



REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES

**PHILIPPINE STATISTICS AUTHORITY**

REGION I - ILOCOS

# PRESS RELEASE

## Ilocos Region's employment rate is 94.7 percent in 2019

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### Employment Rate

The annual estimates based on the average of the four quarter rounds of 2019 Labor Force Survey (LFS) posted an employment rate of 94.7 percent in Ilocos Region. This translates to about 2,088 thousand employed persons in the region. The employment rate of the region in 2019 is higher by 1.5 percentage points compared with the employment rate recorded in 2018 at 93.2 percent.

Meanwhile, the employment rate of the country was recorded at 94.9 percent in 2019, slightly higher by 0.2 percentage point than its employment rate in 2018 at 94.7 percent. The 2019 national figure was higher by 0.2 percentage point compared with the employment rate of the region in the same period.

### Labor Force Participation

In terms of Labor Force Participation Rate (LFPR) of Ilocos Region, it slightly increased by 0.1 percentage point from 61.7 percent in 2018 to 61.8 percent in 2019. Meanwhile, the country's LFPR at 61.3 percent is lower by 0.5 percentage point compared with the LFPR of the region in 2019.

There were about 2,205 thousand 15 years old and over in Ilocos Region who were in the labor force in 2019.

### Underemployment

The underemployment rate of the region decreased by 5.2 percentage points from 22.1 percent in 2018 to 16.9 percent in 2019. Similarly, the underemployment rate of the country also decreased by 2.4 percentage points from 16.4 percent in 2018 to 14.0 percent in 2019.

### Employment Indicators, Philippines and Ilocos Region: 2018 and 2019

Indicators	Philippines		Ilocos Region	
	2019	2018	2019	2018
Total Population 15 Years Old and Over (in Thousands)	72,931	71,339	3,570	3,520
Labor Force Participation Rate (in %)	61.3	60.9	61.8	61.7
Employment Rate (in %)	94.9	94.7	94.7	93.2
Unemployment Rate (in %)	5.1	5.3	5.3	6.8
Underemployment Rate (in %)	14.0	16.4	16.9	22.1

Source: PSA, Annual Labor and Employment Estimates for 2018 and 2019



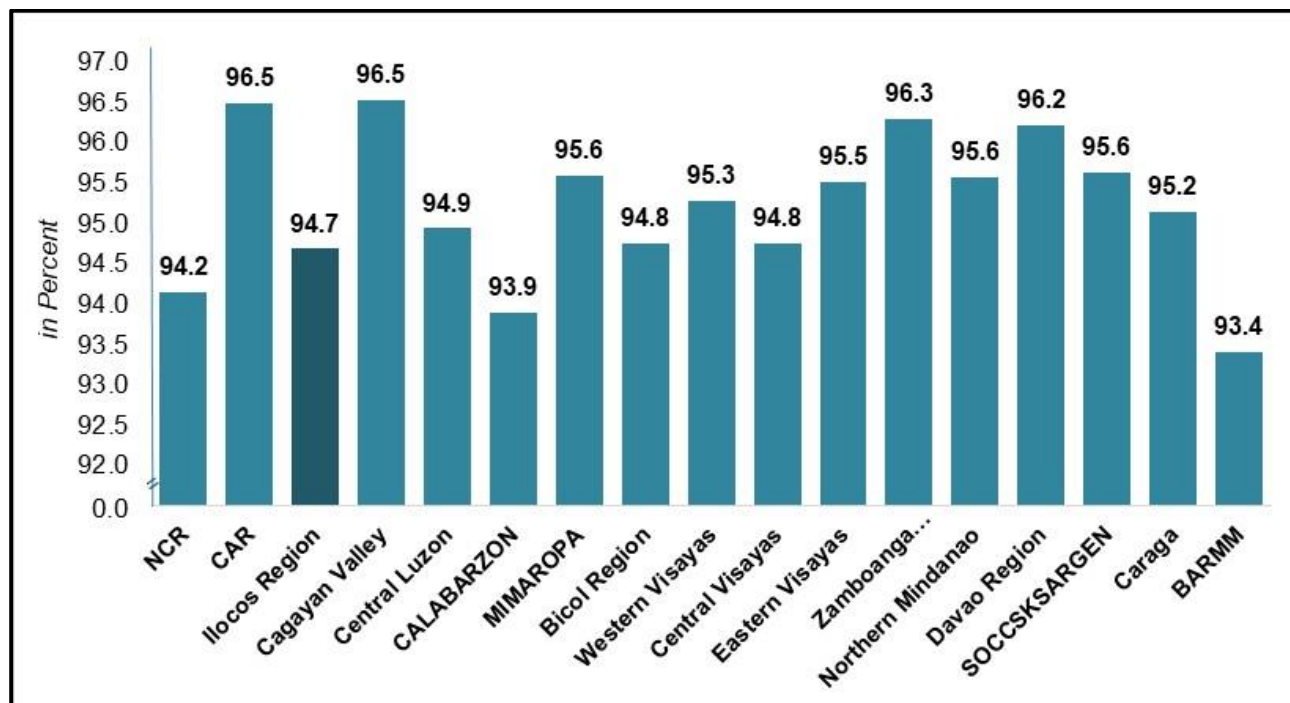
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Parammata Bldg. C, Diversion Road, Sitio 5, Brgy. Biday, City of San Fernando, La Union  
Telefax: (072) 888-4804 / 607-0247/ 888-2582  
www.rss001.psa.gov.ph

