



Did you know that...

Poverty in Northern Mindanao Eases Amidst Worsening National Situation in 2003 – 2006

The poverty situation in Northern Mindanao improved between the periods 2003 to 2006 amidst the worsening national situation. Poverty Incidence among families in the region decreased by 1.6 percentage points from 37.7 percent to 36.1 percent and poverty incidence among population decreased by 0.9 percentage points from 44.0 percent to 43.1 percent. Among the 17 regions of the Philippines (including NCR), Northern Mindanao showed the 3rd best performance in reducing poverty in the period aforementioned. Moreover, only four of the 17 regions registered decreasing poverty incidence, namely, Region IX, Caraga, Region X, and Region VI.

Among the provinces of Northern Mindanao, Bukidnon had the best performance. Poverty incidence among families in the province improved by 7.3 percentage points from 36.9 percent in 2003 to 29.6 percent in 2006, and poverty incidence among the population improved by 5.7 percentage points from 42.9 percent to 37.2 percent. Moreover, Bukidnon had the least incidence of poor families, and population, in the region for 2006.

Lanao del Norte, who used to be the 10th poorest province in the Philippines in 2003, is now out of the “psychological” 10 poorest provinces for 2006. Poverty incidence among families in the province improved by 2.4 percentage points from 46.5 percent in 2003 to 44.1 percent in 2006, and poverty incidence among the population improved by 1.8 percentage points from 54.0 percent to 52.2 percent.

Misamis Occidental, who used to be the 7th poorest province in 2003, improved in terms of ranking as it slipped to the 10th.

Table 1. Incidence of Poverty in Northern Mindanao.

Area/Locality	Poverty Incidence (%)						90% Confidence Interval (2006)	
	Point Estimates (%)			Coefficient of Variation			Lower Limit	Upper Limit
	2000	2003	2006	2000	2003	2006		
PHILIPPINES								
Family	27.5	24.4	26.9	1.6	1.3	1.3	26.3	27.4
Population	33.0	30.0	32.9	1.5	1.3	1.2	32.3	33.5
Region X								
Family	38.0	37.7	36.1	4.5	5.3	5.0	33.2	39.1
Population	43.8	44.0	43.1	4.2	4.7	4.8	39.7	46.5
Bukidnon								
Family	33.4	36.9	29.6	11.3	13.9	11.2	24.1	35.0
Population	41.0	42.9	37.2	10.5	11.9	10.8	30.6	43.8
Camiguin								
Family	54.2	34.5	39.3	10.5	21.7	8.2	34.1	44.6
Population	57.0	39.7	42.1	10.2	17.3	9.7	35.4	48.9
Lanao del Norte								
Family	49.3	46.5	44.1	6.7	7.9	11.5	35.8	52.4
Population	54.2	54.0	52.2	6.1	7.2	10.5	43.2	61.2
Misamis Occidental								
Family	46.8	48.1	48.8	7.8	11.7	9.6	41.1	56.6
Population	53.0	54.3	56.3	6.7	9.7	7.9	49.0	63.7
Misamis Oriental								
Family	29.3	28.5	31.5	9.3	6.7	7.0	27.8	35.1
Population	34.8	34.8	37.5	8.5	7.2	7.1	33.1	41.9

Source: National Statistical Coordination Board (NSCB)

The improvement in the poverty situation of the region, however, translated only in terms of incidence, i.e. the percentage of the population whose income falls below the poverty threshold. The decline in the poverty incidence wasn't substantial enough in comparison to the population growth. Hence, even with the decrease in incidence, a number of families, as well as individuals or population, were still added to the magnitude of poor in the region. 285,054 families, or 1,663,283 individuals, were added to the magnitude of poor in the region from 2003 to 2006. The 2.3 percent increase in the magnitude of poor families in the region from 2003 to 2006, on the brighter side, is minimal compared to the 16.3 percent increase in the magnitude of poor families at the national level.

