

## HIGHLIGHTS OF THE APRIL 2010 LABOR FORCE SURVEY



### Overview

The country's labor market performance in April 2010 was mixed, latest results of the Labor Force Survey (LFS) of the National Statistics Office (NSO) indicate. Strong employment growth occurred in the industry (7.8%) and service (4.7%) sectors but these gains were nearly negated by the slump in the combined agriculture, fishery and forestry sector (-6.5%) that has been struck by the severest drought in recent years. Meanwhile, a mark improvement in the quality of employment was noted. Expansion occurred largely among wage and salary workers (6.1%) and persons in full-time employment (9.5%) while decline occurred among persons in part-time employment (-9.6%) and unpaid family workers (-9.2%).

Unemployment rate was up from 7.5% a year ago to 8.0% but this was offset by the decline in underemployment rate from 18.9% to 17.8%. Over the same period, the labor force participation rate (LFPR) was down slightly from 64.0% to 63.6%.

### Labor Force

The country's labor force grew by 1.8% (+684,000) in April 2010 to reach 38.508 million. This figure represents a notable slowdown from the 3.8% growth rate (+1.374 million) recorded a year ago for the same month. As a consequence, labor force participation rate (LFPR) fell slightly from 64.0% to 63.6% over the same period. (Table 1)

### Employment

Total employed persons grew by a modest 1.2% year-on year, increasing from 34.997 million to 35.411 million. This indicates a net addition or new employment generation of 414,000. (Table 1A)

- The largest employment gain (+822,000) was recorded in the

**Table 1 - KEY EMPLOYMENT INDICATORS  
PHILIPPINES: April 2009-2010  
(In thousands except rates)**

Indicator	April 2010 <sup>p</sup>	April 2009	Year-on-Year Change
Household Population 15 Years Old and Over	60,562	59,074	1,488
Labor Force	38,508	37,824	684
– Employed Persons	35,411	34,997	414
– Unemployed Persons	3,097	2,827	270
Underemployed Persons	6,298	6,621	-323
– Visibly underemployed	3,905	4,335	-430
Not in the Labor Force	22,054	21,250	804
LFPR (%)	63.6	64.0	
Unemployment Rate (%)	8.0	7.5	
Underemployment Rate (%)	17.8	18.9	
– Visible Under-employment Rate (%)	11.0	12.4	
Mean Hours of Work	41.2	39.8	

<sup>p</sup> Preliminary.

Source of data: National Statistics Office, Labor Force Survey.

services sector which expanded by 4.7% year-on-year. The major growth contributors were wholesale and retail trade (+202,000), public administration and defense, compulsory social security (+163,000) and transport, storage and communications (+113,000). (Table 2)

- Following small gains last year (1.7% or 87,000), industry employment grew by a robust 7.8% (+396,000) in April 2010. Gains were led by manufacturing (+221,000) followed by construction (+120,000), mining and quarrying (+46,000) and electricity, gas and water (+9,000).
- Employment gains in the industry and services sectors (+1.218 million) were nearly offset by the 6.5% (-802,000) decline in the combined agriculture, fishery and forestry sector. This was due in large part to the severe dry spell that affected many regions of the country particularly the Mindanao areas.
- Meanwhile, the quality of employment improved considerably. The number of persons in full-time employment rose by 9.5% (+1.892 million) while persons in part-time employment fell by 9.6% (-1.376 million).
- The mean hours of work increased from 39.8 to 41.2 over the period. (Table 1)
- Virtually all of the growth in employment occurred among wage and salary workers (6.1% or +1.116 million) while a large decline was recorded among

unpaid family workers (-9.2% or -423,000). (Table 2)

- Employment growth occurred in ten (10) regions with the biggest gains posted in NCR (+187,000), Region VII (+153,000) and Region IV-A (+92,000).

