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HIGHLIGHTS OF THE APRIL 2006 LABOR FORCE SURVEY



Overview

Employment in April 2006 recorded a 2.5 percent growth rate following a recovery in the combined agriculture, fishery and forestry sector (3.9%). Service sector employment continued to expand though at a slower pace (2.4%) compared last year, while industry employment remained on a standstill. Wage and salary employment increased, but was accompanied by a rise in part-time employment.

Both the rates of underemployment (25.4%) and unemployment (8.2%) were down slightly from April last year. This occurred despite the 2.3 percent increase in persons joining the labor force.

LABOR FORCE

The number of persons that participated in the labor force in April 2006 was estimated at 35.954 million, upped by 2.3 percent (+0.824 million) from a year ago level. The labor force participation rate (LFPR) rose slightly from 64.8 percent to 64.9 percent over the period.

Employment

Total employed persons increased to 33.024 million from 32.221 million a year ago. This translates to employment generation of 803,000 exceeding the 682,000 net employment recorded in 2005.

KEY EMPLOYMENT INDICATORS PHILIPPINES: April 2005-2006 (In thousands except rates)

Indicator	April 2006 ^p	April 2005	Year-On-Year Change
Household Population 15 Years Old and Over	55,393	54,195	+1,198
Labor Force	35,954	35,130	+824
- Employed Persons	33,024	32,221	+803
- Unemployed Persons	2,930	2,909	+21
Underemployed Persons	8,401	8,421	-20
- Visibly underemployed	4,895	4,365	+530
LFPR (%)	64.9	64.8	XXXX
Employment Growth Rate (%)	2.5	2.2	XXXX
Unemployment Rate (%)	8.2	8.3	XXXX
Underemployment Rate (%)	25.4	26.1	XXXX
- Visible Underemployment Rate (%)	14.8	14.2	XXXX

^p Preliminary.

Source: National Statistics Office, Labor Force Survey.

- The combined agriculture, fishery and forestry sector grew the fastest (3.9%) and contributed more than one-half (53.2% or

+427,000) to total employment creation over the period. This figure represents a reversal in April last year when employed

persons in this sector fell by 1.1 percent.

- The service sector contributed the second largest share (47.1% or +378,000) to total employment creation. However, its year-on-year growth slowed down to 2.4 percent compared to 4.6 percent last year.

Gainers in this sector was led by wholesale and retail trade (+103,000) followed by transport, storage and communication (+90,000), education (+73,000), hotels and restaurants (+42,000), real estate, renting and business services (+39,000) and other community, social and personal services (+23,000). Except for a decline in financial intermediation (-27,000) and health and social work (-5,000), the rest of the sub-sectors recorded small increases.

- Industry employment was essentially unchanged from its year ago level. Gains recorded in mining and quarrying (+39,000) and electricity, gas and water (+26,000) were offset by losses in manufacturing (-24,000) and construction (-41,000).
- Growth occurred in all classes of workers: wage and salary by 2.2 percent (+365,000), own-account workers by 1.1 percent (+139,000) and unpaid-family workers by 8.2 percent (+298,000).
- The number of persons in part-time employment grew by 17.0 percent (+1.962 million) compared last year. This unusual rise, however, was due to the

large decline in part-time employment (11.7 % or -1.524 million) in April 2005.

Conversely, full-time employment fell by 6.6 percent (-1.332 million). Again, this was due to the surge in full-time employment (15.7% or +2.720 million) recorded last year.

- Employment grew in all but two regions. The biggest growth was recorded in Region VII (+159,000) followed closely by Region IV-A (+119,000). Notable gains were also observed in Region IX (+90,000), Region XI (+80,000) and CAR (+69,000).

Employment cut-backs were posted in Region III (-43,000) and Region V (-65,000).

Underemployment

- Underemployment rate went down slightly from 26.1% to 25.4%. Correspondingly, the number of underemployed persons declined by 20,000 to 8.401 million.
- Of the total underemployed persons, more than one-half (58.3% or 4.895 million) were visibly underemployed, i.e., they worked less than 40 hours a week. Compared last year, this figure was higher by 12.1 percent (+530,000).
- Three sectors accounted for the biggest increase in the number of visibly underemployed persons, namely: agriculture, fishery and forestry (+222,000), manufacturing (+91,000) and wholesale and retail trade (+55,000).

UNEMPLOYMENT

Unemployment rate was down to 8.2% from 8.3% a year ago. In absolute terms, however, the number of unemployed persons (i.e. persons without a job or business, looking and available for work) increased slightly by 21,000 to reach 2.930 million. This occurred due to the rise in labor force participation rate (LFPR) from 64.8% to 64.9% over the period.

