



BEYOND THE SURFACE:

A COMPILATION OF SOCIETAL PROBLEMS IN PHILIPPINE CONTEXT

TMA 1 for DEVC 202
Development Communication
Concepts and Approaches

ARNANN JAY AGOSTO
2023-30165
Master of Development Communication

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POVERTY

14 million Filipino families consider themselves poor – SWS

By: Beatrice Pinlac - Reporter / @BPinlacINQ INQUIRER.net / 08:30 AM May 08, 2023

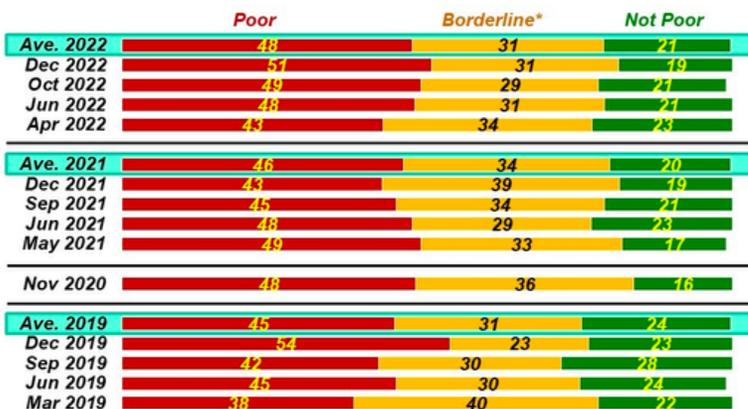


MANILA, Philippines — Around 14 million Filipino families considered themselves poor in the first quarter of 2023, according to a Social Weather Stations (SWS) survey, which said this was a “steady” figure from its record in December 2022.

EDITORS' PICK **MOST READ**

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- NEWSINFO: Goring affected at least 196,000 in 7 regions; 1 person reported missing – NDRRMC
- NEWSINFO: Supreme Court Justice fires dismissed cop involved in road rage
- BUSINESS: PH GDP growth projection for '23 cut on global woes
- BUSINESS: Sun Life Grepa encourages Filipinos to future-proof their future

SELF-RATED POVERTY: FAMILIES WHO ARE “MAHIRAP”: PHILIPPINES, MAR 2019 TO DEC 2022



Self-Rated Poverty Question: Where would you place your family in this card? (Not poor, On the line, Poor)
 *Those who pointed to the horizontal line separating the options MAHIRAP (poor) and HINDI MAHIRAP (not poor) are classified as 'Borderline Poor.'

The pollster also found that families who did not find themselves poor increased from 20 percent to 25 percent in Balance Luzon, but dropped from 39 percent to 33 percent in Metro Manila and from 11 percent to six percent in Mindanao.

This, however, did not move in Visayas at nine percent.

SWS said the Metro Manila self-rated poverty threshold – or the minimum monthly budget self-rated poor families say they need for household expenses in order to not consider themselves poor – leaped from P15,000 in December 2022 to P20,000 in March 2023.

But the self-rated poverty threshold remained “steady elsewhere,” according to the pollster.

'Newly poor'

SWS said that among the 14 million Filipino families who considered themselves poor, 6.5 percent or 1.8 million were newly poor, which means they did not consider themselves poor one to four years ago.

Around 6.7 percent or 1.8 million families said they were poor five or more years ago, and 37.9 percent or 10.4 million families said they have never experienced not being poor.

Among those who did not find themselves poor, SWS found that 17.7 percent or 4.8 million families said they experienced being poor one to four years ago, 9.5 percent or 2.6 million said they were poor five or more years ago, while 21.7 percent or 5.9 million never experienced being poor.

POVERTY

ENGLISH

WHO WE ARE

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165 MILLION PEOPLE FELL INTO POVERTY BETWEEN 2020 TO 2023 AS DEBT SERVICING CROWDED OUT SOCIAL PROTECTION, HEALTH AND EDUCATION EXPENDITURES

165 million people fell into poverty between 2020 to 2023 as debt servicing crowded out social protection, health and education expenditures

UNDP calls for a Debt-Poverty Pause to mitigate poverty until the multilateral system addresses debt restructuring at speed and scale

JULY 14, 2023

Poverty rates in poor countries have surged, with the number of additional individuals living on less than \$3.65-a-day reaching 165 million by 2023

Photo Courtesy: UNDP



ENVIRONMENTAL DEGRADATION

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CLIMATE CHANGE

Christmas Floods in the Philippines Kill At Least 51, Dozens Still Missing

BY MARTINA IGINI | ASIA | JAN 4TH 2023 | 2 MINS

 EARTH.ORG IS POWERED BY OVER 150 CONTRIBUTING WRITERS



Thousands of people remain in emergency shelters after erratic rains triggered devastating flooding on Christmas Day. Floods in the Philippines, a nation ranked among the world's most vulnerable to the impacts of climate change, are a recurring event and have intensified in recent years as the world gets warmer.



