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Regional Statistical Services Office - Cordillera Administrative Region (PSA-RSSO-CAR)

January - March 2022

752 thousand Cordillerans in the labor force during the pandemic

When the COVID-19 pandemic struck the country in 2020, it was estimated that 752 thousand individuals were in the labor force in the entire Cordillera region. This was an increase of 1.2 percent or 743 thousand economically active persons recorded in 2019. However, despite the effects of the pandemic, the labor force participation rate (LFPR) in CAR stayed at 61.4 percent but still higher than the 59.5 percent national LFPR. Meanwhile, the national LFPR declined from 2019 with 61.3 percent labor participation to 59.5 percent LFPR in 2020.

The annual estimates of the labor and employment indicators are based on the methodology prescribed in the PSA Board Resolution No. 04 Series of 2021: "Adopting the General Method for Annualized Estimates for the Labor Force Survey 2021 and Beyond."

Along with the Cordillera region, Northern Mindanao (66.3 percent), Caraga (63.5), SOCCSKSARGEN (62.9), Ilocos (62.6), CALABARZON (61.7) and Cagayan Valley (61.3) also recorded LFPR above 60 percent in 2020. Other regions such as the Bangsamoro region (53.5 percent) had lower participation rates.

In the Cordillera region, decrease in the annual labor market in the provinces compared to the previous year were recorded. In Abra, the annual labor market was estimated at 59.6 percent and Kalinga at 56.3 percent. The lone highly urbanized city in CAR, Baguio City was at 54.9 percent. Labor participation rates in Benguet and Ifugao were the same in the face of the pandemic with 62.6 percent and 63.1 percent, respectively. Meanwhile, Mountain Province reported an increase in their labor market with 81.6 thousand persons from 75.3 thousand in the prepandemic year even with the restrictions imposed in 2020. This was also evident with the improvement of its LFPR of 78.1 percent from 72.6 percent in 2019. The LFPR of Apayao also improved increasing to 63.7 percent in 2020 from 58.2 percent in 2019, translating to an addition of nearly five thousand persons in the provincial labor market of 47.5 thousand prior to the pandemic year.

Employed persons in the Cordillera declined by 6.1 percent or from 717.3 thousand in 2019 to 673.4 thousand workers during the pandemic year (2020). In terms of its ratio with the total economically active persons, employment went down to 89.6

percent in 2020 from its usually high rate of 96.5 percent in 2019. This figure was near the national employment rate of 89.7 percent.

In general, employment in all regions of the country decreased right in the first year of the pandemic. However, five other regions, namely Central Visayas (89.7), CALABARZON (88.4), National Capital Region (88.3), Central Luzon (86.9), and Ilocos Region (86.6) along with CAR hit the employment rates below the 90 percent level. Employment in the provinces of the Cordillera region also declined in 2020. Despite this pattern, Kalinga (96.5), Mountain Province (93.7), Abra (93.3 percent), Ifugao (91.4) and Apayao (90.8) retained the employment rates above 90 percent. The province of Benguet and Baguio City were the most affected by the imposed restrictions due to COVID-19. The employment rate in Benguet dropped to 89.3 percent, from its annual rate of 96.8 percent the year before, while Baguio City's employment plunged to its low record of 79.0 percent from 94.4 percent in 2019. Consequently, the number of unemployed persons in CAR tripled from only 26.1 thousand persons in 2019 to about 78.4 thousand in the first year of the pandemic. Most of these were in the province of Benguet and Baguio City. The unemployment rate (UR) in the region reached 10.4 percent, which was at par with the national UR of 10.3 percent. This was way higher than the unemployment rate in 2019 at only 3.5 percent.

Among other regions, Ilocos Region (13.4 percent), Central Luzon (13.1 percent), National Capital Region (11.7 percent), CALABARZON (11.6 percent), and Central Visayas (10.3 percent) surpassed the 10 percent mark of UR. The rest of the regions were still above the 5 percent level of unemployment. Among the provinces of CAR, only the province of Kalinga (3.5 percent) barely reached the 5 percent level given that all areas in the region experienced increase in unemployment. Mountain Province (6.3), Abra (6.7), Ifugao (8.6), and Apayao (9.2) surpassed this level but still not a double-digit unemployment rate. The major contributors to the regional unemployment, Benguet (10.7 percent) and Baguio City (21.0 percent), recorded an estimated 51.5 thousand unemployed persons who reported no economic activity in the past week reference during the initial pandemic year. Among t he employed in CAR, there were 97.8 thousand persons who desired more hours of work or an additional job in 2020. This recorded an increase from 87.3 thousand underemployed persons from the pre-pandemic year.

