



Listahanan ³

Bawat Bahay Magkakasama sa Kaunlaran

CENTRAL LUZON Profile of the Poor



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Message from the DSWD Assistant Secretary



Our country has made significant progress in developing the social protection sector over the last decade, which has been one of the main strategies in addressing poverty and vulnerability of Filipinos. The birth of the national household targeting system in 2009 is considered a pivotal development. It serves as an effective tool of the DSWD in providing support and assistance to the most qualified poor Filipinos as a recipient of the government's social protection programs. These include Pantawid Pamilya Pilipino Program, Sustainable Livelihood Program, and other cash transfer programs such as UCT and TCT, to name some.

Pursuant to the Executive Order 867 s. 2010, mandating all National Government Agencies (NGAs) to use the database in prioritizing the Listahanan poor households as their program beneficiaries. As such, PhilHealth and CHED have utilized the Listahanan 2.0 database in providing Universal Health Care and Tertiary Education Subsidy (TES) programs through UNIFAST Scholarship, respectively. We also appreciate those Provincial Government Offices and LGUs who have constantly used the Listahanan in extending support and assistance to poor families and individuals. Truly, ***we aim to uplift the lives of poor, vulnerable, and disadvantaged sectors of our society.***

Now that the Listahanan 3.0 is available, as duty bearers, it will be our responsibility to use it as a planning tool in prioritizing the most qualified recipient of programs and services. We have seen the importance of having a database of the poor, especially during the Covid-19 pandemic for the distribution of the Social Amelioration Program (SAP) or the AICS Educational Assistance.

I would like to extend my sincerest appreciation to all the people behind the completion of Listahanan 3.0. Special thanks are extended to all field and encoding staff who worked really hard in collecting, encoding, and verifying the accuracy and completeness of 1.5M households included in the Listahanan 3.

Let me also highlight the leadership and guidance of their former PPD Chief DC Priscila Tiopengco and current PPD Chief DC Melanie Barnachea, their Section Head and Regional Field Coordinator Czar Cornelius David, IT Officer Kevin James Roque, and of the support of the Regional Management Committee (RMANCOM) and their respective staff, and the rest of the NHTS. This will serve as a legacy and testament of triumph despite the hardship of both the Department and the Listahanan project in completing the cycle of enumeration and validation.

Lastly, let me acknowledge the support and cooperation of the Local Chief Executives and other local officials and volunteers and the LSWDOs throughout the process of completing the Listahanan 3.

MARITES M. MARISTELA, CESO III
Assistant Secretary for Luzon Affairs

Message from the DSWD Field Office III Regional Director

The assessment of 1.5M households in Central Luzon was made possible because of the hard work, perseverance, and commitment of the Listahanan field and encoding staff and the National Household Targeting Section (NHTS). We also value the support and assistance extended by the National Household Targeting Office, including the DSWD EXECOM and MANCOM, Provincial Extension Offices, other ODSUs of the DSWD FO III, Provincial and Local Government Units, Barangay Officials, and those households who participated during the regionwide assessment.

Despite the challenges faced in the implementation of Listahanan from 2019 to 2021, particularly the impact of the Covid-19 pandemic, DSWD FO III was able to identify a total of 270,456 poor households in Central Luzon or equivalent to 5% of the total 5.5M poor households in the entire Philippines.



This profile of poor households underscores the relevance of understanding the poor's status and characteristics and subsequently brings to the fore the areas needing immediate attention and responsive social welfare interventions. The summary gives us a glimpse of the major theme of "who and where the poor are." The answers to the questions shall be briefly described by defining/ identifying the composition of poor households; their highest educational attainment and occupation; features and tenurial status of the housing structure; access to basic services or facilities like water, electricity, and sanitary toilet; ownership of assets; among others.

Through this Central Luzon Regional Profile of the Poor crafted by the National Household Targeting Section (NHTS) headed by Mr. Czar Cornelius David, we hope that our social protection and developmental partners will prioritize all poor households and individuals in extending the most appropriate program and services as an intervention. Through our joint efforts, we can make a difference in the lives of the poor, dahil Bawat Bahay ay Dapat Magkakasama sa Kaunlaran.

We, at the DSWD, will always provide, ***“maagap at mapagkalingang serbisyo, serbisyong walang puwang sa kahirapan at patas na pagtrato sa komunidad.”***

JONATHAN V. DIRAIN, LLB
Regional Director, DSWD Region III

Acronym

APIS	Annual Poverty Indicator Survey
BCC	Barangay Community/ Characteristics
CSO	Civil Society Organization
DSA	Data Sharing Agreement
DSWD	Department of Social Welfare and Development
ESP	Emergency Assistance Program
GIDA	Geographically Isolated and Disadvantaged Areas
HAF	Household Assessment Form
IP	Indigenous People
LGU/s	Local Government Unit/s
LVC	Local Verification Committee
MCCT	Modified Conditional Cash Transfer
NHTS	National Household Targeting Section
NGA	National Government Agency
NGO	Non-Government Organization
NHTS-PR	National Household Targeting System for Poverty Reduction
OFW	Overseas Filipino Worker
PMT	Proxy Means Test
PSA	Philippine Statistics Authority
RPMO	Regional Project Management Office
SAP	Social Amelioration Program
SP	Social Protection
TES	Tertiary Education Subsidy Program
UCT	Unconditional Cash Transfer Program
4Ps	Pantawid Pamilya Pilipino Program

Giving Human Face Behind Poverty Statistics

The targeting mechanism has been widely used in selecting eligible beneficiaries of any social protection and safety net program. Given that the center of any government intervention focuses on the poor, it is essential for any targeting mechanism to identify poor households and individuals correctly.¹ The use of government resources on programs that seek to reduce poverty will have less impact and be wasted if the poor are excluded. Thus, a unified set of criteria for identifying the poor would enable convergence and complementation of social protection programs in addressing the multi-dimensional faces of poverty.

The National Household Targeting System for Poverty Reduction (NHTS-PR), known as Listahanan, is an information management system that identifies who and where the poor are located nationwide. The database consists of a comprehensive organization of information on poor households, which is readily available for access by external partners such as National Government Agencies (NGAs), Provincial Government Offices (PGOs), Local Government Units (LGUs) and various social protection stakeholders.

Listahanan's focused targeting system includes the most disadvantaged sectors, marginalized individuals and families, and those residing in Geographically Isolated and Disadvantaged Areas (GIDA). It provides a credible and objective means of identifying potential beneficiaries of social protection and poverty alleviation programs, as evident in the previous data sharing with the DSWD intermediaries.

The first of its kind in the Philippines, Listahanan aims to provide the following:²

1. Formulate uniform criteria for identifying poor families in the country through scientific means;
2. Maximize the benefits of social protection programs by developing evidence-based services for the poor;
3. Minimize wastage of resources by ensuring that only those deserving benefit from social protection programs; and
4. Facilitate sharing of the high-quality database with public and private social protection stakeholders.

In 2009, the first round of the Listahanan household assessment was conducted. Based on the 2011 results, 5.2 million poor were identified out of the 10.9 million assessed households. This corresponds to 6.17% national share or 322,622 poor households in Central Luzon out of 711,255 assessed households.

Moreover, in 2015, the second round of the Listahanan assessment was conducted. As per 2017 results, 5.2 million poor were identified out of 15.4 million assessed households. In Central Luzon, 250,668 poor households were recorded, or 17.83% of the 1,405,259 assessed households.

In March 2010, former President Gloria Macapagal-Arroyo issued Executive Order No. 867, directing all NGAs to adopt the results of NHTS-PR in identifying prospective beneficiaries of social protection programs nationwide. Since then, the Listahanan has been a

¹ Philippine Institute of Development Studies. Targeting: Reaching the Poor. PIDS vol. VII. no. 4. July 2007

² Listahanan Info Kit

reliable basis for determining potential beneficiaries of partners/stakeholders consisting of NGAs, Local Government Units (LGUs), and Civil Society Organizations that implement social protection programs and services.

Two of the most extensive national government programs that utilize the database are the Pantawid Pamilyang Pilipino Program (4Ps) and the Philhealth Indigent Program. The former provides cash grants to invest in the health and education of children belonging to more than 4 million households. In comparison, the latter subsidize the health insurance of all members of the 5.2 million poor households. Likewise, the Listahanan 2 was also used in the provision of the Unconditional Cash Transfer (UCT) program, Social Amelioration Program (SAP) - Emergency Assistance Program (ESP), Commission on Higher Education (CHED) Tertiary Education

Subsidy (TES) program and UNIFAST government-funded scholarships.

In the 2nd Semester of FY 2019, the Listahanan embarked on the third round of assessment. This complies with Section 2 of the EO 867 series of 2010, which states that the NHTS-PR shall be updated every four years. Notably, the project was tested in the 1st Quarter of FY 2020 when the CoronaVirus-19 (COVID-19) pandemic hit the country. Numerous lined-up activities, including the timeline of Listahanan 3 completion, were significantly affected, but this does not hinder the DSWD Field Office III, particularly the National Household Targeting Section (NHTS), from creating innovation and strategies to accomplish the expected deliverables. Thus, 31 December 2021 marked the completion of Listahanan 3's activities in Central Luzon.

Listahanan Project Cycle

This nationwide assessment followed a four-phase project cycle which includes preparatory activities, data collection and analysis, validation, and finalization of the list of poor, and reports generation and data sharing.

Preparatory

The Preparatory Phase involves the identification of (a) areas to be assessed and (b) a data collection strategy appropriate for the areas identified. This phase also includes updating the Proxy Means Test (PMT) model³, enhancement of the Listahanan information technology systems, hiring and training of field staff, and orientation of Local Government Units (LGUs) and other project partners on the implementation of the assessment.