ENVIRONMENTAL DEGRADATION



ENVIRONMENTAL DEFENDERS

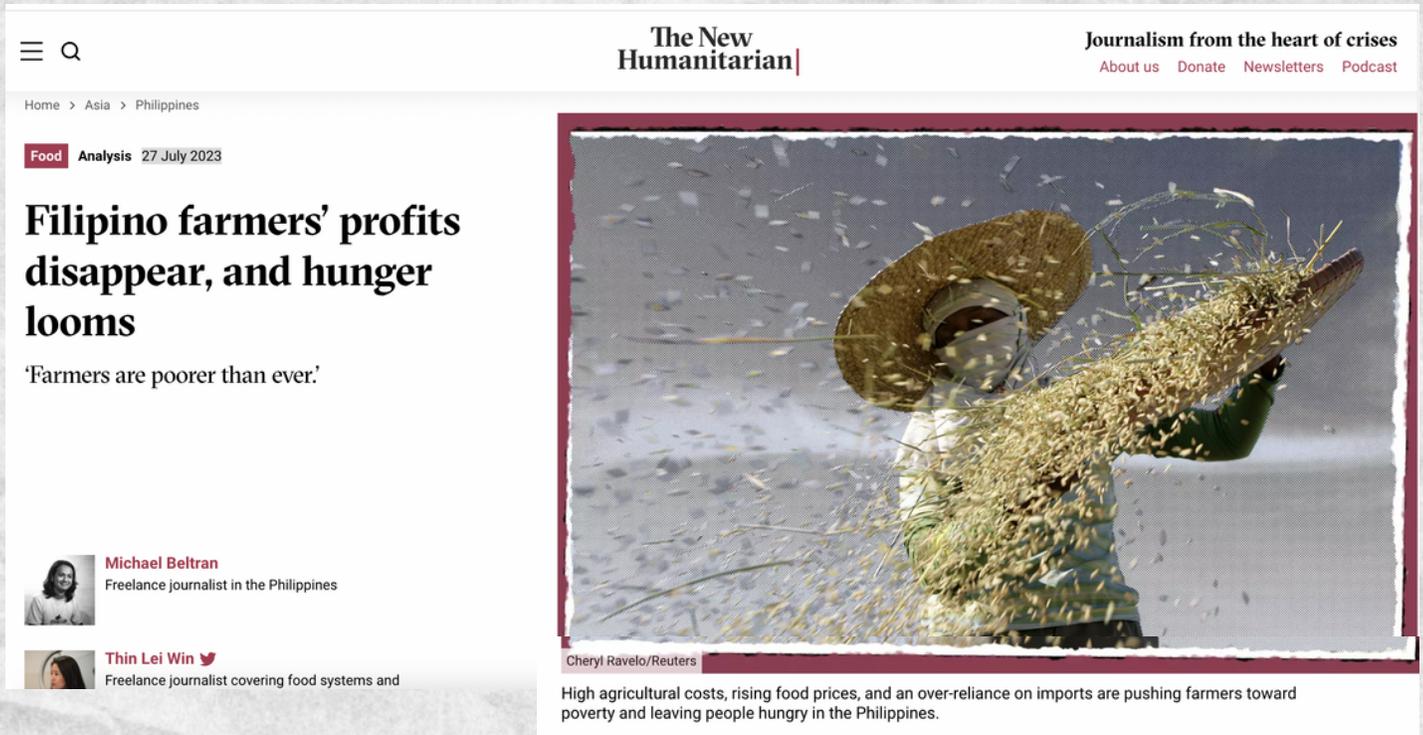
A decade later, Philippines still most dangerous country in Asia for envi defenders

SEP 13, 2023 7:05 AM PHT

IYA GOZUM



HUNGER



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Food Analysis 27 July 2023

Filipino farmers' profits disappear, and hunger looms

'Farmers are poorer than ever.'

Michael Beltran
Freelance journalist in the Philippines

Thin Lei Win 
Freelance journalist covering food systems and



Cheryl Ravelo/Reuters

High agricultural costs, rising food prices, and an over-reliance on imports are pushing farmers toward poverty and leaving people hungry in the Philippines.

Hunger spreads in the Philippines

In a recent report, the UN's Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) said that there is "currently no reason to suspect an impending food [shortage] crisis" in the Philippines; it's affordability that is the concern. **The World Bank** in May also had an optimistic outlook for the Philippines, calling it one of the "dynamic economies" in Asia.

