In 2017, the tourism industries contributed 12.2 percent to the economy (Figure 1). It is measured by the share of Tourism Direct Gross Value Added (TDGVA) to the Gross Domestic Product (GDP). The TDGVA amounted to PhP 1,929.3 billion at current prices in 2017. This is higher by 24.2 percent than the previous year’s record of PhP 1,553.7 billion. The TDGVA is estimated using the benchmark 2012 Input-Output (I-O) table. The latest results of the Philippine Tourism Satellite Accounts (PTSA) provide information on tourism expenditure and employment. Other key results from PTSA were:

- Inbound tourism expenditure, which refers to the expenditure of non-resident visitors (foreign visitors and Filipinos permanently residing abroad) within the Philippines, grew by 43.9 percent in 2017, amounting to PhP 448.6 billion from PhP 311.7 billion in 2016. Compared to the country’s total exports, the share of inbound tourism expenditure was 9.2 percent. Inbound tourism ranked third among the biggest export items in 2017, after semiconductors at 21.9 percent and miscellaneous services at 15.7 percent.

- Domestic tourism expenditure, which includes expenditure of resident visitors within the country either as domestic trip or part of an international trip, grew by 25.5 percent, from PhP 2,108.2 billion in 2016 to PhP 2,644.8 billion in 2017. Domestic tourism expenditure represents 22.8 percent of the household final consumption expenditure (HFCE) in 2017.

- Employment in tourism characteristic industries was estimated at 5.3 million in 2017, higher by 0.9 percent compared to 5.2 million in the previous year. Share of employment in tourism industries to total employment in the country was recorded at 13.1 percent in 2017.
The PTSA is compiled by the Philippine Statistics Authority (PSA) based on the international recommendations for tourism statistics and tourism satellite accounts of the United Nations World Tourism Organization. The PTSA tables are available at https://psa.gov.ph/tourism-satellite-accounts-press-releases

LISA GRACE S. BERSALES, Ph.D.
Undersecretary
National Statistician and Civil Registrar General