



## SPECIAL RELEASE

### Registered Live Births in the Philippines, 2019

Date of Release: 27 January 2021

Reference No. 2021-032

*Data on births presented in this release were obtained from the Certificates of Live Birth (Municipal Form No. 102) that were registered at the Office of the City/Municipal Civil Registrars all throughout the country and forwarded to the Philippine Statistics Authority. Information presented include registered births which occurred from January to December 2019. Cumulative figures for 2019 reflect updated data received from previous months and may differ from preliminary counts previously published. Births of Filipinos that occurred abroad which were reported to the Philippine Foreign Service Posts are presented in a separate report.*

#### **Sixteen births per thousand population**

In 2019, a total of 1,673,923 live births were registered, which is equivalent to a crude birth rate (CBR) of 15.6 or 16 births per thousand population.<sup>1</sup>

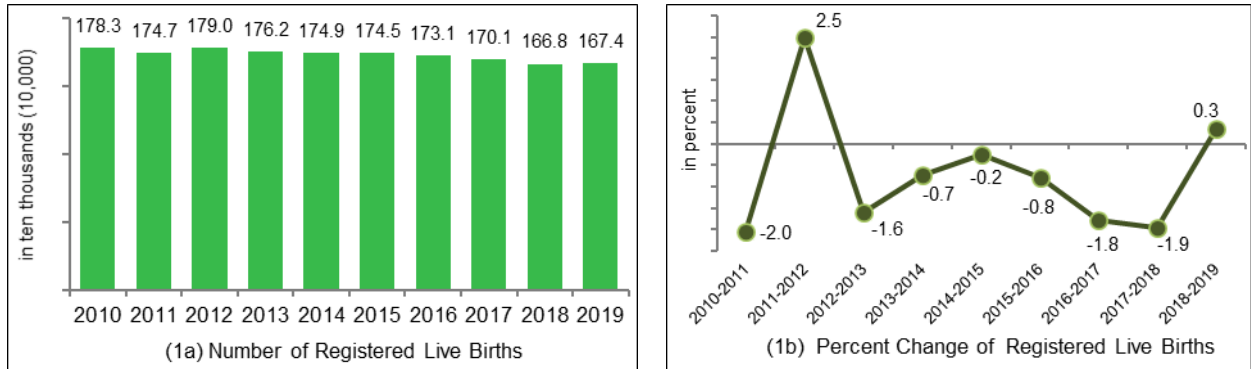
The number of registered live births showed a generally decreasing trend, noticeably from 2013 to 2018. A decrease of 6.5 percent in the registered live births was noted in the past seven years, from 1,790,367 in 2012 to 1,673,923 in 2019. (Figure 1 and Table 1)

On the average, about 4,586 babies were born daily. This is equivalent to about 191 babies born per hour or approximately three (3) babies born per minute.

*COE*

<sup>1</sup>Population estimate used was taken from the updated population projections based on the 2015 census available at [www.psa.gov.ph/statistics/census/projected-population](http://www.psa.gov.ph/statistics/census/projected-population)

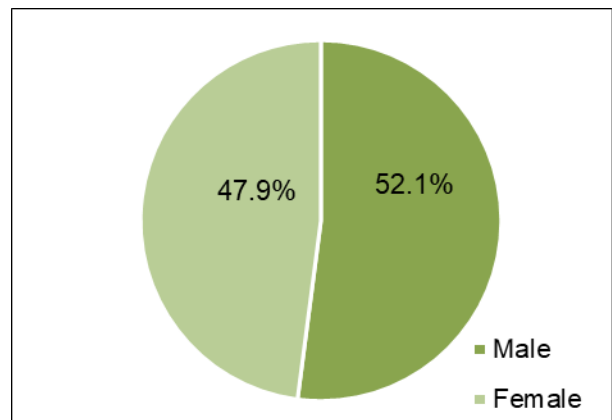
Figure 1. Number and Percent Change of Registered Live Births in the Philippines: 2010-2019



**More males born than females**

In 2019, more males (871,750 or 52.1%) were born than females (802,173 or 47.9%), resulting in a sex ratio at birth of 109 males per 100 females. (Figure 2)

Figure 2. Percent Distribution of Registered Live Births by Sex, Philippines: 2019