With a growing middle class and a large and young population, it is currently a lower-middle-income country that could be on track to reach upper-middle-income status. Its **inflation rate** of 5.4% in June 2023, down from a **14-year high** of 8.7% in January, is significantly lower than other nations, including **Argentina** (114%), **Ghana** (42.2%), and **Egypt** (35.7%).

Still, food inflation is higher, at 6.7%, and even a small shift can have an outsized impact in a country where households **spend** more than half of their monthly income on food.

National averages mask regional differences in hunger and poverty levels that persist in remote islands and mountains, said Suresh Murugesu, country director for Action Against Hunger Philippines. Parts of central and southern Philippines have hunger levels **three to four times** that of regions with the lowest levels.



HUNGER

OPINION

EDITORIAL - Rising hunger

The Philippine Star ⓘ

June 9, 2022 | 12:00am



Food items account for a hefty share of the consumer price index. So it's not surprising that with inflation soaring to 5.4 percent in May – the highest in three-and-a-half years – more Filipinos also experienced involuntary hunger in the first quarter of the year, according to a survey conducted by Social Weather Stations Inc.

The SWS survey, conducted from April 19 to 27, showed 12.2 percent of the respondents saying they experienced involuntary hunger at least once in the first three months of 2022. The figure, which is 0.4 percent higher than the 11.8 percent recorded in the fourth quarter of 2021, is equivalent to an estimated 3.1 million families. With an average family size of five, that's about 15 million Filipinos.

UNEMPLOYMENT

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MONEY

Filtered By: Money

Unemployed Filipinos up to 2.47M in February 2023 —PSA

By TED CORDERO, GMA Integrated News

Published April 11, 2023 9:48am

Updated April 11, 2023 11:27am

The number of unemployed Filipinos rose in February this year as the labor market failed to absorb a portion of the labor force that saw an increase during the period, data released by the Philippine Statistics Authority (PSA) on Tuesday showed.

The 4.8% unemployment rate is equivalent to 48 jobless persons out of 1,000 individuals in the labor force.

Despite the higher joblessness in February, the number of employed persons saw an increase of 1.45 million, bringing the total number of individuals in the labor force with jobs or livelihoods to 48.80 million from 47.35 million in January.

It is also higher than the 45.48 million employed persons in February 2022.

The employment rate during the period stood at 95.2%, same level month-on-month and higher than the 93.6% rate year-on-year.

Mapa explained that the increase in jobless persons while at the same time the number employed adults also rose in February was due to the expansion in labor participation at 51.27 million, up by 1.55 million from 49.72 million in January.

This translates to a labor force participation rate of 66.6%, out of 77 million Filipinos ages 15 and above.

The rise in labor participation, the PSA chief said, has been observed since July 2022 amid the further opening up of the economy and easing of COVID-19 restrictions.

“In simple explanation, hindi lahat ng nag-join sa labor force ay na-absorb ng ating labor market na nagkaroon ng trabaho,” Mapa said.

UNEMPLOYMENT

Unemployed Filipinos climb to 2.33M in June

By CNN Philippines Staff

Published Aug 9, 2023, 9:07:19 AM

Updated Aug 9, 2023, 12:36:14 PM



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Big business groups say tighter immigration checks run counter to efforts to ease doing business

Metro
authorit

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Asked
159

national Statistician Dennis Mapa said about
are a job.

Magdag sa labor force participation in June, hindi lahat 'yun nagiging employed," he told a
g.

[translation: Not everyone who joined the labor force in June got employed.]

During his presentation, Mapa also noted that there was a 233,000 drop in employment in fishing and aquaculture from June of last year to June 2023.

"There's a big drop in value production in agriculture, particularly fisheries," he said. "Marami raw nagsara na fish ponds sa Regions 3, 4 (Many fish ponds in Regions 3, 4 reportedly closed)."

On the other hand, the sectors with the biggest employment year-on-year were the following: accommodation and food service activities; agriculture and forestry; wholesale and retail trade, repair of motor vehicles and motorcycles; other service activities; and public administration and defense, compulsory social security.

Meanwhile, Mapa said the impact of recent typhoons in employment may be reflected in July to August data.

