Sixty percent of the population aged 15 years old and over are in the labor force

In January 2020, Labor Force Participation Rate (LFPR) in Central Luzon registered at 59.6 percent. This means that 6 out of 10 in the population aged 15 years old and over were either employed or unemployed. Likewise, this translates that of the 8.4 million estimated total population aged 15 years old and over in January 2020, 5.0 million persons are in the labor force. (see Figure 1)
Employment rate was recorded at 94.0 percent

Employment rate or the proportion of employed persons to the total labor force in Central Luzon was recorded at 94.0 percent in January 2020. This placed the number of employed persons at 4.7 million (see Figure 2 and Table 1).

Six regions registered employment rates lower than the national figure of 94.7%, namely: Region I (Ilocos Region) at 91.2%, Region IV-A (CALABARZON) at 93.3%, NCR (National Capital Region) at 93.8%, Region III (Central Luzon) at 94.0%, Region VI (Western Visayas) at 94.4%, and Region V (Bicol Region) at 94.5%. (see Figure 2).

Underemployment rate was registered at 8.6 percent

Underemployed persons in Central Luzon accounted to 12.5 percent of the total employed persons in January 2020. Underemployed persons are employed persons who expressed the desire to have additional hours of work in their present job, or to have additional job, or to have a new job with longer working hours. (see Figure 3)
Unemployment rate reached 6.0 percent in Central Luzon

Unemployed persons in Central Luzon numbered to 304 thousand resulting to an unemployment rate of 6.0 percent in January 2020. Among the regions, Bicol Region (5.5%), Western Visayas (5.6%), Central Luzon (6.0%), National Capital Region (6.2%), CALABARZON (6.7%) and Ilocos Region (8.8%) recorded higher unemployment rates above the national unemployment rate of 5.3 percent (see Figure 4).
### Table 1  Key Employment Indicators, Central Luzon:

**January 2020**

*(In Thousands Excepts Rates)*

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Central Luzon</th>
<th>January 2020</th>
<th>January 2019</th>
<th>Change</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Level</td>
<td>Percent</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total Population 15 Years Old and Over (in ‘000)</td>
<td>8,439</td>
<td>8,300</td>
<td>139</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Labor Force</td>
<td>5,028</td>
<td>4,925</td>
<td>104</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Employed</td>
<td>4,725</td>
<td>4,667</td>
<td>57</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Underemployed</td>
<td>589</td>
<td>660</td>
<td>(71)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Unemployed</td>
<td>304</td>
<td>257</td>
<td>46</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Not Labor Force</td>
<td>3,411</td>
<td>3,375</td>
<td>36</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Total Population 15 years old and over

| | January 2020 | January 2019 | Change |
| | Level | Percent |        |
| Labor Force Participation Rate (%) | 59.6 | 59.3 | 94.0 | 94.8 |
| Employment Rate (%) | 12.5 | 14.1 | 6.0 | 5.2 |

Note: Details may not add up to totals due to rounding.

p - Preliminary

Source: Philippine Statistics Authority

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EDGARDO G. PARE
Regional Director
**TECHNICAL NOTES**

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

The reference period for this survey is the “past week” referring to the past seven (7) days preceding the date of visit of the enumerator or interviewer.

The concepts and definitions used in the survey can be found in PSA-ISH Bulletins. Some are given below:

**Labor force** refers to the population 15 years old and over who contribute or seek to contribute to the production of goods and services as defined in the system of National Account production boundary. It comprises the employed and unemployed.

**Employed** refers to persons in the labor force who are reported either as at work or with a job or business although not at work. Persons at work are those who did some work, even for an hour during the reference period.

**Unemployed** refers to persons in the labor force who are reported as:
1) without work;
2) currently available for work; and
3) seeking work or not seeking work due to the following reasons:
   i) belief that no work is available, or
   ii) awaiting results of previous job application, or
   iii) because of temporary illness or disability, or
   iv) bad weather, or
   v) waiting for rehire or job recall.

The new definition of unemployed was adopted starting April 2005 per NSCB Resolution No. 15 dated October 20, 2004.

The old definition of unemployed considered only two criteria:
1) Without work and looking for work; or
2) Without work and not looking for work due to reasons cited in 3(i) to 3(v).

**Underemployed** refers to employed persons who expressed the desire to have additional hours of work in their present job, or to have an additional job, or to have a new job with longer working hours.

**Labor Force Participation Rate (LFPR)** is the proportion of total labor force to the total household population 15 years and over.

**Employment Rate** is the proportion of employed persons to the total labor force.

**Unemployment Rate** is the proportion of unemployed persons to the total labor force.

**Underemployment Rate** is the proportion of underemployed persons to total employed persons.