Regional Training of Trainers (RTOT) of NHTS and other DSWD ODSUs with former Regional Director Marites M. Maristela, CESO III

The household assessment covers all seven (7) provinces, 114 municipalities, 16 cities, and 3,102 barangays in Central Luzon. Furthermore, the following were the data collection strategies⁴ for conducting household enumeration:

- Rural barangays - Saturation (all households in the community were interviewed)
- Urban barangays - Saturation in pockets of poverty

Data Collection and Analysis



Actual household enumeration during the Listahanan Data Collection and Analysis Phase

Data collection involves home visits to collect basic information about the household using the Household Assessment Form (HAF). The Area Supervisor individually reviews all accomplished Enumerators' HAFs to ensure the gathered information's accuracy and consistency. The information collected from the HAF is used to estimate the per capita income of the household using PMT. The estimated incomes are

then compared with the official poverty threshold at the provincial level to identify households living below (poor) or above (non-poor) those thresholds.

³ PMT is Proxy Means Test (PMT) is a statistical model that estimates household welfare level based on observable and verifiable proxy indicators of the household's income such as materials in housing structure, household's access to basic services and facilities like water and electricity, and ownership of specific assets, among others.

⁴ Classification of Rural and Urban Communities were based on Philippine Statistics Authority, 2010 Census of Population

The Encoders will enter the information in the HAF directly into the database using an online data entry application. The collected information passes through consistency checking before the HAF is endorsed for PMT processing. After estimated income, households are classified into poor and non-poor, applying the official provincial poverty threshold.

Validation and Finalization

During the Validation Phase, the initial list of poor households is posted in conspicuous places at the barangay for the community to review.

Households that were not visited during the regular enumeration, are given a chance to appeal and be assessed. A Barangay Verification Team (BVT) and Local Verification Committee (LVC) in each city/municipality shall act on complaints and grievances received. The LVC is composed of the Local Chief Executive, the heads of the Local Social Welfare and Development Office (LSWDO) and the Local Planning Office, and two (2) other representatives from civil society organizations. After the validation, the official and final list of poor households is shared with data users to serve as their basis for selecting beneficiaries of social protection programs.



Posting of Initial List of Poor Households during the Listahanan Validation and Finalization Phase

Reports Generation and Management



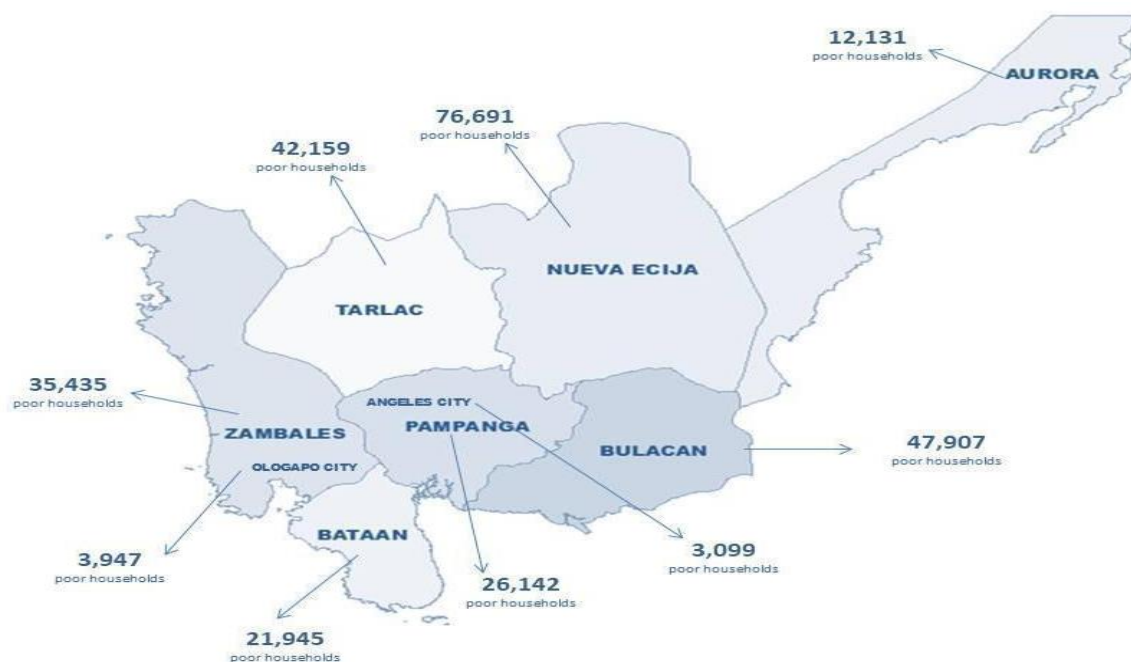
Awarding of Listahanan 2 Database to Provincial Government of Tarlac (L-R Mayor A. Lacson of Concepcion, Mayor E. Aquino of Moncada, Vice Governor C. David, Governor S. Yap, Director Gabuya, Asec. Maristela & RFC David)

After the list of poor households is finalized, the NHTO produces the "profiles of the poor" and disseminates these to NGAs, LGUs, NGOs, academe, and other interest groups. Upon signing a data-sharing agreement with the Department and compliance with the requirements, the official list is shared with data users to guide them in selecting beneficiaries of their social protection programs. As stipulated in the data sharing agreement, data users are to provide feedback on how they used the information generated from the Listahanan database and resolve appeals or complaints on beneficiary selection.

Who and Where the Poor are?

The Listahanan 3 project was implemented in 7 provinces, 16 cities, and 114 municipalities, covering 3,102 barangays in Central Luzon. Despite the many challenges faced during its implementation, including the declaration of a nationwide public emergency due to the pandemic and natural calamities, the project has successfully assessed 1,512,928 households through house-to-house interviews. Of this figure, 270,456 were identified as poor, equivalent to 17.46% of the 1,548,767 poor individuals.

Figure 1: Listahanan 3: Magnitude of Poor Households in Region 3, by province.



In Central Luzon, the Province of Nueva Ecija records the highest magnitude of poor households with 76,691, representing 28.35% of the total identified poor households. This was followed by the Province of Bulacan at 17.71%, Tarlac at 15.59%, Zambales at 13.10%, Pampanga at 9.67%, Bataan at 8.11%, and Aurora at 4.49%. Furthermore, the City of Olongapo and Angeles City recorded 1.46% and 1.15%, respectively.

Of this figures, District 2 of Zambales was identified with the highest number of identified poor with 25,417 poor households followed by District 3 of Nueva Ecija (19,409), District 1 of Zambales (14,965), and Districts 2 (14,684) and District 3 of the Province of Tarlac (13,875).

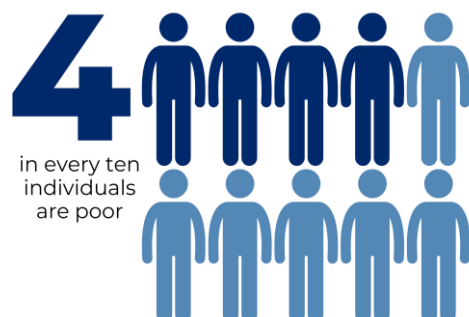
The top 5 municipalities and cities in Central Luzon with the highest magnitude of poor households are as follows: City of Cabanatuan (7,585), City of San Jose del Monte (7,098), Subic, Zambales (6,931), City of Tarlac (6,137), and Botolan, Zambales (5,218).

Furthermore, the barangays with the recorded highest number of poor households are as follows: Cawag, Subic, Zambales (1,866), Calapacuan, Subic, Zambales (1,073), Batia Bocaue, Bulacan (1,037), New Cabalan, City of Olongapo (1,004), and Muzon, City of Jose del Monte, Bulacan (878).

About 24% of the total assessed individuals are poor

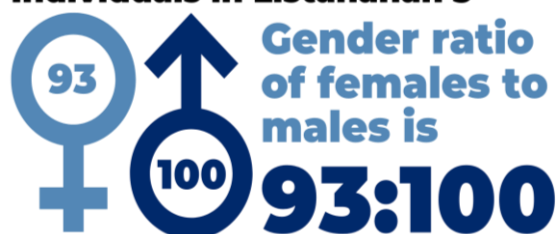
There were 6.4 million assessed individuals in Central Luzon, from which 1,548,767 were identified as poor. This can be translated to four (4) poor individuals for every ten (10) individuals. The magnitude of poor individuals is highest in the same provinces where the number of poor households is also high. The following were the top three (3) provinces with the highest number of poor individuals: Nueva Ecija (417,939), Bulacan (296,050), and Tarlac (250,054).

Figure 2. Proportion of Poor and Assessed Individuals



Of the individuals identified as poor, 49.36% or 764,477 comprised the dependent age group (under age 15 and over age 64). Of this age group, the distribution of poor individuals in the young age group (0 to 14 years old) is higher than in the old age group (65 years old and above), with 713,443 and 51,034, respectively. On the other hand, 51.64% of the total poor individuals in Central Luzon are in economically productive ages or working age groups (15 to 64 years old) with 784,290 while the other half or 49.36%, are supporting either young or old dependents.

Figure 3. Sex Ratio of Poor Individuals in Listahanan 3



In terms of sex distribution, the proportion of poor male individuals (802,553) is higher compared to females, with 746,214. By age group, the majority of poor individuals independent age groups (young and old age) are male with 51.82%. This is also the same with the working-age group – more males (417,247) are aged 15 to 64 years old than females

(387,038). The results of sex distribution are expected since the majority of the assessed, and poor individuals are males.

Women

Figure 4. Percentage Distribution of Poor Women in working age-group



A total of 746,214 women are identified as poor regionwide. The majority are in the working age group with 387,038, and the remaining 359,176 are independent age groups – which is 4.9% old age and 95.1% young age.

Ironically, a significant portion of poor women in the working-age group has no reported occupation 306,870 or (79.3%). In

contrast, the poor women in this age group (41,038) are primarily employed in elementary occupations.

