CHILD POVERTY IN THE PHILIPPINES

REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES
PHILIPPINE STATISTICS AUTHORITY

unicef

Child Poverty in the Philippines

Republic of the Philippines
Philippine Statistics Authority

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The findings, interpretations, and conclusions in this publication are those of the authors and do not necessarily reflect those of PSA and UNICEF and other institutions associated with the studies presented in this book.

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Table of Contents

List of Tables and Figures

Tables

Figures

Foreword

The Global Study on Child Poverty and Disparities was launched by the United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF) in 2007, and has since evolved to include research studies from 54 countries on their respective vulnerable groups, including children, and their rights. Following the release of the Philippine country report in 2010, the publication of this updated report is a logical next step if we truly want to track the progress of government initiatives on child welfare vis-à-vis the Philippine Millennium Development Goals (MDGs).

In collaboration with the National Statistical Coordination Board (now part of the Philippine Statistics Authority), UNICEF releases this latest edition to continue to highlight some of the prevalent issues on Filipino child welfare, particularly at the provincial level.

Using data from the triennial Family Income and Expenditures Survey, the Annual Poverty Indicator Survey and the Labor Force Survey, which were conducted from 2003 to 2009, this latest edition aims to provide a more in-depth description of poor children with a special focus on children and their families that move in and out of poverty, as well as to review how the government's biggest social protection programme has fared thus far. It also analyses multiple dimensions of poverty and deprivation issues haunting children. Such key issues are also featured in five UNICEF policy briefs that accompany this book's release.

Some results in the study were already underscored in the first edition, reinforcing the fact that while some national and local programmes have proven themselves effective, there are still child welfare concerns that need to be addressed via more directed public policies and programmes.

With the deadline set for the MDGs in the horizon, results of this study serve as reference points on where the Philippines stands relative to its targets on the MDGs and other national development goals, and what still needs to be done. In some cases, findings here may connote revisiting programmes as well as tweaking and even redirecting them so as to focus more attention on groups that matter most. The fact that six out of the eight MDG goals concern children should remind us of the importance of children and of making sure that their rights are respected, protected and fulfilled.

Lotta Sylwander
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Executive Summary

In societies where poverty is a day-to-day struggle, children suffer the most as they comprise the most vulnerable group in any population. Poverty impacts directly on children's physical and intellectual growth. In the Philippines, despite the country's recent economic progress, poverty continues to affect millions of families, most of which have young children. This is evident in the number of youths who wander in the urban streets, scavenge in dumpsites and landfills or those who, at an early age, are forced to drop out of school and to work so as to supplement their family income. The problem goes beyond mere lack of income or assets for these children's families. Their situation speaks of a roster of factors that range from lack of appropriate skills to family heads' inability to control fertility, intertwined with lack of job opportunities and other economic problems.

Using recent nationally representative survey data and administrative records from relevant government agencies, this report aims to contribute in understanding these interacting factors that cause the impoverished conditions of Filipino children. In particular, it comprehensively profiles the Filipino children in terms of income poverty, access to basic amenities, education, health and nutrition, and other aspects of well-being. It serves as an update to the 2010 Philippine report under the UNICEF's Global Study on Child Poverty and Disparities. This latest version attempts to go deeper by analysing how movement in and out of poverty affects children. It recognizes that the poor is not a homogenous group. There are those who are persistently poor because of lack of appropriate qualifications and deficient employability skills, but there are also those who, even with relatively high educational attainment, are too vulnerable that an economic shock or natural calamity can easily pull them down to the bottom of the social ladder.

Using panel data from the Philippines' Family Income and Expenditure Survey (FIES), this paper also looks into how such dynamics affects children's welfare. Meanwhile, to complement the profile on child poverty, this paper scrutinizes how the government has faired so far in addressing poverty via its biggest social protection programme, the *Pantawid Pamilyang Pilipino Program* (4Ps). The brief review also touches on a variant of the *Pantawid Pamilya* that caters to street families, particularly its design and targeting strategy, and other Department of Social Welfare and Development programmes involving the welfare of children.

This report emphasizes the spatial dimension, owing to the archipelagic nature of the Philippines. The concept of deprivation is drawn from the methodology developed in the UNICEF's Global Study on Child Poverty and Disparities. Whenever possible, the household surveys---the FIES and the Annual Poverty Indicator Survey (APIS), the key sources of information for this report but which provide only household characteristics---were merged with their parent survey, the Labor Force Survey, to obtain individual-level characteristics of family members. Therefore, the household panel dataset consisting of the 2003, 2006 and 2009 rounds of the FIES and used to analyse the movements of households in and out of poverty, also contains the individual information of family members, making a rich and in-depth profiling possible.

This discussion on the condition of children living in poverty attempts to answer the following research questions: *How many children are affected by deprivation in terms of health, education, income, shelter, and sanitation? Where are we in the fight against child poverty? To whom and where should we direct our scarce resources?* The answers to these questions can help the Philippine government and various stakeholders design effective programmes and identify priority areas for possible interventions.

The evidence shows that combating child poverty in the Philippines continues to be a challenging task. In fact, both the incidence and magnitude of income poor are increasing, which indicates that efforts have not kept up with the rising number of children living below the poverty threshold. In 2009, around 13.4 million (or 36%) of all children aged below 18 years were considered income poor. There was an increment of around 2.3 million poor children since 2003. Because of the lack of inclusive economic growth and the persistently high population growth in recent years, the number of poor children is not expected to significantly drop within the next few years. In fact, the increasing frequency and severity of natural calamities could put more children at risk of income poverty when these calamities destroy their families' productive assets.

Income poverty alone could not fully capture the dire situation of children. In 2009, around 4 million children were severely deprived of sanitary toilet facilities, 4 million did not have access to safe water, and 260,000 utterly lacked decent shelter. The path to achieving universal access to sanitary toilet is still farfetched. In fact, efforts in improving access to safe water sources also need to be expedited as the situation has worsened in recent times. Although the number of those deprived of decent shelter at the national level has gone down, it remains a huge concern in the urban centres. The country has 1.4 million living in informal settlements, up from 1.3 million in 2003. Also, a sizable 6.5 million do not have access to electricity in their homes, while 3.4 million are severely deprived of the means to access information. Moreover, a considerable number of children suffer from multiple and overlapping kinds of deprivation. Around 10 million children face at least two overlapping types of severe deprivation, while three-quarters of a million youths encounter at least five kinds of deprivation simultaneously.

In terms of education, keeping children in school is indeed a tall order. The key issues centre on the low cohort survival and poor scholastic achievement rates. Hardly had the cohort survival rates and completion rates of both elementary and secondary levels improved in the last decade. In 2011, largely because of poverty, 5.5 million children were forced to work so as to augment the family income. These children, thus, were unable to pursue their education, adversely affecting their ability to find better work opportunities in the future. Older children and boys---when compared to the younger set and girls---are found to be more likely to be out of school and working.

While elementary education is more accessible given that there is at least one elementary school in almost all 40,000 *barangays* (villages) in the country, secondary education is more expensive and less accessible because high school institutions are usually located in the town proper or in the city. Moreover, the opportunity cost for older children is larger; poor families would prefer their children to work than study. Meanwhile, the reason boys are less advantaged than girls needs to be further investigated. On the overall, without the necessary intervention, low cohort survival and completion rates are likely to persist.

Poor achievement rates among students are a reflection of the lack of improvement in the quality of education. The National Achievement Test score for 6th graders improved by a mere 3 points within the last four years. In 2012, the mean score was 69 per cent, which fell short of the desired 75 per cent. The National Achievement Test score for high school students likewise failed to improve notably. Significant enhancement of school inputs (e.g., school buildings and classrooms, teachers, teaching materials, books) also remains a formidable task. The new K-12 programme will pose new challenges in addressing the supply constraints as well as the capacity of families to keep their children in school. Thus, should government programmes be able to address these supply-and-demand constraints, it would be easier for families to invest more in human capital.

The updated Philippine Development Plan recognizes the need to have spatial focus to address the specific needs of provinces. That is, given wide variations in performances across subnational regions, targeting beneficiaries for future interventions is necessary. Three out of four income poor children are living in rural areas. Furthermore, 8 out of 10 are severely deprived of sanitary toilet while 7 out of 10 do not have access to safe water. Regions where the condition of

children is so dismal in so many aspects (and therefore should be prioritized in interventions) are the Zamboanga Peninsula, Eastern Visayas and the Autonomous Region in Muslim Mindanao. A development strategy that takes a more targeted approach will hopefully address the varying needs of children across the provinces.


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Introduction

In societies where poverty is a day-to-day struggle, children suffer the most as they comprise the most vulnerable group in any population. Poverty impacts directly on children's physical and intellectual growth. In the Philippines, despite the country's recent economic progress, poverty continues to affect millions of families, most of which have young children. This is visible in the number of children who wander the urban streets, scavenge in Manila's Smokey Mountain and other landfills, or are forced to drop out of school at an early age and instead work so as to supplement their family income.

The problem goes beyond mere lack of income or assets for these children's families. Behind their situation is a myriad of factors that range from lack of appropriate skills to household heads' inability to control fertility, intertwined with lack of job opportunities and other economic problems.

Using recent nationally representative survey data and administrative records from concerned government agencies, this report aims to better understand these interacting factors that cause the impoverished conditions of Filipino children. In particular, it comprehensively profiles Filipino children in terms of income poverty, access to basic amenities, education, health and nutrition, and other aspects of well-being. This study serves as an update to the 2010 Philippine report of the UNICEF's Global Study on Child Poverty and Disparities. Moreover, this version attempts to further analyse how the movements in and out of poverty affect children.

The poor is not a homogenous group. There are those who are persistently poor because of lack of appropriate work qualifications and deficient employability skills, and there are also those who, even with relatively high educational attainment, are too vulnerable such that an economic shock or natural calamity can easily drag them to the bottom of the social ladder. Using panel data from the Philippines' Family Income and Expenditure Survey (FIES), this paper also looks into how such dynamics affects children's welfare. Meanwhile, to complement this profiling, it scrutinizes how the government has faired in addressing poverty via its biggest social protection programme, the *Pantawid Pamilyang Pilipino Program* (4Ps) and briefly reviews a variant of the *Pantawid Pamilya* programme that caters to street families, particularly its design and targeting strategy, and other DSWD programmes on children's welfare.

This report emphasizes the spatial dimension, owing to the archipelagic nature of the Philippines. The concept of deprivation is heavily drawn from the methodology developed in the UNICEF's Global Study on Child Poverty and Disparities. Whenever possible, the household surveys---the FIES and the Annual Poverty Indicator Survey (APIS), the key sources of information for this report although they provide only household characteristics---were merged with their parent survey, the Labor Force Survey (LFS), to obtain individual-level characteristics of family members. Therefore, the household panel dataset from the 2003, 2006, and 2009 FIES rounds used to analyse the movements of households in and out of poverty also contains individual information on family members, thus making a rich and in-depth profiling possible.

This discussion on the condition of children living in poverty attempts to answer the following research questions: (1) *How many children are deprived in terms of health, education, income, shelter and sanitation?* (2) *Where are we in the fight against child poverty?* (3) *To whom and where should we direct our scarce resources?* The answers to these questions can help the government and various stakeholders in designing effective programmes and in identifying priority areas for possible interventions.

The next section of this report starts by looking at the overall poverty trends and background of children's poverty situation. Section 3 then discusses the incidence of child poverty, in varying intensities and types, as well as its correlates. Section 4 tackles the situation of children in chronic and transient poverty. This is followed by an illustration of the non-income measures of deprivation in Section 5. The hurdles that children face in achieving education are discussed in Section 6, followed by issues on survival and nutrition in Section 7. Section 8 summarizes the deprivation problem. Sections 9, 10 and 11 look at child labour, children with disability and children who are victims of violence, respectively. A ranking of regions based on the different poverty dimensions can be found in Section 12. This aims to identify priority areas so as to effectively target the right beneficiaries of social development programmes. Section 13 briefly reviews several interventions already in place to improve children's well-being, while Section 14 provides the summaries and conclusions.

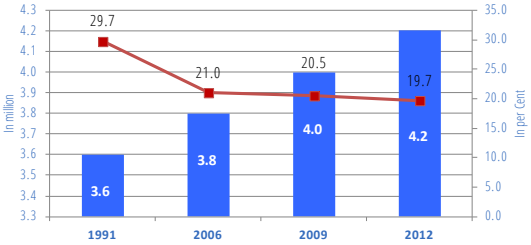
Poverty Trends

Recently, the Philippines has experienced one of its most robust economic growth performances in years. The country's gross domestic product grew robustly at an average rate of 6 per cent during the last three years. Prior to the 2009 global recession, the Philippines' output had been growing by 5.3 per cent on the average each year. Gross domestic product growth in 2013 was at 7.2 per cent, higher than that for the same period in the past year (6.8%). Nevertheless, despite the recent economic upturn, poverty reduction remains slow.

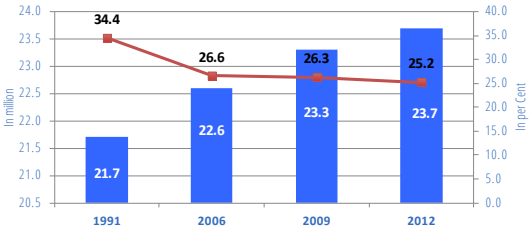
Movements in the poverty head count rate of the Philippines in recent times have been dismal. In fact, gauging from the latest three estimates, the poverty incidence based on national poverty line has levelled off. From 21 per cent in 2006, the poverty incidence among families went down to 20 per cent in 2012. The proportion of the poor population also dropped by only 2 percentage points within the same period (i.e., from 27% to 25%). If one compares the current performance of the country to that in 1991, the reduction in poverty incidence is only at most 10 percentage points. Because there has not been significant reduction in poverty rates and because of population growth, the number of poor is ever increasing. In 2012, an estimated 4.2 million families---higher than the 3.6 million households back in 1991---were considered poor. In terms of headcount, there were 23.7 million individuals living below the poverty line in 2012, higher by 2 million compared to that in 1991 (*see Figure 2.1*).

Figure 2.1: Magnitude and incidence of poverty, Philippines, 1991-2012

A. Families



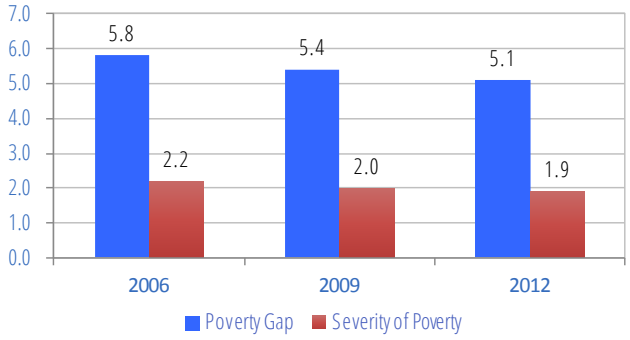
B. Population



Sources of basic data: National Statistics Office and National Statistical Coordination Board[1].

In terms of depth of poverty, *Figure 2.2* shows the same sluggish improvement earlier indicated by the poverty head count ratio. Poverty gap has narrowed by a measly 0.7 point from 5.8 in 2006 to 5.1 in 2012, indicating that the poor Filipinos continue to struggle to earn the minimum income level for their basic needs. Poverty severity, a measure of poverty intensity but which accounts for inequality, also indicates the same slow progress. From 2.2 in 2006, it went down to 1.9 in 2012.

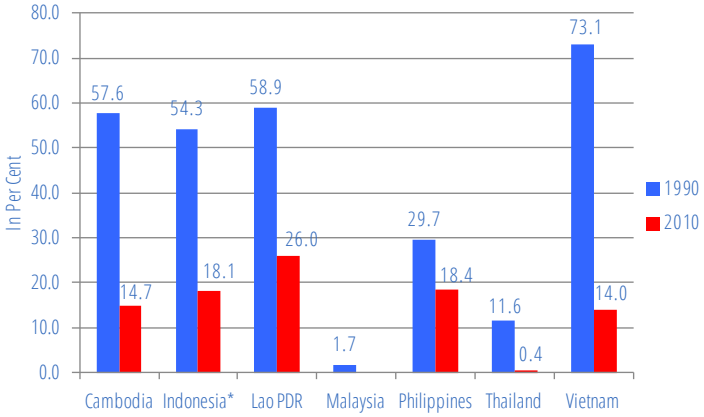
Figure 2.2: Poverty gap and severity, 2006-2012



Sources of basic data: National Statistical Coordination Board.[1]

To compare the Philippines' poverty condition vis-à-vis other countries, the World Bank's US$1.25 a day was used as threshold. Indeed, the Philippines lags behind many of its neighbours in Southeast Asia. Back in the early 1990s, the country had one of the lowest poverty rates at about 30 per cent. Vietnam then had about three-quarters (or 73%) of its population living below US$1.25 per day. Likewise, majority of the population in Indonesia and Cambodia was considered extremely poor based on the same measure. Two decades later, the Philippines reduced its poverty rate by 38 per cent, a measly achievement given that its neighbours were able to cut down their own poverty rates by at least 55 per cent. In fact, Thailand was able to almost eradicate poverty, reducing 97 per cent of its poverty rate (*see Figure 2.3*).

Figure 2.3: Poverty headcount by country (estimates closest to 1990 and 2010)

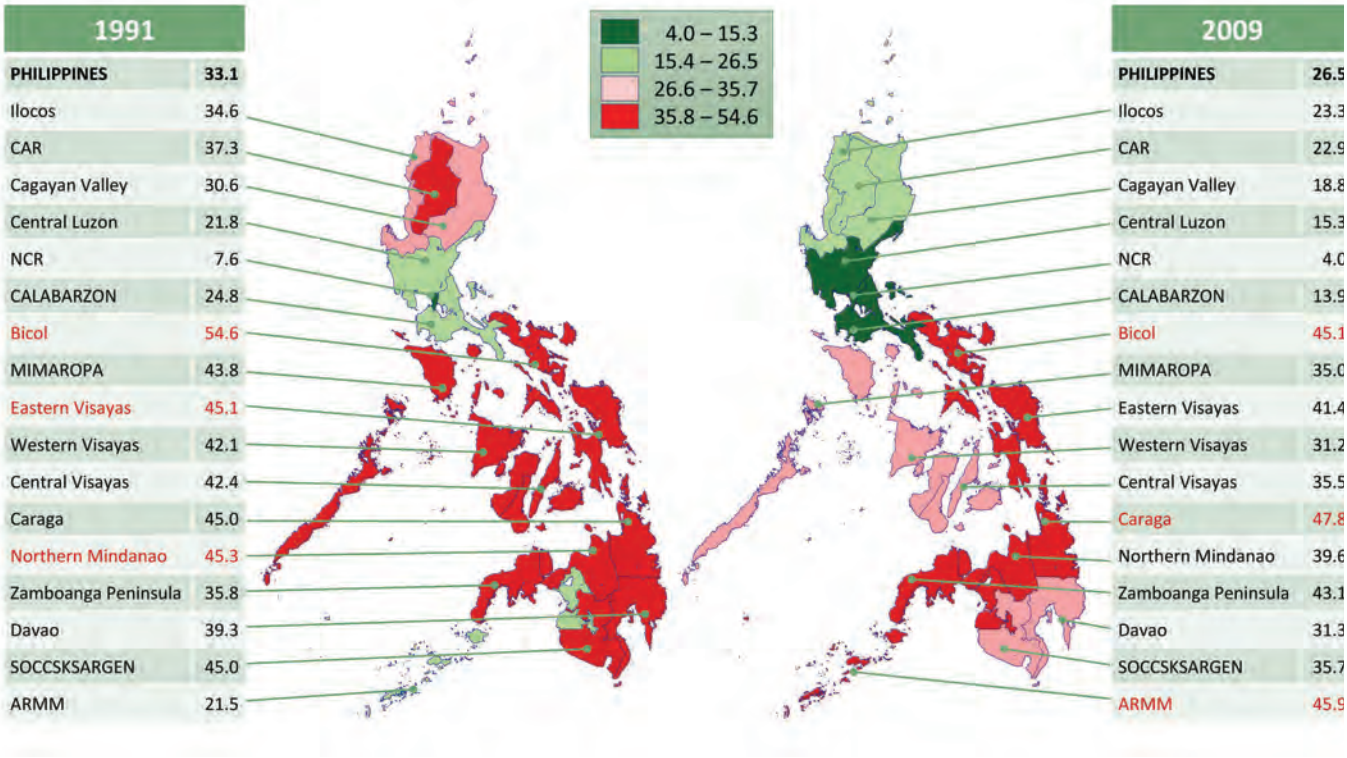


Source: PovcalNet (Retrieved June 24, 2013), World Bank Website.

[1] Based on new poverty estimation.

A very important characteristic of the poverty situation in the Philippines is the large variation across sub-national regions. The progress made in 1991 to 2009 is seen mostly in regions in the main island of Luzon. Meanwhile, Visayas and Mindanao, the country's two other main island groups, continue to lag behind. This variation in poverty incidences across regions is shown in *Figure 2.4*. The left map shows the regional poverty rates in 1991 while the one on the right shows the 2009 estimates. Regions are shaded in either green or red. Red (green) colour indicates worse (better) performance vis-à-vis the national estimate. The darker the shade, the farther the estimate is from the national average; hence dark red (green) pertains to worst (best) performances.

Figure 2.4: Proportion of population living below the poverty threshold by region, 1991 and 2009 (in %)



Sources of basic data: National Statistics Office and National Statistical Coordination Board.

The improvement in poverty situations across all regions of Luzon, except for Bicol Region, is evident from the change in shade from either red to light green or from light green to dark green. For instance, Cagayan Valley (or Region II) was able to slash its poverty rate from 30.6 per cent to 18.8 per cent, while the National Capital Region (NCR) had its headcount rate reduced by almost half (i.e., from 7.6%, the rate dropped to 4%). The CALABARZON's[2] poverty rate also went down by about 10 points. Ilocos Region and the Cordillera Administrative Region (CAR) also saw an over 10-point decrease in their poverty rates. Even Bicol Region was able to lower its incidence by roughly 10 points, although this was not enough to reach the national rate.

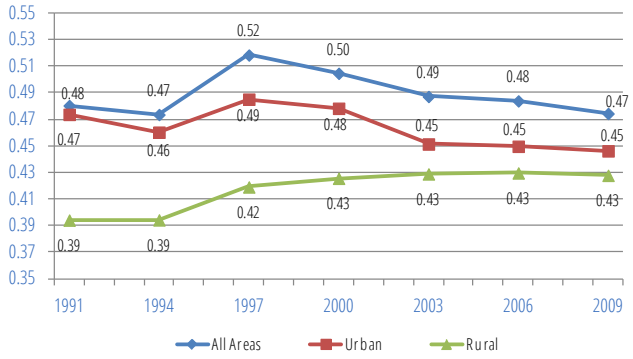
There have been modest improvements in the Visayas. Except for Eastern Visayas, the other two regions in the Visayas saw their poverty rates go down from over 40 per cent to over 30 per cent. Nonetheless, the improvements came short of the national figure. Mindanao, on the other hand, clearly lags behind as shown by a predominantly red colour all throughout the island group. Improvements in some regions such as those for Northern Mindanao (Region X), Davao (XI), and SOCCSKSARGEN[3] (XII) have not been significant as their poverty rates failed to even come close to the national average. Three regions in Mindanao even saw worse poverty rates. These are Caraga (or Region XIII), Zamboanga Peninsula (Region

[2] CALABARZON derives its name from the names of five provinces comprising the region: CAvite, LAguna, BAtangas, Rizal and QueZON.
[3] SOCCSKSARGEN stands for Region XII's four provinces and one city: South Cotabato, Cotabato, Sultan Kudarat, Sarangani and General Santos City.

IX) and the Autonomous Region in Muslim Mindanao (ARMM). Specifically, ARMM had alarmingly doubled its poverty rate in the last 18 years.

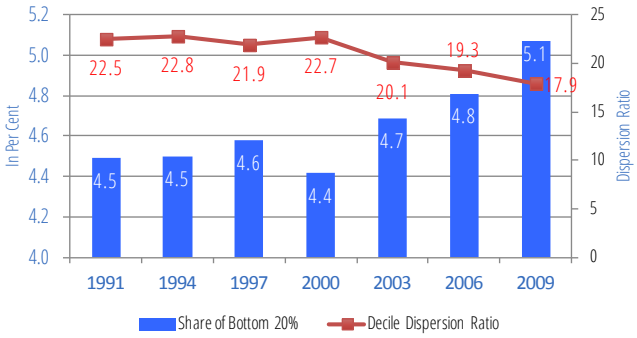
Apart from the slow reduction in poverty rates, inequality remains. The Gini index barely moved from 0.4803 in 1991 to 0.4743 in 2009. Worse, the Gini coefficient for the rural areas, where most of the poor were located, even increased. From 0.39 in 1991, the rural Gini went up to 0.43 in 2009 (*see Figure 2.5*). The share in income of the poorest quintile to the total income in 2009 had changed by a mere 0.6 percentage point (i.e., from 4.5% to 5.1%) since 1991. On the other hand, the decile dispersion shows a relatively larger downward movement from around 23.0 to 18.0, indicating a narrower gap between the richest and poorest income deciles (*see Figure 2.6*). The persisting poverty and widening inequality reflect the vulnerable situation children are in. The next section presents the facets of child poverty and welfare disparities in the country.

Figure 2.5: Gini coefficient by area, 1991-2009



Source: Authors' estimates based on Family Income and Expenditure Survey, National Statistics Office.

Figure 2.6: Share of bottom 20% and decile dispersion ratio, 1991-2009



Source: Authors' estimates based on Family Income and Expenditure Survey, National Statistics Office.

Child Poverty

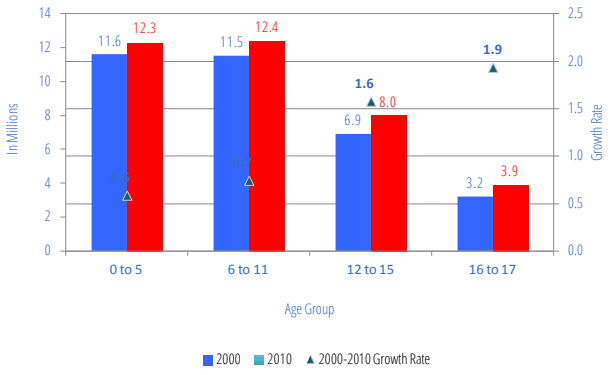
Demographic Profile

From 2000 to 2010, the Philippine population grew at 1.9 per cent per year, a rate slower than the 2.3 per cent of the previous decade. Even so, the Philippines has a fertility rate of 3.2 births per woman (2010 figure), which is next only to Lao PDR (3.3 births) in terms of the highest fertility rate in the ASEAN bloc. All other neighbouring countries—namely, Vietnam (1.8), Thailand (1.4), Malaysia (2.0), Myanmar (2.0), Indonesia (2.4), Brunei Darussalam (2.1), Singapore (1.2), and Cambodia (3.0)—have lower fertility rates[4]. A higher fertility rate may hinder efforts to improve the children and their families' welfare.

In 2010, around 40 per cent (or 36.6 million) of the Philippine population of 92 million was composed of children aged below 18 years. This cohort has been growing at 1 per cent annually within the latest decade (i.e., 2000-2010). The 16-17 year-old group grows at 1.9 per cent each year, and thus is the fastest growing age bracket among the youngsters. Meanwhile, the population of those aged 12 to 15 increases at 1.6 per cent each year (*see Figure 3.1*). The elementary-aged group (i.e., 6-11 years old) grows by 0.7 per cent, while the youngest cohort (i.e., aged 0 to 5) is at 0.6 per cent. Population growth rates of children by year of age are shown in *Figure 3.2*.

Of the 36.6 million children, around 33 per cent consists of the 0 to 5 age range, another 33 per cent is composed of elementary school-goers, 22 per cent (8 million) belongs to the 12-15 age group and 11 per cent consists of youngsters aged 16 to 17 years.

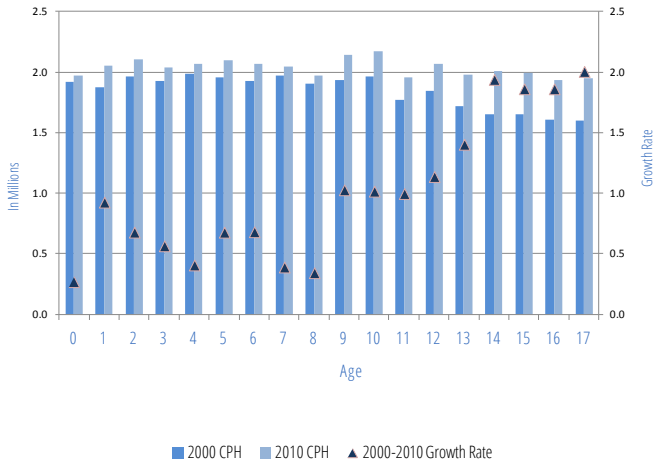
Figure 3.1: Population and annual growth rate of children, by age group, 2000 and 2010



Source: Census of Population and Housing, National Statistics Office.

[4] World Bank, World Development Indicators. <http://data.worldbank.org/indicator/SP.DYN.TFRT.IN?order=wbapi_data_value_2010+wbapi_data_value&sort=asc>.

Figure 3.2: Population and annual growth rate of children by age, 2000 and 2010



Source: Census of Population and Housing, National Statistics Office.

Incidence and Correlates of Income Poverty among Children

In 2009, about 13.4 million (35.5%) of all children aged below 18 years were considered income poor. This means that they have families that did not meet the minimum food and non-food basic needs. Based on the FIES and LFS data using the national official poverty estimation methodology,[5] the poverty threshold in 2009 was around 16,800 pesos (US$355) on average per person.[6] The proportion of poor children rose from about 33 per cent in 2003 to 35.2 per cent in 2006 and to 35.5 per cent in 2009. In absolute terms, this shows an increase of about 2.3 million within a six-year period.

The incidence of poverty is higher among children in larger families than in smaller families. Most children in families with seven or more members live below the poverty line, while only 15 per cent of children belonging to families with only three to four members are deemed as poor. Furthermore, the headcount poverty rate of children in large families has been gradually increasing: From 48 per cent in 2003, the headcount poverty rate rose to 52 per cent. In terms of share, 9 out of 10 poor children belong to households with five or more members (*see Table 3.1*).

[5] Based on the new methodology; not comparable with the estimates shown in the first Philippine Report on Child Poverty and Disparities.
[6] Poverty lines differ across provinces.

Table 3.1: Incidence, distribution, and growth of children in poverty by sub-group, 2003-2009

Sub-group	Incidence			Distribution			Annual growth rate of children in poverty 2003 -2009
	2003	2006	2009	2003	2006	2009	
Children (0-17)	33.0	35.2	35.5	100	100	100	3.1
Sex							
Male	33.0	35.3	35.4	51.2	51.2	50.7	2.9
Female	32.9	35.1	35.6	48.8	48.8	49.3	3.3
Family size							
Less than 3	9.0	7.7	8.2	0.3	0.3	0.3	2.1
3-4 members	15.1	15.6	15.2	10.1	9.3	9.3	1.8
5-6 members	29.1	31.9	32.9	34.3	35.6	37.2	4.5
7+	48.0	50.2	51.5	55.3	54.8	53.2	2.4
Geographic dimension							
NCR	4.9	8.1	6.7	1.7	2.9	2.0	6.0
CAR	27.3	31.8	30.4	1.6	1.7	1.5	2.5
I - Ilocos Region	30.7	35.4	31.0	4.8	6.0	4.5	2.2
II - Cagayan Valley	26.1	26.5	25.5	2.8	3.0	2.5	0.9
III - Central Luzon	17.2	20.7	21.2	5.1	6.6	6.0	5.9
IVA - CALABARZON	17.1	19.2	19.8	5.8	6.8	6.7	5.3
IVB - MMIMAROPA	44.3	50.2	44.4	4.4	5.6	4.6	3.7
V - Bicol Region	55.3	55.5	54.7	11.7	12.3	10.9	1.9
VI - Western Visayas	40.4	38.5	41.8	10.1	10.0	9.4	1.9
VII - Central Visayas	44.8	47.5	45.2	9.7	11.2	9.4	2.7
VIII - Eastern Visayas	46.6	48.4	50.9	7.9	7.9	7.6	2.4
IX - Zamboanga Peninsula	55.1	52.0	51.9	7.0	6.6	5.9	0.4
X - Northern Mindanao	46.7	47.9	48.4	7.0	7.2	6.6	2.0
XI - Davao	36.7	40.6	40.6	5.5	5.9	5.4	2.8
XII - SOCCSKSARGEN	40.9	41.1	44.7	5.9	5.7	5.8	2.8
XIII - Caraga	50.4	50.4	57.4	4.8	4.8	4.7	2.8
ARMM	37.8	48.2	54.1	4.0	6.4	6.4	10.9
Residence							
Urban	16.3	18.6	19.1	22.5	23.7	24.5	4.5
Rural 47.0	48.7	49.2	77.5	76.3	75.5	2.7	
Total number of children (0-17), In million	33.7	34.9	37.7				1.9

Source: Authors' estimates based on Matched Family Income and Expenditure Survey (2003, 2006, & 2009), and Labor Force Survey (January 2004, 2007, & 2010).

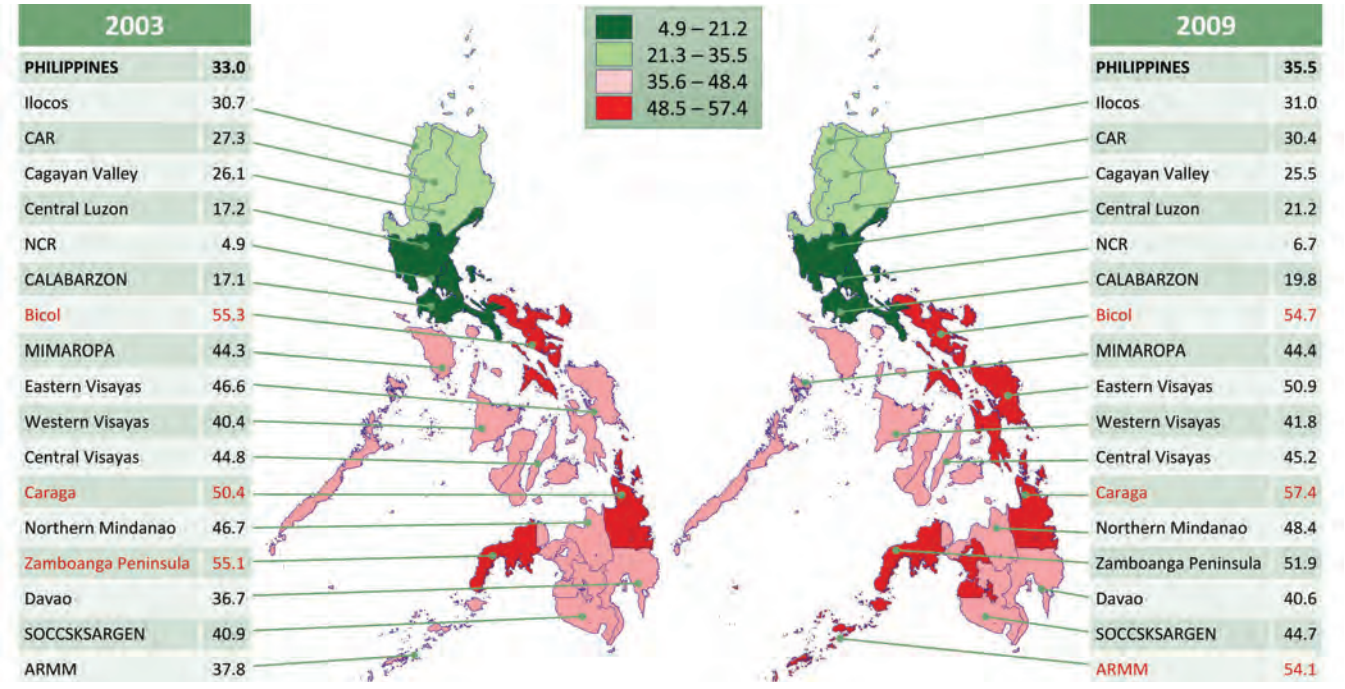
The poverty rate among children in rural areas, which is 49 per cent of the total, is higher than that in urban areas (at only 19%). Notably, three out of four income poor children live in rural areas. Their number has, in fact, increased at roughly 2.7 per cent each year from 2003 to 2009. On the other hand, even if only a quarter of all poor children are found in urban areas, their annual rate of increase is an alarming 4.48 per cent---almost twice the rate of increase in the rural areas. While it is imperative to focus efforts in the rural areas, interventions that aim to reduce poverty in the urban areas are also urgently needed.

In terms of the distribution by region, one-third of the income poor children come from the Bicol region, Central Visayas and Western Visayas. However, in relation to the total child population, Caraga (Region XIII) has the highest poverty rate at 57 per cent, followed by Bicol (55%), ARMM (54%), Zamboanga Peninsula (52%) and Eastern Visayas (51%). Meanwhile, the NCR registers the lowest poverty rate at only 6.7 per cent although its 6-per cent growth rate in child poverty was one of the fastest among all regions for the period 2003 to 2009.

A major concern is how the magnitude of poor children in ARMM grew by 11 per cent each year during the same period. Other regions that had significantly high growth rates are Central Luzon (5.9%) and CALABARZON (5.3%). To put these figures in context, note that the annual population growth rate of the same cohort at the national level based on the same data is 1.87 per cent. One sees that the growth rate of poor children in the three regions, particularly in their urban centres and neighbouring regions, is outpacing the national rate. The ARMM, in particular, has serious issues with respect to both high poverty incidence and large rise in the absolute number of poor children.

Figure 3.3 is a visual illustration of the child poverty headcount rates for all the regions in 2003 and 2009 for comparative purposes. Similar to *Figure 2.4*, this illustration allows one to assess any change in the poverty rates through changes in the shades. It is evident from the maps that poverty rates in almost all regions have worsened. Only Cagayan Valley, Bicol and Zamboanga Peninsula show decreasing poverty rates albeit very minimal.

Figure 3.3: Poverty head count rate among children (%), by region, 2003 and 2009



2003	
PHILIPPINES	33.0
Ilocos	30.7
CAR	27.3
Cagayan Valley	26.1
Central Luzon	17.2
NCR	4.9
CALABARZON	17.1
Bicol	55.3
MIMAROPA	44.3
Eastern Visayas	46.6
Western Visayas	40.4
Central Visayas	44.8
Caraga	50.4
Northern Mindanao	46.7
Zamboanga Peninsula	55.1
Davao	36.7
SOCCSKSARGEN	40.9
ARMM	37.8

2009	
PHILIPPINES	35.5
Ilocos	31.0
CAR	30.4
Cagayan Valley	25.5
Central Luzon	21.2
NCR	6.7
CALABARZON	19.8
Bicol	54.7
MIMAROPA	44.4
Eastern Visayas	50.9
Western Visayas	41.8
Central Visayas	45.2
Caraga	57.4
Northern Mindanao	48.4
Zamboanga Peninsula	51.9
Davao	40.6
SOCCSKSARGEN	44.7
ARMM	54.1

Source: Authors' estimates based on Matched Family Income and Expenditure Survey (2003, 2006 and 2009), and Labor Force Survey (January 2004, 2007 and 2010).

Income Poverty Among Families with Children

So far, the discussion has focused mainly on the headcount poverty rate among children, its correlates, and variation across geographic units. A different yet equally meaningful way of examining the child poverty situation is to look at how their families fare. One in every four families that have children was considered income poor in 2009. This proportion is slightly higher than previous estimates (*see Table 3.2*). It is likewise higher than the national estimate of 20.9 per cent.[7]

Poverty incidence is highest among larger families and lowest among smallest ones. As previously mentioned, 4 out of 10 families with seven or more members, including children, are income poor, while only about 14 per cent of those with three to four members are such. Eight out of 10 poor families with children come from large households of five or more members. Meanwhile, poverty incidence is higher among families whose heads did not have any schooling (65%). Those whose heads had graduated from high school have a poverty incidence of only 14.2 per cent.

Table 3.2: Poverty incidence among families with children by type and sub-group, 2003-2009

Sub-group	Incidence			Distribution		
	2003	2006	2009	2003	2006	2009
All Families with children aged 0 - 17	23.3	25.4	25.6	100	100	100
Family size						
Less than 3	8.3	7.8	8.4	1.6	0.9	1.1
3-4 members	13.3	13.8	13.8	20.7	18.9	19.0
5-6 members	24.7	27.1	27.7	39.0	41.3	42.1
7+	40.3	41.7	42.8	38.8	38.9	37.9
Education of the head of the family						
None	54.2	59.6	64.9	5.9	5.2	5.6
Elementary graduate	37.5	40.8	41.1	64.7	63.5	61.3
At least secondary undergraduate	12.0	13.6	14.2	29.3	31.3	33.1
Sex of the head of the family						
Male	24.9	27.2	27.7	92.1	90.7	88.5
Female	13.3	15.2	16.1	7.9	9.3	11.5
Geographic dimension						
NCR	2.7	4.5	3.6	1.5	2.3	1.8
CAR	19.1	23.6	22.4	1.4	1.6	1.5
I - Ilocos Region	21.5	25.8	22.4	4.8	5.4	4.7
II - Cagayan Valley	18.1	18.7	18.2	2.8	2.6	2.5
III - Central Luzon	11.4	14.8	15.1	5.3	6.4	6.5
IVA - CALABARZON	11.0	12.4	13	6.2	6.3	6.6
IVB - MMIMAROPA	35.1	38.1	32.6	4.6	4.9	4.2
V - Bicol Region	44.1	43.4	42.6	11.2	10.3	10.2
VI - Western Visayas	28.2	27.7	30.3	9.0	8.4	9.0
VII - Central Visayas	36.2	37.2	34.8	11.2	10.6	10.0
VIII - Eastern Visayas	34.9	37.5	39.9	7.1	6.9	7.5
IX - Zamboanga Peninsula	44.1	41.4	41.7	7.0	6.0	6.2
X - Northern Mindanao	36.1	36.6	39.1	7.2	6.8	7.1
XI - Davao	29.0	30.6	30.8	6.2	5.8	5.8
XII - SOCCSKSARGEN	30.5	32.9	34.1	5.9	5.8	5.9

[7] This national poverty estimate of 20.9 per cent for 2009 used herein for comparison is not exactly consistent with the national estimate (i.e., 20.5%) shown in the section titled 'Poverty Trends' because of differences in the weights used.

Table 3.2: Poverty incidence among families with children by type and sub-group, 2003-2009 (*continued*)

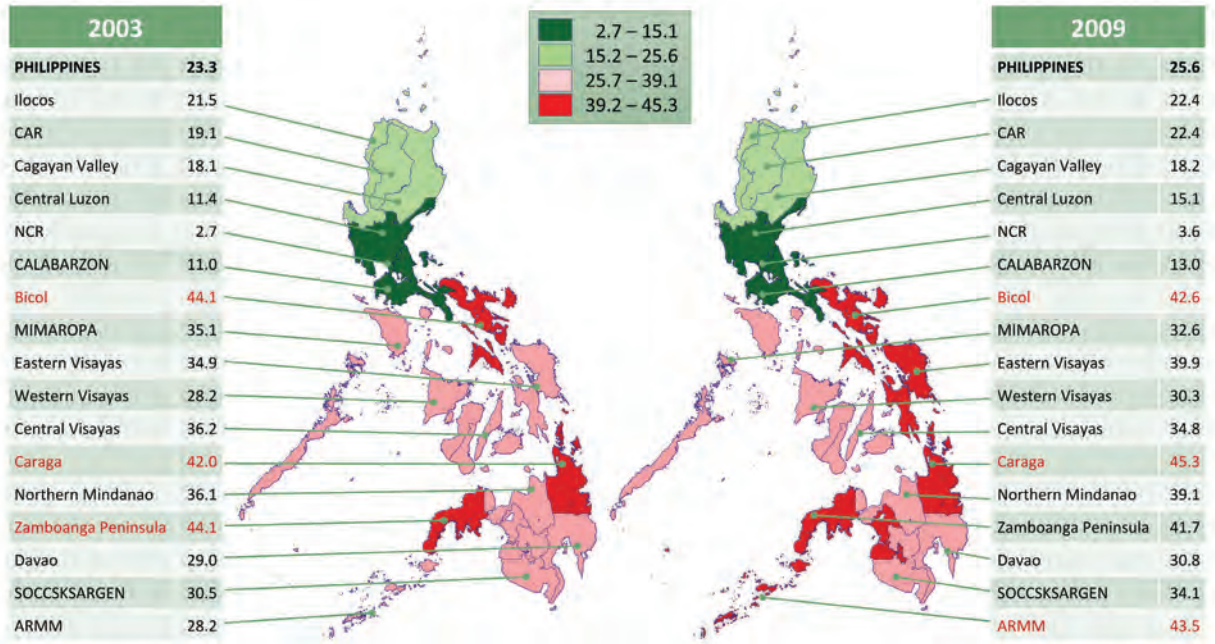
Sub-group	Incidence			Distribution		
	2003	2006	2009	2003	2006	2009
XIII - Caraga	42.0	41.3	45.3	4.7	4.3	4.8
ARMM	28.2	40.8	43.5	4.0	5.6	5.8
Residence						
Urban	10.0	11.9	12.6	21.0	22.9	24.1
Rural	36.1	38.1	38	79.0	77.1	75.9
Total number of families with children (0-17), In million	13.2	13.4	13.8			

Source: Authors' estimates based on Matched Family Income and Expenditure Survey (2003, 2006, & 2009), and Labor Force Survey (January 2004, 2007, & 2010).