INEQUALITY



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COLUMNISTS



BUSINESS MATTERS

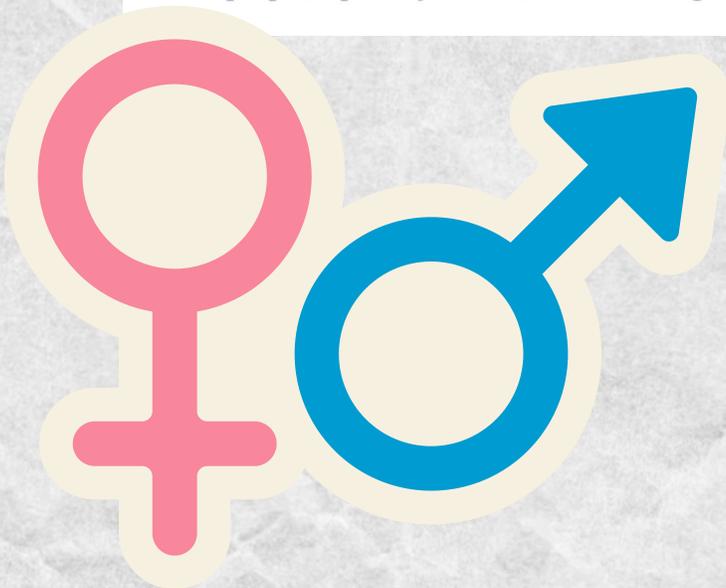
The unfinished business of gender equality

By: [Ma. Aurora "Boots" Geotina-Garcia](#) - @inquirerdotnet Philippine Daily Inquirer / 05:02 AM August 10, 2023

Many would ask me, "Why did you get into the gender equality and women empowerment space?" It is because I believe that privilege comes with an obligation to help others enjoy the same opportunity that was made available to me.

Everyone is "unconsciously" biased. While there is no denying that progress has been made in some areas, the struggle for genuine gender equality continues to be fought on multiple fronts. [The World Economic Forum's 2023 Global Gender Gap Report](#) noted that the Philippines remains to be the most gender-equal country in Asia—ranking 16th among 146 countries.

Nonetheless, there has been no improvement in biases against women within the last decade. Citing the 2023 Gender Social Norms Index of the UN Development Programme, the report revealed that nine out of 10 women and men still hold biases against women. Sadly, even women share the same opinion. This translates to at least half of the population believing that men are better leaders and managers than women in the political and economic spheres. The persistence of gender bias and social norms prevent people, especially women, from reaching their fullest economic potential.



“

While there is no denying that progress has been made in some areas, the struggle for genuine gender equality continues to be fought on multiple fronts ... everyone has the potential to lead the movement for change—a step forward to realizing a world free of gender bias and discrimination.

Ma. Aurora "Boots" Geotina-Garcia
Business Matters

”

READ THE FULL ARTICLE HERE:
PHILIPPINE DAILY
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Philippine Daily Inquirer's
Leadership and Digital Presence

INEQUALITY

OPINION

Income inequality



THE CORNER ORACLE - Andrew J. Masigan - The Philippine Star ⓘ

August 30, 2023 | 12:00am



The world was making great strides towards improving income inequality until the Wuhan virus struck in 2020.

Data from the World Bank show a remarkable improvement in reducing global poverty rates from the years 2010 to 2019. At the close of 2019, the number of people living in extreme poverty dropped to just 640 million, more than half of what it was in 2010. Incidents of poverty would have dropped further to 590 million in 2022 if not for the contagion. Sadly, the trend reversed and those living in hunger surged anew to 738 million people today.

This is how income is distributed globally. About 1.2 percent of households are categorized as "wealthy" having a net worth of \$1 million or more. Meanwhile, 11.8 percent are moderately wealthy with a net worth between \$100K to \$1 million. The middle class, or those with a net worth of between \$10K to \$100K, comprise 33.8 percent of the global population. The greater majority, or 53.2 percent, have a net worth of zero to less than \$10K.

ETHNIC CONFLICT

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RIGHTS
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January 26, 2023 8:00AM EST

Philippines: Officials 'Red-Tagging' Indigenous Leaders, Activists

Threats, Attacks Put Indigenous Communities at Risk



Family and members of the Indigenous Dumagat tribe carry the coffins of Puroy and Randy Dela Cruz to be buried in Rizal province, Philippines, March 17, 2021. The two were among nine activists advocating Indigenous and land rights killed by state security forces earlier that month. © 2021 Jes Aznar/Getty Images

CORRECTION

This press release has been updated to correctly reflect the name of the national coordinator of the environmental group Kalikasan, Jon Angelo Bonifacio.

ETHNIC CONFLICT

Conflict Alert 2020: Enduring wars

☰ Analysis • Source: [Int'l Alert](#) • Posted: 4 Apr 2021 • Originally published: 26 Jan 2021 •



Primary country:

[Philippines](#)

Source:

[International Alert](#)

Format:

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Themes:

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Language:

[English](#)

On the cover: Indigenous Teduray residents of Barangay Itaw, South Upi, Maguindanao flee to safety on 3 January 2021 after armed men believed to be members of the BIFF burned down their homes allegedly to force them to leave their lands.

