURE, FY 2023**

Agency	Amounts (In Million Pesos)				Share to Total Agency (%)			
	GAS	STO	Operations*	Total Agency	GAS	STO	Operations	Total Agency
OSEC	12,630.8	2,334.3	175,836.0	190,801.0	6.6	1.2	92.2	100.0
NNC	43.0	-	358.3	401.3	10.7	0.0	89.3	100.0
PNAC	34.3	-	8.7	43.1	79.8	0.0	20.2	100.0
<b>TOTAL DOH</b>	<b>12,708.2</b>	<b>2,334.3</b>	<b>176,203.0</b>	<b>191,245.4</b>	<b>6.6</b>	<b>1.2</b>	<b>92.1</b>	<b>100.0</b>

Source of basic data: NEP 2023

\* The budget for *Operations* includes the allocations for *Projects* which are presented separately only in the 2023 NEP

5.2. The DOH will implement ten programs in 2023, eight under the OSEC and one each under the NNC and PNAC. The budget for all these programs will amount to P176.20 billion, which also covers locally-funded and foreign-assisted projects for COVID-19 response and addressing malnutrition (*Table 8*). The Health Facilities Operations, Public Health, and Health Systems Strengthening Program under the OSEC of the DOH will have the three highest levels of allotments. Five programs, namely the Public Health, Epidemiology and Surveillance, Health Emergency Management, and Health Regulatory Programs under the OSEC, and the National Nutrition Management Program under the NNC, will have lower allotments in 2023 compared to their budgets in 2022. The reduction in the funding for Epidemiology and Surveillance, amounting to P155.2 million or by 17.8% from P873.6 billion in 2022, comes at a time when COVID-19 mutations linger, and threats continue from monkeypox and other emerging diseases. Likewise, the timing of the reduction in the budget for the National Nutrition Management Program is also surprising given the increase in the prevalence of malnutrition arising from the challenges brought by the pandemic.

**TABLE 8**  
**SUMMARY OF PROGRAMS FOR 2021-2023**  
**DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH**

Program (Implementing Agency)	Amount (In Million Pesos)			% Share to Total Program			Growth Rates '22-'23 (%)
	2021	2022	2023	2021	2022	2023	
Health Facilities Operation Program/OSEC	49,310.4	56,388.0	63,736.0	39.5	32.9	36.2	13.0
Public Health Program/OSEC	29,932.6	47,860.7	43,821.4	24.0	27.9	24.9	(8.4)
Health Systems Strengthening Program/OSEC	25,777.9	41,823.3	43,172.3	20.6	24.4	24.5	3.2
Social Health Protection Program/OSEC	17,129.0	21,890.2	22,394.9	13.7	12.8	12.7	2.3
Health Regulatory Program/OSEC	1,077.1	1,003.5	1,002.5	0.9	0.6	0.6	(0.1)
Health Emergency Management Program/OSEC	803.1	813.8	752.3	0.6	0.5	0.4	(7.6)
Epidemiology and Surveillance Program/OSEC	158.6	873.6	718.4	0.1	0.5	0.4	(17.8)
National Nutrition Management Program/NNC	452.8	442.8	358.3	0.4	0.3	0.2	(19.1)
Health Policy and Standards Development Program/OSEC	265.3	220.3	238.1	0.2	0.1	0.1	8.1
National HIV and AIDS Management Program/PNAC	-	4.3	8.7	-	0.0	0.0	101.6
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>124,906.7</b>	<b>171,320.7</b>	<b>176,203.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>37.2</b>

Source: GAA 2021-2022 and NEP 2023

The Health Facilities Operations Program gets the highest allocation of P63.74 billion, equivalent to 36.2% of the total *Operations* budget in 2023. The program includes the operation of the DOH regional hospitals and other health facilities and national reference laboratories under the Curative Health Care Program, which will receive P51.01 billion.