- About one-half (48.5%) of the unemployed were young workers in the age bracket 15 to 24 years old. Their unemployment rate at 17.4 percent was more than twice the national figure. Unemployed men (64.4%) outnumbered unemployed women (35.6%) by ratio of two to three.
- Of the total unemployed persons, more than one-half (53.2% or 1.558 million) did not look for work due to valid reasons. The most common reasons cited were tired/believe no work available (39.0%), waiting for rehire/job recall (25.3%) and awaiting results of previous job applications (23.0%).
- Those who looked for work comprised 46.9 percent of total unemployed persons. The mean weeks looking for work declined slightly over the period from 5.7 percent to 5.4 percent.
- Four (4) regions recorded unemployment rate higher than the national average. These included NCR (14.0%), Region III (11.3%), Region IV (10.3%) and Region I (8.3%). Meanwhile, the lowest rate was posted in Region II (3.2%) followed by Region IX (4.2%) and Region VIII (4.4%).

FOR INQUIRIES:

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Table 1 - KEY LABOR FORCE INDICATORS
PHILIPPINES: April 2005 and 2006
(In thousands except rates)

INDICATOR	April 2006^p	April 2005
Population 15 Years Old and Over	55,393	54,195
Labor Force	35,954	35,130
- Employed	33,024	32,221
- Unemployed	2,930	2,909
Underemployed	8,401	8,421
- Visible underemployment	4,895	4,365
Not in the Labor Force	19,438	19,065
Labor Force Participation Rate (%)	64.9	64.8
Unemployment Rate (%)	8.2	8.3
Underemployment Rate (%)	25.4	26.1
Visible Underemployment Rate (%)	14.8	14.2

p Preliminary.

Source: National Statistics Office, Labor Force Survey.

Table 2 - SUMMARY STATISTICS ON EMPLOYED PERSONS
PHILIPPINES: April 2004, 2005 and 2006
(In thousands except rates)

INDICATOR	2006 ^p	2005	2004
EMPLOYED PERSONS	33,024	32,221	31,533
SECTOR			
Agriculture, Fishery and Forestry	11,420	10,993	11,113
Agriculture, Hunting and Forestry	9,992	9,630	9,775
Fishing	1,427	1,363	1,338
Industry	5,236	5,236	5,129
Mining and Quarrying	174	135	138
Manufacturing	3,177	3,201	3,062
Electricity, Gas and Water	145	119	137
Construction	1,740	1,781	1,792
Services	16,369	15,991	15,290
Wholesale and Retail Trade	6,501	6,398	5,974
Hotels and Restaurants	919	877	791
Transport, Storage & Communications	2,479	2,389	2,359
Financial Intermediation	337	364	339
Real Estate, Renting & Business Activities	814	775	669
Public Administration & Defense, Compulsory Social Security	1,516	1,497	1,623
Education	1,030	957	882
Health and Social Work	371	376	341
Other Community, Social & Personal Service Activities	866	843	868
Private Households with Employed Persons	1,531	1,515	1,443
Extra-Territorial Organizations	3	1	1
CLASS OF WORKER			
Wage and Salary Workers	16,661	16,296	16,069
Own-account workers	12,440	12,301	11,703
Unpaid Family Workers	3,922	3,624	3,760
HOURS OF WORK			
Less than 40 Hours (Part-Time Employment)	13,489	11,527	13,051
40 Hours and Over (Full-Time Employment)	18,746	20,078	17,358
Did Not Work	789	616	1,123
REGION			
NCR	4,132	4,069	4,055
CAR	694	625	633
Region I	1,688	1,620	1,588
Region II	1,340	1,303	1,370
Region III	3,108	3,151	3,014
Region IV-A	3,856	3,737	3,588
Region IV-B	1,030	1,004	948
Region V	1,984	2,049	1,963
Region VI	2,781	2,750	2,689
Region VII	2,459	2,300	2,192
Region VIII	1,711	1,710	1,630
Region IX	1,289	1,199	1,198
Region X	1,772	1,709	1,749
Region XI	1,705	1,625	1,630
Region XII	1,507	1,459	1,441
Caraga	994	976	933
ARMM	973	933	910

Note: Details may not add to totals due to rounding of figures.

p Preliminary.

Source of data: National Statistics Office, Labor Force Survey.

