



REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES
PHILIPPINE STATISTICS AUTHORITY

PSA Pre-release Access Policy for Selected Official Statistics

I. Rationale

The Philippine Statistics Authority (PSA) adheres to the United Nations Fundamental Principles of Official Statistics (UNFPOS) - Principle 1: Impartiality which states that:

Official statistics provide an indispensable element in the information system of a democratic society, serving the Government, the economy and the public with data about the economic, demographic, social and environmental situation. To this end, official statistics that meet the test of practical utility are to be compiled and made available on an impartial basis by official statistical agencies to honour citizens' entitlement to public information.

- *All users have equal access to statistical releases at the same time. There is no privileged access for governmental representatives. Any privilege pre-release access to any outside user is limited, controlled and publicized.*
- *If leaks of statistical information occur, pre-release arrangements are revised so as to ensure impartiality. To that purpose, specific procedures are put in place and publicized.*

Further to this, the National Quality Assurance Framework (NQAF) as prescribed by the United Nations Statistics Division (UNSD) notes that:

NQAF 5 – Ensuring impartiality and objectivity

5.5 Information is made available to all users at the same time

In addition, it is stipulated in the ASEAN Statistics Code of Practice Key Principle 2: Professionalism and Integrity that:

2.1.4 Government agencies in the ASEAN Member States (AMS) have access to the AMS' official statistics prior to their release.

Given these, the PSA deems it necessary to issue the PSA Pre-release Access Policy for its selected official statistics.

II. Conditions for Pre-release Access

The PSA has the discretion to grant special pre-release access to persons or agencies subject to the following conditions:

- figures and other contents of the pre-release documents must not be revealed, hinted at, or speculated about its trend or direction;
- knowledge on advance information must not be used for personal gain or political advantage apart from the preparation of responses or actions that is the reason for granting such access in the first place;
- press release and its figures and other contents must not be altered or attempt to be altered or advance the timing of release or change the way are presented;
- advance information must not be passed or attempt to be passed to other parties; and

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- the pre-access period must not be violated as stipulated in the embargo time which is prior to press release or publication.

The PSA grants pre-release access only to the National Economic and Development Authority (NEDA) as its mother agency and Bangko Sentral ng Pilipinas (BSP).

III. Purpose for Granting Pre-release Access to NEDA and BSP

The NEDA and BSP are granted pre-release access to selected official statistics in order to prepare for its statement on the condition of Philippine economy and social development in time for the PSA's publication of the statistical release in a press conference or through its website.

IV. Scope of Pre-release Access

The table below shows government agencies granted with pre-release access to selected PSA official statistics:

NEDA	BSP
1. National and Regional Accounts of the Philippines	1. Consumer Price Index (CPI)/Inflation
2. Consumer Price Index (CPI)/Inflation	
3. Results of the Labor Force Survey (LFS)	
4. Foreign trade statistics	
5. Poverty statistics	
6. Value and volume of production index	
7. Producer Price Index (PPI)	

V. Mode of Pre-release Access

The NEDA and BSP shall be given pre-release access to the above-mentioned statistics in hard and electronic copies (PDF and MS Excel) in the forms of PSA press release (signed by the National Statistician or her designated Officer-in-Charge) and its accompanying tables.

Lisa Grace S. Bersales

Lisa Grace S. Bersales, Ph.D.

Undersecretary

National Statistician and Civil Registrar General

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