



# SPECIAL RELEASE

## Ilocos Region's Employment Rate Recorded the Lowest in April 2017

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### Ilocos Region's Employment Rate Recorded the Lowest in April 2017

The results of the April 2017 Labor Force Survey (LFS) revealed an employment rate of 89.6 percent for Ilocos Region. This was 2.9 percentage points lower than the 92.5 percent employment rate recorded in April 2016. The employment rate of Ilocos Region was the lowest across the seventeen regions, lower by 4.7 percentage points when compared with that of the national figure. In terms of the labor force participation rate (LFPR), Ilocos Region posted a decrease of 5.1 percentage points from 61.7 percent in April 2016 to 56.6 percent in April 2017. This was lower than the country's LFPR of 61.4 percent in April 2017.

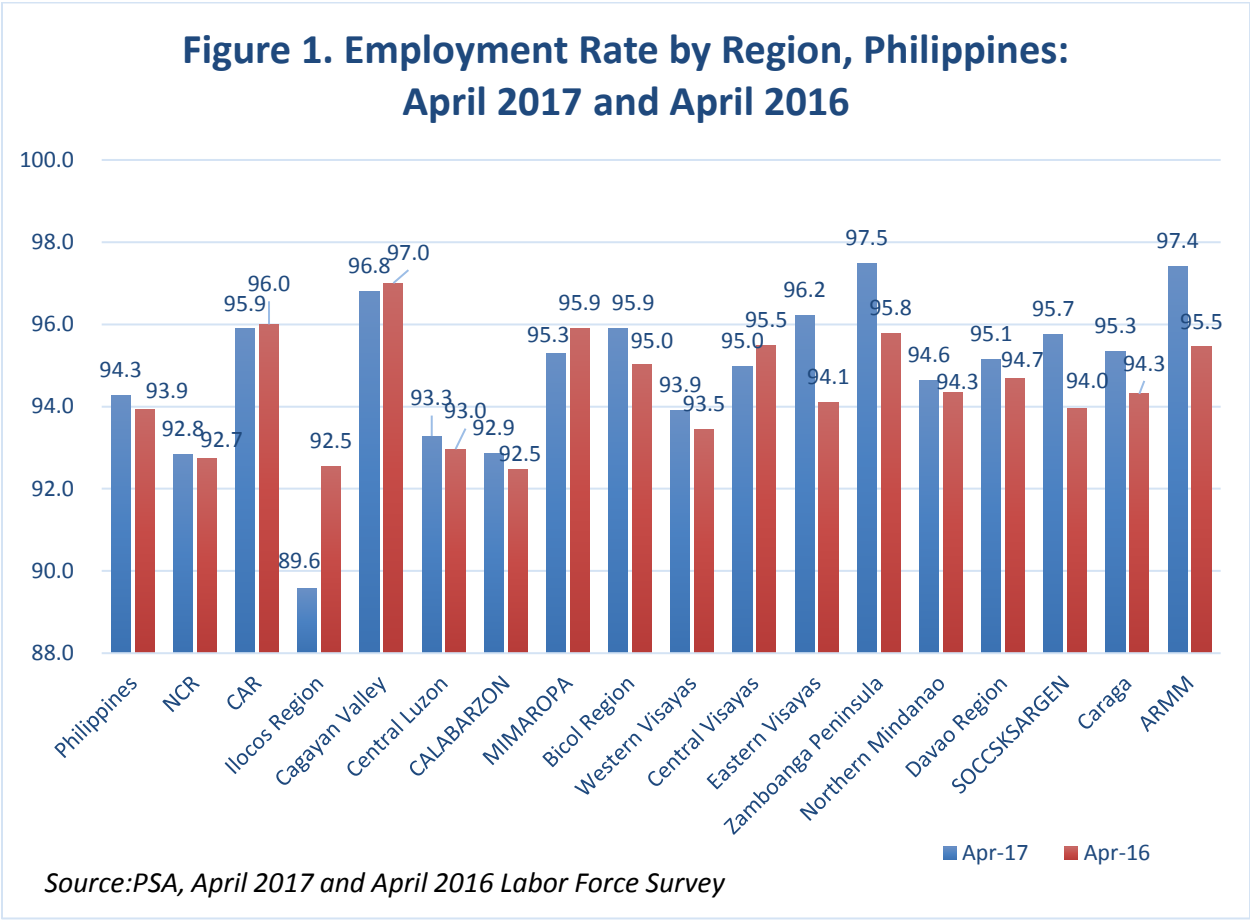
Table 1. Employment Indicators, Philippines and Ilocos Region: April 2017 and April 2016 LFS

INDICATORS	Philippines		Region 1	
	April 2017	April 2016	April 2017	April 2016
Population 15 years and over (in 000)	69,605	68,167	3,443	3,431
Labor Force Participation Rate (%)	61.4	63.5	56.6	61.7
Employment Rate (%)	94.3	93.9	89.6	92.5
Unemployment Rate (%)	5.7	6.1	10.4	7.5

