

# RABIES IN THE PHILIPPINES:

## CHALLENGES, INITIATIVES, AND WAYS FORWARD TOWARD ONE HEALTH APPROACH

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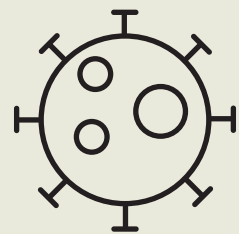


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### RABIES BY THE NUMBERS: GLOBAL



**99.9%**

Rabies cases are fatal



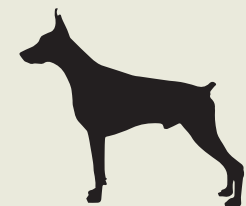
**59,000**

Rabies human deaths globally



**96%**

Asia (60%) and Africa (36%):  
most human Rabies deaths



**95%**

Human deaths are due to dog bites



**70%**

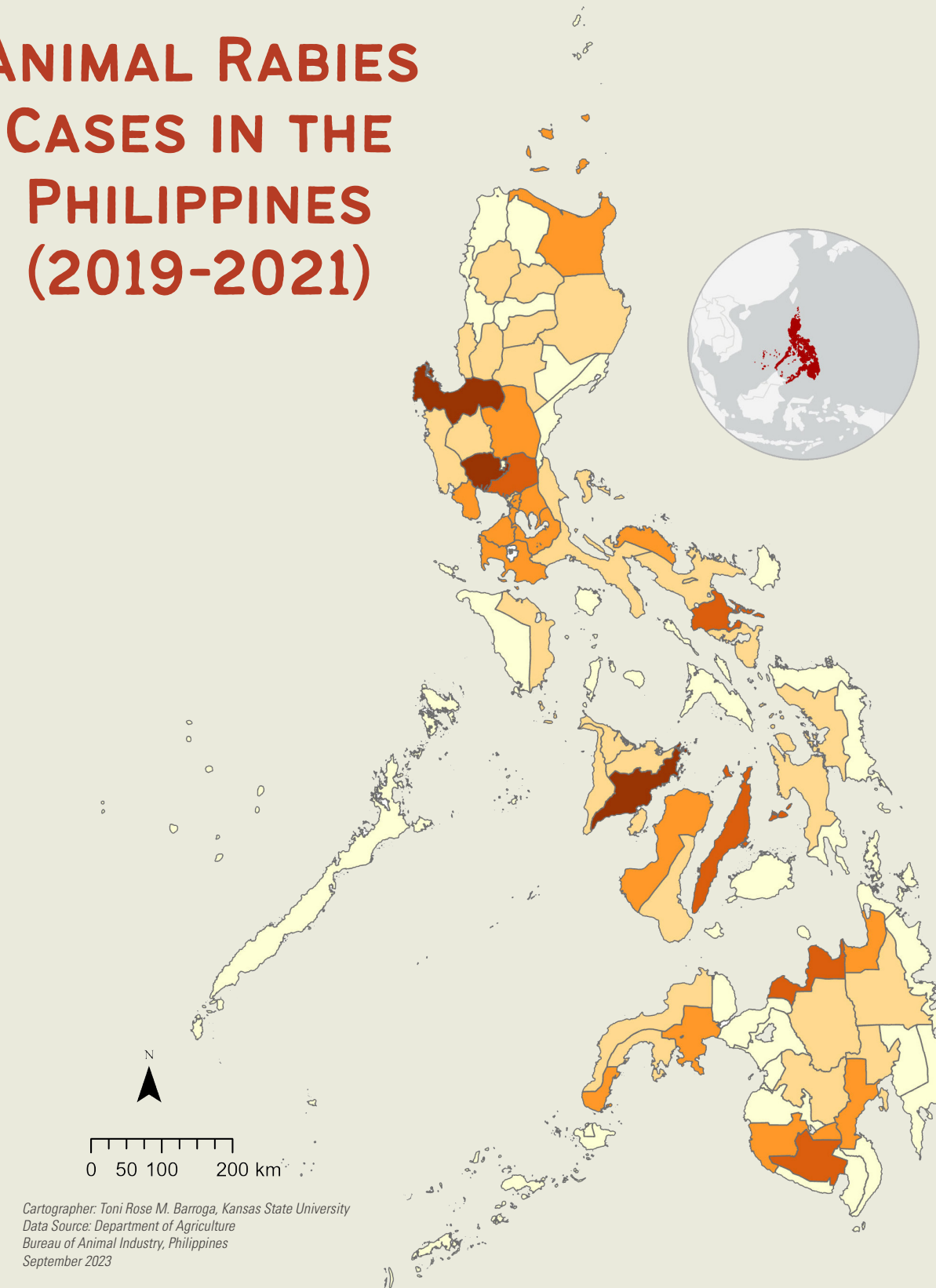
Dog population needs to be  
vaccinated to protect from Rabies



