

# Philippines - Labor Force Survey July 2007

**National Statistics Office**

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## Overview

### Identification

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ID NUMBER  
PHL-NSO-LFS-2007-Q3-v01

### Version

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VERSION DESCRIPTION  
Version 1.0 Final data, for public use.

PRODUCTION DATE  
2008-01-01

NOTES  
Starting with the 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, in accordance with 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.

#### ILO Concept

The current concept used in the Philippines LFS considered a person unemployed if he has no job/business during the reference week and is actively looking for work. Also considered as unemployed are persons without a job or business who are reported not looking for work because of the belief that no work was available, or because of temporary illness/disability, bad weather, pending job application or waiting for job interview.

The ILO concept of unemployment, on the other hand, states that a person is unemployed if he has no job or business during the reference week and is reported available and actively looking for work. Persons who do not have a job/business and are available for work but did not look for work because of the belief that no work is available, for reasons such as temporary illness/disability, bad weather, awaiting results of job application and waiting for rehire/job recall are also considered as unemployed.

With regard to persons not in the labor force, both concepts considered those who are not employed nor unemployed during the reference week. These include persons who are not available for work. Also included are those who are available for work but are not looking for work because of reasons such as schooling, housekeeping, retirement or old age, or other reasons such as disability or infirmity.

Statistical tables for 1988 using the ILO concept on unemployment were previously published in ISH Bulletin (Series No. 60, 1991). After then, the succeeding series of ISH Bulletin included only statistical tables for the current concept of unemployment which considered the criterion on looking for work, and excluded the availability criterion. Starting with the October 1999 series of ISH Bulletin, a comparative table for the Philippine concept and the ILO concept on unemployment is included.

## Overview

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ABSTRACT  
Objectives of LFS:

The LFS aims to provide a quantitative framework for the preparation of plans and formulation of policies affecting the labor market.

Specifically, the survey is designed to provide statistics on levels and trends of employment, unemployment and underemployment for the country as a whole, and for each of the administrative regions, including provinces and key cities.

#### Importance of LFS

a. It provides a quantitative framework for the preparation of plans and formulation of policies affecting the labor market towards

1) creation and generation of gainful employment and livelihood opportunities

2) reduction of unemployment and promotion of employment

3) improvement of working conditions

4) enhancement of the welfare of a working man

b. It provides statistics on levels and trends of employment and unemployment and underemployment for the country and regions;

c. It is used for the projection of future manpower, which when compared with the future manpower requirements, will help identify employment and training needs;

d. It helps in the assessment of the potential manpower available for economic development; and

e. It identifies the differences in employment, unemployment, and underemployment according to the different economic, social and ethnic groups existing within the population.

#### KIND OF DATA

Sample survey data [ssd]

#### UNITS OF ANALYSIS

The unit of analysis is Person (Household survey).

## Scope

#### NOTES

The survey involves the collection of data on the demographic and socio-economic characteristics of the population in general. It covers a nationwide sample of about 51,000 households deemed sufficient to measure the levels of employment and unemployment at the national and regional levels.

The reporting unit is the household, which means that the statistics emanating from this survey will refer to the characteristics of the population residing in private households. Persons who reside in the institutions are not within the scope of the survey.

Starting July 2003, the LFS has used the 2003 Master Sample (MS) constructed from the Enumeration Area Reference File (EARF) of the 2000 Census of Population and Housing (CPH). The number of sample households increased from 41,000 to about 51,000 households nationwide deemed sufficient to provide more precise and reliable estimates at the national and regional level.

#### TOPICS

Topic	Vocabulary	URI
Labor Force		
Employment Status		

**KEYWORDS**

Employment, Unemployment, Underemployment, Occupation, Industry, Class of Worker, Working Hours, Nature of Employment, Labor Force, Employment Status

## Coverage

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**GEOGRAPHIC COVERAGE**

The geographic coverage consists of the country's 17 administrative regions defined in Executive Order (EO) 36 and 131. The 17 regions are:

National Capital Region (NCR)

Cordillera Administrative Region (CAR)

