

REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES PHILIPPINE STATISTICS AUTHORITY BOARD

PSA Board Resolution No. 08 Series of 2020

APPROVING THE CONDUCT OF THE MONTHLY LABOR FORCE SURVEY AND THE GENERATION OF THE MONTHLY LABOR AND EMPLOYMENT STATISTICS

WHEREAS, the current Coronavirus Disease 2019 (COVID-19) health crisis has resulted, among others, in the deceleration of economic growth, in general, and drop in the labor force participation, decline in employment rate, temporary or permanent closure of businesses, in particular;

WHEREAS, there is an urgent need for more frequent statistical information on the Philippine labor market to better understand the current situation of employment and economy of the Philippines as well as the impact of the health crisis;

WHEREAS, the Philippine Statistics Authority (PSA) responds to prevailing and emerging statistical concerns by providing labor and employment statistics as bases for policy setting and decision making;

WHEREAS, per Executive Order No. 352 issued in 1996, Designation of Statistical Activities that will Generate Critical Data for Decision-making of the Government and the Private Sector, the generation/release of the country's official employment statistics is mandated to the PSA, through the Labor Force Survey (LFS), which will be conducted quarterly and will be available at the national and regional level;

WHEREAS, on 18 November 2020, the PSA and the National Economic and Development Authority (NEDA) met to discuss the possibility to conduct monthly LFS and generate monthly statistics for labor and employment;

WHEREAS, the PSA, in its effort to come up with accurate, reliable and timely labor and employment statistics, conducted computational exercises to explore the possibility of estimating the labor and employment statistics on a monthly basis using one replicate of the 2013 Master Sample (MS) equivalent to a total of 10,692 secondary sampling units (SSUs) or sample housing units deemed sufficient for the estimation of the national estimates;

WHEREAS, on 27 November 2020, the Interagency Committee on Labor and Productivity Statistics (IACLPS) with some resource persons that are experts on labor economics discussed the results of the computational exercises and the plans for the conduct of the monthly LFS;

WHEREAS, the IACLPS recommended to adopt the methodology used in the quarterly LFS for the estimation of the monthly labor and employment statistics;

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WHEREAS, the IACLPS recognized that the monthly LFS aims to provide flash indicators during the COVID-19 pandemic, if the conduct of this survey is planned to be institutionalized even after the COVID-19 pandemic, it is recommended that further consultations and more in-depth studies be conducted to assess the effectivity and efficiency;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the PSA Board approves the conduct of monthly LFS and the generation of the monthly labor and employment statistics;

RESOLVED FURTHER, that the PSA Board approves the recommendation of the IACLPS to adopt the methodology used in the quarterly LFS for the estimation of the monthly labor and employment statistics.

RESOLVED FINALLY, that the:

- 1. Monthly LFS and the estimation of the monthly labor and employment statistics will be conducted starting February 2021;
- 2. Core labor and employment indicators will be released at the national level using the results of the monthly LFS;
- 3. Results of the monthly LFS be released to the public 30 days after the conduct of the data collection; and
- 4. Further studies and consultations be conducted to assess the effectivity and efficiency of the conduct of monthly LFS and the generation of the monthly labor and employment statistics if this is planned to be institutionalized.

Approved this 21st day of December 2020, in Metro Manila.

KARL KENDRICK T. CHUA

Acting Socioeconomic Planning Secretary National Economic and Development Authority

Chairperson, PSA Board

Attested by:

DENNIS S. MAPA

Undersecretary

National Statistician and Civil Registrar General

Philippine Statistics Authority

Chairperson, PSA Board Secretariat

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