

SPECIAL RELEASE

April 2024 Central Luzon's Employment Situation

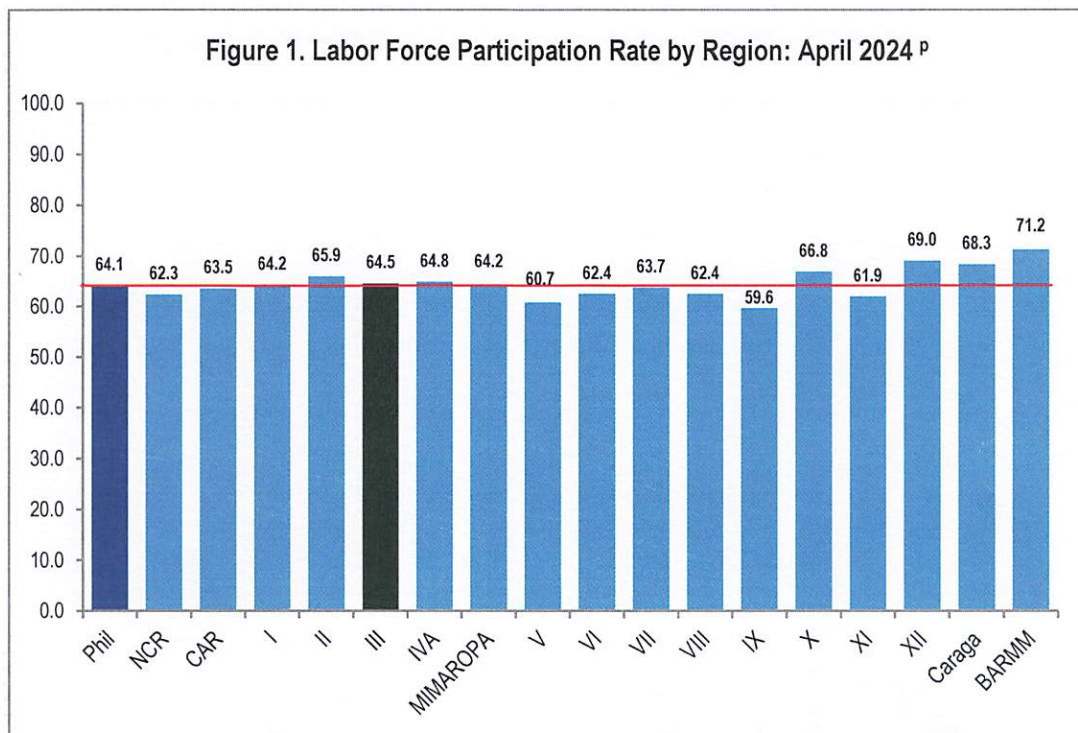
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Sixty-four in every 100 persons aged 15 years old and over are economically active in April 2024

Sixty-four in every 100 persons or an estimated 6.0 million individuals aged 15 years old and over were economically active and in the labor force in April 2024.

Nine regions, including Central Luzon, registered higher Labor Force Participation Rate (LFPR) than the national rate of 64.1 percent. Bangsamoro Autonomous Region in Muslim Mindanao (BARMM) recorded the highest LFPR at 71.2 percent followed by SOCCSKSARGEN (Region XII) at 69.0 percent. Meanwhile, Zamboanga Peninsula (Region IX) posted the lowest LFPR at 59.6 percent followed by Bicol Region (Region V) at 60.7 percent. (Figure 1)



^P Estimates are preliminary and may change.

Source: Philippine Statistics Authority, Labor Force Survey

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Central Luzon's employment rate increased to 96.7 percent

Employment rate or the proportion of employed persons to the total labor force in Central Luzon was recorded at 96.7 percent in April 2024, accounting to 5.8 million employed persons out of the 6.0 million economically active population aged 15 years old and over. This was higher by 1.0 percentage point from 95.7 percent in January 2024 and 1.4 percentage points higher from 95.3 percent in April 2023. (Table A)

Table A. Results from the April 2024 Labor Force Survey (LFS)