Senior Citizens

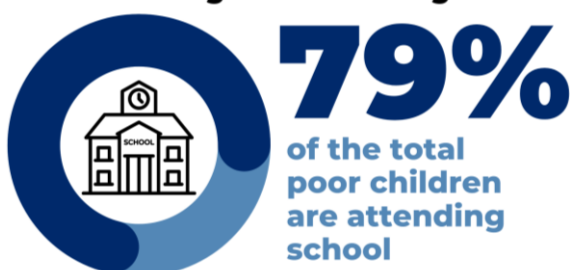
A total of 51,034, or 3.30% of poor individuals, are senior citizens or older persons aged 60 years old and above. This sector is considered vulnerable since it is physically more fragile and has limited income sources⁵. Despite their vulnerability, 15,911 poor senior citizens have reported occupations and are primarily agricultural, forestry, and fishery workers.

Figure 5. Proportion of Poor Employed Senior Citizens to the Total Poor Senior Citizens



Children

Figure 6. Proportion of Poor Children Not Attending and Attending School



Children under 18 years old are considered to have inherent vulnerabilities due to their dependence on adults, particularly in their first 1,000 days and early formative years⁶.

In the Listahanan 3 results, children have the highest share of poverty among the basic sectors, with 815,902 or 52.68 % of the total identified poor individuals. The results also revealed that despite the high

case of poverty in this sector, 79.34% or 544,880 poor children attended school during the household assessment.

Youth

Based on Republic Act 8044 or the Youth in Nation Building Act, youth refers to persons aged 15 to 30. Of the 1,548,767 poor individuals, 25.41% or 393,498 belonged to the youth sector.

This sector has a share of 48.9% of the poor individuals in the economically productive ages or working age group (15 to 64 years old). However, unemployment among youth is very high, with 70.0% or 275,357 poor youth without reported occupation. Records show that 39.6% of the poor youth are not in employment and education (i.e. no reported occupation and not attending school) or NEE.

Figure 7. Proportion of Poor Youth NEE to the Total Poor Youths



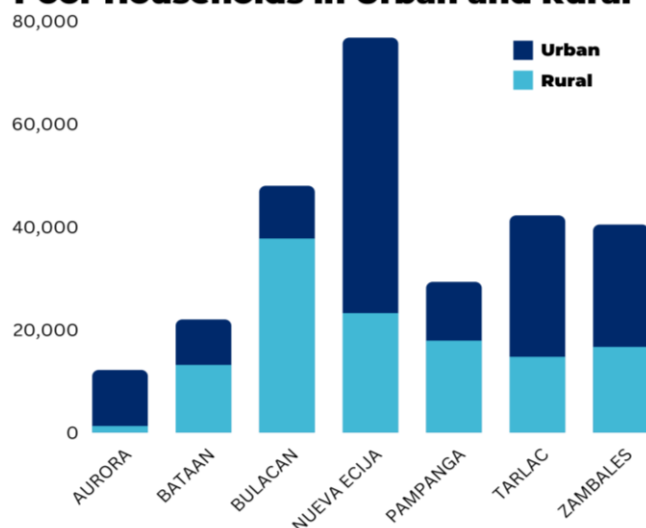
⁵ Philippine Development Plan 2017-2022 Chapter 11: Reducing Vulnerability of Individuals and Families

⁶ PDP 2017-2022 Chapter 11

Urban and Rural Senior Citizens

More than half (52.82%) of the total identified poor households, or 818,063, were found in rural areas, while the remaining 730,704 poor households reside in urban barangays.

Figure 8. Provincial Distribution of Poor Households in Urban and Rural



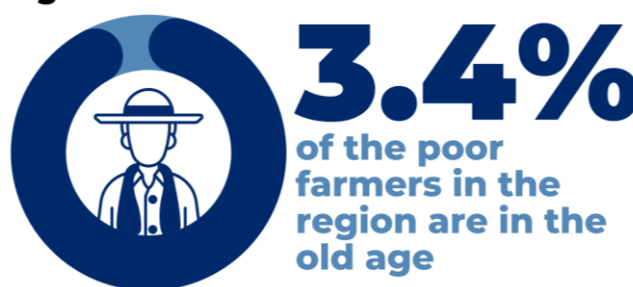
Aside from the majority of the households assessed are residing in rural areas, Listahanan 3 proved the vast disparity between living in urban and rural settings. Of the 818,063 poor households in rural barangays, the highest share resides in Nueva Ecija (290,088), Tarlac (160,263), and Zambales (124,875). On the other hand, the distributions of poor households residing in urban areas are highest in Bulacan (233,771), Nueva Ecija (127,851), and Pampanga (110,370).

Farmers

Farming has been one of the important sources of livelihood in Central Luzon. Labelled as the Rice Granary of the Philippines, Region III has consistently produced and supplied rice to other regions, including corn, onion, and other high-value commercial crops⁷.

This is evident based on the Listahanan 3 results as farmers (aged 15 years and above) share the total poor individuals is 5.78% or 89,594. Of these poor farmers, about 54.8% are working for private households, 18.2% are self-employed without any paid employees, and 13.1% are working for private establishments. This proved that poor farmers either work as employed farmers or on small farms. The results also revealed that 3,125 poor farmers are in the old age group or 65 years old and above.

Figure 9. Percentage of Poor Farmers Aged 65 Years Old and Above

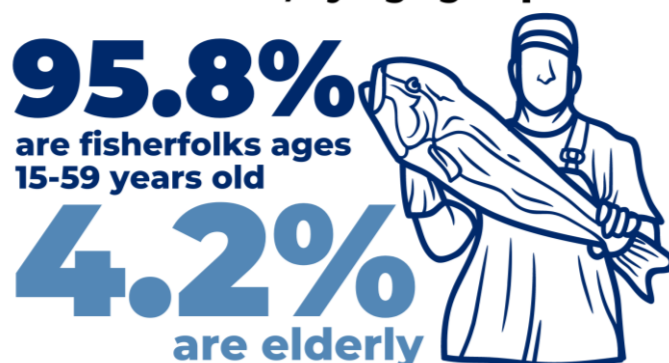


⁷ Hernandez, Jerry M. (2022) Central Luzon Agriculture Sector remains vibrant – Department of Agriculture. The Manila Times

Fisherfolks

The fishing industry employed 2 out of 100 poor individuals aged 15 and above. This is equivalent to 18,297 or 2.2% of the total poor individuals in both working and old age groups. Most of the poor individuals (36.1%) in this sector are self-employed fishermen/women without any paid employees.

Figure 10. Percentage Distribution of Poor Fishermen, by Age group



Person with Disabilities

Disability refers to any restriction or lack of ability (resulting from an impairment) to perform an activity in the manner or within the range considered normal for a human being. Impairments associated with disabilities may be physical, mental, or sensory-motor impairments such as partial or total blindness, low vision, partial or total deafness, oral defect, having only one hand/no hands, one leg/no legs, mild or severe cerebral palsy, retarded, mentally ill, mental retardation and multiple impairments.⁸

Almost one percent of the poor individuals, or 14,951, are persons with disability (PWD) in Central Luzon. Of this figure, only 17.3% or 1,704 are PWD aged 15 years and above with reported occupations. Data on disability will enable planners and stakeholders to prepare plans for rehabilitation, education, development, and preventive programs.

Figure 11. Proportion of Poor Unemployed PWD to Total PWD in Working and Old Age Group



⁸ 2010 Census of Population and Housing (CPH) & 2015 Population Census (POPCEN)

Solo Parent

Figure 12. Percentage of Employed Poor Solo Parent Household Head

66%

of the total poor solo parent household heads are employed



It is the policy of the State to promote the family as the foundation of the nation, strengthen its solidarity and ensure its total development. Thus, the development of a comprehensive program of services for solo parents and their children shall be carried out by the various NGAs, including P/LGUs, and other related government and non-government agencies.⁹

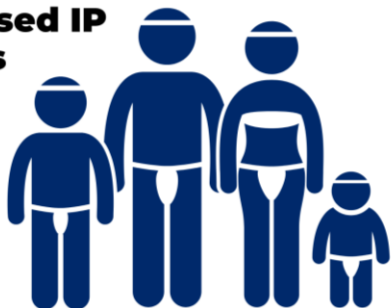
In Central Luzon, 29,031 poor individuals (aged 18 years old and above) are recorded as solo parents. At the household level, 26,419 poor have at least one member who is a solo parent aged 18 years old and above. Of this figure, 60.7% or 16,044 are households headed by a solo parent comprising 10,648 employed solo parents as household heads and 5,396 with no reported occupation.

Indigenous People

Indigenous Cultural Communities/Indigenous Peoples refers to a group of people or homogenous societies identified by self-ascription and ascription by others, who have continuously lived as an organized community on communally bounded and defined territory, and who have, under claims of ownership since time immemorial, occupied, possessed and utilized such territories, sharing common bonds of language, customs, traditions, and other distinctive cultural traits, or who have, through resistance to political, social and cultural inroads of colonization, non-indigenous religions, and cultures, became historically differentiated from the majority of Filipinos.

Figure 13. Proportion of Poor IP Households to the total Assessed IP Households

6



out of 10 IP households are poor

During the regionwide household assessment, there were a total of 28,953 assessed households that considered themselves as part of an Indigenous Peoples' (IP) Group. Of these IP households assessed, 55.74% or 16,137 were identified as poor. The highest number of poor IP households was found in Zambales (7,229), Tarlac (2,849), and Aurora (2,188).

Poor households have always been one of the priority beneficiaries of various social protection (SP) programs and services. Social Protections are policies and programs that seek to reduce poverty

⁹ Republic Act No. 8972 or The Solo Parents' Welfare Act of 2000

and vulnerability to risks and enhance the social status and rights of the marginalized by promoting and protecting livelihood and employment, protecting against hazards and sudden loss of income, and improving people's capacity to manage risks.¹⁰

Listahanan 3 has recorded that 75.2% of the total poor households, or 203,448, declared to have received at least one program and service from various government agencies or other non-government organizations.