On the other hand, employment fell in five (5) regions, namely: Region II (-93,000), Region VI (-23,000), Region VIII (-33,000), Region XI (-19,000) and Caraga (-15,000). Meanwhile, two (2) regions in Mindanao posted zero growth in employment, i.e., Region IX and Region XII. These regions suffered the brunt of the El Nino phenomenon.

### Underemployment

- The number of employed persons who wanted or expressed the desire for additional hours of work declined by 323,000 to 6.298 million. This figure corresponds to 17.8% of total employed, down by a full 1.1 percentage points from 18.9% a year before. (Table 3)
- Persons who worked less than 40 hours during the reference week and wanting additional hours of work (*time-rated underemployment*) also declined over the period by 430,000 to 3.905 million.

### Unemployment

The April 2010 unemployment rate stood at 8.0%, upped by 0.5 percentage point from last year. This figure is not statistically different from the rate recorded in April 2009 at 7.5% as noted in the Press Release issued by the National Statistics Office. (Table 4)

In absolute terms, the total number of unemployed persons stood at 3.097 million - an increase of 270,000 from the year ago level. It is most likely that the majority of the unemployed were agricultural workers that were displaced by the dry spell.

- More than half (51.1% or 1.584 million) of the total unemployed workforce were young workers (aged 15 to 24 years old). Youth unemployment rate at 18.8% was more than twice the national average of 8.0%. This figure was higher compared with the rate registered last year at 17.3%. (Table 4)
- About 2 out of every 3 unemployed were men (62.5% or 1.935 million). Men unemployment rate at 8.2% and women unemployment rate at 7.8% were both higher compared with last year.
- The majority (44.5% or 1.379 million) were high school graduates or undergraduates.

Equally large were college undergraduates and graduates (41.6% or 1.289 million).

- Six regions posted unemployment rates higher than the national rate: NCR (11.8%), Region I (9.3%), Region III (9.9%), Region IV-A (10.3%), Region VI (9.7%), and Region VII (8.6%). (Table 5)
- Compared with last year, notable reduction in unemployment rates occurred in NCR (-1.6 percentage points), Region VIII (-0.9 percentage point) and Region IX (-0.7 percentage point).
- In contrast, notable increases were observed in Caraga (+2.5 percentage points), ARMM (+2.5 percentage points), Region II (+2.3 percentage points), Region VI (+1.8 percentage points) and CAR (+1.8 percentage points).

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**FOR INQUIRIES:**

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**Table 1A - KEY EMPLOYMENT INDICATORS**  
**PHILIPPINES: April 2008, 2009 and 2010**  
(in thousands except rates)

INDICATOR	April 2010 <sup>P</sup>	April 2009	April 2008	Increment		Growth Rate	
				2009-2010	2008-2009	2009-2010	2008-2009
Population 15 Years Old and Over	60,562	59,074	57,700	1,488	1,374	2.5	2.4
Labor Force	38,508	37,824	36,450	684	1,374	1.8	3.8
- Employed	35,411	34,997	33,535	414	1,462	1.2	4.4
- Unemployed	3,097	2,827	2,914	270	-87	9.6	-3.0
Underemployed	6,298	6,621	6,625	-323	-4	-4.9	-0.1
- Visible underemployment <sup>1</sup>	3,905	4,335	4,025	-430	310	-9.9	7.7
Not in the Labor Force	22,054	21,250	21,250	804	0	3.8	0.0
Labor Force Participation Rate (%)	63.6	64.0	63.2				
Employment Rate (%)	92.0	92.5	92.0				
Unemployment Rate (%)	8.0	7.5	8.0				
Underemployment Rate (%)	17.8	18.9	19.8				
Visible Underemployment Rate (%)	11.0	12.4	12.0				
Mean Hours of Work	41.2	39.8	41.6				

<sup>P</sup> Preliminary.

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

Source: National Statistics Office, Labor Force Survey.