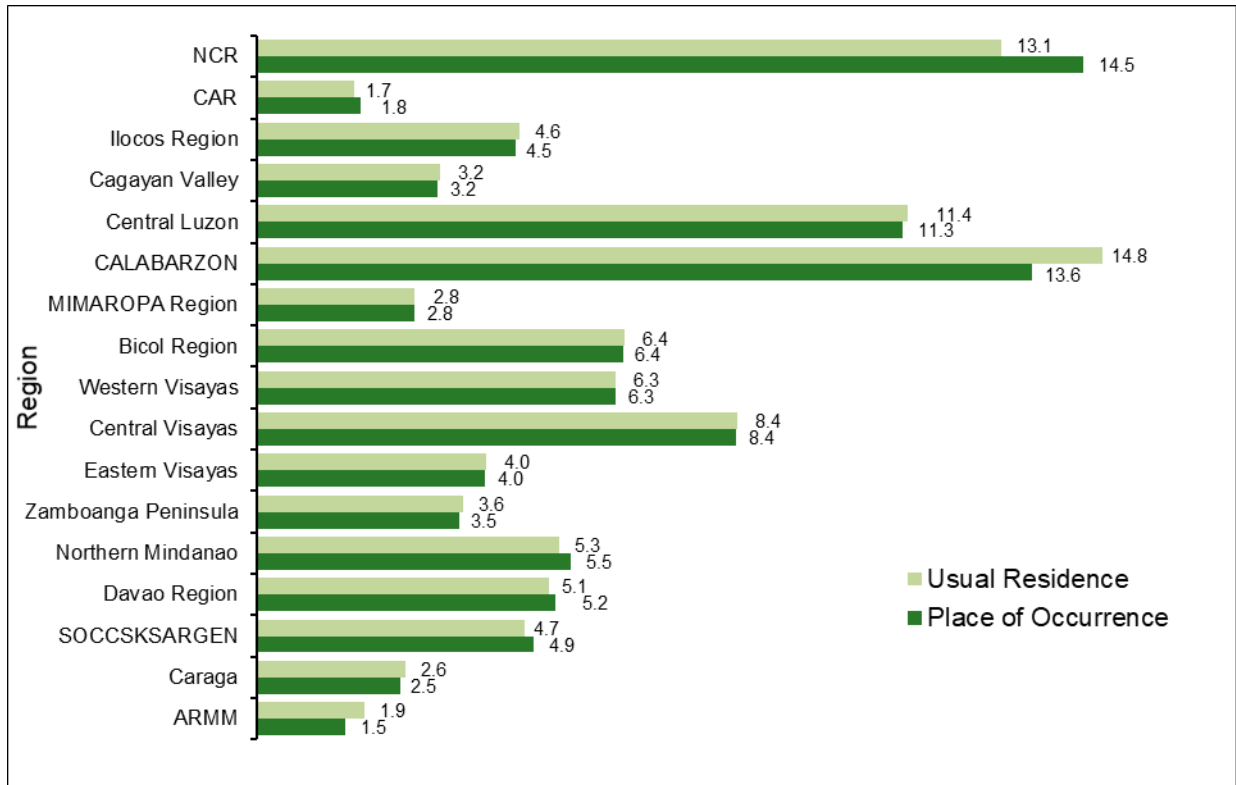


**Highest occurrence of births recorded in NCR**

Areas with relatively large population reported the highest number of live births by place of occurrence and by usual residence of mother. Of the total live births, 58.1 percent were born in Luzon, 18.7 percent in Visayas, and 23.2 percent in Mindanao. Among regions, the National Capital Region (NCR) recorded the highest number of birth occurrences with 14.5 percent share. This was followed by CALABARZON (13.6%) and Central Luzon (11.3%). The same regions recorded the highest number of live births by usual residence of mothers, collectively sharing 39.3 percent or about two in every five babies born in 2019. (Figure 3 and Table 2)

*COE*

Figure 3. Percent Distribution of Registered Live Births by Region of Place of Occurrence and by Usual Residence of Mother, Philippines: 2019



Note: Numbers may not add up to the total due to rounding.

***More babies born outside the usual residence of the mother***

Six out of the 17 regions reported more birth occurrences in the region than the number of births from its residents. This may be due to expectant mothers giving birth outside of their usual place of residence and/or non-residents giving birth in the region.

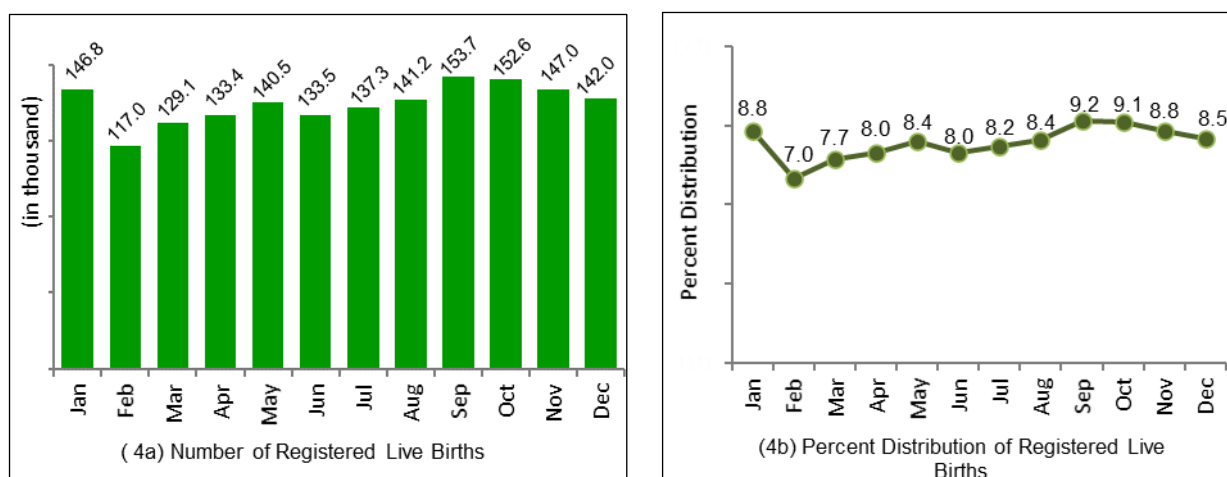
In Luzon, births that occurred in NCR exceeded births to mothers residing in the region by 24,010 births. Notably, expectant mothers from adjacent regions, such as CALABARZON and Central Luzon, gave birth in NCR where most hospitals and health care facilities were located. The Autonomous Region in Muslim Mindanao (ARMM) had the most births outside the usual residence of the mother with 5,870 births (18.5% of its total births). (Table 2)

*COE*

### Most number of births registered in September

In 2019, most registered births occurred in September at 153,710 or 9.2 percent of the total births in the country. It was followed by the months of October (9.1% share), November (8.8%), and January (8.8%). On the other hand, the month of February had the least number of births (7.0%). (Table 3 and Figure 4)

Figure 4. Number and Percent Distribution of Registered Live Births by Month of Occurrence, Philippines: 2019

