SPECIAL RELEASE

2023 ANNUAL LABOR MARKET STATISTICS OF DAVAO OCCIDENTAL (Preliminary Results)

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Seventy-two percent of the population 15 years old and over were in the labor force
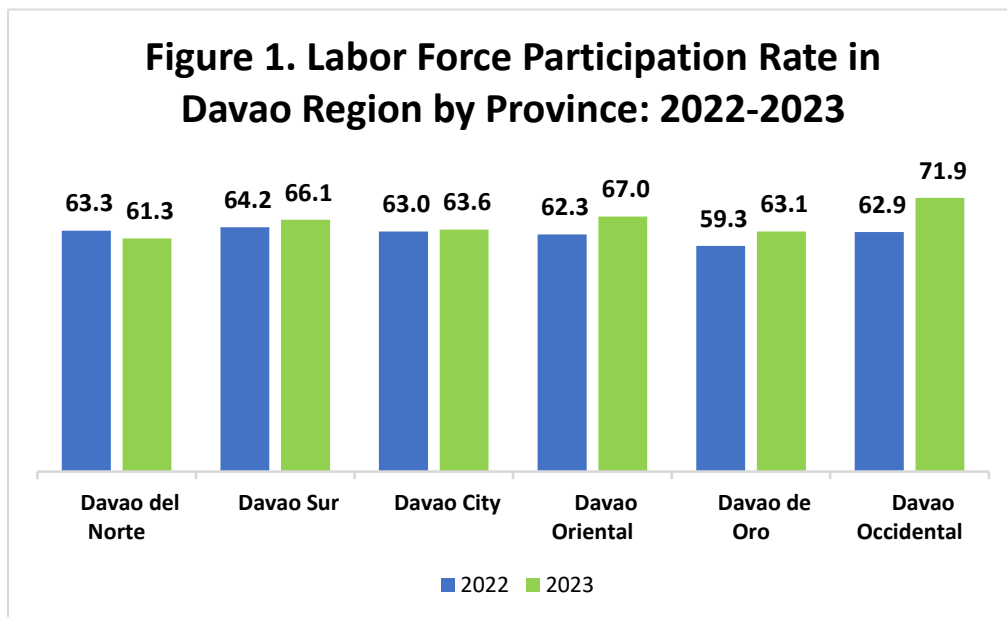
In 2023, there were about 239,000 estimated population aged 15 years old and over. Of this number, around 172,000 individuals were in the labor force, resulting in a labor force participation rate (LFPR) of 71.9 percent or 719 in every 1000 individuals aged 15 years and over were either employed or unemployed. This represents an increase of 9.0 percentage points compared to the LFPR recorded in 2022. (Table 1)

Table 1. 2022-2023 Labor Force Survey (LFS) Results in Davao Occidental		
Davao Occidental	**2022**	**2023**
Total Population 15 Years Old and Over	233,900	239,100
Labor Force Participation Rate (%)	62.9	71.9
Employment Rate (%)	98.1	98.0
Underemployment Rate (%)	25.0	5.6
Unemployment Rate (%)	1.9	2.0

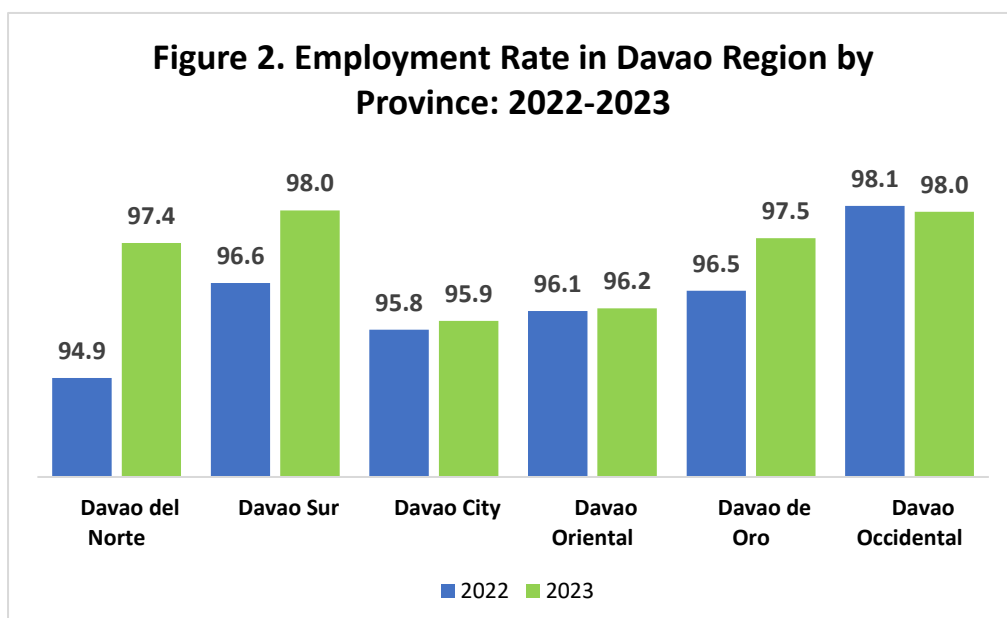### *Davao Occidental recorded the highest LFPR in Davao Region*