The second highest allocation will be for the Public Health Program at P43.82 billion, or 24.9% of the proposed appropriations for Programs in 2023. The amount is lower by 8.4% than the P47.86 billion approved for 2022. This program includes the Prevention and Control of Communicable Diseases Sub-Program, which will have a 41.6% reduction in allocation, or from P10.03 billion in 2022 to P5.86 billion in 2023. The program focuses on managing tuberculosis, dengue, rabies, and other infectious diseases.

The Health Systems Strengthening Program will get the third highest allocation at P43.17 billion or 24.5% of the Operations budget in 2023. This program will see a 3.2% increase in funding from 2022. A major project under this program is the Health Facilities and Enhancement Program (HFEP), which will receive P22.99 billion for the construction, rehabilitation, and upgrading of health facilities, purchasing of medical equipment for these facilities and equipping and construction of ongoing projects, including the upgrading of facilities for COVID-19 response, and equipping and construction of ongoing projects. The facilities include barangay health stations, rural health units, polyclinics, and LGU and DOH hospitals. The DOH will prioritize the Universal Health Care sites and geographically isolated and disadvantaged areas (GIDAs). The program also consists of the Health Human Resource sub-program, which will have a P17.13 billion budget, of which P16.94 billion will go to the hiring

and deploying of 26,035 health professionals to underserved areas under the National Health Workforce Support System (NHWSS).

The HFEP is one of the DOH's programs and activities already being devolved to LGUs under the department's Devolution Transition Plan (DTP) (DOH 2022). Beginning in 2022, the DOH will re-devolve HFEP functions to provinces, cities, and municipalities that can provide health and social welfare services, including maintaining barangay health and daycare centers and purchasing medicines, medical supplies, and equipment necessary to provide services. Likewise, starting in 2023, hiring nurses and midwives will be devolved to 1<sup>st</sup> to 4<sup>th</sup> class municipalities except in GIDAs, target areas for peacebuilding efforts, poverty reduction priority areas, and those with serious health workers to the population gap.

An amount of P22.39 billion will go to the Social Health Protection Program of the OSEC for hospitalization and medical assistance to about 1.6 million indigent and financially incapacitated patients. The DOH and recipient government hospitals have to post on their website the name of recipient government hospitals and patients, whether confined or out-patients.

## **VI. PERFORMANCE REVIEW**

- 6.1. Budget utilization is one of the indicators of organizational performance as it measures the efficiency of an agency in its use of resources authorized by Congress. Measured in terms of the department's obligations in relation to its appropriations, the DOH and its attached agencies recorded a 93.5% obligations-appropriations ratio in 2021, much better than the 85.9% average from 2019 to 2020 (*Table 9*).
- 6.2. Unused appropriations for the whole of DOH, which include unreleased appropriations and unobligated allotment, decreased by 42.2% in 2021, with P16.52 billion in unused funds compared with P28.58 billion in 2020. Unobligated allotments comprised 93.3% of the unused funds in 2021. Unobligated allotments are balances of any programmed appropriation not obligated and still available after the authorized activity has been completed or discontinued. Bulk or 98.8% of the unused funds comprising mostly of unobligated allotments can be traced to the OSEC.



**TABLE 9**  
**OBLIGATIONS-APPROPRIATIONS RATIO**  
**AND UNUSED APPROPRIATIONS, 2019-2021**

Particulars	Obligation-Appropriations Ratio (%)			Unused Appropriations (In Million Pesos)		
	2019	2020	2021	2019	2020	2021
Office of the Secretary	86.1	93.5	95.3	16,487.9	28,440.5	16,349.9
NNC	70.3	73.0	74.5	24.1	134.7	165.7
PNAC	-	-	100.0	-	-	-
POPCOM <sup>a/</sup>	92.6	-	-	65.8	-	-
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>85.6</b>	<b>86.1</b>	<b>93.5</b>	<b>16,577.9</b>	<b>28,575.3</b>	<b>16,515.6</b>