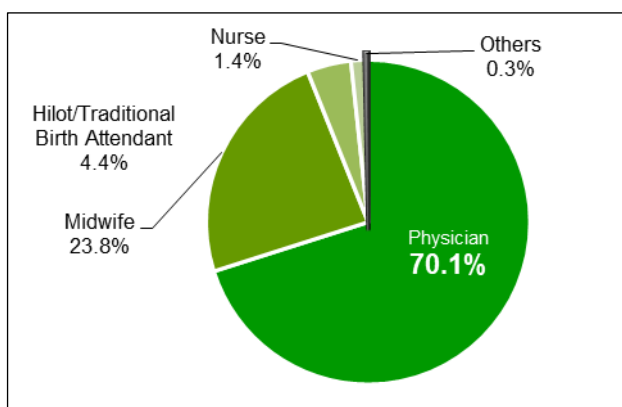


In terms of daily average, September recorded the highest with an average of 5,124 births per day, which translates to 213 births per hour. On the contrary, March had the lowest daily average number of births with 4,165, equivalent to 174 births per hour. (Table 3)

### Nine in ten birth deliveries were medically attended

Of the total number of births in the country, 95.3 percent were attended by health professionals (physician, midwife, or nurse). Majority of births were delivered by physicians (70.1%), followed by midwives (23.8%). On the other hand, 4.4 percent of births were delivered through a hilot/ traditional birth attendant. (Figure 5)

Figure 5. Percent Distribution of Registered Live Births by Attendant at Birth, Philippines: 2019



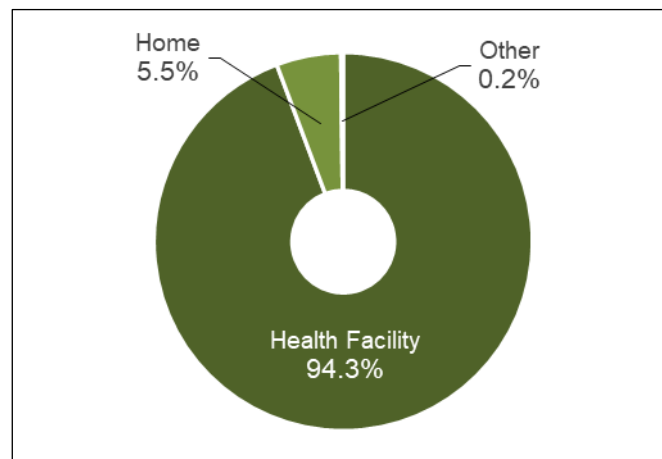
COE

The number of births by place of occurrence and by usual residence of mother showed a remarkable proportion of births attended by health professionals in 16 regions. This is indicative of improving health services in terms of maternal and child health care. Fifteen regions had medically attended births higher than 90 percent. On the other hand, only about half (53.9%) of the births that occurred in ARMM were medically attended while the rest were attended by traditional birth attendants—either hilot or unlicensed midwives, or other type of attendants. (Table 4)

### ***Nine in ten births delivered in health facilities***

In 2019, nine out of 10 births were delivered in a health facility (94.3%), which was either a hospital, birthing clinic, lying in, outpatient care center, specialized care center, and the like. Only 5.5 percent of total births were delivered at home and 0.2 percent were delivered in other locations. (Figure 6)

Figure 6. Percent distribution of Registered Live Births by Site of Delivery, Philippines: 2019



### ***About nine in ten newborn babies weighed more than 2,500 grams***

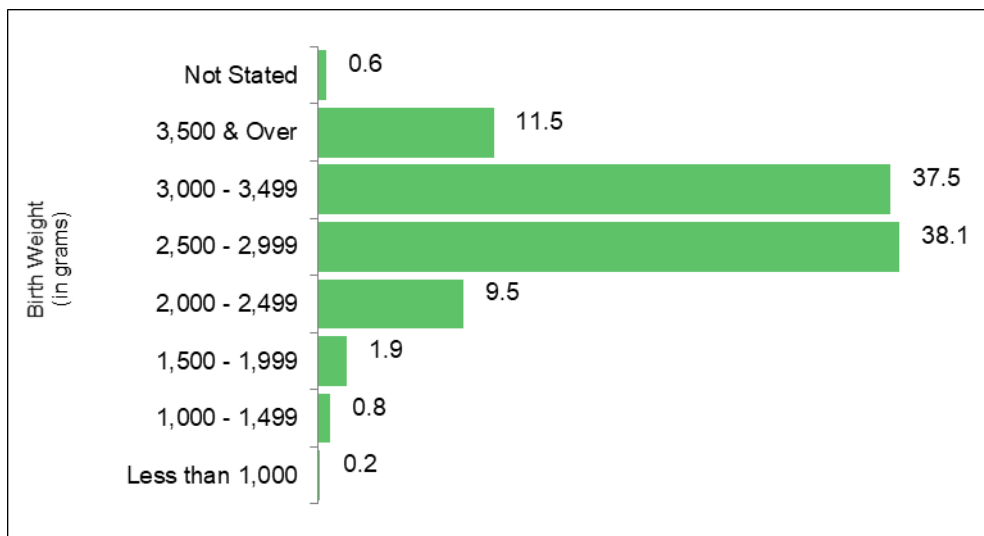
Birth weight serves as a measure of the nutritional status of newborns. Low birth weight is defined by the World Health Organization (WHO) as weight at birth less than 2,500 grams (5.5 lbs.)

Of the total number of newborn babies, 87.1 percent were above the defined low birth weight.

The median birth weight was about 3,000 grams. In other words, half of the newborn babies weighed at least 3,000 grams.