Among the provinces and Highly Urbanized City (HUC) in Davao Region, Davao Occidental recorded the highest LFPR at 71.9 percent while Davao del Norte posted the lowest at 61.3 percent. Figure 1)

Figure 1. Labor Force Participation Rate in Davao Region by Province: 2022-2023

Source: Philippine Statistics Authority, 2022 and 2023, Labor Force Survey

Employment rate in Davao Occidental registered at 98.0 percent

About 98.0 percent or about 169,000 of the working-age population who were economically active or those who belong to the labor force in Davao Occidental are employed in 2023. This is 0.1 percentage points lower compared to previous year 2022. (Figure 2)

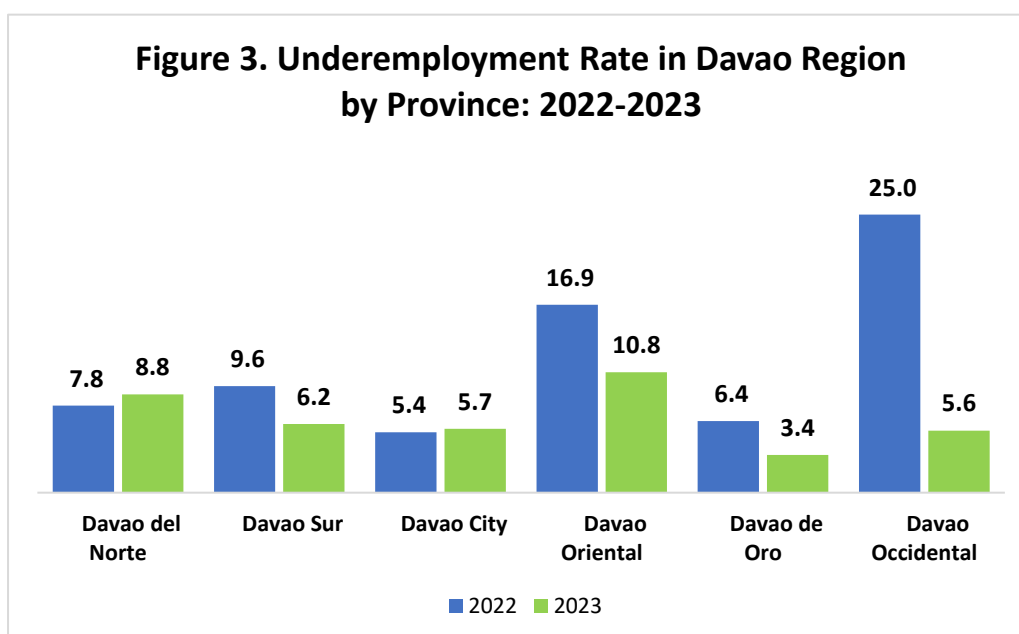**Figure 2. Employment Rate in Davao Region by Province: 2022-2023**

Source: Philippine Statistics Authority, 2022 and 2023, Labor Force Survey

Davao Occidental placed second along with Davao del Sur in terms of employment rate with 98.0 percent in Davao Region for the year 2023. Davao City posted the lowest employment rate at 95.9 percent, closely

followed by Davao Oriental with 96.2 percent, Davao del Norte at 97.4 percent and Davao de Oro posted at 97.5 percent.