Sources of basic data: NEP 2021-2023

<sup>a/</sup>Executive Order 71 signed in December 2018 by then President Rodrigo R. Duterte transferred the Commission on Population (POPCOM) to the National Economic Development Authority,

- 6.3. The disbursement rate is another measure of budget utilization and refers to the ratio of disbursements or settlement of actual obligations to total appropriations. Disbursement refers to the actual payment for the budgetary obligation. In 2021, DOH disbursed P180.44 billion of its P249.35 billion budget or a 72.4% disbursement rate., an improvement from the 69.2% in 2020 (*Table 10*).
- 6.4. On the other hand, NNC posted a lower disbursement rate in 2021 at 49.4% from 51.2% in 2020. According to COA, a low disbursement rate could indicate that the department had not maximized fund utilization of the budget for its major program even when reports suggest malnutrition, including stunting among very young children, persists in the country.

**TABLE 10**  
**DISBURSEMENT RATE BY AGENCY, 2020-2021**  
**(AMOUNTS IN MILLION PESOS)**

Particulars	2020			2021 <sup>p/</sup>		
	Appropriations	Disbursements	Disbursement Rate (%)	Appropriations	Disbursements	Disbursement Rate (%) <sup>a/</sup>
OSEC	204,669.2	141,723.4	69.2	248,731.7	180,132.4	72.4
NNC	453.6	232.1	51.2	614.3	303.7	49.4
<b>TOTAL DOH</b>	<b>205,122.8</b>	<b>141,955.5</b>	<b>69.2</b>	<b>249,346.0</b>	<b>180,436.2</b>	<b>72.4</b>

<sup>a/</sup> Disbursement rate – ratio of disbursements to appropriations

Source: SAAODB 2020-2021, DBM

<sup>p/</sup> Preliminary as of 30 June, 2022

6.5. Table 11 presents major DOH programs' obligation-to-appropriations ratio (or obligation rate) and disbursements-to-appropriations ratio (or disbursement rate) for 2021. Among the major programs, the Health Facilities Operations Program posted the highest obligation and disbursement rates in 2021 at 98.0% and 89.3%, respectively. Under the Curative Health Care Sub-Program, the *Operation of National Reference Laboratories* and the *Operation of Blood Centers and National Voluntary Blood Services* recorded low disbursement rates at 36.1% and 44.7% despite high obligation rates of 89.1% and 90.9%, respectively.

The Public Health Program posted a low 55.4% disbursement rate, including the National Immunization Sub-Program, which also recorded a disbursement rate of only 49.9%, despite a high 99.9% obligation rate. This amount for the immunization program came from Continuing Appropriations. By 2021, the DOH merged the line item for the Immunization Program with the Family Health sub-program, which provides family health, nutrition, and responsible parenting services.

The Health Facilities Enhancement Program (HFEP), a critical program to achieve Universal Health Care and improve the delivery of essential primary health care services, especially during the COVID-19 pandemic, had a high obligation rate of 88.8% but a low disbursement rate of only 35.2%. For several years, the Commission on Audit (COA) has drawn attention to the low utilization rates of HFEP appropriation. The COA has indicated that these low utilization rates point to the inability of the DOH to make the most of its budget, thereby affecting its efforts to ensure access to public health services.

The Human Resource for Health (HRH) sub-program had a P17.33 billion appropriation, of which 98.7% was obligated and 93.8% was disbursed. The DOH obligated 98.8% of the appropriations for HRH Deployment and disbursed 94.0% of the same amount.

The DOH obligated 83.8% of the appropriations for its Social Health Protection Program, which covers the medical assistance for indigent and financially incapacitated patients, either confined or outpatient. However, disbursement was only 54.4% of the budget.