The SP programs and services commonly provided for the 203,448 poor households include Philippine Health Insurance (PhilHealth), Day Care Service/ ECCD, Supplementary Feeding, Pantawid Pamilyang Pilipino Program (4Ps) and Subsidized Rice, among others.

Figure 14. Ratio of Poor Households that Received Programs and Services



¹⁰ Villar, Florita R. (2013). The Philippine Social Protection Framework and Strategy: An Overview. 12th National Convention on Statistics (NCS).

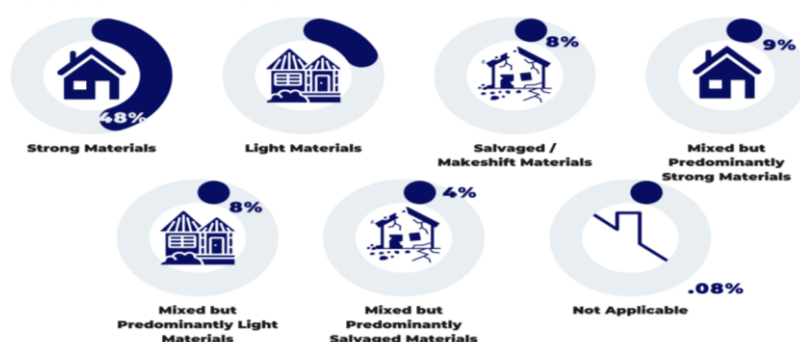
Housing Characteristics

This section provides the housing characteristics of poor households nationwide based on the Listahanan 3 results.

Poor households in Central Luzon have roofs mainly made of light and strong materials

Figure 15 shows that most poor households nationwide have light and mixed but predominantly light roofing materials. 59.734 poor households with roofs made of light materials, 22.09% of the total poor household population. Some of the light materials refer to cogon, nipa, and anahaw.

Figure 15. Share of Poor Households by Type of Construction Materials Used for Roof



5 out of 10 poor households have roof made of Strong Materials

About 130,120 poor households have houses with roofs made of strong materials such as galvanized iron, aluminium, tile, concrete, brick, stone, and asbestos.

Although 48.11% of poor households have strong roofing materials, half have outer walls made of light and/or mixed but predominantly light materials.

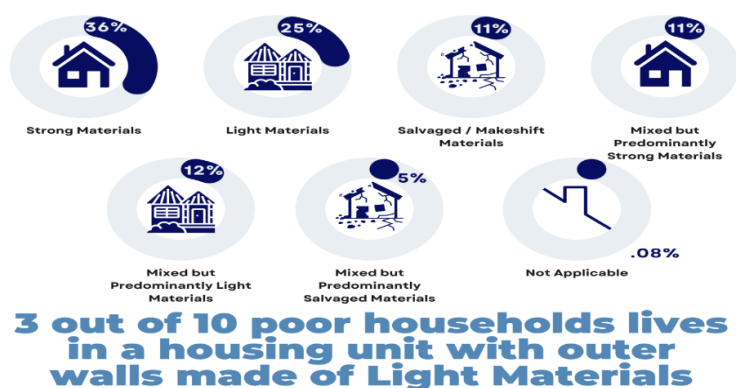
Listahanan 3 results show how roofing materials vary across the seven (7) Provinces; Aurora, with 63.30%, has the highest percentage of poor households with strong roofing materials, followed by Bataan, with 56.56% and Zambales, with 52.54%.

The Province of Pampanga has the highest percentage (29.44%) of poor households with light roofing materials, and Aurora has the lowest percentage (5.90%) of poor households with strong roofing materials. With 8.38% Pampanga has the second lowest percentage of poor households with strong roofing materials.

3 out of 10 of the poor households have outer walls made of light materials

According to PSA: POPCEN (2015), data on the construction materials of the roof of the building and construction materials of the outer walls of the building or housing unit can be used as proxy variables to measure the economic condition or status of a household. Figure 16 shows that 68,956 out of 270,456 (25.50%) poor households have outer walls made of light materials such as bamboo, sawali, cogon, nipa, and anahaw. Only 96,872, or 35.82% of poor households, have outer walls made of strong materials.

Figure 16. Share of Poor Household by Type of Construction Materials Used for Outer Walls



These are concrete, brick, stone, wood, plywood, asbestos, galvanized iron, aluminium, and tile. The Province of Bataan has the highest percentage of poor households with outer walls made of strong materials, almost half (44.22%) of its identified poor households. Zambales (39.41%) and Zambales (39.41%) have the second-highest percentage of poor households with

outer walls made of strong materials. The Province of Aurora (37.14%) has the highest percentage with outer walls made of light materials, followed by Pampanga (27.62%) and Nueva Ecija (27.12%), with almost the same percentage of poor households with outer walls made of light materials.

Nearly 10 out of 10 poor households live in single houses

Those who belong to poor households or have less income tend to have more crowding factors than those who are economically better, according to Burgard, S. A., Seefeldt, K. S., & Zelner, S. (2012) on Housing instability and health: findings from the Michigan recession and recovery study.

Figure 17 explores various types of buildings or houses that poor households nationwide occupy. A total of 237,754 poor households are residing in single houses; the popularity of single houses among poor households may be explained

Figure 17. Share of Poor Households by Type of Building/House



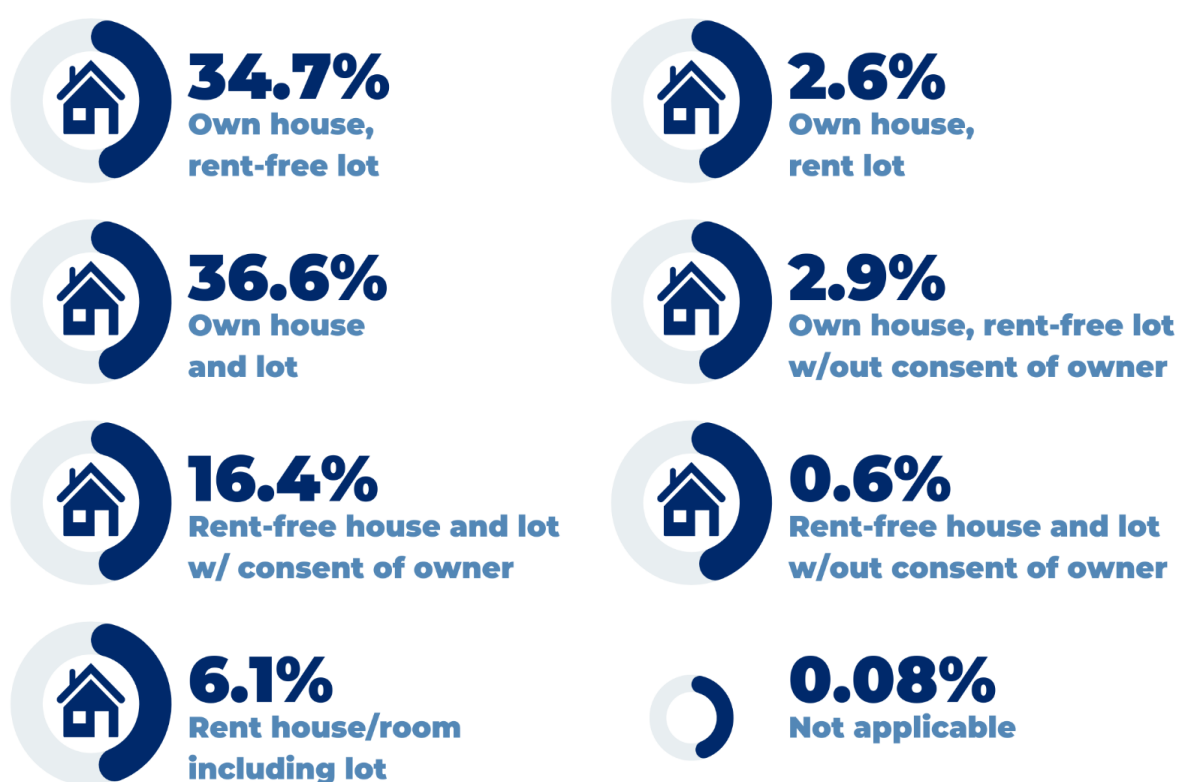
by being more affordable than the other types of houses. The remaining poor households are residing in the following other house or building types; 18,897 in

duplex houses, 12,222 in multi-residential with three units or more, 319 in commercial/industrial/agricultural buildings or houses, 1,054 in institutional living quarters and 210 in other housing units such as caves and boats. It may be noted that two or more households may reside in the same building or housing unit but are recorded separately.

The percentages of poor households residing in single houses are almost the same across the provinces, with nearly 100%.

Nearly half of the poor households live in their own house, rent-free lot with the consent of the owner

Figure 18. Share of Poor Households by Tenure Status of Housing Unit and Lot



As shown in Figure 18, a total of 93,843 or 34.70% of poor households live in houses they own, rent-free lot with the owner's consent. Meanwhile, 36.61% of poor households reside in their own or owner-like possession of a house and lot and 16.43% of poor households reside in a rent-free house and lot with the owner's consent.

Of the 7 Provinces, Aurora has the highest percentage of poor households residing in their house, rent-free lot with the owner's consent at 46.67%. They were followed by the Bataan and Bulacan with 31.48% and 25.14%, respectively.

Ninety-nine thousand ten poor households live on their own or have owner-like possession of houses and lot. The provinces of Pampanga (46.20%), Tarlac (41.99%), and Bataan (36.87%) have the highest percentages of poor households that live in

their own house and lot.

Almost 1% or 1,518 poor households are informal settlers who occupy their houses in a rent-free lot without the owner's consent.

Figure 19. Share of Poor Households by the Presence of Electricity



About 88.59% of poor households have access to electricity. The Province of Nueva Ecija has the highest percentage of poor households with no electricity access, with 26.10% or 8,050 poor

households. Followed by Zambales with 18.98% or 5,854 poor households and Tarlac Province with 14.77% or 4,556 poor households.

