



HIGHLIGHTS OF THE APRIL 2014 LABOR FORCE SURVEY



Overview

The country's labor market regains momentum in April 2014 as employment grew by 4.5% year-on-year or a net gain of more than a million (+1.654 million). Employment was boosted by the strong expansion in the industry (6.3%) and services (4.8%) sectors and the recovery in agriculture, fishery and forestry sector (3.1%). Employment growth was driven mainly by the large expansion in part-time employment (+2.198 million) and wage and salary employment in private establishments (+839,000). On the downside, full-time employment fell (-673,000) along with the decline in the mean hours of work (41.9 to 40.3).

Meanwhile, underemployment rate eased to 18.2% from 19.2% in April last year. Similarly, unemployment rate dropped to 7.0% from 7.6% over the same period, complemented by the rise in labor force participation rate (LFPR) of 1.4 percentage points to 65.2%.

It should be noted that the typhoon-devastated Leyte province was not covered in the April 2014 Labor Force Survey round. To allow for comparisons in this report, the province of Leyte was also excluded in the April 2013 figures.

Labor Force

The country's labor force in April 2014 grew year-on-year by 3.8% (+1.533 million) to reach 41.589 million – one of the fastest in recent years. Correspondingly, the labor force participation rate (LFPR) rose by 1.4 percentage points during the period - 65.2% from 63.8%, brought about by the faster growth in labor force relative to that of the working age population (1.5%).

Increase in participation rate was most discernable among the youth 15-24 years old (+1.9 percentage points) and among the women workforce (+2.0 percentage points). (Table 5)

Employment

Over the same period, employment grew by 4.5% – increasing to 38.665 million from

**Key Employment Indicators, Philippines:
April 2013-2014**
(In thousands Except Rates)

Indicator	April 2014 ^p	April 2013	Year-on-Year Change
Household Population 15 Years Old and Over	63,773	62,819	954
Labor Force	41,589	40,056	1,533
– Employed Persons	38,665	37,011	1,654
– Unemployed Persons	2,924	3,046	(122)
Underemployed Persons	7,030	7,096	(66)
– Visibly underemployed	4,471	3,961	510
Not in the Labor Force	22,184	22,763	(579)
LFPR (%)	65.2	63.8	
Unemployment Rate (%)	7.0	7.6	
Underemployment Rate (%)	18.2	19.2	
– Visible Under-employment Rate (%)	11.6	10.7	
Mean Hours of Work	40.3	41.9	

^p Preliminary.

Note: Figures in this table exclude the province of Leyte.

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

37.011 million. This translates to employment generation or a net gain of 1.654 million employed persons – a turnaround from the substantial slowdown that occurred last year. Growth was broad-based occurring in all three sectors but was most apparent in the industry sector which has been experiencing resurgence in recent years. (Table 2)

- More specifically, industry employment was up by 6.3% (+374,000) this period - on the back of the strong expansion in manufacturing (6.1% or +191,000) and construction (7.8% or +190,000). But the sector continued to account for less than one-fifth (16.4%) of total employment.
- Gains in employment also occurred in the dominant services sector which grew by 4.8% (+929,000). Gains were largely concentrated in wholesale and retail trade (+570,000) and other service activities (+115,000). Modest gains occurred in administrative and support service activities (+91,000); financial and insurance activities (+73,000); and education (+57,000).

Meanwhile, employment losses were recorded in public administration and defense, compulsory social security (-7,000); and transport, storage and communication (-11,000).

Employment level in agriculture, hunting and forestry was up by 3.7% (+376,000) after a slump a year ago due to intense heat and water shortage that affected large agricultural crops. This gain, however, was slightly offset by losses in fishing (-24,000).

