

## QC Covid alert raised to 'yellow'

QCESU chief Dr. Rolando Cruz said there is a possibility that Covid-19 cases will spike further within the next two weeks under the current yellow status

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The **Quezon City local government** raised its Covid-19 early warning level to “yellow status” after it recorded an average of 26 cases per day this week.

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According to the **QC Epidemiology and Disease Surveillance Unit (QCESU)**, aside from the jump in average daily cases, two other indicators were also observed as of 9 June.

One, the average positivity rate doubled to 3.10 percent from 1.50 percent on the week of 27 May to 2 June. Two, the forecasted reproduction number climbed to 3.4 percent from 1.1 percent last week.

QCESU chief Dr. Rolando Cruz said there is a possibility that Covid-19 cases will spike further within the next two weeks under the current yellow status.

Cruz added, however, that their monitoring system is being used for internal reporting only and should not be confused with the official alert level issued by the Inter-Agency Task Force for the Management of Emerging Infectious Diseases (IATF).

“Our local early warning system is helpful in assessing the pandemic within our city only. It aids our department as well as our city officials in the systematic monitoring of new cases, analysis of trends, and recommendation of strategic measures to prevent the further spread of infections. Official alert level announcements and general guidelines will still come from the IATF,” Cruz said.

As of this writing, Quezon City remains under Alert Level 1 according to the IATF, and is classified as low-risk by the Department of Health.

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Meanwhile, Mayor Joy Belmonte reminded citizens to continue observing preventive measures such as the wearing of masks, as well as getting vaccinated and boosted. “We have come a long way but the virus is still with us. Again, we call on our residents to remain vigilant,” Belmonte said.

She called on those who have yet to get their vaccines or booster shots to visit their nearest barangay health center or by registering online via <https://qceservices.quezoncity.gov.ph/qcvaxeasy>.

Last April, the city government rolled out the second booster of Covid-19 vaccine for immunocompromised adults, senior citizens, and frontline health workers.