Underemployment rate posted at 5.6 percent

Underemployed persons are employed person who expressed their desire to have additional hours of work in their present job or to have additional job, or to have a new job with longer hours of work. In year 2023, 5.6 percent of total employed person in Davao Occidental reported to be underemployed. The underemployment rate in the province posted a significant decrease of 19.4 percent to previous year 2022. (Figure 3)
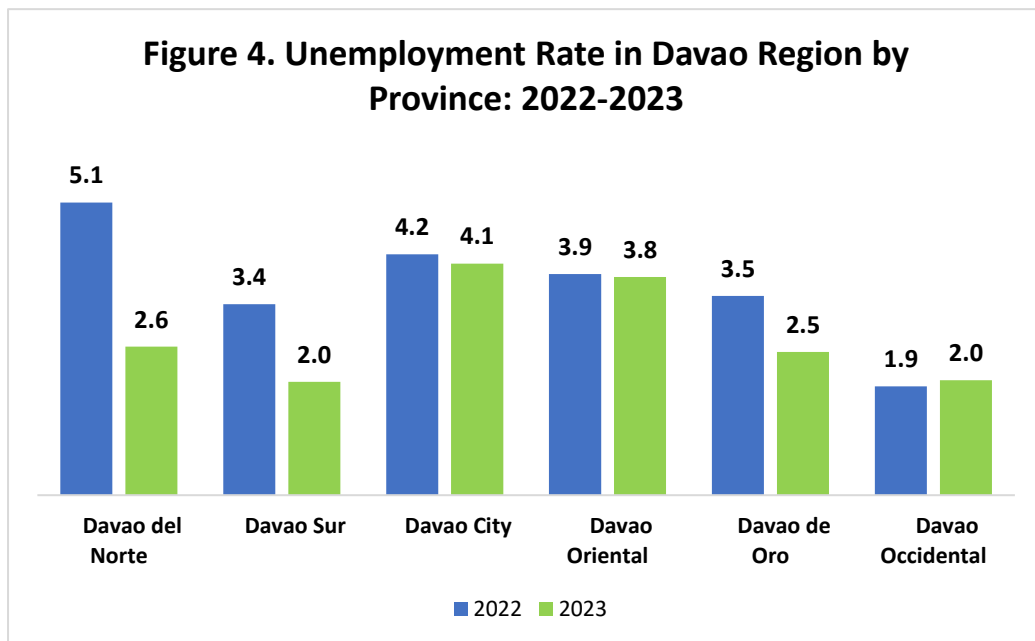
Figure 3. Underemployment Rate in Davao Region by Province: 2022-2023

Province	2022	2023
Davao del Norte	7.8	8.8
Davao Sur	9.6	6.2
Davao City	5.4	5.7
Davao Oriental	16.9	10.8
Davao de Oro	6.4	3.4
Davao Occidental	25.0	5.6

Source: Philippine Statistics Authority, 2022 and 2023, Labor Force Survey

Davao Occidental ranked fifth in terms of underemployment in the year 2023. While Davao Oriental got the highest underemployment rate at 10.8 percent followed by Davao del Norte at 8.8 percent, Davao del Sur at 6.2 percent, Davao City at 5.7 percent. On the other hand, Davao de Oro has the lowest underemployment rate at 3.4 percent.

Unemployment rate reaches 2.0 percent

Davao Occidental's unemployment rate reaches 2.0 percent in 2023, which is equivalent to more than three thousand individuals aged 15 years and over that belongs to the labor force. This is 0.1 percent higher compared to 1.9 percent in 2022. (Figure 4)

Figure 4. Unemployment Rate in Davao Region by Province: 2022-2023

Source: Philippine Statistics Authority, 2022 and 2023, Labor Force Survey

The provinces of Davao Occidental and Davao del Sur posted the lowest unemployment rate in the Davao region with 2.0 percent, closely followed by Davao de Oro, Davao del Norte and Davao Oriental recorded at 2.5 percent, 2.6 percent and 3.8 percent respectively. Meanwhile, Davao City posted the highest unemployment rate with 4.1 percent for the year 2023. (Figure 4)

STATISTICAL TABLES

Table 1. Population 15 years old and over, Total Persons in the Labor Force, and Labor Force Participation Rate: 2022 and 2023