- Growth in employment occurred across classes of worker led by wage and salary workers in

private establishments (5.1% or +839,000). Modest gains were noted for self-employed persons without any paid employees (+329,000) and unpaid family workers (+302,000). Their combined share to total employment (*a millennium development goal indicator*) was unchanged at 39.4% from last year. (Table 2a)

- A key weakness in labor market performance this period is the reduction in the mean hours of work to 40.3 from 41.9 a year ago. This is due to the sharp rise in the number of persons in part-time employment (17.2% or +2.198 million) and the slight decline in persons in full-time employment (-2.9% or -673,000). This follows a “boom and bust” pattern after a substantial increase in full-time employment and a fall in part-time employment in the previous year. The same pattern was observed in the 2008 and 2009 April LFS rounds.
- Seven (7) regions posted employment growth rates higher than the national average of 4.5%: ARMM (11.0%), Region XI (10.1%), Region IV-A (6.9%), Region VII (6.3%), Region VI (5.9%), Region III (5.2%) and Region I (4.6%). On the other hand, employment losses were recorded in three (3) regions that included Region II (-2.7%), Region IX (-1.9%) and Region VIII (-1.2%).

Underemployment

- The rate of underemployment was down by a one percentage point to 18.2% in April 2014. This translates to 7.030 million underemployed persons, a decline of 66,000 from a year ago level. (Table 3)

- It is noted, however, that the number of persons who worked less than 40 hours during the reference week and wanting additional hours of work (*visible underemployment*) rose by 511,000 to 4.471 million – a consequence of the sharp increase in part-time employment this period.
- The majority of the unemployed (43.0% or 1.256 million) were high school graduates or undergraduates. Equally large were college undergraduates and graduates (36.9% or 1.078 million).
- Only five (5) regions posted unemployment rates higher than the national rate: NCR (10.4%), Region I (9.2%), Region III (8.6%), Region IV-A (9.0%) and Region VI (7.1%). (*Table 6*)

Unemployment

With the growth in employment (4.5% or +1.654 million) surpassing the expansion in labor force (3.8% or +1.533 million), the number of unemployed persons dropped by 122,000 to 2.924 million in April 2014. This translates to a 0.6 percentage point reduction in unemployment rate, i.e., 7.0% from 7.6% over the period.

- About half (49.8% or 1.456 million) of the total unemployed workforce were young workers (*aged 15 to 24 years old*). Youth unemployment rate at 15.7% was more than twice the national average. This rate was 1.1 percentage points lower than last year. (*Table 4*)
- The number of unemployed men (1.805 million or 61.7%) continued to outnumber the number of unemployed women (1.118 million or 38.2%). Compared with last year, men unemployment rate was down by 0.4 percentage point to 7.2%. Also, the rate for women was down by 0.8% percentage point to 6.8%.
- For the period under review, notable reduction in unemployment rates occurred in Region XI (-3.3 percentage points), Region IV-A (-1.7 percentage points) and Region V (-1.7 percentage points). On the other hand, notable increases in rates were noted in Region VIII (+1.2 percentage points) and Region II (+1.1 percentage points).
- Compared with last year, the proportion of unemployed persons who looked for work was up to 51.2% from 47.5%. (*Table 4a*)

Relative to total unemployed, the proportion was down for discouraged workers (12.8% from 14.8%); and persons waiting for rehire/job recall (14.3% from 16.4%); but was up for those awaiting results of previous job applications (15.1% from 14.7%).

FOR INQUIRIES

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

INDICATOR	April 2014 ^p	April 2013	Increment	Growth Rate (%)
Population 15 Years Old and Over	63,773	62,819	954	1.5
Labor Force	41,589	40,056	1,533	3.8
- Employed	38,665	37,011	1,654	4.5
- Unemployed	2,924	3,046	(122)	(4.0)
Underemployed	7,030	7,096	(66)	(0.9)
- Visible Underemployment ¹	4,471	3,961	510	12.9
Not in the Labor Force	22,184	22,763	(579)	(2.5)
Labor Force Participation Rate (%)	65.2	63.8		
Employment Rate (%)	93.0	92.4		
Unemployment Rate (%)	7.0	7.6		
Underemployment Rate (%)	18.2	19.2		
Visible Underemployment Rate (%)	11.6	10.7		
Mean Hours of Work	40.3	41.9		

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

2. The province of Leyte was not covered in the April 2014 LFS.

3. April 2013 figures exclude Leyte province.

^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: April 2013 and 2014
(In Thousands Except Rates)**