Table 2a - EMPLOYMENT INCREMENT, GROWTH RATE AND PERCENT DISTRIBUTION
PHILIPPINES: April 2004, 2005 and 2006
(In thousands except rates)

INDICATOR	Increment			Year-on-Year Growth Rate (%)			Percent Distribution		
	2005- 2006 ^p	2004- 2005	2003- 2004	2005- 2006 ^p	2004- 2005	2003- 2004	2006 ^p	2005	2004
EMPLOYED PERSONS	803	688	1,115	2.5	2.2	3.7	100.0	100.0	100.0
SECTOR									
Agriculture, Fishery and Forestry	427	(120)	(42)	3.9	(1.1)	(0.4)	34.6	34.1	35.2
Agriculture, Hunting and Forestry	362	(145)	(195)	3.8	(1.5)	(2.0)	30.3	29.9	31.0
Fishing	64	25	153	4.7	1.9	12.9	4.3	4.2	4.2
Industry	0	107	269	0.0	2.1	5.5	15.9	16.3	16.3
Mining and Quarrying	39	-3	33	28.9	(2.2)	31.4	0.5	0.4	0.4
Manufacturing	(24)	139	170	(0.7)	4.5	5.9	9.6	9.9	9.7
Electricity, Gas and Water	26	-18	21	21.8	(13.1)	18.1	0.4	0.4	0.4
Construction	(41)	-11	45	(2.3)	(0.6)	2.6	5.3	5.5	5.7
Services	378	702	885	2.3	4.6	6.1	49.6	49.6	48.5
Wholesale and Retail Trade	103	424	338	1.6	7.1	6.0	19.7	19.9	18.9
Hotels and Restaurants	42	86	82	4.8	10.9	11.6	2.8	2.7	2.5
Transport, Storage & Communications	90	30	72	3.8	1.3	3.1	7.5	7.4	7.5
Financial Intermediation	(27)	25	53	(7.4)	7.4	18.5	1.0	1.1	1.1
Real Estate, Renting & Bus. Activities	39	106	106	5.0	15.8	18.8	2.5	2.4	2.1
Public Administration & Defense, Compulsory Social Security	19	-126	157	1.3	(7.8)	10.7	4.6	4.6	5.1
Education	73	75	(52)	7.6	8.5	(5.6)	3.1	3.0	2.8
Health and Social Work	(5)	35	(30)	(1.3)	10.3	(8.1)	1.1	1.2	1.1
Other Community, Social & Personal Activities	23	(25)	(33)	2.7	(2.9)	(3.7)	2.6	2.6	2.8
Private Households w/ Employed Persons	16	72	192	1.1	5.0	15.3	4.6	4.7	4.6
Extra-Territorial Organizations	2	0	-	200.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
CLASS OF WORKER									
Wage and Salary Workers	365	227	1,434	2.2	1.4	9.8	50.5	50.6	51.0
Own-account workers	139	598	49	1.1	5.1	0.4	37.7	38.2	37.1
Unpaid Family Workers	298	(136)	(368)	8.3	(3.6)	(8.9)	11.9	11.2	11.9
HOURS OF WORK									
Less than 40 Hours (Part-Time Employment)	1,962	(1,524)	749	17.0	(11.7)	6.1	40.8	35.8	41.4
40 Hours and Over (Full-Time Employment)	(1,332)	2,720	(76)	(6.6)	15.7	(0.4)	56.8	62.3	55.0
Did Not Work	173	(507)	441	28.1	(45.1)	64.7	2.4	1.9	3.6
REGION									
NCR	63	14	104	1.5	0.3	2.6	12.5	12.6	12.9
CAR	69	(8)	41	11.0	(1.3)	6.9	2.1	1.9	2.0
Region I	68	32	30	4.2	2.0	1.9	5.1	5.0	5.0
Region II	37	(67)	111	2.8	(4.9)	8.8	4.1	4.0	4.3
Region III	(43)	137	(79)	(1.4)	4.5	(2.6)	9.4	9.8	9.6
Region IV-A	119	149	99	3.2	4.2	2.8	11.7	11.6	11.4
Region IV-B	26	56	9	2.6	5.9	1.0	3.1	3.1	3.0
Region V	(65)	86	142	(3.2)	4.4	7.8	6.0	6.4	6.2
Region VI	31	61	168	1.1	2.3	6.7	8.4	8.5	8.5
Region VII	159	108	151	6.9	4.9	7.4	7.4	7.1	7.0
Region VIII	1	80	40	0.1	4.9	2.5	5.2	5.3	5.2
Region IX	90	1	(3)	7.5	0.1	(0.2)	3.9	3.7	3.8
Region X	63	(40)	79	3.7	(2.3)	4.7	5.4	5.3	5.5
Region XI	80	(5)	83	4.9	(0.3)	5.4	5.2	5.0	5.2
Region XII	48	18	94	3.3	1.2	7.0	4.6	4.5	4.6
Caraga	18	43	(8)	1.8	4.6	(0.9)	3.0	3.0	3.0
ARMM	40	23	52	4.3	2.5	6.1	2.9	2.9	2.9

Note: Details may not add to totals due to rounding of figures.