Nearly 2 out of 30 poor households used kerosene solely as a source of light

About 17,122 or 6.33% of poor households use kerosene solely as a source of light, and 30,848 or 11.41% of poor households have no access to electricity and at the same time use kerosene solely as a source of light



17,122 without access to electricity and uses kerosene

The Provinces of Zambales (10.63%), Aurora (7.47%) and Pampanga (7.40%) have the highest percentages of poor households that have no access to electricity and use kerosene solely as a source of light. These Provinces are also the top 3 with the highest percentages of households without electricity.

138,848 uses fuelwood solely for cooking

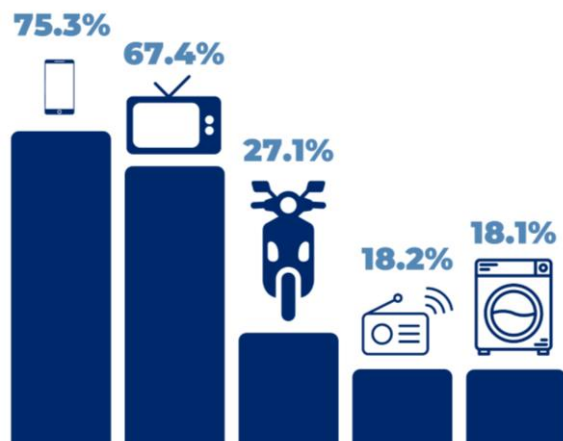


Poor households who use fuelwood solely for cooking comprise 50.97% or 137,848 of the total poor household population. The Provinces of Aurora (76.87%), Tarlac (65.45%), and Zambales (61.05%) have the highest percentages of poor households who use fuelwood solely for cooking. Pampanga (31.43%) has the lowest percentage of poor households who use fuelwood solely for cooking.

Ownership of conveniences is a proxy indicator of the family's economic status.

Notably, the majority of poor households prioritize entertainment. Figure 20 shows the top five (5) household conveniences owned by poor households in Central Luzon. A total of 203,639 were recorded as ownership of cellular phones of the total poor household, making it top-owned household convenience.

Figure 20. Share of Poor Households by Common assets owned



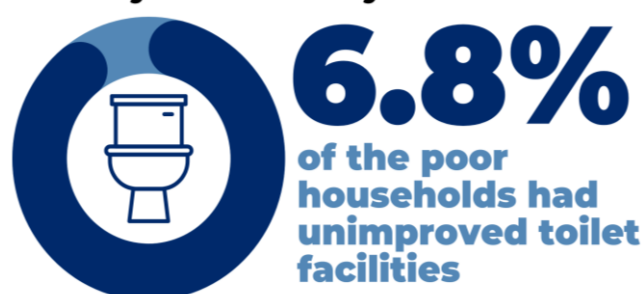
This was followed by television with 182,166 poor households, motorcycle/tricycle with 73,177 poor households, Radio with 49,175 poor households, and washing machines with 48,963 poor households.

The Provinces of Nueva Ecija (75,869), Bulacan (55,396), and Zambales (41,133) recorded the highest number of poor households who owned at least one cellular phone.

Health and Sanitation

Four out of five poor households had sanitary toilet facilities in their homes

Figure 21. Poor Households with Sanitary Toilet Facility



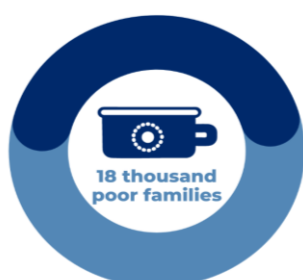
Sanitary toilet refers to (i.) water-sealed with sewer/ septic tank or other types of depository, either owned/ used exclusively by the household or shared with two or more households; and (ii.) closed pit type of toilet facility.

252,121 (93.22%) of the poor households used an improved sanitation facility. For every ten poor households with sanitary toilet facilities, nine households had a water-sealed toilet facility, while only one (1) household used a closed pit toilet. The three Provinces with the highest percentage of poor households with improved sanitation facilities were Nueva Ecija (95.34%), Tarlac (94.32%), and Aurora (94.20%).

Almost nineteen thousand households do not have access to a clean and safely managed toilet

Figure 22. Poor Households with Unsanitary Toilet Facility

49.3% Others



50.7% Open-pit

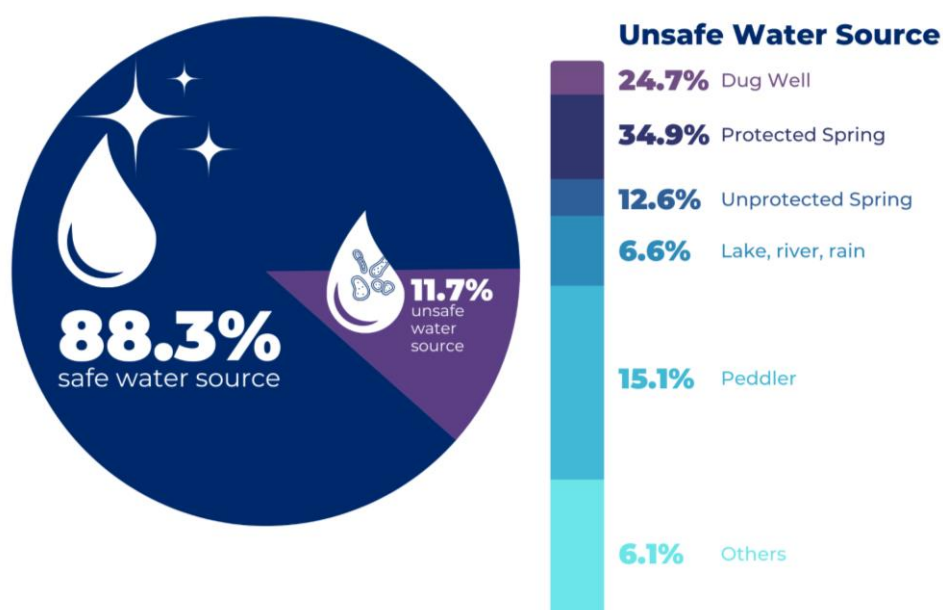
The remaining 18,335 (6.78%) poor households had unimproved toilet facilities or used unconventional ways of disposing of waste such as open-pit or others (e.g. chamber pots, pail systems, river, cat holes, etc.).

The three provinces with the highest incidence of poor households that lack sufficient access to sanitation were Nueva Ecija (4.66%), Tarlac (5.08%), and Aurora (5.80%).

The poor households that do not have access to proper sanitation, including toilets or restrooms, will have dramatic consequences on human health (diseases spread), the environment (pollution), and economic development.

The burden of poor sanitation falls disproportionately on women, children, the elderly, and the disabled. Providing safe water and sanitation to communities would reduce child mortality due to diseases linked to poor sanitation and malnutrition associated with infections caused by unsafe water, inadequate sanitation, or insufficient hygiene. Economically speaking, a cleaner urban or rural environment is more investor-friendly.

Figure 23. Poor Households by Main Source of Water



Two hundred thirty-eight thousand eight hundred forty-two poor households had access to basic clean water in the country. Among these poor households with safe water sources, the community water system was their primary source, as reported by 42.56% of the poor households. This percentage consists of 20.55% of the poor households using their own faucet and 22.01% of the poor households using a shared faucet. The rest of the poor households with clean water supply came from shared, tubed/piped-well (42.16%); own use, tubed/piped deep well (11.75%); and tubed/piped-well shallow (3.53%).

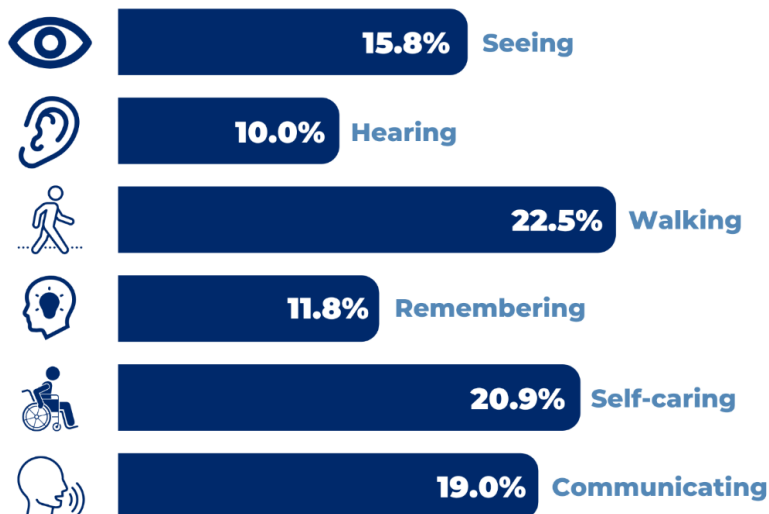
Alternatively, 31,614 poor households (11.69%) cannot access clean and safe water. These households reported their main source of water as follows: dug well (24.66%); protected spring (34.91%); peddler (15.15%); unprotected spring (12.63%); lake, river, rain (6.59%); and others (6.06%).

The Provinces of Tarlac (96.27%), Nueva Ecija (93.85%), and Pampanga (92.62%) are the top three provinces with the

highest proportion of poor households with access to a safe water source. Meanwhile, Aurora recorded the highest incidence of poor households with unsafe water sources (21.01%), followed by Zambales (21%) and Bulacan (17.44%).

Clean water impacts everything from people's health to economic development. Deteriorating water quality is stalling economic growth, worsening health conditions, reducing food production, and exacerbating poverty in many countries (World Bank, 2019). According to the World Health Organization (WHO), deaths linked to diarrheal diseases caused by inadequate water and poor sanitation are one of the leading causes of death globally, particularly among lower-income groups. Total worldwide diseases could have been prevented through water improvements. Investing in better access to clean water, sanitation services, and improved water management is a progressive strategy to boost countries' economic growth and contributes significantly to poverty eradication.