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A gangsa (gong) is an indigenous musical instrument of the Igorots ("people of the mountain") of the Cordillera region. It is usually played during cultural celebrations, rituals and festivities. It is a cultural symbol of fellowship and unity among the Igorots."

> The quarterly newsletter is prepared by the Statistical Operations and Coordination Division (SOCD) of PSA-RSSO CAR

GANGSA

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PSA IMPLEMENTS ONLINE APPOINTMENT SYSTEM IN CIVIL REGISTRATION SERVICES TRANSACTIONS



Adapting to the needs of the new normal, the Civil Registration Services (CRS) outlets of the Philippine Statistics Authority-Cordillera Administrative Region in Baguio City and in Bangued, Abra are now implementing the Civil Registration Service Appointment System (CRSAS). The CRS appointment system was first implemented in the National Capital Region in October 2021 and expanded in regional CRS outlets in December 2021. All PSA CRS outlets nationwide adopted the system in January 2022.

The two CRS outlets in the Cordillera region located in the Bangued, Abra and Baguio City started accepting online appointments on 24 January 2022. The goal of the CRSAS is to achieve a more efficient transaction process in the issuance of civil registry documents such as birth, marriage, and death certificates, and certifications (Certificate of No Marriage or Advisory on Marriages) including authentications.

The online appointment system minimizes individuals to line up at the PSA CRS outlets and only requires their presence when claiming the documents and/or certifications. With the system, the outlet can efficiently manage the daily crowd volume of clients while implementing the prescribed health and safety protocols in compliance with the issuances of the Inter-Agency Task Force for the Management of Emerging Infectious Diseases against the COVID-19.

With the CRSAS, regular clients may now book their preferred date and time of appointment with the CRS outlet of their choice at *appointment*. *psa.gov.ph*. An email address of the applicant is required to which a non-transferable appointment slip will be sent by the system for printing and or presentation upon entering the CRS Outlet together with a matching valid identification. If the applicant or requester of the document is an authorized representative, the authorization letter or special power of attorney executed by the document owner is required together with the latter's valid identification. Prior to the implementation of the system, the mode of getting an appointment with a CRS Outlet is done by lining up personally to get a Queue Ticket Number (QTN), which contains the date and time for the processing of the client's transaction.

The system also provides downloadable application forms and health declaration forms. Senior citizens, persons with disability, or pregnant women are not required to book an online appointment as the usual courtesy lane is accorded to them, provided, that they are applying for their own document, legal spouse, children, or parents. Otherwise, they will have to book their appointment online.

Liaison officers of Batch Request Entry System partners and Local Civil Registry Offices are not also required for an online appointment. Additional inquiries can be accommodated by calling Telephone Nos. (074) 244-0945 and (074) 752-8031 for the Baguio City and Bangued, Abra outlets, respectively.



Birth Registration Assistance Project to benefit 42 thousand residents

The implementation of Republic Act No. 11055, or the Philippine Identification System Act signed into law by President Rodrigo Roa Duterte on 06 August 2018 registered nearly 500, 000 residents in the Cordillera region in 2021. These residents were able to complete the two stages of PhilSys registration while a number already received their PhilID through PHLPost. PhilSys targets to complete the registration of about 1.3 million residents in the Cordillera.

The PhilSys aims to establish a single national identification system for all citizens and resident aliens of the Republic of the Philippines. The valid proof of identity provided by PhilSys is a means of simplifying public and private transactions such as enrollment in schools, and the opening of bank accounts.

The PhilSys Birth Registration Assistance Project aims to strengthen the documentation of Step 2 registration by increasing the use of the birth certificate as the basic document to be presented by citizens seeking to register with the PhilSys.

The project is in line with the initiative of the national government to fulfill the country's commitment to the 2015-2024 Civil Registration and Vital Statistics (CRVS). This also intensifies the PSA's campaign to improve civil registration consistent with the goal of the CRVS on universal registration that by 2024, at least 99.5 percent of all Filipinos should have their birth registered with the local authorities; and will be provided with legal documentation through the issuance of birth certificates. The three goals

Vital Statistics



CORDILLERA

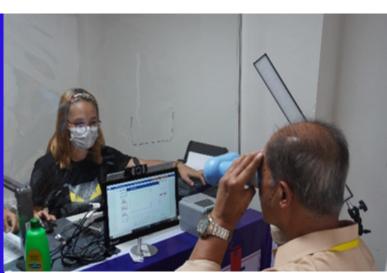
More Male Babies



<u> 14.748</u>

Sex Ratio

107 Males 100 Females Source: Philippine Statistics Authority - CAR





Be PHILSYS Updated!

of the 2015 - 2024 CRVS Decade include 1) universal civil registration of births, deaths, and other vital events; 2) all individuals with legal documentation to claim their identity, civil status, and ensuing rights; and 3) accurate, complete, and timely vital registration are produced and disseminated.