Moreover, about four in ten babies weighed between 2,500 to 2,999 grams, while 2,681 (0.2%) babies who were born weighing less than 1,000 grams. (Figure 7)

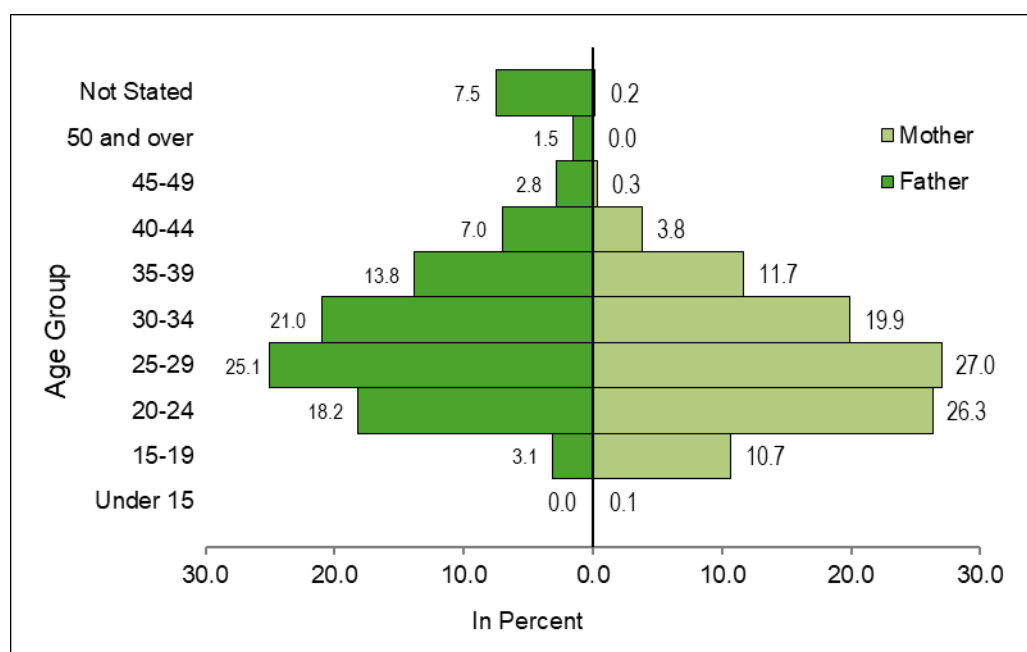
Figure 7. Percent Distribution of Registered Live Births by Birth Weight, Philippines: 2019



**Majority of babies born to mothers aged 25-29 years old**

In 2019, majority of registered births were had parents aged 25-29 (452,406 or 27.0% for mothers while 420,018 or 25.1% for fathers). However, babies born to adolescent mothers (180,916), those younger than 20 years old, were more than three times of babies sired by adolescent fathers (52,734). (Figure 8 and Table 5)

Figure 8. Percent Distribution of Registered Live Births by Age Group of Father and Mother, Philippines: 2019



*COE*

The median age of mothers was 27 years old while the median age for fathers<sup>2</sup> was 29 years old. In other words, half of the births in 2019 were to mothers and fathers who were at least 27 years old and 29 years old, respectively.

“High-risk” age of pregnancy cover the age group 17 years old and younger (3.7%), and 35 years old and over (15.8%). This is because childbearing in these age groups is more likely to have complications during pregnancy and labor that may result to higher morbidity and mortality to both mother and child.

About 10.7 percent of the births in 2019 were to mothers aged 15-19 years old, while around 16.0 percent were to mothers 35 years old and over. Moreover, the adolescent birth rate,<sup>3</sup> or the number of births to women ages 15–19 per 1,000 women in that age group, was 34 per 1,000 women in 2019. (Figure 8 and Table 5)

### ***More than half of babies born to unwed mothers***

More than half (917,242 or 54.8%) of the total registered live births in 2019 were born out of wedlock. The three regions that recorded the highest number of illegitimate children based on usual residence of the mother were CALABARZON(16.0%), NCR (15.8%), and Central Luzon (11.3%). (Figure 9 and Table 6)

