



SPECIAL RELEASE

Highlights of the 2020 Labor Market Statistics for Northern Mindanao

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Total Labor Force in 2020 Contracts by 1.3 Percent

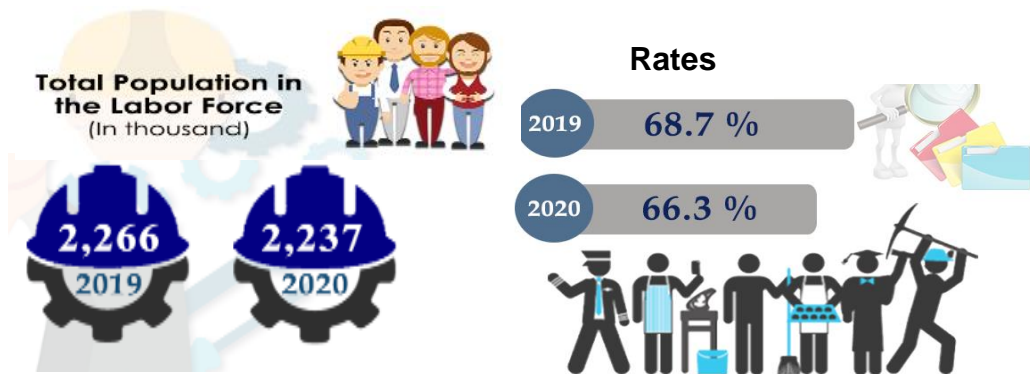
Out of the 3.372 million total population 15 years old and over in Region X in 2020, a total of 2.237 million persons were in the labor force. This translates to a 1.3 percent decrease or a reduction of 29,298 persons from 2.266 million persons in the labor force a year ago. Labor force represents the economically active population, either employed or unemployed.

Figure 1: Total Population 15 Years Old and Over, Region X: 2019 and 2020
(In thousands)



The labor force participation rate in the region decreased by 2.3 percentage points from 68.68 percent in 2019 to 66.34 percent in 2020.

Figure 2: Total Population in the Labor Force and Labor Force Participation Rate, Region X: 2019 and 2020

