

HIGHLIGHTS OF THE OCTOBER 2014 LABOR FORCE SURVEY

Net employment gain exceeded

Overview

Employment level in October 2014 grew by 2.8% year-on-year representing an increase of more than a million employed persons. This marked the third straight survey round this year that net employment breached one million. The expansion came on the back of the robust growth in industry (5.1%) and the continued growth in services (3.3%) that more compensated for the slowdown in agriculture (0.6%). Moreover, October unemployment rate fell to 6.0%, its lowest since April 2005, from 6.4% a year ago.

The quality of employment was mixed but largely positive: full-time employment rebounded (4.3%) after four consecutive survey rounds of decline since October 2013 while wage and salary employment continued its upward trend (3.5%). The mean hours of work a week improved marginally (+0.2) while the proportion of persons in vulnerable employment (self-employed and unpaid family workers) to total employment was unchanged at 39.0%. On the downside, underemployment rate was up slightly from last year (+0.7 percentage point).

It should be noted that Leyte province was again excluded in the October 2014 round of the Labor Force Survey (LFS). It was excluded in the October 2013 data for comparability.

Labor force continued to grow in October 2014

The Philippine labor force stood at 41.3 million as of October 2014. Compared with a year ago level, the labor force grew by 2.3% or an additional 925,000 persons in the active workforce. Labor force participation rate (LFPR) this period was up slightly to 64.3% from 63.9% a year ago.

The LFS indicates modest increases in the participation rates (ranging from 0.3 to 0.8 percentage point) for both sexes and across age groups except the youth aged 15-24 years which posted a small decline (-0.1 percentage point).

Indicator	Oct. 2014 ^p	Oct. 2013	Year-on-Year Change
Household population 15 years old and over	64,263	63,191	1,073
Labor force	41,322	40,397	925
– Employed persons	38,839	37,793	1,046
– Unemployed persons	2,483	2,603	(121)
Underemployed persons	7,279	6,789	489
– Visibly underemployed	4,250	4,337	(87)
Not in the labor force	22,941	22,794	147
Labor force participation rate (%)	64.3	63.9	
Unemployment rate (%)	6.0	6.4	
Underemployment rate (%)	18.7	18.0	
– Visible under-employment rate (%)	10.9	11.5	
Mean hours of work	41.2	41.0	

^p Preliminary.

Note: Figures in this table exclude those for Leyte province.

Source of data: Philippine Statistics Authority, Labor Force Survey.

one million

For the same period, employment level increased by 2.8% year-on-year increasing from 37.8 million to 38.8 million. The latest figure translates to a net gain or employment generation of 1.0 million. This is the third consecutive survey rounds in 2014 that year-on-year increment exceeded the one million mark.

- Compared with last year, employment grew the fastest in the industry sector at 5.1% (+294,000), largely on the back of the robust expansion in construction (12.6% or 285,000). Little change occurred in manufacturing (+24,000) and mining and quarrying (+3,000) while small losses were reported in electricity, gas, steam, and air conditioning supply (-16,000); and water supply, sewerage, waste management and remediation activities (-3,000). (*Table 2*)
- Employment in the services sector grew by 3.3% (+675,000) with the following sub-sectors contributing the most: accommodation and food service activities (+165,000); wholesale and retail trade (+140,000); public administration and defense, and compulsory social security (+91,000); and other service activities (+69,000).

Meanwhile, reduction occurred in activities of households as employers, undifferentiated goods and services-producing activities of household for own use (-15,000).

- Agriculture employment was of little change (0.6% or +77,000) with expansion in fishing (4.1% or +56,000) exceeding the gains in agriculture, hunting and forestry (0.2% or +20,000).

More people found full-time employment and wage and salary employment

- The quality of employment also improved this survey round as indicated by the strong growth in persons in full-time employment (4.3% or +1.0 million) and wage and salary employment (3.5% or +770,000). (*Table 2a*)

This was accompanied by negligible increase in persons in part-time employment (0.2% or +27,000) as well as the modest growth among persons in vulnerable employment, i.e., self-employed persons (3.0% or +319,000) and unpaid family workers (2.1% or +87,000).

These figures, nonetheless, translates only to small improvement in the mean hours of work a week (from 41.0 to 41.2) and vulnerable employment rate remaining unchanged at 39.0%.