PHILIPPINES	Population 15 years old and over						Total Persons in the Labor Force						Labor Force Participation Rate						Increment/Decrement (2023-2022)	
	Annual 2022 f			Annual 2023 p			Annual 2022 f			Annual 2023 p			Annual 2022 f			Annual 2023 p			Total Persons in the Labor Force ('000)	Labor Force Participation Rate (%)
	EST	SE	CV	EST	SE	CV	EST	SE	CV	EST	SE	CV	EST	SE	CV	EST	SE	CV		
REGION XI (DAVAO REGION)	3,711	140	3.8	3,773	143	3.8	2,325	91	3.9	2,426	95	3.9	62.6	0.5	0.8	64.3	0.4	0.6	102	1.7
Davao del Norte	734	63	8.5	740	63	8.5	465	42	9.0	453	40	8.7	63.3	1.2	1.9	61.3	0.9	1.4	-12	-2.1
Davao Sur	498	41	8.2	508	42	8.3	319	27	8.5	336	28	8.4	64.2	1.0	1.6	66.1	1.0	1.5	17	2.0
Davao City	1,304	101	7.8	1,338	103	7.7	822	66	8.0	851	68	8.0	63.0	0.9	1.4	63.6	0.8	1.2	29	0.5
Davao Oriental	406	35	8.6	410	36	8.9	253	22	8.9	274	26	9.4	62.3	1.1	1.7	67.0	1.0	1.5	21	4.6
Davao de Oro	536	45	8.5	538	50	9.2	318	27	8.6	340	32	9.5	59.3	1.1	1.9	63.1	1.0	1.7	22	3.8
Davao Occidental	234	19	8.2	239	22	9.0	147	13	8.6	172	17	9.6	62.9	1.4	2.2	71.9	1.1	1.6	25	9.0

Table 2. Total Number of Employed Persons and Employment Rate: 2022 and 2023

PHILIPPINES/ REGION/ PROVINCE	Total Number of Employed Persons						Employment Rate						Increment/Decrement (2023-2022)	
	Annual 2022 f			Annual 2023 p			Annual 2022 f			Annual 2023 p			Number of Employed Persons ('000)	Employment Rate (%)
	EST ('000)	SE ('000)	CV (%)	EST ('000)	SE ('000)	CV (%)	EST (%)	SE (%)	CV (%)	EST (%)	SE (%)	CV (%)		
REGION XI (DAVAO REGION)	2,231	87	3.9	2,351	92	3.9	96.0	0.2	0.2	96.9	0.2	0.2	119	0.9
Davao del Norte	441	40	9.0	441	39	8.7	94.9	0.5	0.5	97.4	0.5	0.4	0	2.5
Davao Sur	309	26	8.5	329	28	8.4	96.6	0.5	0.5	98.0	0.3	0.3	21	1.4
Davao City	787	63	8.0	816	65	8.0	95.8	0.3	0.3	95.9	0.5	0.5	29	0.2
Davao Oriental	243	22	8.9	264	25	9.4	96.1	0.6	0.7	96.2	0.6	0.6	21	0.1
Davao de Oro	307	26	8.6	331	32	9.6	96.5	0.5	0.5	97.5	0.3	0.3	25	1.0
Davao Occidental	144	12	8.6	169	16	9.6	98.1	0.3	0.3	98.0	0.3	0.3	24	-0.1

p - Estimates are preliminary and may change.
f - Estimates are final.
a/ - Data not available since Cotabato City is part of Region 12 (SOCCSKSARGEN).
b/ - Data not available since Cotabato City is part of BARMM.
c/ - Data not available, only Province of Maguindanao.
d/ - Data not available since Province of Maguindanao was already divided to two independent provinces, namely, Maguindanao del Norte and Maguindanao del Sur.