Region I - Ilocos

Region II - Cagayan Valley

Region III - Central Luzon

Region IV-A - CALABARZON

Region IV-B - MIMAROPA

Region V - Bicol

Region VI - Western Visayas

Region VII - Central Visayas

Region VIII - Eastern Visayas

Region IX - Zamboanga Peninsula

Region X - Northern Mindanao

Region XI - Davao

Region XII - SOCCSKSARGEN

Region XIII - CARAGA

Autonomous Region in Muslim Mindanao (ARMM)

**UNIVERSE**

The LFS has as its target population, all households and members of households nationwide. A household is defined as an aggregate of persons, generally but not necessarily bound by ties of kinship, who live together under the same roof and eat together or share in common the household food. Household membership comprises the head of the household, relatives living with him such as his or her spouse, children, parent, brother or sister, son-in-law or daughter-in-law, grandson or granddaughter, and other relatives. Household membership likewise includes boarders, domestic helpers and non-relatives. A person who lives alone is considered a separate household.

Excluded in the target population are households in the least accessible barangays (LABs). A barangay is classified as LAB if: (a) it requires more than eight hours walk from the last vehicle station; and/or, (b) the frequency of transportation is less than three times a week and the cost of a one-way trip is more than five hundred pesos. A total of 350 barangays were classified as LABs. This number accounts for only 0.83 percent of the total number of barangays in the country. The total number of households in these areas account for only 0.38 percent of the total number of households. survey.

## Producers and Sponsors

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## PRIMARY INVESTIGATOR(S)

Name	Affiliation
National Statistics Office	

## OTHER PRODUCER(S)

Name	Affiliation	Role
National Economic and Development Authority		technical assistance in sampling design and methodology
National Statistical Coordination Board		formulates policies, delineates responsibilities, sets priorities and standards on statistics and administers the one-stop statistical information center

## FUNDING

Name	Abbreviation	Role
Philippine Government		

## OTHER ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

Name	Affiliation	Role
Bureau of Labor and Employment Statistics	Department of Labor and Employment	

## Metadata Production

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## METADATA PRODUCED BY

Name	Abbreviation	Affiliation	Role
Linda Mole		National Statistics Office	Researcher
Raul Ludovice		National Statistics Office	Supervisor
Mario Ilagan II		National Statistics Office	Encoder

## DATE OF METADATA PRODUCTION

2008-06-04

## DDI DOCUMENT VERSION

Version 1.0

## DDI DOCUMENT ID

DDI-PHL-NSO-LFS-2007Q3-v01

# Sampling

## Sampling Procedure

The sampling design of the LFS uses the sampling design of the 2003 Master Sample (MS) for Household Survey that started July 2003.

### Sampling Frame

As in previous household surveys, the 2003 MS used an area sample design. The Enumeration Area Reference File (EARF) of the 2000 Census of Population and Housing (CPH) was utilized as sampling frame. The EARF contains the number of households by enumeration area (EA) in each barangay.

With the conduct of the 2003 Listing of Households, the number of households of the selected sampled EA from the CPH EA lists were updated and the sample sizes that were initially generated were subsequently adjusted.

### Stratification Scheme

Prior to sample selection, the PSUs in each domain were stratified as follows:

a) Proportion of strong houses (PSTRONG). PSTRONG is defined to be the percentage of housing units occupied by households that are classified as made of strong materials in terms of both the roof and outer walls, based on the data from the 2000 CPH. A roof is considered made of strong material if it is made of either galvanized iron, aluminum, concrete/clay tile, half galvanized-half concrete, or asbestos. The outer wall is considered made of strong material if it is made of concrete, brick, stone, wood, half concrete-half wood, galvanized iron, asbestos, glass.

b) A variable labeled AGRI. An initial variable is an indicator variable computed at the barangay level. That variable has the value 1 if more than 50 percent of the households in the barangay are engaged in agriculture or fisheries and 0 otherwise, based on the 2000 CPH Barangay Schedule. To obtain a measure at the PSU level, a weighted average of the barangay indicator variable was computed for all the barangays within the PSU, weighted by the total number of households, in the barangay. Thus, the 1 value of AGRI at the PSU level lies between 0 and 1.

c) Per capita income (PER CAPITA). PERCAPITA is defined as the total income of the municipality divided by the total population in that municipality. Note that the PERCAPITA value of the PSUs is the same if the PSUs are in the same municipality. The municipal income used was the 2000 municipal income sourced from the Department of Finance. If the 2000 municipal income was not reported to the Bureau of Local Government Finance (BLGF), 2001 income was used. If no 2000 or 2001 municipal income was reported, the median income of the municipal class of the municipality was used.