- By occupation, the biggest gainers were service workers and shop and market sales workers (+223,000); farmers, forestry workers and fishermen (+200,000); laborers and unskilled workers (+168,000); clerks (+166,000); and trades and related workers (+141,000). (*Table 2*)
- Employment growth was broad base occurring in all but two regions. The biggest gain occurred in Region VI (+233,000), NCR (+188,000), Region IV-A (+129,000) and Region VII (+103,000). The regions that suffered reduction in employment were Region VIII (-45,000) and Caraga (-28,000). (*Table 2a*)

Underemployment rate posted at 18.7% - up by 0.7 percentage point

Underemployment remained a major concern as the number of underemployed persons increased by 489,000 over the period to 7.3 million. This translates to underemployment rate of 18.7%, up by 0.7 percentage point from last year.

- The number of underemployed persons rose across the three broad sectors mainly in services (+297,000) and industry (+183,000) along with marginal increase in agriculture (+9,000). (*Table 3*)
- Underemployed persons was up across class of worker except for employer in own family-operated farm or business (-24,000). The increases were most pronounced among workers in private establishment (+209,000) and self-employed (+203,000).
- Nine regions posted higher underemployment rates compared with last year - the most apparent were in Region X (21.8% to 31.0%), Region VIII (25.9% to 32.4%), Region III (10.3% to 15.8%) and Region VII (13.6% to 18.5%). The rest of the regions posted reductions in underemployment rates with the biggest in Region V (37.7% to 30.4%). (*Table 6*)
- On a brighter note, visible underemployment rate eased slightly to 10.9% from 11.5% last year. This means a reduction by 87,000 in the number of visibly underemployed persons which now stand at 4.3 million. Visible underemployed refers to persons who worked less than 40 hours a week and wanting additional hours of work.

Unemployment fell to 6.0% - its lowest level since April 2005

With the growth in employment (2.8% or +1.0 million) outpacing the growth in labor force (2.3% or +0.9 million), the number of unemployed persons declined by 121,000 to 2.5 million in October 2014. This brought down unemployment rate to a record low of 6.0% from 6.4% a year ago.

- Young workers (*aged 15 to 24 years*) comprised about one-half (49.4% or 1.2 million) of the total unemployed workforce. Youth unemployment rate at 14.2% was of little change from the 14.5% of a year ago. (*Table 4*)
- About two in every three unemployed were men (65.2% or 1.6 million). Compared with last year, unemployment rate of men was down by 0.4 percentage point to 6.4%. Similarly, women unemployment rate fell slightly to 5.3% from 5.9% a year ago.
- Many were high school graduates or undergraduates (44.4% or 1.1 million). Equally large were college undergraduates and graduates (35.2% or 0.9 million). About 8% (197,000) were graduates or undergraduates of post secondary education, i.e., technical and vocational courses.
- Four regions have unemployment rates higher than the national rate of 6.0%: NCR (9.8%), Region I (7.5%), Region III (7.4%) and Region IV-A (7.1%). (*Table 6*)
- Compared with last year, reduction in unemployment rates occurred in 11 regions – the most notable in Region VI (6.2% to 4.3%), Region V (6.2% to 4.9%), Region XI (6.7% to 5.5%) and Region IV-A (8.1% to 7.1%).

- Meanwhile, increase in unemployment rates occurred in six regions with the highest posted in CAR (3.8% to 5.6%).

FOR INQUIRIES

Regarding this report, contact **EMPLOYMENT AND MANPOWER STATISTICS DIVISION** at 527-3000 loc. 313/312
Regarding other statistics and technical services, contact **BLES DATABANK** at 527-9311
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FAX 527-9324 E mail: bles_emsd@dole.gov.ph Website: <http://www.bles.dole.gov.ph>

TABLE 1 - Key Employment Indicators, Philippines: October 2013 and October 2014
(In Thousands Except Rates)

INDICATOR	2014 ^P	2013	Increment	Growth Rate (%)
Population 15 Years Old and Over	64,263	63,191	1,073	1.7
Labor Force	41,322	40,397	925	2.3
- Employed	38,839	37,793	1,046	2.8
- Unemployed	2,483	2,603	(121)	(4.6)
Underemployed	7,279	6,789	489	7.2
- Visible Underemployment ¹	4,250	4,337	(87)	(2.0)
Not in the Labor Force	22,941	22,794	147	0.6
Labor Force Participation Rate (%)	64.3	63.9		
Employment Rate(%)	94.0	93.6		
Unemployment Rate (%)	6.0	6.4		
Underemployment Rate (%)	18.7	18.0		
Visible Underemployment Rate (%)	10.9	11.5		
Mean Hours of Work	41.2	41.0		

Notes: 1. Details may not add up to totals due to rounding.

2. Estimates exclude data for the province of Leyte.

^p Preliminary.

¹ Includes number of underemployed persons who were with jobs but did not work during the reference period.