**TABLE II**  
**BUDGET UTILIZATION BY MAJOR PROGRAM, 2021**  
**(AMOUNTS IN MILLION PESOS)**

Program	Appropriations	Obligations	Disbursements	Obligation Rate (%) <sup>a/</sup>	Disbursement Rate (%) <sup>b/</sup>
<b>HEALTH SYSTEMS STRENGTHENING PROGRAM</b>	<b>28,045.7</b>	<b>26,644.0</b>	<b>20,292.9</b>	<b>95.0</b>	<b>72.4</b>
<b>SERVICE DELIVERY SUB-PROGRAM</b>	<b>10,433.4</b>	9,292.1	3,886.2	89.1	37.2
Health Facility Policy and Plan Development	196.9	180.7	161.5	91.8	82.0
Health Facilities Enhancement Program	9,368.1	8,314.2	3,297.3	88.8	35.2
Local Health Systems Development and Assistance	556.4	501.4	340.6	90.1	61.2
Pharmaceutical Management	312.1	295.8	86.8	94.8	27.8
<b>HEALTH HUMAN RESOURCE SUB-PROGRAM</b>	<b>17,328.1</b>	<b>17,095.0</b>	<b>16,245.7</b>	<b>98.7</b>	<b>93.8</b>
HRH Deployment	17,152.8	16,947.3	16,131.4	98.8	94.0
HRH and Institutional Capacity Management	175.2	147.7	114.3	84.3	65.2
<b>PUBLIC HEALTH PROGRAM, of which</b>	<b>35,462.1</b>	<b>25,579.0</b>	<b>19,637.1</b>	<b>72.1</b>	<b>55.4</b>
<b>NATIONAL IMMUNIZATION SUB-PROGRAM</b>	<b>4,240.8</b>	<b>4,237.6</b>	<b>2,117.9</b>	<b>99.9</b>	<b>49.9</b>
National Immunization	4,240.8	4,237.6	2,117.9	99.9	49.9
<b>FAMILY HEALTH SUB-PROGRAM</b>	<b>12,658.1</b>	<b>12,463.0</b>	<b>6,255.6</b>	<b>98.5</b>	<b>49.4</b>
Family Health , Immunization, Nutrition and Responsible Parenting	12,658.1	12,463.0	6,255.6	98.5	49.4
<b>HEALTH FACILITIES OPERATION PROGRAM</b>	<b>50,428.9</b>	<b>49,429.5</b>	<b>45,020.4</b>	<b>98.0</b>	<b>89.3</b>
<b>CURATIVE HEALTH CARE SUB-PROGRAM</b>	<b>49,053.4</b>	<b>48,119.3</b>	<b>43,857.3</b>	<b>98.1</b>	<b>89.4</b>
Operation of Blood Centers and National Voluntary Blood Services Program	377.7	343.5	168.9	90.9	44.7
Operation of DOH Hospitals in Metro Manila (MM)	12,788.3	12,523.1	11,633.9	97.9	91.0
Operation of DOH Regional Hospitals and Other Health Facilities	35,300.7	34,730.1	31,842.9	98.4	90.2
Operation of National Reference Laboratories	586.6	522.6	211.7	89.1	36.1
<b>REHABILITATIVE HEALTH CARE SUB-PROGRAM</b>	<b>1,375.5</b>	<b>1,310.2</b>	<b>1,163.1</b>	<b>95.3</b>	<b>84.6</b>
Operation of Dangerous Drug Abuse Treatment and Rehabilitation Centers	1,375.5	1,310.2	1,163.1	95.3	84.6
<b>SOCIAL HEALTH PROTECTION PROGRAM (of which)</b>	<b>17,129.0</b>	<b>14,347.3</b>	<b>9,316.5</b>	<b>83.8</b>	<b>54.4</b>
Assistance to Indigent Patients either confined or out-patient	17,009.0	14,227.3	9,196.5	83.6	54.1

a/ Obligation rate – ratio of obligations to appropriations

b/ Disbursement rate – ratio of disbursements to appropriations

Source: SAAODB 2021 (FAR No. 1 in Transparency Seal)