Location-wise, 38 per cent of families with children in the rural areas are poor, whereas only around 13 per cent of those in urban areas are deemed poor. Among the regions, Caraga's Region XIII has the highest poverty incidence at 45 per cent, followed by ARMM at 44 per cent. Meanwhile, the NCR has the lowest poverty rate at only 4 per cent. On the overall, roughly one-third of these poor families come from Bicol, Central Visayas and Western Visayas.

Meanwhile, *Figure 3.4* illustrates the temporal changes in regional performances in terms of poverty incidence. Once again, regions in Luzon prove to be better off while those in the Visayas and Mindanao remain relatively worse off, with some regions showing the worst performance. However, it should also be pointed out that there are regions in Luzon with higher poverty incidence in 2009 than in 2003. Region III (Central Luzon), for instance, saw its poverty rate rise from around 11.4 per cent to 15 per cent; Region IV-A (CALABARZON), too, had a 13-per cent rate in 2009, up from 11 per cent in 2003. On the other hand, Region V (Bicol) and Region IV-B (MIMAROPA)[8] experienced a slight reduction in rates during the six-year period. In the Visayas, the incidence for Region VIII (Eastern Visayas) worsened from 34.9 per cent to 39.9 per cent. The ARMM's poverty rate significantly jumped from 29 per cent to 43.5 per cent.

Figure 3.4: Poverty incidence among families with children (%), by region, 2003 and 2009



Source: Authors' estimates based on Matched Family Income and Expenditure Survey (2003, 2006 and 2009), and Labor Force Survey (January 2004, 2007 and 2010).

[8] MIMAROPA is the acronym for Mindoro, Marinduque, Romblon and Palawan.

Children in Extreme Poverty (Food Poverty)

In 2009, roughly 16 in every 100 children in the Philippines lived below the food poverty line, which was about 11,686 pesos (US$245) per person per year. In the aggregate, this number was estimated at 5.9 million children. The extreme poverty (or subsistence) incidence remained at 16 per cent to 17 per cent within the six-year period but in terms of magnitude, there was an increment of about 670,000 children. The young in the rural areas comprised 82 per cent of the country's total count of extremely poor children. Furthermore, about a quarter (24%) of these rural youth did not have the income needed to meet basic food needs (*see Table 3.3*).

When analysed at the sub-national level, figures show that Caraga had the highest poverty incidence, where one-third of all Filipino children were potentially experiencing hunger. A high subsistence rate---i.e., where 3 out of 10 children are subsistent poor---is also observed in Eastern Visayas. Meanwhile, because of their relatively larger share of the population, Central Visayas and Bicol Region accounted for the bulk of these extremely poor children at 11 per cent and 10.5 per cent, respectively.

Among all regions, NCR and its neighbouring regions Central Luzon and CALABARZON had the lowest rates. Despite this, Central Luzon had to contend with the rapid growth in the number of poor children at 10 per cent annually. The ARMM Region also faced the same population problem, as the magnitude of its poor children has been increasing at roughly 8 per cent per year. As expected, subsistence incidence was higher among the largest family sizes: about seven times the rate of households composed of only three to four members. The largest family sizes accounted for 61 per cent of all subsistent poor children in the country.

Table 3.3: Incidence, distribution, and growth of extremely poor children by sub-group, 2003-2009

Sub-group	Incidence			Distribution			Annual growth rate of children in poverty 2003 -2009
	2003	2006	2009	2003	2006	2009	
Children (0-17)	15.6	16.7	15.7	100	100	100	2.0
Sex							
Male	15.5	16.6	15.5	50.8	50.9	50.2	1.8
Female	15.7	16.7	15.9	49.2	49.1	49.8	2.2
Family size							
Less than 3	2.1	2.1	2.2	0.2	0.2	0.2	4.2
3-4 members	4.9	4.7	4.0	6.8	5.9	5.6	-1.3
5-6 members	12.0	12.9	12.9	29.8	30.4	32.8	3.6
7+ 26.0	27.5	26.3	63.2	63.5	61.4	1.5	
Geographic dimension							
NCR	0.8	1.6	1.1	0.6	1.1	0.8	5.6
CAR	11.2	16.9	15.0	1.4	1.8	1.7	5.5
I - Ilocos Region	12.2	14.4	12.0	4.0	4.7	4.0	1.6
II - Cagayan Valley	7.9	9.0	8.9	1.8	1.9	2.0	3.4
III - Central Luzon	4.7	7.2	7.3	2.9	4.3	4.7	10.0
IVA - CALABARZON	5.0	6.8	5.7	3.6	4.6	4.3	5.0
IVB - MMIMAROPA	18.5	26.1	21.0	3.9	5.6	4.9	5.9

Table 3.3: Incidence, distribution, and growth of extremely poor children by sub-group, 2003-2009 *(continued)*

Sub-group	Incidence			Distribution			Annual growth rate of children in poverty 2003 -2009
	2003	2006	2009	2003	2006	2009	
V - Bicol Region	31.1	28.1	23.4	14.0	12.0	10.5	-2.7
VI - Western Visayas	18.3	16.2	16.7	9.7	8.1	8.5	-0.2
VII - Central Visayas	25.5	27.9	23.9	11.7	12.6	11.3	1.5
VIII - Eastern Visayas	20.6	24.7	24.9	7.4	7.7	8.4	4.0
IX - Zamboanga Peninsula	37.6	32.0	30.3	10.1	7.7	7.8	-2.2
X - Northern Mindanao	27.1	28.5	27.4	8.6	8.2	8.4	1.5
XI - Davao	20.0	21.6	21.1	6.4	6.0	6.4	2.0
XII - SOCCSKSARGEN	19.0	19.4	21.3	5.8	5.2	6.2	3.2
XIII - Caraga	26.0	25.3	32.8	5.2	4.6	6.1	4.5
ARMM	12.9	16.1	15.2	2.9	4.1	4.1	7.8
Residence							
Urban 5.8	7.3	6.2	17.1	19.6	18.0	2.8	
Rural	23.8	24.3	23.7	82.9	80.4	82.0	1.8
Total number of children (0-17), In million	33.7	34.9	37.7				1.9

Source: Authors' estimates based on Matched Family Income and Expenditure Survey (2003, 2006 and 2009), and Labor Force Survey (January 2004, 2007 and 2010).

Another way to analyse extreme poverty concerning children is to look at the situation of families with children. Based on *Table 3.4,* approximately 1 in every 10 families with children had not reached the minimum income for their basic food needs in 2009. Again, the pattern resembles that of the overall poverty situation (that is, food and non-food poverty): Rural dwellers had a higher subsistence incidence at 16 per cent, as opposed to the 4 per cent rate of urban folks. Of the 17 regions, Caraga Region (23%) and Zamboanga Peninsula (22%) had the highest subsistence incidence. Regions with the highest shares in terms of magnitude of such families were Central Visayas (12%), Bicol (9%), Eastern Visayas (9%) and Northern Mindanao (9%).

Table 3.4: Subsistence incidence among families with children by sub-group, 2003-2009

Sub-group	Incidence			Distribution		
	2003	2006	2009	2003	2006	2009
All families	9.8	10.7	10.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Family size						
Less than 3	2.2	2.2	2.0	1.0	0.6	0.7
3-4 members	4.1	4.1	3.7	15.0	13.5	12.9
5-6 members	9.8	10.5	10.3	36.6	38.0	40.1
7+	20.7	21.7	20.4	47.4	47.9	46.3
Education of the head of the family						
None	30.7	31.0	31.8	8.0	6.4	7.0
Elementary graduate	17.2	18.4	17.6	70.4	67.8	67.2
At least secondary undergraduate	3.7	4.7	4.3	21.6	25.8	25.8
Sex of the head of the family						
Male	10.6	11.6	10.9	92.9	91.5	89.7
Female	5.0	5.8	5.7	7.1	8.5	10.3
Geographic dimension						
NCR	0.4	0.9	0.5	0.6	1.0	0.7
CAR	7.1	11.0	10.4	1.2	1.7	1.7
I - Ilocos Region	7.2	9.0	7.1	3.8	4.5	3.8
II - Cagayan Valley	4.8	5.3	5.3	1.7	1.8	1.8
III - Central Luzon	2.8	4.7	4.8	3.1	4.8	5.3
IVA - CALABARZON	2.9	3.7	3.2	3.9	4.5	4.1
IVB - MMIMAROPA	13.6	17.5	13.0	4.3	5.3	4.4
V - Bicol Region	21.5	19.6	15.4	13.0	11.1	9.5
VI - Western Visayas	11.1	10.0	10.5	8.5	7.1	8.0
VII - Central Visayas	18.4	20.1	16.1	13.5	13.7	11.8
VIII - Eastern Visayas	13.1	17.0	17.8	6.3	7.5	8.7
IX - Zamboanga Peninsula	27.9	22.7	21.9	10.5	7.8	8.4
X - Northern Mindanao	18.6	18.3	19.8	8.8	8.1	9.2
XI - Davao	14.6	14.7	13.9	7.4	6.6	6.6
XII - SOCCSKSARGEN	12.1	13.3	14.2	5.5	5.6	6.4
XIII - Caraga	19.0	19.1	22.7	5.1	4.7	6.2
ARMM	8.4	13.1	10.1	2.8	4.2	3.4
Residence						
Urban	3.2	4.1	3.6	15.9	18.8	17.5
Rural	16.2	16.9	16.1	84.1	81.2	82.5
Total number of families with children (0-17), In million	13.2	13.4	13.8			

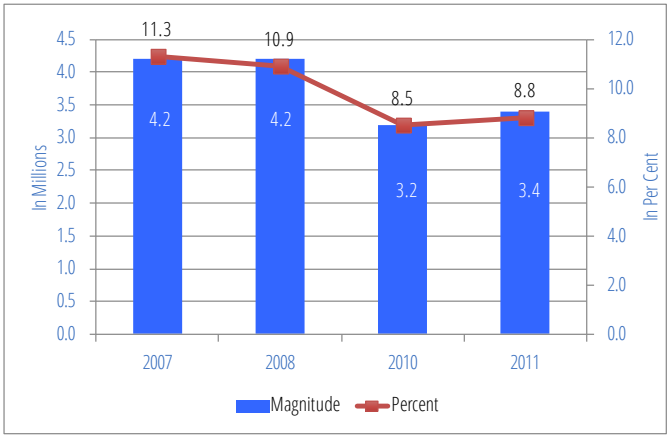
Source: Authors' estimates based on Matched Family Income and Expenditure Survey (2003, 2006 and 2009), and Labor Force Survey (January 2004, 2007 and 2010).

Data based on household size and education of the family head confirm the expected outcomes. That is, one-fifth of all families with seven or more members are extremely poor. On the other hand, the proportions are much lower for those with fewer members: only around 4 per cent for those with three or four members (*see Table 3.4*). Also, about a third (32%) of all families whose heads did not have any schooling are likely to experience hunger as they do not have the minimum income to meet even the basic food needs. Of the families with heads that had reached at least the high school level, only 4 per cent fall below the subsistence threshold.

Children Experiencing Hunger

Because of lack of household income to meet basic food needs, children experience hunger. About 3.4 million children, or 9 per cent of the total, have experienced such dire condition, according to the 2011 APIS round.[9] Both proportion and magnitude are lower when compared to the 2007 estimates of 11 per cent and 4.2 million, respectively (*see Figure 3.5*). In the survey, the data on hunger was obtained by asking the question: "During the past three months, did you or any member of your family experience hunger because you did not have the money to buy food?" The answer to this question provides a rather subjective but equally important measure of hunger.

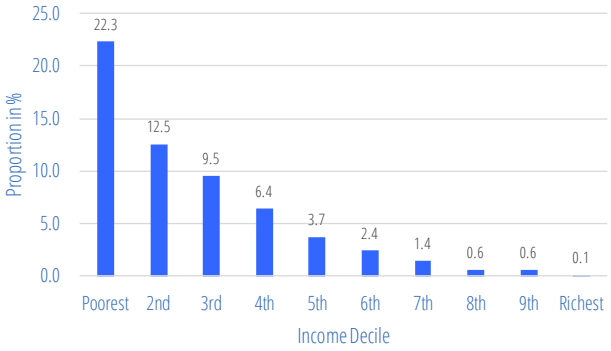
Figure 3.5: Magnitude and proportion of children who experience hunger by year, 2007-2011



Source: Authors' estimates based on Annual Poverty Indicators Survey, National Statistics Office.

As expected, children from the poorest families have a higher likelihood of experiencing hunger than those from the richest ones. One in every five children in the poorest decile had experienced this deprivation, while only one in a thousand of those in the richest families had gone through such deprivation. Out of all those who experienced hunger, 84 per cent belong to the three poorest income deciles. However, what is more surprising from the results is that even children from middle- and high-income families also experienced hunger (*see Figure 3.6*).

Figure 3.6: Proportion of children who experience hunger, by income decile, 2011



Source: Authors' estimates based on Annual Poverty Indicators Survey, National Statistics Office.

[9] The FIES does not provide information about hunger.

Of all the regions, Eastern Visayas has the highest incidence of child hunger at 19 per cent, followed by SOCCSKSARGEN and Caraga Region with 18 per cent and 15 per cent, respectively (*see Table 3.5*). It is worth noting here that one-third of the children who experienced hunger were not attending school during the time of the survey. Again, this may be due to their families' lack of income as half of the children who experienced hunger and not going to school belong to the three poorest income groups.

Table 3.5: Proportion of children who experienced hunger, by region, 2011

Region	Number	Incidence (%)	Share to Total (%)
Philippines	3,394,785	8.8	100.0
NCR	188,073	4.6	5.5
CAR	2,868	0.4	0.1
I - Ilocos Region	79,102	3.8	2.3
II - Cagayan Valley	71,729	5.3	2.1
III - Central Luzon	241,136	6.1	7.1
IVA - CALABARZON	262,627	5.7	7.7
IVB - MMIMAROPA	120,859	8.4	3.6
V - Bicol Region	319,326	12.4	9.4
VI - Western Visayas	293,873	9.4	8.7
VII - Central Visayas	298,395	10.5	8.8
VIII - Eastern Visayas	378,722	18.9	11.2
IX - Zamboanga Peninsula	202,908	12.3	6.0
X - Northern Mindanao	217,196	12.1	6.4
XI - Davao	152,392	9.0	4.5
XII - SOCCSKSARGEN	315,205	17.5	9.3
XII - Caraga	166,445	14.9	4.9
ARMM	83,928	5.1	2.5

Source: Authors' estimates based on Annual Poverty Indicators Survey, National Statistics Office.

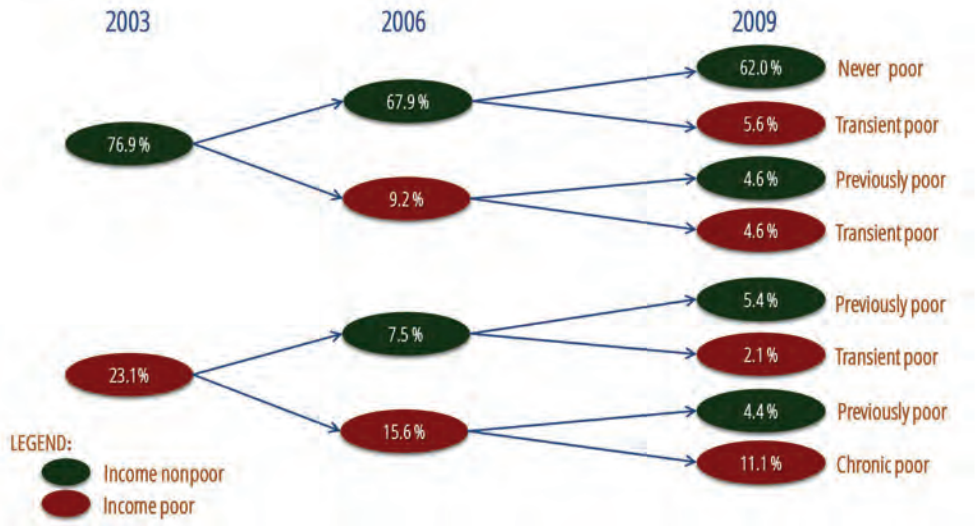
Children in Chronic and Transient Poverty

The poor does not consist of a homogeneous group (Reyes et al. 2011). Although there were 3.8 million poor families in 2009, a portion of these are merely moving in and out of poverty because of various economic, natural and demographic shocks. Families that move in or out of poverty are called transient poor, while those who remained poor are deemed as chronic poor. Programmes that address the problems of the transient poor may not necessarily be applicable to the persistent or chronic poor.

This section now analyses the situation of children in these groups. It discusses what happens to children of families who fall into poverty (in terms of schooling, for instance). It further shows how children's well-being is affected when families fall into or move out of poverty. The succeeding figures below illustrate the movements of poor and non-poor families in and out of poverty.

Figure 4.1 is obtained from the study by Reyes *et al.* (2011). The red-shaded ovals in each survey year (i.e., 2003, 2006 or 2009) show the proportions of families who are income poor; the green ones refer to the proportions of non-poor to the total number of families. Values inside the ovals aggregate to 100 vertically; hence, the figure shows the distribution of the same set of a non-representative but non-negligible panel data of around 6,500 households for three time periods based on their poverty status. In 2003, 23.1 per cent were considered poor; in 2006, the proportion rose slightly to 24.8 per cent (the sum of 9.2% and 15.6%). In 2009, the poverty rate was 23.4 per cent (i.e., the sum of 5.6%, 4.6%, 2.1% and 11.1%). Note that not all those considered poor in 2003 remained poor in 2006. That is, some were able to escape poverty. Likewise, some families who were previously not deemed poor had fallen into the poor category.

Figure 4.1: Movements of families in and out of poverty, 2003-2009



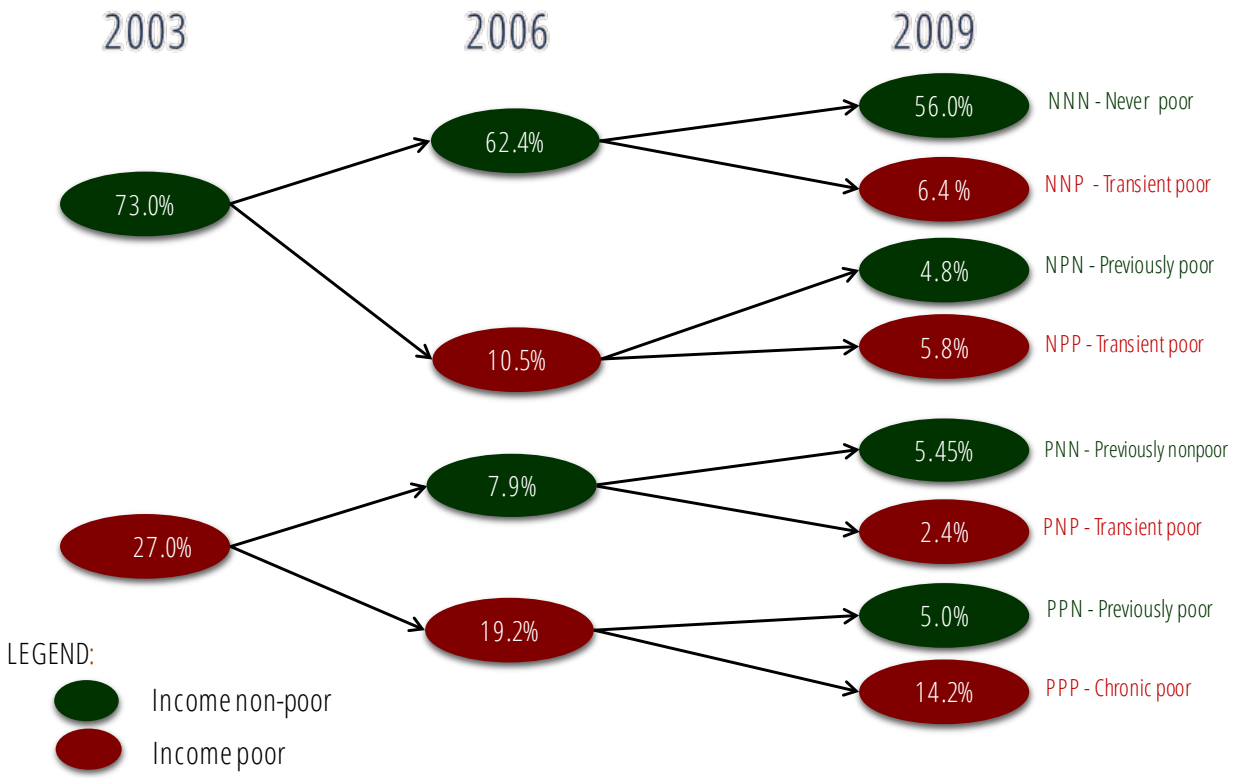
Source: Reyes C, Tabuga A, Mina C, Asis R, and Datu M. "Dynamics of Poverty in the Philippines: Distinguishing the Chronic from the Transient Poor (PIDS DP 2011-31)

Figure 4.1 does not only illustrate the movements in and out of poverty but also provides some light on the significance of the movements. Interestingly, around half of the 23.4 per cent who were poor in 2009 used to belong to the non-poor in 2003. This observation can be deduced by looking at to the sum of red-shaded ovals (5.6% and 4.6%) in 2009 that can be traced back to the non-poor in 2003. Also, half (or 48%) of the poor families in 2003 are considered chronic poor as they remained poor all throughout the three survey periods. Meanwhile, 4 out of 10 families were able to get out of their poor condition six years after (i.e., 5.4% and 4.4% in 2009 that were part of the 23.1% income poor in 2003).

Even within a three-year period, notable changes can occur. For instance, the non-poor families in 2003 who fell into poverty in 2006 (i.e., 9.2%) had split equally into poor and non-poor by 2009.

Figure 4.2 paints the same picture as ***Figure 4.1***, except that it refers only to families with children below 18 years old. Among the families deemed poor in 2003, 53 per cent were chronic poor (that is, 14.2% divided by 27%). Meanwhile, 4 out of 10 poor families with children in 2009 used to be in the non-poor group in 2003. On a positive note, more than one-third of those who used to be income poor in 2003 were able to move out of poverty in 2009.

Figure 4.2: Movements in and out of poverty of families with children aged 0-17 years, 2003-2009



Source: Author's estimates based on matched files of FIES 2003, 2006, 2003 and LFS January 2004, 2007 and 2010

Both *Figures 4.1* and *4.2* illustrate the poverty situation in the country. By observing the poverty trend in *Figure 2.1*, it is fairly easy to conclude that the poverty situation is sluggish and stagnant. However, the presence of significant movements in and out of poverty indicates that there is gradation of poverty. There are those who are chronic poor, but there are also those who become poor because of some shocks. Children of poor families may bear the most brunt of such poverty. In times of sudden changes that affect the family's resources, children may be forced to stop schooling and instead work so as to augment the family income.

Table 4.1 shows the distribution by sub-group of families with children that formed part of the same FIES panel data. Among these, 14 per cent were considered chronic or persistently poor while around 30 per cent were just moving in and out of poverty (the sum of 14.6% and 15.3% for transient poor and previously poor, respectively). The remaining 56 per cent comprised the "never poor" category.

Table 4.1: Proportion of chronic and transient poor families with children aged 0-17 years, 2003-2009 (in %)

Household Characteristic	Chronic Poor	Transient Poor	Previously Poor	Never Poor
All families with children (0-17)	14.17	14.6	15.3	56.0
Urban	5.4	9.5	8.3	76.8
Rural	19.3	17.5	19.3	44.0
Family size				
Less than 3	2.7	6.0	20.7	70.7
3-4 members	6.0	9.6	13.9	70.5
5-6 members	13.9	16.9	16.0	53.2
7+	26.5	18.4	15.2	39.9
Education of the head of the family				
None	35.2	22.0	21.4	21.4
Elementary graduate	22.4	19.7	19.6	38.3
At least secondary undergraduate	6.3	10.0	11.4	72.4
Sex of the head of the family				
Male	6.6	11.5	11.5	70.4
Female	15.7	15.2	16.0	53.2
National income quintiles				
Q1 (poorest)	52.8	45.3	1.1	0.8
Q2	5.3	15.8	41.0	37.9
Q3	0.0	0.0	21.2	78.8
Q4	0.0	0.0	9.1	90.9
Q5 (richest)	0.0	0.0	1.4	98.6

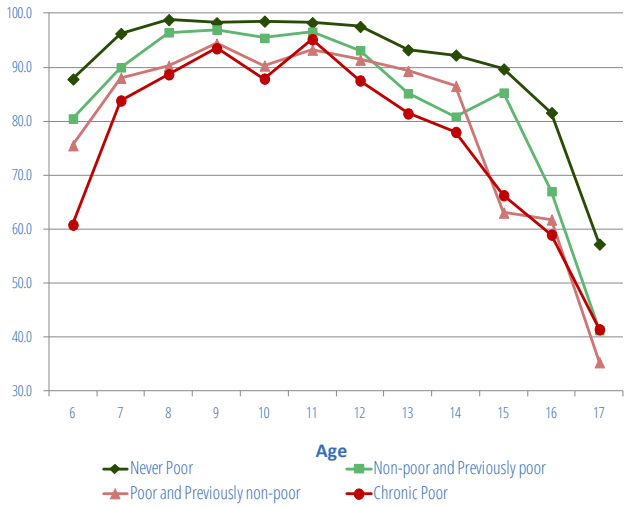
Source: Authors' estimates based on Matched Family Income and Expenditure Survey (2003, 2006 and 2009), and Labor Force Survey (January 2004, 2007 and 2010).

Note that these data cover 2003, 2006 and 2009 survey periods. The chronic poor refer to those who are poor in all the three survey years. *Table 4.1* shows that chronic poverty is associated with being in the rural areas, where there may be fewer opportunities. One out of five rural families are considered chronic poor, while only five in 100 urban families fall under such category. Chronic poverty seems highly correlated with larger family size and the household head's lack of education. Data also suggest that larger chronic poverty incidence exists among male-led households.

Meanwhile, the significance of household head's education appears to be less palpable among the transient poor than the chronic poor. This means that even households where the heads had achieved higher education can be vulnerable to economic shocks. Another noteworthy finding is that those that are "previously poor" are distributed among the various income quintiles. This suggests that when there are shocks, even those who are relatively better off can become poor. These data are crucial as they have implications on programmes that target only those households based solely on household head's low educational attainment or on the poverty status that was determined from a single survey year's data only.

As noted earlier, in times of economic crises or natural calamities, it is the young family members who bear the brunt of the impact because of their vulnerability. When a family falls into poverty due to certain shocks, their children may cease to attend school and instead enter the labour force to augment the family income. Such can be concluded from the low proportion of children going to school among the transient poor in *Figure 4.3.* In almost all age groups, those children in chronic poor families had the lowest attendance rates. However, even the previously non-poor that turned poor likewise had low attendance rates. Older children (aged 15 to 17 years) from such families bore the burden as shown by their dismal attendance rates that were at times even lower than those of the chronic poor children.

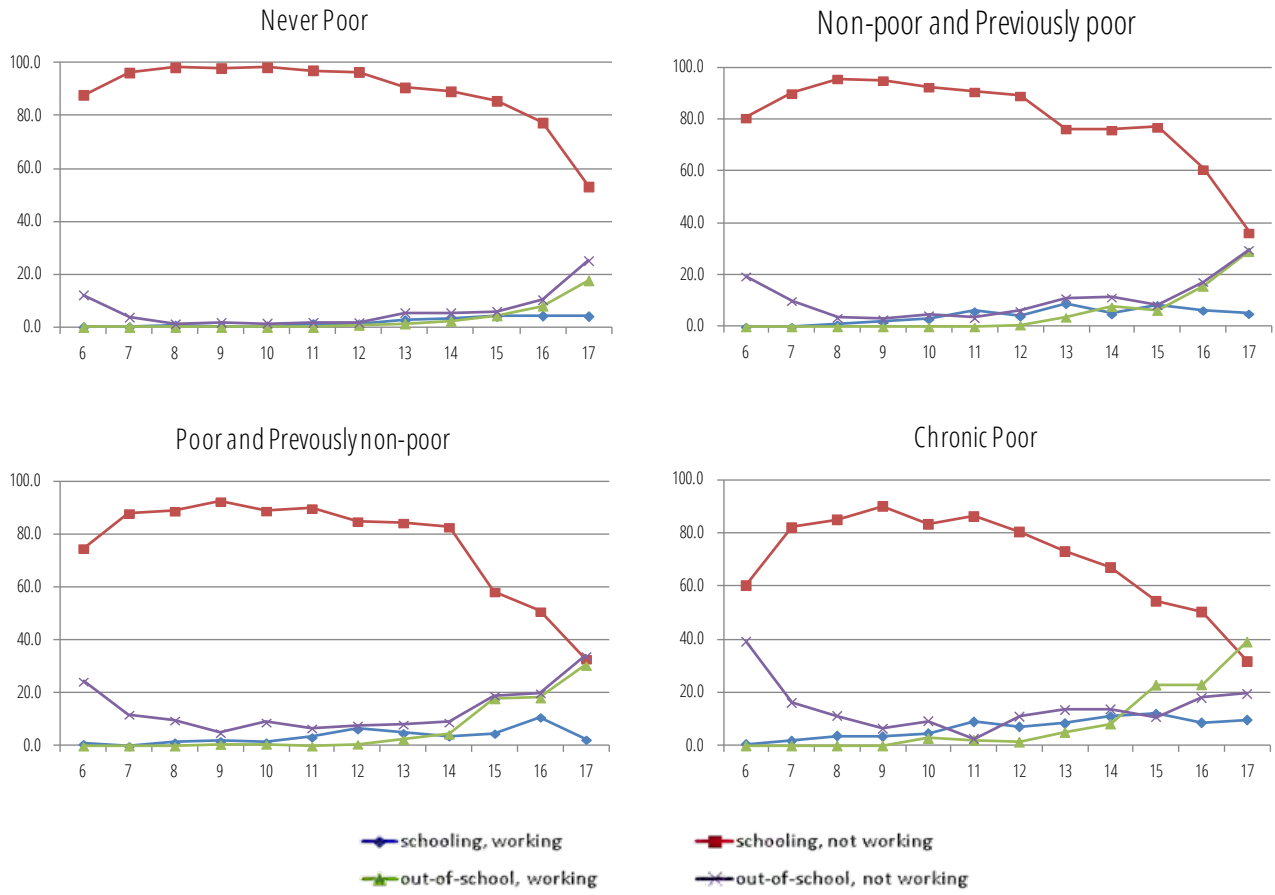
Figure 4.3: Proportion of children ages 6 to 17 who attend school, by poverty status, 2009



Source: Authors' estimates based on Matched Family Income and Expenditure Survey (2003, 2006 and 2009) and Labor Force Survey (January 2004, 2007 and 2010).

To further understand the nuances of the issue, this study looks at the distribution of children by schooling and work status (see *Figure 4.4*). The proportion of children in school and not working is lowest among the persistently poor. Many, especially the older children, are working. Specifically, 20 per cent of the 15- and 16-year-olds and around 40 per cent of the 17-year-olds are out of school and working. A number of children from transient poor families also work instead of study to augment the family income. Interestingly, the proportion of older children who are neither in school nor at work is lowest among the chronic poor, an indication that they may not have the necessary skills to land a job. Also, a considerably high proportion of six-year-old children---roughly 40 per cent---in chronic poor families are out of school. Therefore, it is likely that many chronic poor children started schooling at an older age than usual. This can further exacerbate the gap in learning opportunities between the poor and non-poor.

Figure 4.4: Proportion of children aged 6 to 17 by school and work status, 2009



Source: Authors' estimates based on Matched Family Income and Expenditure Survey (2003, 2006, & 2009), and Labor Force Survey (January 2004, 2007, & 2010).

Child Deprivation

Deprivation in Sanitation

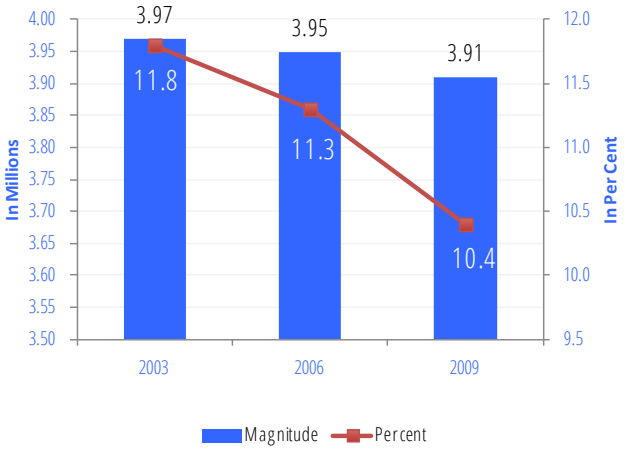
One of the dimensions of poverty is deprivation in sanitary toilet facility. The Global Poverty Project reports that 2.5 billion people in the world do not have access to adequate sanitation facilities. At least 1.2 billion do not have a toilet.[10] Lack of sanitation facilities is one of the principal causes of diseases and mortality among children. Among the diseases caused by such deficiency in sanitation facilities are cholera, polio, typhoid, infectious hepatitis, ascariasis and cryptosporidiosis. These are serious threat to good health and human development. Therefore, addressing the problem in sanitation is an imperative aspect of effective programmes that combat diseases and extreme poverty.

In the Philippines, estimates show that 7.7 million individuals did not have any type of toilet facility in their dwelling unit in 2009 and hence, were considered severely deprived of sanitary toilet facilities. Of these, 3.9 million were children below 18 years old, which translates to about 10.4 per cent of the total child population in the country. Eight out of 10 children in this deprivation state lived in rural areas. Of the 3.9 million children, 40 per cent were in the island of Visayas, while 14.3 per cent were in Bicol Region in the Luzon Island. Eastern Visayas and Central Visayas also had the highest incidence of deprivation at 25 per cent and 21 per cent, respectively. Meanwhile, NCR had the lowest share at a little over 1 per cent.

The improvement made in this poverty indicator has been slow. From 2003 to 2009, the percentage of children deprived of sanitation facilities went down slightly from 11.8 per cent to 10.4 per cent (*see Figure 5.1*). Such equates to a reduction by about 70,000 children only---a mere 1.73-per cent decline within a six-year span. This lacklustre progress stems from the differing progress happening in the different regions. Regions such as ARMM, Central Luzon, CAR and CALABARZON had significantly reduced the proportion of children who suffer from severe sanitation deprivation. Notably, ARMM's deprivation rate went down considerably from 21 per cent to around 9 per cent within a six-year period (*see Figure 5.2*). However, for many such as SOCCSKSARGEN, Davao, Northern Mindanao and MIMAROPA, the incidence of deprivation even increased from 2003 to 2009. Clearly, the path to achieving universal access to sanitary toilet is still farfetched, and narrowing the disparities across regions is an equally daunting task.

[10] 'Global Poverty Project: Introduction to the Crisis of Clean Water and Sanitation'. 11 October 2012. <http://www.globalpovertyproject.com/infobank/Sanitation Date>. Accessed 27 December 2014.

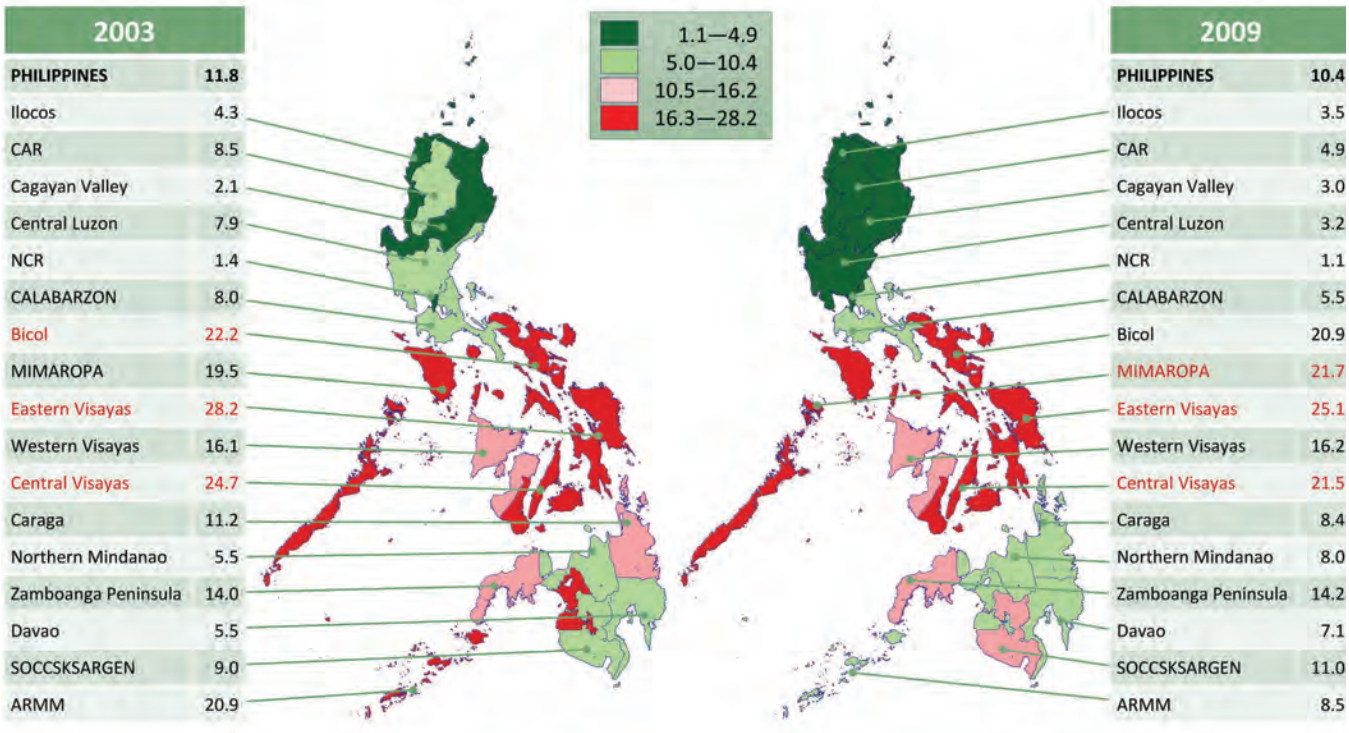
Figure 5.1: Magnitude and proportion of children severely deprived in sanitation, 2003-2009*



** Severe deprivation to toilet facilities refers to the absence of any toilet facility.*

Source: Authors' estimates based on Matched Family Income and Expenditure Survey (2003, 2006 and 2009), and Labor Force Survey (January 2004, 2007 and 2010).

Figure 5.2: Proportion of children experiencing severe deprivation of toilet facilities by region, 2003 and 2009



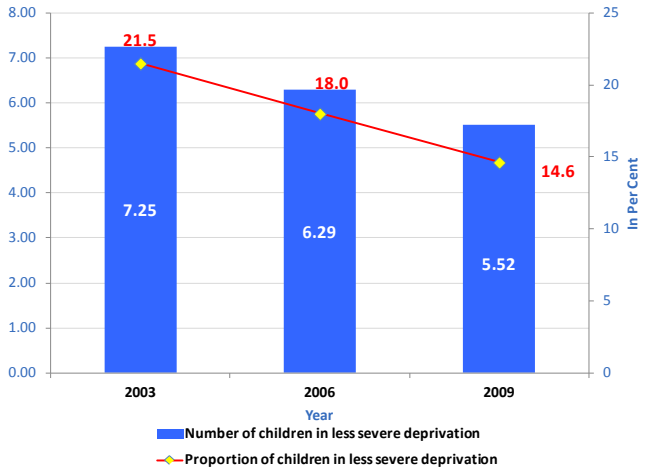
2003	
PHILIPPINES	11.8
Ilocos	4.3
CAR	8.5
Cagayan Valley	2.1
Central Luzon	7.9
NCR	1.4
CALABARZON	8.0
Bicol	22.2
MIMAROPA	19.5
Eastern Visayas	28.2
Western Visayas	16.1
Central Visayas	24.7
Caraga	11.2
Northern Mindanao	5.5
Zamboanga Peninsula	14.0
Davao	5.5
SOCCSKSARGEN	9.0
ARMM	20.9

2009	
PHILIPPINES	10.4
Ilocos	3.5
CAR	4.9
Cagayan Valley	3.0
Central Luzon	3.2
NCR	1.1
CALABARZON	5.5
Bicol	20.9
MIMAROPA	21.7
Eastern Visayas	25.1
Western Visayas	16.2
Central Visayas	21.5
Caraga	8.4
Northern Mindanao	8.0
Zamboanga Peninsula	14.2
Davao	7.1
SOCCSKSARGEN	11.0
ARMM	8.5

Source: Authors' estimates based on Matched Family Income and Expenditure Survey (2003, 2006 and 2009), and Labor Force Survey (January 2004, 2007 and 2010).

In addition to the 3.9 million children severely deprived of sanitation facilities, there were over 5.5 million children---15 per cent of the total cohort---who could only access unimproved toilet facilities such as closed pit, open pit and pail system (hereto termed as "less severe deprivation of sanitation facilities"). Notably, the proportion of children below 18 years old and with less severe deprivation of sanitation facilities went down from 22 per cent in 2003 to about 15 per cent in 2009 (*see Figure 5.3*). In short, there were about 24 per cent fewer children suffering from this type of deprivation by 2009---a difference of 1.7 million youths when compared to the 2003 figure.