Source of data: Philippine Statistics Authority, Labor Force Survey.

TABLE 2 - Employment by Major Industry Group and Major Occupation Group
Philippines: October 2013 and October 2014
(In Thousands Except Rates)

INDICATOR	2014 ^P	2013	Increment	Growth Rate (%)
EMPLOYED PERSONS	38,839	37,793	1,046	2.8
MAJOR INDUSTRY GROUP				
Agriculture	11,947	11,870	77	0.6
Agriculture, hunting and forestry	10,517	10,496	20	0.2
Fishing	1,430	1,374	56	4.1
Industry	6,048	5,754	294	5.1
Mining and quarrying	225	222	3	1.5
Manufacturing	3,133	3,109	24	0.8
Electricity, gas, steam and air conditioning	80	96	(16)	(16.2)
Water supply; sewerage, waste management and remediation activities	54	56	(3)	(4.8)
Construction	2,556	2,271	285	12.6
Services	20,844	20,169	675	3.3
Wholesale and retail trade; repair of motor vehicles and motorcycles	7,250	7,110	140	2.0
Transportation and storage	2,738	2,698	40	1.5
Accommodation and food service activities	1,811	1,646	165	10.0
Information and communication	345	332	12	3.7
Financial and insurance activities	510	485	25	5.2
Real estate activities	171	159	12	7.3
Professional, scientific and technical activities	215	201	14	7.2
Administrative and support service activities	1,077	1,059	18	1.7
Public administration and defense; compulsory social security	1,975	1,885	91	4.8
Education	1,268	1,229	39	3.1
Human health and social work activities	487	452	35	7.7
Arts, entertainment and recreation	338	309	29	9.4
Other service activities	2,188	2,119	69	3.3
Activities of households as employers, undifferentiated goods and services-producing activities of households for own use	467	482	(15)	(3.1)
Activities of extraterritorial organizations and bodies	4	3	1	33.9
MAJOR OCCUPATION GROUP				
Officials of government and special interest organizations, corporate executives, managers, managing proprietors, and supervisors	6,129	6,101	29	0.5
Professionals	1,953	1,905	48	2.5
Technicians and associate professionals	973	910	63	6.9
Clerks	2,426	2,260	166	7.4
Service workers and shop and market sales workers	4,909	4,686	223	4.8
Farmers, forestry workers, and fishermen	5,289	5,089	200	3.9
Trades and related workers	2,614	2,472	141	5.7
Plant and machine operators and assemblers	2,035	2,038	(3)	(0.2)
Laborers and unskilled workers	12,387	12,218	168	1.4
Special occupations	124	113	11	9.9

Notes: 1. Details may not add up to totals due to rounding.

2. Estimates exclude data for the province of Leyte.

^p Preliminary.

Source of data: Philippine Statistics Authority, Labor Force Survey.

TABLE 2a - Employment by Class of Worker, Hours of Work and Region
Philippines: October 2013 and October 2014
(In Thousands Except Rates)

INDICATOR	2014 ^P	2013	Increment	Growth Rate (%)
EMPLOYED PERSONS	38,839	37,793	1,046	2.8
CLASS OF WORKER				
Wage and salary workers	22,555	21,786	770	3.5
Worked for private household	1,920	1,892	28	1.5
Worked for private establishment	17,460	16,855	605	3.6
Worked for government or government corporation	3,059	2,933	126	4.3
Worked with pay in own family-operated farm or business	117	106	11	10.1
Employer in own family-operated farm or business	1,153	1,282	(129)	(10.1)
Self-employed without any paid employee	10,960	10,641	319	3.0
Worked without pay in own family-operated farm or business (unpaid family workers)	4,171	4,085	87	2.1
Proportion of self-employed and unpaid family workers in total employment (%) ¹	39.0	39.0		
HOURS OF WORK				
Less than 40 Hours (Part-Time Employment)	13,762	13,734	27	0.2
40 Hours and Over (Full-Time Employment)	24,722	23,693	1,030	4.3
Did Not Work	355	366	(11)	(3.0)
Mean Hours of Work	41.2	41.0		
REGION				
NCR	4,777	4,589	188	4.1
CAR	741	726	15	2.1
Region I	2,044	1,967	78	3.9
Region II	1,490	1,472	19	1.3
Region III	4,129	4,057	72	1.8
Region IV-A	5,129	5,000	129	2.6
Region IV-B	1,281	1,219	63	5.1
Region V	2,326	2,322	3	0.1
Region VI	3,252	3,019	233	7.7
Region VII	3,106	3,003	103	3.4
Region VIII	1,015	1,061	(45)	0.0
Region IX	1,395	1,383	12	0.9
Region X	2,056	1,967	89	4.5
Region XI	1,952	1,884	68	3.6
Region XII	1,740	1,726	14	0.8
Caraga	1,093	1,121	(28)	(2.5)
ARMM	1,314	1,279	35	2.7

Notes: 1. Details may not add to totals due to rounding of figures.