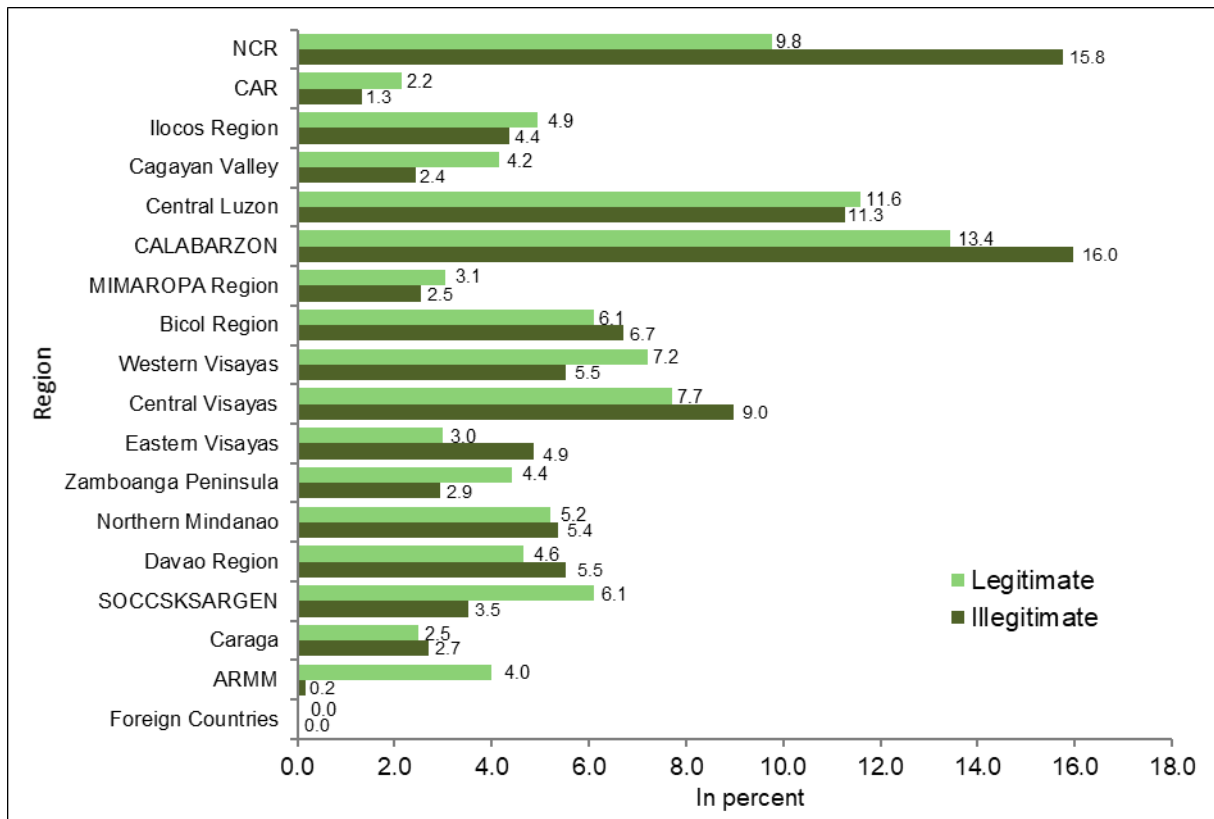
COE

---

<sup>2</sup>The median age of father excludes information from births where paternity is not acknowledged.

<sup>3</sup> Population estimate for females aged 15-19years old used in the computation was from the 2015 census-based population projections available at: <https://psa.gov.ph/statistics/census/projected-population>

Figure 9. Percent Distribution of Registered Live Births by Legitimacy Status, and by Usual Residence of Mother (Region), Philippines: 2019



Note: 0.0 -less than 0.05 percent

Moreover, 11 regions reported at least half of its registered births in 2019 as illegitimate, led by Eastern Visayas (66.4%), NCR (66.2%), and Davao Region (59.1%). On the other hand, ARMM recorded the highest proportion of legitimate births at 95.2 percent. (Table 6)

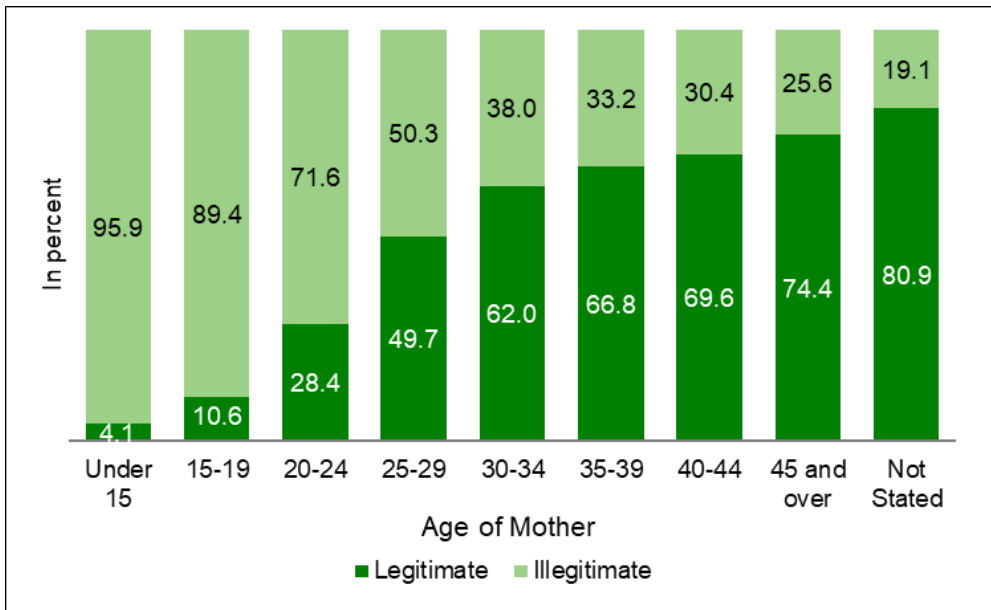
Mothers aged 20-24 years old had the highest number of illegitimate babies in 2019, contributing 315,620 or 34.4 percent of the total illegitimate births that year. This was followed by mothers aged 25-29 years old, who contributed 227,411 or 24.8 percent of the total illegitimate births in 2019.

By age group of mothers, highest proportion of illegitimate births were to adolescent mothers aged under 15. Of the total number of babies born to adolescent mothers, 95.9 percent were illegitimate. This was followed by births to adolescent mothers aged 15-19 years old and mothers aged 20-24 years old, with 89.4 percent and 71.6 percent, respectively, of births being illegitimate. On the other hand, the least proportion of illegitimate babies (25.6%) were to mothers aged 45 years old and over. (Figure 10 and Table 7)

*COE*



Figure 10. Percent Distribution of Registered Live Births by Age of Mother and Legitimacy Status, Philippines: 2019