- 6.6. Table 12 presents the performance indicators and the respective targets from 2020 to 2022 of the selected major programs of the DOH to improve access to promotive and preventive health care services. The OSEC failed to meet half of its identified targets for 2021 for the Public Health Program. Most notable was the National Immunization Program, which achieved only 46% fully immunized children compared to the 95% target. This failure could indicate that many children are at risk of contracting childhood diseases such as measles, polio and TB, which immunization could have prevented. The children getting sick negatively affect their future health outcomes and put added pressure on the health system. In its previous Audit Reports, the COA pointed to the delayed purchase and distribution of vaccines to LGUs as contributing factors to the program's low coverage. It is likewise possible that the fear of COVID-19 infections and limited mobility during the previous year could have prevented parents from bringing their children to health centers and contributed to the low immunization rate. The DOH did not also meet its target for eligible people living with HIV on Anti-Retroviral Treatment (ART), reaching only 42% of their intended beneficiaries. Meanwhile, the TB program exceeded its 90% treatment success rate target for 2021, with a 91% success rate.
- 6.7. Under the Health Systems Strengthening Program, the Department met its target of 17 HRH per 10,000 population in 2021 and maintained this target for 2022. However, it did not set a target for 2023, possibly because of the devolution to LGUs of hiring certain HRH cadres.

**TABLE 12**  
**PERFORMANCE INDICATORS OF MAJOR PROGRAMS, 2021-2023**

Program	2021		2022 Target	2023 Target
	Target	Actual		
<b>Health Systems Strengthening Program</b>				
Outcome Indicators				
<i>HRH to Population Ratio</i>	17 HRH: 10,000 Population	17 HRH: 10,000 Population	17 HRH: 10,000 Population	N/A
Output Indicators				
<i>Percent of partners provided with technical assistance on local health systems development</i>	100%	99%	100%	100%
<i>Percent (&amp; number) of priority areas supplemented with HRH from DOH Deployment Program</i>	100%	100%	100%	100%
<i>Percent of identified priority areas supplemented with HRH from National Health Workforce Support System</i>	N/A	N/A	N/A	100%
<b>Public Health Program</b>				
Outcome Indicators				
<i>Percent (&amp; number) of public health facilities with no stock outs</i>	>70%	41%	70%	N/A
<i>Percent of external clients who rated the technical assistance provided as satisfactory or better</i>	100%	100%	100%	100%
<i>Percent of fully immunized children</i>	95%	46%	95%	95%
<i>Modern contraceptive prevalence rate</i>	29%	27%	N/A	N/A
<i>Number of malaria-free provinces</i>	72	62	75	65
<i>Number of filariasis-free provinces</i>	46	44	45	45
<i>Number of rabies free zones (provinces)</i>	10	8	9	9
<i>Percent of Anti-Retroviral Treatment (ART) eligible people living with HIV or ART</i>	90%	42%	95%	43%
<i>Treatment success rate for all forms of tuberculosis</i>	Equal to or more than 90%	91%	90%	90%
Output Indicators				
<i>Percentage of LGUs and other health partners provided with technical assistance on public health programs</i>	100%	100%	100%	100%
<i>Percent of received health commodities from the Central Office distributed to health facilities based on the allocation list</i>	80%	89%	Varies per Region	Varies per Region
<i>Percent of procured cancer commodities distributed to access sites</i>	N/A	N/A	80%	80%
<i>Percent of Centers for Health Development (CHDs) with no stock-outs of centrally procured major health commodities for Integrated Comprehensive Essential Service Delivery Package as identified by the programs</i>	85%	95%	85%	85%
<b>Social Health Protection Program</b>				
Outcome Indicator				
<i>Percent of excess net bill covered by Medical Assistance Program (MAIP) incurred by poor in-patients admitted in basic accommodation or service ward</i>	100%	100%	N/A	N/A
<i>Percent of excess net bill covered by Medical Assistance for Indigent Program (MAIP) incurred by indigent and financially incapacitated patients.</i>	N/A	N/A	100%	100%
Output Indicator				
<i>Number of Patients provided with medical assistance</i>	1,800,000	1,717,830	1,500,000	N/A

Source: NEP 2023

## VII. COA FINDINGS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

- 7.1. The COA’s 2021 Annual Audit Report for DOH noted that the department did not implement 86 of the Commission’s 168 recommendations from previous years (*Table 13*). The non-implemented recommendations relate to DOH’s failure to reconcile its records and the agency’s failure to maximize the use of its authorized appropriations, affecting the public’s access to basic health services.