2. Estimates exclude data for the province of Leyte.

^p Preliminary.

¹ MDG indicator on employment.

Source of data: Philippine Statistics Authority, Labor Force Survey.

TABLE 3 - Summary Statistics on Underemployment, Philippines: October 2013 and October 2014
(In Thousands Except Rates)

INDICATOR	2014 ^P	2013	Increment	Growth Rate (%)
UNDEREMPLOYED PERSONS	7,279	6,789	489	7.2
HOURS WORKED				
- Worked less than 40 hours/week ¹	4,250	4,337	(87)	(2.0)
- Worked more than 40 hours/week	3,029	2,452	577	23.5
SECTOR				
- Agriculture	3,079	3,070	9	0.3
- Industry	1,216	1,033	183	17.7
- Services	2,983	2,687	297	11.0
CLASS OF WORKER				
Wage and salary workers	3,984	3,703	281	7.6
Worked for private household	272	249	23	9.3
Worked for private establishment	3,310	3,101	209	6.7
Worked for government or government corporation	382	345	37	10.7
Worked with pay in own family-operated farm or business	21	9	12	140.9
Employer in own family-operated farm or business	160	184	(24)	(13.2)
Self-employed without any paid employee	2,392	2,189	203	9.3
Worked without pay in own family-operated farm or business (unpaid family workers)	743	713	29	4.1
Underemployment rate (%)	18.7	18.0		
Visible underemployment rate (%) ¹	10.9	11.5		

Notes: 1. Details may not add to totals due to rounding of figures.

2. Estimates exclude data for the province of Leyte.

^p Preliminary.

¹ Includes number of underemployed persons who were with jobs but did not work during the reference period.

Source of data: Philippine Statistics Authority, Labor Force Survey.

TABLE 4 - Summary Statistics on Unemployment, Philippines: October 2013 and October 2014
(In Thousands Except Rates/Percent)

INDICATOR	Total Unemployed Persons		Percent Share		Labor Force		Unemployment Rate	
	2014 ^p	2013	2014 ^p	2013	2014 ^p	2013	2014 ^p	2013
TOTAL	2,483	2,603	100.0	100.0	41,322	40,397	6.0	6.4
Sex								
Male	1,619	1,677	65.2	64.4	25,141	24,617	6.4	6.8
Female	864	927	34.8	35.6	16,181	15,780	5.3	5.9
Age Group								
15-24 years old	1,227	1,236	49.4	47.5	8,641	8,517	14.2	14.5
25-54 years old	1,155	1,264	46.5	48.6	27,290	26,666	4.2	4.7
55 years old and over	100	103	4.0	4.0	5,390	5,213	1.9	2.0
Not reported	-	-	-	-	1	1	-	-
Highest Grade Completed								
No Grade Completed	9	12	0.4	0.5				
Elementary	301	327	12.1	12.6				
Undergraduate	126	158	5.1	6.1				
Graduate	175	169	7.1	6.5				
High School	1,102	1,162	44.4	44.6				
Undergraduate	275	291	11.1	11.2				
Graduate	827	871	33.3	33.5				
Post Secondary	197	188	7.9	7.2				
Undergraduate	20	33	0.8	1.2				
Graduate	177	155	7.1	6.0				
College	873	915	35.2	35.2				
Undergraduate	336	360	13.5	13.8				
Graduate	536	555	21.6	21.3				

Notes: 1. Details may not add to totals due to rounding of figures.

2. Estimates exclude data for the province of Leyte.

^p Preliminary.

Source of data: Philippine Statistics Authority, Labor Force Survey.

**TABLE 5 - Summary Statistics on Household Population 15 years Old and Over
and Labor Force, Philippines: October 2013 and October 2014**
(In Thousands Except Rates/Percent)

INDICATOR	Total Population 15 Years Old and Over			Labor Force			Labor Force Participation Rate (%)		
	2014 ^P	2013	Increment	2014 ^P	2013	Increment	2014 ^P	2013	Increment
TOTAL	64,263	63,191	1,073	41,322	40,397	925	64.3	63.9	0.4
Sex									
Male	32,069	31,516	553	25,141	24,617	524	78.4	78.1	0.3
Female	32,194	31,675	519	16,181	15,780	401	50.3	49.8	0.4
Age Group									
15-24 years old	19,307	18,990	317	8,641	8,517	125	44.8	44.8	(0.1)
25-54 years old	35,082	34,503	578	27,290	26,666	624	77.8	77.3	0.5
55 years old and over	9,870	9,692	178	5,390	5,213	177	54.6	53.8	0.8
Not reported	4	5	(2)	1	1	-	26.2	20.6	5.6

Notes: 1. Details may not add to totals due to rounding of figures.