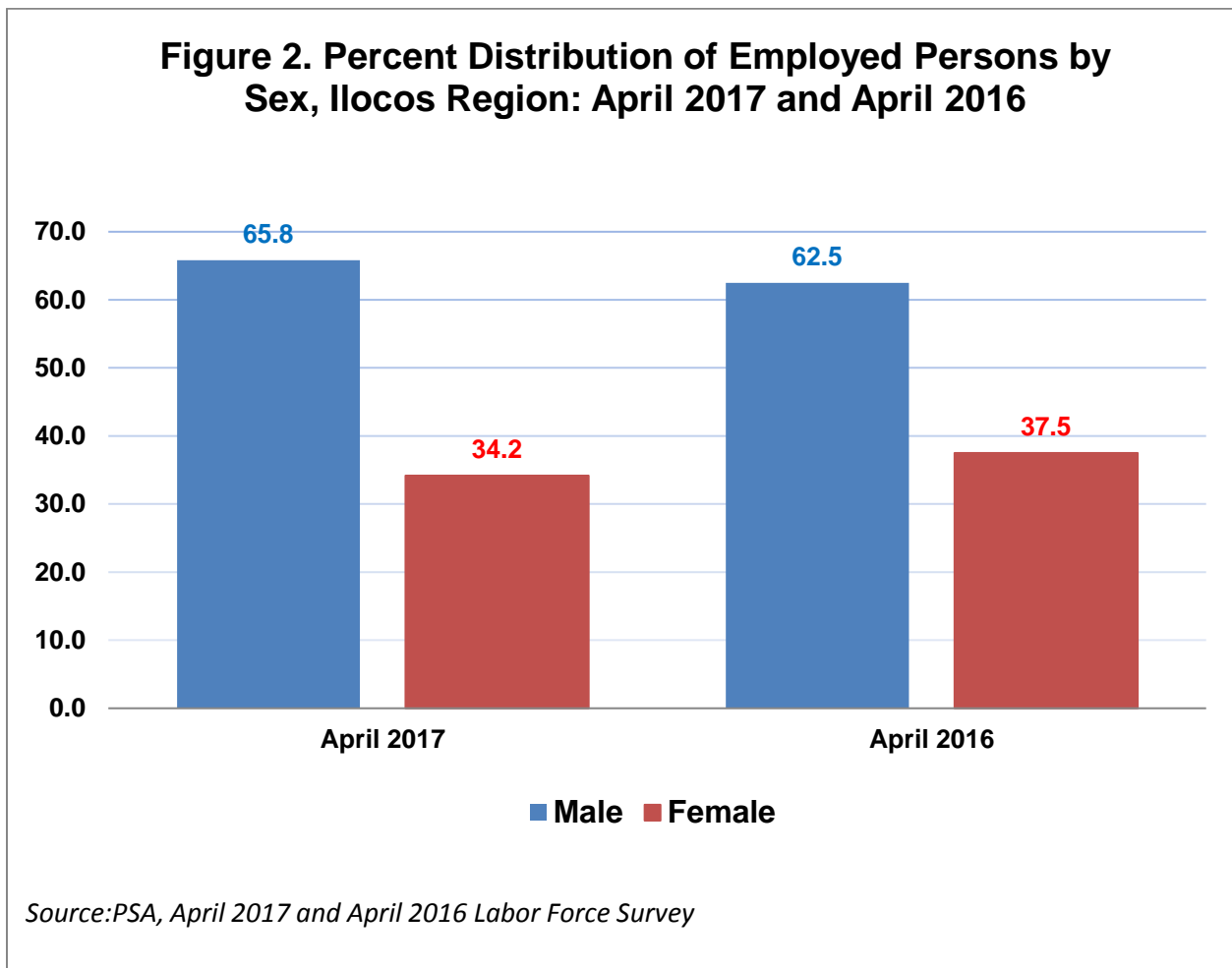
Source: PSA, April 2017 and April 2016 Labor Force Survey

Among the regions, Ilocos Region (Region I) recorded the lowest employment rate at 89.6 percent in April 2017. On the other hand, Zamboanga Peninsula (Region IX) had the highest employment rate at 97.5 percent. Meanwhile, National Capital Region (NCR) recorded the next lowest employment rate among the seventeen regions in April 2017 at 92.8 percent. Likewise, Ilocos Region and CALABARZON (Region IVA) posted the lowest employment rate at 92.5 percent and 92.7 percent, respectively in April 2016.

**Figure 1. Employment Rate by Region, Philippines:  
April 2017 and April 2016**



There was an increase of 3.3 percentage points in the number of employed males in Ilocos Region from 62.5 percent in April 2016 to 65.8 percent in April 2017. On the other hand, a decrease of 3.3 percentage points was recorded among the employed females, from 37.5 percent in April 2016 to 34.2 percent in April 2017.



By education, 47.2 percent of the employed persons in the Ilocos Region attained Junior high school, which was higher by 5.9 percentage points than the 41.3 percent recorded for the whole country.