**More than 90 percent were registered on time**

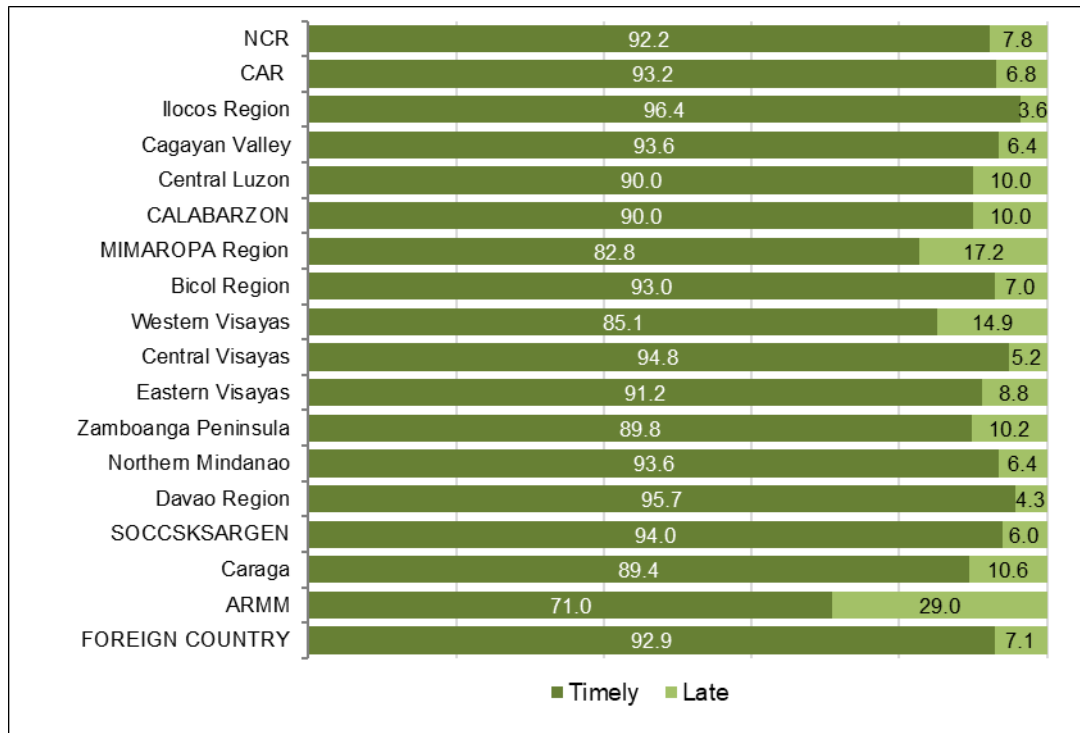
Timely registration refers to registration of the birth within 30 days of occurrence. In 2019, nine in every ten registered births were timely.

The three regions that recorded the highest share in timely registered births in 2019 based on usual residence of mother were CALABARZON (14.6% share), NCR (13.2%), and Central Luzon (11.3%). These three regions also recorded the highest number of late registered births, collectively sharing 41.2 percent of the total. (Table 8)

Twelve (12) out of 17 regions had at least 90.0 percent of its births registered within the reglementary period. Ilocos Region had the highest proportion of timely registered births with 96.4 percent of its total registered births, followed by Davao Region with 95.7 percent. On the other hand, ARMM recorded the highest proportion of late registered births at 29.0 percent, followed by MIMAROPA (17.2%). (Figure 11)

*COE*

Figure 11. Proportion of Registered Live Births by Registration Status and by Region of Usual Residence of Mother, Philippines: 2019



**DENNIS S. MAPA, Ph.D.**  
 Undersecretary  
 National Statistician and Civil Registrar General

Table 1. Number and Percent Change of Registered Live Births, Philippines: 2010-2019

	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019
Number	1,782,981	1,746,684	1,790,367	1,761,602	1,748,857	1,744,767	1,731,289	1,700,618	1,668,120	1,673,923
Percent Change		-2.0	2.5	-1.6	-0.7	-0.2	-0.8	-1.8	-1.9	0.3
Per Day	4,885	4,785	4,892	4,826	4,791	4,780	4,730	4,659	4,570	4,586
Per Hour	204	199	204	201	200	199	197	194	190	191

Source: Philippine Statistics Authority (Data on live births are those registered at the Office of the City/Municipal Registrars throughout the country and submitted to the Office of the Civil Registrar General; Certificate of Live Birth-Municipal Form No. 102)

Note: Figures are results of actual registration without any adjustment for under registration.

Leap years: 2012 and 2016

*COF*

Table 2. Number of Registered Live Births by Sex, by Place of Occurrence, and by Usual Residence of Mother (Region), Philippines: 2019

Region	Number						Percent		Difference (Place of Occurrence Less Usual Residence of the Mother)
	Place of Occurrence			Usual Residence			Place of Occurrence	Usual Residence	
	Both Sexes	Male	Female	Both Sexes	Male	Female	Both Sexes		
Philippines	1,673,923	871,750	802,173	1,673,923	871,750	802,173	100.0	100.0	-
National Capital Region (NCR)	242,500	126,509	115,991	218,490	113,875	104,615	14.5	13.1	24,010
Cordillera Administrative Region (CAR)	30,355	15,784	14,571	28,442	14,780	13,662	1.8	1.7	1,913
Region I (Ilocos Region)	76,008	40,058	35,950	77,276	40,729	36,547	4.5	4.6	-1,268
Region II (Cagayan Valley)	53,001	27,475	25,526	53,844	27,927	25,917	3.2	3.2	-843
Region III (Central Luzon)	189,443	98,593	90,850	191,021	99,403	91,618	11.3	11.4	-1,578
Region IV-A (CALABARZON)	227,584	118,335	109,249	248,125	129,135	118,990	13.6	14.8	-20,541
MIMAROPA Region	46,181	23,988	22,193	46,462	24,121	22,341	2.8	2.8	-281
Region V (Bicol)	107,423	55,934	51,489	107,802	56,160	51,642	6.4	6.4	-379
Region VI (Western Visayas)	105,505	54,916	50,589	105,225	54,790	50,435	6.3	6.3	280
Region VII (Central Visayas)	140,585	73,370	67,215	140,916	73,520	67,396	8.4	8.4	-331
Region VIII (Eastern Visayas)	66,999	34,724	32,275	67,282	34,859	32,423	4.0	4.0	-283
Region IX (Zamboanga Peninsula)	59,274	30,759	28,515	60,502	31,372	29,130	3.5	3.6	-1,228
Region X (Northern Mindanao)	92,146	48,064	44,082	88,786	46,341	42,445	5.5	5.3	3,360
Region XI (Davao)	87,770	46,001	41,769	85,905	44,959	40,946	5.2	5.1	1,865
Region XII (SOCCSKSARGEN)	81,191	42,126	39,065	78,477	40,742	37,735	4.9	4.7	2,714
Region XIII (Caraga)	42,154	21,755	20,399	43,567	22,544	21,023	2.5	2.6	-1,413
Autonomous Region in Muslim Mindanao (ARMM)	25,804	13,359	12,445	31,674	16,435	15,239	1.5	1.9	-5,870
Foreign Countries	-	-	-	127	58	69	*	*	-127