PhilSys is targeting to process the birth registration of all Filipinos, including about 42,000 disadvantaged residents in the Cordillera; provide the marginalized population with a legal document by 2024 and at the same time register them in the PhilSys.

The recipients of the project are the unregistered individuals which consist of the following: 1.) persons in marginalized communitiesremote or Geographically Isolated and Disadvantaged Areas (GIDA); 2.) indigenous people; 3.) Muslim Filipinos; 4.) poorest sector in the country, and 5.) persons currently living outside their place of birth. Under the funding of the PhilSys Registration Office, beneficiaries of the project will be provided with assistance in processing delayed registration of births; facilitating out-of-town birth registration, and processing other civil registry documents, including the provision of free copies of the registered birth certificates of beneficiaries in security paper (SECPA) free of charge.

The PSA field offices in collaboration with the local government units (LGUs) through the Local Civil Registry Offices (LCRO) spearhead the implementation of the project under the direction of the Office of the Civil Registrar General (OCRG) and the Civil Registration Service of the PSA.

Most babies weigh 3.0 to 3.5 kilograms at birth









In the first half of 2021, poverty incidence among the population of the Cordillera Administrative Region (CAR), or the proportion of poor Filipinos in the region whose per capita income is not sufficient to meet the basic food and non-food needs was estimated at 16.2 percent. This means that about 295.5 thousand individuals in the region live below the poverty threshold of PhP 14,203.00. Poverty statistics provide important poverty information such as the food and poverty thresholds and the subsistence and poverty incidences. It also contains other useful poverty-related statistics like income gap, poverty gap, and the severity of poverty.

On the other hand, the subsistence incidence among Filipinos in the region was recorded at 6.7 percent in the First Semester of 2021. These are the proportion of the population whose income is not enough to meet even the basic food needs. This is translated to about 122.4 thousand Cordilleran whose income is below the monthly per capita food threshold of PhP 9,796.00.

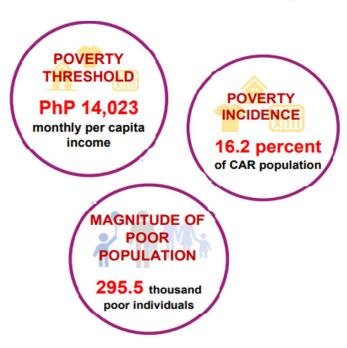
In terms of the poverty threshold or the minimum income required for a family or individual to meet the basic food and non-food needs (clothing, housing, transportation, health, and education expenses), Mountain Province registered the highest among the CAR provinces with PhP 15,610.00. The individual or family is considered poor when the income falls below the threshold. The higher prices of goods and services in the province compared to other areas in the region were the main reason for the high threshold. The threshold of Mountain Province for the First Semester of 2021 was an increase of 16.8 percent from the First Semester of 2018.

Per Capita Poverty Threshold, CAR: First Semester 2021

Region/Province	First Semester Per Capita Poverty Threshold (in PhP)	
	2018	2021
Cordillera Administrative Region (CAR)	12,358	14,023
Abra	12,406	14,321
Apayao	11,523	12,797
Benguet (w/o the City of Baguio)	11,785	13,404
City Of Baguio	12,050	13,759
Ifugao	12,948	14,432
Kalinga	11,851	12,920
Mt. Province	13,366	15,610

Source: Philippine Statistics Authority - CAR

The province of Ifugao recorded the second-highest threshold with PhP 14,432.00, an increase of 11.5 percent from the PhP 12,948.00 poverty threshold posted in the First semester of 2018. Abra came next with PhP 14,321.00 recorded per capita poverty threshold.



Source: Philippine Statistics Authority - CAR

On food threshold, the province of Apayao had the lowest threshold of PhP 8,936. 00. The food threshold is the minimum income required for a family or individual to meet the basic food needs and satisfy the nutritional requirements set by the Food and Nutrition Research Institute (FNRI) to be economically and socially productive. If the income of the individual or family falls below the food threshold, they are considered subsistence poor or food poor. They are also called poorer than poor since they could not provide for themselves adequate sustenance to carry out productive activities.