The NNC did not implement 33 or 80.5% of the recommendations from COA in the previous years.

- 7.2. The OSEC received an adverse opinion on its financial statements due to misstatements in its accounts and the agency’s failure to make the necessary corrections from the errors from the previous year, making its beginning balances unreliable.

**TABLE 13**  
**STATUS OF IMPLEMENTATION OF COA RECOMMENDATIONS**  
**(AS OF 31 DECEMBER 2021)**

Particulars	Total	Implemented		Not Implemented	
		Number	(%)	Number	(%)
OSEC	168	82	48.8	86	51.2
NNC	41	8	19.5	33	80.5

Source: COA Annual Audit Reports 2021 (Part 3)

- 7.3. Part of the 2021 Annual Audit Report focused on the DOH’s COVID-19 response. Among the notable observations of the COA was the deficiencies in the distribution of mobile X-Ray machines to recipient hospitals for COVID 19 response in the amount of P55.2 million. Two hospitals declined to accept the device due to a lack of space or existing units of the same equipment. There was even an instance of delivery of an X-Ray machine to a private hospital. COA stated that these instances show that DOH failed to assess the actual needs for the equipment and the readiness of recipient hospitals. Moreover, the lack of proper coordination between the Central Office (CO), supplier, and receiving units prevented the immediate and optimum use of the X-Ray machines, defeating the purpose of their purchase.
- 7.4. COA also pointed to the improper distribution of COVID-19-related items procured and delivered by the Procurement Service of the DBM (PS-DBM) using funds transferred by the DOH. Among the deficiencies identified by the report are the non-receipt of COVID-19 items by recipient operating units (OU) amounting to P18.6 million, deliveries of items to agencies other than the intended recipients at P168.2 million, and discrepancies between the reported quantities and the actual quantities received amounting to P835,437 for a total of P185.6 million. These problems showed weak safeguarding of government assets that could lead to wastage, loss, or misuse.

- 7.5. The audit report also revealed lapses in the distribution and use of COVID-19 vaccines and supplies, resulting in wastage and the near expiration of vaccines. The report noted inconsistencies between the number of vaccines indicated in the property transfer receipt (PTR) issued by the central office and the actual amount received by the agency, raising the possibility of under-delivery in some areas. These problems could have contributed to the low accomplishment of the program and caused some individuals to miss their opportunity to receive their shots.
- 7.6. The COA also reported that a total of P908.0 million for the Special Risk Allowance (SRA), Active Hazard Duty Pay and Sickness Compensation for Public and Private Health Workers were not supported by documents to prove that the workers reported to their workstation, catered to or in contact with COVID-19 patients, helped mitigate the transmission of the virus and thereby prevented further loss of lives. Moreover, the audit also uncovered that some personnel who received the SRA were assigned in other offices and provided general administrative services deemed not meeting the conditions to be eligible for the allowance. COA also required the DOH to present scientific evidence to support the claim that healthcare workers who do not directly cater to COVID-19 patients are equally exposed to the virus and thus, can be considered “in contact with patients” and are therefore eligible to receive the SRA.

There were recent reports of several health workers expressing dismay over the supposed delay in the distribution of One COVID-19 Allowance (OCA). The OCA grants P9,000 per month to workers in high-risk areas, P6,000 to those in moderate risk and P3,000 for those in low-risk areas. According to the DBM, while the DOH have already requested for the release of additional P63 billion for the distribution of OCA, it failed to submit all the needed requirements. The requirements included the budget breakdown, segregation, actual names of claimants, and other relevant documents to clearly determine the eligible beneficiaries.