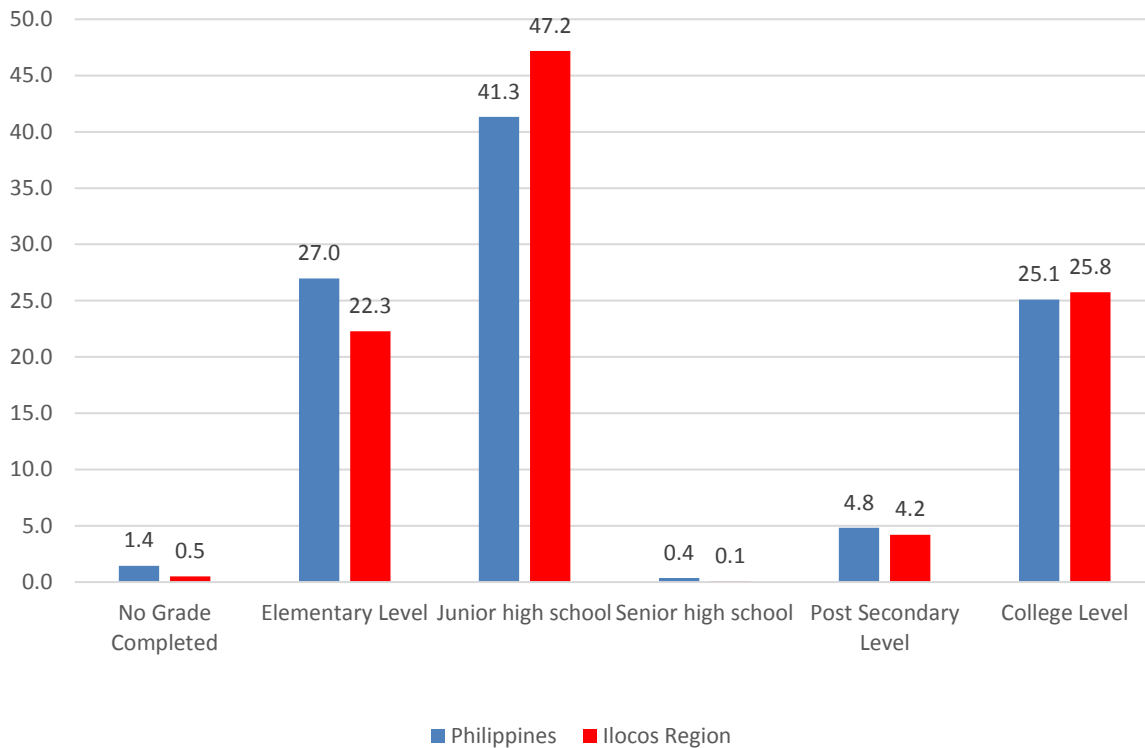
About 25.8 percent of the employed persons in Ilocos Region reached college level, which was higher by 0.7 percentage point from the national figure of 25.1 percent in April 2017.

On the other hand, about 4.2 percent of the employed persons in Ilocos Region attained post-secondary level, which was 0.6 percentage point lower than the 4.8 percent recorded for the whole country during the said period

About 22.3 percent of the employed persons in Ilocos Region attained elementary level, lower by 4.7 percentage points with that of the national level at 27.0 percent.

The percentage of employed persons in Ilocos Region with no grade completed was only 0.5 percent, lower by 0.9 percentage point as compared to the 1.4 percent recorded for the Philippines.

**Figure 3. Percent Distribution of Employed Persons by Highest Grade Completed: Ilocos Region, Philippines April 2017.**

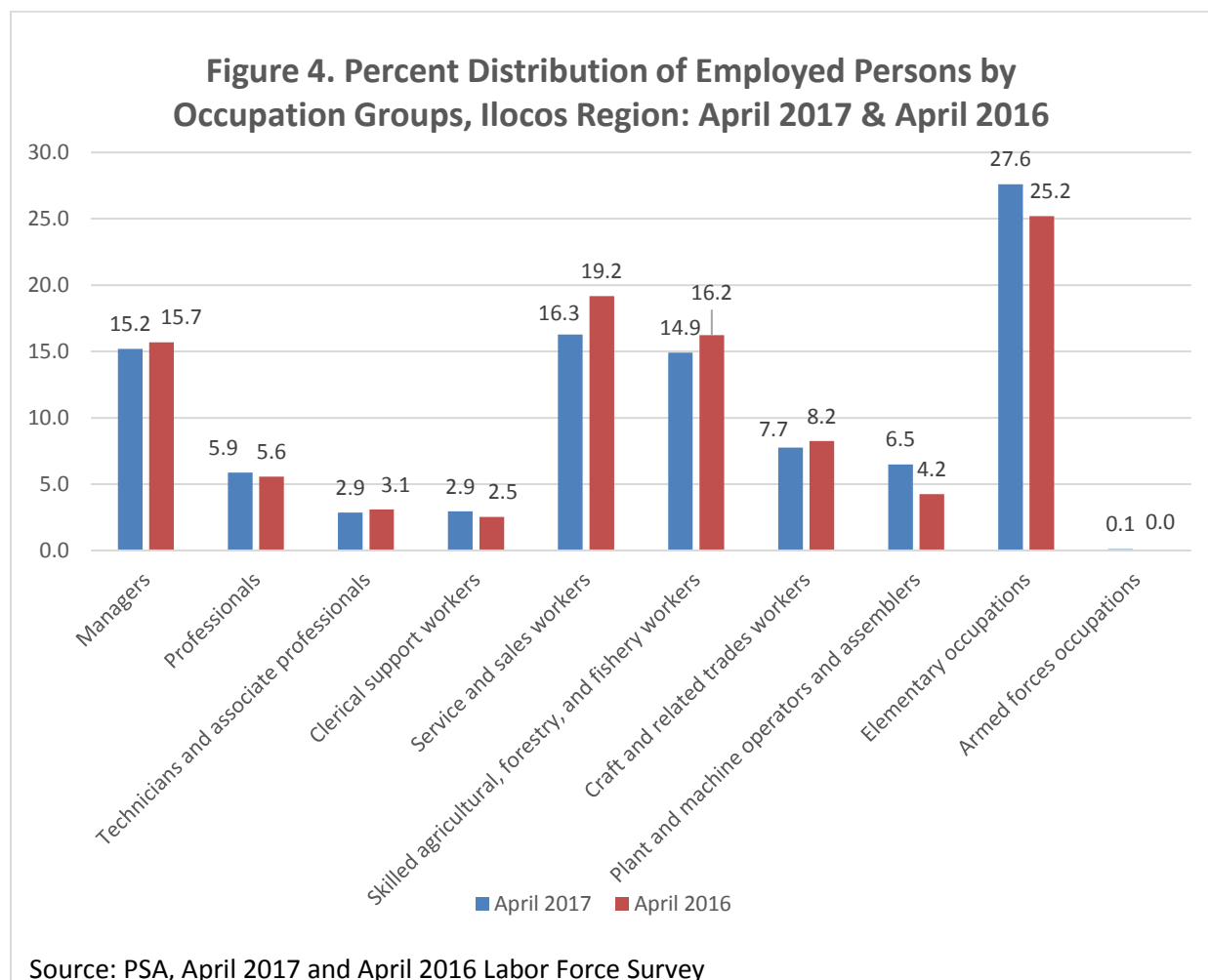


Source: PSA April 2017 Labor Force Survey

Among the various occupation groups, workers under elementary occupations comprised the biggest group making up 27.6 percent in April 2017 and 25.2 percent in April 2016.