INDICATOR	2014 ^p	2013	Increment	Growth Rate (%)
EMPLOYED PERSONS	38,665	37,011	1,654	4.5
MAJOR INDUSTRY GROUP				
Agriculture	11,885	11,533	352	3.1
Agriculture, hunting and forestry	10,487	10,111	376	3.7
Fishing	1,398	1,422	(24)	(1.7)
Industry	6,353	5,979	374	6.3
Mining and quarrying	253	273	(20)	(7.3)
Manufacturing	3,323	3,132	191	6.1
Electricity, gas, steam and air conditioning	100	81	19	23.5
Water supply; sewerage, waste management and remediation activities	52	58	(6)	(10.3)
Construction	2,624	2,434	190	7.8
Services	20,428	19,499	929	4.8
Wholesale and retail trade; repair of motor vehicles and motorcycles	7,283	6,713	570	8.5
Transportation and storage	2,643	2,654	(11)	(0.4)
Accommodation and food service activities	1,611	1,606	5	0.3
Information and communication	342	339	3	0.9
Financial and insurance activities	493	420	73	17.4
Real estate activities	157	156	1	0.6
Professional, scientific and technical activities	195	195	-	-
Administrative and support service activities	1,066	975	91	9.3
Public administration and defense; compulsory social security	1,942	1,949	(7)	(0.4)
Education	1,208	1,151	57	5.0
Human health and social work activities	479	472	7	1.5
Arts, entertainment and recreation	383	362	21	5.8
Other service activities	2,139	2,024	115	5.7
Activities of households as employers, undifferentiated goods and services-producing activities of households for own use	481	476	5	1.1
Activities of extraterritorial organizations and bodies	6	8	(2)	(25.0)
MAJOR OCCUPATION GROUP				
Officials of government and special interest organizations, corporate executives, managers, managing proprietors, and supervisors	6,190	5,903	287	4.9
Professionals	1,876	1,755	121	6.9
Technicians and associate professionals	1,005	1,010	(5)	(0.5)
Clerks	2,378	2,240	138	6.2
Service workers and shop and market sales workers	4,849	4,456	393	8.8
Farmers, forestry workers, and fishermen	5,151	4,865	286	5.9
Trades and related workers	2,668	2,649	19	0.7
Plant and machine operators and assemblers	1,933	1,994	(61)	(3.1)
Laborers and unskilled workers	12,492	12,023	469	3.9
Special occupations	124	114	10	8.8

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

2. The province of Leyte was not covered in the April 2014 LFS.

3. April 2013 figures exclude Leyte province.

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

INDICATOR	2014 ^P	2013	Increment	Growth Rate (%)
EMPLOYED PERSONS	38,665	37,011	1,654	4.5
CLASS OF WORKER				
Wage and salary workers	22,219	21,310	909	4.3
Worked for private household	1,827	1,788	39	2.2
Worked for private establishment	17,269	16,430	839	5.1
Worked for government or government corporation	3,020	2,999	21	0.7
Worked with pay in own family-operated farm or business	103	93	10	10.8
Employer in own family-operated farm or business	1,223	1,109	114	10.3
Self-employed without any paid employee	10,896	10,567	329	3.1
Worked without pay in own family-operated farm or business (unpaid family workers)	4,327	4,025	302	7.5
Proportion of self-employed and unpaid family workers in total employment (%) ¹	39.4	39.4	-	-
HOURS OF WORK				
Less than 40 Hours (Part-Time Employment)	14,962	12,764	2,198	17.2
40 Hours and Over (Full-Time Employment)	22,929	23,602	(673)	(2.9)
Did Not Work	774	645	129	20.0
Mean Hours of Work	40.3	41.9	-	-
REGION				
NCR	4,709	4,524	185	4.1
CAR	767	763	4	0.5
Region I	1,984	1,897	87	4.6
Region II	1,496	1,538	(42)	(2.7)
Region III	4,151	3,946	205	5.2
Region IV-A	5,043	4,718	325	6.9
Region IV-B	1,284	1,240	44	3.5
Region V	2,338	2,312	26	1.1
Region VI	3,112	2,939	173	5.9
Region VII	3,126	2,940	186	6.3
Region VIII	1,079	1,092	(13)	(1.2)
Region IX	1,372	1,399	(27)	(1.9)
Region X	2,024	1,941	83	4.3
Region XI	1,971	1,790	181	10.1
Region XII	1,753	1,702	51	3.0
Caraga	1,112	1,060	52	4.9
ARMM	1,343	1,209	134	11.0

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3. April 2013 figures exclude Leyte province.