The estimated per capita food threshold in the Cordillera region in the First Semester of 2021 was PhP 9,796.00. With this, an individual needed a minimum of monthly PhP 816.00 on hand to meet the basic food needs set by the FNRI. The food items to be bought are the least cost nutritionally adequate food and have to be prepared at the most basic means.

Among the provinces, Mountain Province posted the highest food threshold with PhP 10,925.00 in the First Semester of 2021. Benguet (excluding City of Baguio) and Apayao had the lowest food thresholds at PhP 9,312.00, and PhP 8,936.00, respectively. The City of Baguio recorded Php 9,361.00 food threshold for the First Semester of 2021.

POOR FAMILIES in CAR reach 54 thousand

Poverty incidence or the proportion of poor Filipino families in the Cordillera region whose per capita income is not sufficient to meet the basic food and non-food needs was estimated at 12.1 percent in the First Semester of 2021. This translates to about 54 thousand families in the region who lived below the poverty threshold of PhP 14,203.00 per capita.

Poverty threshold refers to the minimum income required for a family or individual to meet the basic food and non-food needs (clothing, housing, transportation, health, and education expenses). If the income falls below the threshold, the individual or family is considered poor.

On the other hand, the subsistence incidence among families in the region or the proportion of families whose income is not enough to meet even the basic food needs was recorded at 4.8 percent. This is translated to about 21.4 thousand families whose income is below the monthly per capita food threshold of PhP 9,796.00 in the first semester of 2021.

Among the provinces in CAR, Mountain Province had the highest poverty incidence among families with 22.7 percent. This means that about 23 families out of 100 families are poor in the province. This was a decrease of 1.7 percentage points from 24.4 percent poverty incidence in the First Semester of 2018.



Per Capita Food Threshold, CAR: First Semester 2021

Region/Province	First Semester Per Capita FoodThreshold (in Php)	
	2018	2021
Cordillera Administrative Region (CAR)	8,622	9,796
Abra	8,664	10,299
Apayao	8,047	8,936
Benguet (w/o the City of Baguio)	8,239	9,312
City Of Baguio	8,478	9,361
Ifugao	9,207	10,074
Kalinga	8,268	9,008
Mt. Province	9,336	10,925

Source: Philippine Statistics Authority - CAR

Apayao is the province with the highest decline in terms of poverty incidence, from 23.2 percent of poor families in the First Semester of 2018 to 12.6 percent in the First Semester of 2021. The number of poor families decreased by 48.5 percent from 6.8 thousand in the First Semester of 2018 to 3.5 percent in the First Semester of 2021.

The proportion of poor families in the province of Benguet increased from 8.8 percent in the First Semester of 2018 to 10.8 percent in 2021. Benguet remained to be the least poor province in the Cordillera despite being the only province with increased poverty incidence in the First Semester of 2021. Poverty incidence among families in Baguio City also went up from 2.7 percent in the First Semester of 2018 to 3.4 percent in the First Semester of 2021.

The province with the highest subsistence incidence in the First Semester of 2021 in the Cordillera region was Mountain Province. Subsistence incidence is the proportion of families or individuals with per capita income/expenditure less than the per capita food threshold to the total number of families or individuals. Mountain Province had the highest percentage of food poor families in the First Semester of 2021 with 9.1 percent. This was a decrease of 1.0 percentage point from 10.1 percent in the First Semester of 2018. Food threshold is the minimum income required for a family or individual to meet the basic food needs and satisfy the nutritional requirements set by the Food and Nutrition Research Institute (FNRI) for them to be economically and socially productive. If the income of the individual or family falls below the food threshold, they are considered subsistence poor or food poor. They are also called poorer than poor since they could not provide for themselves adequate sustenance to carry out productive activities.

The percentage of food poor families in the province of Benguet increased from 3.9 percent in the First Semester of 2018 to 5.0 percent in the First Semester of 2021; while Ifugao from 5.0 percent to 5.4 percent. The subsistence incidence of poor families in Baguio City also increased from 0.9 percent to 1.4 percent in the First Semester of 2021. Meanwhile, the province of Apayao had the highest percent difference in subsistence incidence with a decrease of 7 percentage points from 11.2 percent of food poor families in the First Semester of 2018. It went down to 4.2 percent in the First Semester of 2021.