Service and sales workers made up the second largest occupation group in Ilocos Region accounting for 16.3 percent in April 2017 and 19.2 percent in April 2016.

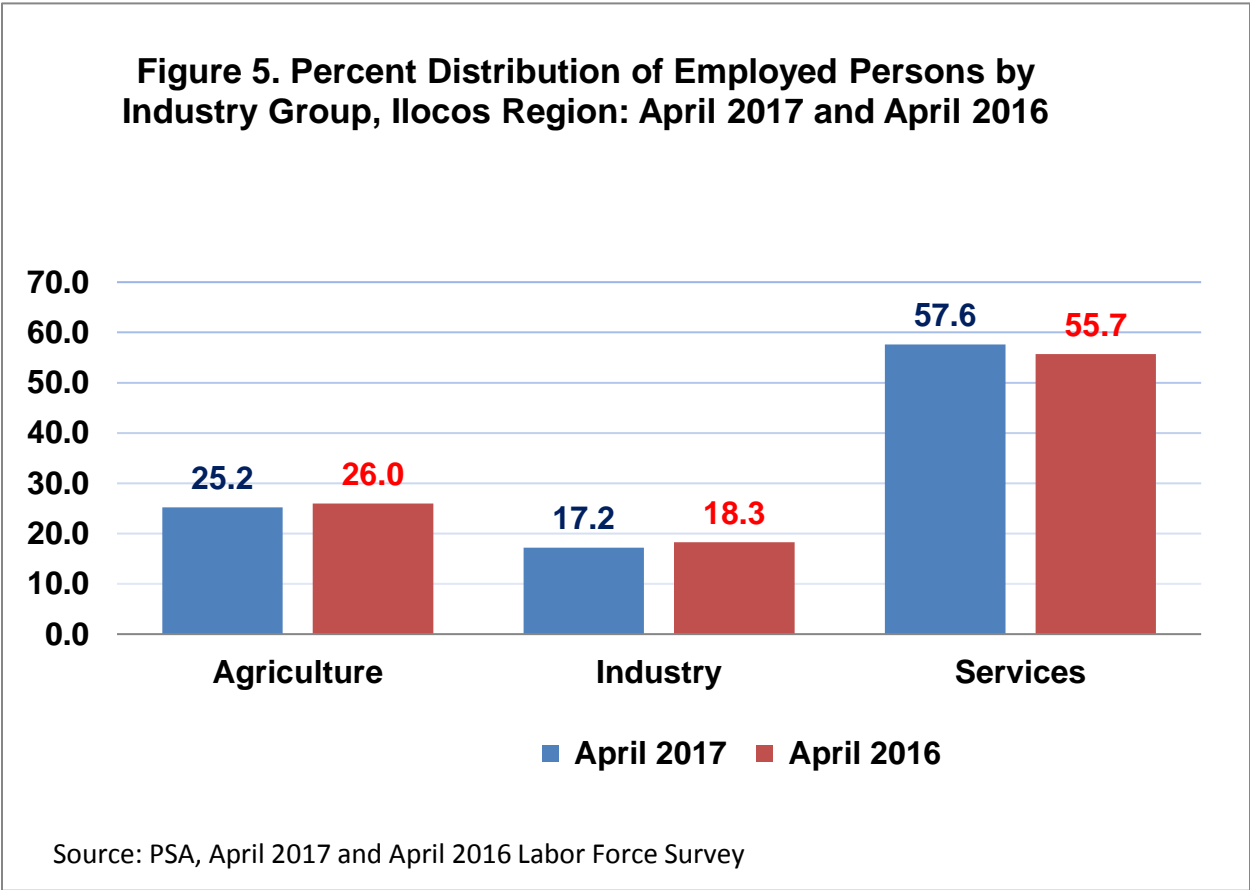
Officials of the government and special interest organizations, corporate executives, managers, managing proprietors and supervisors was the third biggest group with 15.2 percent while skilled agricultural, forestry and fishery workers category was the fourth biggest occupation group with 16.3 percent in April 2017. Meanwhile, officials of the government and special interest organizations, corporate executives, managers, managing proprietors and supervisors was the fourth largest group in April 2016 with 15.7 percent.



In terms of the percent distribution of employed persons by major industry, workers in the services sector accounted the largest group, making up 57.6 percent and 55.7 percent of the total employed in Ilocos Region in April 2017 and April 2016, respectively.