**Table 2 - SUMMARY STATISTICS ON EMPLOYMENT**  
**PHILIPPINES: April 2008, 2009 and 2010**  
(In thousands except rates)

INDICATOR	2010 <sup>p</sup>	2009	2008	Increment		Year-on-Year Growth Rate (%)	
				2009-2010	2008-2009	2009-2010	2008-2009
<b>EMPLOYED PERSONS</b>	<b>35,411</b>	<b>34,997</b>	<b>33,535</b>	<b>414</b>	<b>1,462</b>	<b>1.2</b>	<b>4.4</b>
<b>SECTOR</b>							
<b>Agriculture, Fishery and Forestry</b>	<b>11,511</b>	<b>12,313</b>	<b>11,905</b>	<b>-802</b>	<b>408</b>	<b>-6.5</b>	<b>3.4</b>
Agriculture, Hunting and Forestry	10,070	10,841	10,450	-771	391	-7.1	3.7
Fishing	1,441	1,472	1,454	-31	18	-2.1	1.2
<b>Industry</b>	<b>5,484</b>	<b>5,088</b>	<b>5,001</b>	<b>396</b>	<b>87</b>	<b>7.8</b>	<b>1.7</b>
Mining and Quarrying	212	166	151	46	15	27.7	9.9
Manufacturing	3,062	2,841	2,883	221	-42	7.8	-1.5
Electricity, Gas and Water	139	130	123	9	7	6.9	5.7
Construction	2,071	1,951	1,843	120	108	6.2	5.9
<b>Services</b>	<b>18,417</b>	<b>17,595</b>	<b>16,630</b>	<b>822</b>	<b>965</b>	<b>4.7</b>	<b>5.8</b>
Wholesale and Retail Trade	6,883	6,681	6,322	202	359	3.0	5.7
Hotels and Restaurants	991	976	924	15	52	1.5	5.6
Transport, Storage & Communications	2,741	2,628	2,575	113	53	4.3	2.1
Financial Intermediation	383	389	366	-6	23	-1.5	6.3
Real Estate, Renting & Business Activities	1,060	1,023	953	37	70	3.6	7.3
Public Administration & Defense, Compulsory Social Security	1,957	1,794	1,661	163	133	9.1	8.0
Education	1,156	1,068	1,028	88	40	8.2	3.9
Health and Social Work	448	408	384	40	24	9.8	6.3
Other Community, Social & Personal Service Activities	987	907	843	80	64	8.8	7.6
Private Households with Employed Persons	1,807	1,718	1,572	89	146	5.2	9.3
Extra-Territorial Organizations and Bodies	3	3	2	0	0	0.0	0.0
<b>STATUS OF EMPLOYMENT</b>							
Wage and Salary Workers	19,285	18,169	17,725	1,116	444	6.1	2.5
Self-employed Workers	10,685	10,869	10,064	-184	805	-1.7	8.0
Employers	1,265	1,359	1,544	-94	-185	-6.9	-12.0
Unpaid Family Workers	4,176	4,599	4,203	-423	396	-9.2	9.4
<b>HOURS OF WORK</b>							
Less than 40 Hours (Part-Time Employment)	12,958	14,334	11,954	-1,376	2,380	-9.6	19.9
40 Hours and Over (Full-Time Employment)	21,716	19,824	20,748	1,892	-924	9.5	-4.5
Did Not Work	738	838	833	-100	5	-11.9	0.6
<b>REGION</b>							
NCR	4,230	4,043	4,005	187	38	4.6	0.9
CAR	698	685	647	13	38	1.9	5.9
Region I	1,896	1,858	1,703	38	155	2.0	9.1
Region II	1,354	1,447	1,350	-93	97	-6.4	7.2
Region III	3,587	3,570	3,426	17	144	0.5	4.2
Region IV-A	4,345	4,253	4,007	92	246	2.2	6.1
Region IV-B	1,205	1,193	1,128	12	65	1.0	5.8
Region V	2,059	2,042	2,019	17	23	0.8	1.1
Region VI	2,888	2,911	2,734	-23	177	-0.8	6.5
Region VII	2,792	2,639	2,568	153	71	5.8	2.8
Region VIII	1,677	1,710	1,604	-33	106	-1.9	6.6
Region IX	1,380	1,380	1,305	0	75	0.0	5.7
Region X	1,871	1,821	1,765	50	56	2.7	3.2
Region XI	1,689	1,708	1,675	-19	33	-1.1	2.0
Region XII	1,611	1,611	1,547	0	64	0.0	4.1
Caraga	981	996	968	-15	28	-1.5	2.9
ARMM	1,150	1,130	1,084	20	46	1.8	4.2

