

Headline	Dengue kills 227 in first quarter	
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Dengue kills 227 in first quarter

The Department of Health said 227 people died of dengue from January to March this year.

The department recorded close to 56,000 dengue cases during the period.

Data from the DoH's epidemiology bureau showed that from January 1 to March 30, there were 55,976 cases of the avoidable mosquito-borne illness. This is higher than the 31,247 cases with 168 fatalities reported in the same period last year.

From March 24 to 30 alone, 3,381 cases were reported to the dengue surveillance unit of the department.

Central Visayas had the most number of cases — 6,189 and 37 deaths. Calabarzon (Cavite, Laguna, Batangas, Rizal and Quezon) followed with 5,366 cases and 20 deaths.

Metro Manila came third with 5,339 cases and 18 deaths. Caraga was fourth with 5,099 cases and 15 deaths, followed by Western Visayas with 4,719 cases and 27 deaths.

Ilocos Region had 1,234 cases and two deaths; Cagayan Valley, 4,163 cases and 22 deaths; Central Luzon, 4,429 cases and eight deaths; Mimaropa (Mindoro, Marinduque, Romblon, Palawan) with 1,611 cases and six deaths; Bicol Region, 1,104 cases and eight deaths; Eastern Visayas, 2,383 cases and nine deaths; Zamboanga Peninsula, 2,553 cases and 19 deaths; Northern Mindanao, 4,287 cases and 12 deaths; Davao Region, 2,059 cases and three deaths; Soccksksargen, 3,615 cases and 13 deaths; Autonomous Region of Muslim Mindanao, 637 cases and five deaths; and Cordillera Administrative Region, 1,189 cases and three deaths.

Most of the victims were aged five to nine years old.