Photo: Ferdinandh Cabrera

POOR EDUCATION



Learning Crisis in the Philippines

An overview



9 in 10

Filipino children aged 10 years old struggle to read simple text



1 in 4 parents

say children did not learn under distance learning



72%

students aged 15 years old low achievers in READING, MATH, & SCIENCE



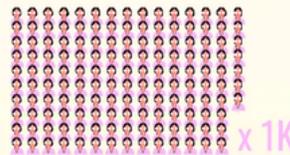
425 private schools

permanently closed during pandemic



91,000

more classrooms needed School Year 2022-2023



PH needs to hire

147,000 more teachers

to reduce class size to 35 students

Sources: World Bank report, Alliance of Concerned Teachers, Department of Education, Samahan ng Nagkakaisang Pamilya ng Pantawid, Philippine Business for Education

POOR EDUCATION

NATIONAL NEWS

PH education in crisis

PBEEd pushes for proactive measures to resolve factors behind the state of education the country is in

BY MERLINA HERNANDO-MALIPOT

May 29, 2023 08:20 PM



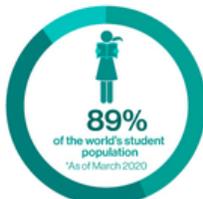
AT A GLANCE

- The Philippine Business for Education (PBEEd) said the country's education system is in a "crisis."
- In its 2023 State of Philippine Education Report, PBEEd said the declining mental health among students and teachers; lack of support for teachers; culture of "mass promotion" of learners, and the lack of proper assessments are among the most pressing issues that must be addressed.
- With the country's state of education in crisis, PBEEd said that "we need to act faster than ever" because "every second counts."
- (Photos courtesy of PBEEd)



MISSING SCHOOL DUE TO COVID-19

Children and youth out of school due to COVID-19 closures



1.52 Billion
children and youth

including
743 Million
girls

Young people classified as NEET*



2/3
are young women

*NEET - "Not in Education, Employment or Training". A person who is unemployed, not in school or vocational training.



A teacher using a white board speaks in front of a computer with her students through online distant learning. (AFP Photo)

HIGH POPULATION GROWTH

NATION



PH population growth slows but still among highest in SE Asia

By: [Cristina Eloisa Baclig](#) - Content Researcher Writer / @inquirerdotnet INQUIRER.net / 02:25 PM May 19, 2021



Shoppers stand apart as social distancing measures, amid concerns of the COVID-19 coronavirus, while queuing outside a supermarket in Manila on March 17, 2020. (Photo by Maria TAN / AFP)

EDITORS' PICK

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TECHNOLOGY
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BUSINESS
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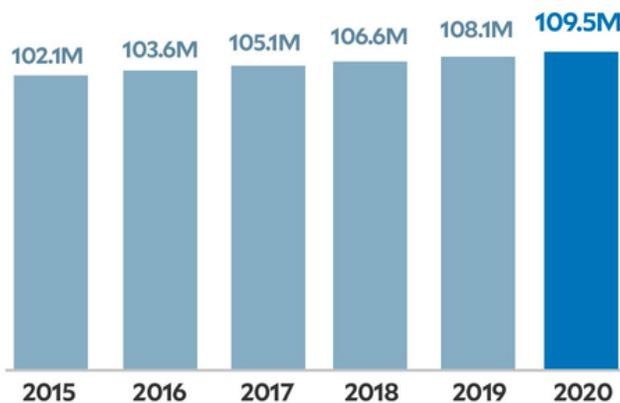


TECHNOLOGY
vivo Y27: Perfect companion for tech-savvy Filipinos



SPORTS
No gold for Team USA as Germany advances to Fiba World Cup final

PH POPULATION GROWTH RATE



Source: Worldometers | INQ



HIGH POPULATION GROWTH

PH population increases 15 times from just 7.6 million in 1903

By Severino Samonte

📅 July 11, 2021, 11:38 am

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MANILA – Did you know that the Philippine population of 109,035,343 as of May 1, 2020 reflected an increase of nearly 15 times compared with just 7,635,426 in the first census conducted in 1903, or during the American regime?

According to the 1994 Philippine Yearbook published in April 1995 by the former National Statistics Office (now Philippine Statistics Authority or PSA), there was a steady rise in the country's population, reaching a 2.11 percent average annual increase in 1939.

In 1948, however, the population growth dropped to 2.07 percent due to the internal problems caused by the Second World War which affected the Philippines greatly. After the war, high growth rates were recorded, registering the highest at 3.08 percent in 1970.



File photo

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SoKor-PH over 70: Turning decades-old ties to opportunities

Owing to the rapidly increasing population, the Population Commission was created in 1969 by the then administration of President Ferdinand E. Marcos to formulate policies and programs on population, relating them to socio-economic developments.

