

Philippine Labor Force Survey July 2003

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2003-077

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Summary:

Philippines	July* 2003	April 2003	January 2003	October 2002	July 2002
Total population 15 years old and over (in 000)	50,751	51,596	51,280	50,841	50,530
Labor force (in 000)	34,206	34,635	33,678	33,674	33,918
Participation rate (%)	67.4	67.1	65.7	66.2	67.1
Employment (in 000)	29,858	30,418	30,119	30,251	30,104
Rate (%)	87.3	87.8	89.4	89.8	88.8
Unemployment (in 000)	4,348	4,217	3,559	3,423	3,814
Rate (%)	12.7	12.2	10.6	10.2	11.2
Underemployment (in 000)	6,211	4,733	4,849	4,627	5,161
Rate (%)	20.8	15.6	16.1	15.3	17.1

* Estimates for July 2003 are subject to change. These exclude the province of Zamboanga Sibugay in Region IX and the provinces of Sulu and Lanao del Sur in ARMM.

- The labor force participation rate was reported at 67.4 percent in July this year. A year ago, it was 67.1 percent.
- The July 2003 results indicated a national employment rate of 87.3 percent. Last year's employment rate was 88.8 percent.
 - The proportion of employment in agriculture to total employment was 34.8 percent.
 - In industry, employment reached 16.6 percent.
 - Employment in services was 48.6 percent.
- Unemployment rate was recorded at 12.7 percent in July this year. Last year's unemployment rate was 11.2 percent.
- Underemployment rate reached 20.8 percent in July this year.

HIGHLIGHTS

Of the population 15 years old and over, there were those who were in the labor force and those who were not...

- The labor force participation rate (LFPR) was estimated at 67.4 percent in July this year. A year ago, it was 67.1 percent.
- The highest LFPR was recorded in Northern Mindanao at 74.6 percent and lowest in Autonomous Region in Muslim Mindanao (*excluding Sulu and Lanao del Sur*) at 61.7 percent.
- The LFPR for males was reported at 83.1 percent, while 51.8 percent for females in July 2003. Northern Mindanao recorded the highest LFPR both for males and females in July 2003 at 86.9 percent and 62.2 percent, respectively.

Of the labor force population, there were those who were employed and those who were not...

- The corresponding employment rate was registered at 87.3 percent in July 2003 while it was 88.8 percent in July 2002.
- Five regions showed an employment rate lower than the national rate. These are the National Capital Region, Central Luzon, Calabarzon, Central Visayas, and Caraga.

Of the population 15 years old and over, 58.8 percent were employed...

- The proportion of the total employed to total population 15 years old and over or the employment population ratio was estimated at 58.8 percent in July 2003.
- Northern Mindanao reported the highest employment population ratio at 68.2 percent while Cagayan Valley came in next at 64.8 percent.

Of the employed persons, there were those either working in agriculture, industry or services...

- The proportion of employed persons in the agriculture sector to the total employed was estimated at 34.8 percent.
- Those employed in the services sector registered a share of 48.6 percent in July 2003. The estimate last year was 47.4 percent.
- In the industry sector, its share to total employed was recorded at 16.6 percent.

The employed in agriculture...

- Those who worked in the agricultural sector comprised 34.8 percent of the total employed. Those engaged in agriculture, hunting and forestry was estimated at 30.7 percent while those in the fishery sector was recorded at 4.1 percent.

The employed in services...

- Employment in the services sector was recorded at 14.5 million in July 2003. A year ago, this was posted at 14.3.
- Wholesale and retail trade, repair of motor vehicles accounted for 18.3 percent of the employed persons and 37.6 percent of the total employed in the services sector.

The employed in industry...

- The share of employment in the industry sector was reported at about 16.6 percent, with 10 percent coming from the manufacturing sector and 5.7 percent from construction.

The employed by occupation...

- Occupation-wise, the laborers and unskilled workers registered a percentage distribution of 29.3 percent, followed by the farmers, forestry workers and fishermen at 20.0 percent. The proportion of the employed officials of government and special interest organization, corporate executives to total employed was estimated at 10.9 percent.

Of the employed persons, there were those who were paid wages and salaries, worked on their account, or worked for the family...

- More than half of the employed were wage and salary workers while more than one-third were own-account workers.
- About one in every ten employed workers was unpaid family worker.

The employed by number of hours worked...

- Full-time workers or those who worked for 40 hours accounted for 65.1 percent of the total employed persons.
- Those who worked for less than 40 hours comprised 33.6 percent of the employment total.

About one fifth of the employed persons were underemployed or 20.8 percent of the employment total.

- Underemployment was registered at 20.8 percent in July 2003 with 10.8 percent being those who were visibly underemployed, that is, those who were employed for less than 40 hours a

week. About 9.6 percent of the employed worked full time or for 40 hours or more but were reported as part of the underemployed.

And there were those who looked for work and did not find any, the unemployed...

- The unemployment rate in July 2003 was estimated at 12.7 percent. The estimate last year was recorded at 11.2 percent.
- Eleven regions posted a double-digit unemployment rate ranging from 10.2 percent in the Bicol Region to 17.2 percent in the NCR.
- The unemployment rate for males was lower than that of females, both in July 2002 and July 2003. The current unemployment rate for males was registered at 11.7 percent, and that for females was 14.3 percent.

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Technical Notes

- Starting this July 2003 round of the Labor Force Survey, the generation of the labor force and employment statistics adopted the 2003 Master Sample Design.
- Using this new master sample design, the number of samples increased from 41,000 to around 51,000 sample households.
- The province of Basilan is grouped under Autonomous Region in Muslim Mindanao while Isabela City (Basilan) is now grouped under Region IX. This is in consonance with the regional grouping under Executive Order No. 36.
- The 1992 four-digit code for Philippine Standard Occupational Classification (PSOC) and 1994 Philippine Standard Industry Classification (PSIC) were used in classifying the occupation and industry.
- Because of unavailability of data files for the province of Zamboanga Sibugay of Region IX and the provinces of Sulu and Lanao del Sur of ARMM on cut-off date, estimates at the national level and for the two regions exclude those of the said three provinces. Estimates for the three provinces will be included in the Final Results.