



# SPECIAL RELEASE

## 2019 Functional Literacy, Educational and Mass Media Survey: Literacy

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*The 2019 Functional Literacy, Education and Mass Media Survey (FLEMMS) is the sixth in the series of functional literacy surveys conducted by Philippine Statistics Authority (PSA). The five previous rounds were conducted in 1989, 1994, 2003, 2008 and 2013. This survey provides baseline information on education and literacy status of the population, and is intended to be a reliable baseline to inform the formulation and monitoring of a wide range of policies and programs related to education and literacy and as an advocacy tool for national policies and development plans.*

*The 2019 FLEMMS provides highlights on: 1.) the highest educational attainment and basic literacy status of the population 5 years old or over; 2.) functional literacy status of the population 10 to 64 years old; and .3) exposure to the different forms of mass media.*

### EDUCATION IN THE CORDILLERA REGION



*In 2019, 98.0 percent of population 3 years old and over were attending school in of the Cordillera Administrative Region (CAR).*

### 2<sup>nd</sup> region with the most resident who reach at least college level or higher

- Among regions, CAR ranked second as the region with the most residents who reached at least college level or higher with 2.1 percent difference from that of the National Capital Region (NCR), the region with most residents who had at least a college level or higher education.

**Table 1. Percent Distribution of Population 5 Years Old and Over by Highest Educational Attainment, CAR and Philippines: 2019**

|             | Population 5 years old and over | Population 5 years old and over (with answer in HEA) | No grade completed/ Early Childhood Education | College graduate or higher |
|-------------|---------------------------------|--|---|----------------------------|
| Philippines | 96,750                          | 95,933   | 7.1   | 11.8                       |
| CAR         | 1,615                           | 1,583  | 7.0   | 15.5                       |

Source: Philippine Statistics Authority

## CAR LITERACY

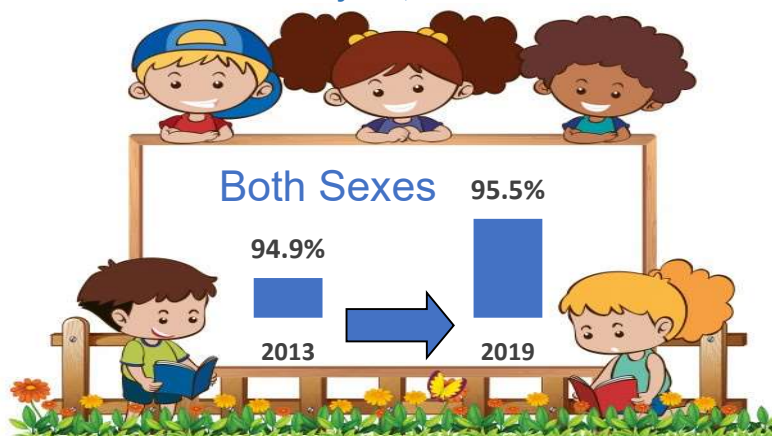


*In the Cordillera Administrative Region, the percentage of population who were literate and can do basic math improved. Those with basic or simple literacy increased from 94.9 percent in 2013 to 95.5 percent in 2019. On the other hand, persons with functional literacy increased from 91.2 percent in 2013 to 92.0 percent in 2019.*

### 96 out of 100 Cordilleran 10 years old and over are basically literate

- Basic or simple literacy is the ability of a person to read and write with understanding a simple message in any language or dialect. In 2019, 96.5 percent of 86 million Filipinos 10 years old and over nationwide were basically literate. Basic literacy rate in the Philippines remained the same as during the two periods.
- In CAR, basic or simple literacy of population 10 years old and slightly increased to 95.5 percent in 2019 as compared to 94.9 percent in 2013. In 2019, there were more females (96.0 percent) who can read and write than the males (95.1 percent), with 0.9 percent difference.

**Figure 1. Basic literacy rate of population 10 years old and over by sex, CAR: 2013 and 2019**



Source: Philippine Statistics Authority

- From the 13th spot as the most literate region in the Philippines in 2013, the Cordillera region climbed up to the 7th spot in 2019 as the region with the most literate population among regions in the country.