^p Preliminary.

Source of data: National Statistics Office, Labor Force Survey.

Table 3 - SUMMARY STATISTICS ON UNDEREMPLOYMENT
PHILIPPINES: April 2005 and 2006
(In thousands except percent)

INDICATOR	2006 ^p	2005	Increment
UNDEREMPLOYED PERSONS	8,401	8,421	(20)
Hours Worked	8,401	8,421	(20)
- Worked less than 40 hours/week	4,895	4,365	530
- Worked more than 40 hours/week	3,285	3,853	(568)
- With a job but not at work	221	203	18
Underemployment rate (%)	25.4	26.1	(0.7)
Visible underemployment rate (%)	14.8	14.2	0.6
Visibly Underemployed Persons	4,895	4,365	530
Top Three Industries			
- Agriculture, Hunting and Forestry	2,217	1,995	222
- Wholesale and Retail Trade	684	629	55
- Manufacturing	398	307	91

Notes: Details may not add to totals due to rounding of figures.

p Preliminary.

Source of data: National Statistics Office, Labor Force Survey.

Table 4 - SUMMARY STATISTICS ON UNEMPLOYMENT
PHILIPPINES: April 2005 and 2006
(In thousands except percent)

INDICATOR	Total Unemployed Persons		Percent Share (%)		Unemployment Rate (%)	
	2006 ^p	2005	2006 ^p	2005	2006 ^p	2005
TOTAL	2,930	2,909	100.0	100.0	8.2	8.3
Sex	2,930	2,909	100.0	100.0	8.2	8.3
Male	1,887	1,791	64.4	61.6	8.6	8.3
Female	1,044	1,117	35.6	38.4	7.5	8.2
Age Group	2,930	2,909	100.0	100.0	8.2	8.3
15-24 years old	1,421	1,424	48.5	49.0	17.4	17.8
25-54 years old	1,389	1,367	47.4	47.0	6.0	6.0
55 years old and over	121	117	4.1	4.0	2.7	2.7
Region	2,930	2,909	100.0	100.0	8.2	8.3
NCR	670	683	22.9	23.5	14.0	14.4
CAR	37	35	1.3	1.2	5.1	5.3
Region I	152	172	5.2	5.9	8.3	9.6
Region II	44	53	1.5	1.8	3.2	3.9
Region III	397	404	13.5	13.9	11.3	11.4
Region IV-A	441	467	15.1	16.1	10.3	11.1
Region IV-B	62	61	2.1	2.1	5.7	5.7
Region V	127	93	4.3	3.2	6.0	4.3
Region VI	214	163	7.3	5.6	7.1	5.6
Region VII	186	210	6.3	7.2	7.0	8.4
Region VIII	79	66	2.7	2.3	4.4	3.7
Region IX	57	65	1.9	2.2	4.2	5.1
Region X	116	113	4.0	3.9	6.1	6.2
Region XI	151	127	5.2	4.4	8.1	7.2
Region XII	94	95	3.2	3.3	5.9	6.1
Caraga	58	64	2.0	2.2	5.5	6.2
ARMM	46	37	1.6	1.3	4.5	3.8
Looked for Work	1,373	1,377	46.9	47.3		
Less than 4 weeks	765	809	26.1	27.8		
4 to 9 weeks	430	383	14.7	13.2		
10-19 weeks	112	110	3.8	3.8		
20-29 weeks	39	34	1.3	1.2		
30 weeks and over	26	41	0.9	1.4		
Mean Weeks Looking for work	5.4	5.7				
Did not Look for Work for Valid Reasons	1,558	1,532	53.2	52.7		
Tired/Believe no work available	607	656	20.7	22.6		
Awaiting results of previous job application	359	349	12.3	12.0		
Temporary illness/disability	193	183	6.6	6.3		
Bad weather	5	5	0.2	0.2		
Awaiting for rehire/job recall	394	339	13.4	11.7		

Note: Based on the new official unemployment definition (NSCB Resolution No. 15 s 2004).
p Preliminary.

Source of data: National Statistics Office, Labor Force Survey.