Figure 24. Poor Individuals by Type of Functional Difficulty



About 9 per thousand of the country's identified poor individuals have a disability

A person with a disability* (PWD) has experienced a lot of difficulties or cannot do any of the six core functioning domains: seeing, hearing, walking, cognition, self-care, and communication.

An individual with difficulty in functioning may have activity

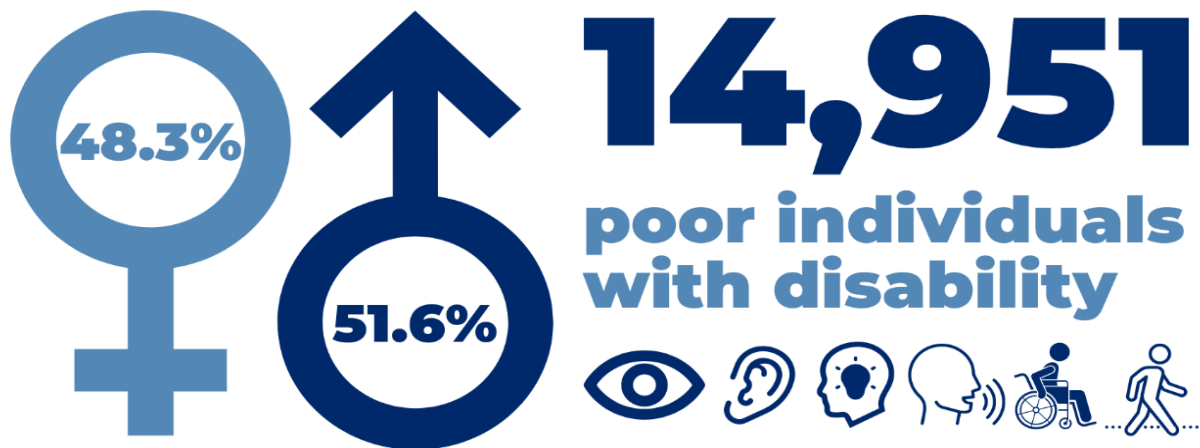
limitations in executing certain activities due to health problems. The difficulty is usually manifested when a person is doing an activity with increased effort, discomfort or pain, slowness, or changes in the way he/she does the activity.

Of the 1.5 million poor individuals in Central Luzon, 25,919 poor individuals (0.2%) reportedly experienced at least one (1) functional difficulty, comprising the following: 15.81% had vision difficulties or problems seeing even when wearing eyeglasses; 9.98% with hearing limitations or problems of any kind with their hearing even when using a hearing aid; 22.49% had problems of any kind getting around on foot; 11.82% struggled with remembering or focusing attention that contribute to difficulty in doing their daily activities; 20.88% were unable to perform basic self-care activities such as bathing or dressing independently; and 19.01% had problems with talking, listening or understanding speech such that it contributes to difficulty in making themselves understood to others or understanding others.

In terms of distribution across the provinces, Nueva Ecija had the highest proportion of poor individuals with a disability (40%), followed by Bulacan Province (32%) while Zambales had the least (6%). The most common type of functional difficulty was walking or climbing steps.

There are more males than females among poor individuals with a disability

Figure 25. Poor Individuals with Disability by Sex



The share of poor individuals having disabilities is higher for males 7,727 or (51.68%) than for females 7,224 or (48.32%).

Almost half of the poor individuals with a disability are in the working age group population

By age group, 5,118 (34.2%) poor PWDs were young dependent (under 15 years of age). On the other hand, persons who are in the working-age or economically-active population (aged 15 to 64 years) totalled 6,978 (46.7%), while the older dependent (65 years and over) comprised the remaining 2,855 (19.1%) of the total poor disabled individuals.

Poor individuals with disabilities had a median age of 35 years. This means that half of them were below 32 years old.

Figure 26. Poor Individuals with Disability by Age Group

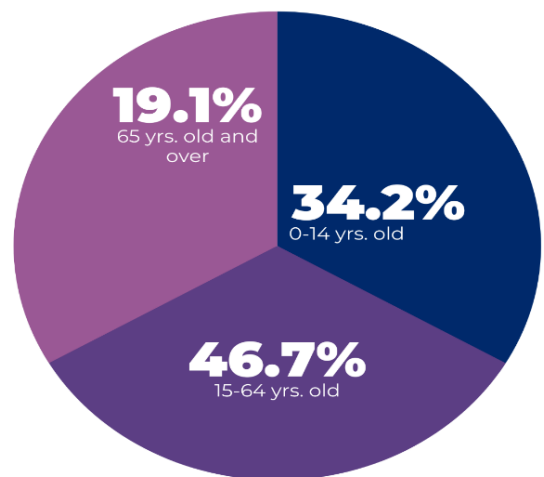
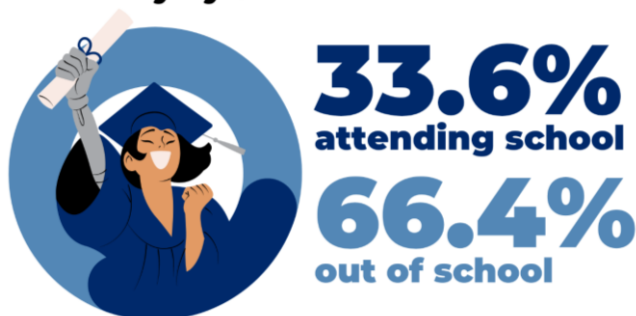


Figure 27. Poor Children with Disability by School Attendance



Three in every five poor children with disability are not attending school

A disability can have a hugely significant effect on a child's experience at school. Unfortunately, many disabled children have a much tougher time at school than their non-disabled counterparts. Children with disabilities have very low rates of initial enrolment. About 66.4% of

poor children (aged 3 to 17 years) with disability do not go to school, while less than half of poor PWD children attend school. Even if they do attend school, children with disabilities are more likely to drop out and leave school early without transitioning to secondary school and beyond (Global Campaign for Education, Handicap International, 2013) due to unfavorable conditions they face at school.

The majority of persons with disability cannot receive proper education, not just because of poverty itself, but more of the complications and insurmountable difficulties caused by inaccessibility. An integrated system of special education for the visually impaired, hearing impaired, individuals with intellectual disabilities, and other types of exceptional children must be established and supported by the government to ensure access to education on equal terms for persons with disability.

More than half of the poor individuals with a disability are unemployed

Figure 28. Poor Individuals with Disability by Employment



Pursuant to the Republic Act 10524 under Rule IV Section 6, no Person with a Disability shall be denied access to opportunities for suitable employment. However, people with disabilities find it much more challenging to be gainfully employed than people who are able-bodied, and their earning power is thereby much diminished.

Regarding employment and participation in the labor market, the unemployment rate among poor individuals (aged 15 years and over) with a disability was 82.7%. This means that only one in every five poor PWDs was employed.

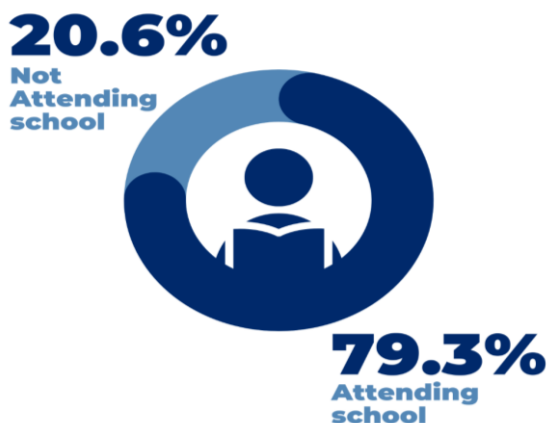
Among economically active poor individuals with a disability, 51.6% were elementary occupation workers, and 13.6% were skilled agricultural, forestry, and fishery workers. With rampant under attainment of education among poor PWDs, this can only lead to low-paying jobs.

Research evidenced that work remains essential and meaningful for persons with disabilities and keeps its health-promoting effects over time. Being employed is a vital tool to reduce poverty. Thus, the need to increase employment opportunities for people with disabilities can be compellingly argued on both equity and economic grounds. Providing care and support for disabled citizens will make a major difference in addressing disability and poverty in the Philippines.

Education

Among children who belong to low-income households in the country, approximately 2 in 10 did not go to school

Figure 29. Poor Children by Attendance to School



Six hundred eighty-six thousand eight hundred fifty-three poor children, or 20.67% aged 3 to 17 years, were deprived of school. This is equivalent to 141,973 poor children. The following Municipalities and Cities posted a record-high number of school children. City of San Jose del Monte, Bulacan 5,444, City of Cabanatuan, Nueva Ecija 4,581, City of Tarlac 4,450, Subic, Zambales 3,178 and Capas, Tarlac 3,051. In terms of gender, the school participation rate is slightly higher among males than females in all provinces. Males aged 3 to 17 who attended school comprised 50.82%, while females accounted for 49.18% of all poor children in this age group.

Insufficient family income to send the child to school (this refers to all educational expenses other than tuition fees), entering into a union or marriage, and lack of interest were some of the attributes of school deprivation of children. In the worst cases, poverty requires children to work, which means they leave school early or never enter school in the first place.

Fortunately, engagement in children's education seems to be one of the priorities of poor households. Parents try hard to keep their child's attendance regular in school, as they know that education is a powerful tool in supporting child growth and break-out the cycle of poverty.