As a result, the population growth rate slowed down to 2.78 percent in 1975, 2.71 percent in 1980, and further to 2.35 percent in 1990.

In 1971, the Philippine Congress enacted Republic Act No. 6365, otherwise known as the Population Act which was later revised by Presidential Decree No. 79 mandating the Population Commission to propose this time policies and programs to guide and regulate labor force participation, internal migration and spatial distribution of the population.

As a consequence, the average annual population growth rate stood at 2.78 percent from 1970 to 1975, or 0.30 percent lower than that of 1960 to 1970.

In 1980, the Philippine population was recorded at 48,098,460, with an annual growth rate of 2.71 percent.

The Census of Population and Housing in 1990 pegged the population at 60,703,206, reflecting a 2.35 percent average annual growth rate which was 0.36 percent lower than the previous decade's level.

Meanwhile, the PSA has said the 2020 Census of Housing is the Philippines' 15th Census of Population and 7th Census of Housing since 1903.

The PSA said the country's population stood at 76.51 million as of May 1, 2000. This increased to 92.34 million in 2010; 100.98 million in 2015; and 109.04 million in 2020. **(PNA)**

MALNUTRITION

VITAL STATISTICS

Trivvia

JAN - DEC | 2022

4.8K Deaths due to
Malnutrition

Deaths due to MALNUTRITION recorded 4,791 cases or 0.8 percent share, making it the 25th leading cause of death in the **Philippines**

Note: Causes of death are coded based on the ICD-10 Rules and Guidelines and mortality grouping is based on the Mortality Tabulation List 1 (General Mortality, Condensed List of the ICD-10), Fifth Edition (2016)

Source: Vital Statistics (Data on deaths are those registered at the Office of the City/Municipal Civil Registrars throughout the country and submitted to the Office of the Civil Registrar General using Certificate of Death-Municipal Form 103) | Preliminary as of 28 February 2023



PHILIPPINE STATISTICS AUTHORITY
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MALNUTRITION

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malnutrition to PHL's doorsteps

Reine Juvierre Alberto, Eunice Claire Pasquin, Marymon Frances Reyes & Stephanie Rimas / University of Santo Tomas, Interns, Jasper Y. Arcalas and Cal U. Ordinario · July 28, 2022 · 15 minute read



Street children enjoy their meal in a park in Baguio City.



THE COST OF HEALTHY DIET IN ASEAN ROSE TO A FOUR-YEAR HIGH IN 2020. THE COST OF A HEALTHY DIET IN THE PHILIPPINES WAS AT \$4.108 PER PERSON PER DAY.

Source: State of Food Insecurity and Nutrition in the World 2022

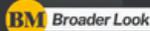


7 OUT OF 10 FILIPINOS ARE SEEN UNABLE TO AFFORD A HEALTHY DIET



WITH OVER 75.2 MILLION RECORDED AS OF 2021

Source: State of Food Insecurity and Nutrition in the World 2022



HIV/AIDS



Department of Health | Epidemiology Bureau

JANUARY 2023

HIV/AIDS & ART REGISTRY OF THE PHILIPPINES

SUMMARY OF NEWLY DIAGNOSED CASES



NEWLY DIAGNOSED CASES

In January 2023, there were 1,454^a confirmed HIV-positive individuals reported to the HIV/AIDS & ART Registry of the Philippines (HARP) and were accounted to the total (110,736) reported cases since January 1984. Moreover, 422 (29%) of individuals reported in January had an advanced HIV infection^{c,d} at the time of diagnosis. There were 39 deaths^e that were newly reported this year.

Of the total reported cases this period, 1,383 (95%) were male while 71 (5%) were female. Moreover, 834 (57%) were cisgender, 49 (3%) were transgender women, 12 (1%) identified as others, three (<1%) as neither man nor woman, one (<1%) as transgender man, and 555 (38%) had unknown gender identity^f.

Further, 704 (48%) of the cases were 25-34 years old at the time of diagnosis, 444 (30%) were 15-24 years old, 257 (18%) were 35-49 years old, 40 (3%) were 50 years and older, and nine (1%) were less than 15 years old^b. The age of the newly reported cases ranged from 2 to 65 years old (median: 28 years).

Geographic Distribution

The regions with the most number of newly reported cases remain to be NCR, CaLaBaZon [4A], Central Luzon [3], Central Visayas [7], and Western Visayas [6]. These regions comprised 69% of the total number of cases in this period [Figure 1]^g.