^p Preliminary.

¹ MDG indicator on employment.

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

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

INDICATOR	2014 ^P	2013	Increment	Growth Rate (%)
UNDEREMPLOYED PERSONS	7,030	7,096	(66)	(0.9)
HOURS WORKED				
- Worked less than 40 hours/week ¹	4,471	3,961	511	12.9
- Worked more than 40 hours/week	2,559	3,135	(577)	(18.4)
SECTOR				
- Agriculture	2,906	2,905	2	0.1
- Industry	1,252	1,199	52	4.4
- Services	2,872	2,992	(120)	(4.0)
CLASS OF WORKER				
Wage and salary workers	3,813	3,928	(115)	(2.9)
Worked for private household	241	246	(5)	(2.2)
Worked for private establishment	3,173	3,253	(80)	(2.4)
Worked for government or government corp.	386	409	(23)	(5.6)
Worked with pay in own family-operated farm or business	14	20	(6)	(30.9)
Employer in own family-operated farm or business	167	166	1	0.9
Self-employed without any paid employee	2,292	2,259	33	1.4
Worked without pay in own family-operated farm or business (unpaid family workers)	758	743	15	2.0
Underemployment rate (%)	18.2	19.2		
Visible underemployment rate (%) ¹	11.6	10.7		

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

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^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.

(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	2,924	3,046	100.0	100.0	41,589	40,056	7.0	7.6
Sex								
Male	1,805	1,869	61.7	61.4	25,138	24,472	7.2	7.6
Female	1,118	1,177	38.2	38.6	16,451	15,584	6.8	7.6
Age Group								
15-24 years old	1,456	1,469	49.8	48.2	9,254	8,749	15.7	16.8
25-54 years old	1,371	1,448	46.9	47.5	27,106	26,268	5.1	5.5
55 years old and over	96	129	3.3	4.2	5,229	5,040	1.8	2.6
Not reported								
Highest Grade Completed								
No Grade Completed	10	11	0.3	0.4				
Elementary	327	383	11.2	12.6				
Undergraduate	150	164	5.1	5.4				
Graduate	177	219	6.1	7.2				
High School	1,256	1,302	43.0	42.8				
Undergraduate	299	336	10.2	11.0				
Graduate	957	967	32.7	31.7				
Post Secondary	252	256	8.6	8.4				
Undergraduate	41	54	1.4	1.8				
Graduate	211	202	7.2	6.6				
College	1,078	1,093	36.9	35.9				
Undergraduate	424	445	14.5	14.6				
Graduate	655	648	22.4	21.3				

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

2. The province of Leyte was not covered in the April 2014 LFS.

3. April 2013 figures exclude Leyte province.

^p Preliminary.

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

**TABLE 4a - Unemployed Persons by Number of Weeks Looking for Work
and Unemployed Persons Not Looking for Work by Reason
Philippines: April 2013 and 2014
(In Thousands Except Percent)**

INDICATOR	Total Unemployed Persons		Percent Share (%)	
	2014 ^P	2013	2014 ^P	2013
TOTAL	2,924	3,046	100.0	100.0
Looked for Work	1,497	1,447	51.2	47.5
Did not Look for Work Due to Valid Reasons	1,426	1,599	48.8	52.5
Tired/Believe no work available	375	450	12.8	14.8
Awaiting results of previous job application	442	447	15.1	14.7
Temporary illness/disability	183	197	6.3	6.5
Bad weather	10	5	0.3	0.2
Waiting for rehire/job recall	417	500	14.3	16.4