Figure 5.3: Magnitude and proportion of children experiencing less severe deprivation of sanitary toilet facilities, 2003-2009*

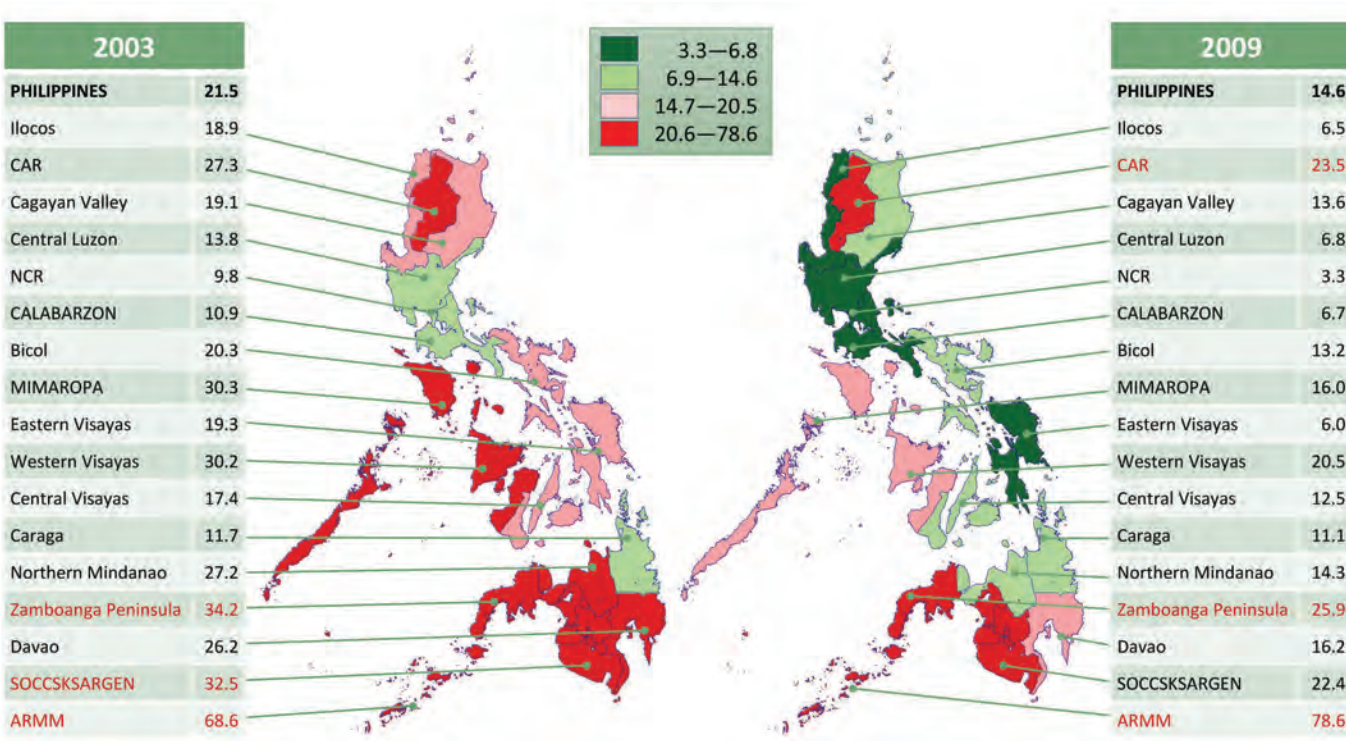


** "Less severe deprivation of toilet facilities" refers to the use of closed pit, open pit and other toilet facilities such as the pail system. Source: Authors' estimates based on Matched Family Income and Expenditure Survey (2003, 2006 and 2009), and Labor Force Survey (January 2004, 2007 and 2010).*

Of the 5.5 million children who had access only to unimproved toilet facilities, 4.3 million were from the rural areas. This means that about one out of five rural children faces this type of deprivation. Around 23 per cent of the affected children were from ARMM and another 11 per cent came from Western Visayas. Other regions that had relatively high proportion of children similarly deprived of sanitation facilities are Zamboanga Peninsula and SOCCSKSARGEN (with 7% each).

Across the survey periods, all regions except ARMM had seen lower less-severe deprivation rates for sanitation facilities by 2009 (*see Figure 5.4*). The rate for Ilocos Region greatly improved from 19 per cent to around 7 per cent. The MIMAROPA slashed its rate by about half (from 30% to 16%). Likewise, Eastern Visayas, Northern Mindanao and SOCCSKSARGEN saw remarkable improvements. Meanwhile, despite the progress that ARMM made in reducing its number of severely deprived children, it failed to trim down the number of those in the less severe situation. In fact, from 2003 to 2009, the number of children exposed to unimproved toilet facilities such as open pits increased by a huge 10 percentage points. Around 8 in every 10 children in the region lived under such a condition. As a region, ARMM accounted for 23 per cent of the country's total children who only have access to crude toilet facilities.

Figure 5.4: Proportion of children experiencing less severe deprivation of toilet facilities by region, 2003 and 2009



2003	
PHILIPPINES	21.5
Ilocos	18.9
CAR	27.3
Cagayan Valley	19.1
Central Luzon	13.8
NCR	9.8
CALABARZON	10.9
Bicol	20.3
MIMAROPA	30.3
Eastern Visayas	19.3
Western Visayas	30.2
Central Visayas	17.4
Caraga	11.7
Northern Mindanao	27.2
Zamboanga Peninsula	34.2
Davao	26.2
SOCCSKSARGEN	32.5
ARMM	68.6

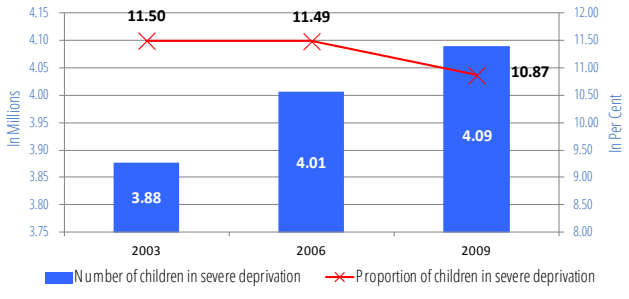
2009	
PHILIPPINES	14.6
Ilocos	6.5
CAR	23.5
Cagayan Valley	13.6
Central Luzon	6.8
NCR	3.3
CALABARZON	6.7
Bicol	13.2
MIMAROPA	16.0
Eastern Visayas	6.0
Western Visayas	20.5
Central Visayas	12.5
Caraga	11.1
Northern Mindanao	14.3
Zamboanga Peninsula	25.9
Davao	16.2
SOCCSKSARGEN	22.4
ARMM	78.6

Source: Authors' estimates based on Matched Family Income and Expenditure Survey (2003, 2006 and 2009), and Labor Force Survey (January 2004, 2007 and 2010).

Deprivation of Safe Water

There is severe deprivation of safe water when one can only obtain water from unsafe sources such as springs, rivers, streams, rain and peddlers. Around 4.1 million children (or 11%) are estimated to be exposed to this poor condition. This more recent number of children affected is even higher when compared to the 2003 estimate of 3.9 million. Clearly, the efforts in improving access to safe water sources needs to be expedited as the numbers indicate a worsening situation (*see Figure 5.5*).

Figure 5.5 Magnitude and proportion of children experiencing severe deprivation of safe water, 2003-2009*

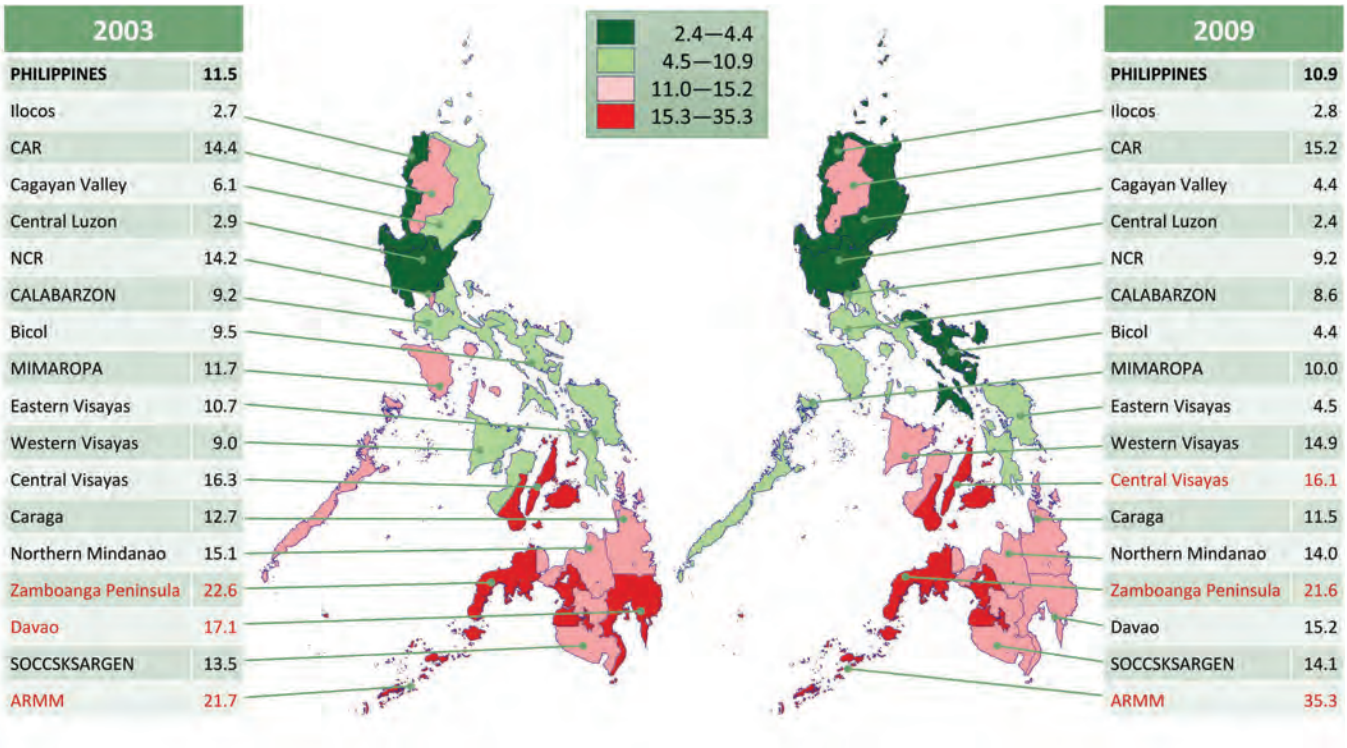


** Those that obtain water from springs, rivers and streams, rain and peddlers; Source: Authors' estimates based on Matched Family Income and Expenditure Survey (2003, 2006 and 2009), and Labor Force Survey (January 2004, 2007 and 2010).*

Roughly 2.9 million of the children severely deprived of safe water---or 70 per cent of the total---live in rural areas. Among all regions, ARMM had the largest share of affected children in terms of magnitude with over 560,000 (or about 14%) of the country's child population. Western and Central Visayas followed behind at 11 per cent each. Meanwhile, Ilocos Region and Cagayan Valley had the lowest shares at over 1 per cent each.

It is alarming that one out of three children in ARMM is severely lacking safe water sources. This marks a huge jump from the region's 22 per cent back in 2003 (*see Figure 5.6*). In fact, 300,000 more children in the region are deprived of safe water since 2003. The significant rise in the deprivation rate is seen in Western Visayas: It worsened from 9 per cent to 15 per cent, or an equivalent of about 200,000 more children. On the other hand, NCR experienced a remarkable drop in its deprivation rate from 14 per cent to 9 per cent, or a difference of roughly 180,000 children. Other significant improvements are seen in Bicol (a drop from 10% to 4%); and Eastern Visayas (from 11% down to 5%).

Figure 5.6: Children experiencing severe deprivation of safe water by region, 2003 and 2009



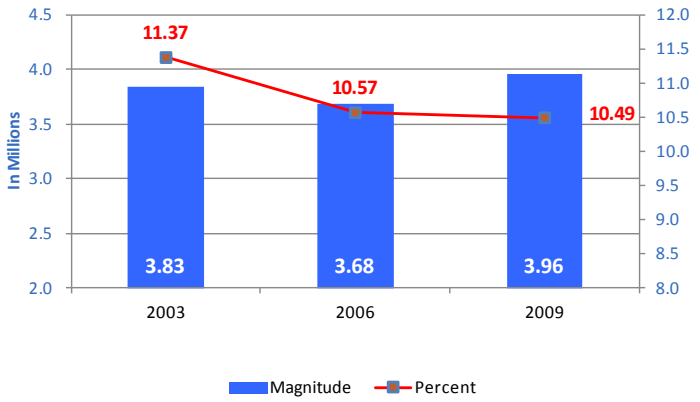
2003	
PHILIPPINES	11.5
Ilocos	2.7
CAR	14.4
Cagayan Valley	6.1
Central Luzon	2.9
NCR	14.2
CALABARZON	9.2
Bicol	9.5
MIMAROPA	11.7
Eastern Visayas	10.7
Western Visayas	9.0
Central Visayas	16.3
Caraga	12.7
Northern Mindanao	15.1
Zamboanga Peninsula	22.6
Davao	17.1
SOCCSKSARGEN	13.5
ARMM	21.7

2009	
PHILIPPINES	10.9
Ilocos	2.8
CAR	15.2
Cagayan Valley	4.4
Central Luzon	2.4
NCR	9.2
CALABARZON	8.6
Bicol	4.4
MIMAROPA	10.0
Eastern Visayas	4.5
Western Visayas	14.9
Central Visayas	16.1
Caraga	11.5
Northern Mindanao	14.0
Zamboanga Peninsula	21.6
Davao	15.2
SOCCSKSARGEN	14.1
ARMM	35.3

Source: Authors' estimates based on Matched Family Income and Expenditure Survey (2003, 2006 and 2009), and Labor Force Survey (January 2004, 2007 and 2010).

While 4.1 million children experienced a severe lack of safe water sources, another 4 million youths faced a less severe yet equally challenging problem as this group could only obtain water from dug wells. Like rivers and streams, dug wells have a very high risk of contamination because they are usually very shallow. As shown in *Figure 5.7*, the number of children who face such risk is rising. It is important to note that 8 out of 10 children in this condition lived in rural areas. In terms of regional distribution, 19 per cent were located in Western Visayas. A significant 16 per cent and 13 per cent were in the Bicol area and Central Visayas, respectively.

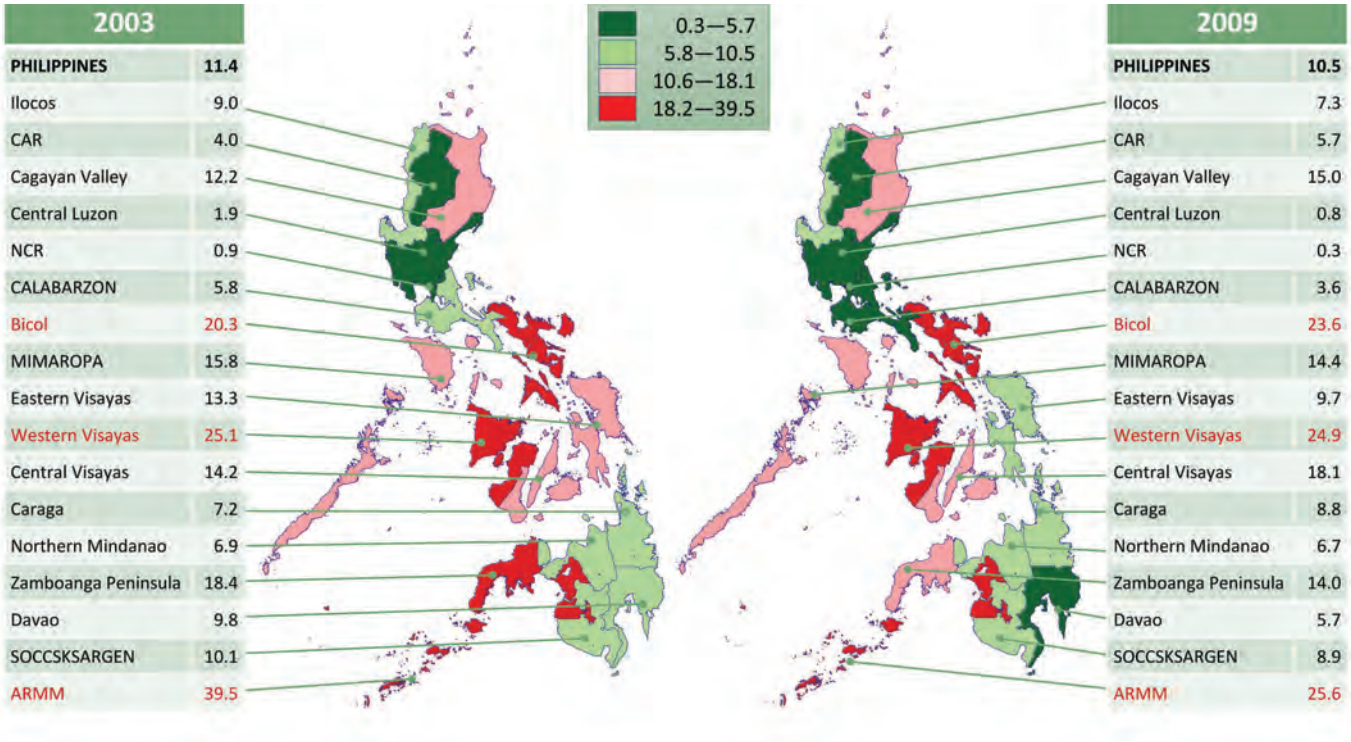
Figure 5.7: Magnitude and proportion of children experiencing less severe deprivation of safe water, 2003-2009*



** Those that obtain water from springs, rivers and streams, rain and peddlers; Source: Authors' estimates based on Matched Family Income and Expenditure Survey (2003, 2006 and 2009), and Labor Force Survey (January 2004, 2007 and 2010).*

In terms of the proportion of children who only have access to water from dug wells to the total children in each region, ARMM still had the highest among the regions at 26 per cent despite the huge improvement from its 2003 rate of around 40 per cent (*see Figure 5.8*). Other regions that had high deprivation rates are Western Visayas (25%) and Bicol (24%). NCR had the lowest at only 0.33 per cent. It is alarming to see Bicol region's inability to reduce its deprivation rate. Its rate even rose from 20 per cent in 2003 to 24 per cent in 2009. Central Visayas, CAR and Cagayan Valley also experienced a higher incidence rate in 2009.

Figure 5.8: Proportion of children experiencing less severe deprivation of safe water by region, 2003 and 2009



2003	
PHILIPPINES	11.4
Ilocos	9.0
CAR	4.0
Cagayan Valley	12.2
Central Luzon	1.9
NCR	0.9
CALABARZON	5.8
Bicol	20.3
MIMAROPA	15.8
Eastern Visayas	13.3
Western Visayas	25.1
Central Visayas	14.2
Caraga	7.2
Northern Mindanao	6.9
Zamboanga Peninsula	18.4
Davao	9.8
SOCCSKSARGEN	10.1
ARMM	39.5

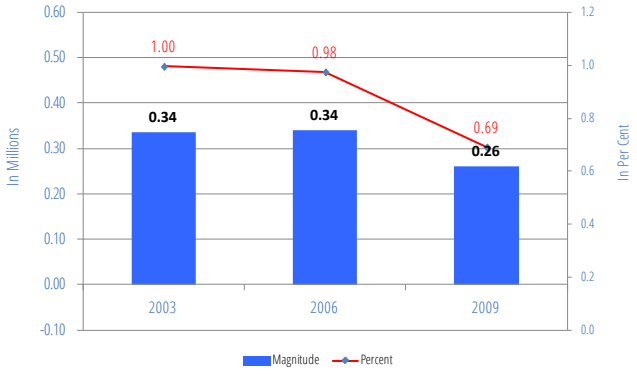
2009	
PHILIPPINES	10.5
Ilocos	7.3
CAR	5.7
Cagayan Valley	15.0
Central Luzon	0.8
NCR	0.3
CALABARZON	3.6
Bicol	23.6
MIMAROPA	14.4
Eastern Visayas	9.7
Western Visayas	24.9
Central Visayas	18.1
Caraga	8.8
Northern Mindanao	6.7
Zamboanga Peninsula	14.0
Davao	5.7
SOCCSKSARGEN	8.9
ARMM	25.6

Source: Authors' estimates based on Matched Family Income and Expenditure Survey (2003, 2006 and 2009), and Labor Force Survey (January 2004, 2007 and 2010).

Deprivation in Shelter

Out of around 530,000 people in the country severely deprived of shelter, 49 per cent---or roughly 261,000---consisted of children below 18 years of age (*see Figure 5.9*). An individual is considered severely deprived of shelter if his/her dwelling unit has makeshift materials for both the roof and walls. It should be noted that the bulk (61%) of the 261,000 children severely deprived of shelter were located in urban areas.

Figure 5.9: Magnitude and proportion of children experiencing severe deprivation of shelter, 2003-2009*

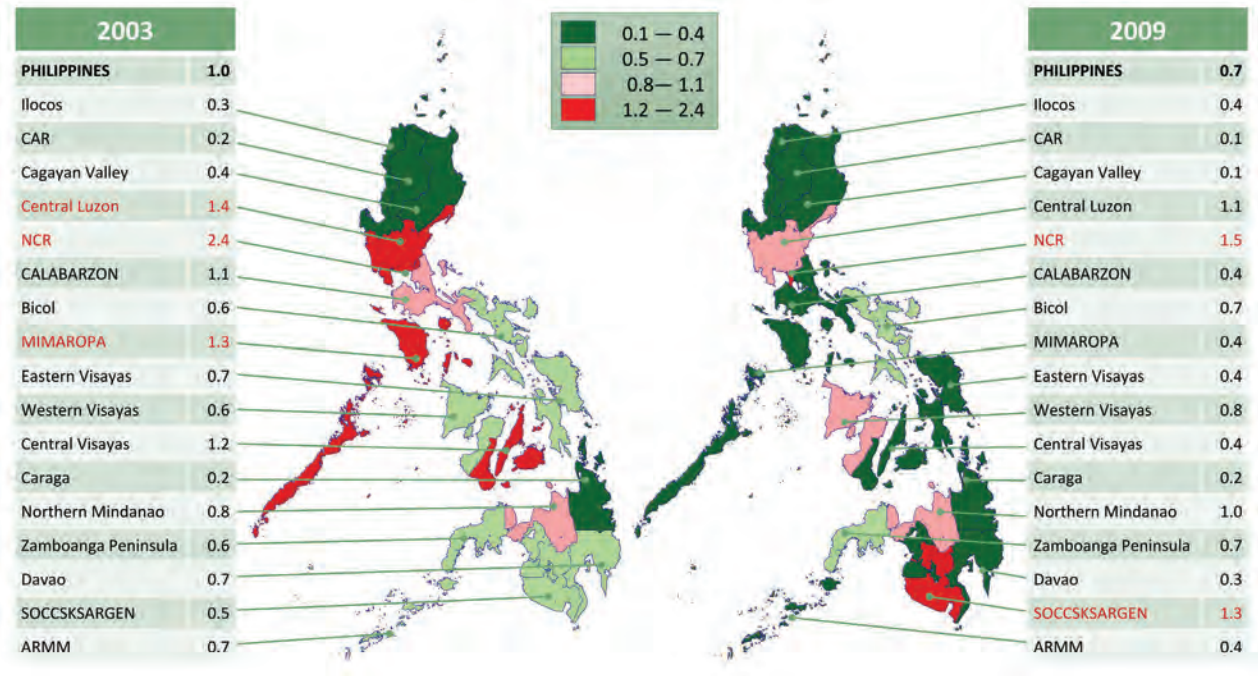


**If both the roof and wall of houses are made, either entirely or in combination with other materials, but predominantly of salvaged/ makeshift materials. Source: Authors' estimates based on Matched Family Income and Expenditure Survey (2003, 2006, and 2009), and Labor Force Survey (January 2004, 2007, and 2010).*

As expected, *Figure 5.10* shows that the NCR had the highest incidence among all regions at 1.5 per cent. In fact, around one in every four children (23%) in such severely deprived condition came from the capital region. Its neighbouring region, Central Luzon, accounted for the second largest group of deprived children at 16 per cent. Western Visayas and SOCCSKSARGEN likewise had significant shares at 9 per cent each.

Among all regions, CAR had the lowest incidence at 0.06 per cent. So far, the country's number of children severely deprived of shelter fell by over one-fifth over a six-year period. The proportion of the country's shelter-deprived children to the total child population was down from 1 per cent to 0.7 per cent.

Figure 5.10: Proportion of children experiencing severe deprivation of shelter by region, 2003 and 2009



2003	
PHILIPPINES	1.0
Ilocos	0.3
CAR	0.2
Cagayan Valley	0.4
Central Luzon	1.4
NCR	2.4
CALABARZON	1.1
Bicol	0.6
MIMAROPA	1.3
Eastern Visayas	0.7
Western Visayas	0.6
Central Visayas	1.2
Caraga	0.2
Northern Mindanao	0.8
Zamboanga Peninsula	0.6
Davao	0.7
SOCCSKSARGEN	0.5
ARMM	0.7

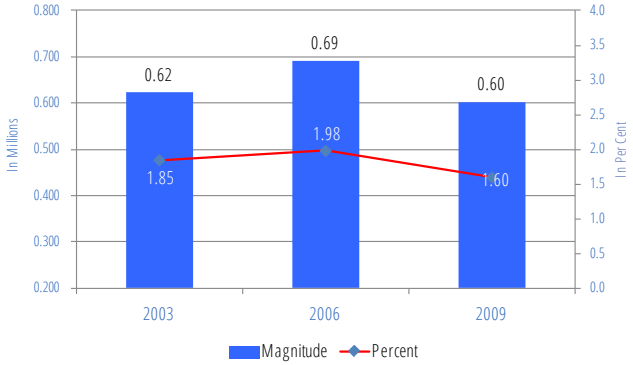
2009	
PHILIPPINES	0.7
Ilocos	0.4
CAR	0.1
Cagayan Valley	0.1
Central Luzon	1.1
NCR	1.5
CALABARZON	0.4
Bicol	0.7
MIMAROPA	0.4
Eastern Visayas	0.4
Western Visayas	0.8
Central Visayas	0.4
Caraga	0.2
Northern Mindanao	1.0
Zamboanga Peninsula	0.7
Davao	0.3
SOCCSKSARGEN	1.3
ARMM	0.4

Source: Authors' estimates based on Matched Family Income and Expenditure Survey (2003, 2006 and 2009), and Labor Force Survey (January 2004, 2007 and 2010).

Although there is some improvement seen in the rate of children severely deprived of a place to live, progress in the less severe shelter condition is minimal. In this study, a less severe shelter deprivation refers to conditions where dwelling units' roof or wall is made, either entirely or in combination with other materials but predominantly, of salvaged/makeshift materials. From 1.8 per cent in 2003, the proportion dropped by only 0.2 percentage point (or 20,000 less severely shelter-deprived children), as shown in *Figure 5.11.* The magnitude (i.e., number of less severely deprived children) increased from 620,000 in 2003 to around 700,000 in 2006 but dropped to 600,000 in 2009. Among the regions, the NCR and Central Luzon had the highest shares at 15 per cent and 12 per cent, respectively.

Interestingly, majority (53%) of the less severely affected children lived in rural areas, while those who severely lack shelter were found mostly in urban areas.

Figure 5.11: Magnitude and proportion of children experiencing less severe deprivation of shelter, Philippines, 2003-2009*



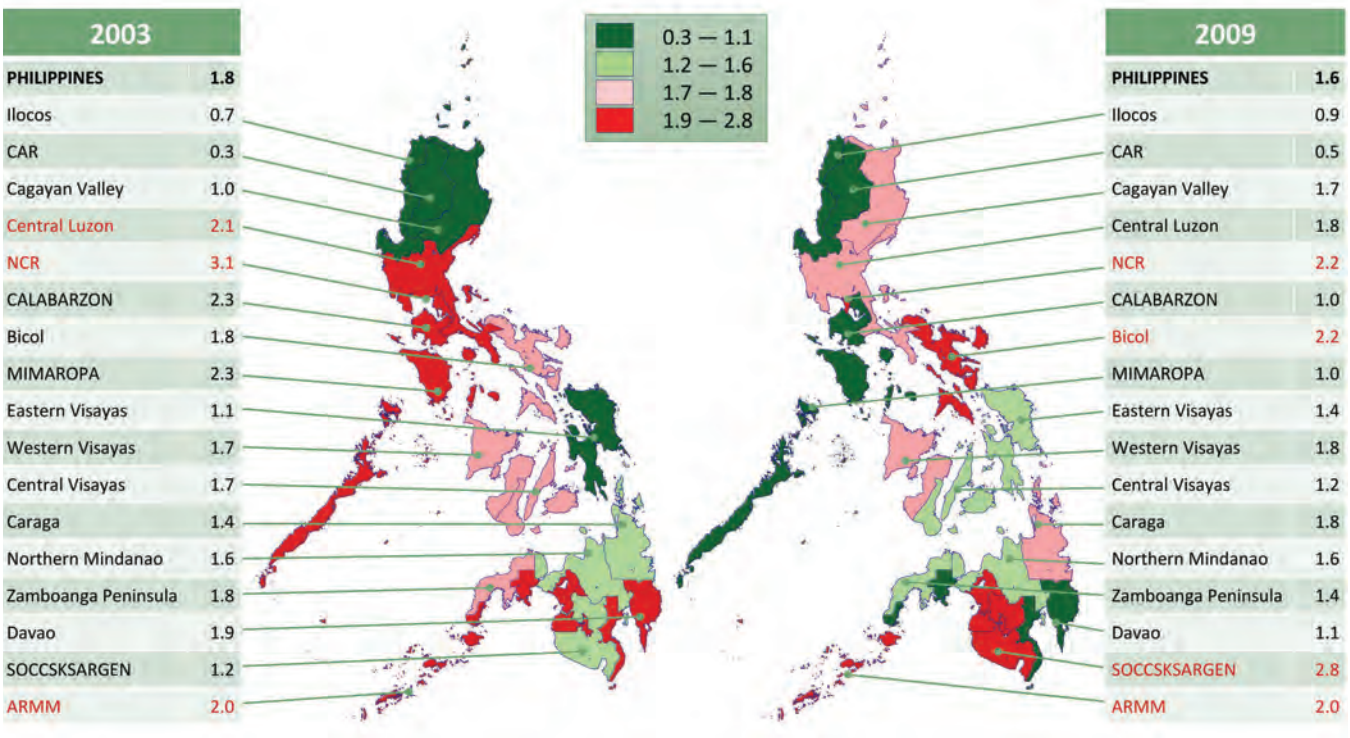
**If either roof or wall of house is made, either entirely or mixed, of predominantly salvaged/makeshift materials.*

Source: Authors' estimates based on Matched Family Income and Expenditure Survey (2003, 2006 and 2009), and Labor Force Survey (January 2004, 2007 and 2010).

The highest incidences of less severe shelter deprivation were found in SOCCSKSARGEN (2.8%), Bicol (2.2%) and NCR (2.2%). The CAR had the lowest at only 0.5 per cent (see *Figure 5.12*).

In SOCCSKSARGEN, the number of children under less severe housing conditions had doubled in six years. Other regions that faced bigger increases include CAR (92%), Cagayan Valley (77%), Ilocos Region (55%) and Bicol (42%). Interestingly, the NCR and neighbouring regions CALABARZON and MIMAROPA experienced a decline in both the magnitude and proportion of children less severely deprived of shelter from 2003 to 2009.

Figure 5.12: Proportion of children experiencing less severe deprivation of shelter by region, 2003 and 2009



2003	
PHILIPPINES	1.8
Ilocos	0.7
CAR	0.3
Cagayan Valley	1.0
Central Luzon	2.1
NCR	3.1
CALABARZON	2.3
Bicol	1.8
MIMAROPA	2.3
Eastern Visayas	1.1
Western Visayas	1.7
Central Visayas	1.7
Caraga	1.4
Northern Mindanao	1.6
Zamboanga Peninsula	1.8
Davao	1.9
SOCCSKSARGEN	1.2
ARMM	2.0

2009	
PHILIPPINES	1.6
Ilocos	0.9
CAR	0.5
Cagayan Valley	1.7
Central Luzon	1.8
NCR	2.2
CALABARZON	1.0
Bicol	2.2
MIMAROPA	1.0
Eastern Visayas	1.4
Western Visayas	1.8
Central Visayas	1.2
Caraga	1.8
Northern Mindanao	1.6
Zamboanga Peninsula	1.4
Davao	1.1
SOCCSKSARGEN	2.8
ARMM	2.0

Source: Authors' estimates based on Matched Family Income and Expenditure Survey (2003, 2006 and 2009), and Labor Force Survey (January 2004, 2007 and 2010).

Children in Informal Settlements

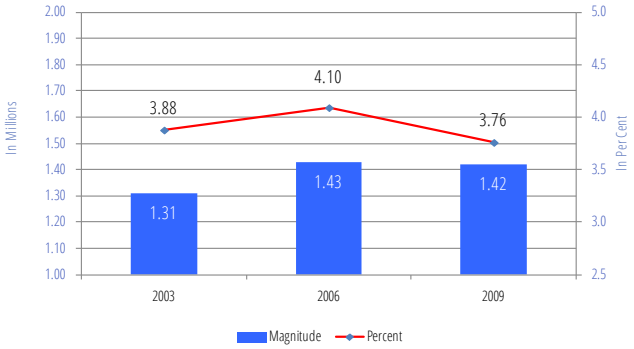
Children in informal settlements are vulnerable to various health risks. Usually, informal settlers have unsanitary living conditions due to the poor quality of drinking water and food storage facilities, and excessive exposure to indoor pollution. Various social problems such as violence and drug addiction also arise due to overcrowding.[11] Informal settlers also have limited access to basic services. For instance, because they are deprived of secured tenure, the affected children find it difficult to set a regular pattern in terms of their schooling. Access to health services may also be limited.

In 2009, around 1.4 million youths were living in informal settlements. The proportion of informal settlers to total children slightly went up from 3.9 per cent in 2003 to 4.1 per cent in 2006, and then dropped to 3.8 per cent in 2009. However, in terms of number, the 2009 data show an increment of about 100,000 children compared to the 2003 figure (*see Figure 5.13*). The increase is attributed largely to the rise in the number of informal settler-children in the NCR by more than 270,000. In 2009, the proportion of children in the NCR rose to 11.7 per cent---more than twice the 5.11 per cent in 2003

[11] World Health Organization, 'People Living in Informal Settlements', Children's Environmental Health: Indicators. <http://www.who.int/ceh/indicators/informalsettlements.pdf>. Date Accessed 27 December 2014.

(*see Figure 5.14*). The latest survey shows that 1 in every 10 children in the NCR is considered an informal settler. In fact, one-third of all children of informal settler-households in 2009 lived in the NCR.

Figure 5.13: Magnitude and proportion of children in informal settlements, 2003-2009



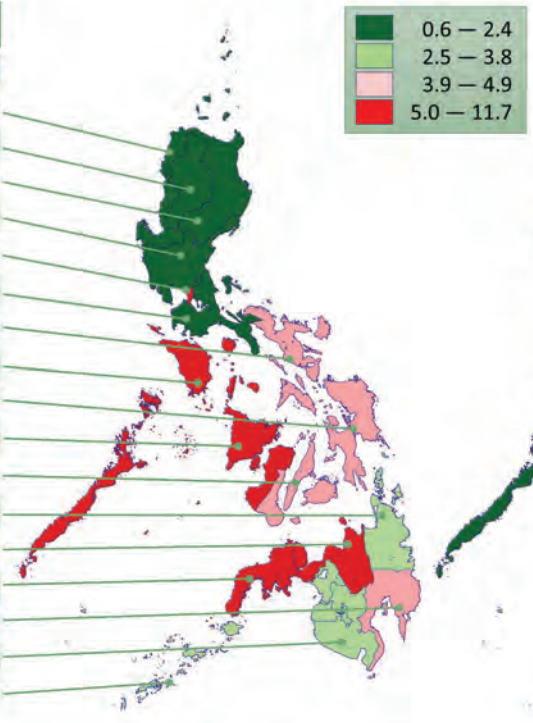
**Informal settler refers to one who is living in a house or lot without the consent of the owner.*

Source: Authors' estimates based on Matched Family Income and Expenditure Survey (2003, 2006 and 2009), and Labor Force Survey (January 2004, 2007 and 2010).

Aside from the NCR, the CALABARZON also demonstrated a notable increase in informal settler-children. From about 85,000 in 2003, its number jumped to 156,000 in 2009. Informal settlers also grew in SOCCSKSARGEN, where there were 31,000 more such children in 2009 than in 2003. On the other hand, there was a marked decrease in the magnitude of children under this kind of deprived condition in Northern Mindanao, from about 132,000 to only 23,000 in 2009.

Figure 5.14: Proportion of children in informal settlements by region, 2003 and 2009

2003	
PHILIPPINES	3.9
Ilocos	1.1
CAR	0.8
Cagayan Valley	1.6
Central Luzon	1.7
NCR	5.1
CALABARZON	2.2
Bicol	4.2
MIMAROPA	5.0
Eastern Visayas	3.9
Western Visayas	6.4
Central Visayas	4.5
Caraga	3.7
Northern Mindanao	7.9
Zamboanga Peninsula	5.6
Davao	4.9
SOCCSKSARGEN	2.5
ARMM	3.7



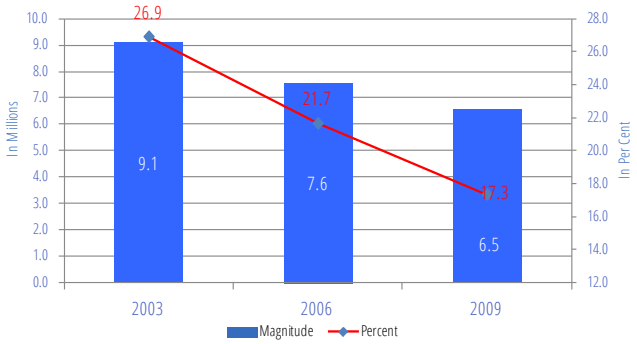
2009	
PHILIPPINES	3.8
Ilocos	0.6
CAR	0.6
Cagayan Valley	0.9
Central Luzon	1.1
NCR	11.7
CALABARZON	3.5
Bicol	2.2
MIMAROPA	2.4
Eastern Visayas	3.8
Western Visayas	4.9
Central Visayas	3.5
Caraga	2.5
Northern Mindanao	1.2
Zamboanga Peninsula	5.5
Davao	2.8
SOCCSKSARGEN	4.1
ARMM	3.3

Source: Authors' estimates based on Matched Family Income and Expenditure Survey (2003, 2006 and 2009) and Labor Force Survey (January 2004, 2007 and 2010).

Deprivation in Electricity

Despite the recent gains that the country achieved in infrastructure development, there are still millions of families that failed to live comfortably because of the lack of electricity in their homes. In 2009, 17.4 per cent of all children belonged to such families. Since 2003, the number of children in this condition has decreased by 2.5 million (28%). Back then, roughly one in every four children did not have access to electricity. Today, the problem is still far from being eradicated, as there are still 6.5 million children whose homes are without electricity (*see Figure 5.15*).

Figure 5.15: Magnitude and proportion of children experiencing deprivation of electricity, 2003-2009



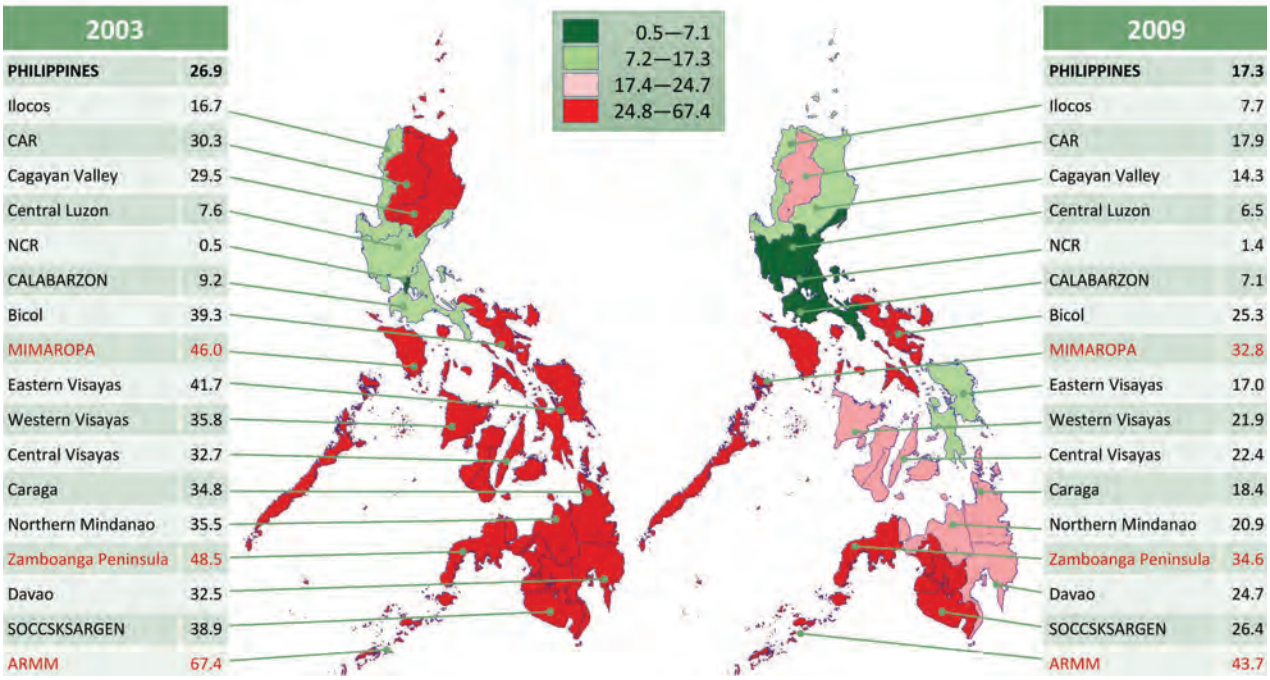
**Deprivation of electricity refers to the children that do not have access to electricity; Source: Authors' estimates based on Matched Family Income and Expenditure Survey (2003, 2006 and 2009), and Labor Force Survey (January 2004, 2007 and 2010).*

As in most deprivation situations, lack of access to electricity among children is largely a rural phenomenon as 84 per cent of youths live in rural areas. Among the regions, ARMM---which is beset with poverty and conflict issues---accounted for the highest proportion of affected children. In fact, 4 in every 10 of its children lived in households without electricity. Although still not ideal, this is an improvement over the situation in 2003, when about 7 in 10 children did not have electricity.

Zamboanga Peninsula and MIMAROPA also face significant challenges in this aspect as one-third of their child population have been deprived of electricity. In terms of distribution, the poorest regions ARMM, Bicol and Western Visayas have the highest shares of children who did not have electricity (i.e., over 10% each). Central Visayas and MIMAROPA also have high shares, at 10 per cent and 7 per cent, respectively.

The significant improvement in Eastern Visayas' condition is worth noting here. It managed to cut its proportion of children whose households are without electricity from 42 per cent down to 17 per cent. The positive changes in other Visayan regions are likewise discernible. Cagayan Valley has done better, too: From around 30 per cent initially, the proportion is now down to only 14 per cent. The Caraga Region also cut its incidence of children deprived of electricity from 35 per cent to 18 per cent (*see Figure 5.16*).

Figure 5.16: Proportion of children experiencing deprivation in electricity by region, 2003 and 2009



2003	
PHILIPPINES	26.9
Ilocos	16.7
CAR	30.3
Cagayan Valley	29.5
Central Luzon	7.6
NCR	0.5
CALABARZON	9.2
Bicol	39.3
MIMAROPA	46.0
Eastern Visayas	41.7
Western Visayas	35.8
Central Visayas	32.7
Caraga	34.8
Northern Mindanao	35.5
Zamboanga Peninsula	48.5
Davao	32.5
SOCCSKSARGEN	38.9
ARMM	67.4

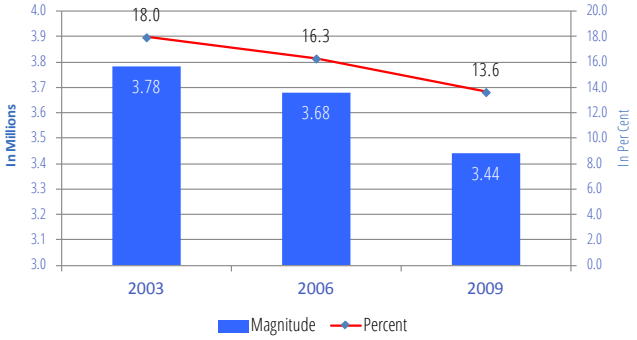
2009	
PHILIPPINES	17.3
Ilocos	7.7
CAR	17.9
Cagayan Valley	14.3
Central Luzon	6.5
NCR	1.4
CALABARZON	7.1
Bicol	25.3
MIMAROPA	32.8
Eastern Visayas	17.0
Western Visayas	21.9
Central Visayas	22.4
Caraga	18.4
Northern Mindanao	20.9
Zamboanga Peninsula	34.6
Davao	24.7
SOCCSKSARGEN	26.4
ARMM	43.7

Source: Authors' estimates based on Matched Family Income and Expenditure Survey (2003, 2006 and 2009), and Labor Force Survey (January 2004, 2007 and 2010).

Deprivation in Information

As an important dimension of poverty, deprivation in information is categorized here as either severe or less severe. A severe type of information deprivation refers to the absence of radio, phone, television and computer, pieces of technology that are sources of information for the population. Despite the technological advancement and phenomenal rise of computer and smartphones, there are still millions of young Filipinos who are behind in terms of the latest information. In 2009, 3.4 million children, or 14 per cent of the total, did not have access to any radio, TV, phone or computer. Although the deprivation number and proportion are both falling, they are occurring at a slow pace. In 2009, there were 340,000 less children under this type of deprivation compared to the 2003 count (*see Figure 5.17*).