Among the provinces of Northern Mindanao, only Bukidnon managed to reduce the magnitude of poor in their locality. Its 7.3 and 5.7 percentage points decrease in the poverty incidence among families and among population, respectively, translated into a reduction of 11,011 families or, 21,299 in terms of population, from the magnitude of poor in the province from 2003 to 2006. (*The reader must, however, take into consideration the measure of dispersion portrayed in the coefficients of variations in using the statistics provided. The standard errors are also provided in Table 3 for further guidance*).

Table 2. Magnitude of Poverty in Northern Mindanao.

Area/Locality	Magnitude of Poverty						90% Confidence Interval (2006)	
	Point Estimates			Coefficient of Variation			Lower Limit	Upper Limit
	2000	2003	2006	2000	2003	2006		
PHILIPPINES								
Family	4,146,663	4,022,695	4,677,305	1.6	1.4	1.3	4,574,604	4,780,006
Population	25,472,782	23,836,104	27,616,888	1.6	1.4	1.4	27,000,000	28,200,000
Region X								
Family	261,501	278,538	285,054	5.0	4.6	5.1	261,176	308,931
Population	1,582,225	1,567,963	1,663,283	5.1	4.7	5.2	1,520,757	1,805,808
Bukidnon								
Family	67,599	79,985	68,973	12.3	9.1	10.3	57,334	80,613
Population	449,647	460,292	438,293	12.7	8.8	10.4	362,996	513,589
Camiguin								
Family	7,826	5,356	6,619	10.5	40.4	13.3	5,165	8,073
Population	41,465	29,420	35,265	11.3	44.5	18.9	24,301	46,229
Lanao del Norte								
Family	75,376	73,114	72,484	8.8	7.8	12.2	57,976	86,992
Population	426,347	404,674	416,532	8.8	8.0	11.7	336,541	496,524
Misamis Occidental								
Family	45,954	50,189	54,247	10.0	13.2	11.3	44,187	64,307
Population	260,764	263,398	294,806	9.3	13.6	11.8	237,629	351,983
Misamis Oriental								
Family	64,745	69,895	82,730	9.3	7.7	8.1	71,737	93,724
Population	404,002	410,180	478,387	9.2	8.6	8.9	408,702	548,071

Source: National Statistical Coordination Board (NSCB)

Table 3. Standard Errors of Estimates

Area/Locality	Poverty Incidence Standard Errors						Magnitude of Poverty Standard Errors					
	Family			Population			Family			Population		
	2000	2003	2006	2000	2003	2006	2000	2003	2006	2000	2003	2006
PHILIPPINES	0.4	0.3	0.3	0.5	0.4	0.4	67,584	55,687	62,401	412,384	331,634	377,391
Region X	1.7	2.0	1.8	1.9	2.1	2.1	13,075	12,783	14,508	81,432	73,279	86,599
Bukidnon	3.8	5.1	3.3	4.3	5.1	4.0	8,287	7,309	7,072	57,000	40,370	45,751
Camiguin*	5.7	7.5	3.2	5.8	6.9	4.1	825	2,163	883	4,703	13,092	6,662
Lanao del Norte	3.3	3.7	5.1	3.3	3.9	5.5	6,650	5,674	8,815	37,396	32,222	48,603
Misamis Occidental	3.6	5.6	4.7	3.6	5.3	4.5	4,603	6,642	6,112	24,257	35,787	34,741
Misamis Oriental	2.7	1.9	2.2	3.0	2.5	2.7	6,016	5,383	6,680	37,056	35,352	42,341

* Coefficient of Variation (CV) of 2003 poverty incidence among family is greater than 20%

A family of 5 in Northern Mindanao needed, on average, a monthly income of PhP 5,916 to stay out of poverty, i.e. to meet both their basic food and non-food requirements, in 2006. Moreover, the same family needed PhP 4,066 to meet their basic food requirements.