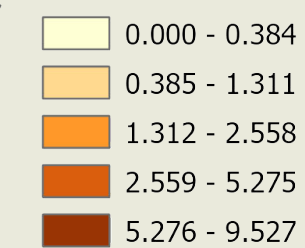
**10%**

Cost of dog vaccine compared  
to human vaccines

### ANIMAL RABIES CASES IN THE PHILIPPINES (2019-2021)

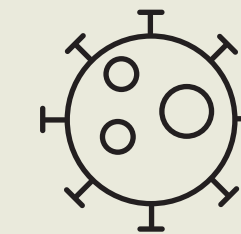


Percent of Cases  
per Province



Cartographer: Toni Rose M. Barroga, Kansas State University  
Data Source: Department of Agriculture  
Bureau of Animal Industry, Philippines  
September 2023

### RABIES BY THE NUMBERS: PHILIPPINES



**1043**

Animal Rabies cases  
for the past 3 years



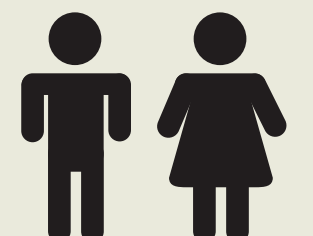
**200-300**

Human deaths every year



**99%**

Dogs are the most common  
reservoir of Rabies virus



**15 & UNDER**

Most common age of  
animal bite victims

### CHALLENGES

- Availability of human and animal rabies vaccines
- Low vaccination rates
- Limited public awareness
- Weak coordination between human and animal health sectors

## S-T-O-P APPROACH TOWARDS RABIES DISEASE CONTROL AND ELIMINATION



### SOCIO CULTURAL

Facts on Rabies are included in the elementary curriculum of students to educate them about the disease. World Rabies Day and Rabies Awareness Month are organized to intensify knowledge on Rabies and responsible pet ownership.



### TECHNICAL

Improved mass dog vaccination (MDV) is achieved through coordination with private stakeholders, academe, and health authorities. Capacity building on MDV and surveillance are also implemented to prevent Rabies occurrence.



### ORGANIZATIONAL

Improved coordination across relevant sectors (agriculture, health, local community leaders, private sectors) through regular meetings are regularly held to improve Rabies control efforts.



### POLITICAL

Sustained budgetary support toward Rabies control activities can be materialized through the help of policy makers. Health and veterinary leaders communicate with their city leaders to achieve this.

#### References:

1. Amparo, A. C., Jayme, S. I., Rocas, M. C., Quizon, M. C., Mercado, M. L., Dela Cruz, M. P., Licuan, D. A., Villalon, E. E., Baquilod, M. S., Hernandez, L. M., Taylor, L. H., & Nel, L. H. (2018). The evaluation of Animal Bite Treatment Centers in the Philippines from a patient perspective. PLOS ONE, 13(7). <https://doi.org/10.1371/journal.pone.0200873> 2. Bonquin, C. (2022). Ph rabies deaths jump to 233. <http://www.cnnphilippines.com/news/2022/9/8/Rabies-deaths.html>. Accessed on June 25, 2023 3. Bureau of Animal Industry. 2021. Laboratory Test Results of Rabies-positive animals (unpublished data) 4. Hampson, K., Coudeville, L., Lembo, T., Sambo, M., Kieffer, A., Attlan, M., ... Dushoff, J. (2015). Estimating the global burden of endemic canine rabies. PLOS Neglected Tropical Diseases, 9(4). <https://doi.org/10.1371/journal.pntd.0003709>