Among the 17 regions, Ilocos Region landed fourteenth in terms of employment rate in 2019. Cagayan Valley and Cordillera Administrative Region (CAR) posted the highest employment rate in the country both with 96.5 percent in 2019. On the other end, Bangsamoro Autonomous Region in Muslim Mindanao (BARMM) recorded the lowest employment rate at 93.4 percent in the same period.

**Employment Rate in the Philippines by Region: 2019**



Source: PSA, Annual Labor and Employment Estimates for 2019

Note: As to the latest release of the results of the annual 2019 LFS, there are no disaggregation yet by demographic and economic indicators at the regional level.

## TECHNICAL NOTES

The annual labor and employment statistics presented in this release for 2019 used the average estimates of labor and employment indicators from the four Labor Force Survey (LFS) rounds conducted by the Philippine Statistics Authority (PSA) on a quarterly basis. The use of the average estimates of the four-quarter rounds of the LFS data was based on PSA Board Resolution No. 01, Series of 2017-151 - Approving and Adopting the Official Methodology for Generating Annual Labor and Employment Estimates, approved on the 14th day of February 2017.

For 2019, the methodology for annual labor and employment estimates uses the following formula to estimate employment, unemployment, underemployment and labor force participation rates:

$$Z_i = \left( \frac{\sum_j X_{ij}}{\sum_j Y_{kj}} \right) \times 100$$

where:

$Z_i$  = annual estimate for the rate of  $i$  where  $i$  refers to employment, unemployment, underemployment and labor force participation

$X_{ij}$  = estimate for the population of  $i$  for the  $j$ th round of LFS where

$i$  refers to employed, unemployed, underemployed and labor force, and

$j$  refers to the four rounds of LFS: January, April, July and October

$Y_{kj}$  = estimate for the population of  $k$  for the  $j$ th round of LFS where  
     $k$  refers to labor force, employed persons and persons 15 years old and over,  
    and  
     $j$  refers to the four rounds of LFS: January, April, July and October

The official methodology was deemed the most appropriate among methodologies reviewed and evaluated for the following reasons: a) it captures the labor and employment situation in all four quarters of the year; b) the generation or cross tabulations (e.g., by class of workers, by occupation group) is more feasible for producer of estimates; c) it is the closest method for estimating the number of persons who work four times for the entire year; and d) these estimates are being used by the Department of Labor and Employment (DOLE) and its attached agencies and regional offices for planning/formulation of intervention programs.

  
**ATTY. SHEILA O. DE GUZMAN**  
(Chief Administrative Officer)  
Officer-in-Charge

  
DET/JMSS