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

p Preliminary.

Source of data: National Statistics Office, Labor Force Survey.

**Table 3 - SUMMARY STATISTICS ON UNDEREMPLOYMENT  
PHILIPPINES: April 2009 and 2010  
(In thousands except rates)**

INDICATOR	2010 <sup>p</sup>	2009	Increment
			2009-2010
<b>UNDEREMPLOYED PERSONS</b>	<b>6,298</b>	<b>6,621</b>	<b>-323</b>
<b>Hours Worked</b>			
- Worked less than 40 hours/week <sup>1</sup>	3,905	4,335	-430
- Worked more than 40 hours/week	2,392	2,285	107
<b>Industry</b>			
- Agriculture	2,828	3,088	-260
- Industry	973	961	12
- Services	2,496	2,573	-77
Underemployment rate (%)	17.8	18.9	-1.1
Visible underemployment rate (%) <sup>1</sup>	11.0	12.4	-1.4

*Note: Details may not add to totals due to rounding of figures.*

*p Preliminary.*

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

*Source of data: National Statistics Office, Labor Force Survey.*

**Table 4 - SUMMARY STATISTICS ON UNEMPLOYMENT**  
**PHILIPPINES: April 2008, 2009 and 2010**

(In thousands except rates/percent)

INDICATOR	Total Unemployed Persons			Percent Share (%)			Unemployment Rate (%)			Increment	
	2010 <sup>P</sup>	2009	2008	2010 <sup>P</sup>	2009	2008	2010 <sup>P</sup>	2009	2008	2009-2010	2008-2009
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>3,097</b>	<b>2,827</b>	<b>2,914</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>8.0</b>	<b>7.5</b>	<b>8.0</b>	<b>270</b>	<b>-87</b>
<b>Sex</b>											
Male	1,935	1,739	1,820	62.5	61.5	62.5	8.2	7.6	8.1	196	-81
Female	1,162	1,088	1,094	37.5	38.5	37.5	7.8	7.4	7.9	74	-6
<b>Age Group</b>											
15-24 years old	1,584	1,432	1,491	51.1	50.7	51.2	18.8	17.3	18.6	152	-59
25-54 years old	1,399	1,286	1,324	45.2	45.5	45.4	5.6	5.2	5.5	113	-38
55 years old and over	114	109	99	3.7	3.9	3.4	2.7	2.3	2.2	5	10
<b>Highest Grade Completed</b>											
No Grade Completed	15	12	18	0.5	0.4	0.6				3	-6
Elementary	414	360	409	13.4	12.7	14.0				54	-49
Undergraduate	191	155	184	6.2	5.5	6.3				36	-29
Graduate	224	205	225	7.2	7.3	7.7				19	-20
High School	1,379	1,242	1,320	44.5	43.9	45.3				137	-78
Undergraduate	407	338	388	13.1	12.0	13.3				69	-50
Graduate	972	904	932	31.4	32.0	32.0				68	-28
College	1,289	1,214	1,166	41.6	42.9	40.0				75	48
Undergraduate	682	623	614	22.0	22.0	21.1				59	9
Graduate	607	591	552	19.6	20.9	18.9				16	39

Notes: Based on the new official unemployment definition (NSCB Resolution No. 15 s 2004).

p Preliminary.