Figure 5.17: Magnitude and proportion of children experiencing severe deprivation of information, 2003-2009*

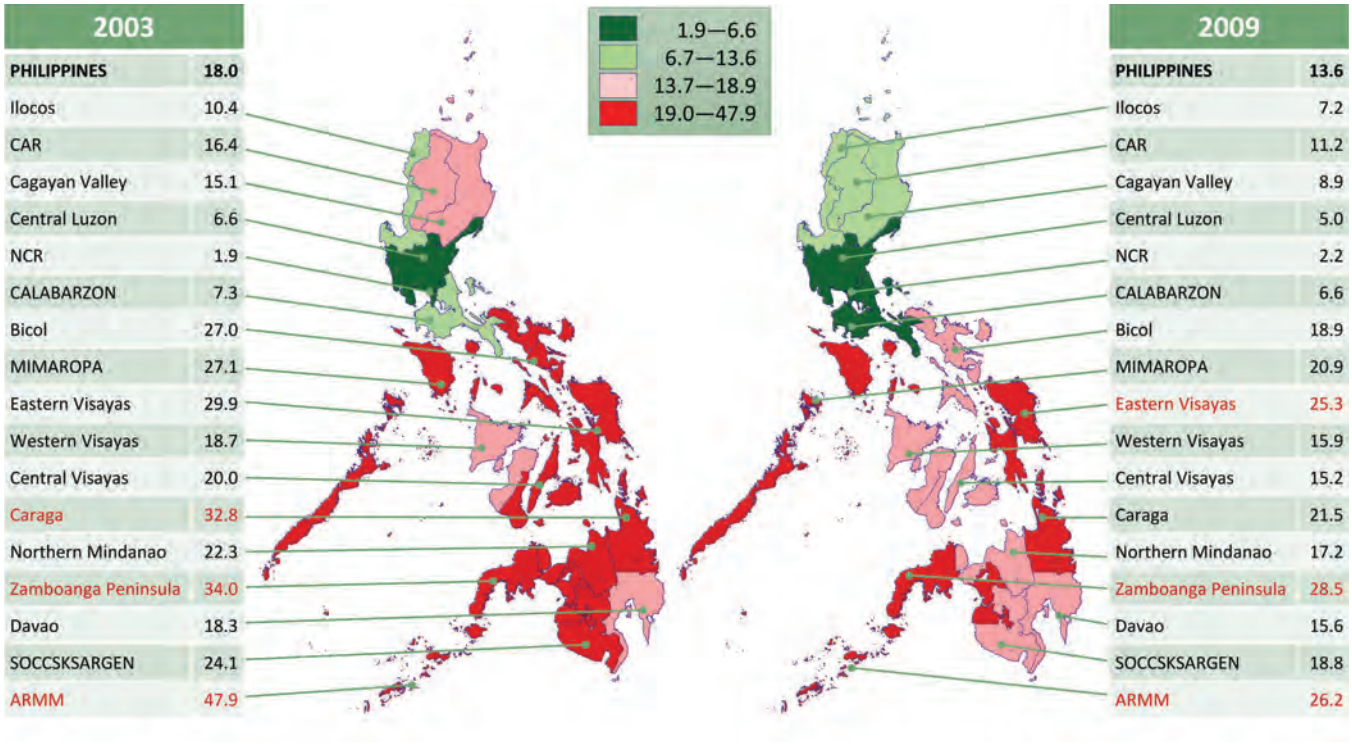


"Severe deprivation of information" means children 7 to 17 years old do not have any of the following: radio, television, phone and computer. Source: Authors' estimates based on Matched Family Income and Expenditure Survey (2003, 2006 and 2009), and Labor Force Survey (January 2004, 2007 and 2010).

As expected, 8 out of 10 children who are severely deprived of information are living in the rural areas. Among the regions, Zamboanga Peninsula had the highest proportion at 28 per cent in 2009 while NCR had the lowest at 2.2 per cent. The proportion for ARMM, at 26 per cent, remained high compared to most other regions (*see Figure 5.18*).

If one looks at the distribution of the information-deprived children, Eastern Visayas, Bicol and Western Visayas had the highest share in the national estimate with over 300,000 children in each---or around 10 per cent each of the total (*see Appendix 7*). Meanwhile, NCR accounted for the lowest share at 1.7 per cent of the country's total but its magnitude had increased by 36 per cent over the six-year period. The magnitude in CALABARZON also experienced an increase of around 19 per cent. On the other hand, it is refreshing to see remarkable improvements in some regions, even those classified as poor regions. These regions are Cagayan Valley (-34%), Caraga Region (-29%), ARMM (-21%) and CAR (-25%).

Figure 5.18: Proportion of children experiencing severe deprivation of information by region, 2003 and 2009



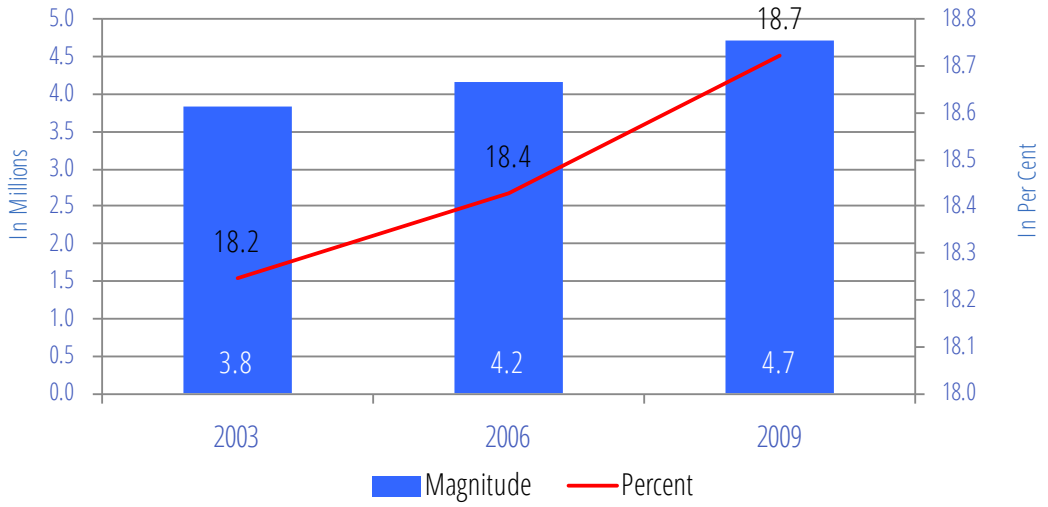
2003	
PHILIPPINES	18.0
Ilocos	10.4
CAR	16.4
Cagayan Valley	15.1
Central Luzon	6.6
NCR	1.9
CALABARZON	7.3
Bicol	27.0
MIMAROPA	27.1
Eastern Visayas	29.9
Western Visayas	18.7
Central Visayas	20.0
Caraga	32.8
Northern Mindanao	22.3
Zamboanga Peninsula	34.0
Davao	18.3
SOCCSKSARGEN	24.1
ARMM	47.9

2009	
PHILIPPINES	13.6
Ilocos	7.2
CAR	11.2
Cagayan Valley	8.9
Central Luzon	5.0
NCR	2.2
CALABARZON	6.6
Bicol	18.9
MIMAROPA	20.9
Eastern Visayas	25.3
Western Visayas	15.9
Central Visayas	15.2
Caraga	21.5
Northern Mindanao	17.2
Zamboanga Peninsula	28.5
Davao	15.6
SOCCSKSARGEN	18.8
ARMM	26.2

**"Severe deprivation of information" means children 7 to 17 years old do not have any of the following: radio, television, phone and computer. Source: Authors' estimates based on Matched Family Income and Expenditure Survey (2003, 2006 and 2009), and Labor Force Survey (January 2004, 2007 and 2010).*

A less severe type of information deprivation is when a person does not have access to any radio or television. The number of children under this condition increased from 3.8 million in 2003 to 4.2 million in 2006 and to 4.7 million in 2009. Roughly 2 out of 10 children did not have either a radio or television (*see Figure 5.19*).

Figure 5.19: Magnitude and proportion of children experiencing less severe deprivation of information, 2003-2009*

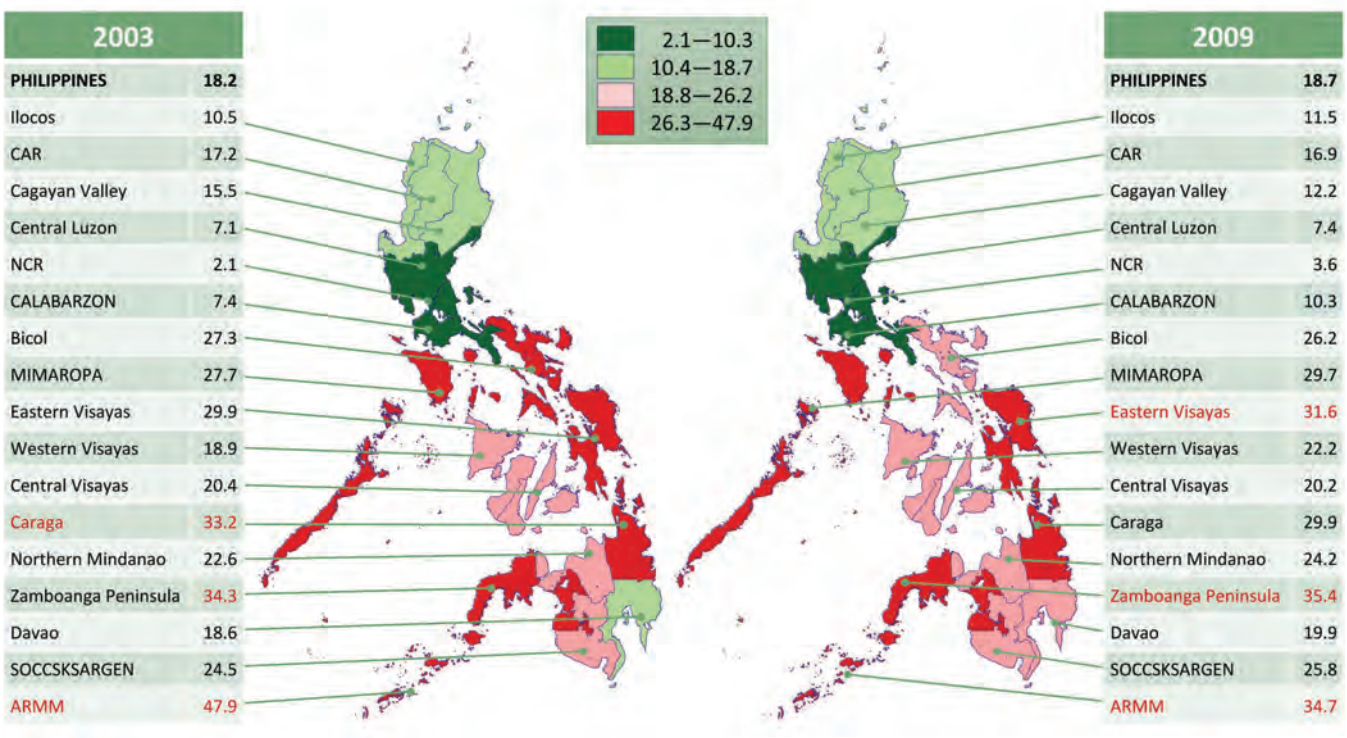


*"Severe deprivation of information" means children 7 to 17 years old do not have any of the following: radio and television. Source: Authors' estimates based on Matched Family Income and Expenditure Survey (2003, 2006 and 2009), and Labor Force Survey (January 2004, 2007 and 2010).

Among the regions, Zamboanga Peninsula and ARMM had the highest incidence of this less severe type of information deprivation, with each accounting for over one-third of their child population (*see Figure 5.20*). Meanwhile, NCR accounted for the lowest at only 4 per cent but ironically, the rate of increase in the number is startling. In fact, its magnitude of children in this type of deprivation almost doubled within the six-year period. Other regions where there is a similar concern over large increases in the estimate on children are CALABARZON (+80%) and MIMAROPA (+46%) (*see Appendix 8*). Since 2003, around 138,000 children (or 80%) had been added to CALABARZON's estimate. In MIMAROPA, there were 46 per cent more children in such type of deprivation compared to 2003.

Of the country's total estimate, however, Bicol and Western Visayas had the highest share with each accounting for 10 per cent of the total number of children in this situation.

Figure 5.20: Proportion of children experiencing less severe deprivation of information by region, 2003 and 2009*



*"Severe deprivation of information" means children 7 to 17 do not have any of the following: radio and television. Source: Authors' estimates based on Matched Family Income and Expenditure Survey (2003, 2006 and 2009), and Labor Force Survey (January 2004, 2007 and 2010)

Like income poverty, severe deprivation in sanitation, safe water, and electricity is positively associated with household size and inversely related to the education of the household head. Except for severe deprivation in shelter and formal settlements, which are predominantly urban issues, the rest of the deprivation types are seen as largely rural phenomena.

Deprivation is highly related to lack of income, as shown by the large proportion of severely deprived children from the poorest quintile. For instance, while one-fifth of children belonging to the poorest group were severely deprived of sanitation facilities, none from the richest group suffered from the same deficiency. Also, 4 out of 10 poor children did not have access to electricity in their homes while only 0.1 per cent of those from the richest group experienced the same deprivation. Such observation can also be gleaned from the deprivation cases on safe water and on information.

Surprisingly, however, even children in the richest group, which accounted for 2.3 per cent of the total child population, could be susceptible to water-borne diseases because they have access to water coming from springs, rivers, streams, rain, and peddlers. Likewise, even if a family does have the income to meet basic needs, its young children remain vulnerable to problems such as lack of security and unsanitary environment associated with informal settlements. Data show that informal settlement is not a phenomenon among poor families only. *Table 5.1* reveals that the proportion of children living in informal settlements was about the same---at around 4 per cent---for all income groups except the richest quintile. These data indicate that although income may be a good indicator of welfare, it does not adequately capture the other dimensions of human welfare.

Table 5.1: Deprivation rate among children by household characteristic (%), 2009

Household Characteristics	Sanitary toilet facilities	Safe water	Shelter	Informal settlements	Electricity	Information
All Areas	8.4	9.3	0.7	3.7	14.3	11.6
Urban	3.9	6.1	0.8	4.8	4.7	4.9
Rural	12.8	12.3	0.5	2.7	23.5	18.0
Family size						
Less than 3	8.4	7.7	0.8	3.8	12.9	14.7
3-4 members	7.6	7.9	0.8	3.6	12.5	10.9
5-6 members	8.1	9.4	0.5	3.7	14.3	11.0
7+	10.3	11.3	0.6	4.1	17.3	13.1
Sex of the head of the family						
Male	9.0	10.0	0.7	3.7	15.5	12.2
Female	5.8	5.9	0.4	3.7	8.9	8.8
Education of the head of the family						
None	26.0	28.5	0.7	5.4	56.2	44.2
Elementary graduate	14.4	13.5	0.9	3.9	25.0	19.8
At least secondary undergraduate	4.0	5.8	0.5	3.6	5.9	5.1
National income quintiles						
Q1 (poorest)	21.8	18.1	1.1	3.9	39.2	32.4
Q2	10.0	10.5	0.8	4.2	16.0	12.4
Q3	3.7	6.9	0.7	4.3	4.9	3.8
Q4	1.0	4.5	0.3	4.1	1.4	0.9
Q5 (richest)	0.0	2.3	0.1	1.7	0.1	0.2

Source: Authors' estimates based on Merged Family Income and Expenditure Survey (2009), and Labor Force Survey (January 2010).

Overlapping Deprivation

The issue with deprivation is not as simple as it seems. A more pressing concern is the fact that many children suffer from multiple and overlapping deprivations. Based on the 2009 FIES, over 10.5 million (or 28%) of all children suffered from at least two types of deprivation simultaneously (*see Table 5.2*). Both the proportion and magnitude in 2009 were slightly lower than those of 2006. Of the total number of deprived children in 2009, 30 per cent came from Central Visayas (10.1%), Western Visayas (10%) and Bicol region (9.6%).

Some 750,000 (2% of the total) are in extremely dire state as they suffer at least five types of deprivation all at the same time. Back in 2006, there were some 900,000 (2.5%) children living under such condition. Again, Central Visayas (13%) and Western Visayas (12%) had the highest shares among all regions based on the latest data.

Table 5.2: Children suffering deprivation by number of deprivation types, 2006 and 2009

Number of Severe Deprivation	Frequency		Percent	
	2006	2009	2006	2009
0	15.70	18.12	45.0	48.0
1	8.20	9.09	23.5	24.1
2	4.65	4.62	13.3	12.2
3	3.43	3.27	9.8	8.7
4	2.02	1.88	5.8	5.0
5	0.72	0.63	2.1	1.7
6	0.14	0.11	0.4	0.3
7	0.02	0.01	0.0	0.0
8	0.00	0.00	0.0	0.0
Total	34.88	37.72	100.00	100.00
At least 2	**10.98**	**10.51**	**31.48**	**27.86**
At least 5	**0.88**	**0.75**	**2.52**	**1.98**

Note: Deprivations includes (1) lack of income or being poor; (2) being out of school; and severe deprivation in (3) shelter; (4) formal settlements; (5) sanitation; (6) safe water; (7) electricity; and (8) information.

Source: Author's estimates based on merged FIES 2006 and LFS January 2007; and FIES 2009 and LFS January 2010.

Deprivation Indicators from the UNICEF Multiple Indicator Survey, 2012

Since the most recent nationally representative data is only that for 2009, it is also useful to utilize other data sources such as the UNICEF's Multiple Indicator Survey (MIS) to get a more updated report on Filipino children. In 2012, the UNICEF conducted the MIS survey to provide a baseline data on children and maternal well-being. To complement the data in this report, the poverty profile of children in the MIS was obtained.

Among the provinces covered in the MIS survey, Masbate, Zamboanga del Norte and Zamboanga del Sur bore the most dismal conditions. For instance, majority of children in Masbate did not have access to any toilet facility. Four in every 10 children in Zamboanga del Norte could not access safe water. A quarter of children in its neighbour Zamboanga del Sur also did not have safe water sources. Safe water and sanitation are basic human needs. Without these, children are most prone to life-threatening diseases.

A significant proportion of children in these provinces also did not have access to electricity and sources of information that can help them in their daily lives.

The MIS results were able to consistently illustrate the wide disparities even among municipalities within provinces. In Masbate for instance, 7 in every 10 children in the municipality of Cawayan had no toilet facility of any kind (*see Table 5.3*). Aroroy has a relatively better scenario, as only 4 in 10 children faced the same condition. In Zamboanga del Norte, the proportion of those without safe water sources in Siayan was twice that of Tampilisan. This is also the same finding in terms of electricity access.

Even within provinces, the urgent needs of municipalities may differ. For instance, safe water sources rather than sanitation could be the most urgent need of Basud in Camarines Norte. Capalonga, on the other hand, clearly lacked all basic amenities as shown by its relatively higher deprivation rates when compared to those of other municipalities in the survey. Thus, interventions that only target provinces and not municipalities may not necessarily address the more urgent needs of each municipality.

Table 5.3: Magnitude and proportion of children experiencing severe deprivation by area, 2012

	Percentage of Children Experiencing Severe Deprivation in Sanitary Toilet Facility [1]	Percentage of Children Experiencing Severe Deprivation in Water [2]	Percentage of Children Experiencing Severe Deprivation of Electricity [3]	Percentage of Children Experiencing Severe Deprivation of Information [4]
CAMARINES NORTE				
Basud	4.0	21.7	13.5	14.4
Capalonga	27.7	35.7	26.2	23.6
Labo	12.2	12.6	22.3	18.6
Mercedes	20.3	10.3	19.2	14.3
Paracale	15.7	25.7	15.2	9.8
Vinzons	25.9	11.0	26.1	19.0
MASBATE				
Aroroy	43.1	22.0	33.1	12.2
Cawayan	71.7	30.6	51.5	22.8
Milagros	54.3	32.2	45.9	21.9
Monreal	65.0	23.7	55.9	30.3
EASTERN SAMAR				
Taft	23.0	6.1	19.1	33.4
NORTHERN SAMAR				
Bobon	25.9	16.2	34.5	36.3
Mapanas	31.1	2.2	17.4	45.8
ZAMBOANGA DEL NORTE				
Siayan	20.2	54.5	79.0	45.5
Tampilisan	7.6	25.7	32.3	24.1
Bacungan	17.6	28.8	51.8	36.2
ZAMBOANGA DEL SUR				
Midsalip	17.3	32.6	66.9	38.6
Tukuran	17.7	14.4	56.6	24.6
COTABATO (NORTH COTABATO)				
President Roxas	4.6	22.1	38.3	23.9
Aleosan	6.7	20.4	70.0	32.1
Arakan	5.7	14.6	59.7	32.9
Total	**27.0**	**22.7**	**39.2**	**23.7**

Note: [1]No Facilities/Bush/Field; [2]Unprotected Well, Unprotected Spring, Tanker/Truck/Peddler, River/Stream/Pond/Lake/Dam/Irrigation, and Others; [3]Deprivation of electricity refers to the children that do not have access to electricity; [4]Children seven to 17 years old who do not have any of the following: radio, television, cellular and landline phone, and computer/laptop.

Source: Author's estimates based on Multiple Indicator Survey 2012.

The MIS survey shows that a significant proportion of children experienced multiple and overlapping deprivation (*see Table 5.4*). Based on the limited number of provinces included in the survey, around 100,000 children---or over one-third of those covered in the survey---suffered from at least two types of deprivation. Some 12,000 were in dire state of being under at least four types of deprivation simultaneously.

Table 5.4: Children suffering from deprivation by number of deprivation types, 2012

Number of deprivation	Frequency	Percent
0	104,024	38.5
1	67,158	24.8
2	51,571	19.1
3	34,936	12.9
4	11,090	4.1
5	1,540	0.6

Note: Deprivation includes (1) being out of school; and severe deprivation in (2) sanitation; (3) safe water; (4) electricity; and (5) information.

Source: Author's estimates based on Multiple Indicator Survey 2012.

The provinces covered in the survey had high proportions of children suffering from multiple types of deprivation. There was some degree of variation in some provinces. In Camarines Norte, the proportion of children in Capalonga who suffer from at least two types of deprivation was more than twice that in Basud (*see Table 5.5*). In Masbate, while a third of the children in Aroroy did not get at least two types of their needs, there were 60 per cent in Monreal who did not. All four municipalities in Masbate that were included in the survey had very high incidences of multiple deprivation. In fact, the rest of the municipalities in the other provinces included in the MIS had very high multiple deprivation rates (i.e., those having at least two types of deprivation simultaneously) ranging from 26 per cent (e.g., Taft, Eastern Samar) to as high as 68 per cent (e.g., Siayan, Zamboanga del Norte).

Table 5.5: Proportion of children suffering from deprivation, by number of deprivation types and area, 2012

Selected Provinces/Municipalities	0	1	2	3	4	5
CAMARINES NORTE						
Basud	58.3	27.0	8.9	4.6	1.1	0.0
Capalonga	33.3	28.9	21.5	11.9	3.5	0.8
Labo	57.7	21.1	10.7	8.4	1.9	0.1
Mercedes	57.4	24.0	11.0	6.4	1.2	0.0
Paracale	50.7	27.7	14.7	5.2	1.3	0.5
Vinzons	50.9	23.7	11.7	9.7	3.4	0.5
MASBATE						
Aroroy	39.1	25.6	18.2	13.8	2.6	0.7
Cawayan	16.9	23.7	27.7	20.0	11.0	0.7
Milagros	25.1	26.7	19.4	23.0	5.0	0.8
Monreal	28.4	11.3	24.7	26.8	8.4	0.4
EASTERN SAMAR						
Taft	53.4	20.4	14.4	8.1	3.2	0.5
NORTHERN SAMAR						
Bobon	46.2	17.8	17.3	11.4	6.1	1.2
Mapanas	42.1	27.3	20.3	8.9	1.3	0.0
ZAMBOANGA DEL NORTE						
Siayan	13.9	17.6	29.0	26.7	11.1	1.7
Tampilisan	49.1	22.0	14.4	10.7	3.5	0.3
Bacungan	32.4	20.5	22.1	16.3	8.0	0.5
ZAMBOANGA DEL SUR						
Midsalip	21.8	27.7	24.7	16.4	7.9	1.6
Tukuran	33.3	30.8	22.8	11.5	1.0	0.7
COTABATO (NORTH COTABATO)						
President Roxas	43.2	28.4	17.9	8.3	1.8	0.4
Aleosan	20.6	35.8	30.8	9.7	2.6	0.4
Arakan	33.5	28.1	25.7	10.4	2.0	0.3
Total	**38.5**	**24.8**	**19.1**	**12.9**	**4.1**	**0.6**

Note: Deprivation includes (1) being out of school; and severe deprivation in (2) sanitation; (3) safe water; (4) electricity; and (5) information.
Source: Author's estimates based on Multiple Indicator Survey 2012.

Education

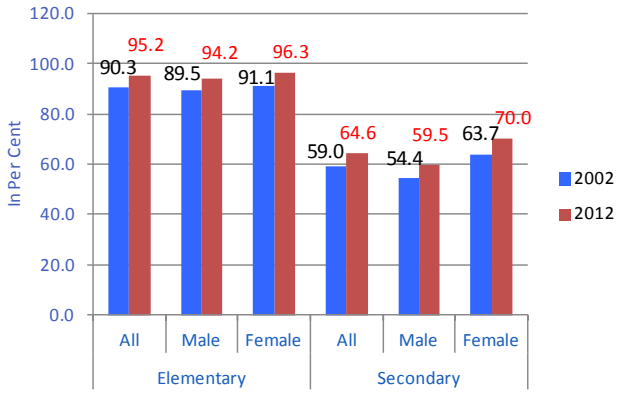
The Philippines faces immense challenges in the area of universal primary education. In fact, a recent report by the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO) Institute of Statistics reveals that the Philippines is among the countries with the highest number of primary school-aged children who are out of school. According to this report, 1.46 million primary school-aged children in the Philippines do not go to school, thus ranking the country next to Nigeria, Pakistan, Ethiopia and India. The report also shows that globally, there are 57 million children of primary school ages who are out of school. These refer to those who do not have access to a school in their community; do not enrol even when a school is available; or enrol but do not actually attend school and drop out from the system entirely (Global Partnership for Education).

Based on the Philippine administrative data collected by the Department of Education (DepEd), the nation's improvements in school indicators are indeed miniscule. In particular, the progress of bringing all children to school has been slow as seen from the trend of various education indicators such as participation rate, cohort survival rate and completion rate. On the supply side, there remains a shortage of classrooms and teachers. There are also significant challenges in improving the quality of education as shown by national achievement test results.

School Participation

In 2012, about 14.5 million children enrolled in the elementary level. The enrolment data from DepEd data show a continuous increase of 1.1 per cent annually during the last 10 years (i.e., 2002 to 2012). However, there remains still a portion of the school-aged population who are out of school. Based on the preliminary revised data from DepEd[12] , the net elementary enrolment rate was around 97 per cent in 2011 but inched down to 95 per cent in 2012. The current rate is relatively better than 2002's 90 per cent (*see Figure 6.1*). Net enrolment rate in the elementary level is obtained by dividing the total number of children ages 6-11 years old and enrolled in elementary level by the total number of children aged 6-11 years.

Figure 6.1: Net enrolment ratio by level and sex, 2002 and 2012



Source of basic data: Research and Statistics Division Office of Planning Service, Department of Education.

[12] Administrative data from DepEd have been revised to take into account updated population estimates for intercensal years based on the 2010 Census of Population and Housing results.

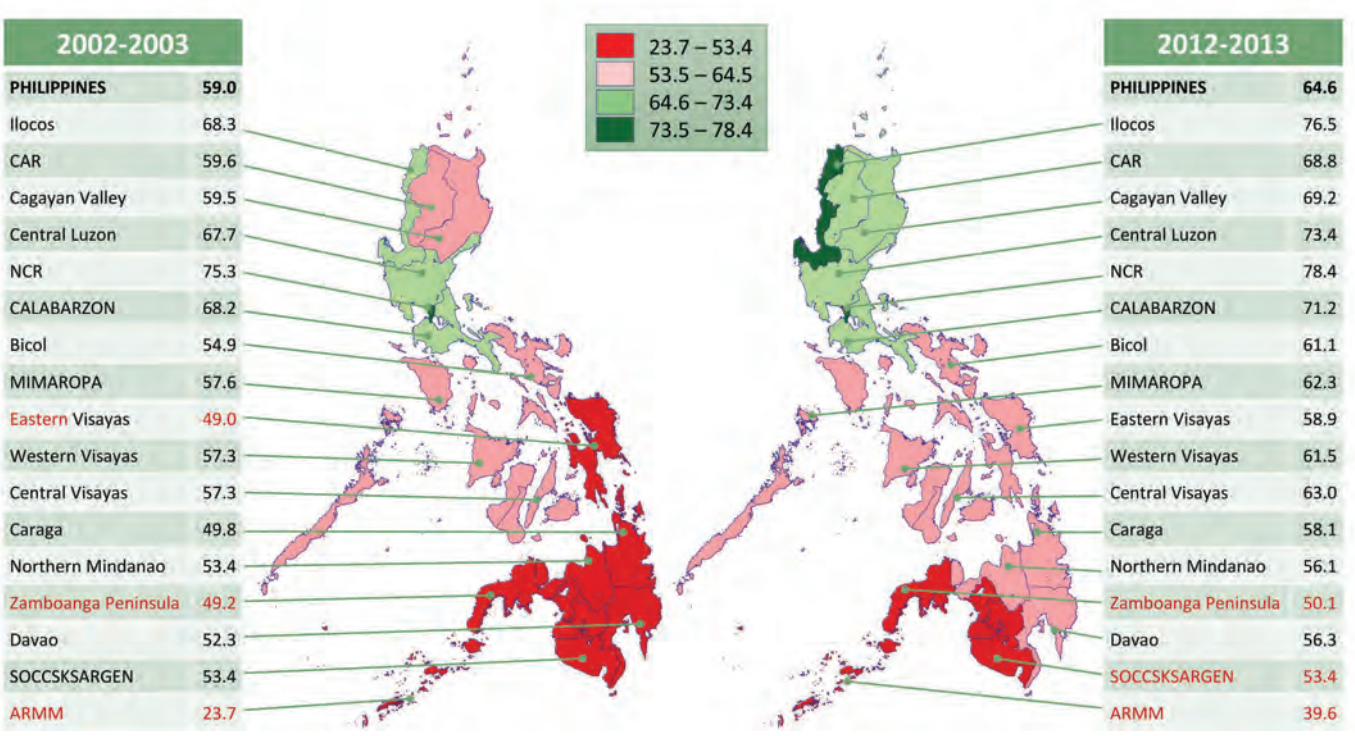
The DepEd estimates are comparable to survey-based estimates. The APIS shows that in 2011, elementary participation rate was at 97 per cent, which is above the 2002 estimate of 94 per cent. Elementary participation rate based on the APIS calculation is defined as the proportion of children ages 6-11 years old who are attending school, regardless of the level of education. One of the key features of school participation in the Philippines is that the percentage of girls who go to school is higher than that of boys.

At the secondary level, a total of 7.1 million high school students were enrolled in 2012 based on the DepEd's administrative records. Data show an annual enrolment increment of 1.5 per cent for the period 2002-2012. The improvement at the secondary education net enrolment ratio has been likewise sluggish. From around 59 per cent in 2002, the school participation rate went up to 65 per cent a decade later.

Meanwhile, there is a big gap between the DepEd and APIS's participation rates. The school participation rate in 2011 among children ages 12-15 years old based on the APIS is at roughly 92 per cent---way above the DepEd's administrative data of 65 per cent in the same year. Just like in the case at the elementary level, the participation rate of boys (59%) in high school is lower than that of girls (70%).

Although there is minimal improvement in the national net enrolment rate, the subnational dimension reveals more details. The CAR exhibited a 9-point increase within the period 2002 to 2012. Eastern Visayas also notably improved from 49 per cent to 59 per cent. So did ARMM see its rate rise from 24 per cent to 40 per cent, although its latest rate still pales in comparison with other regions' performance. *Figure 6.2* shows all these improvements, where light red regions (e.g., Region III and CAR) turned to light green, or where dark red (e.g., Region VIII, X, Caraga Region) portions upgraded to light red.

Figure 6.2: Net enrolment ratio in secondary level by region, 2002 and 2012

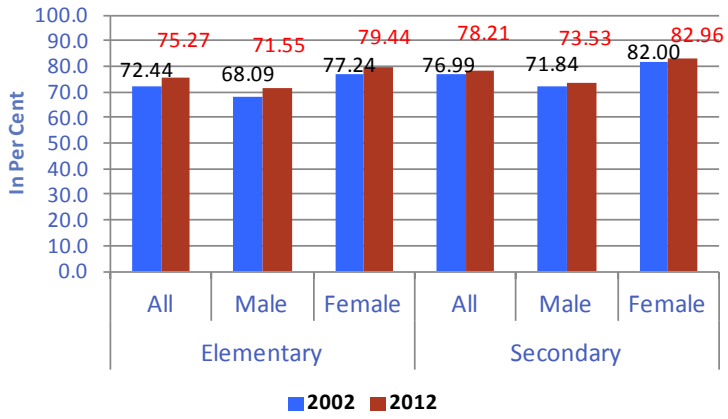


Source of basic data: Research and Statistics Division Office of Planning Service, Department of Education

Cohort Survival, Completion, and Dropout

Bringing all school-aged children to school is one thing. The bigger challenge is in sustaining the participation of those who are already in school until they finish the final level. In 2012, the cohort survival in the elementary level was 75 per cent. That is, one out of four children who enrolled in the first grade did not make it to the last grade of elementary education. The survival rate had improved minimally---from 72 per cent to 75 per cent---during the last decade (*see Figure 6.3*). Also, the survival rate for boys (72%) was lower than that for girls (79%).

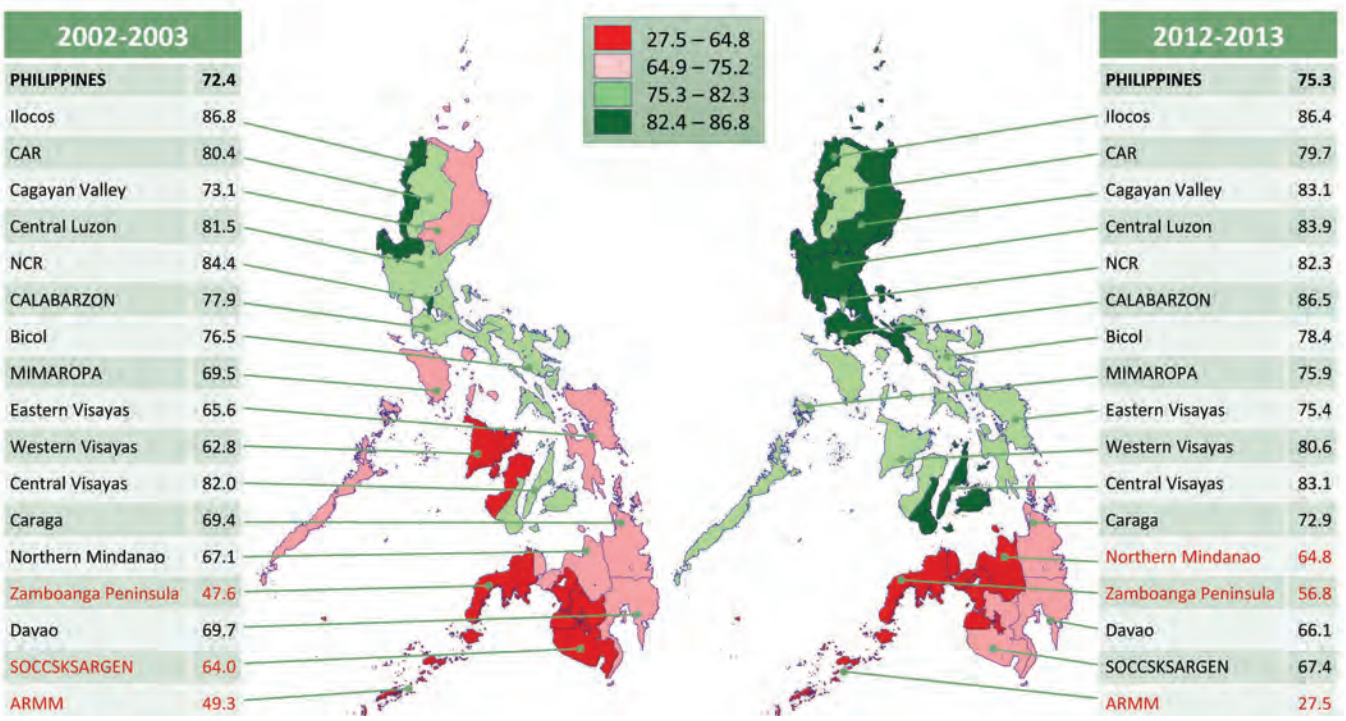
Figure 6.3: Cohort survival rate by level and sex, 2002 and 2012



Source of basic data: Research and Statistics Division Office of Planning Service, Department of Education.

Although the national trend has remained stagnant, there were significant changes at the regional levels. Regions in Luzon and Visayas have better cohort survival performances than before as shown by the dominant green shades in the right panel of *Figure 6.4*. Cagayan Valley's (Region II) rate improved from 73 per cent to 83 per cent; that of CALABARZON (Region IV-A) rose from 78 per cent to 86.5 per cent. Western Visayas (Region VI) also remarkably improved its rate from 63 per cent to 81 per cent. On the other hand, Mindanao regions continued to lag behind as illustrated by the dominant red shades. The cohort survival rate (at elementary level) of ARMM is most disturbing; it plunged from 49.3 per cent to 27.5 per cent.

Figure 6.4: Cohort survival rate in elementary level by region, 2002 and 2012



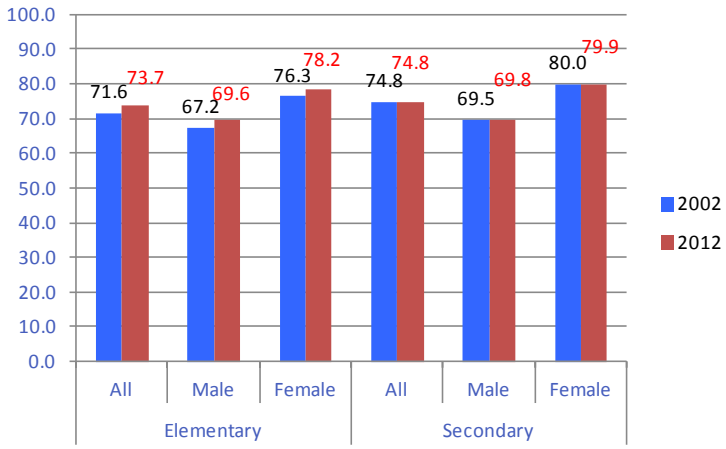
2002-2003	
PHILIPPINES	72.4
Ilocos	86.8
CAR	80.4
Cagayan Valley	73.1
Central Luzon	81.5
NCR	84.4
CALABARZON	77.9
Bicol	76.5
MIMAROPA	69.5
Eastern Visayas	65.6
Western Visayas	62.8
Central Visayas	82.0
Caraga	69.4
Northern Mindanao	67.1
Zamboanga Peninsula	47.6
Davao	69.7
SOCCSKSARGEN	64.0
ARMM	49.3

2012-2013	
PHILIPPINES	75.3
Ilocos	86.4
CAR	79.7
Cagayan Valley	83.1
Central Luzon	83.9
NCR	82.3
CALABARZON	86.5
Bicol	78.4
MIMAROPA	75.9
Eastern Visayas	75.4
Western Visayas	80.6
Central Visayas	83.1
Caraga	72.9
Northern Mindanao	64.8
Zamboanga Peninsula	56.8
Davao	66.1
SOCCSKSARGEN	67.4
ARMM	27.5

Source of basic data: Research and Statistics Division Office of Planning Service, Department of Education

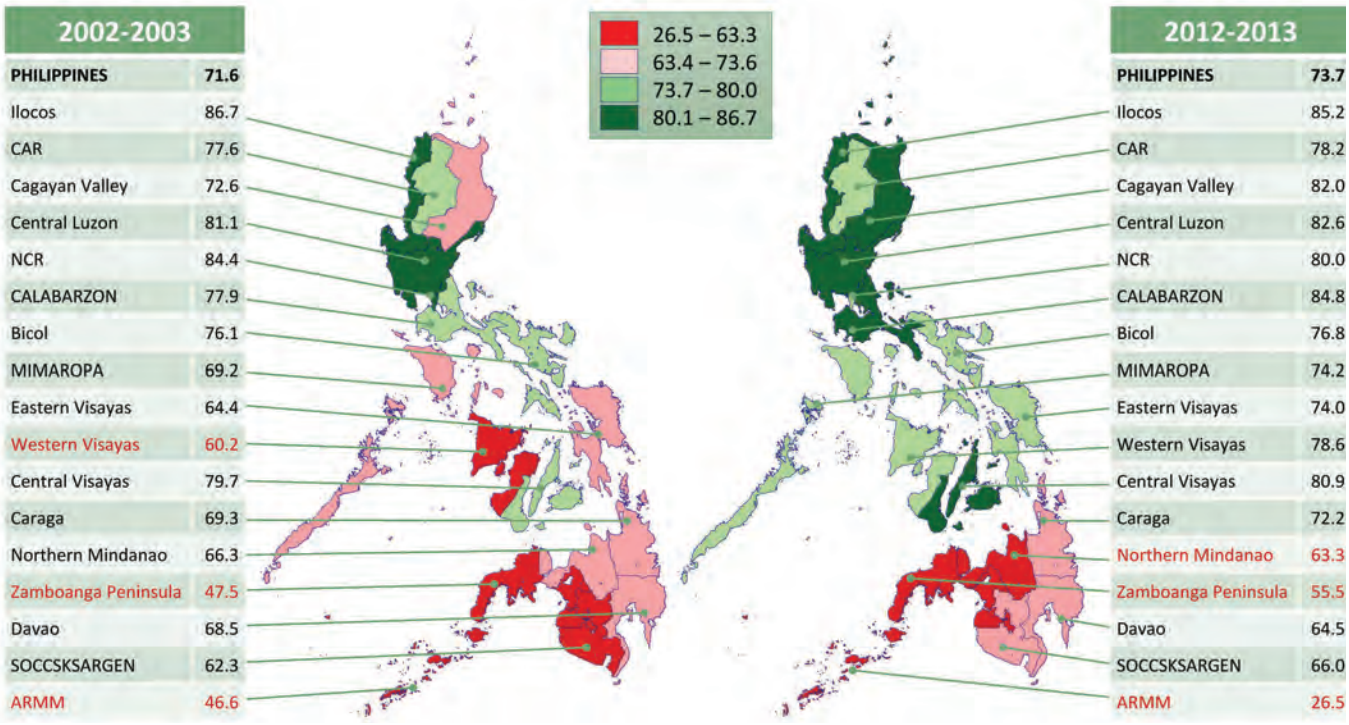
Since many students do not reach the final grade, the resulting completion rate is also low. Three out of 10 children who enrol do not complete elementary education. Completion rate went as low as 68 per cent in 2005 but improved to 74 per cent in 2012 (*see Figure 6.5*). As in the other education indicators, girls (78%) outperformed boys (70%) in their elementary school completion rate. Regions in Luzon and Visayas had notable progress, while Mindanao regions saw persistently low completion rates (*see Figure 6.6*).