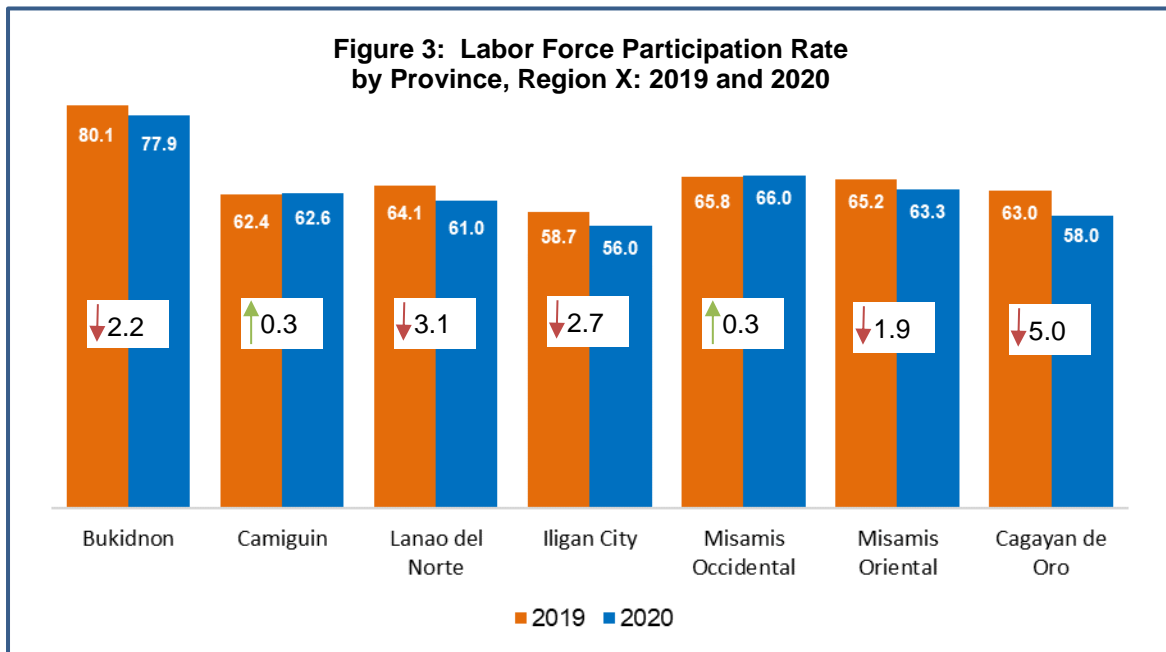


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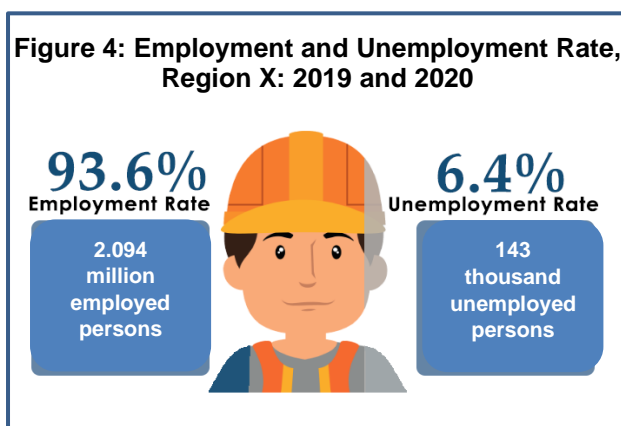


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Among the five provinces and two highly urbanized cities in Region X, the province of Bukidnon registered the highest labor force participation rate in 2020 at 77.9 percent, higher than the regional average. This means that 8 in every 10 of the population aged 15 years old and over in Bukidnon were either employed or unemployed.