- 7.7. On the HFEP implementation, the 2021 Audit Report also noted that various infrastructure projects with total cost of P1.92 billion had several problems, including non-completion within the contract time, unimplemented or delayed, and remained unused. These issues, according to COA, deprive the public of the benefits from the immediate and full use of the facilities. Moreover, these resources could lose their value if they remain idle and lacking in maintenance and proper calibration, and in effect, DOH would fail to achieve the HFEP goal of revitalizing and upgrading the health system’s facilities to improve its delivery of basic and essential services.

**REFERENCES:**

COA. (2022). Annual Audit Reports for DOH and its attached Agencies.

DBM. (2022). 2023 Budget Priorities Framework

\_\_\_\_\_ 2023 President’s Budget Message

\_\_\_\_\_ Briefer on the 2023 Proposed National Budget

\_\_\_\_\_ Budget of Expenditures and Sources of Financing 2023

\_\_\_\_\_ General Appropriations Act, 2021-2022

\_\_\_\_\_ National Expenditure Program, 2021-2023

\_\_\_\_\_ Staffing Summary, 2023

DOH. 2022. Devolution Transition Plan 2022-2024. Manila: Department of Health. Accessed June 22, 2022. <https://www.dbm.gov.ph/wp-content/uploads/Mandanas-Garcia-Case/Approved-DTPs-and-Related-Documents/4-Approved-Joint-DOH-NNC-DTP-dated-20-January-2022.pdf>.



**EXPENDITURE PROGRAM BY GENERAL EXPENSE CLASS, 2021-2023  
(AMOUNTS IN MILLION PESOS)**

Particulars	2021					2022					2023				
	PS	MOOE	CO	FinEx	TOTAL	PS	MOOE	CO	FinEx	TOTAL	PS	MOOE	CO	FinEx	TOTAL
OSEC	70,677.7	147,350.1	17,797.7	-	235,825.4	74,509.1	86,707.2	27,032.0	-	188,248.2	78,391.7	93,242.5	23,991.8	-	195,625.9
NNC	91.2	336.7	20.7	-	448.6	84.1	395.4	4.8	-	484.3	90.9	316.9	-	-	407.7
PNAC	-	-	-	-	-	29.3	6.2	-	-	<b>35.5</b>	37.7	6.3	-	-	43.9
<b>Total</b>	<b>70,768.9</b>	<b>147,686.8</b>	<b>17,818.3</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>236,274.0</b>	<b>74,622.5</b>	<b>87,108.8</b>	<b>27,036.8</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>188,768.0</b>	<b>78,520.2</b>	<b>93,565.6</b>	<b>23,991.8</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>196,077.6</b>

Source: FY 2023 BESF

**EXPENDITURE PROGRAM BY GENERAL EXPENSE CLASS, 2021-2023  
(AS PERCENT TO TOTAL AGENCY)**

Particulars	2021					2022					2023				
	PS	MOOE	CO	FinEx	TOTAL	PS	MOOE	CO	FinEx	TOTAL	PS	MOOE	CO	FinEx	TOTAL
OSEC	30.0	62.5	7.5	-	100.0	39.6	46.1	14.4	-	100.0	40.1	47.7	12.3	-	<b>100</b>
NNC	20.3	75.1	4.6	-	100.0	17.4	81.7	1.0	-	100.0	22.3	77.7	-	-	100.0
PNAC	-	-	-	-	-	82.5	17.5	-	-	100.0	85.8	14.2	-	-	100.0
<b>Total</b>	<b>30.0</b>	<b>62.5</b>	<b>7.5</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>39.5</b>	<b>46.1</b>	<b>14.3</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>40.0</b>	<b>47.7</b>	<b>12.2</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>100.0</b>

Source: FY 2023 BESF