Figure 6.5: Completion rate by level and sex, 2002 and 2012



Source of basic data: Research and Statistics Division Office of Planning Service, Department of Education

Figure 6.6: Completion rate in elementary by region, 2002 and 2012



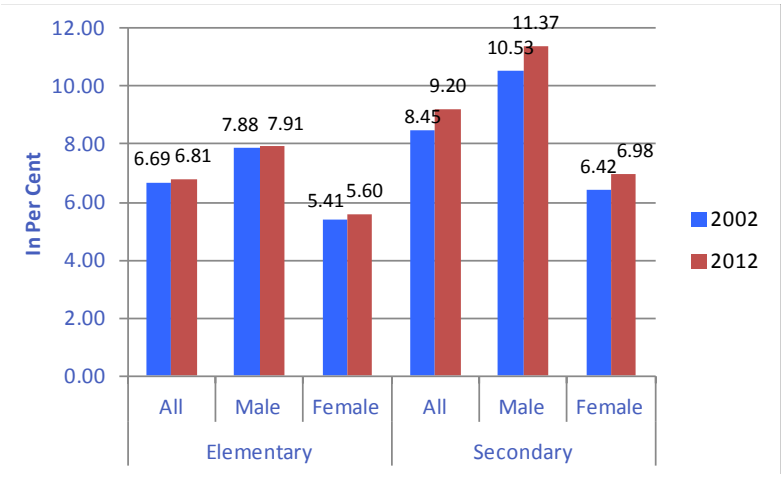
2002-2003	
PHILIPPINES	71.6
Ilocos	86.7
CAR	77.6
Cagayan Valley	72.6
Central Luzon	81.1
NCR	84.4
CALABARZON	77.9
Bicol	76.1
MIMAROPA	69.2
Eastern Visayas	64.4
Western Visayas	60.2
Central Visayas	79.7
Caraga	69.3
Northern Mindanao	66.3
Zamboanga Peninsula	47.5
Davao	68.5
SOCCSKSARGEN	62.3
ARMM	46.6

2012-2013	
PHILIPPINES	73.7
Ilocos	85.2
CAR	78.2
Cagayan Valley	82.0
Central Luzon	82.6
NCR	80.0
CALABARZON	84.8
Bicol	76.8
MIMAROPA	74.2
Eastern Visayas	74.0
Western Visayas	78.6
Central Visayas	80.9
Caraga	72.2
Northern Mindanao	63.3
Zamboanga Peninsula	55.5
Davao	64.5
SOCCSKSARGEN	66.0
ARMM	26.5

Source of basic data: Research and Statistics Division Office of Planning Service, Department of Education

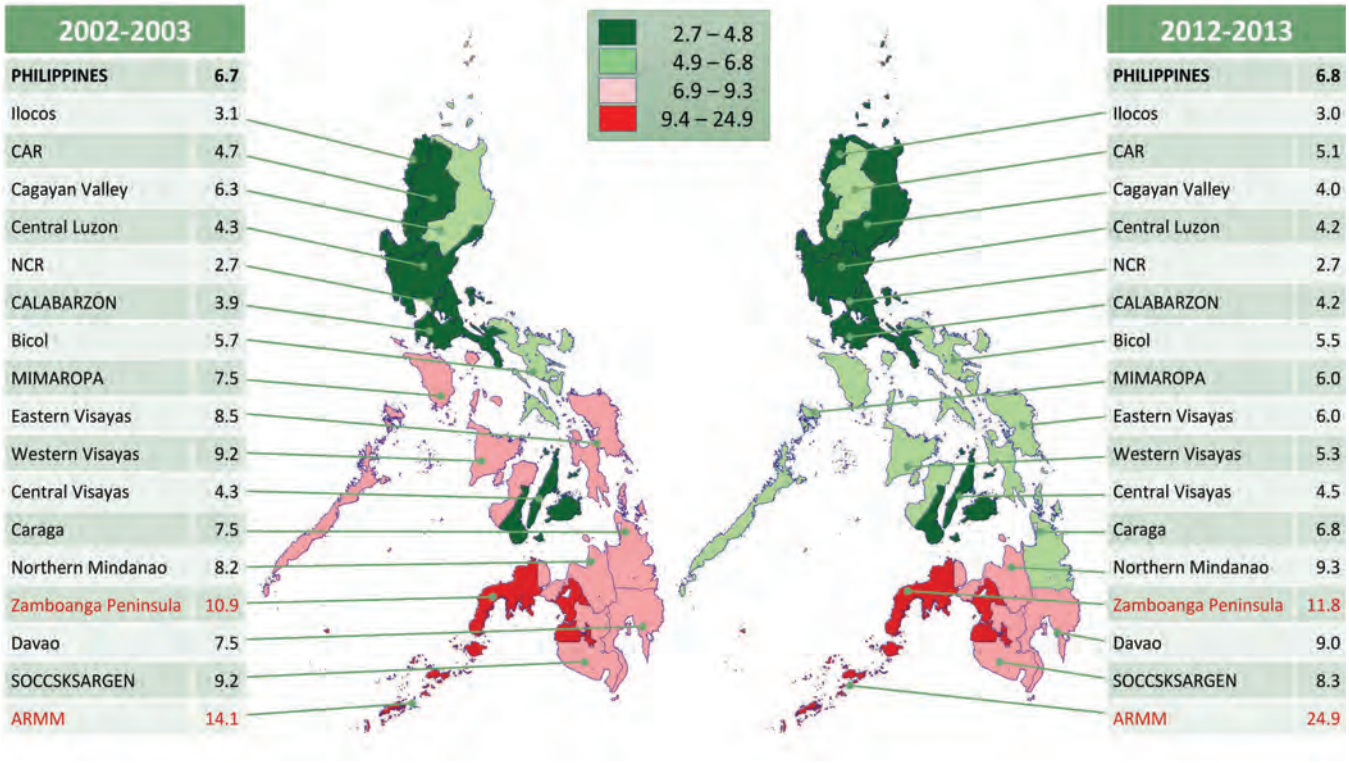
The trend in the elementary dropout rate reinforces the findings on cohort survival and completion rates. The dropout rate has basically remained the same for the last decade: From 6.7 per cent in 2002, the rate increased minimally to 6.8 per cent in 2012 (*see Figure 6.7*). More boys (7.9%) than girls (5.6%) dropped out of school. Among the regions, ARMM had the worst dropout rate. On the average, one in four children in ARMM tends to drop out of school. This is way above its 14-per cent rate in 2002 (*see Figure 6.8*).

Figure 6.7: Dropout rate by level and sex, 2002 and 2012 (in %)



Source of basic data: Research and Statistics Division Office of Planning Service, Department of Education.

Figure 6.8: Dropout rate in elementary by region, 2002 and 2012

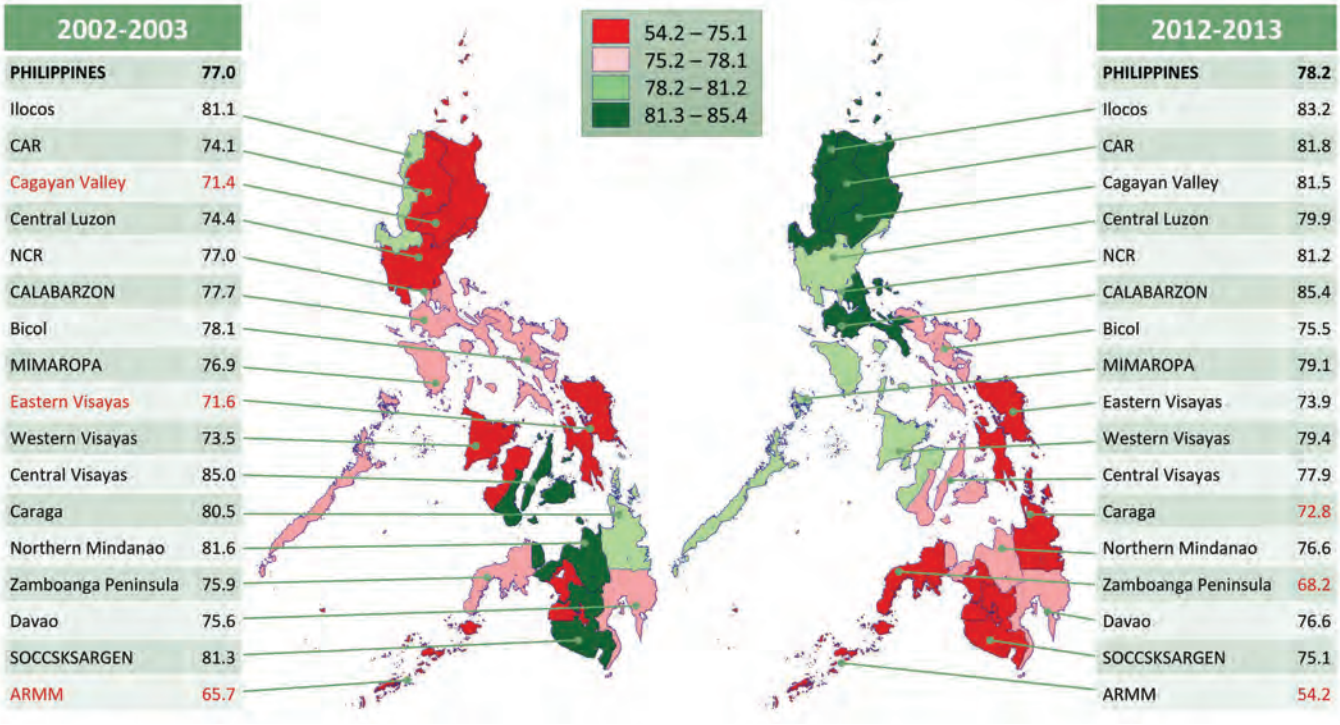


Source of basic data: Research and Statistics Division Office of Planning Service, Department of Education.

The same lacklustre performance in cohort survival, completion and dropout rates can be observed at the secondary school level. Cohort survival in secondary level refers to the proportion of students who entered the first year of high school and were able to complete their secondary schooling. The cohort survival rate for 2012 was at 78 per cent, a mere percentage point improvement from a decade ago (*see Figure 6.3*). Again, the cohort survival rate of girls (83%) is higher than that of boys (74%).

Merely focusing on the national data cannot give one insights into what are happening in specific regions. Ergo, there is a need to drill down to the regional level. Regional data show that there have been improvements in areas in Luzon. For instance, Cagayan Valley (Region II) saw its cohort survival rate improve from 71 per cent in 2002 to 82 per cent by 2012 (*see Figure 6.9*). On the other hand, regions in Mindanao experienced the opposite. Region XII, for instance, used to have a cohort survival rate of 81 per cent but saw its number slump later to 75 per cent. The rate for ARMM fell from 66 per cent to 54 per cent. In the Caraga Region, the survival rate is now only 73 per cent, when it used to be about 81 per cent. Region VII in the Visayas also experienced its survival rate decrease from 85 per cent to 78 per cent.

Figure 6.9: Cohort survival rate in secondary level by region, 2002 and 2012

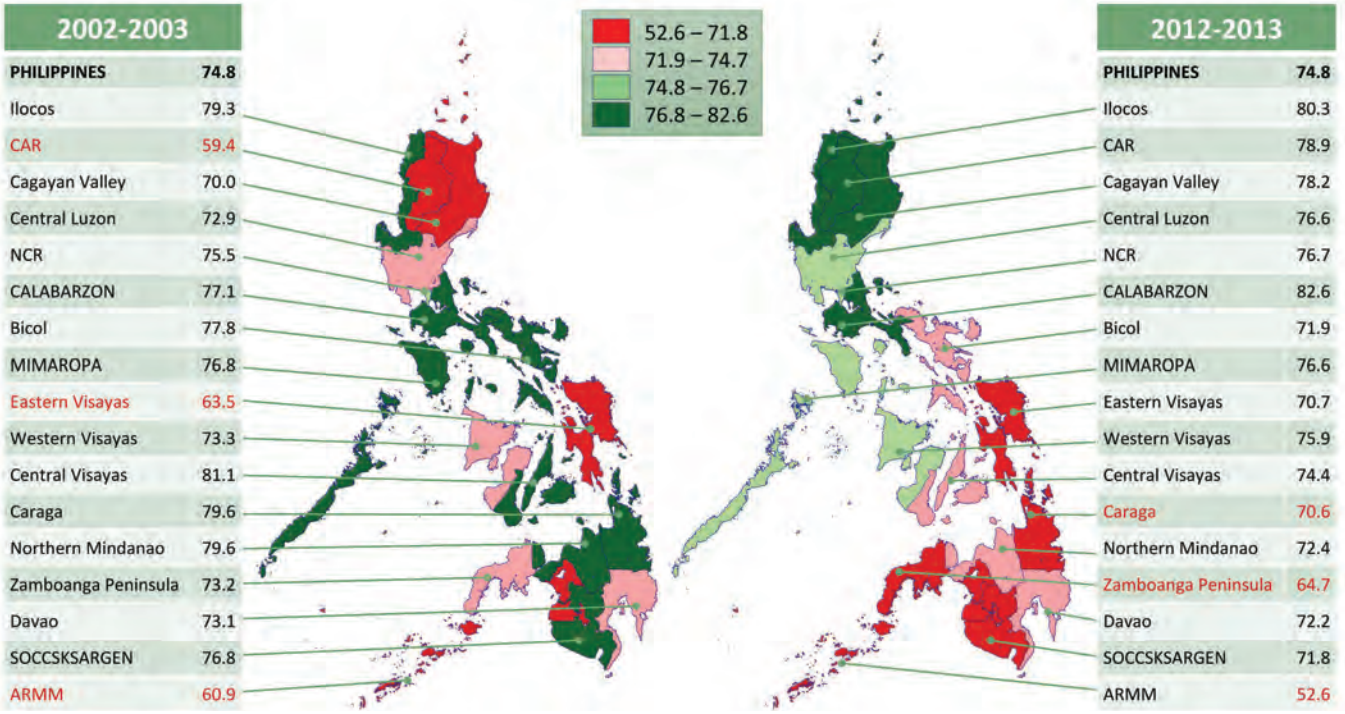


Source of basic data: Research and Statistics Division Office of Planning Service, Department of Education.

Because many students are unable to proceed to their last year of secondary education, the resulting completion rate is also low. In 2012, only 75 per cent of those who started high school four years ago had completed their high school level (*see Figure 6.5*). The latest national estimate barely improved when compared to that of a decade earlier. As in the other education indicators, girls (80%) outperformed the boys (70%) in completion rates.

The regional stories on secondary schooling completion rates echo the situations on cohort survival rates. That is, regions in Luzon had considerably improved while all their Mindanao counterparts had not. Not a single region in Mindanao had shown any progress in its secondary school completion rate in the last decade based on DepEd data. Meanwhile, regions in the Visayas, except for Central Visayas, showed a slight increase in their completion rates (*see Figure 6.10*).

Figure 6.10: Completion rate in secondary by region, 2002 and 2012



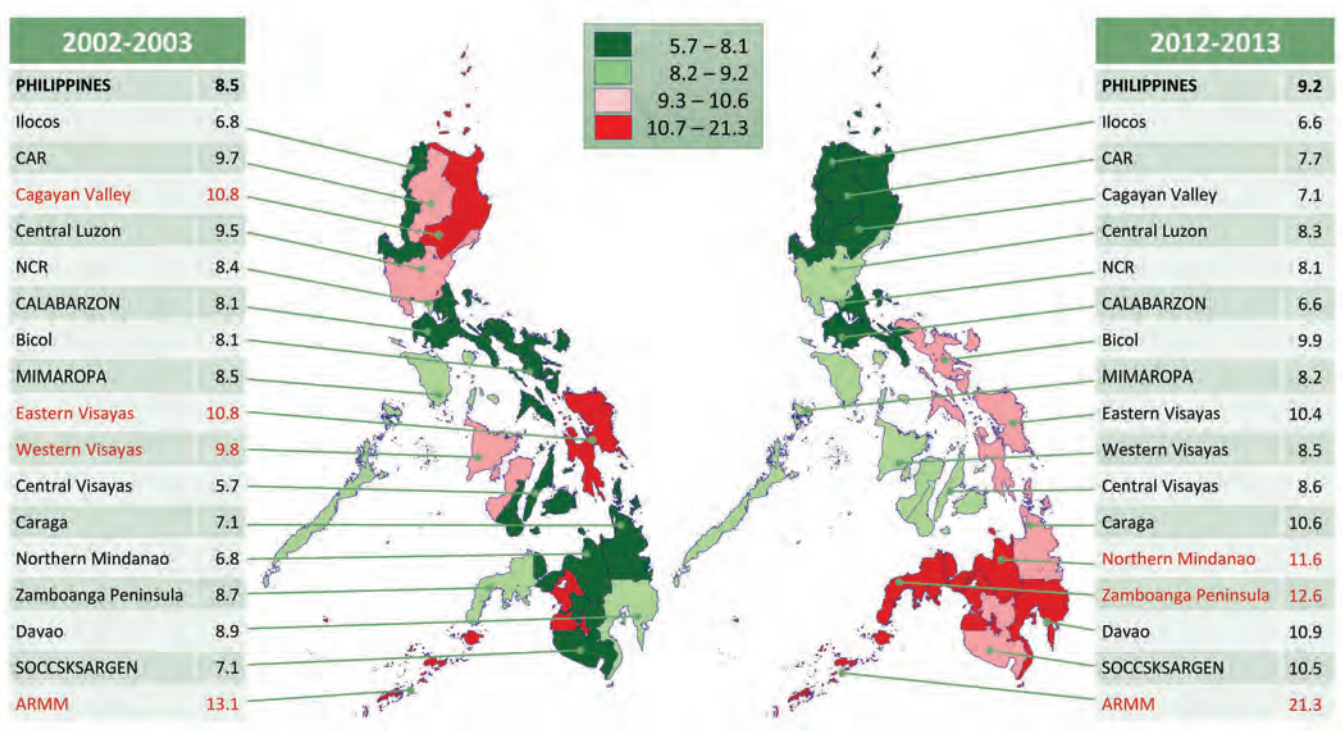
2002-2003	
PHILIPPINES	74.8
Ilocos	79.3
CAR	59.4
Cagayan Valley	70.0
Central Luzon	72.9
NCR	75.5
CALABARZON	77.1
Bicol	77.8
MIMAROPA	76.8
Eastern Visayas	63.5
Western Visayas	73.3
Central Visayas	81.1
Caraga	79.6
Northern Mindanao	79.6
Zamboanga Peninsula	73.2
Davao	73.1
SOCCSKSARGEN	76.8
ARMM	60.9

2012-2013	
PHILIPPINES	74.8
Ilocos	80.3
CAR	78.9
Cagayan Valley	78.2
Central Luzon	76.6
NCR	76.7
CALABARZON	82.6
Bicol	71.9
MIMAROPA	76.6
Eastern Visayas	70.7
Western Visayas	75.9
Central Visayas	74.4
Caraga	70.6
Northern Mindanao	72.4
Zamboanga Peninsula	64.7
Davao	72.2
SOCCSKSARGEN	71.8
ARMM	52.6

Source of basic data: Research and Statistics Division Office of Planning Service, Department of Education

Meanwhile, the national dropout rate barely improved. Based on *Figure 6.11*, it decreased by a meagre 1 per cent within the last decade (i.e., from 8.5% in 2002 to 9.2% in 2012). Of the geographical units, most Mindanao regions saw higher dropout rates recently compared to those in 2002. In Luzon, many regions had experienced relatively better dropout rates. For instance, Cagayan Valley used to have a rate of around 11 per cent, but this went down to 7 per cent by 2012. In CAR, the rate went down from 9.7 per cent to 7.7 per cent. The CALABARZON's dropout rate likewise lowered from 8.1 per cent to 6.6 per cent. Rates in Mindanao regions, on the other hand, worsened significantly as shown by Figure 6.11's predominantly green shades that turned red or pink one decade after.

Figure 6.11: Dropout rate in secondary level by region, 2002 and 2012



2002-2003	
PHILIPPINES	8.5
Ilocos	6.8
CAR	9.7
Cagayan Valley	10.8
Central Luzon	9.5
NCR	8.4
CALABARZON	8.1
Bicol	8.1
MIMAROPA	8.5
Eastern Visayas	10.8
Western Visayas	9.8
Central Visayas	5.7
Caraga	7.1
Northern Mindanao	6.8
Zamboanga Peninsula	8.7
Davao	8.9
SOCCSKSARGEN	7.1
ARMM	13.1

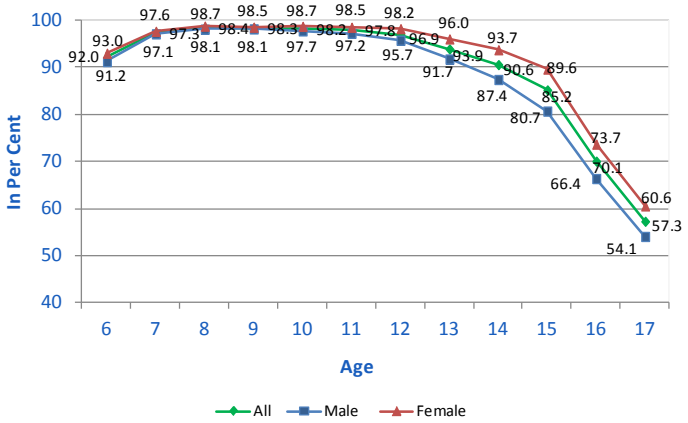
2012-2013	
PHILIPPINES	9.2
Ilocos	6.6
CAR	7.7
Cagayan Valley	7.1
Central Luzon	8.3
NCR	8.1
CALABARZON	6.6
Bicol	9.9
MIMAROPA	8.2
Eastern Visayas	10.4
Western Visayas	8.5
Central Visayas	8.6
Caraga	10.6
Northern Mindanao	11.6
Zamboanga Peninsula	12.6
Davao	10.9
SOCCSKSARGEN	10.5
ARMM	21.3

Source of basic data: Research and Statistics Division Office of Planning Service, Department of Education.

Correlates of School Participation

Survey data show that as children grow older, school attendance significantly declines. This can be inferred from *Figure 6.12*, where school attendance rate was obtained by age and sex based on the 2011 APIS.[13] Six-year old children's attendance rate in 2011 was 92 per cent, while the 10-year old and 12-year old kids garnered a rate of 98 per cent.

Figure 6.12: School attendance rate by single year of age and sex, 2011

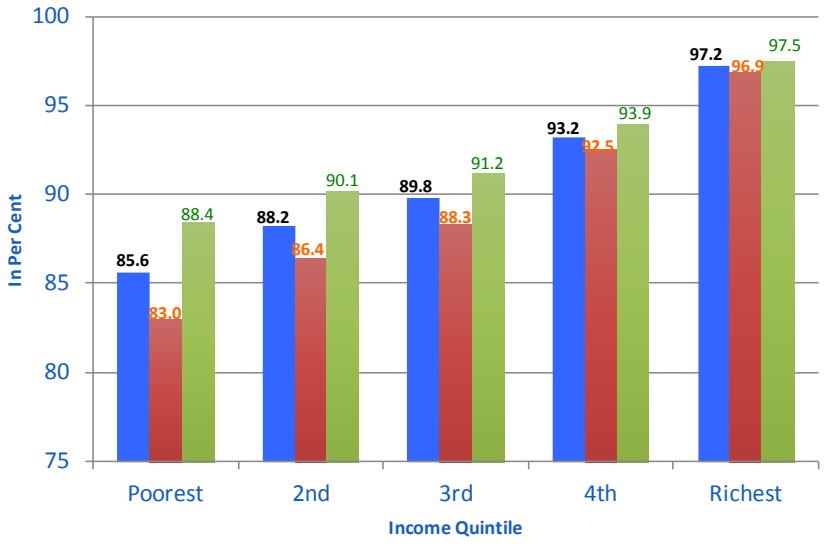


Source: Authors' estimates based on Annual Poverty Indicators Survey, National Statistics Office.

[13] The exact APIS variable indicates whether an individual is "currently attending school or not.

The attendance rate plunged from 91 per cent for 14-year-old children, to 70 per cent for 16-year-old teens, and to 57 per cent for 17-year-old youths. Reasons behind this result may include the lack of income to support higher levels of learning, which usually entails higher costs. By tabulating participation and income data, one can validate how the attendance rate is positively associated with income. The proportion of children belonging to the poorest income group and who went to school in 2011 was roughly 86 per cent. The proportion for children from the middle-income group was 90 per cent, while that for the richest group was 97 per cent (*see Figure 6.13*).

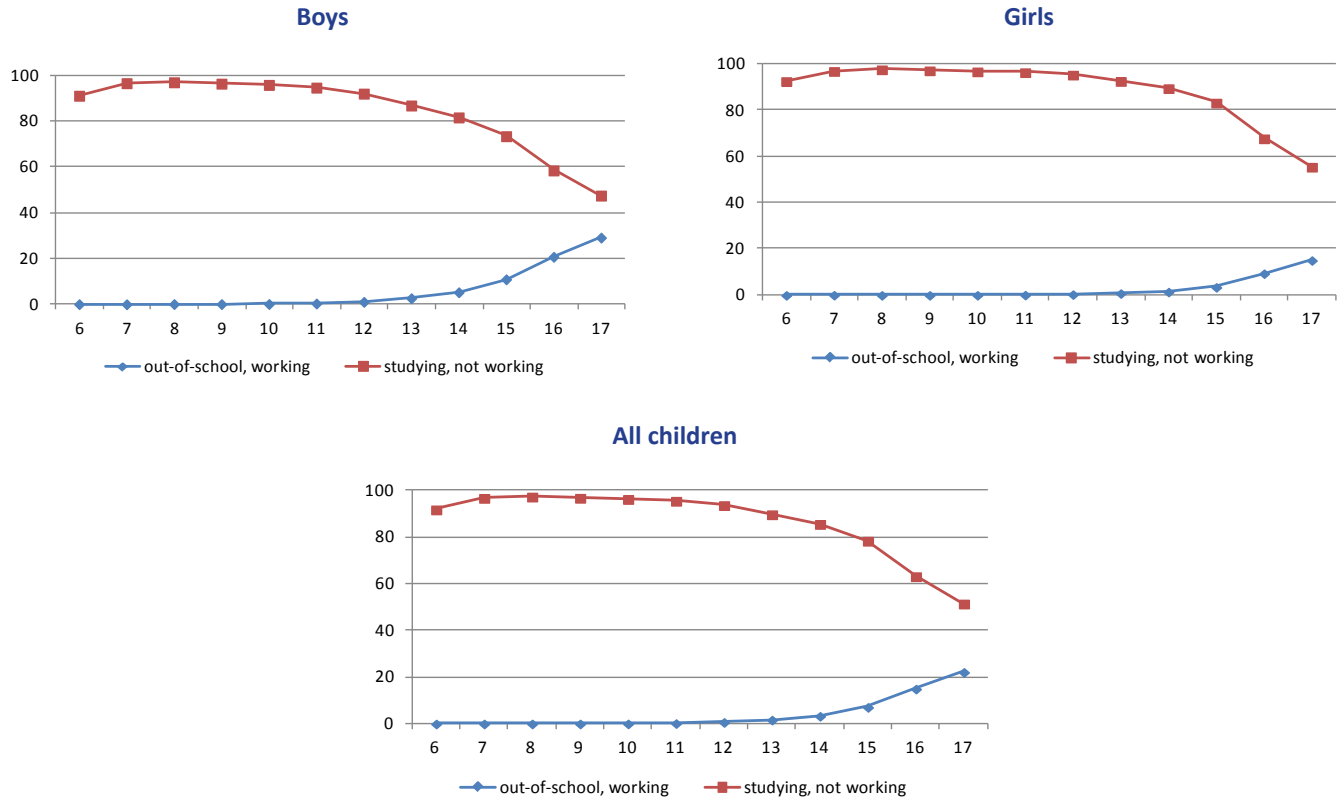
Figure 6.13: Proportion of children aged 6-17 attending school by income quintile, 2011



Source: Authors' estimates based on Annual Poverty Indicators Survey, National Statistics Office.

There is a strong indication that older children who were out of school may have entered the labour force. *Figure 6.14* shows the proportion of (1) children in school and not working; and (2) those working and not studying, by age and by sex. Here, the proportion of the former decreased, while the proportion of the latter increased, particularly among boys than the girls. Of the boys who were 17 years old, only around 50 per cent were attending school because roughly 30 per cent were already working. For girls of the same age, about 60 per cent were in school while less than 20 per cent were working.

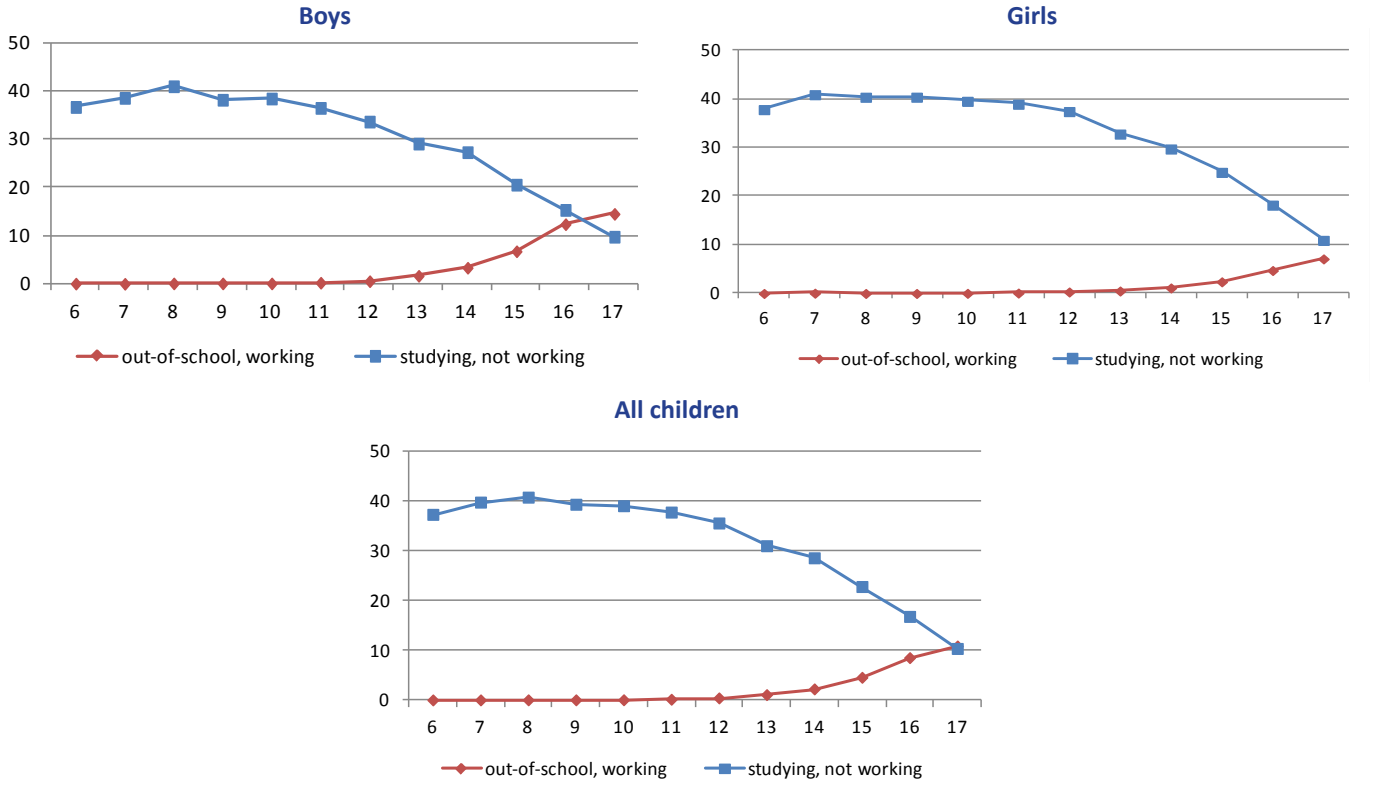
Figure 6.14: Proportion of children aged 6-17 who are attending school versus those working, 2011



Source: Authors' estimates based on Annual Poverty Indicators Survey, National Statistics Office.

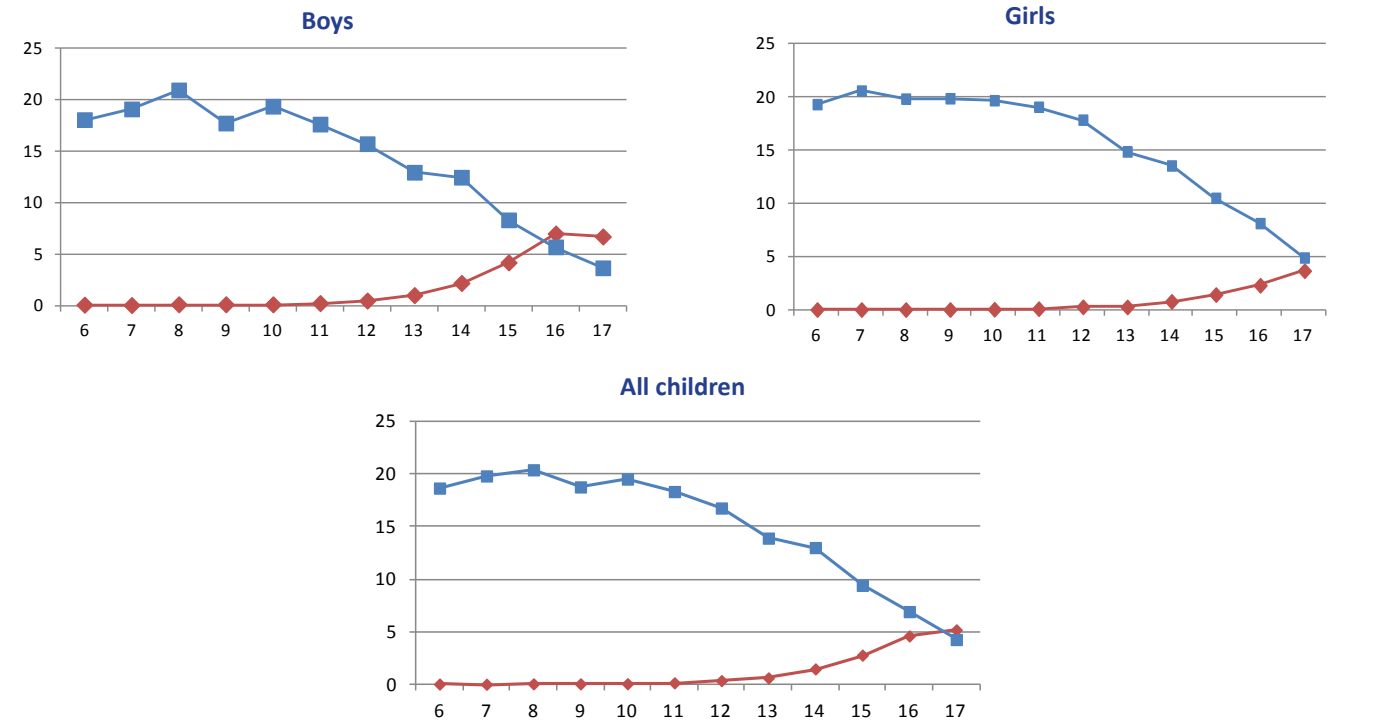
Similar analyses were done for children in poor families (*see Figure 6.15*) and in extremely poor families (*see Figure 6.16*). It can be observed that while the attendance rates for boys and girls were at most 40 per cent, the proportion of working children was lower among poor children—15 per cent for boys and less than 10 per cent for girls—than that of the overall statistics (i.e., all children, *see Figure 6.14*). The situation of extremely poor children is even worse, as the highest school participation rate was only about 20 per cent to 21 per cent. The proportion of those working did not exceed 8 per cent. These are strong indications that poor children could not go to school and still rarely enter the labour force due perhaps to lack of opportunities or to low skill level and capabilities owing to the lack of education.

Figure 6.15: Proportion of poor children aged 6-17 who are attending school versus those working, 2011



Source: Authors' estimates based on Annual Poverty Indicators Survey, National Statistics Office.

Figure 6.16: Proportion of extremely poor children aged 6-17 who are attending school versus those working, 2011

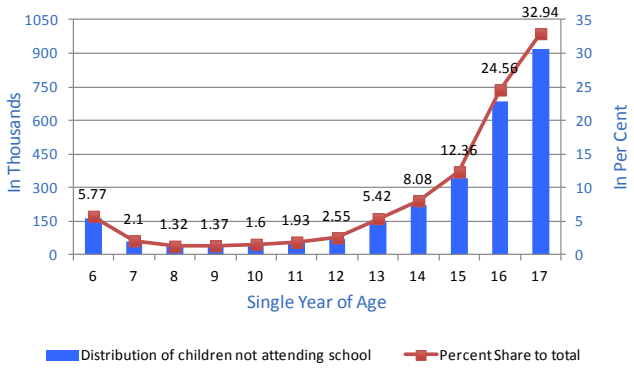


Source: Authors' estimates based on Annual Poverty Indicators Survey, National Statistics Office.

Reasons for Not Going to School

To further deep-dive into the issues behind school dropout incidences, the reasons for not attending school as reported in the APIS were examined. First, however, it is important to note that of the 2.78 million children who were not attending school in 2011, more than half (57%) were of ages 16 and 17 years old. High school-aged children (12 to 15) and elementary school-age ones (6 to 11) accounted for the remaining 28 per cent and 14 per cent, respectively (*see Figure 6.17*). Among those in the 6 to 11 group, 4 out of 10 were six-year olds. From this profile, one can deduce that the likely reasons for dropping out of school may be twofold: (1) that it is the older children who tend to have higher labour participation; and (2) that the higher the educational level, the steeper is the cost of schooling.

Figure 6.17: Number and proportion of out-of-school children by age, 2011



Source: Authors' estimates based on Annual Poverty Indicators Survey, National Statistics Office.

Among the younger children, "Lack of personal interest" is the key reason for not going to school, according to the APIS data. Such is the explanation of majority (51%) of elementary- and high school-aged children who do not attend school (*see Table 6.1*). Several studies have already tried to explain this in a deeper, more elaborate context. For instance, the study by Albert et al.[14] shows that lack of interest largely means difficulties of children, especially boys, in learning. The study notes that parents in poor households do not involve themselves in the education of their elementary school-aged children, and this could possibly be to due lack of time since the former are preoccupied with attending to economic activities. It also mentions that teachers tend to have very little expectation from boys, which contributes to the latter's lack of interest.

[14] Albert, Jose Ramon G., Clarissa C. David, Sheryl C. Monterola and Lucita S. Lazo, 'Addressing Late School Entry and Other Demand-Side Barriers to Primary Schooling', PIDS Policy Note 2012-08.

Table 6.1: Reasons for not going to school by age group, 2011

Reason for not going to school	Age Group		
	6 to 11	12 to 15	16 to 17
Lack of personal interest	51.33	51.08	31.69
Illness/Disability	15.24	6.95	2.18
High cost of education	10.51	23.76	37.58
School are very far	6.28	1.98	0.66
Problem with birth certificate	4.18	0.85	0.21
Cannot cope with school work	3.39	1.73	0.97
Others	3.34	1.97	1.92
Too young to go to school	2.24		
No regular transportation	1.14	0.59	0.38
No school within the barangay	0.75	0.12	0.24
Problem with school record	0.73	1.12	0.34
Employment/looking for work	0.59	7.09	16.02
Housekeeping	0.27	2.13	3.45
Marriage		0.63	4.16
Finished schooling			0.21

Source: Authors' estimates based on Annual Poverty Indicators Survey, National Statistics Office.

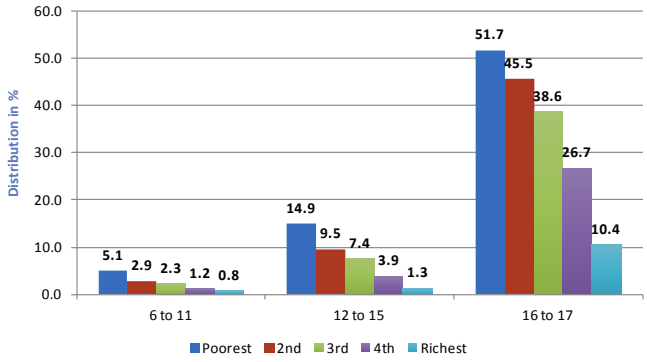
Among elementary school-aged children, the second most common reason (15%) is illness or disability. Also, the high cost of education is an impediment for at least 10 per cent of children in this age group.

High cost of education is the most common reason cited by around 4 out of 10 youngsters aged 16 to 17 years in the APIS. Moreover, another 16 per cent noted employment or "looking for work" as the main reason. In both answers, reasons relate to the family's resources. Even among high school-aged children (i.e., aged 12 to 15 years), 3 out of 10 gave either the high education cost or need for employment as reasons. While the lack of personal interest is still a huge issue for this cohort, it is evident that majority may still be interested to go to school but resource-related factors constrain them from doing so.

These factors---the high education cost and need to be employed---increase in importance at each school age level, which reinforces the notion of higher opportunity costs as school-age children grow older. For instance, while only 11 per cent of the 6- to 11-year old cohort cites the high cost and employment reasons, the rate rises to 31 per cent for those in the 12-to 15-year old group and 54 per cent for those ages 16 to 17 years old.

Also, most of the out-of-school children come from relatively poor families. *Figure 6.18* further illustrates the fact that the issue on school dropouts is largely a problem among older children and is inversely associated with income. Only 3 per cent of children ages 6 to 11 were not in school; the rate became higher at 8 per cent among high school-aged ones. Among those ages 16 and 17 years, over one-third were not in school. Moreover, majority of teenagers (16 to 17) who came from the poorest 20 per cent of the population did not go to school, while only 10 per cent of those in the richest group had dropped out of school.

Figure 6.18: Distribution of out-of-school children by income decile and age group, 2011



Source: Authors' estimates based on Annual Poverty Indicators Survey, National Statistics Office.

Meanwhile, one in every four elementary school-aged children who did not go to school came from ARMM, one of the poorest regions (*see Table 6.2*). As to the older out-of-school children, however, highly populated regions such as CALABARZON (Regions IV-A) and Central Luzon (Region III) accounted for the largest shares. In terms of the proportion of out-of-school children ages 6 to 11 years, ARMM had the highest at around 14 per cent. If one excludes ARMM from the picture, there will be not much disparity across regions.

Table 6.2: Proportion and distribution of children not in school by age group and by region, 2011

Region	Proportion			(%) Share		
	6 to 11	12 to 15	16 to 17	6 to 11	12 to 15	16 to 17
NCR	1.9	5.7	26.0	7.2	6.6	6.9
CAR	1.3	6.7	27.1	0.9	1.4	1.4
I - Ilocos Region	1.8	5.7	39.5	3.2	3.7	5.1
II - Cagayan Valley	2.1	9.2	37.2	2.5	4.1	4.1
III - Central Luzon	1.9	9.0	38.1	6.8	11.2	11.1
IVA - CALABARZON	2.6	6.1	33.0	10.4	8.7	10.6
IVB - MMIMAROPA	2.4	8.4	38.4	3.2	4.0	3.6
V - Bicol Region	1.1	8.4	38.8	2.6	6.7	8.4
VI - Western Visayas	2.5	6.9	33.9	7.1	6.9	8.0
VII - Central Visayas	2.6	10.0	36.8	6.7	8.7	7.3
VIII - Eastern Visayas	2.5	11.1	40.1	4.6	6.9	6.2
IX - Zamboanga Peninsula	3.4	11.1	40.2	5.1	5.8	4.4
X - Northern Mindanao	1.6	9.6	39.1	2.5	5.3	4.9
XI - Davao	3.5	8.0	37.8	5.3	4.2	5.1
XII - SOCCSKSARGEN	3.9	10.3	41.5	6.6	5.9	5.2
XII - Caraga	1.8	7.9	43.7	1.8	2.8	3.7
ARMM	13.9	13.3	32.7	23.5	7.1	3.8
Philippines	2.9	8.3	36.1	100.0	100.0	100.0

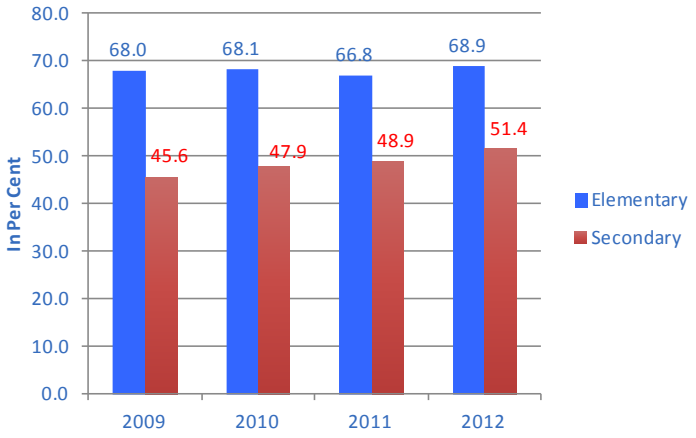
Authors' estimates based on Annual Poverty Indicators Survey, National Statistics Office.

Table 6.2 shows the proportion of children not in school to total number of children per age range and highlights the slightly wider regional disparities in older out-of school children. The best performing regions in Luzon had rates of around 6 per cent to 7 per cent only, whereas ARMM had 13 per cent, and Eastern Visayas and Zamboanga (Regions VIII and IX), 11 per cent each. Huge gaps can also be observed among the out-of-school children aged 16-to-17 years, where Caraga had around 44 per cent while NCR had a proportion of 26 per cent. Because the bulk (85%) of out-of-school children comes from the older cohort (a circumstance associated with lack of resources), it is important for policymakers to note that the problem may be best addressed by formulating effective policies and programmes that supplement families' resources, particularly so that the older children can continue their schooling.