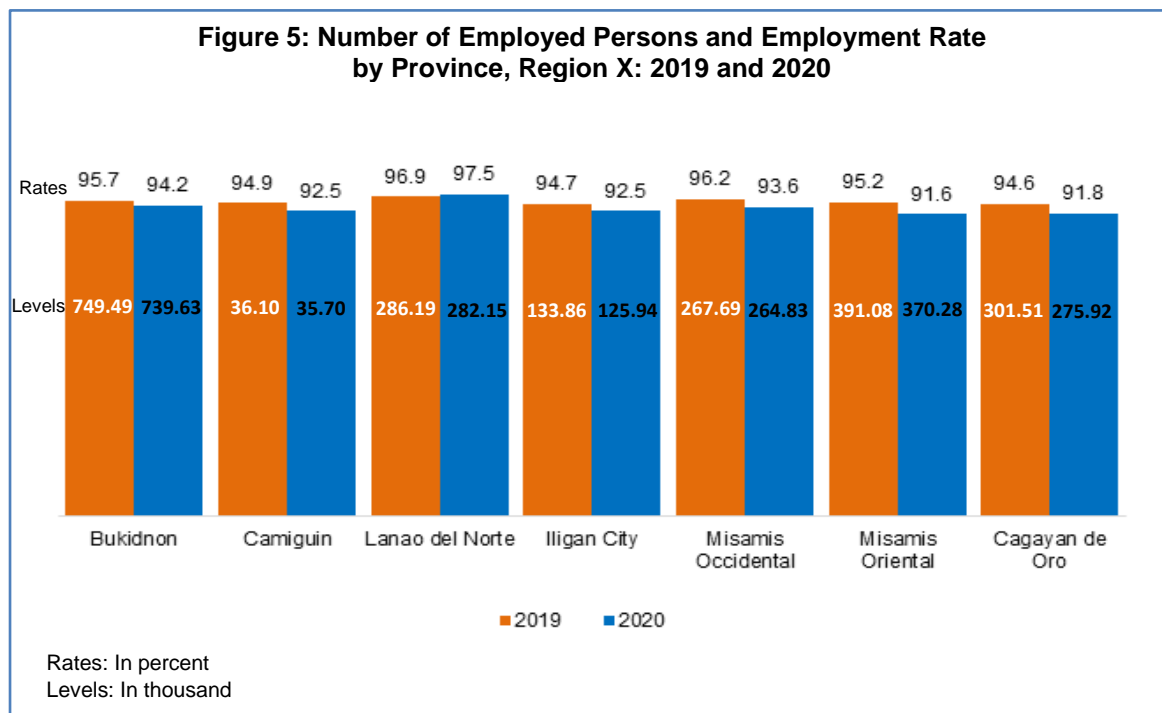


Employment Rate Decreases to 93.6 Percent



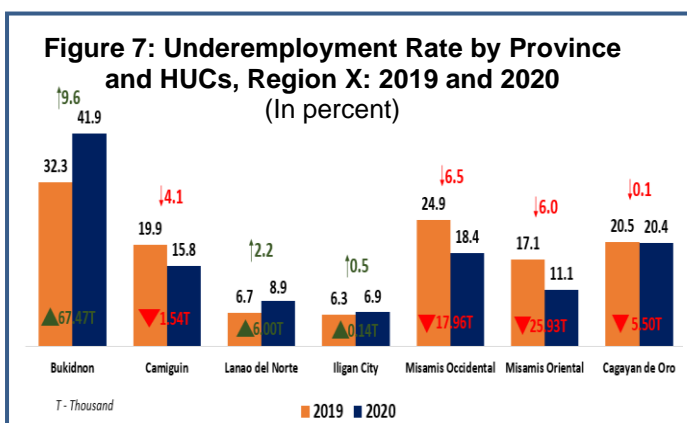
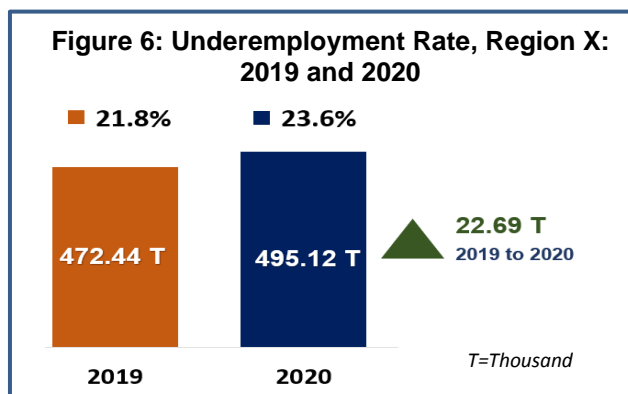
Out of the total population in the labor force in 2020, 93.6 percent or about 2.094 million were employed. This is lower by about 2.0 percentage points or a reduction of 71,848 persons from the recorded employed persons in 2019. On the other hand, 6.4 percent or 142,923 persons were unemployed in the region.

Out of five provinces and two highly urbanized cities in the region, Lanao del Norte had the highest employment rate of 97.5 percent, equivalent to 282,146 employed persons. On the other hand, the province of Misamis Oriental registered the lowest employment rate of 91.6 percent. (Figure 5)



Underemployment Rate Increases to 23.6 percent

There were about 495 thousand (23.6%) underemployed persons or 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 in Region X. (Figure 6)



Underemployment rate was highest in the province of Bukidnon at 41.9 percent, while lowest in Iligan City at 6.9 percent. (Figure 7)

TECHNICAL NOTES OF THE LABOR FORCE SURVEY

Background

The stability and growth of a country's economy hinges on its ability to produce goods and services for both domestic and international use. Labor represents an important factor of production, hence, the improvement of the quality of the labor force and efforts to make it more productive and responsive to growth are necessary for the development of the economy. A clear knowledge and understanding of the size, composition and other characteristics of the segment of the population is a big step in this direction. A continuing supply of the data on labor force is indispensable to national and local development planning.

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.

Concepts and Definitions

Employment Status Concepts

- **Population 15 Years Old and Over**

This refers to number of population 15 years old and over excluding overseas workers. Overseas workers are excluded in the estimation of the size of working population (population aged 15 years and over) since the data on their economic characteristics are not collected because they are not considered part of the labor force in the country.

- **In the Labor Force or Economically Active Population**

This refers to persons 15 years old and over who are either employed or unemployed in accordance with the definitions described as follows.

Employed

Employed persons include all those who, during the reference period are 15 years old and over as of their last birthday and are reported either:

- **At work.** Those who do any work even for one hour during the reference period for pay or profit, or work without pay on the farm or business enterprise operated by a member of the same household related by blood, marriage or adoption; or
- **With a job but not at work.** Those who have a job or business but are not at work because of temporary illness or injury, vacation or other reasons. Likewise, persons who expect to report for work or to start operation of a farm or business enterprise within two weeks from the date of the enumerator's visit are considered employed.


Underemployed

Underemployed persons include all employed persons who express the desire to have additional hours of work in their present job, or an additional job, or to have a new job with longer working hours. Visibly underemployed persons are those who work for less than 40 hours during the reference period and want additional hours of work.

Unemployed

Unemployed persons include all those who, during the reference period, are 15 years old and over as of their last birthday and reported as:

- Without work, i.e., had no job or business during the reference period; and
- Currently available for work, i.e., were available and willing to take up work in paid employment or self-employment during the reference period, and/or would be available and willing to take up work in paid employment or self-employment within two weeks after the interview date; and
- Seeking work, i.e., had taken specific steps to look for a job or establish a business during the reference period, or not seeking work due to the following reasons: (1) tired or believed no work available, i.e., discouraged workers; (2) awaiting results of previous job application; (3) temporary illness or disability; (4) bad weather; and/or (5) waiting for rehire or job recall.


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