

HIGHLIGHTS OF THE JULY 2007 LABOR FORCE SURVEY



Overview

The labor market remained resilient in July 2007, notwithstanding the slump in agricultural employment due to the drought that affected Northern Luzon. Industry employment recovered (3.9%) from previous year's sluggish growth while employment in the service sector continued to expand (2.7%). The quality of employment improved as more people found full-time work and the incidence of underemployment fell by more than one percentage point (23.4% to 22.0%). Similarly, unemployment declined both in terms of rate (8.1% to 7.8%) and magnitude (2.918 million to 2.827 million).

Starting with January 2007 Labor Force Survey (LFS), the population projections based on the 2000 Census of Population was adopted to generate the labor force statistics. This is in compliance with NSCB Resolution No. 1 series 2005 "Adoption of the Methodology Used in Generating the 2000 Census of Population and Housing-Based National Population Projections."

LABOR FORCE

The country's working age population grew by 2.5% (+1.388 million) over the period. This was accompanied by slower growth in the labor force which expanded by less than one percent or 0.9% (+317,000) to reach 36.161 million. Labor force participation rate (LFPR) declined by one percentage point to 63.6%.

Employment

Total employed persons increased from 32.926 million to 33.334 million. This translates to employment generation of 408 thousand or a year-on-year growth rate of 1.2%.

- The gains in employment occurred mostly in the service sector which grew by 2.7% (+434,000) over the period -

**Table 1 - KEY EMPLOYMENT INDICATORS
PHILIPPINES: July 2006-2007
(in thousands except rates)**

Indicator	July 2007 ^p	July 2006	Year-On-Year Change
Household Population 15 Years Old and Over	56,863	55,475	1,388
Labor Force	36,161	35,844	317
– Employed Persons	33,334	32,926	408
– Unemployed Persons	2,827	2,918	-91
Underemployed Persons	7,332	7,718	-386
– Visibly underemployed	3,732	4,368	-636
LFPR (%)	63.6	64.6	
Unemployment Rate (%)	7.8	8.1	
Underemployment Rate (%)	22.0	23.4	
– Visible Under-employment Rate (%)	11.2	13.3	

^p Preliminary.

Source: National Statistics Office, Labor Force Survey.

increasing from 16.200 million to 16.634 million. The main contributor was transport, storage and communications (+164,000). Notable gains were

also observed in education (+79,000), wholesale and retail trade (+45,000), hotels and restaurants (+44,000), and real estate, renting and business activities (+43,000).

- Industry sector employment grew by a respectable 3.9% (+195,000), a recovery from the sluggish growth in the previous year. Supporting the growth was the robust employment expansion in construction sub-sector at 9.2% (+154,000). Respectable growth also occurred in electricity, gas and water (34.3%). Meanwhile, employment was essentially unchanged in mining and quarrying (0.8%) and manufacturing (0.2%).
- Employment in the combined agriculture, fishery and forestry sector suffered a setback (-1.9% or -222,000) mainly on account of the drought that affected farm production in the northern region of the country.
- The number of persons in full-time employment grew by a respectable 5.9% (1.225 million) while part-time employment was down by 5.6% (-655,000) over the period.
- Growth occurred among wage and salary workers (1.6% or +282,000) and self-employed workers (1.9% or +194,000). In contrast, the number of employers and unpaid family workers fell by 3.3% (-49,000) and 1.4% (-53,000), respectively.

- The number of underemployed persons who want or expressed the desire for additional hours of work declined by 386,000 – from 7.718 million to 7.332 million. This corresponds to underemployment rate of 22.0%, down from 23.4% a year before.
- Invisibly underemployed persons (i.e., persons who worked 40 hours or more a week and still wanting additional hours of work) also declined by 636,000 – from 4.368 million to 3.732 million.

UNEMPLOYMENT

Unemployment declined both in terms of rate (8.1% to 7.8%) and numbers (2.918 million to 2.827 million).

- The large proportion of the unemployed were young workers 15 to 24 years old (51.1% or 1.445 million), and relatively educated – 39.4% or 1.114 million were either college graduates or undergraduates.
- Double-digit unemployment rate were recorded in NCR (13.1%) and Region III (11.5%). Other regions which posted unemployment rate higher than the national average were Region IV-A (9.2%), Caraga (8.4%) and Region I (7.9%).

FOR INQUIRIES:

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 Or visit our website at <http://www.manila-online.net/bles> or <http://www.bles.dole.gov.ph>

**Table 2 - SUMMARY STATISTICS ON EMPLOYED PERSONS
BY SELECTED INDICATORS, PHILIPPINES
July 2006 and 2007
(in thousands except rates)**