Source of data: National Statistics Office, Labor Force Survey.

**Table 5 - LABOR FORCE, EMPLOYMENT, UNEMPLOYMENT AND UNDEREMPLOYMENT  
BY REGION, PHILIPPINES: April 2009 and 2010**

(In thousands except rates)

Region	Labor Force				Employment				Unemployment				Underemployment			
	2010 <sup>P</sup>		2009		2010 <sup>P</sup>		2009		2010 <sup>P</sup>		2009		2010 <sup>P</sup>		2009	
	No.	LFPR (%)	No.	LFPR (%)	No.	Rate (%)	No.	Rate (%)	No.	Rate (%)	No.	Rate (%)	No.	Rate (%)	No.	Rate (%)
<b>Philippines</b>	<b>38,508</b>	<b>63.6</b>	<b>37,824</b>	<b>64.0</b>	<b>35,411</b>	<b>92.0</b>	<b>34,997</b>	<b>92.5</b>	<b>3,097</b>	<b>8.0</b>	<b>2,827</b>	<b>7.5</b>	<b>6,298</b>	<b>17.8</b>	<b>6,621</b>	<b>18.9</b>
NCR	4,795	61.1	4,671	60.8	4,230	88.2	4,043	86.6	565	11.8	628	13.4	411	9.7	498	12.3
CAR	742	67.9	715	67.5	698	94.1	685	95.8	44	6.0	30	4.2	132	18.9	123	18.0
Region I	2,089	61.2	2,027	61.0	1,896	90.8	1,858	91.7	194	9.3	169	8.3	300	15.8	290	15.6
Region II	1,428	64.7	1,489	69.0	1,354	94.8	1,447	97.2	73	5.1	42	2.8	161	11.9	242	16.7
Region III	3,980	59.9	3,903	59.8	3,587	90.1	3,570	91.5	393	9.9	333	8.5	299	8.3	192	5.4
Region IV-A	4,841	63.0	4,719	62.9	4,345	89.8	4,253	90.1	496	10.3	466	9.9	679	15.6	657	15.4
Region IV-B	1,255	68.6	1,249	70.8	1,205	96.0	1,193	95.5	50	4.0	56	4.5	279	23.2	304	25.5
Region V	2,204	64.6	2,185	65.4	2,059	93.4	2,042	93.5	145	6.6	143	6.5	778	37.8	752	36.8
Region VI	3,197	64.4	3,162	65.0	2,888	90.3	2,911	92.1	309	9.7	251	7.9	808	28.0	780	26.8
Region VII	3,054	66.7	2,846	63.5	2,792	91.4	2,639	92.7	263	8.6	207	7.3	416	14.9	333	12.6
Region VIII	1,748	63.3	1,800	67.7	1,677	95.9	1,710	95.0	71	4.1	90	5.0	210	12.5	490	28.7
Region IX	1,423	64.7	1,435	67.6	1,380	97.0	1,380	96.2	44	3.1	55	3.8	296	21.5	378	27.4
Region X	2,000	71.1	1,921	70.8	1,871	93.6	1,821	94.8	129	6.4	100	5.2	579	31.0	446	24.5
Region XI	1,804	63.9	1,821	65.7	1,689	93.6	1,708	93.8	114	6.3	113	6.2	278	16.5	400	23.4
Region XII	1,686	65.7	1,685	67.2	1,611	95.6	1,611	95.6	75	4.4	74	4.4	315	19.5	321	19.9
Caraga	1,062	66.1	1,050	67.2	981	92.4	996	94.9	81	7.6	54	5.1	207	21.1	267	26.8
ARMM	1,199	56.9	1,147	56.4	1,150	95.9	1,130	98.5	50	4.1	18	1.6	149	13.0	147	13.0

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

p Preliminary.

Source of data: National Statistics Office, Labor Force Survey.