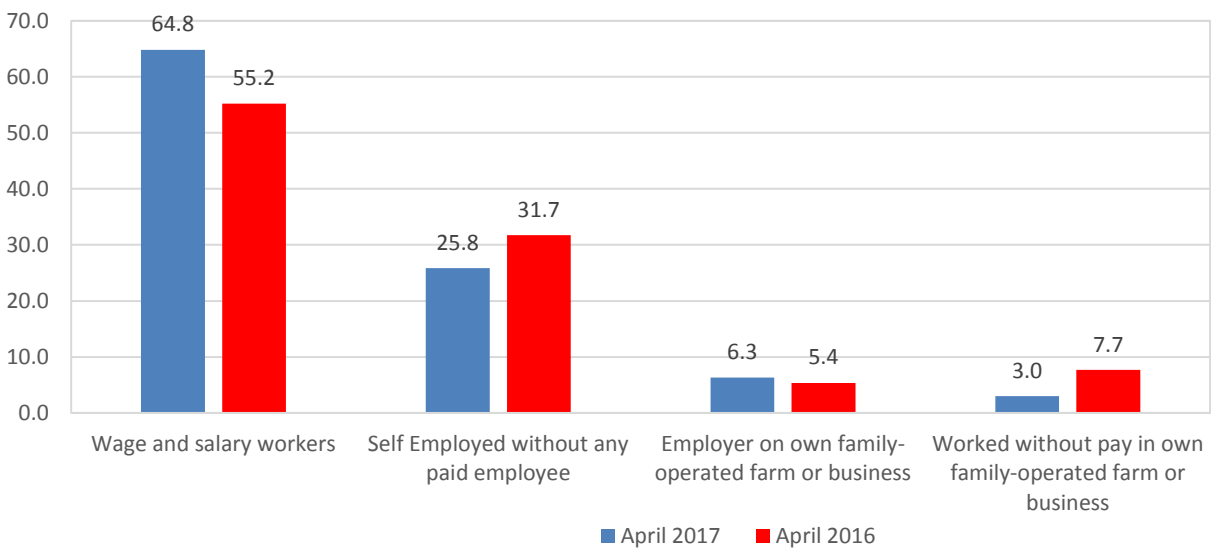
Workers in the agriculture sector, on the other hand, comprised the second largest group in Ilocos Region, accounting for 25.2 percent and 26.0 percent in April 2017 and April 2016, respectively.

Meanwhile, workers in the industry sector made up 17.2 percent of the total number of employed persons in Ilocos Region in April 2017, and 18.3 percent in April 2016.



Seven in every 10 (64.8 percent) of the employed persons in Ilocos Region worked as wage and salary workers in April 2017. The figure was higher by 9.6 percentage points as compared to the estimate obtained in April 2016 with 55.2 percent. Own account workers ranked second in April 2017 with 25.8 percent of the total employed persons in Ilocos Region. This was lower by 5.9 percentage points as compared to April 2016 with 31.7 percent. The third class of workers was employer on own family operated farm or business with 6.3 percent in April 2017 which was higher by 0.9 percentage points as compared in April 2016 with 5.4 percent. Unpaid workers in April 2017 recorded 3.0 percent which was lower by 4.7 percentage points as compared to that in April 2016 with 7.7 percent.

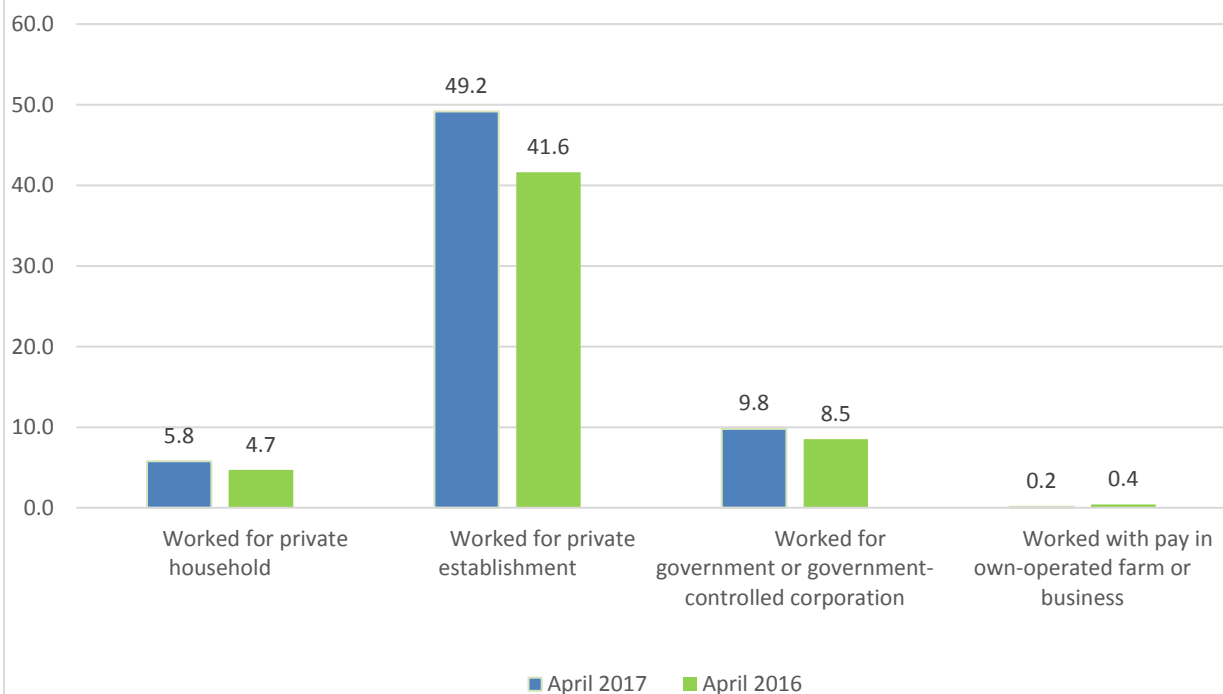
**Figure 6. Percent Distribution of Employed Persons by Class of Workers in Ilocos Region: April 2017 and April 2016**



Source: PSA April 2017 and April 2016 Labor Force Survey

For wage and salary workers, the biggest percentage of employed persons were those working in private establishment with almost half (49.2 percent) in April 2017, which is higher by 7.6 percentage points as compared to April 2016. Employed persons who worked for government or government controlled corporation shared 9.8 percent in April 2017, higher by 1.3 percentage points in April 2016 with 8.5 percent. On the other hand, the proportion of individuals who worked for private households was 5.8 percent in April 2017, higher by 1.1 percentage points as compared to 4.7 percent in April 2016. A small percentage recorded at 0.2 percent and 0.4 percent in April 2017 and April 2016, respectively for persons who worked with pay in own-operated farm or business.