INDICATOR	2007 ^p	2006	Increment	Year-on-Year Growth Rate (%)
EMPLOYED PERSONS	33,334	32,926	408	1.2
SECTOR				
Agriculture, Fishery and Forestry	11,500	11,722	-222	-1.9
Agriculture, Hunting and Forestry	10,100	10,306	-206	-2.0
Fishing	1,400	1,449	-49	-3.4
Industry	5,200	5,005	195	3.9
Mining and Quarrying	133	132	1	0.8
Manufacturing	3,067	3,062	5	0.2
Electricity, Gas and Water	133	99	34	34.3
Construction	1,833	1,679	154	9.2
Services	16,634	16,200	434	2.7
Wholesale and Retail Trade	6,367	6,322	45	0.7
Hotels and Restaurants	900	856	44	5.1
Transport, Storage & Communications	2,633	2,469	164	6.6
Financial Intermediation	367	329	38	11.6
Real Estate, Renting & Business Activities	833	790	43	5.4
Public Administration & Defense, Compulsory Social Security	1,533	1,515	18	1.2
Education	1,067	988	79	8.0
Health and Social Work	367	362	5	1.4
Other Community, Social & Personal Activities	833	823	10	1.2
Private Households w/ Employed Persons	1,767	1,745	22	1.3
Extra-Territorial Organizations	0	0	0	0.0
STATUS OF EMPLOYMENT				
Wage and Salary Workers	17,700	17,418	282	1.6
Self-employed Workers	10,434	10,240	194	1.9
Employers	1,433	1,482	-49	-3.3
Unpaid Family Workers	3,733	3,786	-53	-1.4
HOURS OF WORK				
40 Hours and Over (Full-Time Employment)	22,034	20,809	1,225	5.9
Less than 40 Hours (Part-Time Employment)	11,067	11,722	-655	-5.6
Did Not Work	233	428	-195	-45.6

Notes: 1. Figures were estimated based on the 2000 Census Population Projection.

2. Employment levels were derived based on the percentage distribution contained in the NSO July 2007 LFS Press Release.

^p Preliminary.

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

Table 3 - SUMMARY STATISTICS ON UNDEREMPLOYMENT
PHILIPPINES: July 2006 and 2007
(in thousands except percent)

INDICATOR	2007 ^p	2006	Increment
UNDEREMPLOYED PERSONS	7,332	7,718	-386
Hours Worked			
- Worked less than 40 hours/week	3,732	4,368	-636
- Worked more than 40 hours/week	3,527	3,195	332
- With a job but not at work	66	147	-81
Industry			
Agriculture	3,255	3,543	-288
Industry	1,122	1,189	-67
Service	2,955	2,987	-32

Notes: 1. Figures were estimated based on the 2000 Census Population Projection.

2. Underemployment levels were derived based on the percentage distribution contained in the NSO July 2007 LFS Press Release.

^p Preliminary.

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

**Table 4 - SUMMARY STATISTICS ON UNEMPLOYMENT
BY AGE GROUP AND HIGHEST GRADE COMPLETED
PHILIPPINES: July 2006 and 2007**
(in thousands except percent)

INDICATOR	Total Unemployed		Percent Share (%)	
	2007 ^p	2006	2007 ^p	2006
TOTAL	2,827	2,918	100.0	100.0
Sex				
Male	1,753	1,800	62.0	61.7
Female	1,074	1,118	38.0	38.3
Age Group				
15-24 years old	1,445	1,485	51.1	50.9
25-54 years old	1,269	1,339	44.9	45.9
55 years old and over	110	93	3.9	3.2
Highest Grade Completed				
No Grade Completed	23	20	0.8	0.7
Elementary	401	444	14.2	15.2
Undergraduate	192	193	6.8	6.6
Graduate	212	251	7.5	8.6
High School	1,286	1,363	45.5	46.7
Undergraduate	399	397	14.1	13.6
Graduate	888	969	31.4	33.2
College	1,114	1,088	39.4	37.3
Undergraduate	565	560	20.0	19.2
Graduate	548	528	19.4	18.1

Notes: 1. Figures were estimated based on the 2000 Census Population Projection.
2. Unemployment levels were derived based on the percentage distribution contained in the NSO July 2007 LFS Press Release.

p Preliminary.

a No available data from NSO Press Release.

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

**Table 5 – RATES OF LABOR FORCE, EMPLOYMENT, UNEMPLOYMENT
AND UNDEREMPLOYMENT BY REGION
PHILIPPINES: July 2007**
(in percent)

Region	Labor Force Participation Rate	Employment Rate	Unemployment Rate	Underemployment Rate
Philippines	63.6	92.2	7.8	22.0
NCR	61.3	87.0	13.1	16.8
CAR	67.0	94.9	5.1	18.3
Region I	60.4	92.1	7.9	19.6
Region II	67.7	96.2	3.7	16.5
Region III	60.2	88.5	11.5	14.1
Region IV-A	62.8	90.8	9.2	15.0
Region IV-B	69.6	95.6	4.4	28.4
Region V	63.8	94.4	5.6	38.4
Region VI	63.9	93.2	6.8	27.0
Region VII	63.8	93.0	7.0	21.0
Region VIII	65.3	95.3	4.7	29.2
Region IX	69.5	96.1	3.9	28.3
Region X	68.8	93.1	6.9	30.3
Region XI	65.7	93.3	6.7	21.7
Region XII	65.4	95.9	4.0	26.2
Caraga	66.0	91.6	8.4	29.3
ARMM	56.6	95.7	4.3	14.9

Notes: 1. *Figures were estimated based on the 2000 Census Population Projection.*
2. *Preliminary.*

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