### Sample Selection

The sample design is an epsem in each region (Equal Probability Selection for each Member). Given the overall sample, the number of PSUs, EAs and Housing Units (HUs) were determined so that the epsem property within region was preserved.

The PSUs were selected with probability proportional to some estimated measure of size (PPES). Since PSUs vary considerably in size, PSUs were identified as certainty and non-certainty PSUs. Each PSU which was selected with certainty (selection probability is greater than 1) was treated as a separate stratum. In each certainty selection, sample EAs were selected with PPES in each sampled PSU; and housing units (HU) were selected with equal probability in each sampled EA.

A housing unit is structurally separate and independent place of abode which by the way it has been constructed, converted, or arranged, is intended for habitation by a household. It may contain more than one household. In the 2000 CPH, about two percent of the total household population consist of two or more households.

For non-certainty selection, PSUs were sampled from a set of strata defined for each domain. In each domain, these PSUs were grouped into strata by province, Highly Urbanized Cities (HUC) or Independent Component Cities (ICCs). To further improve on the precision of the estimates, PSUs within province/HU/ICC stratum were further stratified with respect to some socio-economic variables that were associated with poverty.

Within each selected PSUs, EAs were selected with probability proportional to size and households with equal probability within selected EAs.

In each HU, all households were selected. However, for operational considerations, only 3 households will be selected with equal probability in HU consisting of more than 3 households.

## Sample Size

The 2003 Master Sample consist of a sample of 2,835 PSUs of which 330 were certainty PSUs and 2,505 were non certainty PSUs. The number of households for the 2000 CPH was used as measure of size. The entire MS was divided into four sub-sample or independent replicates, such as a quarter sample contains one fourth of the PSUs found in one replicate; a half-sample contains one-half of the PSUs in two replicates.

For the purpose of the master sample, the sample EAs selected with certainty were classified as sub-sample of replicate 0, and all the non-certainty PSUs were classified in any of the sub-samples 1, 2, 3 and 4.

## Deviations from Sample Design

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### Deviations

Replacement of sample households is allowed only if the respondent to LFS cannot be contracted after 3 callbacks. If the sample household moved out from the sample barangay and can no longer be located then the replacement should be the household currently residing in the housing unit previously occupied by the original sample. If no household currently residing in the aforementioned housing unit then a replacement may be selected from among the neighbors who has the closest socio-economic and demographic characteristics as the original sample household. Household members who are identified as eligible respondents but cannot be interviewed should never be replaced.

## Response Rate

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### Response Rate

A total of 45,198 households were selected for the July 2007 LFS. Of this total, 43,096 were considered eligible households where 93.6 percent or 40,318 households responded.

Among the regions, Bicol Region, Ilocos Region and Western Visayas had the highest response rates of 95.9 percent, 95.6 percent, and 95.0 percent, respectively. National Capital Region registered the lowest response rate of 91.1 percent.

### Region Response Rate

Philippines 93.6  
 National Capital Region 91.1  
 Cordillera Administrative Region 94.9  
 I - Ilocos Region 95.6  
 II - Cagayan Valley 93.0  
 III - Central Luzon 93.6  
 IVA - CALABARZON 93.6  
 IVB. - MIMAROPA 92.6  
 V - Bicol Region 95.9  
 VI - Western Visayas 95.0  
 VII - Central Visayas 94.8  
 VIII - Eastern Visayas 94.3  
 IX - Zamboanga Peninsula 92.4  
 X - Northern Mindanao 93.2  
 XI - Davao Region 93.2  
 XII - SOCCSKSARGEN 92.9  
 XIII - Caraga 91.4  
 Autonomous Region in Muslim  
 Mindanao 94.3

## Weighting

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Estimation Procedure  
Calculation of Basic Weights

### Weights

Following a standard approach, the weights to be used in analyzing surveys based on the 2003 MS are developed in three stages.

First, base weights are computed to compensate for the unequal selection probabilities in the sample design.

Second, the base weights are adjusted to compensate for unit non-response.