Source: Philippine Statistics Authority (Data on live births are those registered at the Office of the City/Municipal Registrars throughout the country and submitted to the Office of the Civil Registrar General; Certificate of Live Birth-Municipal Form No. 102)

Note: Figures are results of actual registration without any adjustment for under registration.

\* Percentages are less than 0.05

'-' Counts are equal to 0

*COF*

Table 3. Number, Percent Distribution, and Daily Average of Registered Live Births by Month of Occurrence, Philippines: 2019

Month of Occurrence	Number	Percent	Daily Average
Total	1,673,923	100.0	4,586
January	146,841	8.8	4,737
February	116,981	7.0	4,178
March	129,110	7.7	4,165
April	133,361	8.0	4,445
May	140,482	8.4	4,532
June	133,462	8.0	4,449
July	137,286	8.2	4,429
August	141,178	8.4	4,554
September	153,710	9.2	5,124
October	152,574	9.1	4,922
November	146,977	8.8	4,899
December	141,961	8.5	4,579

Source: Philippine Statistics Authority (Data on live births are those registered at the Office of the City/Municipal Registrars throughout the country and submitted to the Office of the Civil Registrar General; Certificate of Live Birth-Municipal Form No. 102)

Note: Figures are results of actual registration without any adjustment for under registration.

*COF*

Table 4. Number and Percent Distribution of Registered Live Births by Attendant at Birth and by Region of Place of Occurrence and Usual Residence of Mother, Philippines: 2019

Region	Number of Registered Live Births		Health Professionals		Hilot/Traditional Birth Attendant		Others	
	Place of Occurrence	Usual Residence	Place of Occurrence	Usual Residence	Place of Occurrence	Usual Residence	Place of Occurrence	Usual Residence
Philippines	1,673,923	1,673,923	95.3	95.3	4.4	4.4	0.3	0.3
NCR	242,500	218,490	98.1	98.0	1.8	1.9	0.1	0.1
CAR	30,355	28,442	97.4	97.2	0.6	0.7	1.9	2.0
Ilocos Region	76,008	77,276	99.0	99.0	0.9	0.9	0.1	0.1
Cagayan Valley	53,001	53,844	97.4	97.5	2.0	2.0	0.5	0.5
Central Luzon	189,443	191,021	98.1	98.1	1.9	1.9	*	*
CALABARZON	227,584	248,125	96.1	96.4	3.7	3.4	0.2	0.2
MIMAROPA Region	46,181	46,462	89.2	89.2	9.7	9.6	1.1	1.1
Bicol Region	107,423	107,802	95.2	95.3	4.6	4.6	0.1	0.1
Western Visayas	105,505	105,225	95.4	95.3	4.3	4.3	0.4	0.4
Central Visayas	140,585	140,916	96.3	96.4	3.1	3.1	0.6	0.6
Eastern Visayas	66,999	67,282	96.5	96.5	3.2	3.2	0.3	0.3
Zamboanga Peninsula	59,274	60,502	90.6	90.8	8.9	8.7	0.4	0.4
Northern Mindanao	92,146	88,786	93.5	93.3	6.3	6.5	0.2	0.2
Davao Region	87,770	85,905	97.2	97.1	2.5	2.5	0.3	0.3
SOCCSKSARGEN	81,191	78,477	90.2	89.8	9.7	10.0	0.1	0.2
Caraga	42,154	43,567	95.3	95.4	4.6	4.4	0.1	0.1
ARMM	25,804	31,674	53.9	62.5	46.0	37.4	0.2	0.1
Foreign Country	-	127	-	97.6	-	2.4	-	-

Source: Philippine Statistics Authority (Data on live births are those registered at the Office of the City/Municipal Registrars throughout the country and submitted to the Office of the Civil Registrar General; Certificate of Live Birth-Municipal Form No. 102)

Note: Figures are results of actual registration without any adjustment for under registration.

\* Percentages are less than 0.05

*COF*

Table 5. Number and Percent Distribution of Registered Live Births by Age Group of Father and Mother, Philippines: 2019

Age Group	Number		Percent	
	Father	Mother	Father	Mother
Total	1,673,923	1,673,923	100.0	100.0
Under 15	65	2,411	*	0.1
15-19	52,669	178,505	3.1	10.7
20-24	304,479	440,503	18.2	26.3
25-29	420,018	452,406	25.1	27.0
30-34	350,688	332,658	21.0	19.9
35-39	230,813	195,179	13.8	11.7
40-44	116,660	63,286	7.0	3.8
45-49	46,731	5,611	2.8	0.3
50 and over	25,815	169	1.5	*
Not Stated	125,985	3,195	7.5	0.2

Source: Philippine Statistics Authority (Data on live births are those registered at the Office of the City/Municipal Registrars throughout the country and submitted to the Office of the Civil Registrar General; Certificate of Live Birth-Municipal Form No. 102)

Note: Figures are results of actual registration without any adjustment for under registration.