Source: Philippine Statistics Authority, 2022 and 2023 Labor Force Survey

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Table 3. Total Number of Unemployed Persons and Unemployment Rate: : 2022 and 2023

PHILIPPINES/ REGION/ PROVINCE	Total Number of Unemployed Persons Annual 2022f			Total Number of Unemployed Persons Annual 2023P			Unemployment Rate Annual 2022f			Unemployment Rate Annual 2023P			Increment/Decrement (2023-2022)	
	EST ('000)	SE ('000)	CV (%)	EST ('000)	SE ('000)	CV (%)	EST ('000)	SE ('000)	CV (%)	EST ('000)	SE ('000)	CV (%)	Number of Unemployed Persons ('000)	Unemployment Rate (%)
REGION XI (DAVAO REGION)	93	6	6.6	76	6	8.0	4.0	0.2	4.9	3.1	0.2	6.8	-18	-0.9
Davao del Norte	24	3	13.7	12	2	17.4	5.1	0.5	9.1	2.6	0.4	15.3	-12	-2.5
Davao Sur	11	2	16.4	7	1	14.9	3.4	0.5	14.4	2.0	0.3	13.5	-4	-1.4
Davao City	35	4	11.8	35	5	14.6	4.2	0.3	7.7	4.1	0.5	12.0	-0	-0.2
Davao Oriental	10	2	18.3	11	2	19.1	3.9	0.6	16.6	3.8	0.6	16.3	1	-0.1
Davao de Oro	11	2	17.5	9	1	14.2	3.5	0.5	15.1	2.5	0.3	13.0	-3	-1.0
Davao Occidental	3	1	19.0	3	1	17.2	1.9	0.3	17.9	2.0	0.3	14.7	1	0.1

Table 4. Total Number of Underemployed Persons and Underemployment Rate: 2022 and 2023

PHILIPPINES/ REGION/ PROVINCE	Total Number of Underemployed Persons Annual 2022f			Total Number of Underemployed Persons Annual 2023P			Underemployment Rate Annual 2022f			Underemployment Rate Annual 2023P			Increment/Decrement (2023-2022)	
	EST ('000)	SE ('000)	CV (%)	EST ('000)	SE ('000)	CV (%)	EST ('000)	SE ('000)	CV (%)	EST ('000)	SE ('000)	CV (%)	Number of Underemployed Persons ('000)	Underemployment Rate (%)
REGION XI (DAVAO REGION)	204	13	6.60	156	9	5.9	9.1	0.5	5.8	6.6	0.4	5.5	-48	-2.5
Davao del Norte	35	6	17.3	39	5	13.4	7.8	1.1	14.1	8.8	1.0	11.5	4	1.0
Davao Sur	30	4	13.8	20	3	12.7	9.6	1.1	11.3	6.2	0.7	11.2	-9	-3.4
Davao City	43	8	18.9	47	5	11.1	5.4	0.9	17.1	5.7	0.6	10.3	4	0.3
Davao Oriental	41	6	15.2	29	4	15.7	16.9	2.0	12.1	10.8	1.5	13.8	-12	-6.1
Davao de Oro	20	2	12.1	11	1	10.6	6.4	0.7	10.7	3.4	0.5	14.7	-8	-3.0
Davao Occidental	36	4	11.9	9	1	11.4	25.0	1.9	7.5	5.6	0.6	10.1	-27	-19.4

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a/ - Data not available since Cotabato City is part of Region 12 (SOCCSKSARGEN).
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d/ - Data not available since Province of Maguindanao was already divided to two independent provinces, namely, Maguindanao del Norte and Maguindanao del Sur.

Source: Philippine Statistics Authority, 2022 and 2023 Labor Force Survey

TECHNICAL NOTES

- The Labor Force Survey (LFS) is a nationwide survey conducted by the Philippine Statistics Authority (PSA) to gather data on the demographic and socio-economic characteristics of the population.

- The concepts and definitions adopted for the LFS was based on the 1982 international standards which was agreed by the 13th International Conference on Labor Statisticians Resolution (ICLS) in measuring statistics of the economically active population, employment, unemployment, and underemployment.

- The reference period used in the survey is the past seven (7) days preceding the date of visit of the enumerator.

- The 2012 Philippine Standard Occupational Classification (PSOC) was adopted starting April 2016. The 1992 PSOC had been used prior to this round. Starting January 2019, the 2017 Philippine Standard Classification of Education (PSCED) was adopted. The categories for highest grade were also revised considering the K to 12 programs in education.

- Overseas Filipino Workers are not considered part of the labor force in the Philippines. Hence, in the LFS, data on economic characteristics of household members who are overseas workers are not collected. For the LFS reports, they are excluded in the estimation of the size of working population, that is, population aged 15 years and older, and in the estimation of the labor force.

Approved for Release:

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