Quality Performance

Aside from the herculean task of keeping children in school and assisting those who lack the capacity to enrol in school, the Philippine government is also faced with the challenge of improving the quality of learning. There has not been any sustained improvement in the outcome of the National Achievement Test (NAT) for both elementary and secondary levels. In 2012 for instance, the NAT mean percentage score for sixth graders was around 69 per cent, a mere three-point increase from the 2008's score of approximately 66 per cent. According to the Philippine Millennium Development Goal Report, the latest performance indicates a poor learning outcome and is said to fall below the desired level, which is at least 75 per cent.[15] The same seemingly unimproved NAT score is noted among high school students: The mean percentage score went up slightly from around 47 per cent in 2008 to 51 per cent in 2012 (*see Figure 6.19*). Caution should be taken, though, as there is a technical note on this trend: The mean percentage score for the last two years refers to that of fourth year students, but the rest of the scores were taken from second year students.

Figure 6.19: Mean percentage score (MPS) in the national achievement test by level, 2008-2012*



**Secondary level scores refer to that of second-year student for 2008 to 2010 but fourth-year students for 2011 and 2012. Source of basic data: Research and Statistics Division Office of Planning Service, Department of Education.*

To assess quality, it is also worth examining the scores for technical subjects such as Science and Mathematics. Available data show that from 2008 to 2010, public elementary students struggled with Science, the subject where they garnered the lowest score (at 59% in 2008 to 60% in 2010). Recent data (i.e., 2011) present a relatively higher score of 66 per cent.

[15] Philippine Progress Report on the Millennium Development Goals 2010, UNDP and NEDA.

In the secondary level, second year students also had the lowest mean score in Science at only 39 per cent (for 2010, the latest available consistent data). Recent data on the high school achievement test, which covered results from fourth-year students, also identify Science as their most difficult subject, where the mean score is 40.5 per cent. Interestingly, Mathematics had lagged in past years. In 2008, the mean score in Mathematics was 38 per cent. In 2010, it rose slightly to 42 per cent.

Among the regions, Caraga garnered the highest elementary NAT mean score in 2012 at 79.5 per cent. This was followed by Eastern Visayas with 77.7 per cent. In contrast, the ARMM had the lowest at 56.5 per cent only. In the secondary-level achievement test, Caraga once more had the highest mean score of around 65 per cent, followed by Eastern Visayas with 56 per cent. The ARMM region again obtained the lowest mean score at around 38 per cent.

Quality is also assessed by looking at the resources of the education sector. In 2012, the country had 46,404 elementary schools, of which 38,659 were public schools and 7,745 were private institutions. These schools served the 14.5 million elementary pupils enrolled during the same year. Among these, 13,273,325 were enrolled in public schools while 1,236,365 were in private schools. Available data from the DepEd show that as of 2007, only four barangays did yet not have an elementary school, mainly because there was no school site available.

Meanwhile, there were 7,748 public secondary schools and 5,130 private secondary institutions in the country. DepEd notes that since 2011 all municipalities in the country have at least one public or private high school.

About 368,360 public elementary school teachers serve 13.3[16] million public elementary pupils nationwide. This puts the current elementary teacher-to-student ratio at 1:36, which is not much of a change all these years (*see Table 6.3*). It increased from 1:35 in 2005 to 1:37 in 2011 but reverted to 1:36 in 2012. Regional data show that the ratio is largest in ARMM with 1:45 and lowest in CAR with 1:27. Other regions that have a high teacher-to-student ratio are CALABARZON (Regions IV-A) at 1:42; NCR at 1:39; Davao (Region XI) at 1:39; Central Visayas (Region VII) at 1:39; and SOCCSKSARGEN (Region XII at 1:38.

In the secondary level, there are 169,743 teachers serving around 5.6 million public enrollees.[17] This brings the teacher-to-student ratio in public high schools to 1:33, which is a noticeable decrease from the 1:40 ratio in 2005. Such decrease is attributed to the slow increase in public secondary enrolment (1% per year) compared to the rate of increase in teachers (averaging 5% per year) between 2008 and 2012.

Table 6.3: Teacher-student ratio by level, 2005-2012

SchoolYear	Elementary	Secondary
2005-2006	1:35	1:40
2006-2007	1:35	1:39
2007-2008	1:35	1:39
2008-2009	1:36	1:39
2009-2010	1:36	1:38
2010-2011	1:36	1:38
2011-2012	1:37	1:37
2012-2013	1:36	1:33

Source: Research and Statistics Division Office of Planning Service, Department of Education

[16] Enrolment figure; does not include the 13,836 pupils in state universities and colleges (SUCs).
[17] Excluding 60,699 students in SUCs.

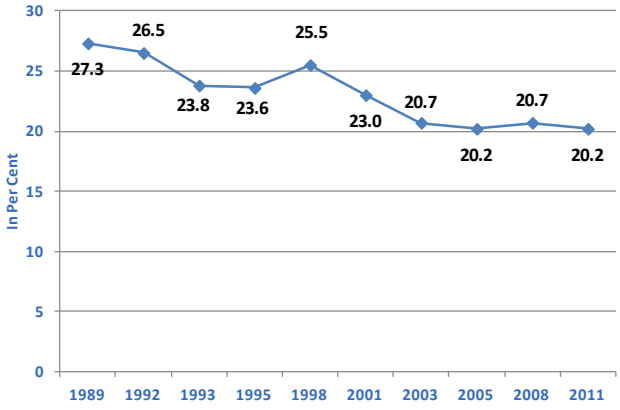
Meanwhile, there are 335,331 instructional classrooms in elementary public schools. Hence, there are, on the average, around 40 pupils per classroom nationwide. Among the regions, the NCR has the most crowded classrooms. In particular, at 76 pupils per classroom, the NCR's ratio is about twice the national average. The ARMM likewise has a high 53 students-per classroom ratio. The least populated classrooms are in CAR at 28 pupils per room. Also, Ilocos and Cagayan Valley (Regions I and II) have per-classroom rates of less than 30 students.

Health

A very basic aspect of child welfare is survival and nutrition. The considerable number of children in extremely poor families indicates that many may not be meeting their daily nutrient requirements. Smaller children in these conditions are too vulnerable to diseases and may not survive the first five years of their lives. According to the Food and Nutrition Research Institute, one out of five children ages 0 to 5 years were considered underweight for their age in 2011. The percentage of underweight children had declined, albeit very modestly, by 7.2 points within the past two decades (*see Figure 7.1*). This is equivalent to a decrease of 0.33 percentage points annually. Meanwhile, the rate that is needed to achieve the Millennium Development Goal (MDG) target of 13.6 per cent is 1.65 points each year. Thus, at the current speed at which the number of underweight children up to 5 years old is being reduced, it is unlikely for the country to meet its MDG target.

This slower-than-expected improvement in addressing child malnutrition can be discerned from the regional data represented by *Figure 7.2.* The map shows very few noticeable improvements based on the changes in the colours of many regions. Only CAR (from around 16% to 12%), CALABARZON (17% to 15%) and Davao (22% to 20%) have had quite discernable improvements from 2008 to 2011.[18] Again, there were wide disparities in malnutrition across regions. In CAR, only around 12 per cent were malnourished for their ages, whereas on average there was one malnourished child in every four in ARMM.

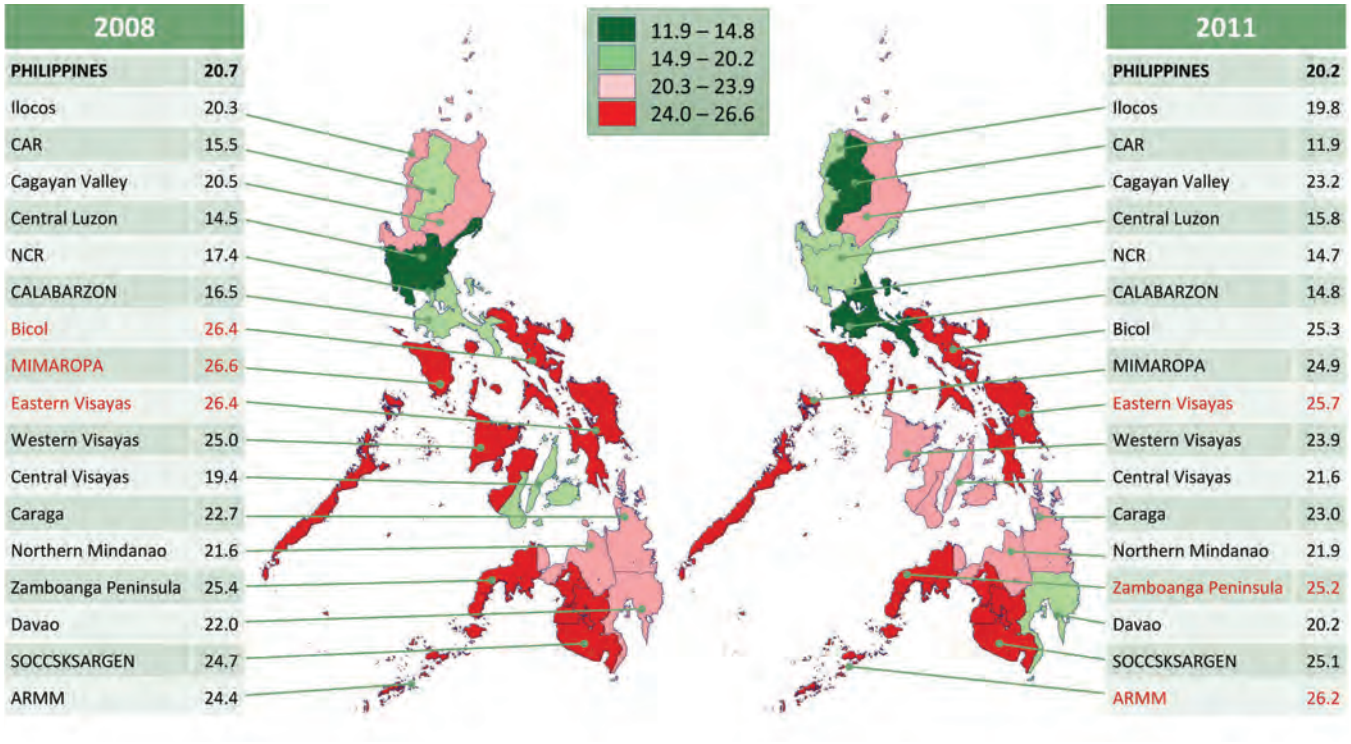
Figure 7.1: Proportion of underweight children aged 0 to 5 years, 1989-2011



Source: The Food and Nutrition Research Institute data is based on the World Health Organization's Child Growth Standard (WHO-CGS)

[18] The Food and Nutrition Research Institute notes that the malnutrition analysis is using World Health Organization - Child Growth Standard (WHO-CGS).

Figure 7.2: Proportion of underweight children aged 0 to 5 by region, 2008 and 2011



2008	
PHILIPPINES	20.7
Ilocos	20.3
CAR	15.5
Cagayan Valley	20.5
Central Luzon	14.5
NCR	17.4
CALABARZON	16.5
Bicol	26.4
MIMAROPA	26.6
Eastern Visayas	26.4
Western Visayas	25.0
Central Visayas	19.4
Caraga	22.7
Northern Mindanao	21.6
Zamboanga Peninsula	25.4
Davao	22.0
SOCCSKSARGEN	24.7
ARMM	24.4

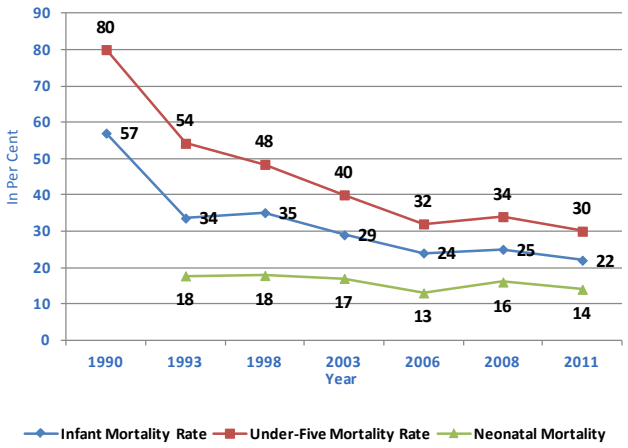
2011	
PHILIPPINES	20.2
Ilocos	19.8
CAR	11.9
Cagayan Valley	23.2
Central Luzon	15.8
NCR	14.7
CALABARZON	14.8
Bicol	25.3
MIMAROPA	24.9
Eastern Visayas	25.7
Western Visayas	23.9
Central Visayas	21.6
Caraga	23.0
Northern Mindanao	21.9
Zamboanga Peninsula	25.2
Davao	20.2
SOCCSKSARGEN	25.1
ARMM	26.2

Source of basic data: Nutritional Status of Filipinos 2011, Food and Nutrition Research Institute.

Aside from malnutrition, mortality rates among infants and children are indicators of families and the government's ability to provide for children's basic health and nutritional needs. The country has shown considerable progress in this aspect since 1990. In particular, child mortality under the age of five years went down from 80 per 1,000 live births in 1990 to 30 per 1,000 live births in 2011 (*see Figure 7.3*). Likewise, infant mortality decreased from 57 to 22 per 1,000 live births. The neonatal mortality rate marginally improved from 18 in 1993 to 14 per 1,000 live births in 2011. Given the current pace at which mortality issues among infants and children under five years old are being addressed, the country is seen to be on track towards achieving the MDG target for these two indicators.

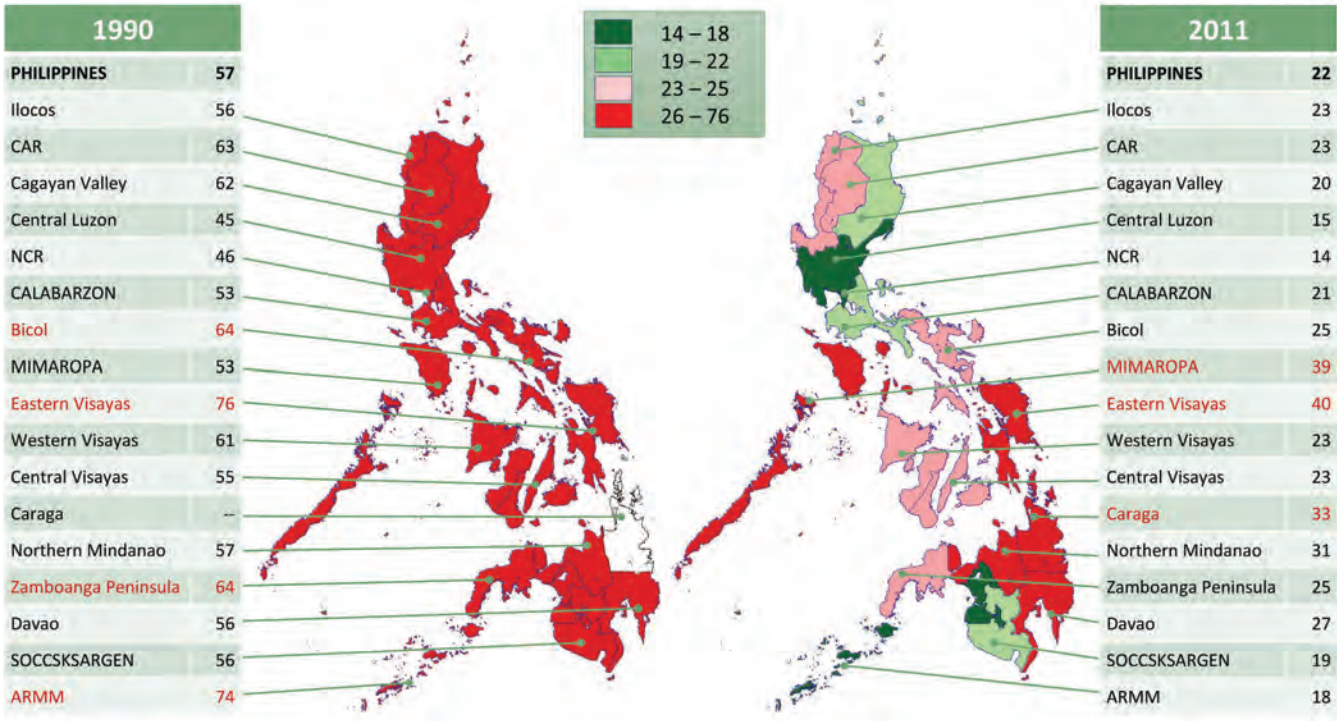
Although there have been notable improvements at the national level, certain regions still lag behind in addressing infant mortality. For instance, while NCR and Central Luzon saw 14 and 15 deaths per 1,000 live births, respectively, Eastern Visayas and MIMAROPA were at 40 and 39 per thousand, respectively, in 2011. Also, Caraga and Northern Mindanao still needed to lower their infant mortality rates of 33 and 31 per 1,000 live births, respectively (*see Figure 7.4*). Worth noting is ARMM's success in bringing down its infant mortality from 74 to 18 per 1,000 live births. Region XII's (SOCCSKSARGEN) rate also dropped significantly from 56 to 19.

Figure 7.3: Infant, under-five and neonatal mortality rates, 1990-2011



Source of basic data: Technical Working Group on Maternal and Child Mortality, National Statistical Coordination Board (1990); National Demographic and Health Survey, National Statistics Office (1993, 1998, 2003, 2008); Field Health Services Information System (2011).

Figure 7.4: Infant Mortality Rate (deaths per 1,000 live births) by region, 1990 and 2011



1990	
PHILIPPINES	**57**
Ilocos	56
CAR	63
Cagayan Valley	62
Central Luzon	45
NCR	46
CALABARZON	53
Bicol	64
MIMAROPA	53
Eastern Visayas	76
Western Visayas	61
Central Visayas	55
Caraga	--
Northern Mindanao	57
Zamboanga Peninsula	64
Davao	56
SOCCSKSARGEN	56
ARMM	74

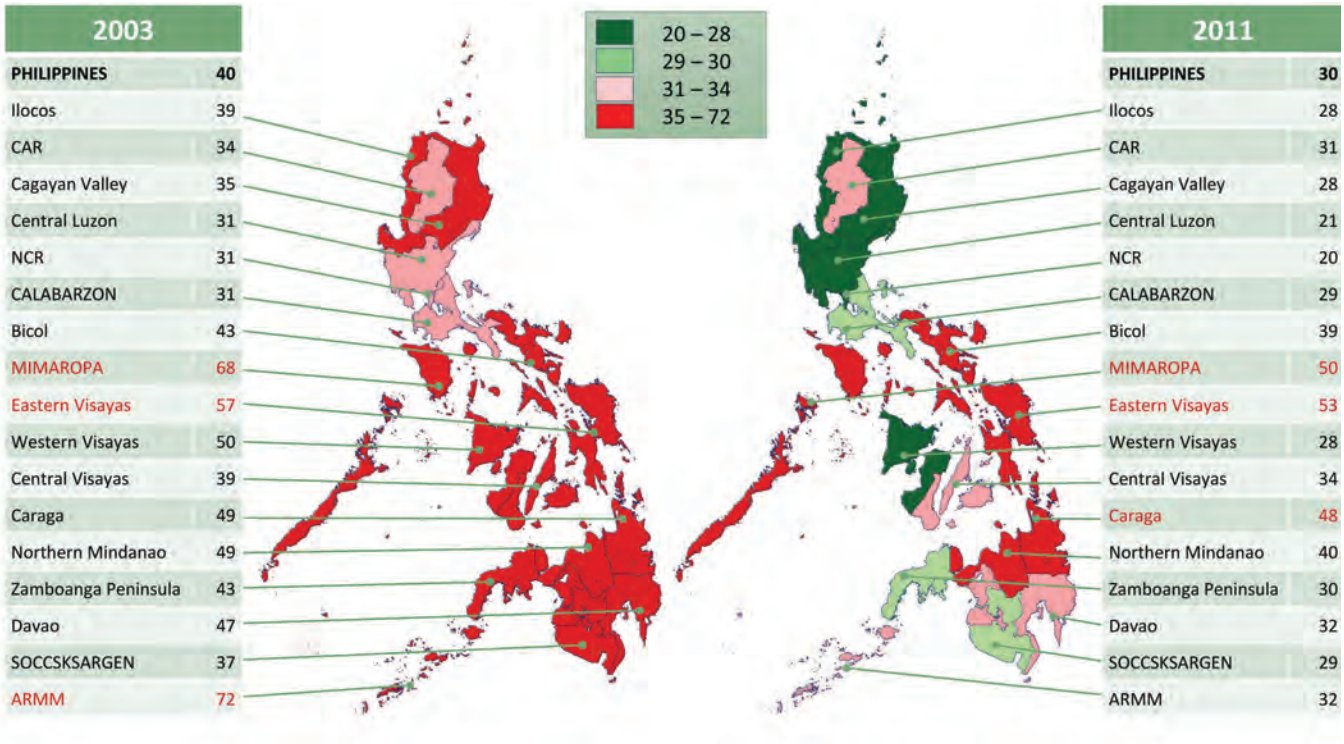
2011	
PHILIPPINES	**22**
Ilocos	23
CAR	23
Cagayan Valley	20
Central Luzon	15
NCR	14
CALABARZON	21
Bicol	25
MIMAROPA	39
Eastern Visayas	40
Western Visayas	23
Central Visayas	23
Caraga	33
Northern Mindanao	31
Zamboanga Peninsula	25
Davao	27
SOCCSKSARGEN	19
ARMM	18

Source of basic data: Technical Working Group on Maternal and Child Mortality, National Statistical Coordination Board (1990) and Field Health Services Information System (2011).

The same wide variation across regions is evident in terms of the under-five mortality rate. Again, most regions in Luzon are performing better than those in Visayas and Mindanao. The worst performance is that of Eastern Visayas (Region VIII), which had 53 deaths per 1,000 live births while NCR had 20 only. Western Visayas (Region VI) did better than its neighbouring regions; it was able to reduce its under-five mortality rate from 50 to 28 per 1,000 live births by 2011 (*see Figure 7.5*).

In Mindanao, SOCCSKSARGEN (Region XII) outperformed the rest of the regions as it had only 29 deaths per 1,000 live births in 2011. Likewise, ARMM cut its under-five mortality rate from a high 72 down to 32. On the other hand, poor regions such as MIMAROPA and Caraga continued to lag behind in terms of reducing their under-five mortality rates.

Figure 7.5: Under-five mortality rate (deaths per 1,000 live births) by region, 2003 and 2011



2003	
PHILIPPINES	40
Ilocos	39
CAR	34
Cagayan Valley	35
Central Luzon	31
NCR	31
CALABARZON	31
Bicol	43
MIMAROPA	68
Eastern Visayas	57
Western Visayas	50
Central Visayas	39
Caraga	49
Northern Mindanao	49
Zamboanga Peninsula	43
Davao	47
SOCCSKSARGEN	37
ARMM	72

2011	
PHILIPPINES	30
Ilocos	28
CAR	31
Cagayan Valley	28
Central Luzon	21
NCR	20
CALABARZON	29
Bicol	39
MIMAROPA	50
Eastern Visayas	53
Western Visayas	28
Central Visayas	34
Caraga	48
Northern Mindanao	40
Zamboanga Peninsula	30
Davao	32
SOCCSKSARGEN	29
ARMM	32

Source of basic data: National Demographic and Health Survey, National Statistics Office (2003) and Field Health Services Information System (2011).

The decline in mortality rate through the years may have been attributed to increasing access to skilled care. Based on survey data, the proportion of birth attended by a health professional improved from 62 per cent in 2006 to 72 per cent in 2011 (*see Table 7.1*). However, there remains a wide gap among regions in the country. While 9 out of 10 births were attended to by a doctor, midwife and nurse in the capital region (NCR) or its neighbour Central Luzon, only 3 out of 10 were given the same care in ARMM. Other regions that had relatively low access to skilled birth care are Zamboanga Peninsula (48%) and MIMAROPA (51%).

Table 7.1: Births attended by a health professional/skilled provider (%), by region, 2006-2011

Region	2006*	2008**	2011**
Philippines	62.3	62.2	72.2
NCR	89	86.8	91.5
CAR	62.2	67.4	79.5
1 – Ilocos Region	78.3	81.9	86.1
2 - Cagayan Valley	56	59.2	71.1
3 - Central Luzon	85.9	81.9	90.6
4A - CALABARZON	76.8	74.5	82.6
4B - MIMAROPA	37.6	39.1	50.6
5 - Bicol	44.8	49.9	59.9
6 - Western Visayas	56.4	60.4	70.2
7 - Central Visayas	66.5	66.8	77.5
8 - Eastern Visayas	42.9	43.1	60.3
9 - Zamboanga Peninsula	32.6	38.4	48.4
10 - Northern Mindanao	49.4	47.8	60.3
11 - Davao	54	51.4	60.6
12 - SOCCSKSARGEN	42.5	35.6	52.9
13 - CARAGA	46.4	49.9	61.5
ARMM	22	19.2	31.9

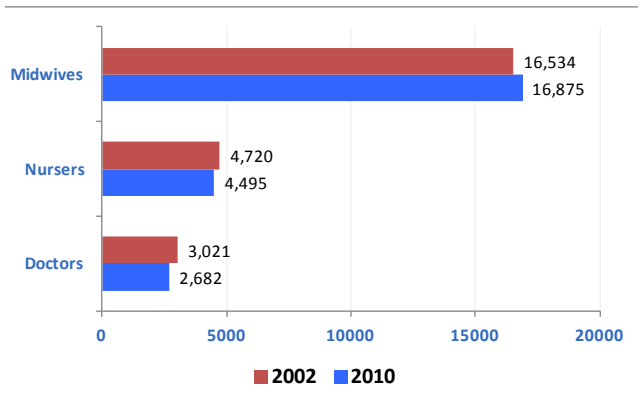
* doctor and midwife only

** doctor, midwife and nurse

Source: Family Planning Survey (2006); National Demographic and Health Survey, National Statistics Office (2008) and Field Health Services Information System (2011).

It is not clear if such improvement is likely to be sustained in the future. The number of health professionals (except midwives) in government medical facilities has declined through the years. There were 3,021 government doctors back in 2002 but the number fell to 2,682 by 2010. Likewise, there were 4,720 nurses manning government hospitals and other facilities in 2002. Eight years later, the number dropped to 4,495. Midwives, on the other hand, increased from 16,534 to 16,875 (*see Figure 7.6*). The increase, however, is too miniscule when compared to the population growth.

Figure 7.6: Number of government doctors, nurses, and midwives, 2002 and 2010



Source: Department of Health

This decline in the number of medical practitioners in government health institutions may be because medical staffs had moved overseas for better work opportunities or had transferred to private hospitals and other facilities. This trend is likely to have an impact on poor households' access to medical care. Apart from access to professional birth attendants and overall medical services, vaccination is another essential element of children's health. Vaccination reduces children's exposure to life-threatening diseases such as polio; measles; diphtheria, pertussis, and tetanus (DPT); and tuberculosis. In 2008, 7 out of 10 children were given the basic vaccines (i.e., BCG vaccine, measles vaccine, three doses each of DPT, and polio vaccine) during their first year of life. This is an improvement, albeit slow, compared to the proportion of 62 per cent 15 years earlier. Based on the NDHS survey, about 8 in every 10 children were vaccinated before they turned two years old. This is a slight improvement from the 72 per cent in 1993 (*see Table 7.2*).

Table 7.2: Basic vaccination[1] for children, Philippines, 1993-2008

Sub-group	1993	1998	2003	2008
Children vaccinated by 12 months of age [2]	61.9	65.3	59.9	70
Children vaccinated at any time before the survey[3]	71.5	72.8	69.8	79.5
Male	71	71.9	68.4	80.5
Female	72.1	73.8	71.3	78.5
Residence				
Urban	73.2	76.1	74.4	82.3
Rural	69.9	69.8	65.1	76.8

[1] Those who have received BCG, measles and three doses of DPT and polio (excludes hepatitis B)
[2] For children whose information was based on the mother's report, the proportion of vaccinations received during the first year of life was assumed to be the same as for children with a written record of vaccination.
[3] Percentage of children age 12-23 months who received specific vaccines at any time before the survey (according to a vaccination card or the mother's report).

Source: National Demographic and Health Survey, National Statistics Office.

Unlike in the past, there is now a bigger proportion of boys (81%) than of girls (79%) who received the vaccines. Likewise, the proportion of children from urban areas (82%) that availed of the vaccines is bigger than that of their rural counterparts (77%).

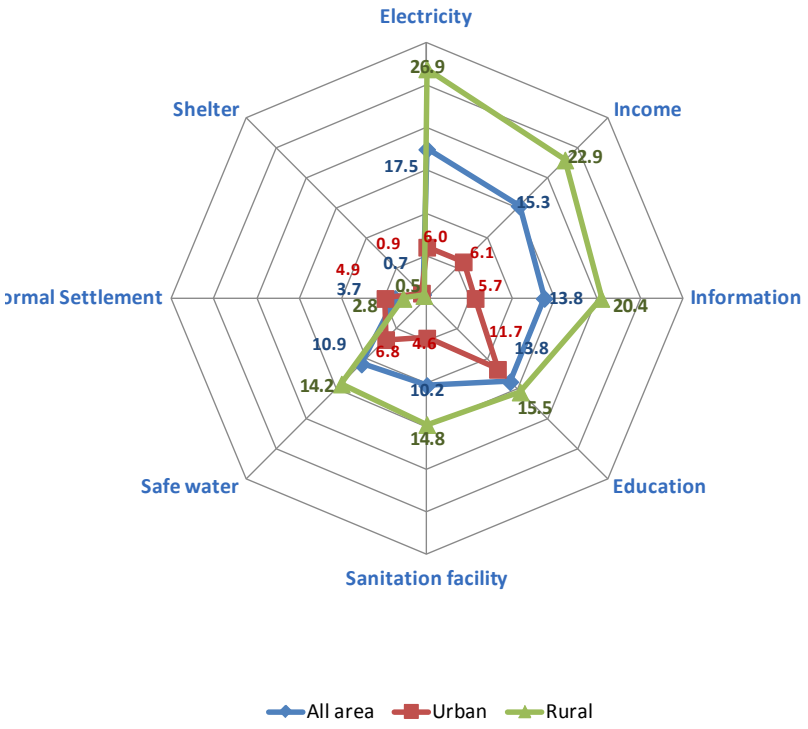
Exposure to hepatitis B is also an important issue. In 2008, 80 per cent of children had received three doses of the vaccine before they turned two years old.

Like in other aspects of children's well-being, it is important to determine the correlates of vaccination. Based on the National Demographic and Health Survey data, the mother’s education proves to be a strong determinant. For example, 87 per cent of children whose mother had a college education were immunized whereas only 66 per cent of their counterparts whose mother only had elementary education received the vaccines. Birth order is also an important factor. In 2008, 85 per cent of first-born children were vaccinated, while only 64 per cent of those who were born as the sixth child (or later) had the opportunity to receive the vaccines. Wealth is third key factor. Eighty-seven per cent of children in the top wealth quintile were vaccinated, while only 64 per cent of those in the bottom quintile received the same opportunity.

Dimensions of Poverty

Poverty is multi-dimensional. Deprivation in terms of income alone does not adequately capture the condition of vulnerable groups such as children. *Figure 8.1* illustrates how the Philippines fares in improving the different dimensions of children's welfare. Each point in the web represents the proportion of severely deprived children per dimension. For instance, in the safe water dimension, 14.2 per cent of the children are severely deprived of safe water sources. The income dimension refers to the proportion of children from families whose income falls below the extreme poverty line (food/subsistence threshold). For education, the proportion refers to those who are not in school. Percentages of children without access to electricity, sanitary toilets, shelter and information, and living in informal settlements are also plotted. The farther the points are from the centre of the web, the worst the situation.[19]

Figure 8.1: Dimensions of poverty for children aged 6 to 17 years, 2009



Source: Authors' estimates based on Family Income and Expenditure Survey, National Statistics Office.

[19] Due to the lack of health dimensions in the FIES and LFS, the web does not contain a health indicator.

The web shows that there remain huge challenges in improving the welfare of children especially in terms of income, access to electricity and information, and basic living amenities such as water and sanitation. A relatively small percentage of children lacks decent housing and settlement. Nonetheless, as mentioned earlier, there can be multiple and overlapping aspects of deprivation that make the situation of poor children worse than what were reflected in the data on incidence rates.

The fact that the green line (representing rural) is farther away from the centre than the red line (representing urban areas) indicates that the situation in rural areas is more problematic than that in urban areas. This does not mean, however, that there are no urgent problems in urban centres. Challenges that are inherent in urbanized cities usually involve informal settlements and lack of decent shelter. Also, since *Figure 8.1* presents proportions, due attention must also be given to magnitudes as urban areas have a significant number of children who may be suffering despite the lower incidence rates.

Working Children

As illustrated in the education section, work or the need to search for work is mainly why older children are not anymore in school. It is a manifestation of poverty and therefore needs further examination. More importantly, looking at the conditions of working children is highly important because of this target group's susceptibility to child labour.

Child labour tends to reinforce the intergenerational cycle of poverty (UNICEF, 2013). It impedes the development of children and adolescents because it interferes with their education and exposes them to exploitation. In 2012, the International Labour Organization (ILO) puts the child labour global estimate at 168 million.[20] Six out of 10 children are boys while 7 out of 10 belong to the 5-14 age range. Meanwhile, 85 million of these children are said to be in hazardous work environments, leaving them vulnerable to diseases and accidents.

Like in many countries around the world, the Philippines acknowledges child labour as a huge concern. The Philippine government commits to address the issues through the Philippine Program Against Child Labor (PPACL), where the goal is to reduce the worst types of child labour by 75 per cent by 2015. The effort is supported by the ILO through its International Programme on the Elimination of Child Labour (IPEC), which aims for decent work and improved living conditions for the millions of children in child labour.

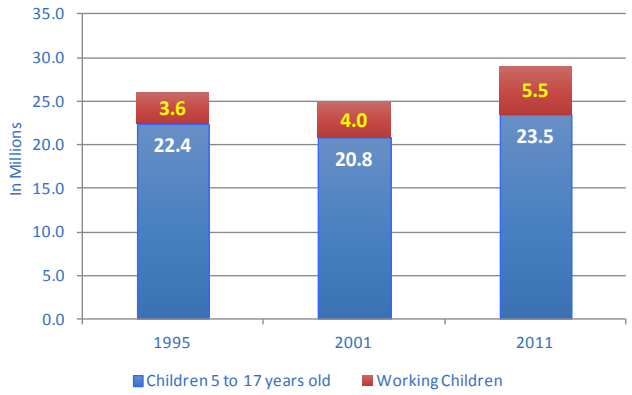
In this section, the condition of working children is briefly discussed by using the results of the 2011 Survey on Children of the National Statistics Office as reference. Household characteristics of working children vis-à-vis their poverty condition are then discussed by referring to the same dataset utilized in this report.

2011 Survey on Children

According to the preliminary results of the 2011 Survey on Children conducted by the National Statistics Office in partnership with the ILO-IPEC, 5.5 million (or 19%) of the 29 million children aged 5 to 17 years were working (*see Figure 9.1*). These numbers refer to kids who had worked for at least an hour during the past 12 months up to the period of interview. Six out of 10 working children were boys. Both the number and percentage of working children are on the rise. In 2011, there were 1.9 million more working children when compared to the count in 1995.

[20] Global child labour trends (ILO, 2013).

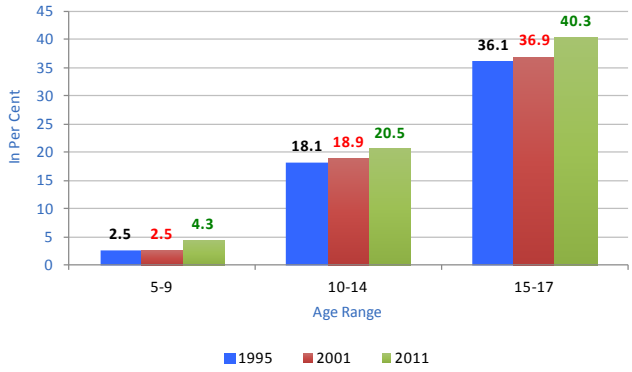
Figure 9.1: Children by work status, 1995-2011



Sources: Survey on Children, National Statistics Office.

Figure 9.2 shows that the proportion of working children increased in all age categories. Among those aged 5 to 9 years in 2011, 4.3 per cent were considered working, a significant jump from 2.5 per cent in 1995. Meanwhile, one-fifth of all children aged 10 to 14 years were working in 2011. This latest ratio is higher than the age group's 18.1 per cent proportion in 1995. The highest incidence, however, was among teenagers (aged 15 to 17 years), where 4 out of 10 were already working. This proportion is also beyond the 1995 estimate of 36.1 per cent.

Figure 9.2: Proportion of working children by age range and year, 1995-2011

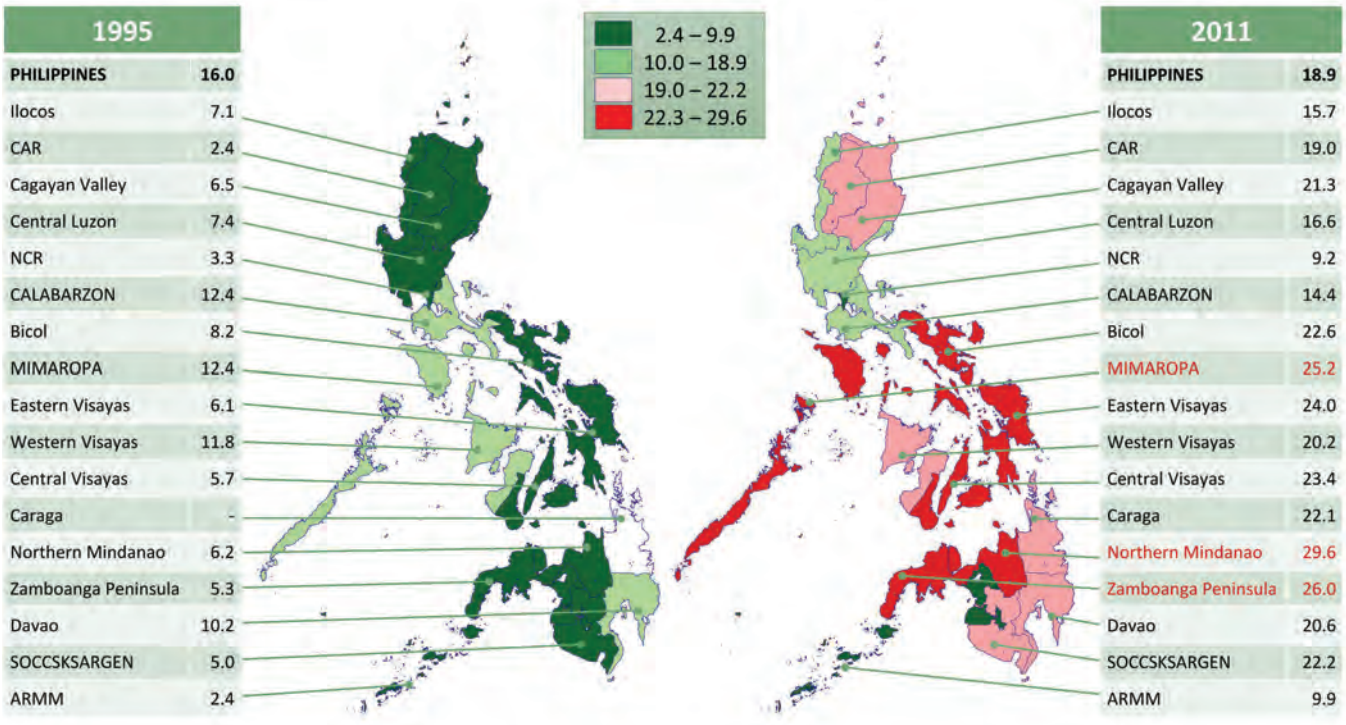


Sources: Survey on Children, National Statistics Office.

Among the regions, Northern Mindanao had the highest incidence of child labour at nearly 30 per cent. Zamboanga Peninsula and MIMAROPA also had high incidence rates at 26 per cent and 25 per cent, respectively. In contrast, only 9 out of 100 children had to work in the NCR. In terms of geographical distribution, the CALABARZON and Central Visayas accounted for the highest shares of working children at 9 per cent each.

Figure 9.3 bears two striking insights. First, there was a significant increase in the proportion of working children in all regions of the country as indicated in the chart by a shift in colour from green to predominantly red or light red/pink (denoting that the labour situation became worse off). Most regions experienced double-digit increases. Those for Northern Mindanao (Region X) and Zamboanga Peninsula (Region IX) leapfrogged by 20-23 percentage points. Also, the proportions of CAR, Central Visayas, Eastern Visayas and SOCCSKSARGEN jumped by 17-18 points.

Figure 9.3: Proportion of working children by region, 1995 and 2011



Sources: Survey on Children, National Statistics Office.

Of the 5.5 million Filipino children working in 2011, 3.2 million were engaged in child labour. Child labour refers to "working children who are reported to have worked in hazardous environments regardless of the number of hours they spent at work, or those who have worked for long hours (more than 20 hours a week for children 5 to 14 years old and more than 40 hours a week for children 15 to 17 years old)." Three million children, or roughly 55 per cent, were working in hazardous work environment. It is important to note that two out of every three children in hazardous labour were boys (*see Table 9.1*). About half of the child workers in this precarious work environment were teenagers (aged 15 to 17 years). Forty-four per cent belonged to the 10-to-14 age category, while 6 per cent consisted of very young children aged 5 to 9 years. Children working in hazardous jobs were usually in the agriculture sector (62%), followed by services sector (30%). The rest (around 8%) were working in the industry sector.

Table 9.1: Per cent distribution of children working in hazardous labour, 2011

Sub-group	% to Total
Sex	
Boys	66.8
Girls	33.2
Age group	
5 to 9	6.2
10 to 14	44.3
15 to 17	49.4
Sector of employment	
Agriculture	62.4
Industry	7.6
Services	30.1
Type of hazardous	
Chemicals only	10.4
Physical environmental only	39.9
Biological only	6.1
Chemicals and physical hazards	19.1
Chemical and biological hazards	1.8
Physical and biological hazards	9.1
Chemical, physical and biological hazards	13.7
Reason for working	
To gain experience or acquire training	9.0
To appreciate value of work	4.6
To supplement family income/important to family well-being	30.0
To help pay family debts	1.0
To pay for own schooling	6.4
To help in on household-operated farm or business	42.2
To earn money to start own business	1.0
Others	5.7

Source Survey on Children, National Statistics Office (Preliminary Results).

Eight out of every 10 children were exposed to physical hazards either solely or in combination with other risks. Many (42%) worked mainly to help in own household-operated farms or businesses. The second reason, given by 30 per cent of those surveyed, was “to supplement family income”, which meant that the work was deemed important to the family's well-being.

Table 9.2 shows that 3 in 10 children engaged in hazardous labour were not attending school. Among the older children, almost half (i.e., 700 out of 1,479) were out of school. On the other hand, the proportion of non-attendees was much lower among young adolescents (13%) and primary school-aged children (9%).

Table 9.2: Children in hazardous work by schooling status, 2011

Sub-group	Total	Age group		
		5 to 9	10 to 14	11 to 17
Children in hazardous labour	2,993	187	1,327	1,479
Attending school	2,100	170	1,151	779
Not attending school	893	17	176	700
Proportion of not attending school (%)	29.9	9	13.3	47.3

Source Survey on Children, National Statistics Office(Preliminary Results)

Characteristics and Poverty Condition of Working Children

More characteristics of working children can be gleaned from the analysis on the merged datasets of the 2009 FIES and the 2010 LFS. This discussion draws from the information on about 2.1 million children (i.e., 7.4% of the 29 million children aged 5 to 17 years) who have some kind of work or job.[21] Note that the data here are not comparable with that of the National Statistics Office's 2011 Survey on Children basically due to sampling design differences. Nevertheless, through the FIES-LFS dataset, readers can have a deeper realization of working children's overall condition since it allows aspects of income, education, and basic amenities to be analysed.

Some key findings based on this dataset are consistent with the results of the 2011 Survey on Children. For instance, 6 out of 10 working children are male. Among the regions, Northern Mindanao has the highest percentage of working children at 18 per cent, while NCR and CAR have the lowest at 3 per cent and 2 per cent, respectively. The incidence of child labour is also positively associated with family size. In particular, smaller families---or those with at most four members---have only a 7-per cent incidence rate, while those with eight members or more have 9 per cent (*see Table 9.3*).