**Table 2. Percentage of basic literacy rate of population 10 years old and over by sex, CAR and Philippines: 2013 and 2019**

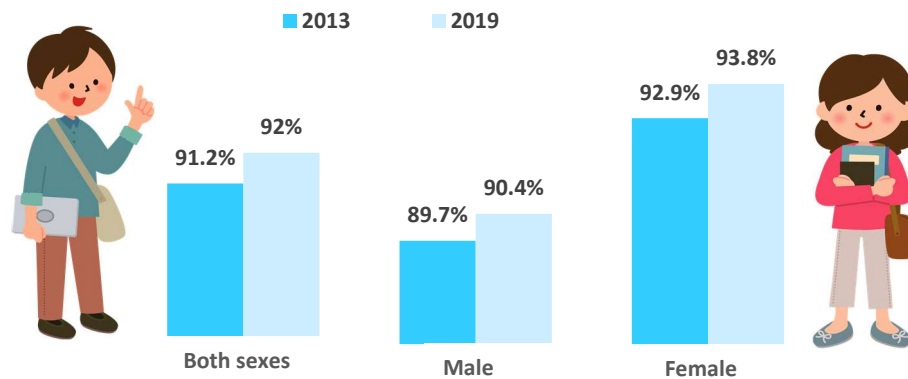
|  | 2019                                |      |        | 2013                                |      |        |
|--|-------------------------------------|------|--------|-------------------------------------|------|--------|
|  | Basic literacy rate<br>(In percent) |      |        | Basic literacy rate<br>(In percent) |      |        |
|  | Both sexes                          | Male | Female | Both sexes                          | Male | Female |
| Philippines                            | 96.5                                | 95.9 | 97.1   | 96.5                                | 96.1 | 97.0   |
| Cordillera Administrative Region (CAR) | 95.5                                | 95.1 | 96.0   | 94.9                                | 94.8 | 94.9   |

Source: Philippine Statistics Authority

### 9 in 10 Cordilleran are functionally literacy

- Functional literacy is a significantly higher level of literacy which includes not only reading and writing skills but also numeracy skills. In CAR, the functional literacy rate from 2013 slightly increased in 2019 by 0.8 percentage point. This was from the record of 91.2 percent functional literacy rate in 2013 to 92.0 percent in 2019. This was slightly higher than the overall functional literacy rate of 91.6 percent in the country in 2019.
- Female Cordillerans 10 to 64 years old were more functionally literate than the males in 2019. As compared to 2013, there were more females (93.8 percent) who had higher numeracy skills than the males (90.4 percent) in 2019. Functional literacy among males and females in 2013 were at 89.7 percent and 92.9 percent, respectively.

**Figure 2. Percentage increase of basic literacy rate of population 10 years old and over by sex, CAR: 2013 and 2019**



Source: Philippine Statistics Authority

**Table 3. Percentage of Functional literacy rate of population 10 to 64 years old, by sex, CAR and Philippines: 2013 and 2019**

|  | 2019                                     |      |        | 2013                                     |      |        |
|--|--|------|--------|--|------|--------|
|  | Functional literacy rate<br>(In percent) |      |        | Functional literacy rate<br>(In percent) |      |        |
|  | Both<br>sexes                            | Male | Female | Both<br>sexes                            | Male | Female |
| Philippines (in thousands)             | 91.6                                     | 90.2 | 92.9   | 90.3                                     | 88.7 | 92.0   |
| Cordillera Administrative Region (CAR) | 92.0                                     | 90.4 | 93.8   | 91.2                                     | 89.7 | 92.9   |