Figure 30. Poor Children Attending School by Sex

There are
104 boys
for every
100 girls
attending school



School attendance is highest among Elementary Level (6 to 11 years old) age poor individuals

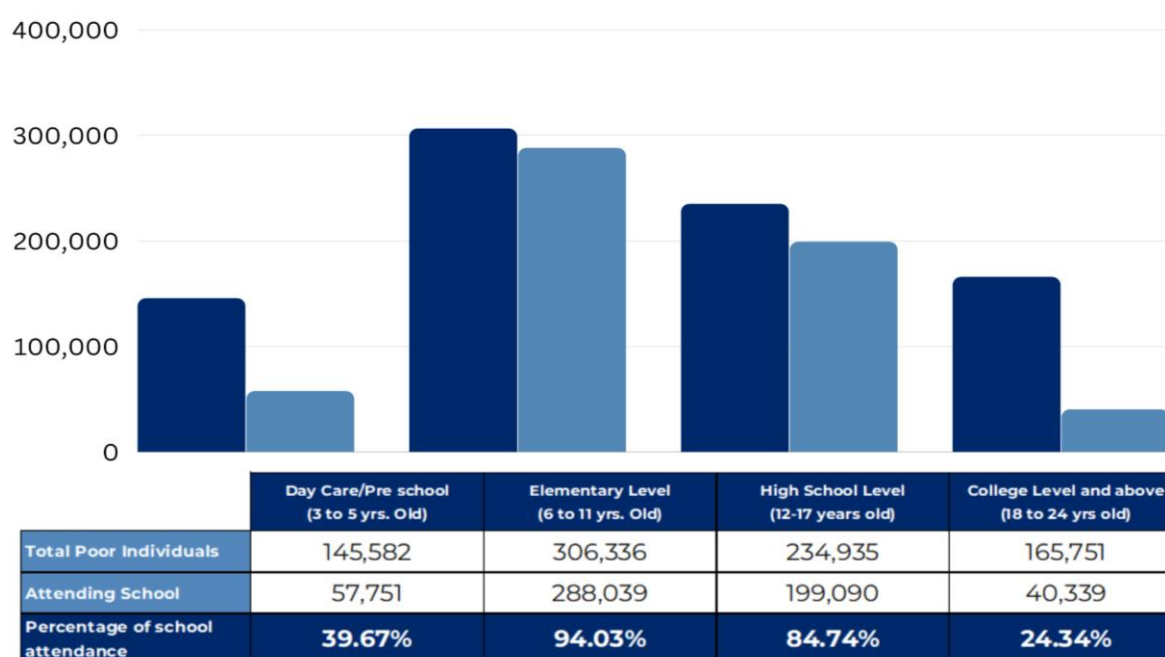
A total of 852,604 poor individuals aged 3 to 24 years regionwide. This age group comprised 55.05% of the 1,548,767 total identified poor individuals.

Of the poor individuals aged 3 to 24 years old, 585,219, or 68.64%, had attended school. The decline in school attendance was visibly seen as the level of education became higher. Almost 40% of poor individuals 3 to 5 years old attended early

childhood education (Day Care or Preschool). People aged 6 to 11 years old (Elementary level) who attended school comprised 94.03% of all poor individuals in this age bracket. In comparison, 84.74% of all poor individuals aged 12 to 17 years old (High School level) were enrolled in school. On the contrary, poor individuals between the ages of 18 to 24 years old (College Level and Above) have the lowest attendance in school at 24.34%.

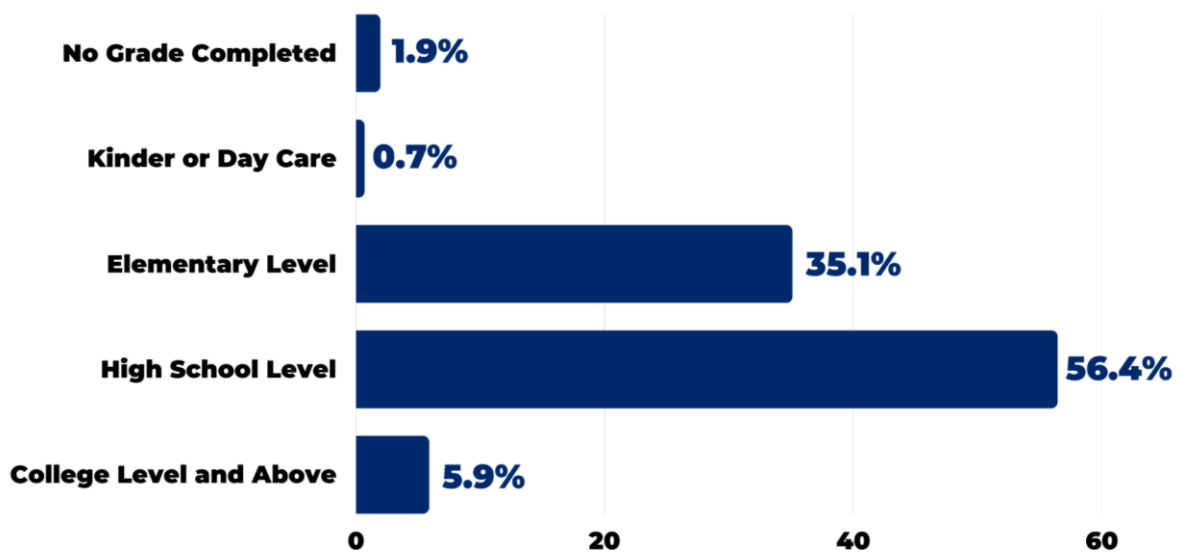
The top five provinces in terms of the highest proportion of school attendance among poor individuals 3 to 24 years old were: Aurora (73.85%), Zambales (69.21%), Nueva Ecija (69.03%), Pampanga (68.77%), and Bataan (68.36%).

Figure 31. Poor Individuals by School Age



Tertiary education is a crucial factor that can enable Filipino families to overcome poverty. However, high school graduates opt to not pursue higher education, mainly due to the expensive tuition fees in addition to miscellaneous expenses incurred while studying. Students living in poverty often face the choice of cutting short their education in order to work and help their families make ends meet. As a result, poor families continue to struggle to reach beyond their current economic situation.

Figure 32. Poor Individuals by Highest Educational Attainment



Most poor individuals obtained Primary and Secondary levels of education

Educational attainment showed that the poor individuals between the age of 15 years and above had attended or completed schools (35.93%); 33.78% reached or finished elementary level; 4.73% college undergraduates; 23.35% had post-secondary education (junior and senior high school), and 6.77% reached most preschool.

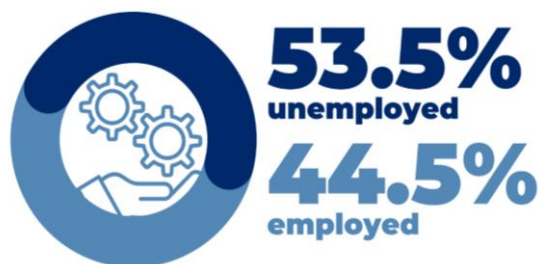
Poverty translates and correlates with the lack of education in the country. For many families, education provides a path out of poverty. Yet, millions of Filipinos living below the poverty line struggle to get proper education because of the financial crisis. This means that most of them end up with low-paid or menial jobs, mostly hard labor.

Getting the proper education can not only lift people from poverty, but it can also improve their health issues, and income and change their lives.

Labor and Employment

Unemployment rate among poor individuals in the labor force is registered at 55.47%

Figure 33. Poor Individuals by Employment



Out of 1,548,767 poor individuals, 53.93% or 835,324 individuals were in the labor force (15 years old and above). The employment rate or the proportion of employed persons to the total labor force was 44.53%. On the contrary, 463,362 poor individuals, or 53.47% were unemployed.

Municipalities and Cities had unemployment rates higher than the regional average of 53.47%. City of San Jose

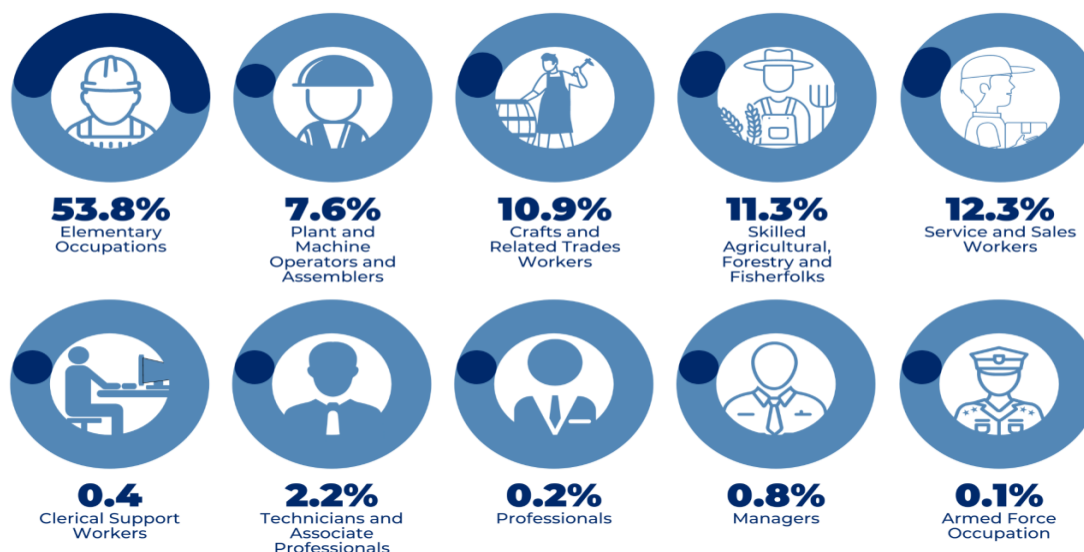
del Monte, Bulacan 13,724, City of Cabanatuan, Nueva Ecija 11,794, Subic, Zambales 11,658 and City of Tarlac 10,922.

The employment rate was higher among men compared to women. More than three-fourths (77.92%) of the 371,962 employed poor individuals were males, while 22.08% employed females were reported. The proportion of poor employed males aged 25 to 34 (30.2%) made up the biggest share while the proportion of poor employed females was higher in the 35 to 44 age group (32.0%).