Among the provinces in Northern Mindanao for the year 2006, it costs more to stay out of poverty, as well as meet the basic food requirement, in Camiguin than in any other province in the region. For 2006, a family of 5 in Camiguin needed a monthly income of PhP 6,727 to stay out of poverty and PhP 4,341 to stay out of food-poverty.

Bukidnon registered the lowest poverty and food threshold for 2006. A family of five needed only a monthly income of PhP 5,078 to stay out of poverty and PhP 3,841 to stay out of food-poverty.

Table 4. Annual Per Capita Thresholds and Monthly Thresholds for a Family of Five.

Area/Locality	Annual Per Capita Threshold						Monthly Threshold (Family of Five)					
	Poverty (PhP)			Food (PhP)			Poverty (PhP)			Food (PhP)		
	2000	2003	2006	2000	2003	2006	2000	2003	2006	2000	2003	2006
PHILIPPINES	11,458	12,309	15,057	7,707	8,149	10,025	4,774	5,129	6,274	3,211	3,395	4,177
Region X	10,509	11,605	14,199	7,296	7,995	9,757	4,379	4,835	5,916	3,040	3,331	4,066
Bukidnon	9,201	11,083	12,186	6,706	7,693	9,219	3,834	4,618	5,078	2,794	3,205	3,841
Camiguin	12,155	12,109	16,145	7,950	8,617	10,418	5,064	5,045	6,727	3,312	3,591	4,341
Lanao del Norte	11,296	12,103	15,225	7,692	8,381	10,196	4,706	5,043	6,344	3,205	3,492	4,248
Misamis Occidental	10,184	11,711	14,555	7,304	7,906	9,717	4,243	4,880	6,064	3,043	3,294	4,049
Misamis Oriental	11,176	11,594	14,787	7,385	7,987	9,830	4,657	4,831	6,161	3,077	3,328	4,096

Source: *National Statistical Coordination Board (NSCB)*

Changes in the incidence of poverty may be attributed, among many others, to the disparity in the changes of income vis-à-vis prices. From 2003 to 2006, poverty threshold at the national level increased by 22.3% while CPI (all items) increased only by 21.2%. The difference may be due to standard errors in the estimates. If not, then it could imply that prices of the more basic commodities have increased faster than average prices of the common basket of goods. Moreover, from 2003 to 2006 at the national level, prices and the poverty threshold increased in a much faster rate compared to the increase in mean per capita income of 16.3%.

Table 5. Percent Changes in Prices, Poverty Threshold and Income for 2003 to 2006.

Area/Locality	Prices ¹			Poverty Threshold ²			Income ¹		
	CPI		Inflation	Per Capita Poverty Threshold		% Change	Mean Per Capita Income		% Change
	2003	2006	03-06	2003	2006	03-06	2003	2006	03-06
PHILIPPINES	113.8	137.9	21.2	12,309	15,057	22.3	30,767	35,788	16.3
Region X	113.6	139.3	22.6	11,605	14,199	22.4	22,212	28,460	28.1
Bukidnon	116.6	145.3	24.6	11,083	12,186	10.0	20,542	26,254	27.8
Camiguin	116.1	135.4	16.6	12,109	16,145	33.3	24,956	33,872	35.7
Lanao del Norte	109.8	135.6	23.5	12,103	15,225	25.8	22,428	31,571	40.8
Misamis Occidental	114.5	140.6	22.8	11,711	14,555	24.3	17,478	21,125	20.9
Misamis Oriental	111.9	135.0	20.6	11,594	14,787	27.5	25,435	31,204	22.7

¹ Source: *Family Income and Expenditure Survey (FIES) of the National Statistics Office (NSO)*

² Source: *National Statistical Coordination Board (NSCB)*

Poverty estimates are part of the latest set of official poverty statistics released by the National Statistical Coordination Board (NSCB) based on the final results of the 2006 Family Income and Expenditures Survey (FIES), conducted by the National Statistics Office (NSO) every three years.

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