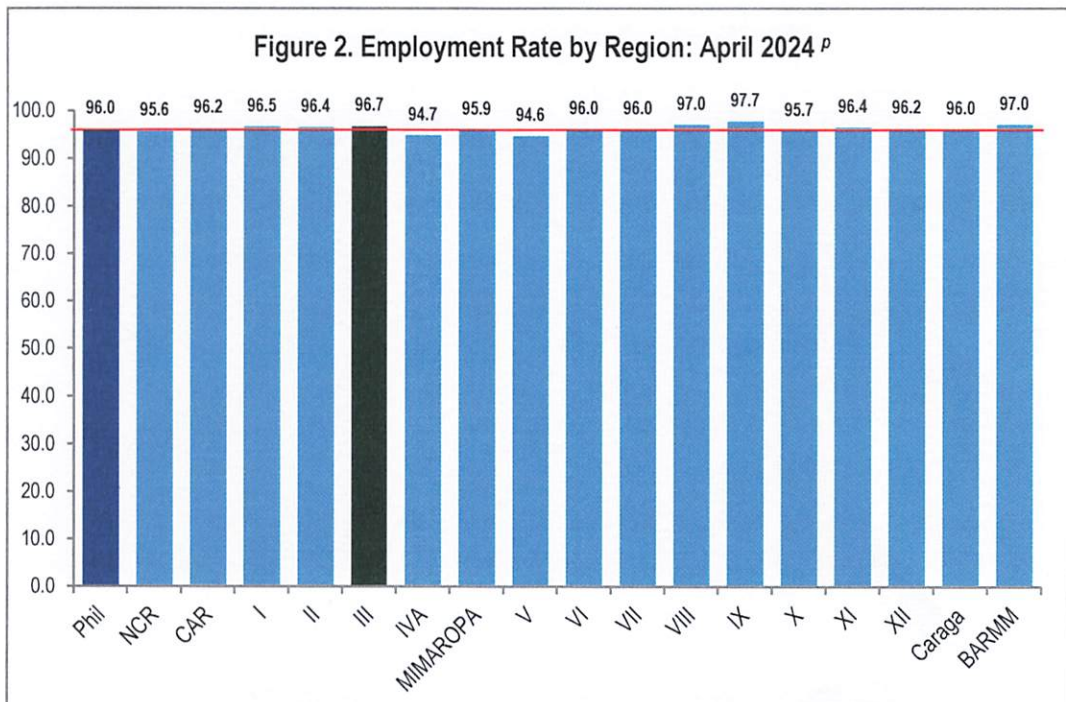
Central Luzon	Apr 2023 ^f	Jan 2024 ^p	Apr 2024 ^p
Total Population 15 Years Old and Over (in '000)	9,108	9,250	9,247
Labor Force Participation Rate (%)	64.1	59.3	64.5
Employment Rate (%)	95.3	95.7	96.7
Unemployment Rate (%)	4.7	4.3	3.3
Underemployment Rate (%)	11.6	8.7	9.2

^p Estimates are preliminary and may change.

^f Final results.

Source: Philippine Statistics Authority, Labor Force Survey

Central Luzon ranked 4th among regions with the highest employment rate in April 2024. Zamboanga Peninsula (Region IX) recorded the highest employment rate at 97.7 percent followed by BARMM and Eastern Visayas (Region VIII) both at 97.0 percent. Meanwhile, Bicol Region (Region V) recorded the lowest employment rate at 94.6 percent. (Figure 2)



^p Estimates are preliminary and may change.

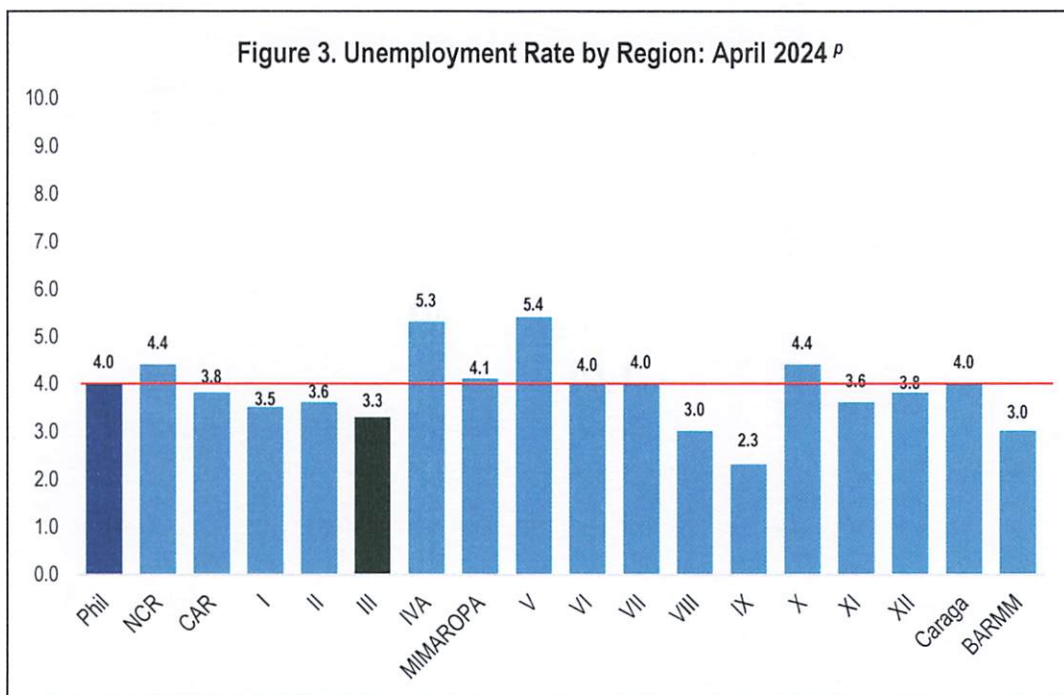
Source: Philippine Statistics Authority, Labor Force Survey

Unemployment rate in Central Luzon decreased to 3.3 percent

Central Luzon's unemployment rate decreased to 3.3 percent in April 2024, lower by 1.0 percentage point from 4.3 percent in January 2024. This translates to 198.4 thousand unemployed persons out of 6.0 million economically active population aged 15 years old and over.