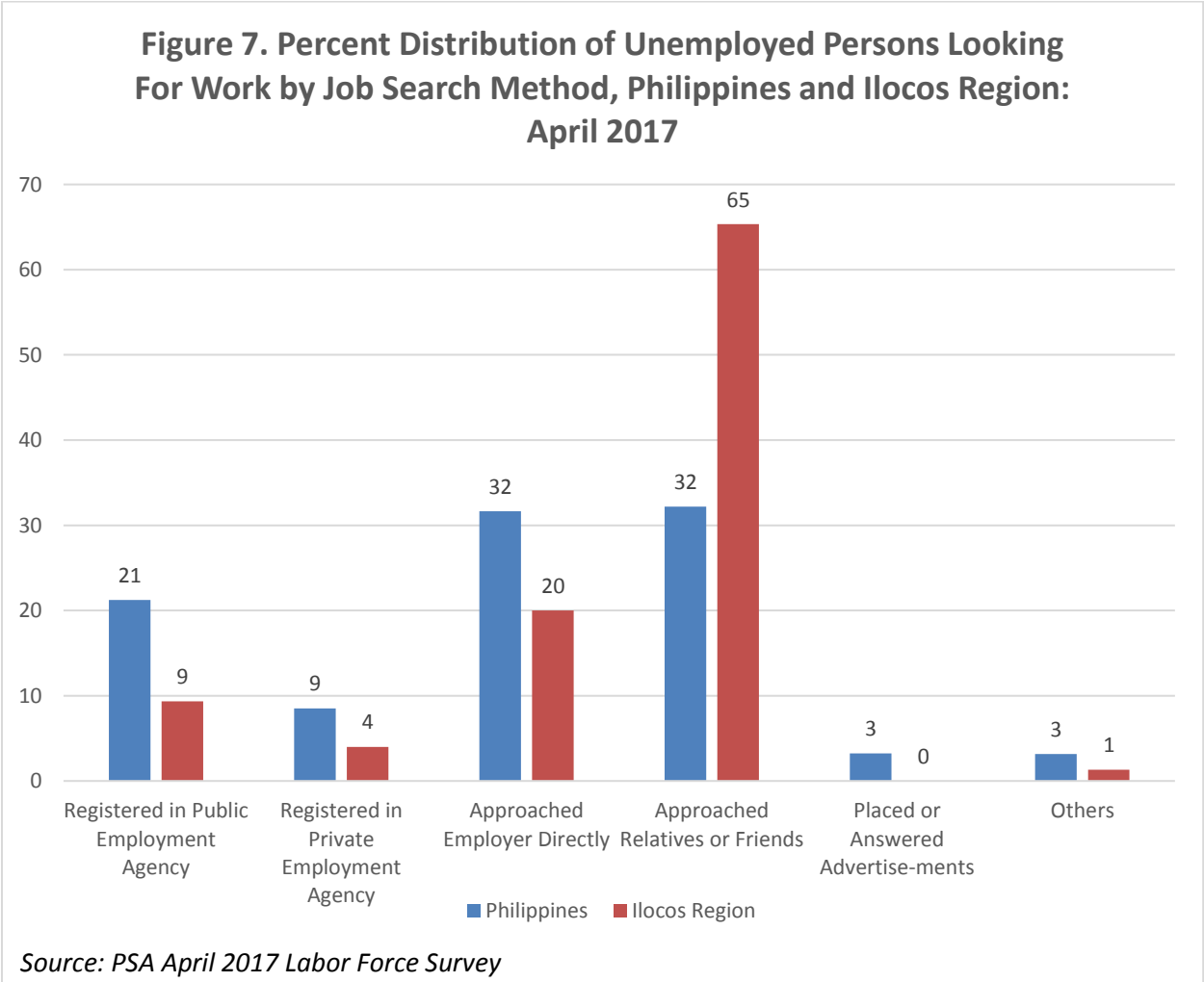
**Figure 6a. Percent Distribution of Employed Persons under Wage and Salary Workers, Ilocos Region: April 2017 and April 2016**



Source: PSA April 2017 and April 2016 Labor Force Survey



The most common job search method used by unemployed persons in Ilocos Region is “approached relative or friends” with 65 percent which is twice higher than the national figure of 32 percent. Unemployed persons in Region I who “approached employer directly” to search for a job recorded the second highest job search method with 20 percent, while 32 percent with that of the national level. Nine percent was recorded in Ilocos Region for “registered to public employment agency”, which is lower by 12 percentage points as compared to 21 percent for the Philippines in April 2017. Meanwhile, “registered to private employment agency”, accounted four percent in Ilocos Region as compared to 9 percent for the Philippines during the same period.



