



# PRESS RELEASE

## 11 out of 18 Regions Recorded Significant Decreases in Poverty Incidence in 2023

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The Philippine Statistics Authority (PSA) releases updates on the 2023 Full Year Official Poverty Statistics based on the preliminary results of the 2023 Family Income and Expenditure Survey. The 2023 Full Year Official Poverty Statistics was initially released on 22 July 2024 covering data at the national level. The updated report includes poverty estimates disaggregated at the regional, provincial, and highly urbanized city levels. Also, it incorporates the poverty estimates for the newly established Negros Island Region (NIR) for years 2018, 2021 and 2023. The inclusion of NIR led to the adjustment in the poverty estimates of Region VI (Western Visayas) and Region VII (Central Visayas) in 2018 and 2021 to reflect the new composition of the regions. Moreover, separate poverty estimates for Maguindanao del Norte and Maguindanao del Sur were included in the updated report.

### Poverty Threshold

A family with five members needed at least PhP 13,873 per month to meet their minimum basic food and non-food needs in 2023. Among the regions, nine had poverty thresholds higher than the national average. This was led by Region III (Central Luzon) with a poverty threshold of PhP 16,046, followed by the National Capital Region (NCR) at PhP 15,713, and Region IV-A (CALABARZON) at PhP 15,457. On the other hand, Region XII (SOCCSKSARGEN) posted the lowest poverty threshold at PhP 12,241.



## Poverty Incidence

The national poverty incidence among families in 2023 was recorded at 10.9 percent. This is equivalent to 2.99 million Filipino families without enough income to meet their basic food and non-food needs.

At the sub-national level, NCR remained the least poor among the regions, with a poverty incidence among families estimated at 1.1 percent in 2023. In contrast, Region IX (Zamboanga Peninsula) recorded the highest poverty incidence among families at 24.2 percent for the same year, followed by the Bangsamoro Autonomous Region in Muslim Mindanao (BARMM) at 23.5 percent and NIR at 22.6 percent.

Out of the 18 regions, 11 recorded statistically significant decreases in poverty incidence among families in 2023 from 2021. Caraga showed the most notable improvement with a poverty incidence among families of 14.9 percent in 2023, a decrease of 11.0 percentage points from its poverty incidence of 25.9 percent in 2021. In addition, four regions exhibited downtrends in their poverty incidence among families in 2023 from 2021. However, these decreases are not statistically significant. Meanwhile, increasing trends were recorded in the poverty incidence among families in MIMAROPA at 1.2 percentage point difference, NIR at 4.4 percentage point difference and Region IX (Zamboanga Peninsula) at 0.8 percentage point difference, with only NIR exhibiting statistically significant increase.

**Table 1. Full Year Poverty Thresholds per Family per Month and Poverty Incidence among Families, by Region: 2018, 2021 and 2023**

Region	Poverty Thresholds per Family* per Month (PhP)			Poverty Incidence among Families (%)				Coefficient of Variation		
	2018	2021	2023	2018	2021	2023	% point change (2023-2021)	2018	2021	2023
<b>PHILIPPINES</b> <sup>a/</sup>	10,756	11,998	13,873	12.1	13.2	10.9	-2.3	1.4	1.4	1.5
<b>NCR</b> <sup>a/</sup>	11,951	13,741	15,713	1.4	2.2	1.1	-1.0	10.4	6.7	9.9
<b>CAR</b> <sup>a/</sup>	10,378	11,793	13,239	8.6	6.9	4.4	-2.5	5.3	5.4	7.9
<b>Region I</b> <sup>a/</sup>	11,273	12,964	14,356	7.0	11.0	8.4	-2.5	9.6	6.8	9.8
<b>Region II</b> <sup>a/</sup>	10,458	11,788	13,400	12.5	11.7	7.2	-4.5	6.4	7.1	8.3
<b>Region III</b> <sup>a/</sup>	11,231	13,160	16,046	5.2	8.3	5.7	-2.6	6.4	5.7	6.2
<b>Region IV-A</b> <sup>a/</sup>	11,637	12,941	15,457	5.1	7.2	5.3	-2.0	7.3	6.4	6.7
<b>MIMAROPA</b>	9,714	10,967	12,697	10.5	15.0	16.3	1.2	6.5	5.1	6.6
<b>Region V</b>	10,192	11,531	13,989	20.0	21.9	20.3	-1.6	4.0	4.0	3.7
<b>Region VI</b> <sup>a/,1/</sup>	10,513	11,391	13,801	10.1	12.1	9.8	-2.2	6.3	6.7	6.4
<b>NIR</b> <sup>a/,2/</sup>	10,096	11,040	14,185	15.8	18.2	22.6	4.4	7.5	6.2	6.6

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Region	Poverty Thresholds per Family* per Month (PhP)			Poverty Incidence among Families (%)				Coefficient of Variation		
	2018	2021	2023	2018	2021	2023	% point change (2023-2021)	2018	2021	2023
<b>Region VII</b> <sup>a/, 3/</sup>	10,820	13,510	14,397	12.2	22.0	12.3	-9.7	7.5	5.9	6.2
<b>Region VIII</b>	10,411	11,187	13,492	23.9	22.2	20.3	-1.8	3.6	4.1	4.0
<b>Region IX</b> <sup>4/</sup>	10,687	11,975	13,897	25.4	23.4	24.2	0.8	4.3	4.3	4.5
<b>Region X</b>	10,348	12,015	13,964	17.3	19.2	18.4	-0.8	3.8	4.4	4.1
<b>Region XI</b>	10,814	11,709	13,134	13.9	11.9	11.3	-0.6	5.1	4.8	9.2
<b>Region XII</b> <sup>a/, 5/, 6/</sup>	10,426	11,018	12,241	21.6	20.9	17.0	-3.8	5.2	5.0	6.5
<b>Caraga</b> <sup>a/</sup>	10,573	11,390	12,319	24.1	25.9	14.9	-11.0	3.5	3.5	4.9
<b>BARMM</b> <sup>a/, 7/, 8/</sup>	11,548	11,347	12,884	52.6	28.0	23.5	-4.5	2.5	3.8	3.6

Source: Philippine Statistics Authority

\* Refers to a family of five as an illustration of the monthly poverty threshold per family. Annual Per Capita Poverty Threshold are available from the Report.

a/ significant change; The increase or decrease in the poverty incidence among families between 2021 and 2023 is significant at 5% level of significance ( $\alpha = 0.05$ ).

1/ Excludes Negros Occidental given the establishment of the NIR

2/ Consists of Negros Occidental, Negros Oriental and Siquijor

3/ Excludes Negros Oriental and Siquijor given the establishment of the NIR

4/ Including Isabela City

5/ Excludes Cotabato City

6/ Excludes 63 barangays transferred to BARMM in 2023

7/ Excludes 63 barangays from Region XII in 2018 and 2021

8/ Includes Cotabato City

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