[21] This analysis uses the concept of work as defined in the LFS. Work refers to anything a person does for pay in either cash or kind, for profit, or even without pay in a family farm during the previous week. Minor activities such as home gardening, raising of hogs, poultry, crops, or fruits, and fishing for home consumption or production for own use, given that there are harvests or products, are also considered as work.

Table 9.3: Proportion and distribution of children aged 5 to 17 by subgroup, 2009

Sub-group	Incidence (%)	Share
All Children (aged 5 to 17)	7.4	100.0
Boys	9.2	63.5
Girls	5.5	36.5
Age group		
5 to 9	1.0	4.9
10 to 14	5.7	31.2
15 to 17	20.6	63.9
Family size		
1 to 4	6.6	20.4
5 to 7	7.0	52.0
8 and over	9.3	27.6
Area		
Urban	4.1	25.1
Rural	10.1	74.9
Region		
NCR	2.1	3.0
CAR	9.2	2.2
I - Ilocos Region	4.5	3.2
II - Cagayan Valley	9.4	4.3
III - Central Luzon	4.5	6.1
IVA - CALABARZON	3.7	6.1
IVB - MIMAROPA	8.4	4.2
V - Bicol Region	10.0	9.7
VI - Western Visayas	8.9	9.8
VII - Central Visayas	7.5	7.4
VIII - Eastern Visayas	9.9	7.2
IX - Zamboanga Peninsula	12.9	7.0
X - Northern Mindanao	17.8	11.5
XI - Davao	6.8	4.2
XII - SOCCSKSARGEN	8.9	5.7
XII - Caraga	10.9	4.4
ARMM	6.7	4.0
Est. Number of children (aged 5 to 17), In million	29.2	

Source: Authors' estimates based on Merged Family Income and Expenditure Survey (2009) and Labor Force Survey (January 2010), National Statistics Office.

The incidence of child work is inversely related with the educational attainment of household heads. *Table 9.4* indicates that the proportion of working children of household heads who had not completed any elementary grade level is four times (17%) than of those whose heads are high school graduates (4%). Also, the proportion of children working is highest among families whose heads are employers in their family-oriented farm or business (12%). Children may serve as unpaid employees in such families. This is consistent with the findings from the 2011 Survey on Children, where the most common reason children work is for them to help in family-operated farms or businesses. Children in families ran by self-employed heads without any employees have the second highest incidence at 10 per cent.

Table 9.4: Proportion and distribution of children by household characteristics, 2009

Sub-group	Incidence (%)	Share
Educational attainment of household head		
No grace completed	16.7	5.8
Elementary undergraduate	12.2	35.4
Elementary graduate	9.0	23.2
High school undergraduate	6.9	12.3
High school graduate	4.2	13.5
College undergraduate	3.1	4.7
College graduate	4.2	5.0
Post-graduate	4.6	0.1
Employment status of head		
Worked for private household	5.6	1.4
Worked for private establishment	5.4	27.9
Worked for government/government corporation	4.2	4.3
Self-employed without any employee	10.2	52.1
Employer in own family-operated farm/business	12.0	13.6
Worked with pay in own family-operated business	5.7	0.0
Worked without pay in own family-operated business	8.7	0.7
Income decile		
Poorest	11.1	47.0
Second	8.0	23.7
Third	5.5	14.3
Fourth	3.5	7.4

Source: Authors' estimates based on Merged Family Income and Expenditure Survey (2009) and Labor Force Survey (January 2010), National Statistics Office.

In contrast, family heads who work in private households have only around 6 per cent of their children working. Majority of children (52%) who work come from families whose heads are self-employed without employees. Of these, 58 per cent are income poor.

Certainly, poverty should be highly correlated with children's tendency to work. For instance, the child labour incidence of the poorest 20 per cent of the population is 11 per cent while that for the richest group is at around 5 per cent. Over a million children in the poorest income group are considered working, accounting for 47 per cent of the total number of working children. About 7 out of 10 children who have jobs come from the poorest 40 per cent of the population. Child work is not exclusively a phenomenon among poor households as around 8 per cent of the total comes from the richest 20 per cent of the population.

The link between poverty and child work manifests beyond income. Data show that child work incidence is higher among families without sanitary toilet facilities, safe water sources, or access to electricity. The child work incidence among families without access to any toilet facility is higher at 14 per cent, compared to the 6 per cent of those with sanitary facility (e.g., water-sealed) (*see Table 9.5*). The proportion is also higher for those who obtained water from unsafe water sources such as dug wells (11%) or springs, rivers, stream and rain (13%) than for those with access to safe water such as those that come through faucets, tubes or pipes (5% to 9%). Similarly, the incidence of child work is higher among those without electricity access (14%) than those that have access to such service (6%).

On the other hand, the proportion of working children does not seem to be associated with settlement-related deprivation. Results indicate that child work incidence is slightly lower among those in informal settlements (5%) than those in non-informal ones (8%).

Interventions targeted at working children must take these characteristics into consideration. These findings show that a programme aimed at reducing child work---and therefore curbing exposure of children to hazardous work---should not put income poverty and its multiple dimensions aside.

Table 9.5: Deprivation incidence among working children by subgroup, 2009

Basic Amenities	Incidence (%)	Share
Toilet facility		
Water-sealed	6.0	60.9
Closed pit	9.8	10.7
Open pit	10.6	7.6
Others (pail system)	8.9	1.8
None	13.7	19.0
Water source		
Own use faucet/tubed/piped	4.8	30.7
Shared faucet/tubed/piped	8.8	37.3
Dug well	10.6	15.4
Spring river, stream, rain	13.4	14.2
Peddler	5.6	2.4
Settlement		
Informal	5.2	2.6
Non-informal	7.5	97.4
Access to electricity		
Without	14.5	34.3
With	5.9	65.7
Total	7.4	100.0

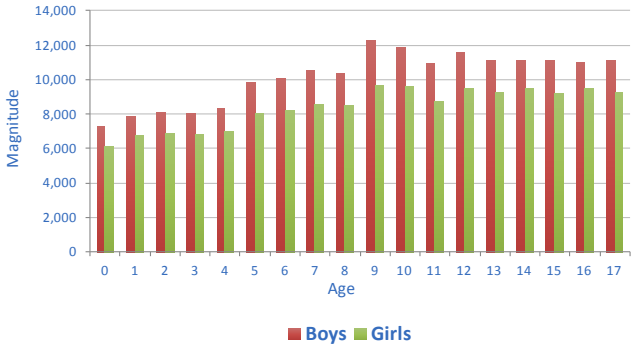
Source: Authors' estimates based on Merged Family Income and Expenditure Survey (2009) and Labor Force Survey (January 2010), National Statistics Office.

Children with Disability

In the 2010 Census of Population, a total of 1,442,586 individuals--- around 1.6 per cent of the total population---were shown to have disabilities. Of this estimate, roughly 333,269 (or 23% of the total) were children aged below 18 years. Around 1 per cent of all children in the country had at least one type of disability. Majority (55%) were boys, while 45 per cent were girls.

Also, it can be gleaned that the distribution of such children is slightly concentrated towards the older cohort, from nine years and above (*see Figure 10.1*). This can be an indication that the overall health condition of the newer generation is improving such that incidence of disability may be declining. This, of course, is something that is worth looking into further. It is also important to note that these children are somewhat spread throughout the different regions in the country (*see Table 10.1*).

Figure 10.1: Distribution of children with disability by sex, 2010



Source: Census of Population and Housing, National Statistics Office.

Table 10.1: Incidence of child disability by region, 2010

Region	Both Sex	Male	Female
Philippines	0.9	1.0	0.9
NCR	0.7	0.8	0.7
CAR	1.0	1.1	0.9
I - Ilocos Region	1.0	1.0	0.9
II - Cagayan Valley	1.0	1.1	1.0
III - Central Luzon	0.9	1.0	0.8
IVA - CALABARZON	0.9	0.9	0.8
IVB - MMIMAROPA	1.1	1.2	1.1
V - Bicol Region	1.0	1.0	0.9
VI - Western Visayas	1.1	1.2	1.1
VII - Central Visayas	1.0	1.0	0.9
VIII - Eastern Visayas	1.0	1.0	0.9
IX - Zamboanga Peninsula	0.8	0.9	0.8
X - Northern Mindanao	0.9	1.0	0.9
XI - Davao	1.0	1.0	0.9
XII - SOCCSKSARGEN	0.9	0.9	0.8
XII - Caraga	0.9	1.0	0.9
ARMM	0.6	0.7	0.6

Source: Census of Population and Housing, National Statistics Office.

The recent data on disability implements a new definition based on the so-called Washington Group, an initiative to implement a consistent measure of disability across countries. Disability is defined as "any restriction or lack of ability (resulting from an impairment) to perform an activity in the manner or within the range considered normal for a human being".[22]

Children with disability may be experiencing worse conditions than those without disability given the constraints they face in their day-to-day lives. Unfortunately, there is not much information about children with disability, particularly those who are experiencing income poverty and other kinds of deprivation.

[22] http://www.census.gov.ph/content/persons-disability-philippines-results-2010-census.

Violence Against Children

Cases of violence against children nearly doubled in the last five years. In 2008, there were 8,500 cases---way below the over-15,000 cases recorded in 2012. Most crimes committed in 2012 (4,025 cases) were violations of RA 7610 or the Law on Special Protection Of Children Against Abuse, Exploitation, And Discrimination (*see Table 11.1*). Other prevalent forms of violence involved physical injuries or maltreatment (3,566 cases), and rape (3,355 cases).

Table 11.1: Violence against children by case type, 2003-2012

Type of Crime	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012
Total Cases	7,113	7,430	6,217	5,978	6,505	8,504	9,787	13,313	14,221	15,028
Rape	3,019	3,027	2,739	2,136	2,402	2,935	3,040	3,356	3,623	3,355
Incestuous Rape	225	183	188	183	218	229	211	144	183	253
Attempted Rape	293	244	224	169	213	221	251	288	257	253
Acts of lasciviousness	1,089	1,056	932	719	699	874	918	1,111	1,194	1,227
Physical Injuries/Maltreatment	1,939	1,884	1,207	1,168	1,137	1,450	2,368	3,628	3,204	3,566
Kidnapping	42	109	50	23	26	17	37	34	31	56
RA 9208(Child Trafficking)	0	0	0	3	59	68	0	124	88	103
Others	0	0	0	321	130	35	90	56	173	795
Others Forms of RA 7610	239	594	606	882	1,092	2,082	2,118	3,689	4,561	4,025
Child Trafficking	15	18	44	48	0	0	0	0	0	0
Child Labor	48	22	17	5	6	1	6	3	3	4
Child Prostitution	41	37	8	14	15	12	12	7	7	7
RA 9262	-	0	41	50	33	52	60	87	88	84
Other forms of child abuse	135	517	496	765	1,038	2,017	2,040	3,592	4,463	3,930
Other Related Crimes	267	333	271	374	529	593	754	883	907	1,395

Note: Data gathered by CIDG Unit is not included

R.A. 9208 or Anti-Trafficking in Persons Act – "An Act to institute policies to eliminate trafficking in persons especially women and children, establishing the necessary institutional mechanisms for the protection and support of trafficked persons, providing penalties for its violations, and for other." Approved May 26, 2003

R.A. 7610 or Special Protection of Children Against Abuse, Exploitation and Discrimination Act. – "AN ACT PROVIDING FOR STRONGER DETERRENCE AND SPECIAL PROTECTION AGAINST CHILD ABUSE, EXPLOITATION AND DISCRIMINATION, AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES". Approved June 17, 1992

R.A. 9262 or Anti-Violence Against Women and their children Act of 2004 - "An Act defining violence against women and their children, providing for protective measures for victims, prescribing penalties therefore, and for other purposes." March 2004

Data from 2008 to 2012 includes data gathered by CIDG Unit

RA 9262: Law for the protection for women and children_record starts at 2004

Spatial Disparities

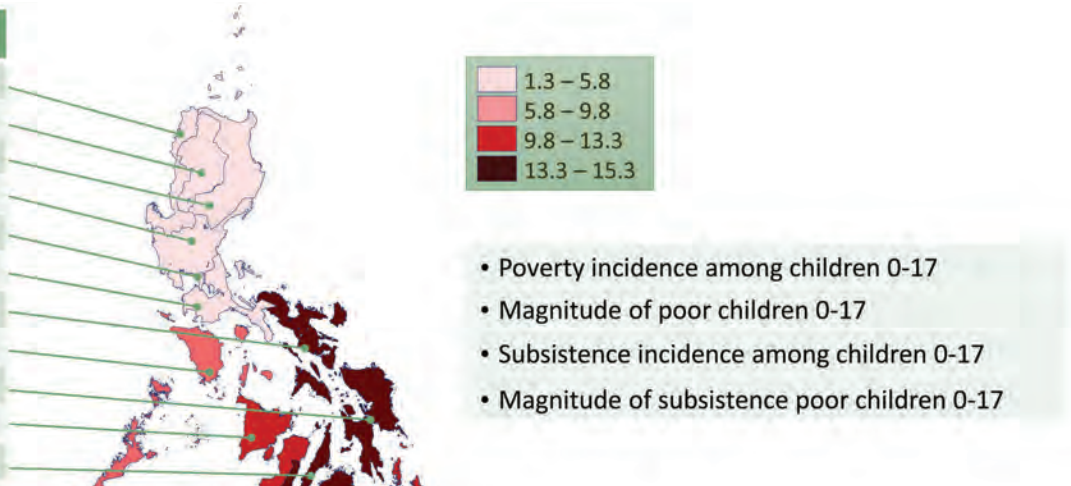
The Philippines is an archipelagic country and one of the most unequal societies in the ASEAN region. Accounting for regional disparities in various aspects, therefore, is crucial in the development of programmes and policies. In this section, a ranking of the 17 regions was implemented to pin down areas of high priority based on a set of available poverty and deprivation indicators. The average rank in a dimension serves as the score. For instance, if a region scores 17 (1), this means that it ranks the worst (best) in all of the indicators in a given dimension. The scores are then illustrated through monochromatic-themed maps that show the darkest shades for worst-performing regions and lightest colour for the best-performing ones.

Income Poverty

Figure 12.1 shows that the worst-performing region in terms of income poverty is Bicol, which scored 15.3 based on its average rank in poverty incidence and magnitude of poor children as well as the more extreme case of poverty-subsistence incidence and magnitude. Two other worst-performances in income poverty are those of Central Visayas (14.3) and Eastern Visayas (13.5).

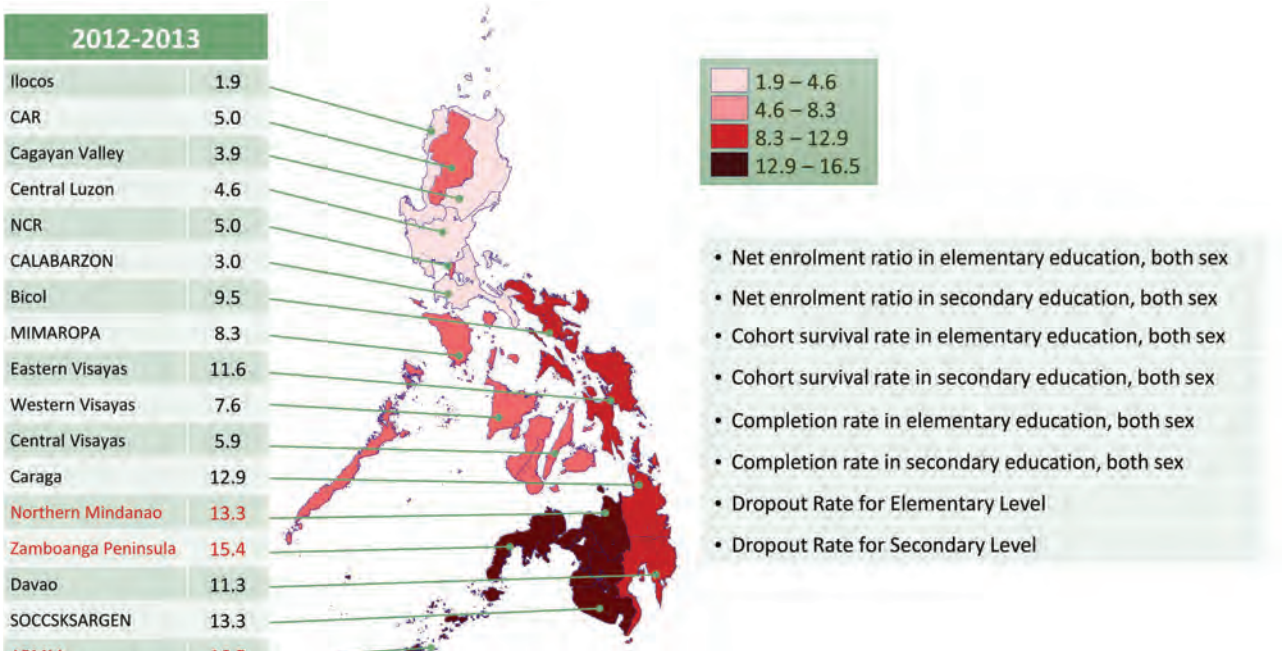
Figure 12.1: Ranking of regions in income poverty, 2009

2009	
Ilocos	4.8
CAR	3.5
Cagayan Valley	3.5
Central Luzon	5.8
NCR	1.3
CALABARZON	5.8
Bicol	15.3
MIMAROPA	7.8
Eastern Visayas	13.5
Western Visayas	11.5
Central Visayas	14.3
Caraga	12.3
Northern Mindanao	13.3
Zamboanga Peninsula	12.8
Davao	8.8
SOCCSKSARGEN	9.8
ARMM	9.5



The three worst-performing regions in terms of education are ARMM (16.5), Zamboanga Peninsula (15.4), and Northern Mindanao (13.3). Scores are based on the regions' rankings in net enrolment, cohort survival rate, completion rate, and dropout rate for both elementary and secondary levels (*see Figure 12.2*).

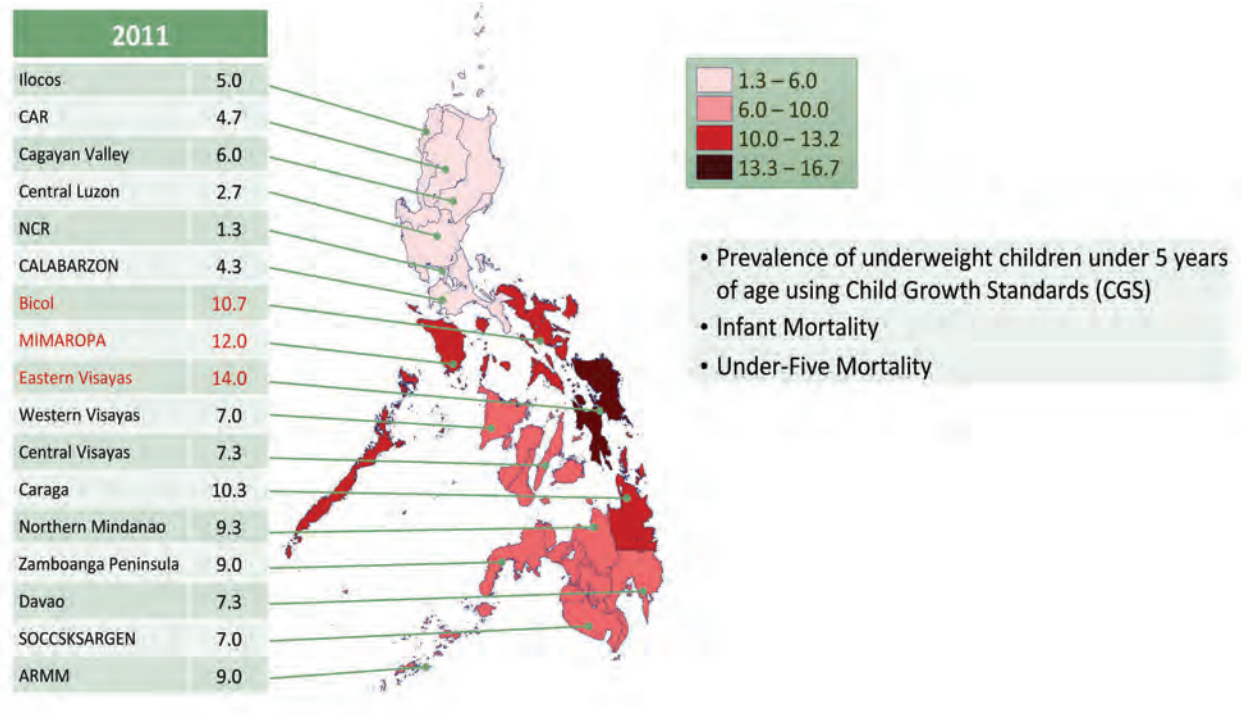
Figure 12.2: Ranking of regions in education, 2012



Health and Nutrition

According to *Figure 12.3*, the three worst-performing regions in health and nutrition are Eastern Visayas (14), MIMAROPA (12) and Bicol (10.7). Scores were based on how the different regions fared in terms of prevalence of underweight children aged below five years, infant mortality and under-five mortality.

Figure 12.3: Ranking of regions in health and nutrition, 2011

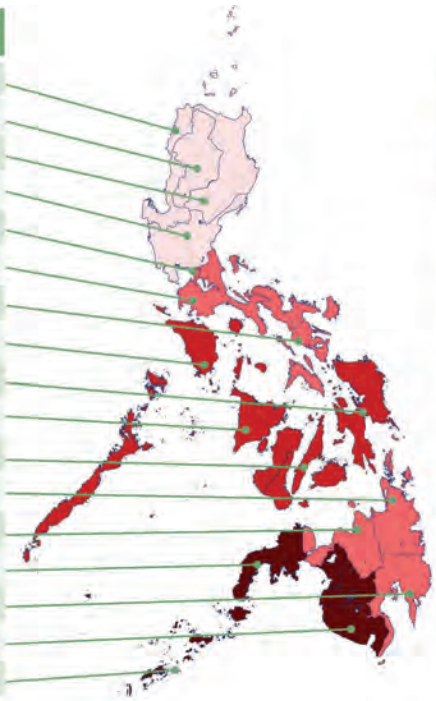


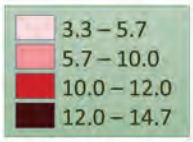
Basic Amenities

In terms of basic amenities (*see Figure 12.4*), the regions that occupied the bottom ranks are Zamboanga Peninsula (14.75), ARMM (13.35) and SOCCSKSARGEN (12.8). Scores were based on the regions' performances in terms of proportion of children severely deprived of sanitary toilet facilities, safe water sources, shelter and information. Deprivations in electricity and settlement were likewise included.

Figure 12.4: Ranking of regions in basic amenities, 2009

2009	
Ilocos	3.3
CAR	5.7
Cagayan Valley	3.5
Central Luzon	4.5
NCR	7.3
CALABARZON	6.3
Bicol	10.0
MIMAROPA	11.0
Eastern Visayas	10.7
Western Visayas	12.0
Central Visayas	11.0
Caraga	8.5
Northern Mindanao	9.3
Zamboanga Peninsula	14.7
Davao	9.0
SOCCSKSARGEN	12.8
ARMM	13.3



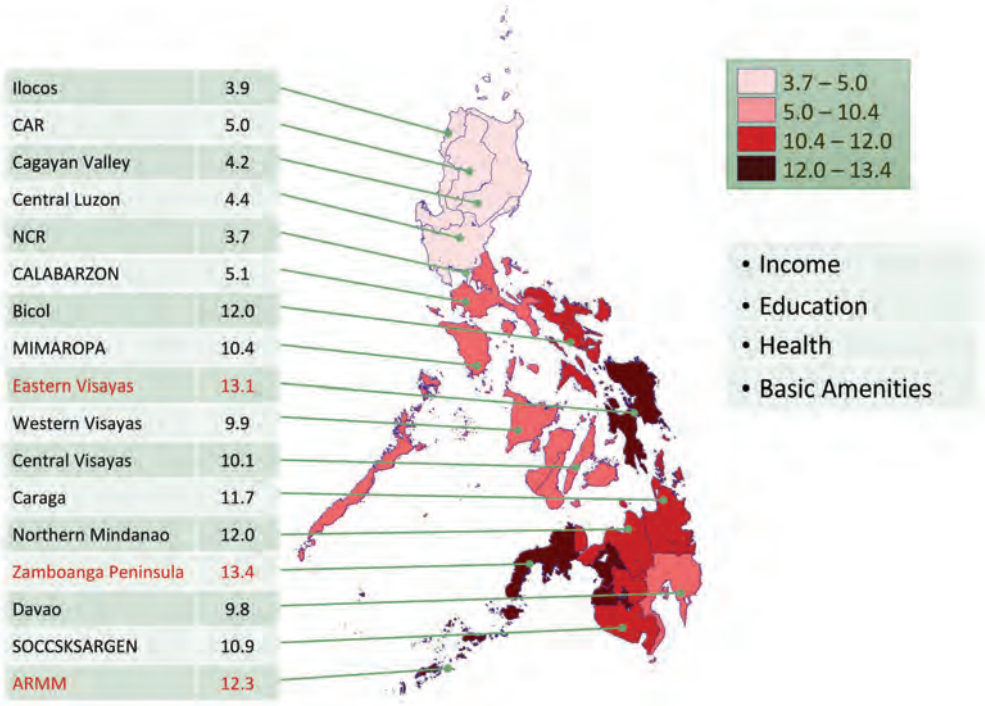


- Proportion of children experiencing severe deprivation of toilet
- Proportion of children experiencing severe deprivation of water
- Proportion of children experiencing severe deprivation of shelter
- Proportion of children experiencing severe deprivation of information
- Proportion of children experiencing deprivation of electricity
- Proportion of children in informal settlement

Composite Ranking

Based on the four dimensions of welfare (i.e., income, education, health and nutrition, and basic amenities), Zamboanga Peninsula (13.4), Eastern Visayas (13.1) and ARMM (12.3) performed the worst (*see Figure 12.5*). Geography-wise, these should be tagged as the high priority areas of any development programme that aim to advance the welfare of Filipino children.

Figure 12.5: Composite ranking of regions



Social Protection for Children in the Philippines

The Pantawid Pamilyang Pilipino Program (4Ps)

The *Pantawid Pamilyang Pilipino* Program, or 4Ps, is the country's version of the conditional cash transfer scheme popularized in Latin American countries. The 4Ps is a short-term poverty reduction and social development strategy of the government. It provides cash transfers to poor family-beneficiaries with the condition that they invest in health and education of their children. Through the cash transfer provided to poor beneficiaries, the programme aims to alleviate the poor's immediate needs and break the intergenerational poverty cycle through investment in human capital.

The programme specifically targets poor families with children aged 0 to 14 years. It has two components: health and education. Under the health component, the programme provides 500 pesos per month (or 6,000 pesos annually) to each family-beneficiary to augment their health and nutrition expenses. For the education component, the programme provides 300 pesos per child per month for 10 months (or one school year) to cover educational expenses. Each family receives cash transfers for up to three children under this component.

A study conducted by Reyes et al (2013) shows that the 4Ps results in an increase in the school participation rate of the target school-going population---i.e., the children aged 6 to 14. However, the study also found that there had been no significant increase in the school participation rate of older children aged 15 to 18 years, which is the group beyond the target of the programme. Findings suggest that the programme is unable to sway children that are not covered by the programme, to go to school.

The positive effect on younger children's participation echoes the findings of Chaudhury et al (2013). In particular, they found that the enrolment rates among children aged 3 to 5 years and 6 to 11 years old are higher by 10 percentage points and 4.5 percentage points, respectively, when compared to those of poor children who were not the programme's beneficiaries. This positive impact, however, has not been observed among older children, particularly those aged 12 to 14 years, which is an age group still covered by the programme. The programme is said to be unable to keep older children in school. In effect, the DSWD is redesigning the 4Ps programme.

Aside from its impact on school enrolment, the 4Ps can also help improve poor children's health conditions. In fact, under the programme, there was a 10-percentage point reduction in severe stunting among children aged 6 to 36 months when compared to those who are not the programme's beneficiaries.

On the overall, as of August 2013, a total of 3,948,501 household beneficiaries have already been reached by the programme (*see Table 13.1*). The DSWD also reports that as of June 2013, 103,768 beneficiaries of the programme have already been delisted. For the period May to June 2013, 97 per cent of beneficiary-children aged 6 to 14 years did attend school, while around 93 per cent of children aged 3 to 5 years attended day-care/preschool. Meanwhile, 95 per cent of pregnant mothers as well as children aged 0 to 5 years went for medical check-up and immunization. Notably, almost

all (99.5%) children aged 6 to 14 years complied with the conditionality on deworming. Ninety-six per cent of parents in beneficiary-families went to the monthly Family Development Sessions.

Table 13.1: Accomplishment of the 4Ps

Component/Turnout	2012 (January-August)	2013
Education	6,291,572	7,374,117
Attendance in Day Care/Preschool for children 3-5 years old	94.10%	92.5
Attendance in Primary/Secondary schools for children 6-14 years old	96.90%	96.60%
Health	2,179,431	2,129,722
Check-up/immunization for pregnant mothers and Children 0-5 years old	96	95.20%
Deworming for Children 6-14 years old in elementary level		
Family Development Sessions	98.60%	99.50%
Attendance to FDS by parents	96.10%	96.00%
Household Beneficiaries	3,121,530	3,948,501
Target Achieved	3,106,979	3,809,769

Source: Department of Social Welfare and Development; Turnout covers May-June 2013

Modified Conditional Cash Transfer (MCCT)

Because the lack of access to educational opportunities and healthcare is more acute among street families and those with special circumstances, the DSWD came up with the Modified Conditional Cash Transfer (MCCT) scheme. The MCCT, currently in its pilot stage, consists of three types: (1) MCCT-Families in Need of Special Protection (FNSP); (2) MCCT-Homeless Street Families (HSF); and (3) MCCT-Extended Age Coverage (EAC). Unlike the regular CCT, the list of MCCT beneficiaries does not come from the National Household Targeting System for Poverty Reduction, the data bank and information management system of the DSWD. Rather, potential beneficiaries for these programmes are identified through a mapping based on data from civil society organizations, local government units, and other data sources. A screening against the Pantawid Database is conducted to prevent duplication of beneficiaries.

Under the MCCT-FNSP, target beneficiaries are street children and families (with children aged 0 to 14 years) living in pockets of poverty but who are not covered by the regular CCT programme; Indigenous People (IP) migrant families; households with children with disabilities; those with child labourers; those who are displaced due to man-made and natural disasters; and other families in need of special protection.

Under the MCCT-HSF, target beneficiaries are compose of families living in the streets, cemeteries, pavements, sidewalks, open spaces and pushcarts, and under bridges for at least three months; their blood relatives (either nuclear or extended) with children aged 0 to 14 years, parents with children and other dependent relatives, siblings, and grandparents and grandchildren.

Lastly, to be eligible for the MCCT-EAC, families must (1) have children 14 years old or below; (2) have income below the provincial poverty threshold; and (3) not be active beneficiaries of any cash grant. The programme also targets solo parents with children of the same age group and who satisfy criteria 2 and 3, and other families in need of special protection.

The MCCT beneficiaries are subject to the same benefits and conditions as those in the regular CCT scheme. For their housing needs, each MCCT-HSF family in the NCR receives 3,000 pesos to 4,500 pesos per month for a period of six to 12 months. Also, MCCT cash grants are released on a monthly basis rather than bimonthly as in the case of the regular CCT scheme. As of July 2013, data from DSWD show that 95,593 households have been assisted by the MCCT, most of which are from Mindanao. Out of this number, 16,517 are from SOCCSKSARGEN, 11,190 are from Zamboanga Peninsula, and 10,209 are from Northern Mindanao. Around 3,593 households come from the NCR.

Comprehensive Project for Street Children, Street Families and Bajaus

In response to the specific needs of street children, street families, and Bajaus[23], a package of programmes have been developed by the DSWD. The department offers permanent shelter for homeless street families and Bajaus through the Relocation Project for Street Families and the Bajaus. It also gives access to income-generating opportunities through the Self-Employment Assistance-Kaunlaran and cash-for-work programmes. It partners with local government units and non-governmental organizations for the provision of alternative education (through the Educational Assistance for Street Children), health services, and other support services for street children and members of their family. Other programmes include the Camping for Street Children and *Balik Probinsya.*

In 2012, the Education Assistance programme served 1,087 children. The *Balik Probinsya* programme assisted about 71 families, while the cash-for-work scheme aided 370 individuals. Also, out of the 10 priority areas, two local government units—namely, Muntinlupa and San Juan---reported that priority areas along Ortigas, San Juan and Madrigal Avenue, Muntinlupa, have achieved their goal of zero incidence of street dwelling through the cooperation of barangay officials and other partners from faith-based organizations, non-governmental organizations and homeowners associations.

Programme for Children in Armed Conflict

The DSWD also implements a programme for children who are (1) caught in the middle of conflict between organized groups and government forces; and (2) members of armed groups or are involved directly or indirectly in armed conflict. In 2012, the DSWD extended assistance to 59 children (28 boys and 31 girls) affected or involved in armed conflicts.

Programme for Children in Conflict with the Law

The DSWD also serves the so-called children in conflict with the law. Republic Act 9344 defines children in conflict with the law as those "that are alleged as, accused of, or adjudged as having committed an offense under Philippine laws." These children are those aged below 15 years who acted without discernment, and youths aged above 15 years but below 18 years old who acted with discernment and are undergoing intervention programmes or referred to Youth Homes for diversion programmes in cases where a community diversion programme is not appropriate. *Table 13.2* shows that in 2012, the most common types of assistance provided by the DSWD were on custody supervision (involving 493 children) and on supporting those on trial (434 cases).

[23] Nomadic tribes.

Table 13.2: Children in conflict with the law, number of cases by status

Status of CICL (Community Based)	CY 2012	January-August 2013
Custody Supervision	493	222
Released on Recognizance	329	126
Mediation/Diversion	161	13
Released on Bail	3	0
Pending trial (in RRCY)	434	627
Others	791	374

Source: Department of Social Welfare and Development.

Community-based Feeding and Food Supplementation Programmes

The DSWD's community-based Supplementary Feeding Program is a provision of food, in addition to regular meals, for currently enrolled day-care children. This is DSWD's contribution to the Early Childhood Care and Development programme. The feeding programme is being managed by parents based on a prepared meal cycle using available indigenous food supplies. Children are weighed before and after the 120-day programme duration so as to assess the programme's impact,. For 2012, the programme reached 1,552,258 day-care children and achieved 88 per cent of the 2012 target. Likewise, under the food supplementation programme, hot meals are served during break time in both morning and afternoon sessions to children in day-care centres.

Centre-Based Programmes and Services

The DSWD is mandated to provide residential care, an alternative form of family care that provides, on a temporary basis, 24-hour group living to individuals, including children whose needs cannot be adequately met by their own families and relatives for a specified duration. To-date, there are 11 Reception and Study Center for Children facilities that provide alternative family care to abandoned, neglected and/or surrendered children 0-6 years of age. There are also three Haven for Children, which are temporary shelters that provide rehabilitation for boys aged 7 to 13 years who are under recovery from substance abuse. Fifteen Regional Rehabilitation Centers For Youth are available to provide rehabilitation services to so-called children in conflict with the law who are on suspended sentence.

One facility called Marilac Hills provides care and rehabilitation services for girls aged 7 to 17 years who are classified as children in conflict with the law, abused, or exploited. This is in addition to the 12 Home for Girls available for the rehabilitation and care of girls aged below 18 years. Two centres cater to children with special needs: These are the Elsie Gaches Village in Alabang and Amor Village in Tarlac. The facility called *Nayon ng Kabataan* provides alternative family care for abused, orphaned, abandoned, neglected, and exploited children aged 7 to 17 years. As of June 2013, a total of 4,388 youths were served by these facilities (*see Table 13.3*).

Table 13.3: Number of clients served by DSWD facilities

Facility	Client Served (as of June 2013)
Reception and Study Center for Children	688
Haven for Children	194
Marillac Hills	285
Home for Girls	544
Nayon ng Kabataan	328
Elsie Gaches Village	1,795
AMOR Village	131
RRCY (Suspended Sentence)	423
TOTAL	4,388

Source: Department of Social Welfare and Development

Alternative Parental Care

The DSWD also oversees the Alternative Parental Care, a service that provides alternative families to abused, neglected, surrendered, dependent or abandoned children. Alternative families help these children heal by giving them love and care as well as opportunities for growth and development. From 2010 to 2013, the DSWD has overseen local adoption cases involving 342 children and inter-country adoption of 364 kids. A total of 1,630 children were endorsed or cleared for inter-country adoption from 2010 through 2013 (*see Table 13.4*).

Table 13.4: Number of children assisted for adoption, by type

Year	Local	Inter-Country	
	No. of Children Locally Matched/ Adopted	No. of Children Endorsed to ICAB/ Cleared for Inter-Country Adoption	No. of Children Adopted Thru Inter-Country Adoption
2010	68	424	
2011	86	403	
2012	89	399	253
2013	99	404	111
Total	342	1,630	364

Source: Data for Inter-Country as of June and Local Adoption as September 2013, Department of Social Welfare and Development

Summary and Concluding Remarks

While there have been improvements in the well-being of children in the Philippines, there are still many dimensions where performance has been lacklustre. Combating child poverty in the Philippines is an ever more challenging task. Both incidence and magnitude of income poor are rising, which indicates that efforts have not coped with the increasing number of poor individuals, including children. In 2009, around 13.4 million (or 36%) of all children aged below 18 years were considered income poor. There was an increment of around 2.3 million since 2003. Because of the lack of inclusive economic growth and the still high population growth in recent years, the number of poor children is not expected to significantly go down within the next few years. In fact, the increasing frequency and severity of natural calamities would put more children at risk of income poverty when these calamities wipe out their families' productive assets.

Income poverty could not fully capture the dire situation of children. In 2009, around 4 million kids were severely deprived of sanitary toilet facilities and did not have access to safe water, while 260,000 children severely lacked decent shelter. Moreover, 1.4 million lived in informal settlements, a huge 6.5 million did not have access to electricity in their homes and 3.4 million severely lacked any means of access to information. Moreover, a significant number suffer from multiple and overlapping kinds of deprivation. Around 10 million children faced at least two overlapping types of severe deprivation; three quarters of a million kids faced at least five kinds of deprivation simultaneously.

Poverty in the country, whether in terms of income or deprivation in amenities as basic as water and sanitation, is largely a rural phenomenon. Three out of four income poor children are living in rural areas. Eight (seven) out of 10 children severely deprived of sanitary toilet facilities (safe water) are found in rural areas. Programmes that aim to address these needs must thus prioritize the poor in rural areas.

Many children (5.5 million in 2011) are forced to work so as to augment the family income. Hence, many are unable to pursue their education, and this has adverse consequences on their ability to find better work opportunities in the future. Indeed, aside from the need to bring as many children to school as possible, keeping them in school is equally challenging. The cohort survival rates and completion rates at both elementary and secondary levels hardly improved in the last decade.

By looking at the profile of out-of-school children, one can discern that it is the older children who are likely to drop out of school. Results from a nationally representative survey shows that the most common reason for dropping out of school is, as earlier mentioned, the lack of resources. Since there is at least one elementary school in almost all 40,000 barangays, it is convenient for families to send their young children to elementary school. The challenge mounts as these children reach the secondary level because high school institutions are usually located far from the barangays. Also, the opportunity cost for older children may be too large such that a significant proportion of these kids choose to seek employment instead. Without the necessary intervention, low cohort survival and completion are likely to persist.

Moreover, the poor achievement scores among students are a reflection of the lack of improvement in the quality of education. Significant enhancement of school inputs, known to be correlated with improvement in the quality of education, also remains a formidable task. Furthermore, the new K-12 programme will pose new challenges in addressing the supply constraints as well as the capacity of families to keep their children in school. Thus, should programmes be able to address these supply-and-demand constraints, it would be easier for families to invest more in human capital.

Meanwhile, the wide disparities on poverty indicators across regions remain a glaring characteristic of the country's poverty situation. To address such disparity, the government's welfare-enhancing programmes and strategies should be more effective in targeting those most in need. In fact, the updated Philippine Development Plan already recognizes the need to have spatial focus to address the specific needs of provinces. While each region in the country has its own development needs, there are places where the condition of children is so dismal in so many aspects. These areas---Zamboanga Peninsula, Eastern Visayas and ARMM---should hence be the ones prioritized in government interventions. The more targeted approach can address the varying needs of children across provinces.

Technical Notes

A. Definition of Terms

Child - an individual 17 years old or below, unless otherwise specified; for deprivation in information, only children aged 7 to 14 years were included.

Child in poverty - a child, whether or not related by kin, in a family whose income falls below the poverty line.

Child in deprivation - a child, whether or not related by kin, in a family who is deprived of basic necessity such as water, sanitation or shelter.

Sanitary toilet facility - water-sealed and closed-pit types of toilet facilities.

Safe water sources - faucet, community water system, and tubed or piped well either owned by the household or shared with others.

Makeshift housing - a dwelling unit with either roof or wall made of salvaged and/or makeshift materials.

Informal settler - one who occupies a lot without the consent of the owner.

B. Definition of Child Deprivation

Dimension	Severe	Less severe
Sanitation	No toilet facility of any kind	Unimproved toilet facilities like closed pit, open pit, and pail system
Water	Water comes from springs, rivers and streams, rain, and peddlers	Water comes from a dug well
Shelter	Wall and roof of house are made predominantly of salvaged and/or makeshift materials	Either wall or roof of house are made predominantly of salvaged and/or makeshift materials
Income	Income falls below the subsistence/food poverty line	Income falls below the poverty line
Information	No radio, television, telephone, or computer	No radio or television
Education	Of school-age, but not currently attending school	
Human settlement	Occupying a lot without the consent of the owner	

Other Notes

This report is based largely on information from the Family Income and Expenditure Survey (FIES) and its mother survey, the January round of the Labor Force Survey (LFS). To obtain individual-level characteristics of children in poor families, the FIES 2003 was merged with the 2004 LFS, the 2006 FIES with 2007 LFS, and the 2009 FIES with 2010 LFS. For the longitudinal analysis, these merged files were matched again to create a panel data of 6,526 households. The exact matching of households used the geographical identification variables: province, municipality, barangay, enumeration area, sample housing unit serial number, and household control number.

To estimate the number of children in certain categories such as income poverty and deprivation, individual weights obtained from the LFS were used. Meanwhile, the estimation of number of families with children is based on the household weights used by the National Statistical Coordination Board in calculating official poverty data except for 2006, where the National Statistics Office's weights were applied. In the 2006 data, nine observations failed to match in the 2006 FIES and 2007 LFS. No weights were used in the descriptive analysis of the longitudinal data.

Appendix of Tables

Appendix 1. Magnitude and proportion of children experiencing severe deprivation of sanitary toilet facilities*, by region

Region	2003		2006		2009	
	Number	Per Cent	Number	Per Cent	Number	Per Cent
NCR	52,683	1.4	59,800	1.5	43,269	1.1
CAR	54,669	8.5	35,200	5.8	33,293	4.9
1 - Ilocos Region	74,728	4.3	88,617	4.7	67,826	3.5
2 - Cagayan Valley	24,600	2.1	31,528	2.5	38,448	3.0
3 - Central Luzon	260,713	7.9	192,831	5.5	122,153	3.2
4A - CALABARZON	306,199	8.0	276,671	7.0	246,116	5.5
4B - MIMAROPA	216,049	19.5	247,967	19.9	301,097	21.7
5 - Bicol	523,802	22.2	548,502	22.2	558,730	20.9
6 - Western Visayas	446,609	16.1	502,604	17.5	486,966	16.2
7 - Central Visayas	594,327	24.7	574,055	22.0	601,335	21.5
8 - Eastern Visayas	531,544	28.2	508,774	28.1	500,011	25.1
9 - Zamboanga Peninsula	197,168	14.0	223,960	16.0	217,464	14.2
10 - Northern Mindanao	91,653	5.5	137,026	8.2	144,436	8.0
11 - Davao Region	92,187	5.5	129,178	8.1	127,037	7.1
12 - SOCCSKSARGEN	144,322	9.0	126,876	8.2	191,772	11.0
13 - CARAGA	119,036	11.2	100,074	9.5	92,654	8.4
ARMM	246,675	20.9	164,823	11.2	135,450	8.5
Urban	940,424	6.1	952,451	6.1	809,351	4.7
Rural	3,036,539	16.6	2,996,035	15.6	3,098,705	15.1
TOTAL	3,976,963	11.8	3,948,486	11.3	3,908,056	10.4

** Severe deprivation to toilet facilities refers to the absence of any toilet facility.*

Source: Authors' estimates based on Matched FIES 2003 and LFS 2004, FIES 2006 and LFS 2007, and FIES 2009 and LFS 2010.

