

Table 4. FAMILY PERCEPTION: Number and Percentage of Families, by Indicators on Family Situation, by Income Strata, Philippines: April to September 1999

Indicators on Family Situation	Families Reporting Number	%	Lowest 40% Number	%	Highest 60 % Number	%
PHILIPPINES	14,745,966		5,898,451		8,847,515	
Families' Situation in the Last 12 Months						
Better Off	2,031,340	13.8	575,907	9.8	1,455,433	16.5
Worst Off	4,998,408	33.9	2,232,579	37.9	2,765,829	31.3
About the Same	7,716,217	52.3	3,089,964	52.4	4,626,253	52.3
Reasons Why Families are Better Off						
New job with higher salary	211,838	10.4	42,115	7.3	169,723	11.7
Abundant harvest	289,831	14.3	151,797	26.4	138,034	9.5
Better Health	271,415	13.4	70,714	12.3	200,701	13.8
More earnings	951,886	46.9	246,123	42.7	705,763	48.5
More remittances from abroad	155,368	7.6	15,331	2.7	140,037	9.6
Inheritance	2,707	0.1	514	0.1	2,192	0.2
Government assistance program	6,994	0.3	2,898	0.5	4,096	0.3
Other reasons	141,301	7.0	46,415	8.1	94,886	6.5
Reasons Why Families are Worst Off						
Lost job/work	412,926	8.3	165,359	7.4	247,568	9.0
Natural disaster, drought	301,627	6.0	191,701	8.6	109,927	4.0
Increase in food prices	2,347,008	47.0	870,530	39.0	1,476,478	53.4
Poor health	261,859	5.2	145,567	6.5	116,292	4.2
Reduced Income	1,132,779	22.7	610,684	27.4	522,095	18.9
No Savings	194,990	3.9	100,717	4.5	94,274	3.4
Sold assets	7,172	0.1	3,154	0.1	4,017	0.1
Loss of gov't assistance/programs	28,192	0.6	9,709	0.4	18,482	0.7
Others	311,855	6.2	135,159	6.1	176,696	6.4
Steps Taken by Families in Coping with Situation						
Change the eating pattern	2,465,416	49.3	1,097,896	49.2	1,367,519	49.4
Taken the children out of school	499,952	10.0	231,519	10.4	268,433	9.7
HH member(s) migrated to the city	293,716	5.9	160,030	7.2	133,686	4.8
Received assistance from friends	1,086,195	21.7	518,975	23.2	567,220	20.5

Received assistance from the gov't	243,557	4.9	128,914	5.8	114,643	4.1
Increased working hours	1,929,598	38.6	933,110	41.8	996,488	36.0
Others	995,994	19.9	376,870	16.9	619,124	22.4
Family Situation in the Next 12 Months						
Improve	4,336,596	29.4	1,270,258	21.5	3,066,338	34.7
Stay the same	7,380,917	50.1	3,258,287	55.2	4,122,630	46.6
Worsen	3,028,453	20.5	1,369,905	23.2	1,658,547	18.7
Steps of Ladder Where Families Presently Belong						
First Step	1,281,016	8.7	930,828	15.8	350,188	4.0
Second Step	2,294,422	15.6	1,425,216	24.2	869,206	9.8
Third Step	2,965,839	20.1	1,472,514	25.0	1,493,325	16.9
Fourth Step	2,412,565	16.4	856,130	14.5	1,556,435	17.6
Fifth Step	3,734,518	25.3	913,310	15.5	2,821,209	31.9
Sixth Step	1,194,282	8.1	190,425	3.2	1,003,858	11.3
Seventh Step	525,484	3.6	53,666	0.9	471,818	5.3
Eighth Step	226,136	1.5	22,322	0.4	203,814	2.3
Ninth Step	31,148	0.2	5,786	0.1	25,361	0.3
Tenth Step	80,556	0.5	28,253	0.5	52,303	0.6

* additional indicator

Source: Annual Poverty Indicators Survey
Income and Employment Statistics Division
Household Statistics Department
National Statistics Office
Republic of the Philippines