Figure 1: Distribution of newly diagnosed HIV cases by region of residence, January 2023 (N=1,454)

Region	No.	% ^h
NCR	397	27%
4A	233	16%
3	194	13%
7	94	7%
6	91	6%
10	72	5%
11	66	5%
5	64	4%
4B	59	4%
1	48	3%
CARAGA	46	3%
2	39	3%
8	16	1%
CAR	15	1%
12	11	1%
9	7	1%
BARMM	2	<1%



Mode of Transmission (MOT)

Of the total reported cases in January 2023, 1,431 (98%) acquired HIV through sexual contact (998 (70%) were males who reported having sex with another male, 193 (13%) male - female only, and 240 (17%) male - male and femaleⁱ).

Further, there were six (<1%) who acquired HIV through mother-to-child transmission, three (<1%) through sharing of infected needles, while 14 (1%) had no data on MOT at the time of reporting [Table 1].

Table 1: Number of diagnosed HIV cases by mode of transmission and sex, January 2023 (N=1,454)

Mode of Transmission	Jan 2023 (n=1,454)	
	Male (1,383)	Female (71)
Sexual Contact	1,365	66
Male-female sex	127	66
Male-male sex	998	-
Sex w/ male & female ⁱ	240	-
Sharing of infected needles	3	0
Mother-to-child	2	4
No data	13	1

Anti-Retroviral Therapy (ART)

In January 2023, there were 1,299^h people with HIV who were enrolled to treatment, 1,293 were on first line regimen, one (1) was on second line regimen, and five (5) were on other line of regimen. Among the newly enrolled clients, 644 (50%) were 25-34 years old, 410 (32%) were 15-24 years old, 209 (16%) were 35-49 years old, 32 (2%) were 50 years and older, and four (<1%) were less than 15 years old^b. The median CD4 of these patients upon enrollment was at 208 cells/mm³ⁱ.

A total of 63,809 people living with HIV (PLHIV) were presently on ART^j as of January 2023, of which, 61,493 (96%) were on the first line regimen, 1,733 (3%) were on the second line, and 583 (1%) were on the third line of regimen. The age of reported cases ranged from 1 to 81 years (median: 32 years old).

Summary of ART Information

Newly enrolled January 2023 ^h	1,299	Median CD4 at enrollment ⁱ	208 cells/mm ³
PLHIV Alive on ART ^j (as of January 2023)	63,809		
Age Range	1-81	Sex (at birth)	
Median Age	32	Male	61,499
		Female	2,310

Note: List of facilities providing HIV services may be accessed through the following link: <https://tinyurl.com/HIVFacilities>

^a Due to logistical issues, there were no reports/submissions from the following Certified HIV-1a Confirmatory Laboratories (CCLs): Davao Divisive, FIMC, Region IAC, Lower Mountain Zonal, etc.
^b Percentages were rounded off to the nearest whole number - sum may not be equal to 100% due to rounding of figures.
^c Advanced HIV Disease (AHD) definition is based on clinical criteria of WHO (stages 3 and 4 while immunologic criterion is based on baseline CD4 results <100 cells/mm³).
^d 80 cases had non-advanced HIV infection and 342 had no data on immunologic/clinical criteria at the time of diagnosis.
^e Based on reported date. Actual date of death may not necessarily fall in this reporting period.

^f Gender identity is based on sex at birth and self-identity reported at the time of diagnosis. Those with unknown gender identity either had unspecified or no data on self-identity and/or sex at birth.
^g Among males only.
^h Started on ART are those initiated in January regardless of diagnosis date.
ⁱ No data on baseline CD4 count for 632 cases newly enrolled to treatment in January 2023.
^j PLHIV on ART definition is based on DCH Administrative Order No. 2022-0024. PLHIV is currently on ART if he/she visited treatment facility for ART refill within 30 days from the expected day of last run-out pill.

CORRUPTION AND WEAK GOVERNANCE



A recent forum highlighted how corruption is exacerbating the economic impact of the COVID-19 pandemic. The problem has also been tackled by the World Justice Project. In a report earlier this year, the WPJ observed that the rapid mobilization of massive resources to respond to the public health crisis, combined with the suspension of corruption prevention and enforcement mechanisms during an emergency, have opened vast opportunities for graft.

Apart from eroding public trust in the government – as we are now seeing amid the multibillion-peso Pharmally Pharmaceutical scandal – corruption leads to waste of supplies and resources and compromises the pandemic response, the WPJ pointed out.

CORRUPTION

HEADLINES

Philippines ineffective at implementing anti-corruption laws, US report finds

Philstar.com

March 22, 2023 | 12:10am



There were several attempts to pass an FOI law in the past.

The Philippines rose by one spot to 116 from 117 out of 180 countries ranked in the latest Corruption Perception Index of Berlin-based Transparency International, but remained among "significant decliners" in Asia-Pacific as its score dropped five points from 38 – the country's highest – in 2014, when it ranked 85th out of 175.