Third, the non-response adjusted weights are further adjusted to make some weighted sample distributions conform to distributions obtained from another source.

Please refer the more detailed explanation on the three stages of the weights with the given formula based on the 2003 Master Sample provided in the External Resources.

### Final Survey Weight

The final survey weight assigned to each responding unit is computed as the product of the base weight, the non-response adjustment, and the population weighting adjustment, as described above. The final weights should be used in all analyses to produce valid estimates of population parameters.

# Questionnaires

## Overview

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- \* ISH FORM 2 is a four-page, forty five-column questionnaire that is being used in the quarterly rounds of the Labor Force Survey nationwide. This questionnaire gathers data on the demographic and economic characteristics of the population.
- \* On the first page of the questionnaire, the particulars about the geographic location, design codes and household auxiliary information of the sample household that is being interviewed are to be recorded. Certifications by the enumerator and his supervisor regarding the manner by which the data are collected are likewise to be made on this page.
- \* The inside pages of the questionnaire contain the items to be determined about each member of the sample household. Items 3 to 10 are for the demographic characteristics; columns 2 to 7 are to be ascertained of all members of the household regardless of age. Items 8 to 45, on the other hand, are the series of items that will be asked of all the members 5 years of age or over to determine their labor force and employment characteristics.
- \* Most of the questions have pre-coded responses. The possible answers with their corresponding codes are printed at the bottom of the page for easy reference. Only the appropriate codes need to be entered in the cells.
- \* Other items, however, require write-in entries such as column 11 (main activity), column 15 and 29 (primary and other occupation), etc. For such items, it is required that the enumerator describes the main activity or occupation, etc.

The questionnaire used was the revised version as of January 2001 with inclusion on salaries and wages, new entrants, other occupation among others.

## Data Collection

### Data Collection Dates

Start	End	Cycle
2007-07-08	2007-07-31	N/A

### Data Collection Mode

Face-to-face [f2f]

### Data Collection Notes

#### Supervision

- \* The Regional Director/Officer-In-Charge (RDs/OICs) provided the general supervision to the staff of the provincial offices under the jurisdiction on all administrative matters and field operations relative to the survey.
- \* The Provincial Statistics Officers (PSOs) supervised the activities of the personnel to ensure that the data collection is finished according to the timetable set.
- \* The Regional and Provincial Statistician supervised in the field, and review and edit questionnaires while still in their area of assignment.

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### Data Collectors

Name	Abbreviation	Affiliation
National Statistics Office	NSO	

### Supervision

The RDs/OICs, PSOs, Regional and Provincial Staff were allotted a number of days to supervise the enumeration.

Likewise, Central Office Statisticians were assigned to provinces to supervise and monitor the conduct of the survey.

# Data Processing

## Data Editing

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Data processing involves two stages: manual processing and machine processing.

Manual processing refers to the manual editing and coding of questionnaires. This is done prior to machine processing that entails code validation, consistency checks as well as tabulation.

Enumeration is a very complex operation and oftentimes it happens that accomplished questionnaires have some omissions and implausible or inconsistent entries. Editing is meant to correct these errors.

For purposes of operational convenience, field editing is usually done. The interviewers are required to review the entries at the end of the end of each interview. Blank items that are applicable to the respondents are verified and filled out. Before being transmitted to the regional office, all questionnaires are edited in the field offices.

There were general instructions followed in the editing laid in the Processing Manual provided as a guide for the data processors.

## Other Processing

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Coding, the transformation of information from the questionnaire to machine readable form, is likewise done in the field offices.

Machine processing involves all operations that are done with the use of a computer and/or its accessories, that is, from data encoding to tabulation. Coded data are usually in such media as tapes and diskettes.

Machine editing is preferred to ensure correctness of encoded information

CSPro 2.5 was used in the data entry and tabulations.

Except for sample completeness check and verification of geographic identification that are the responsibility of the Income and Employment Statistics Division (IESD), some imputations and corrections of entries are done mechanically.

For this round, preliminary and final tabulations are done at the Central Office.

## Data Appraisal

### **Other forms of Data Appraisal**

Results of the survey can be viewed in <http://www.census.gov.ph/data/pressrelease/2007/lf0703tx.html>