\* Percentage is less than 0.05

*COF*

Table 6. Number and Percent Distribution of Registered Live Births by Legitimacy Status, and by Region of Usual Residence of Mother, Philippines: 2019

Usual Residence of Mother	Total	Legitimate			Illegitimate		
		Number	% Share (Region)	% Share (Total Legitimate)	Number	% Share (Region)	% Share (Total Illegitimate)
Philippines	1,673,923	756,681	45.2		917,242	54.8	
NCR	218,490	73,843	33.8	9.8	144,647	66.2	15.8
CAR	28,442	16,279	57.2	2.2	12,163	42.8	1.3
Ilocos Region	77,276	37,355	48.3	4.9	39,921	51.7	4.4
Cagayan Valley	53,844	31,488	58.5	4.2	22,356	41.5	2.4
Central Luzon	191,021	87,680	45.9	11.6	103,341	54.1	11.3
CALABARZON	248,125	101,730	41.0	13.4	146,395	59.0	16.0
MIMAROPA Region	46,462	23,099	49.7	3.1	23,363	50.3	2.5
Bicol Region	107,802	46,261	42.9	6.1	61,541	57.1	6.7
Western Visayas	105,225	54,618	51.9	7.2	50,607	48.1	5.5
Central Visayas	140,916	58,467	41.5	7.7	82,449	58.5	9.0
Eastern Visayas	67,282	22,595	33.6	3.0	44,687	66.4	4.9
Zamboanga Peninsula	60,502	33,452	55.3	4.4	27,050	44.7	2.9
Northern Mindanao	88,786	39,491	44.5	5.2	49,295	55.5	5.4
Davao Region	85,905	35,159	40.9	4.6	50,746	59.1	5.5
SOCCSKSARGEN	78,477	46,144	58.8	6.1	32,333	41.2	3.5
Caraga	43,567	18,759	43.1	2.5	24,808	56.9	2.7
ARMM	31,674	30,164	95.2	4.0	1,510	4.8	0.2
Foreign Country	127	97	76.4	*	30	23.6	*

Source: Philippine Statistics Authority (Data on live births are those registered at the Office of the City/Municipal Registrars throughout the country and submitted to the Office of the Civil Registrar General; Certificate of Live Birth-Municipal Form No. 102)

Note: Figures are results of actual registration without any adjustment for under registration.

Includes babies born to mother whose usual residence is a foreign country

\* Less than 0.05 percent

*COF*



Table 7. Number and Percent Distribution of Registered Live Births by Age of Mother and by Legitimacy Status, Philippines: 2019

Age of Mother	Total	Legitimate		Illegitimate	
		Number	Percent	Number	Percent
Total	1,673,923	756,681	45.2	917,242	54.8
Under 15	2,411	100	4.1	2,311	95.9
15-19	178,505	18,992	10.6	159,513	89.4
20-24	440,503	124,883	28.4	315,620	71.6
25-29	452,406	224,995	49.7	227,411	50.3
30-34	332,658	206,347	62.0	126,311	38.0
35-39	195,179	130,463	66.8	64,716	33.2
40-44	63,286	44,017	69.6	19,269	30.4
45-49	5,611	4,158	74.1	1,453	25.9
50 and over	169	140	82.8	29	17.2
Not Stated	3,195	2,586	80.9	609	19.1

Source: Philippine Statistics Authority (Data on live births are those registered at the Office of the City/Municipal Registrars throughout the country and submitted to the Office of the Civil Registrar General; Certificate of Live Birth-Municipal Form No. 102)

Note: Figures are results of actual registration without any adjustment for under registration.

*COF*

Table 8. Number and Percent Distribution of Registered Live Births by Registration Status, and by Region of Usual Residence of Mother, Philippines: 2019

Usual Residence of Mother	Total		Timely Registration		Late Registration	
	Number	Percent	Number	% Share	Number	%Share
PHILIPPINES	1,673,923	100.0	1,526,398	100.0	147,525	100.0
NCR	218,490	13.1	201,406	13.2	17,084	11.6
CAR	28,442	1.7	26,509	1.7	1,933	1.3
Ilocos Region	77,276	4.6	74,460	4.9	2,816	1.9
Cagayan Valley	53,844	3.2	50,376	3.3	3,468	2.4
Central Luzon	191,021	11.4	171,984	11.3	19,037	12.9
CALABARZON	248,125	14.8	223,415	14.6	24,710	16.7
MIMAROPA Region	46,462	2.8	38,466	2.5	7,996	5.4
Bicol Region	107,802	6.4	100,288	6.6	7,514	5.1
Western Visayas	105,225	6.3	89,581	5.9	15,644	10.6
Central Visayas	140,916	8.4	133,599	8.8	7,317	5.0
Eastern Visayas	67,282	4.0	61,351	4.0	5,931	4.0
Zamboanga Peninsula	60,502	3.6	54,358	3.6	6,144	4.2
Northern Mindanao	88,786	5.3	83,063	5.4	5,723	3.9
Davao Region	85,905	5.1	82,232	5.4	3,673	2.5
SOCCSKSARGEN	78,477	4.7	73,748	4.8	4,729	3.2
Caraga	43,567	2.6	38,957	2.6	4,610	3.1
ARMM	31,674	1.9	22,487	1.5	9,187	6.2
FOREIGN COUNTRY	127	0.0	118	0.0	9	0.0

Source: Philippine Statistics Authority (Data on live births are those registered at the Office of the City/Municipal Registrars throughout the country and submitted to the Office of the Civil Registrar General; Certificate of Live Birth-Municipal Form No. 102)

Note: Figures are results of actual registration without any adjustment for under registration.

Includes babies born to mother whose usual residence is a foreign country

\* Percentage is less than 0.05

*COF*