## Statistical Tables

**TABLE 2.** Population 15 Years Old and Over, Labor Force Participation, Employment and Unemployment Rates by Region and Philippines: April 2017

Philippines, Region	Total Population 15 Years Old and Over (In Thousands)	Labor Force Participation Rate	Employment Rate	Unemployment Rate
Philippines	69,605	61.4	94.3	5.7
National Capital Region	9,053	60.5	92.8	7.2
Cordillera Administrative Region	1,239	62.0	95.9	4.1
I - Ilocos Region	3,443	56.6	89.6	10.4
II - Cagayan Valley	2,364	62.6	96.8	3.2
III - Central Luzon	7,719	57.4	93.3	6.7
IV-A CALABARZON	9,721	63.7	92.9	7.1
IV-B MIMAROPA	2,039	63.5	95.3	4.7
V - Bicol Region	4,006	59.1	95.9	4.1
VI - Western Visayas	5,350	61.3	93.9	6.1
VII - Central Visayas	5,176	67.3	95.0	5.0
VIII - Eastern Visayas	3,081	64.2	96.2	3.8
IX - Zamboanga Peninsula	2,548	60.9	97.5	2.5
X - Northern Mindanao	3,239	64.7	94.6	5.4
XI - Davao Region	3,434	64.0	95.1	4.9
XII - SOCCSKSARGEN	3,078	60.8	95.7	4.3
Caraga	1,843	65.2	95.3	4.7
Autonomous Region in Muslim Mindanao	2,272	48.2	97.4	2.6

**TABLE 3.** Percent Distribution of Population 15 Years Old and Over by Employment Status and Sex, Philippines and Ilocos Region: April 2017

Region and Sex	Total Population 15 Years Old and Over	Total Labor Force	Employed	Unemployed	Not in the Labor Force
<b>Philippines (Number in thousands)</b>	69,605	42,714	40,271	2,443	26,891
Total	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Male	50.0	62.4	62.3	63.7	30.3
Female	50.0	37.6	37.7	36.3	69.7
<b>Ilocos Region (Number in thousands)</b>	3,443	768	737	32	471
Total	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Male	50.3	67.0	65.8	77.1	28.6
Female	49.7	33.0	34.2	22.9	71.4

**Table 4.** Percent Distribution of Employed Persons by Highest Grade Completed and Sex, Philippines and Region I: April 2017

Region and Sex	Total	Highest Grade Completed										
		No Grade Completed	Elementary		Junior High School		Senior High School		Post-Secondary		College	
			Under Grad	Grad	Under Grad	Grad	Under Grad	Grad	Under Grad	Grad	Under Grad	Grad
<b>Philippines</b> (Number in thousands)	40,271	583	5,891	4,970	5,173	11,467	142	6	196	1,743	4,063	6,038
Total	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Male	62.3	63.6	73.9	66.1	69.2	62.7	57.9	47.7	62.7	52.7	60.7	44.9
Female	37.7	36.4	26.1	33.9	30.8	37.3	42.1	52.3	37.3	47.3	39.3	55.1
<b>Ilocos Region</b> (Number in thousands)	1,745	9	156	233	194	629	13	-	8	66	174	275
Total	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	-	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Male	65.8	92.3	79.0	66.3	74.0	66.7	37.3	-	74.2	62.9	68.9	48.1
Female	34.2	7.8	21.0	33.7	26.0	33.3	62.7	-	25.8	37.1	31.1	51.9

**Table 5.** Percent Distribution of Employed Persons by Sex and Major Occupation Group, Philippines and Ilocos Region: April 2017

Region and Major Occupation Group	Total	Male	Female
<b>Philippines</b> (Numbers in thousands)	<b>40,271</b>	<b>25,088</b>	<b>15,183</b>
Total	100.0	100.0	100.0
Managers	16.3	12.8	22.2
Professionals	5.2	3.1	8.7
Technicians and associate professionals	3.6	3.0	4.7
Clerical support workers	5.6	3.7	8.7
Service and sales workers	15.0	11.8	20.4
Skilled agricultural, forestry, and fishery workers	13.5	17.9	6.2
Craft and related trades workers	7.5	10.4	2.7
Plant and machine operators and assemblers	6.3	8.8	2.3
Elementary occupations	26.8	28.3	24.2
Armed forces occupations	0.2	0.3	0.0
<b>Ilocos Region</b> (Numbers in thousands)	<b>1,745</b>	<b>1,149</b>	<b>597</b>
Total	100.0	100.0	100.0
Managers	15.2	12.8	19.7
Professionals	5.9	3.0	11.4
Technicians and associate professionals	2.9	2.3	4.0
Clerical support workers	2.9	2.3	4.2
Service and sales workers	16.3	12.8	22.9
Skilled agricultural, forestry, and fishery workers	14.9	19.4	6.4
Craft and related trades workers	7.7	10.7	2.2
Plant and machine operators and assemblers	6.5	9.2	1.2
Elementary occupations	27.6	27.3	28.1
Armed forces occupations	0.1	0.2	-

The 2012 Philippine Standard Occupational Classification (PSOC) was adopted starting April 2016.

**Table 6.** Percent Distribution of Employed Persons by Sex and Major Industry Group, Philippines and Ilocos Region: April 2017.