Price of goods and services in CAR slightly increase in 2022

Consumer Price Index by Province and HUC, CAR: March 2022



The Consumer Price Index (CPI) of the Cordillera Administrative Region (CAR) in January 2022 was 111.7. This was higher by 3.3 and 0.7 index points from the 108.4 CPI of January 2021 and 111.0 CPI of December 2021 using 2018 as the base year. The CPI continues to gain increases with 112.0 in February 2022 and 112.6 in March 2022. CPI is the general measure of the change in the average retail prices of a market basket or collection of goods and services commonly purchased by the average Filipino household. Market basket is a sample of goods and services used to represent all goods and services produced or bought.

In general, the CPI increased reflecting the rise in the average prices of goods and services in all the six provinces and highly urbanized city (HUC) in CAR. The CPI of the region in March 2022 was 112.6 index points, higher by 5.5 index points from the 107.1 CPI of March 2021 using 2018 as base year. Among the CAR provinces/HUC, Mountain Province posted the highest CPI for March 2022 with 116.2 index points, followed by Ifugao with 114.1 index points, and Benguet and Kalinga, both with 113.9 index points. Meanwhile, Apayao posted the lowest CPI with 110.4 index points.

CPI by Commodity Groups

Among the commodity groups, Financial Services had the highest CPI in the region with 139.2 index points. The province of Abra incurred the highest CPI on this commodity with 160.4 index points, followed by Apayao, Benguet, and Kalinga with 146.0 index points.

Alcoholic Beverages and Tobacco ranked second among the commodity groups in the region for March 2022 with 134.1 index points. Among the provinces, Mountain Province had the highest CPI on alcoholic beverages and tobacco with 155.6 index points, while Benguet had the lowest with 120.6 index points.

Restaurants and Accommodation Services registered the third highest CPI with 120.1 index points in the region. Mountain Province recorded the highest index on Restaurants and Accommodation Services among the provinces/HUC with 139.1 index points, followed by Abra and Kalinga with 132.4 and 130.5 index points, respectively.

Information and Communication incurred the lowest CPI among the commodity groups in the region during the month of March 2022 with 101.8 index points. The province of Benguet incurred the highest index on Information and Communication with 103.2 index points, while Mountain Province had the lowest with 99.5 index points.

Among the provinces/HUC in CAR, Mountain Province incurred the highest CPI for All Items with 116.2 index points, while Apayao garnered the lowest CPI with 110.4 index points in March 2022.

By index point change, all commodity groups in March 2022 incurred increases in index points using 2018 as the base year. Financial Services recorded the highest increase with 39.2 points. This was followed by Transport and Alcoholic Beverages and Tobacco with the index point change of 18.3 points and 7.1 points, respectively.

Information and Communication had the lowest increase of points in March 2022 with 0.4 points.

Inflation Rate

The average increase in the prices of goods and services in the region was 5.1% in March 2022, higher by 2.0 percentage points compared with the inflation of 3.1% in March 2021. Inflation rate (IR) is the rate of change in the average price level between two periods (year-on-year/month-onmonth as measured by the CPI).

Benguet posted the highest inflation rate in March 2022 with 8.3%, followed by Baguio City and Mt. Province with 4.4% and 4.0%, respectively. Apayao incurred the lowest inflation rate in the Cordillera region with 3.0%.

The provinces of Abra, Apayao, and Benguet, including the only HUC in the region (Baguio City), recorded a higher inflation rate for March 2022 compared to March 2021 using 2018 as base year. The remaining provinces recorded lower inflation rates compared to the previous year.

Purchasing Power of the Peso (PPP)

The Purchasing Power of the Peso (PPP) in all the provinces generally weakened in March 2022 compared to the same month of the previous year. PPP measures how much the peso in the reference year is worth in another year.

The value of 1 peso in the region was 89 centavos in March 2022. It dropped by four centavos from 93 centavos in March 2021 Apayao had the highest peso value with 91 centavos, followed by Abra and Baguio City with 90 centavos. Meanwhile, Mountain Province had the lowest peso value with 86 centavos.

Conversely, a basket of goods that can be bought with 100 pesos in December 2018 is worth 112.6 pesos in March 2022.