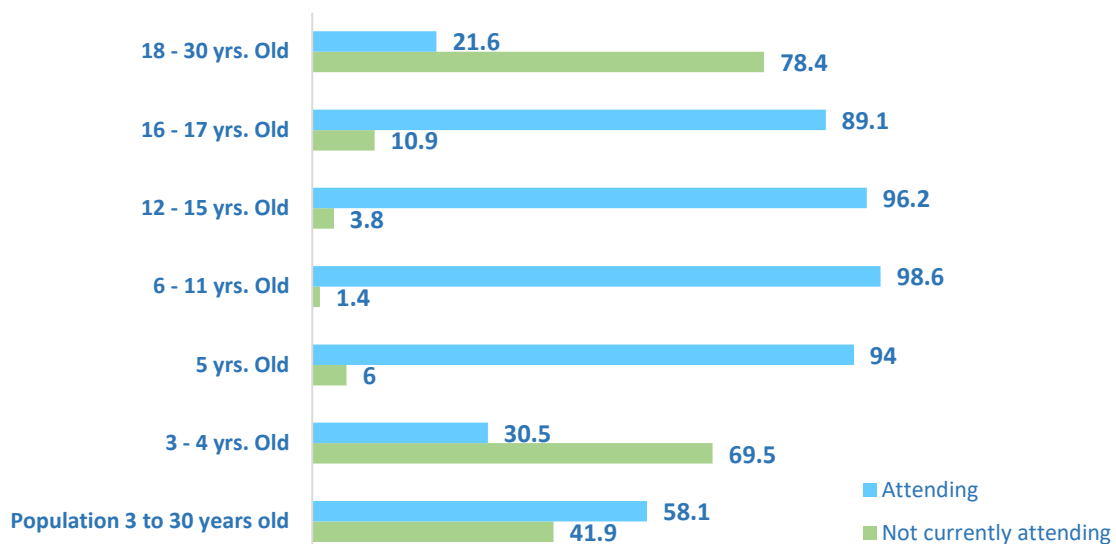
Notes: Green/Red values in 2019 are significantly higher/lower than their corresponding values in 2013 at 5% significance level

Source: Philippine Statistics Authority

### 6 in 10 of Cordilleran 3 to 30 years old and over attends school

- In terms of school attendance, almost six in ten of the population (58.1 percent) 3 to 30 years old were currently attending school in 2019 in the Cordillera region, while 41.9 percent were not.
- The age group with the highest number of persons not attending school belong to the age groups 3 to 4 years old and 18 to 30 years old with a percentage of 69.5 and 78.4, respectively.
- By level of education, most of the population 3 to 30 years old were in the elementary level with 37.5 percent, followed by Junior High School with 28.7 percent, and Senior High School with 11.1 percent. Meanwhile, about 10.9 percent reached College level, while only 0.3 percent were College graduates or had tertiary education.

**Figure 3. Percentage of Percentage of population 3 to 30 years old currently attending school by age group, education level, CAR: 2019**



Source: Philippine Statistics Authority

- The age group 6 to 11 years old recorded the highest number of attendance in school with 98.6 percent, followed by the age groups 12 to 15 years old with 96.2 percent, 5 years old with 94.0 percent, and 16 to 17 years old with 89.1 percent.

**VILLAFE P. ALIBUYOG**  
Regional Director

## Technical Notes

**Basic or simple literacy** – is the ability of a person to read and write with understanding a simple message in any language or dialect.

**Functional literacy** – is a significantly higher level of literacy which includes not only reading and writing skills but also numeracy skills. The skills must be sufficiently advanced to enable the individual to participate fully and efficiently in activities commonly occurring in his life situation that require a reasonable capability of communicating by written language.

A functional literate person is one who can at least read, write, compute and/or comprehend. Also, persons who at least graduated from high school under the old curriculum for basic education, or at least junior high school completer under the K-12 curriculum are automatically classified as functionally literate.

**School attendance** – means attendance in any educational institution, public or private, to obtain formal education.

**Highest educational attainment** – refers to the highest grade or year completed in school, college, or university. This may be any one of the specific grades or years in elementary, high school, K to 12 Program, and college. It also includes preschool, special needs and second-chance education, postsecondary, short cycle tertiary, college, and post baccalaureate courses.

**Mass media** – refers to technology that is intended to reach a mass audience. It is the primary means of communication used to reach the vast majority of the general public. The most common platforms for mass media are newspapers, magazines, radio, television, and the internet.

**Open Distance Learning** – is a system of learning which combines the methodology of distance education with the concepts of open learning and flexible learning.

a. **Distance education** is a mode of learning in which students and teachers are physically separated from each other. The personalized and distributed way of learning makes it easier for learners to study at their own pace using various media such as the internet, radio, and television.

b. **Open learning** is an educational system which makes learning accessible to every individual with minimal restrictions. It emphasizes the flexibility of learning despite barriers to age, geographical location, time constraints and economic situation.