<b>Region and Major Industry Group</b>	<b>Total</b>	<b>Male</b>	<b>Female</b>
<b>Philippines</b> (Numbers in thousands)	40,271	25,088	15,183
Total	100.0	100.0	100.0
Agriculture and forestry	23.0	27.4	15.8
Fishing	3.1	4.7	0.4
Mining and quarrying	0.6	0.8	0.1
Manufacturing	8.8	8.4	9.5
Electricity gas steam and air conditioning supply	0.2	0.3	0.1
Water supply; sewerage waste management and remediation activities	0.1	0.2	0.1
Construction	8.8	13.9	0.3
Wholesale and retail trade; repair of motor vehicles, motorcycles and personal and household goods	19.6	12.4	31.4
Transportation and storage	7.7	12.0	0.6
Accommodation and food service activities	4.2	3.2	5.9
Information and communication	1.1	1.1	1.0
Financial and insurance activities	1.3	0.9	1.9
Real estate activities	0.4	0.3	0.6
Professional scientific and technical activities	0.6	0.5	0.9
Administrative and support service activities	3.7	3.9	3.4
Public administration and defense; compulsory social security	5.6	4.9	6.7
Education	2.8	1.3	5.3
Human health and social work activities	1.2	0.7	2.0
Arts entertainment and recreation	0.9	0.8	1.0
Other service activities	6.5	2.4	13.1
Activities of extraterritorial organizations	0.0	0.0	0.0
<b>Ilocos Region</b> (Numbers in thousands)	1,960	1,225	735
Total	100.0	100.0	100.0
Agriculture and forestry	21.0	24.6	14.1
Fishing	4.2	6.3	0.2
Mining and quarrying	0.2	0.3	-
Manufacturing	4.9	5.1	4.5
Electricity gas steam and air conditioning supply	0.3	0.4	0.1
Water supply; sewerage waste management and remediation activities	0.0	0.0	0.0
Construction	11.8	17.8	0.3
Wholesale and retail trade; repair of motor vehicles, motorcycles and personal and household goods	20.0	13.9	31.8
Transportation and storage	8.5	12.6	0.6
Accommodation and food service activities	3.5	2.6	5.3
Information and communication	0.8	1.0	0.2
Financial and insurance activities	0.9	0.8	1.1
Real estate activities	0.2	0.1	0.4
Professional scientific and technical activities	0.3	0.2	0.7
Administrative and support service activities	2.2	2.7	1.1
Public administration and defense; compulsory social security	6.3	5.8	7.2
Education	4.0	1.8	8.2
Human health and social work activities	1.0	0.7	1.7
Arts entertainment and recreation	0.8	0.8	0.7
Other service activities	9.2	2.7	21.7
Activities of extraterritorial organizations	-	-	-

**Table7.** Percent Distribution of Employed Persons by Sex and Class of Worker, Philippines and Ilocos Region : April 2017

<b>Region and Class of Worker</b>	<b>Total</b>	<b>Male</b>	<b>Female</b>
<b>Philippines</b>	<b>40,271</b>	<b>25,088</b>	<b>15,183</b>
Numbers (in thousand)			
TOTAL	100.0	100.0	100.0
Wage and salary workers	61.3	63.4	57.9
Worked for private household	4.5	1.0	10.3
Worked for private establishment	48.8	56.3	36.4
Worked for government or government-controlled corporation	7.8	5.9	11.0
Worked with pay in own-operated farm or business	0.2	0.3	0.2
Self Employed without any paid employee	28.2	27.7	29.2
Employer on own family-operated farm or business	3.7	4.4	2.6
Worked without pay in own family-operated farm or business	6.7	4.5	10.3
<b>Ilocos Region</b>	<b>1,960</b>	<b>1,225</b>	<b>735</b>
Numbers (in thousand)			
TOTAL	100.0	100.0	100.0
Wage and salary workers	64.8	65.8	63.0
Worked for private household	5.8	0.7	15.4
Worked for private establishment	49.2	57.7	32.6
Worked for government or government-controlled corporation	9.8	7.2	14.7
Worked with pay in own-operated farm or business	0.2	0.2	0.1
Self Employed without any paid employee	25.8	24.4	28.5
Employer on own family-operated farm or business	6.3	7.6	3.9
Worked without pay in own family-operated farm or business	3.0	2.1	4.6

**Table 8.** Percent Distribution of Employed Persons by Total Hours Worked by Sex, Philippines and Ilocos Region: April 2017

<b>Region and Sex</b>	<b>Total</b>	<b>Did not work</b>	<b>Total Hours Worked</b>				<b>Mean Hours Worked</b>
			<b>Under 20</b>	<b>20 - 29</b>	<b>30 - 39</b>	<b>40 and over</b>	
<b>Philippines</b>	<b>40,271</b>	<b>559</b>	<b>5,817</b>	<b>4,841</b>	<b>4,557</b>	<b>24,497</b>	<b>40.3</b>
Numbers (in thousand)							
Total	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	
Male	62.3	56.3	55.5	64.2	68.7	62.5	39.9
Female	37.7	43.7	44.5	35.8	31.3	37.5	41.0
<b>Ilocos Region</b>	<b>1,745</b>	<b>30</b>	<b>294</b>	<b>193</b>	<b>167</b>	<b>1,061</b>	<b>39.8</b>
Numbers (in thousand)							
Total	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	
Male	65.8	35.6	58.6	64.9	73.0	67.7	39.5
Female	34.2	64.4	41.4	35.1	27.0	32.3	40.5

## TECHNICAL NOTES

- Starting July 2003, the Labor Force Survey (LFS) adopted the 2003 Master Sample Design, with a sample size of approximately 50,000 households.
- Starting in the January 2012 LFS, the codes for industry adopted the 2009 Philippine Standard Industrial Classification (PSIC). Prior to this, codes for industry used the 1994 PSIC.
- Starting in the January 2012 LFS, more detailed categories for highest grade completed used in the 2010 Census of Population and Housing (CPH) were also adopted.
- Starting in the January 2012 LFS, a question on whether a household member is a graduate of a technical vocational course was asked for each person 15 years or older.
- Starting April 2005, the new unemployment definition was adopted per NSCB Resolution Number 15 dated October 20, 2004. As indicated in the said resolution, the unemployed include all persons who are 15 years and over as of their last birthday and are reported as: (1) without work and currently available for work and seeking work; or (2) without work and currently available for work but not seeking work for the following reasons:
  1. Tired/believed no work available
  2. Awaiting results of previous job application
  3. Temporary illness/disability
  4. Bad weather
  5. Waiting for rehire/job recall
- Starting with the January 2007 LFS round, the population projections based on the 2000 Census of Population and Housing was adopted to generate the labor force statistics. This is in compliance with NSCB Resolution No. 1 series of 2005 entitled *“Adoption of the Methodology Used in Generating the 2000 Census of Population and Housing-Based National Population Projections”*.
- The 2012 Philippine Standard Occupational Classification (PSOC) was adopted starting April 2016.

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