Year-on-Year Inflation Rates by Province and HUC, CAR: March 2021 and 2022



(2018=100)



PSA conducts first survey on **Women** and **ICT Development**

The Philippine Statistics Authority (PSA) conducted the first survey on information communications technology (ICT) focusing on women and girls in the First Quarter of 2022 as a commitment to the Asia Pacific Women's Information Network Center (APWINC) in 2019. This mandated the conduct of a national survey on women and ICT. The survey dubbed the Women and Information Communications Technology (ICT) Development Index (WIDI) Survey was conducted region-wide from 31 January to 26 February 2022.

The WIDI Survey aims to gather baseline data on ICT access, use, and skills of women and girls in the country. The survey is useful such that it enriches the domain of women and ICT by establishing key indicators that will capture the situation of women focusing on aspects of the Digital Economy, ICT Access, and ICT Usage that are affecting women the most. The information to be generated from the survey will be useful for the government to create appropriate policies and programs on ICT development to benefit women and girls. Specifically, the survey aims to 1) obtain data on ICT access by women and girls in target households; 2) indicate the extent of ICT use for education, employment, livelihood, and entrepreneurship among women and girls; and 3) provide the evidence for ICT policy and planning focused on women and girls.

The WIDI Survey utilized android tablets in data collection which allowed the PSA to capitalize on the use of IT-driven tool in its surveys and significantly reduce the time for data processing. The enumeration period for the survey lasted for 24 days from 31 January to 26 February 2022, including Saturdays. Prior to the field survey, statisticians, regional and provincial focal persons involved in the survey operations, and field interviewers underwent a series of training to familiarize themselves

Families visited for data on income and expenses

2The Philippine Statistics Authority (PSA) conducted the second visit of the 2021 Family and Income Expenditure Survey (FIES) from 10 January to 05 February 2022. FIES is a survey on family income and expenditure of households undertaken by the PSA and is the main source of data on family and expenditure across the country. The information gathered include among others levels of consumption by item of expenditure as well sources of income in cash and in-kind across the country.

In the previous years, the FIES was conducted every five years from 1957 to 1975, but beginning in 1985 there were adjustments of new contents and new methodologies to the survey. These reduced the frequency to three years and with sample households being interviewed in two separate visits within a year, and are asked with the same set of questionnaires.

The FIES specifically discusses levels of living and disparities in income and spending patterns of families belonging to different income groups. This also includes related information such as the number of family members employed for pay or profit (or as wage, salary, or own-account workers); occupation, age, and educational attainment of household head; and other housing characteristics.

The second round of the FIES gathered data on the income and expenditure of families for the second semester or from July to

with the concepts and definitions, use of android tablets, and procedures for the conduct of the WIDI survey. The field interviewers or statistical researchers were provided with PSA WIDI Survey identification cards, wore appropriate PPEs and face masks, presented their vaccination cards, and strictly observed the COVID-19 health and safety protocols when they visited from house to house during the data collection.

The WIDI survey was conducted to gauge the potential of information and communications technologies (ICTs) for women's empowerment. With the reality that women still face a number of cultural and practical barriers to ICT access, initiatives along this line are still new and there are issues encountered on the lack of data on gender and ICT. Goal 5 of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDG) 2030 focuses on gender equality and recognizes the role of ICT in women's and girls' empowerment enabling them to participate in social and economic development activities. With the pandemic, the work environment for women and girls greatly changed to cope with the new normal. Their participation in livelihood and economic activities relies mostly on the use of ICT, and also on consideration of the existing health protocols and limited mobility.

December 2021. The survey utilized the Computer Assisted Personal Interviewing (CAPI) application using tablets as a method of data collection during field enumeration. The use of the CAPI in field interviewing was first introduced by PSA in 2021. In classifying the expenditure items of the family for this survey round, the FIES Visit 2 adopted the 2020 Philippine Classification of Individual Consumption According to Purpose (PCOICOP)

In all surveys of the PSA, sample households are encouraged to cooperate and provide truthful, complete, and accurate information to the field interviewers. The PSA assures that all information gathered on the survey are confidential and not for disclosure unless authorized by law in adherence to the principles of transparency, legitimate purpose, and proportionality of RA No. 10173 or the Data Privacy Act of 2012 and RA No.10625 or the Philippine Statistical Act of 2013.

The PSA also assures the public that required public health and safety measures to contain COVID-19 are strictly observed in all phases of field operations. All PSA personnel and hired field interviewers and team supervisors deployed for the survey are in good health condition and strictly follow precautionary measures and protocols against COVID-19 laid down by the Local Government Units (LGUs) such as wearing of face mask and face shield, physical distancing, proper hygiene and sanitation, and wearing of PSA ID are likewise observed during the enumeration.