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

2. The province of Leyte was not covered in the April 2014 LFS.

3. April 2013 figures exclude Leyte province.

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: April 2013 and 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	63,773	62,819	954	41,589	40,056	1,533	65.2	63.8	1.4
Sex									
Male	31,727	31,255	472	25,138	24,472	666	79.2	78.3	0.9
Female	32,045	31,564	481	16,451	15,584	867	51.3	49.4	2.0
Age Group									
15-24 years old	19,145	18,834	311	9,254	8,749	505	48.3	46.5	1.9
25-34 years old	14,729	14,518	211	11,088	10,753	335	75.3	74.1	1.2
35-44 years old	11,383	11,251	132	9,101	8,812	289	80.0	78.3	1.6
45-54 years old	8,755	8,609	146	6,917	6,703	214	79.0	77.9	1.1
55-64 years old	5,526	5,436	90	3,725	3,607	118	67.4	66.4	1.1
65 years old and over	4,234	4,168	66	1,504	1,433	71	35.5	34.4	1.1
Not reported	-	2	(2)	-	-	-	-	-	-

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

2. The province of Leyte was not covered in the April 2014 LFS.

3. April 2013 figures exclude Leyte province.

^p Preliminary.

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

TABLE 6 - Labor Force, Employment, Unemployment and Underemployment by Region, Philippines: April 2013 and 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	63,773	62,819	41,589	65.2	40,056	63.8	38,665	93.0	37,011	92.4	2,924	7.0	3,046	7.6	7,030	18.2	7,096	19.2
NCR	8,157	8,060	5,258	64.5	5,052	62.7	4,709	89.6	4,524	89.6	549	10.4	528	10.4	542	11.5	603	13.3
CAR	1,171	1,150	808	69.0	796	69.2	767	95.0	763	95.9	40	5.0	32	4.1	102	13.3	98	12.9
Region I	3,526	3,447	2,184	61.9	2,094	60.8	1,984	90.8	1,897	90.6	200	9.2	197	9.4	282	14.2	381	20.1
Region II	2,292	2,280	1,558	68.0	1,584	69.5	1,496	96.0	1,538	97.1	62	4.0	47	2.9	184	12.3	208	13.5
Region III	7,150	7,053	4,543	63.5	4,331	61.4	4,151	91.4	3,946	91.1	393	8.6	385	8.9	560	13.5	599	15.2
Region IV-A	8,424	8,267	5,542	65.8	5,281	63.9	5,043	91.0	4,718	89.3	499	9.0	562	10.7	901	17.9	690	14.6
Region IV-B	1,996	1,954	1,346	67.4	1,294	66.2	1,284	95.4	1,240	95.8	62	4.6	54	4.2	257	20.0	275	22.2
Region V	3,885	3,834	2,489	64.1	2,507	65.4	2,338	93.9	2,312	92.2	151	6.1	195	7.8	803	34.3	891	38.5
Region VI	5,247	5,135	3,348	63.8	3,196	62.2	3,112	92.9	2,939	92.0	236	7.1	256	8.0	658	21.2	705	24.0
Region VII	4,962	4,896	3,323	67.0	3,142	64.2	3,126	94.1	2,940	93.6	197	5.9	202	6.4	603	19.3	455	15.5
Region VIII	1,701	1,728	1,150	67.6	1,150	66.5	1,079	93.8	1,092	95.0	72	6.2	58	5.0	277	25.7	240	21.9
Region IX	2,249	2,218	1,439	64.0	1,463	66.0	1,372	95.4	1,399	95.7	67	4.6	64	4.3	281	20.5	303	21.7
Region X	3,026	2,988	2,137	70.6	2,055	68.8	2,024	94.7	1,941	94.5	113	5.3	114	5.5	419	20.7	582	30.0
Region XI	3,136	3,096	2,075	66.2	1,952	63.0	1,971	95.0	1,790	91.7	104	5.0	162	8.3	385	19.5	262	14.6
Region XII	2,742	2,702	1,815	66.2	1,774	65.7	1,753	96.6	1,702	95.9	62	3.4	72	4.1	333	19.0	325	19.1
Caraga	1,755	1,730	1,181	67.3	1,135	65.6	1,112	94.1	1,060	93.4	70	5.9	75	6.6	299	26.9	336	31.7
ARMM	2,354	2,282	1,393	59.2	1,252	54.9	1,343	96.5	1,209	96.6	49	3.5	42	3.4	144	10.7	142	11.8

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

2. The province of Leyte was not covered in the April 2014 LFS.

3. April 2013 figures exclude Leyte province.

p Preliminary.

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