Almost three in every five employed poor individuals are in Elementary Occupations

Across occupation groups, workers in elementary occupations comprised the largest group at 53.76% of the poor employed individuals. Elementary Occupations, whereas service and sales workers make up the second largest occupation group at 12.29%, followed by skilled agricultural, forestry, and fisherfolk, which accounted for 11.30%. On the other hand, workers classified under armed forces occupations, professionals, clerical support, and managers account for the smallest employment contribution with a combined share of 14.12% of the total employed

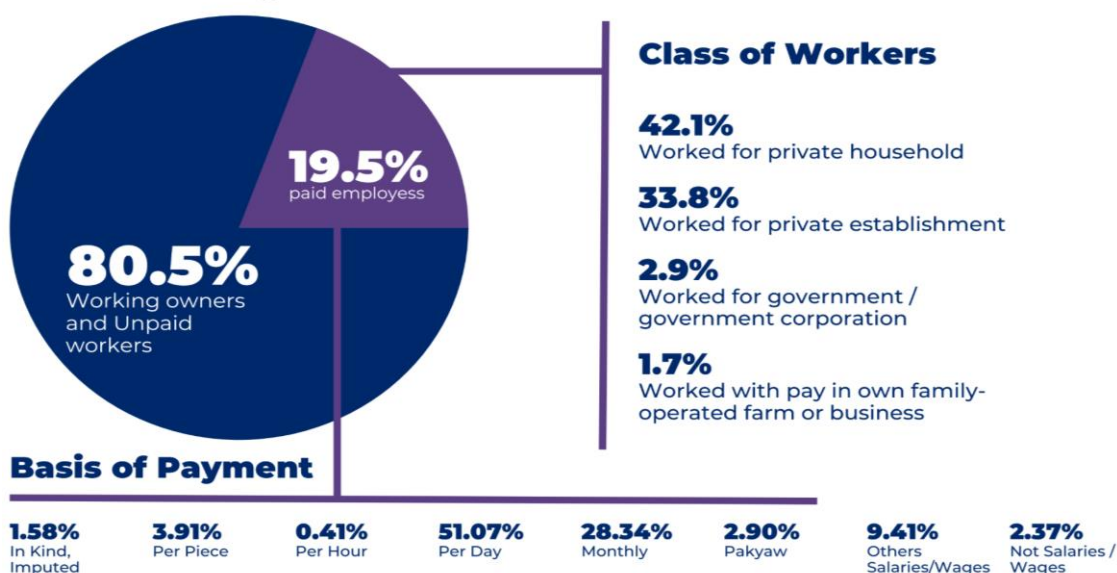
Figure 34. Poor Employed Individuals by Major Occupation Group



poor individuals.

Out of the total employed poor individuals in each region, Nueva Ecija (29.01%), Tarlac (27.53%), and Aurora (23.58%) recorded the highest proportion of elementary occupation workers. Meanwhile, Aurora (9.69%), Zambales (7.46%), and Bataan (6.44%) had the biggest share of skilled agricultural, forestry, and fishery workers.

Figure 35. Poor Employed Individuals by Class of Worker and Basis of Payment



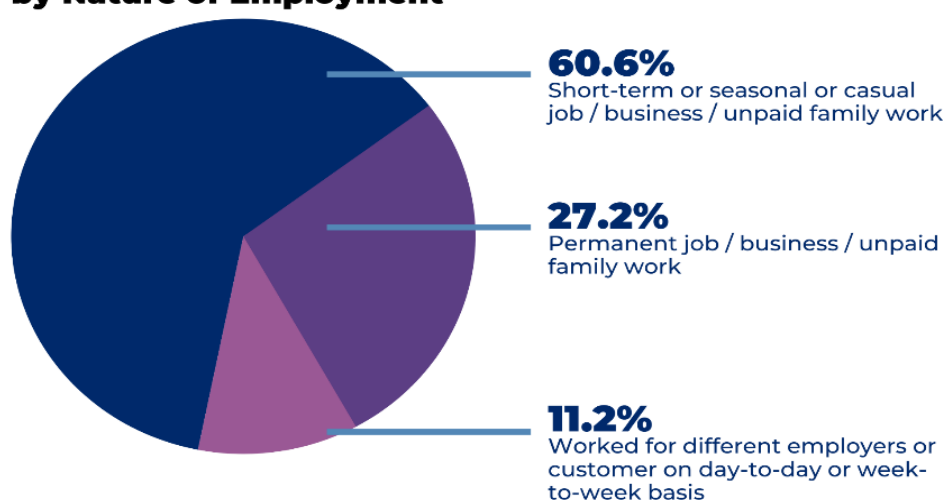
Two-thirds of poor employed individuals are wage and salary workers

Employed individuals fall into any of these categories: (1) wage and salary workers; (2) self-employed workers without any paid employee; (3) employers in their family-operated farm or business; and (4) unpaid family workers.

Wage and salary workers are those who work for private households, private establishments, government or government-controlled corporations, and who work with pay in their family-operated farm or business. Most employed poor individuals (80.51%) were wage and salary workers, with those working in private establishments and private households accounting for the largest share at 94.30%. In comparison, those working in government or government-controlled corporations accounted for 3.57% of the total poor, employed individuals. The share of self-employed workers, employers/ owners, and unpaid workers in total poor, employed individuals was 26.34%.

Classified according to the basis of payment, 51.07% of the wage and salary workers received compensation daily. Meanwhile, 28.34% of wage and salary workers had monthly income earnings.

Figure 36. Poor Employed Individuals by Nature of Employment



Employed persons are classified into any of the following statuses: (1) permanent; (2) short-term or seasonal; and (3) worked for different employers or customers on a day-to-day or week-to-week basis. Permanent workers are those engaged in economic activity that lasted or is expected to last for one year or longer without a gap. In comparison, employment for workers under short-term or seasonal status is expected to last less than one year since it started.

More than half (61.60%) of the employed poor individuals were short-term or seasonal workers, while only 27.20% of poor workers were permanent. In addition, the remaining 11.20% of the employed poor individuals worked for different employers or customers daily or weekly. This employment status is common for odd-job workers or those who receive pay from individual customers.

Data on employment status can provide valuable insights into factors instigating poverty. In the case of employed persons living in poverty, also known as the working poor, low earnings and inadequate working conditions likely are to blame. Conversely, in the case of poor, unemployed persons, poverty may be driven by a lack of employment opportunities and insufficient social protection (International Labour Organization, 2019).

Figure 37. Poor Working Children by Sex
5,184 working children



The proportion of poor working children 8 to 17 years old was estimated at 1.2%

The number of poor children aged 8 to 17 who worked for at least an hour during the past week before the assessment was 5,184. They accounted for 1.19% of the 436,467 poor children within this age group. Poor working children were higher among boys compared to girls. Of the 5,184 poor children working, 4,134 or

79.75% were boys, while 1,050 or 20.25% were girl. In Central Luzon, the province of Tarlac had the most significant proportion of poor working children, with 1,056 or 1.53%, while the provinces of Bataan were at the lowest, with 260 or 0.79%.

Whether or not particular forms of "work" can be called "child labor" depends on the child's age, the type and hours of work performed, and the conditions under which it is performed. Nonetheless, working at a very young age greatly affects impoverished children and their families as it interferes with their schooling by depriving them of the opportunity to attend school; obliging them to leave school prematurely; or requiring them to attempt to combine school attendance with excessively long and heavy work (International Labour Organization). The government should ensure that these children must be protected from jobs that interfere with their health, safety, and education.

Data Sharing Materials



Scan the QR Code or
access the link:

bit.ly/L3GitnangLuzonDataSharing

People Behind the Project

Under the supervision of

ASec. Marites M. Maristela, CESO III, former Regional Director
Dir. Jonathan V. Dirain, Regional Director
Priscila C. Tiopengco, Social Welfare Officer V/ former OIC Division Chief, PPD
Melanie M. Barnachea, Planning Officer IV/ OIC Division Chief, PPD

National Household Targeting Section (NHTS)

Czar Cornelius R. David, Project Development Officer IV
Kevin James M. Roque, Information Technology Officer II
Juvie O. Pangilinan, Statistician II
Kimberly Ruth V. Ferreras, AA III for Operations
Feliciano T. Sanga, Jr., AA III for Advocacy
Lovely C. Kabigting, AA III for Budget
Eduardo T. Sanga, Jr., AA III for Cash

Jessa O. Marzan, former Statistician II
Sierra Patricia M. Santiago, former Project Development Officer II

Formerly hired Listahanan 3 Area Coordinators, Area Supervisors, Enumerators, Encoding Supervisors, Encoders, Verifiers, Administrative Staff

DSWD Provincial Extension Office (DPEO)

Janine Conde, Province of Aurora
Raquel Abrogena, Province of Bataan
Wilfredo Viernes, Province of Bulacan
Nielady Gianina P Cacanindin, Province of Bulacan
Hanna Pamela Alamon, Province of Nueva Ecija
Jinky Ronquillo, Province of Pampanga
Garland Sangil, Province of Tarlac
Shaynne Huella Rodriguez, Province of Zambales

including all Provincial Team Leaders

National Household Targeting Office (NHTO)

Dir. Mona-Liza Visorde, NHTO Director
Dir. Baldr Bringas, NHTO Assistant Director
Mr. Amado Suarez, Project Coordinator for DSWD FO III

Special Appreciation to:

Dir. Andrew Ambubuyog, former NHTO Director
Dir. Justin Caesar Anthony Batocabe, former NHTO Assistant Director
Mr. Aljo Quintans, former Operations Division Chief
Ms. Abigail Calipjo - Ling, former Project Coordinator for DSWD FO III
Mr. Christopher Saavedra, former Officer-In-Charge of NHTO IT Division



Listahanan 3

Bawat Bahay Magkakasama sa Kaunlaran