Filipinos' satisfaction with the Marcos administration's efforts to fight corruption was at a "moderate" +12, according to a survey by private pollster Social Weather Stations. — Xave Gregorio

POOR HEALTHCARE

Sep 18, 2023

INQUIRER.NET

NATION



PH health care conundrum: Fewer health professionals where people are poorest

By: Kurt Dela Peña - Content Researcher Writer / @inquirerdotnet INQUIRER.net / 11:50 AM April 25, 2023



INQ FILE PHOTO

EDITORS' PICK

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As Sonny Africa, executive director of the Ibon Foundation, told INQUIRER.net, “the link between the social determinants of health, such as poverty, and health outcomes is well-established.”

“The poorest regions have the greatest health needs but ironically the most underdeveloped health services. This inequity exacerbates the already huge differences in health outcomes due to the huge gaps in income and wealth,” he said.

Based on government data compiled by the think tank, there were only 8.9 health care workers for every 10,000 people in the Bangsamoro Autonomous Region in Muslim Mindanao even if it had the highest poverty incidence in 2021 — 37.2 percent.

POOR HEALTHCARE



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Philippines to lower bar for nurses as low pay drives many abroad

Exodus of nurses due to poor working conditions has prompted Manila to propose hiring unlicensed graduates.



Nurses in the Philippines have for years complained of poor working conditions and low pay [Michael Beltran/Al Jazeera]

By Michael Beltran

25 Jul 2023



CHILD LABOR

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LIFESTYLE

Filtered By: Lifestyle

10-year-old boy in Sultan Kudarat plows land with horse to help his family

Published May 23, 2021 10:56pm



A 10-year-old boy in Sultan Kudarat was found tirelessly plowing land at a two-hectare farm with a horse to help his family.



CHILD LABOR



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Child Labor in the Philippines

Bring them back to school.

Working in plantations is their only way to survive for today. Education can help pave the way to sustain their lives tomorrow.



BATA BALIK-ESKWELA

COMMUNITY-BASED APPROACH IN COMBATING CHILD LABOR
IN HAZARDOUS INDUSTRIES IN PLANTATIONS AND MINING

Children in palm plantation carry as much as 60 kilos of palm fruit for long distances to make both ends meet.



This project is funded by the European Union



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DAVAO DEL NORTE - Child laborers in banana plantations often serve as fruiters, harvesters, haulers, loaders, and uprooters. Over time, the children have sustained injuries from weeding, harvesting, bagging and de-leafing work.



BUKIDNON - People in Don Carlos, Bukidnon depend mainly on agriculture and plantation work. Child laborers in sugarcane estates work in weeding, harvesting and fetching of water.

CHILD LABOR

NATION



Child labor: The monster remains a threat in PH, worldwide

By: [Cristina Eloisa Baclig](#) - Content Researcher Writer / @inquirerdotnet INQUIRER.net / 12:12 PM December 15, 2022



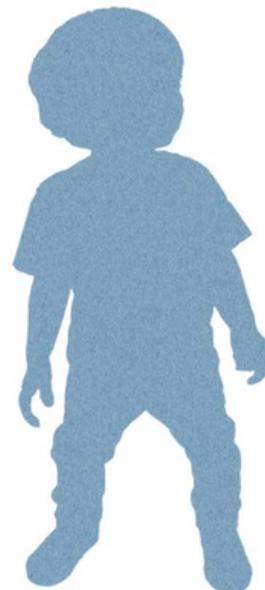
Child labor: Worldwide Phenomenon

160 MILLION

children between 5 and 17 years
old forced into labor

“These children are often
hidden in plain sight.”

THE ALLIANCE 8.7, UN



VIOLENT EXTREMISM

LANAO DEL SUR

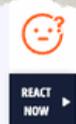
Lanao del Sur town residents still fear terror attacks days after fleeing

MAY 31, 2023 3:44 PM PHT

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INFO

Police confirm that the Dawlah Islamiyah has continued to recruit new members, particularly in outlying rural communities in Lanao del Sur

MAGUINDANAO DEL NORTE, Philippines – Thousands of residents who were forced to evacuate the town of Marogong in Lanao del Sur on Saturday, May 27, due to escalating tension between government forces and an extremist group, remained hesitant to return despite assurances that the situation was now under control.

“We are talking here of more than 4,000 evacuees. We encourage them to return to their respective homes so that they can live a normal life,” said Brigadier General Allan Nobleza, the director of the Philippine National Police in the Bangsamoro Autonomous Region in Muslim Mindanao (PNP-BARMM).

VIOLENT EXTREMISM

LANAO DEL SUR

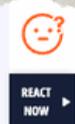
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Photo taken on 18 Aug 2018 by Arnann Jay Agosto