2. Estimates exclude data for the province of Leyte.

^p Preliminary.

Source of data: Philippine Statistics Authority, Labor Force Survey.

TABLE 6 - Labor Force, Employment, Unemployment and Underemployment by Region, Philippines: October 2013 and October 2014
(In Thousands Except Rates)

REGION	Total Population 15 Years Old and Over		Labor Force				Employment				Unemployment				Underemployment			
			2014 ^P		2013		2014 ^P		2013		2014 ^P		2013		2014 ^P		2013	
	2014 ^P	2013	No.	LFPR (%)	No.	LFPR (%)	No.	Rate (%)	No.	Rate (%)	No.	Rate (%)	No.	Rate (%)	No.	Rate (%)	No.	Rate (%)
PHILIPPINES	64,263	63,191	41,322	64.3	40,397	63.9	38,839	94.0	37,793	93.6	2,483	6.0	2,603	6.4	7,279	18.7	6,789	18.0
NCR	8,222	8,091	5,295	64.4	5,113	63.2	4,777	90.2	4,589	89.8	518	9.8	524	10.2	546	11.4	478	10.4
CAR	1,175	1,151	785	66.8	754	65.5	741	94.4	726	96.2	44	5.6	28	3.8	80	10.7	90	12.3
Region I	3,567	3,498	2,210	62.0	2,128	60.8	2,044	92.5	1,967	92.4	166	7.5	162	7.6	321	15.7	374	19.0
Region II	2,300	2,262	1,537	66.8	1,511	66.8	1,490	97.0	1,472	97.4	46	3.0	40	2.6	160	10.7	151	10.2
Region III	7,194	7,084	4,460	62.0	4,398	62.1	4,129	92.6	4,057	92.2	331	7.4	341	7.8	652	15.8	417	10.3
Region IV-A	8,492	8,301	5,521	65.0	5,441	65.6	5,129	92.9	5,000	91.9	392	7.1	441	8.1	914	17.8	945	18.9
Region IV-B	2,006	1,954	1,342	66.9	1,271	65.1	1,281	95.5	1,219	95.9	61	4.5	53	4.1	259	20.2	293	24.1
Region V	3,919	3,850	2,446	62.4	2,475	64.3	2,326	95.1	2,322	93.8	120	4.9	153	6.2	706	30.4	875	37.7
Region VI	5,298	5,184	3,399	64.2	3,219	62.1	3,252	95.7	3,019	93.8	148	4.3	200	6.2	659	20.3	676	22.4
Region VII	4,997	4,900	3,284	65.7	3,158	64.4	3,106	94.6	3,003	95.1	178	5.4	156	4.9	573	18.5	408	13.6
Region VIII	1,715	1,777	1,075	62.7	1,129	63.5	1,015	94.4	1,061	94.0	60	5.6	68	6.0	329	32.4	274	25.9
Region IX	2,254	2,228	1,433	63.5	1,424	63.9	1,395	97.3	1,383	97.1	38	2.7	42	2.9	313	22.5	280	20.3
Region X	3,075	3,028	2,182	71.0	2,082	68.8	2,056	94.2	1,967	94.5	127	5.8	115	5.5	638	31.0	429	21.8
Region XI	3,154	3,113	2,066	65.5	2,019	64.8	1,952	94.5	1,884	93.3	114	5.5	134	6.7	344	17.6	280	14.9
Region XII	2,757	2,710	1,792	65.0	1,780	65.7	1,740	97.1	1,726	97.0	52	2.9	54	3.0	380	21.8	420	24.3
Caraga	1,760	1,738	1,141	64.8	1,167	67.1	1,093	95.8	1,121	96.1	48	4.2	46	3.9	240	22.0	223	19.9
ARMM	2,377	2,321	1,352	56.9	1,326	57.2	1,314	97.1	1,279	96.4	39	2.9	48	3.6	164	12.5	176	13.8

Notes: 1. Details may not add to totals due to rounding of figures.

2. Estimates exclude data for the province of Leyte.

^p Preliminary.

Source of data: Philippine Statistics Authority, Labor Force Survey.