Zamboanga Peninsula (Region IX) posted the lowest unemployment rate in April 2024 at 2.3 percent. Meanwhile, Bicol Region (Region V) recorded the highest unemployment rate at 5.4 percent followed by CALABARZON (Region IV-A) at 5.3 percent.

Furthermore, nine (9) regions, including Central Luzon, recorded unemployment rates lower than the national rate of 4.0 percent. (Figure 3)



^P Estimates are preliminary and may change.

Source: Philippine Statistics Authority, Labor Force Survey

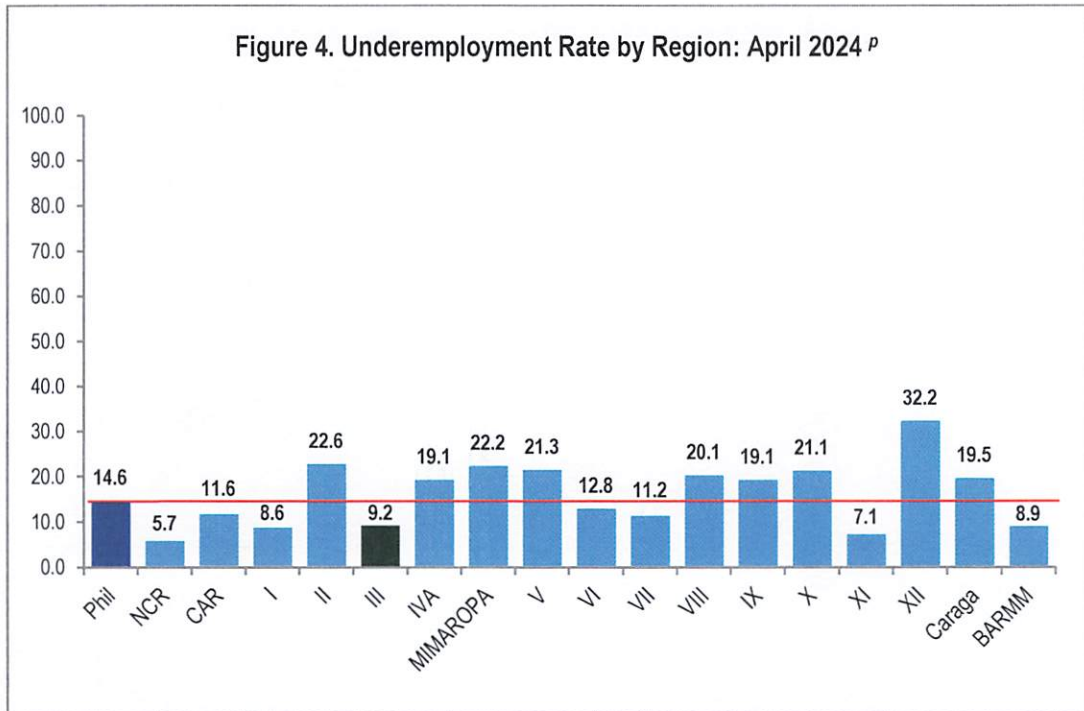
Underemployment rate increased to 9.2 percent

Underemployment rate was recorded at 9.2 percent of the total employed persons in the region in April 2024, higher by 0.5 percentage point from the 8.7 percent in January 2024. In terms of magnitude, underemployed persons were estimated at 529.0 thousand persons. Underemployed persons refer to employed persons who expressed the desire to have additional hours of work in their present job or to have additional job, or have a new job with longer working hours.

Across regions, Central Luzon ranked 5th with the lowest underemployment rate. National Capitol Region (NCR) remained to have the lowest underemployment rate at 5.7 percent followed by Davao Region (Region XI) at 7.1 percent.

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On the other hand, SOCCSKSARGEN (Region XII) also retained its rank by having the highest underemployment rate in April 2024 at 32.2 percent. This was followed by Cagayan Valley (Region II) and MIMAROPA at 22.6 percent and 22.2 percent, respectively. (Figure 4)



^P Estimates are preliminary and may change.
 Source: Philippine Statistics Authority, Labor Force Survey


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TECHNICAL NOTES

The Labor Force Survey (LFS) is a nationwide monthly 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 "past week" or the past seven (7) days preceding the date of visit of the enumerator or field 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) tired/believed 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 express the desire to have additional hours of work in their present job or an additional job, or 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.