



Department of Labor and Employment

Manila, Philippines

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## PROFILE OF WORKERS IN VULNERABLE EMPLOYMENT

Workers in vulnerable employment refer to those employed as: 1) self-employed workers without any paid employee and 2) unpaid family workers in own-family operated farm or business. These categories are synonymous to the ILO status in employment of: 1) own-account workers and 2) contributing family workers, respectively.

Employment information on these categories provides important and useful insights on the extent of development of the labor economy of a country. Their demographic and economic characteristics also serve as inputs in mapping out policy and program interventions to improve their status and conditions of employment.

Moreover, in line with the international commitment of the Philippines towards the achievement of the Millennium Development Goal (MDG) 1 by 2015, the proportion of own-account and contributing family workers to total employment or vulnerable employment rate is one of the employment indicators to be monitored in the eradication of extreme poverty and hunger.

This issue of LABSTAT Updates provides a summary of the demographic and economic characteristics of the vulnerable employed workers in 2010. The data presented refer to the averages of the four (4) survey rounds (January, April, July, and October) of the Labor Force Survey (LFS) conducted by the National Statistics Office (NSO).

In 2010, these vulnerable employed numbered 15.015 million or 41.7% of 36.035 million total employed.

## Overview

- Workers in vulnerable employment modestly expanded by almost half a million (478,000) or a growth rate of 3.3 percent from 2006 to 2010 or an annual increase of less than 1.0%.
- A similar trend was exhibited by both self-employed, which grew by 3.2% or 0.8% annually, and unpaid family workers which went up by 3.6% or an annual average of 0.9%.

YEAR	Total (000)	Self – Employed (000)	Unpaid Family Workers (000)
2006	14,537	10,525	4,012
2007	14,622	10,570	4,052
2008	14,815	10,654	4,161
2009	14,942	10,724	4,218
2010	15,015	10,858	4,157

 Men in vulnerable employment outnumbered their women counterparts. However, the pace of growth of women workers (5.7% or 1.4% annually) was higher compared to the growth of men workers (1.6% or 0.4% annually).

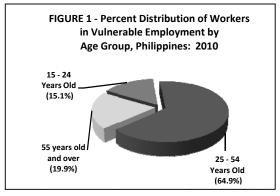
## **Demographic Characteristics** (*Table 1*)

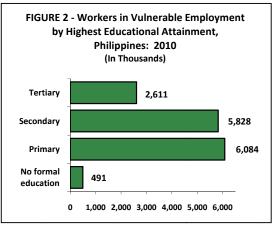
- Three out of 5 persons in vulnerable employment were men (8.719 million or 58.1%).
- Majority of them were in the prime working age of 25-54 years old with 9.750 million or 64.9%. (Figure 1)
- Married workers constituted about 70.3% (10.559 million) of the total workers in vulnerable employment.
- Three-fifths of these employed persons were not heads of households (57.3%).
- Around 80.0% had either primary (40.5%) or secondary (38.8%) education. (Figure 2)

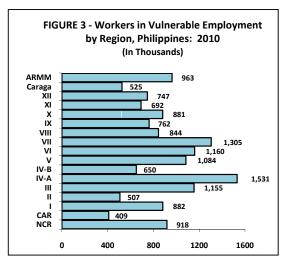
## **Economic Characteristics** (Table 2)

At the regional level, vulnerable employment was mostly concentrated Regions IV-A - CALABARZON (1.531 million), VII-Central Visayas (1.305 million), VI-Western Visayas million), III-Central (1.160)Luzon (1.155 million) and V-Bicol Region (1.084)million). Together, they accounted for around 42.0% of the total. On the other hand, Cordillera Administrative Region and Region II-Cagayan Valley recorded the lowest shares 409,000 (2.7%)and 507,000 respectively.  $(3.4\%)_{1}$ (Figure 3)

YEAR	Total (000)	Men (000)	Women (000)
2006	14,537	8,584	5,954
2007	14,622	8,616	6,006
2008	14,815	8,759	6,056
2009	14,942	8,719	6,223
2010	15,015	8,719	6,296







- Relatively large shares of the vulnerable employed were in agriculture (52.3%) and services (42.1%) sectors. (Figure 4)
- About 31.8% of these workers were farmers, forestry workers and fishermen. Laborers and unskilled workers followed with 29.2% and managing proprietors at 23.8%. These groups together made-up 84.8% of total employed in vulnerable employment.
- Around 13 million (86.1%) of them considered their jobs as permanent in nature.
- More than half (52.8%) worked less than 40 hours a week or were in parttime employment.

 The mean hours worked per week of workers in vulnerable employment was 38.3.

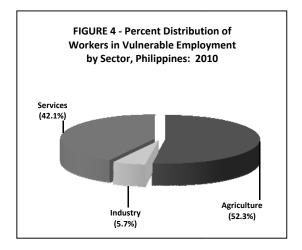


TABLE 1 – Demographic Characteristics of Workers in Vulnerable Employment,
Philippines: 2010
(In Thousands Except Percent)

INDICATOR	Number	Percent Share
TOTAL	15,015	100.0
Sex		
Men	8,719	58.1
Women	6,296	41.9
Age Group		
15 – 24 Years Old	2,274	15.1
25 – 54 Years Old	9,750	64.9
55 Years Old and over	2,991	19.9
Marital Status		
Single	3,356	22.4
Married	10,559	70.3
Others	1,100	7.3
Relationship to Household		
Head	6,405	42.7
Non-head	8,610	57.3
Educational Attainment		
No Formal Education	491	3.3
Primary Education	6,084	40.5
Secondary Education	5,828	38.8
Tertiary Education	2,611	17.4
Undergraduate	1,720	11.5
Graduate	891	5.9

Note: Details may not add up to totals due to rounding.

Source of basic data: National Statistics Office, Labor Force Survey, Public Use Files.

TABLE 2 – Economic Characteristics of Workers in Vulnerable Employment,
Philippines: 2010
(In Thousands Except Percent)

INDICATOR	Number	Percent Share
TOTAL	15,015	100.0
Nature of Employment		
Permanent Job	12,927	86.1
Short-Term	2,088	13.9
Different Employer	-	-
Full/Part-Time Employment		
Worked less than 40 hours	7,929	52.8
Worked 40 hours and over	6,864	45.7
With a job, not at work	222	1.5
Major Industry		
Agriculture	7,846	52.3
Industry	851	5.7
Services	6,318	42.1
Major Occupation		
Managing Proprietors	3,570	23.8
Service Workers and Shop and Market Sales Workers	961	6.4
Farmers, Forestry Workers and Fishermen	4,779	31.8
Plant and Machine Operators and Assemblers	484	3.2
Laborers and Unskilled Workers	4,381	29.2
Others	839	5.6
Mean Hours Worked	38.3	-

Note: Details may not add up to totals due to rounding.

Source of basic data: National Statistics Office, Labor Force Survey, Public Use Files.