Appendix 2. Magnitude and proportion of children experiencing less severe deprivation of sanitary toilet facilities*, by region

Region	2003		2006		2009	
	Number	Per Cent	Number	Per Cent	Number	Per Cent
NCR	380,524	9.8	244,992	6.3	133,208	3.3
CAR	176,554	27.3	132,140	21.6	158,547	23.5
1 - Ilocos Region	328,967	18.9	155,451	8.3	127,586	6.5
2 - Cagayan Valley	227,957	19.1	243,563	19.5	175,716	13.6
3 - Central Luzon	455,030	13.8	295,224	8.4	259,597	6.8
4A - CALABARZON	416,702	10.9	458,183	11.6	302,154	6.7
4B - MIMAROPA	336,078	30.3	273,830	22.0	221,194	16.0
5 - Bicol	478,031	20.3	389,540	15.8	351,934	13.2
6 - Western Visayas	840,598	30.2	707,181	24.6	616,538	20.5
7 - Central Visayas	417,139	17.4	420,807	16.1	348,881	12.5
8 - Eastern Visayas	364,686	19.3	182,834	10.1	118,945	6.0
9 - Zamboanga Peninsula	482,573	34.2	400,653	28.6	398,224	25.9
10 - Northern Mindanao	454,310	27.2	342,558	20.5	260,013	14.3
11 - Davao Region	439,677	26.2	335,587	21.0	289,513	16.2
12 - SOCCSKSARGEN	522,634	32.5	428,304	27.8	388,804	22.4
13 - CARAGA	123,708	11.7	131,003	12.4	122,492	11.1
ARMM	809,185	68.6	1,143,718	77.5	1,248,812	78.6
Urban	1,979,895	12.8	1,451,385	9.3	1,238,920	7.2
Rural	5,274,457	28.8	4,834,183	25.2	4,283,236	20.8
TOTAL	7,254,352	21.5	6,285,569	18.0	5,522,155	14.6

** Less severe deprivation to toilet facilities refers to the use of closed pit, open pit and other toilet facilities such as pail system.*
Source: Authors' estimates based on Matched FIES 2003 and LFS 2004, FIES 2006 and LFS 2007, and FIES 2009 and LFS 2010.

Appendix 3. Magnitude and proportion of children experiencing severe deprivation of safe water*, by region

Region	2003		2006		2009	
	Number	Per Cent	Number	Per Cent	Number	Per Cent
NCR	550,755	14.19	490,950	12.57	374,454	9.23
CAR	93,475	14.45	111,185	18.19	102,558	15.21
1 - Ilocos Region	47,616	2.74	17,342	0.92	54,437	2.78
2 - Cagayan Valley	73,350	6.14	51,035	4.08	56,747	4.38
3 - Central Luzon	96,518	2.92	123,318	3.51	90,730	2.39
4A - CALABARZON	350,932	9.22	459,243	11.61	386,481	8.57
4B - MIMAROPA	130,107	11.71	109,840	8.81	138,640	10.00
5 - Bicol	222,908	9.45	198,865	8.05	116,843	4.38
6 - Western Visayas	251,608	9.05	309,394	10.74	447,391	14.86
7 - Central Visayas	392,478	16.33	410,596	15.70	450,309	16.09
8 - Eastern Visayas	201,569	10.68	147,788	8.17	89,190	4.48
9 - Zamboanga Peninsula	319,375	22.61	296,600	21.16	331,366	21.59
10 - Northern Mindanao	251,874	15.07	277,731	16.66	254,615	14.03
11 - Davao Region	286,334	17.07	247,178	15.45	272,454	15.22
12 - SOCCSKSARGEN	217,491	13.54	179,345	11.64	244,700	14.08
13 - CARAGA	134,782	12.72	85,807	8.14	126,534	11.48
ARMM	256,067	21.71	490,256	33.23	561,331	35.34
Urban	1,420,311	9.21	1,266,392	8.09	1,207,695	7.04
Rural	2,456,930	13.43	2,740,082	14.26	2,891,085	14.06
TOTAL	3,877,241	11.50	4,006,474	11.49	4,098,780	10.87

**Those that obtain water from springs, rivers and streams, rain and peddlers.*
Source: Authors' estimates based on Matched FIES 2003 and LFS 2004, FIES 2006 and LFS 2007, and FIES 2009 and LFS 2010.

Appendix 4. Magnitude and proportion of children experiencing less severe deprivation of safe water *, by region (PIDS estimates)

Region	2003		2006		2009	
	Number	Per Cent	Number	Per Cent	Number	Per Cent
NCR	35,309	0.91	29,594	0.76	13,243	0.33
CAR	25,602	3.96	30,333	4.96	38,527	5.71
1 - Ilocos Region	156,931	9.02	118,612	6.30	143,959	7.35
2 - Cagayan Valley	146,297	12.24	158,176	12.65	194,032	14.97
3 - Central Luzon	62,467	1.89	49,278	1.40	28,648	0.75
4A - CALABARZON	220,417	5.79	225,945	5.71	164,266	3.64
4B - MIMAROPA	175,354	15.79	162,090	13.00	199,488	14.39
5 - Bicol	477,985	20.27	514,650	20.84	630,060	23.60
6 - Western Visayas	699,336	25.14	749,584	26.03	750,147	24.91
7 - Central Visayas	340,050	14.15	383,157	14.65	507,675	18.14
8 - Eastern Visayas	250,915	13.29	210,001	11.61	192,993	9.69
9 - Zamboanga Peninsula	259,533	18.37	209,710	14.96	214,919	14.00
10 - Northern Mindanao	116,022	6.94	54,306	3.26	120,863	6.66
11 - Davao Region	163,653	9.76	97,926	6.12	101,531	5.67
12 - SOCCSKSARGEN	162,431	10.11	125,828	8.16	153,791	8.85
13 - CARAGA	76,290	7.20	94,130	8.93	96,685	8.77
ARMM	465,830	39.50	471,388	31.95	405,911	25.55
Urban	616,318	4.00	707,931	4.52	769,898	4.49
Rural	3,218,103	17.59	2,976,778	15.49	3,186,839	15.50
TOTAL	3,834,421	11.37	3,684,709	10.57	3,956,737	10.49

** Less severe deprivation to toilet facilities refers to the use of closed pit, open pit and other toilet facilities such as pail system.*
Source: Authors' estimates based on Matched FIES 2003 and LFS 2004, FIES 2006 and LFS 2007, and FIES 2009 and LFS 2010.

Appendix 5. Magnitude and proportion of children experiencing severe deprivation of shelter *, by region (PIDS estimates)

Region	2003		2006		2009	
	Number	Per Cent	Number	Per Cent	Number	Per Cent
NCR	92,688	2.39	83,119	2.13	60,467	1.49
CAR	1,558	0.24	1,528	0.25	433	0.06
1 - Ilocos Region	5,762	0.33	5,181	0.28	7,287	0.37
2 - Cagayan Valley	4,959	0.41	7,546	0.60	1,883	0.15
3 - Central Luzon	47,393	1.44	45,743	1.30	40,709	1.07
4A - CALABARZON	41,772	1.10	43,789	1.11	17,919	0.40
4B - MIMAROPA	14,396	1.30	14,164	1.14	5,227	0.38
5 - Bicol	14,915	0.63	27,408	1.11	18,834	0.71
6 - Western Visayas	17,369	0.62	9,251	0.32	22,647	0.75
7 - Central Visayas	28,724	1.20	26,261	1.00	10,551	0.38
8 - Eastern Visayas	13,671	0.72	3,851	0.21	7,577	0.38
9 - Zamboanga Peninsula	8,438	0.60	13,308	0.95	10,325	0.67
10 - Northern Mindanao	13,705	0.82	11,522	0.69	18,578	1.02
11 - Davao Region	11,813	0.70	9,484	0.59	5,953	0.33
12 - SOCCSKSARGEN	8,066	0.50	15,031	0.98	23,131	1.33
13 - CARAGA	1,909	0.18	4,749	0.45	2,333	0.21
ARMM	8,828	0.75	18,207	1.23	6,918	0.44
Urban	238,719	1.55	207,071	1.32	157,926	0.92
Rural	97,249	0.53	133,072	0.69	102,846	0.50
TOTAL	335,967	1.00	340,143	0.98	260,772	0.69

**If both roof and wall of house are made of, either entirely or mixed but predominantly, salvaged/makeshift materials*
Source: Authors' estimates based on Matched FIES 2003 and LFS 2004, FIES 2006 and LFS 2007, and FIES 2009 and LFS 2010.

Appendix 6. Magnitude and proportion of children experiencing less severe deprivation of shelter *, by region (PIDS estimates)

Region	2003		2006		2009	
	Number	Per Cent	Number	Per Cent	Number	Per Cent
NCR	118,755	3.06	114,493	2.93	87,503	2.16
CAR	1,728	0.27	6,011	0.98	3,313	0.49
1 - Ilocos Region	11,983	0.69	15,167	0.81	18,610	0.95
2 - Cagayan Valley	12,088	1.01	10,405	0.83	21,408	1.65
3 - Central Luzon	70,882	2.15	74,103	2.11	69,767	1.84
4A - CALABARZON	86,954	2.28	77,024	1.95	44,503	0.99
4B - MIMAROPA	25,882	2.33	29,760	2.39	13,492	0.97
5 - Bicol	41,794	1.77	76,515	3.10	59,350	2.22
6 - Western Visayas	47,851	1.72	31,994	1.11	53,011	1.76
7 - Central Visayas	41,926	1.74	56,016	2.14	33,226	1.19
8 - Eastern Visayas	21,551	1.14	13,619	0.75	28,862	1.45
9 - Zamboanga Peninsula	24,881	1.76	27,704	1.98	21,713	1.41
10 - Northern Mindanao	26,511	1.59	50,017	3.00	29,149	1.61
11 - Davao Region	31,958	1.91	20,193	1.26	19,441	1.09
12 - SOCCSKSARGEN	19,458	1.21	24,384	1.58	48,209	2.77
13 - CARAGA	15,081	1.42	31,592	3.00	19,823	1.80
ARMM	23,248	1.97	32,070	2.17	30,989	1.95
Urban	361,966	2.35	358,733	2.29	284,567	1.66
Rural	260,564	1.42	332,334	1.73	317,802	1.55
TOTAL	622,531	1.85	691,067	1.98	602,369	1.60

**If both roof and wall of house are made of, either entirely or mixed but predominantly, salvaged/makeshift materials*
Source: Authors' estimates based on Matched FIES 2003 and LFS 2004, FIES 2006 and LFS 2007, and FIES 2009 and LFS 2010.

Appendix 7. Magnitude and proportion of children experiencing severe deprivation of information*, by region (PIDS estimates)

Region	2003		2006		2009	
	Number	Per Cent	Number	Per Cent	Number	Per Cent
NCR	43,207	1.85	65,680	2.72	58,686	2.21
CAR	66,383	16.42	49,389	12.54	49,751	11.20
1 - Ilocos Region	111,847	10.35	113,493	9.48	93,779	7.17
2 - Cagayan Valley	116,055	15.14	98,438	11.79	76,165	8.93
3 - Central Luzon	135,108	6.57	131,481	5.72	127,699	5.05
4A - CALABARZON	169,329	7.30	200,922	7.82	200,794	6.63
4B - MIMAROPA	188,737	27.13	223,511	27.44	198,488	20.93
5 - Bicol	389,823	26.99	392,320	24.99	341,468	18.92
6 - Western Visayas	336,554	18.74	351,554	18.15	329,329	15.87
7 - Central Visayas	304,282	19.95	330,178	19.19	279,527	15.18
8 - Eastern Visayas	355,362	29.87	345,647	29.31	343,164	25.31
9 - Zamboanga Peninsula	307,220	33.96	308,602	34.61	285,794	28.47
10 - Northern Mindanao	235,072	22.34	225,183	20.43	203,702	17.19
11 - Davao Region	191,104	18.35	168,005	16.75	180,052	15.63
12 - SOCCSKSARGEN	244,609	24.07	212,195	20.81	226,424	18.83
13 - CARAGA	223,502	32.77	169,660	24.23	159,076	21.45
ARMM	362,355	47.91	293,989	30.71	285,114	26.19
Urban	743,387	7.78	732,494	7.28	634,908	5.59
Rural	3,037,162	26.40	2,947,752	23.49	2,804,104	20.23
TOTAL	3,780,549	17.95	3,680,246	16.28	3,439,012	13.64

**If both roof and wall of house are made of, either entirely or mixed but predominantly, salvaged/makeshift materials*
Source: Authors' estimates based on Matched FIES 2003 and LFS 2004, FIES 2006 and LFS 2007, and FIES 2009 and LFS 2010.

Appendix 8. Magnitude and proportion of children experiencing less severe deprivation of information*, by region (PIDS estimates)

Region	2003		2006		2009	
	Number	Per Cent	Number	Per Cent	Number	Per Cent
NCR	49,347	2.12	85,526	3.54	97,033	3.65
CAR	69,442	17.17	58,728	14.91	75,080	16.90
1 - Ilocos Region	113,273	10.49	135,034	11.28	149,787	11.45
2 - Cagayan Valley	119,031	15.52	114,543	13.72	104,407	12.24
3 - Central Luzon	145,815	7.09	173,720	7.55	186,339	7.36
4A - CALABARZON	172,459	7.44	232,945	9.07	310,817	10.27
4B - MIMAROPA	192,821	27.72	263,821	32.39	281,583	29.70
5 - Bicol	393,894	27.28	443,973	28.28	472,638	26.19
6 - Western Visayas	340,122	18.94	390,520	20.16	460,988	22.22
7 - Central Visayas	311,210	20.41	353,526	20.55	372,821	20.24
8 - Eastern Visayas	356,028	29.93	396,140	33.60	428,412	31.60
9 - Zamboanga Peninsula	309,961	34.26	335,970	37.68	355,473	35.41
10 - Northern Mindanao	238,125	22.63	245,753	22.30	286,536	24.18
11 - Davao Region	193,790	18.61	185,462	18.49	229,166	19.89
12 - SOCCSKSARGEN	248,674	24.47	244,252	23.96	310,673	25.84
13 - CARAGA	226,344	33.19	194,024	27.71	221,790	29.91
ARMM	362,355	47.91	311,655	32.56	378,046	34.73
Urban	778,984	8.15	881,666	8.76	987,360	8.69
Rural	3,063,708	26.63	3,283,927	26.17	3,734,231	26.94
TOTAL	3,842,691	18.25	4,165,593	18.43	4,721,591	18.72

**If both roof and wall of house are made of, either entirely or mixed but predominantly, salvaged/makeshift materials*
Source: Authors' estimates based on Matched FIES 2003 and LFS 2004, FIES 2006 and LFS 2007, and FIES 2009 and LFS 2010.

Appendix 9. Magnitude and proportion of children experiencing deprivation of electricity *, by region (PIDS estimates)

Region	2003		2006		2009	
	Number	Per Cent	Number	Per Cent	Number	Per Cent
NCR	20,235	0.52	105,982	2.71	58,147	1.43
CAR	195,829	30.27	153,106	25.05	120,511	17.87
1 - Ilocos Region	290,651	16.71	214,638	11.41	151,461	7.73
2 - Cagayan Valley	352,528	29.49	277,193	22.16	185,847	14.33
3 - Central Luzon	250,532	7.59	235,905	6.72	245,941	6.47
4A - CALABARZON	350,027	9.20	392,122	9.91	319,339	7.08
4B - MIMAROPA	510,850	45.99	522,357	41.89	454,841	32.82
5 - Bicol	925,576	39.25	775,880	31.42	676,492	25.34
6 - Western Visayas	996,602	35.83	755,023	26.22	658,278	21.86
7 - Central Visayas	785,107	32.67	618,006	23.63	625,510	22.36
8 - Eastern Visayas	788,007	41.73	528,822	29.23	339,157	17.03
9 - Zamboanga Peninsula	685,533	48.53	539,780	38.51	530,370	34.55
10 - Northern Mindanao	593,266	35.50	455,416	27.32	379,001	20.89
11 - Davao Region	545,306	32.52	451,917	28.25	441,554	24.67
12 - SOCCSKSARGEN	624,347	38.86	502,900	32.63	459,161	26.43
13 - CARAGA	368,995	34.83	244,182	23.17	202,301	18.36
ARMM	795,021	67.41	780,013	52.88	694,260	43.70
Urban	1,319,676	8.56	1,187,795	7.58	1,031,128	6.01
Rural	7,758,735	42.40	6,365,446	33.13	5,511,043	26.81
TOTAL	9,078,411	26.92	7,553,242	21.66	6,542,172	17.35

** Deprivation of electricity refers to the children that do not have access to electricity.*

Appendix 10. Magnitude and proportion of children experiencing deprivation of informal settlements*, by region (PIDS estimates)

Region	2003		2006		2009	
	Number	Per Cent	Number	Per Cent	Number	Per Cent
NCR	198,319	5.11	440,110	11.27	472,820	11.66
CAR	5,275	0.82	3,955	0.65	4,154	0.62
1 - Ilocos Region	19,088	1.10	38,289	2.04	10,898	0.56
2 - Cagayan Valley	19,000	1.59	10,439	0.83	11,859	0.91
3 - Central Luzon	54,915	1.66	98,797	2.81	42,743	1.12
4A - CALABARZON	84,993	2.23	88,051	2.23	156,241	3.47
4B - MIMAROPA	55,273	4.98	32,386	2.60	33,633	2.43
5 - Bicol	98,748	4.19	62,233	2.52	59,231	2.22
6 - Western Visayas	176,772	6.36	134,583	4.67	146,648	4.87
7 - Central Visayas	108,988	4.54	96,010	3.67	97,817	3.50
8 - Eastern Visayas	72,892	3.86	68,112	3.77	75,592	3.80
9 - Zamboanga Peninsula	79,268	5.61	72,621	5.18	84,232	5.49
10 - Northern Mindanao	131,529	7.87	60,839	3.65	22,614	1.25
11 - Davao Region	81,934	4.89	14,660	0.92	50,223	2.81
12 - SOCCSKSARGEN	39,514	2.46	71,862	4.66	70,521	4.06
13 - CARAGA	39,424	3.72	39,839	3.78	27,591	2.50
ARMM	43,215	3.66	95,703	6.49	52,997	3.34
Urban	680,807	4.41	915,115	5.84	851,073	4.96
Rural	628,340	3.43	513,373	2.67	568,741	2.77
TOTAL	1,309,147	3.88	1,428,488	4.10	1,419,814	3.76

**Informal settler refers to one who is living in a house or lot without the consent of the owner.*
Source: Authors' estimates based on Matched FIES 2003 and LFS 2004, FIES 2006 and LFS 2007, and FIES 2009 and LFS 2010.

Appendix 11. Population of children 0-17 years old by region, 2000 and 2010

Region	2000	2010
NCR	3,717,421	4,104,125
CAR	601,557	620,052
1 - Ilocos Region	1,743,287	1,783,160
2 - Cagayan Valley	1,243,452	1,229,191
3 - Central Luzon	3,402,414	3,834,512
4A - CALABARZON	3,879,036	4,810,414
4B - MIMAROPA	1,095,304	1,201,478
5 - Bicol	2,230,139	2,428,358
6 - Western Visayas	2,687,007	2,735,462
7 - Central Visayas	2,468,412	2,677,818
8 - Eastern Visayas	1,698,078	1,783,121
9 - Zamboanga Peninsula	1,319,746	1,455,879
10 - Northern Mindanao	1,592,314	1,785,979
11 - Davao Region	1,628,515	1,772,322
12 - SOCCSKSARGEN	1,496,692	1,732,208
13 - CARAGA	998,284	1,031,345
ARMM	1,363,425	1,630,172
TOTAL	33,165,083	36,615,596

Source: Census of Population and Housing, National Statistics Office.

Appendix 12. Magnitude and proportion of children in poverty by region, 2003-2009

Region	2003		2006		2009	
	Number	Per Cent	Number	Per Cent	Number	Per Cent
NCR	190,580	4.9	317,035	8.1	272,495	6.7
CAR	176,593	27.3	194,085	31.8	204,865	30.4
1 - Ilocos Region	533,804	30.7	666,878	35.4	607,695	31.0
2 - Cagayan Valley	312,232	26.1	331,011	26.5	330,376	25.5
3 - Central Luzon	566,465	17.2	728,372	20.7	805,666	21.2
4A - CALABARZON	649,275	17.1	760,295	19.2	893,592	19.8
4B - MIMAROPA	492,282	44.3	625,998	50.2	615,436	44.4
5 - Bicol	1,303,391	55.3	1,370,039	55.5	1,461,444	54.7
6 - Western Visayas	1,123,622	40.4	1,108,407	38.5	1,257,470	41.8
7 - Central Visayas	1,076,059	44.8	1,241,061	47.5	1,263,671	45.2
8 - Eastern Visayas	879,410	46.6	875,785	48.4	1,013,159	50.9
9 - Zamboanga Peninsula	778,081	55.1	729,183	52.0	796,427	51.9
10 - Northern Mindanao	780,615	46.7	798,952	47.9	878,885	48.4
11 - Davao Region	615,275	36.7	650,223	40.6	726,088	40.6
12 - SOCCSKSARGEN	657,046	40.9	633,820	41.1	776,480	44.7
13 - CARAGA	533,604	50.4	530,905	50.4	632,246	57.4
ARMM	445,674	37.8	710,392	48.2	859,342	54.1
Urban	2,505,807	16.3	2,912,477	18.6	3,277,710	19.1
Rural	8,608,200	47.0	9,359,964	48.7	10,117,628	49.2
Total	11,114,007	33.0	12,272,441	35.2	13,395,338	35.5

Source: Authors' estimates based on Matched Family Income and Expenditure Survey (2003, 2006, and 2009), and Labor Force Survey (January 2004, 2007, and 2010).

Appendix 13. Magnitude and proportion of extremely poor children by region, 2003-2009

Region	2003		2006		2009	
	Number	Per Cent	Number	Per Cent	Number	Per Cent
NCR	31,959	0.8	62,172	1.6	44,781	1.1
CAR	72,595	11.2	103,019	16.9	101,008	15.0
1 - Ilocos Region	212,314	12.2	270,616	14.4	234,323	12.0
2 - Cagayan Valley	94,760	7.9	112,035	9.0	116,030	8.9
3 - Central Luzon	153,666	4.7	251,920	7.2	279,183	7.3
4A - CALABARZON	191,154	5.0	267,663	6.8	257,828	5.7
4B - MIMAROPA	205,116	18.5	325,513	26.1	291,580	21.0
5 - Bicol	734,487	31.1	695,063	28.1	624,664	23.4
6 - Western Visayas	509,735	18.3	467,647	16.2	503,809	16.7
7 - Central Visayas	612,873	25.5	729,856	27.9	669,112	23.9
8 - Eastern Visayas	389,437	20.6	446,992	24.7	495,380	24.9
9 - Zamboanga Peninsula	530,853	37.6	448,665	32.0	464,658	30.3
10 - Northern Mindanao	453,130	27.1	474,927	28.5	496,723	27.4
11 - Davao Region	334,879	20.0	345,765	21.6	377,345	21.1
12 - SOCCSKSARGEN	305,169	19.0	299,437	19.4	370,064	21.3
13 - CARAGA	275,538	26.0	266,500	25.3	360,926	32.8
ARMM	151,646	12.9	237,476	16.1	241,574	15.2
Urban	898,269	5.8	1,137,072	7.3	1,065,090	6.2
Rural	4,361,042	23.8	4,668,196	24.3	4,863,896	23.7
Total	5,259,311	15.6	5,805,267	16.7	5,928,986	15.7

Source: Authors' estimates based on Matched Family Income and Expenditure Survey (2003, 2006, and 2009), and Labor Force Survey (January 2004, 2007, and 2010).

Appendix 14. Magnitude and proportion of poor families with children by region, 2003-2009

Region	2003		2006		2009	
	Number	Per Cent	Number	Per Cent	Number	Per Cent
NCR	47,286	2.7	78770.1	4.5	63,315	3.6
CAR	42,473	19.1	53571.94	23.6	51,527	22.4
1 - Ilocos Region	147,973	21.5	182227.5	25.8	166,676	22.4
2 - Cagayan Valley	85,621	18.1	88887.14	18.7	87,321	18.2
3 - Central Luzon	163,245	11.4	216306.8	14.8	228,463	15.1
4A - CALABARZON	190,834	11.0	213979.3	12.4	233,099	13
4B - MIMAROPA	142,901	35.1	165592.7	38.1	150,254	32.6
5 - Bicol	345,693	44.1	349276.2	43.4	361,486	42.6
6 - Western Visayas	278,296	28.2	283162.4	27.7	317,594	30.3
7 - Central Visayas	343,551	36.2	360844.5	37.2	352,352	34.8
8 - Eastern Visayas	217,799	34.9	234225.8	37.5	267,194	39.9
9 - Zamboanga Peninsula	215,081	44.1	203370.5	41.4	220,029	41.7
10 - Northern Mindanao	220,726	36.1	229970.4	36.6	250,591	39.1
11 - Davao Region	190,189	29.0	197904.6	30.6	203,868	30.8
12 - SOCCSKSARGEN	180,282	30.5	197077.3	32.9	210,349	34.1
13 - CARAGA	146,110	42.0	145770.2	41.3	171,075	45.3
ARMM	121,866	28.2	188159.5	40.8	203813.6	43.5
Urban	648,048	10.0	777,128	11.9	853480.29	12.6
Rural	2,431,875	36.1	2,611,969	38.1	2685524.1	38
Total	3,079,923	23.33	3389097	25.4	3,539,004	25.6

Source: Authors' estimates based on Matched Family Income and Expenditure Survey (2003, 2006, and 2009), and Labor Force Survey (January 2004, 2007, and 2010).

Appendix 15. Magnitude and proportion of extremely poor families with children by region, 2003-2009

Region	2003		2006		2009	
	Number	Per Cent	Number	Per Cent	Number	Per Cent
NCR	7676.861	0.4	14804.86	0.9	9400.2655	0.5
CAR	15866.78	7.1	24937.177	11.0	24019.2	10.4
1 - Ilocos Region	49638.95	7.2	63634.62	9.0	52706.391	7.1
2 - Cagayan Valley	22658.55	4.8	25269.6	5.3	25456.47	5.3
3 - Central Luzon	40156.82	2.8	68247.1	4.7	72554.32	4.8
4A - CALABARZON	50221.51	2.9	64099.14	3.7	56556.29	3.2
4B - MIMAROPA	55282.69	13.6	76202.53	17.5	60083.91	13.0
5 - Bicol	168412	21.5	157961.1	19.6	130586.6	15.4
6 - Western Visayas	109796.8	11.1	101838.6	10.0	110417.76	10.5
7 - Central Visayas	175060.4	18.4	194974.5	20.1	163411.5	16.1
8 - Eastern Visayas	81697.6	13.1	106509.72	17.0	119468.38	17.8
9 - Zamboanga Peninsula	135916.7	27.9	111536.9	22.7	115425.9	21.9
10 - Northern Mindanao	113853.5	18.6	115310.8	18.3	126684.6	19.8
11 - Davao Region	95798.18	14.6	94911.79	14.7	91673.59	13.9
12 - SOCCSKSARGEN	71435.62	12.1	79699.84	13.3	87963.342	14.2
13 - CARAGA	65940.64	19.0	67388.901	19.1	85585.02	22.7
ARMM	36489.1	8.4	60530.39	13.1	47397.28	10.1
Urban	206225.2	3.2	268,705	4.1	241196.8	3.6
Rural	1089677.5	16.2	1,159,152	16.9	1138194.1	16.1
Total	1,295,903	9.8	1,427,858	10.7	1,379,391	10.0

Source: Authors' estimates based on Matched Family Income and Expenditure Survey (2003, 2006, and 2009), and Labor Force Survey (January 2004, 2007, and 2010).

Appendix 16. Net enrolment rate in elementary level by region, 2002-2012

Regions	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012
Philippines	90.29	88.74	87.11	84.44	83.22	84.93	85.11	89.65	95.92	97.32	95.24
NCR	97.38	96.81	94.82	92.61	92.89	94.42	93.69	90.96	96.90	98.44	95.64
CAR	91.52	89.19	86.40	82.58	80.86	81.50	81.93	99.51	97.64	100.15	97.82
1 - Ilocos Region	89.64	88.52	86.98	84.87	82.74	83.14	82.85	93.24	98.32	98.97	97.44
2 - Cagayan Valley	86.71	85.65	82.90	79.92	77.70	77.53	76.23	95.58	95.34	97.14	97.06
3 - Central Luzon	93.58	93.61	92.03	90.77	89.14	91.37	90.93	a90.99	98.04	98.87	96.87
4A - CALABARZON	95.97	95.33	95.10	92.87	92.36	94.02	94.10	87.43	93.94	95.96	95.02
4B - MIMAROPA	91.52	89.42	88.00	84.39	83.84	84.07	85.42	88.76	95.04	97.56	95.30
5 - Bicol	90.95	89.30	87.78	85.43	83.80	85.41	85.07	92.63	97.19	98.59	96.82
6 - Western Visayas	85.95	83.25	80.49	77.14	74.96	75.44	74.93	86.39	93.38	95.65	95.50
7 - Central Visayas	88.09	85.57	83.53	80.08	78.87	80.28	81.38	90.87	95.48	98.23	98.25
8 - Eastern Visayas	85.91	83.74	83.44	80.03	78.15	79.19	80.33	90.23	95.39	96.00	94.29
9 - Zamboanga Peninsula	89.74	84.83	82.83	79.14	77.59	78.99	79.25	91.66	94.34	97.26	94.25
10 - Northern Mindanao	89.04	86.92	84.16	80.20	78.96	80.60	81.23	91.91	92.74	94.62	92.97
11 - Davao Region	84.96	84.36	82.54	79.01	75.89	77.38	78.00	93.26	99.37	100.58	97.91
12 - SOCCSKSARGEN	82.01	81.18	79.99	77.43	76.35	78.65	80.12	84.55	88.65	90.44	88.29
13 - CARAGA	80.73	78.04	75.08	74.80	77.76	81.46	76.14	101.87	96.95	95.37	94.34
ARMM	92.72	90.13	90.01	87.26	85.82	94.01	99.85	74.21	103.25	100.73	88.61

Source of basic data: Research and Statistics Division Office of Planning Service, Department of Education.

Appendix 17. Net enrolment rate in secondary level by region, 2002-2012

Regions	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012
Philippines	59.00	60.15	59.97	58.54	58.59	60.21	60.74	59.89	64.74	64.83	64.61
NCR	75.28	76.42	76.40	74.99	75.12	80.16	80.79	76.69	79.57	78.77	78.38
CAR	59.64	61.76	60.71	57.81	59.10	57.04	57.14	64.76	63.70	67.74	68.80
1 - Ilocos Region	68.33	68.05	66.96	65.83	68.19	67.62	68.22	71.77	76.40	75.91	76.48
2 - Cagayan Valley	59.54	61.65	60.64	59.02	58.85	59.47	58.34	66.95	69.61	69.69	69.19
3 - Central Luzon	67.74	69.35	69.81	68.93	69.13	70.78	71.24	68.41	74.40	75.73	73.39
4A - CALABARZON	68.16	70.19	70.94	69.10	71.26	73.86	74.89	67.03	70.28	71.61	71.22
4B - MIMAROPA	57.55	58.43	57.80	56.08	58.86	59.28	59.67	56.29	59.95	61.32	62.28
5 - Bicol	54.86	55.61	55.82	53.24	54.33	55.97	55.24	54.92	57.77	60.85	61.10
6 - Western Visayas	57.32	57.86	56.96	54.91	52.89	53.83	53.98	55.83	61.36	61.81	61.46
7 - Central Visayas	57.30	58.38	57.40	54.76	53.86	54.57	55.49	56.69	61.46	60.91	63.00
8 - Eastern Visayas	48.99	49.96	50.64	50.09	49.88	51.49	53.28	52.45	56.55	58.14	58.87
9 - Zamboanga Peninsula	49.24	49.31	50.47	47.17	47.70	50.18	49.28	48.75	62.07	50.30	50.08
10 - Northern Mindanao	53.40	53.80	52.08	51.27	51.23	51.70	50.67	50.61	55.24	55.19	56.13
11 - Davao Region	52.28	52.11	51.16	49.02	47.84	49.12	48.61	54.47	55.87	56.16	56.31
12 - SOCCSKSARGEN	53.38	53.86	55.24	51.33	48.85	50.62	51.80	51.22	54.15	53.39	53.39
13 - CARAGA	49.77	49.72	49.66	48.52	48.89	48.64	51.09	55.35	58.18	56.77	58.12
ARMM	23.69	29.37	28.43	35.61	32.56	34.58	37.98	32.84	44.54	44.26	39.61

Source of basic data: Research and Statistics Division Office of Planning Service, Department of Education.

Appendix 18. Cohort survival rate in elementary level by region, 2002-2012

Regions	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012
Philippines	72.44	71.84	71.32	70.02	73.43	75.26	75.39	74.38	74.23	73.76	75.27
NCR	84.35	84.24	83.19	83.50	89.71	87.84	87.51	82.33	85.62	86.26	82.28
CAR	80.42	74.99	71.42	69.34	76.38	73.62	77.37	79.06	75.03	79.53	79.67
1 - Ilocos Region	86.80	85.56	86.79	86.83	82.84	83.91	86.70	84.38	83.60	85.36	86.42
2 - Cagayan Valley	73.07	79.49	76.70	77.29	79.54	78.68	81.58	79.56	78.76	79.65	83.08
3 - Central Luzon	81.52	84.26	80.46	82.01	83.75	82.81	83.02	83.96	82.11	82.38	83.91
4A - CALABARZON	77.91	77.15	80.39	78.23	83.22	81.38	83.77	86.96	84.00	88.18	86.45
4B - MIMAROPA	69.45	72.60	71.20	69.61	72.24	70.10	73.92	71.99	74.68	74.89	75.90
5 - Bicol	76.53	73.70	76.70	73.93	75.28	76.44	76.33	76.62	76.62	76.94	78.38
6 - Western Visayas	62.84	70.35	70.43	69.42	73.77	74.77	75.47	75.33	73.59	76.64	80.55
7 - Central Visayas	82.01	73.97	74.81	73.41	79.33	81.02	81.39	80.53	80.33	82.35	83.12
8 - Eastern Visayas	65.61	70.42	71.23	60.22	67.03	71.06	73.16	70.74	73.61	67.62	75.39
9 - Zamboanga Peninsula	47.62	57.75	56.01	55.69	59.96	61.98	61.12	61.74	60.93	62.58	56.82
10 - Northern Mindanao	67.06	67.38	59.43	61.68	67.45	70.75	70.80	66.85	67.92	65.12	64.83
11 - Davao Region	69.67	65.52	64.20	57.78	59.15	67.33	64.55	68.91	66.23	64.38	66.15
12 - SOCCSKSARGEN	63.97	66.16	63.88	60.65	64.84	67.30	67.84	64.67	65.03	65.85	67.44
13 - CARAGA	69.38	68.62	60.24	68.32	65.60	73.93	73.53	68.02	72.87	67.83	72.89
ARMM	49.27	31.03	35.70	36.20	33.90	45.47	40.75	38.92	40.69	29.03	27.52

Source of basic data: Research and Statistics Division Office of Planning Service, Department of Education

Appendix 19. Cohort survival rate in secondary level by region, 2002-2012

Regions	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012
Philippines	76.99	77.71	78.09	67.32	77.33	79.91	79.73	78.44	79.43	78.83	78.21
NCR	77.01	79.93	83.25	71.88	78.20	83.76	84.76	81.31	81.67	84.47	81.25
CAR	74.10	78.77	78.46	67.92	83.69	78.98	86.17	78.81	78.39	83.02	81.81
1 - Ilocos Region	81.12	81.77	82.80	76.26	84.19	86.53	85.05	84.75	83.58	80.60	83.19
2 - Cagayan Valley	71.41	80.79	77.56	72.12	80.66	81.41	83.05	80.91	81.49	82.54	81.45
3 - Central Luzon	74.38	78.17	81.57	76.76	80.35	81.26	81.24	80.78	81.62	79.20	79.95
4A - CALABARZON	77.69	83.59	80.46	73.29	85.43	85.05	85.41	82.10	83.82	87.71	85.37
4B - MIMAROPA	76.89	78.00	76.77	57.62	77.21	76.90	77.55	76.74	74.40	75.94	79.09
5 - Bicol	78.11	74.72	76.37	59.51	76.36	77.77	76.32	77.15	76.94	75.27	75.47
6 - Western Visayas	73.51	81.07	78.49	66.86	76.59	81.06	80.18	81.07	79.90	79.87	79.40
7 - Central Visayas	85.03	75.10	75.60	59.29	73.56	76.78	77.55	77.68	79.49	77.49	77.86
8 - Eastern Visayas	71.59	74.75	76.91	58.31	73.36	73.68	73.98	73.49	73.13	70.74	73.94
9 - Zamboanga Peninsula	75.94	66.50	74.02	53.45	75.46	73.18	71.73	73.28	73.08	73.70	68.18
10 - Northern Mindanao	81.58	69.43	66.65	63.24	72.40	76.25	73.75	70.32	84.08	69.34	76.63
11 - Davao Region	75.65	68.55	75.80	57.95	68.44	76.09	76.94	72.41	75.30	75.18	76.57
12 - SOCCSKSARGEN	81.28	72.86	85.25	54.60	73.10	76.01	72.90	78.47	76.77	74.45	75.14
13 - CARAGA	80.49	68.84	74.61	62.73	73.76	76.06	76.06	73.37	74.60	72.71	72.84
ARMM	65.72	70.30	54.60	61.99	41.26	73.53	69.80	67.98	68.50	68.63	54.19

Source of basic data: Research and Statistics Division Office of Planning Service, Department of Education

Appendix 20. Completion rate in elementary level by region, 2002-2012

Regions	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012
Philippines	71.55	70.24	69.06	68.11	71.72	73.06	73.28	72.18	72.11	70.96	73.67
NCR	84.35	83.81	82.10	82.50	88.48	85.35	85.27	79.66	82.85	83.06	80.03
CAR	77.61	73.90	69.46	67.53	74.99	71.70	75.81	77.13	71.79	77.35	78.22
1 - Ilocos Region	86.74	84.46	85.49	85.48	81.64	82.71	84.83	83.09	82.80	82.38	85.21
2 - Cagayan Valley	72.60	78.63	75.50	76.40	78.49	78.06	80.45	78.25	77.47	73.05	82.02
3 - Central Luzon	81.14	83.25	78.48	80.16	82.16	80.68	81.35	81.87	80.22	80.26	82.59
4A - CALABARZON	77.91	76.50	77.96	76.98	81.83	79.29	81.62	84.84	82.14	85.42	84.81
4B - MIMAROPA	69.19	70.42	68.81	67.17	70.04	68.06	71.64	69.38	72.92	72.38	74.17
5 - Bicol	76.10	71.70	74.32	71.69	73.04	74.36	74.39	74.45	74.54	75.66	76.82
6 - Western Visayas	60.21	68.05	67.44	66.30	70.62	71.87	72.60	72.54	71.15	74.10	78.62
7 - Central Visayas	79.66	70.93	70.99	69.30	77.85	78.38	78.83	76.84	76.56	79.73	80.86
8 - Eastern Visayas	64.43	68.19	68.99	58.44	65.39	69.51	71.65	69.46	71.79	66.11	74.04
9 - Zamboanga Peninsula	47.47	56.41	54.02	53.80	58.60	60.14	58.77	59.84	58.72	59.93	55.46
10 - Northern Mindanao	66.28	65.97	58.06	59.73	65.87	67.94	68.67	64.46	65.47	63.84	63.25
11 - Davao Region	68.51	64.66	62.47	56.59	57.22	65.49	62.72	66.97	63.70	61.62	64.51
12 - SOCCSKSARGEN	62.25	63.36	60.58	58.00	62.07	65.46	66.01	62.29	63.35	63.36	66.00
13 - CARAGA	69.33	66.93	59.32	67.07	64.23	71.82	71.89	66.36	71.21	67.83	72.18
ARMM	46.60	27.95	31.33	34.76	31.43	41.29	37.50	37.23	39.29	23.74	26.55

Source of basic data: Research and Statistics Division Office of Planning Service, Department of Education.

Appendix 21. Completion rate in secondary level by region, 2002-2012

Regions	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012
Philippines	74.81	71.67	72.38	61.66	72.14	75.37	75.24	73.55	75.06	74.23	74.81
NCR	75.51	73.36	77.33	65.87	71.62	78.71	79.60	75.80	75.91	79.08	76.68
CAR	59.41	73.61	72.54	63.20	83.69	75.67	82.38	63.35	75.15	78.20	78.85
1 - Ilocos Region	79.29	75.53	77.81	72.09	84.19	82.34	81.21	80.39	78.78	74.84	80.27
2 - Cagayan Valley	69.95	76.66	73.01	68.82	77.19	78.96	79.76	77.96	79.07	77.82	78.21
3 - Central Luzon	72.88	71.30	76.57	70.26	74.57	76.58	76.29	76.14	77.76	75.20	76.58
4A - CALABARZON	77.13	77.91	74.93	68.42	80.09	80.64	81.00	77.34	79.79	84.01	82.57
4B - MIMAROPA	76.83	72.25	71.20	52.76	73.22	72.59	72.56	73.13	70.40	72.82	76.63
5 - Bicol	77.81	69.74	70.55	54.25	70.32	74.05	73.14	73.61	73.00	72.30	71.88
6 - Western Visayas	73.28	75.37	72.82	61.21	70.00	75.52	76.35	76.27	74.64	73.23	75.89
7 - Central Visayas	81.14	69.45	70.55	53.43	70.27	72.59	73.32	73.12	75.35	72.91	74.36
8 - Eastern Visayas	63.49	68.88	71.67	54.10	69.02	69.68	70.56	69.88	69.70	67.77	70.66
9 - Zamboanga Peninsula	73.22	62.14	66.29	46.82	70.95	69.44	68.74	69.72	68.29	70.47	64.69
10 - Northern Mindanao	79.56	62.73	61.21	57.23	66.38	71.68	70.38	65.87	79.94	65.45	72.40
11 - Davao Region	73.08	61.38	68.81	51.38	64.75	70.45	72.57	68.78	72.96	68.60	72.22
12 - SOCCSKSARGEN	76.79	66.24	76.91	48.87	55.93	70.93	68.24	73.30	72.34	69.21	71.76
13 - CARAGA	79.63	64.00	71.90	58.02	69.92	72.98	73.64	59.85	71.04	68.62	70.56
ARMM	60.94	62.33	45.29	53.00	35.21	65.36	53.55	65.40	59.47	62.46	52.58

Source of basic data: Research and Statistics Division Office of Planning Service, Department of Education.

Appendix 22. Dropout rate in elementary level by region, 2002-2012

Regions	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012
Philippines	6.69	6.89	6.98	7.33	6.37	5.99	6.02	6.28	6.29	6.38	6.81
NCR	2.68	3.71	3.90	3.82	2.37	2.83	2.92	4.07	3.31	2.93	4.79
CAR	4.66	5.98	6.84	7.43	5.67	6.41	5.49	5.04	6.00	4.92	5.1
1 - Ilocos Region	3.06	3.34	3.07	3.12	3.93	3.76	3.09	3.60	3.78	3.36	3.03
2 - Cagayan Valley	6.33	4.83	5.47	5.33	4.72	4.95	4.30	4.81	4.95	4.73	3.96
3 - Central Luzon	4.29	3.69	4.55	4.19	3.69	3.97	3.94	3.72	4.15	4.07	4.16
4A - CALABARZON	3.88	5.45	4.65	5.17	3.90	4.41	3.87	2.57	3.75	2.46	4.22
4B - MIMAROPA	7.52	6.72	7.08	7.49	6.70	7.40	6.40	6.93	6.25	6.13	5.99
5 - Bicol	5.68	6.45	5.69	6.46	6.06	5.78	5.90	5.80	5.79	5.70	5.47
6 - Western Visayas	9.15	7.34	7.23	7.49	6.38	6.14	6.03	6.05	6.56	5.75	5.27
7 - Central Visayas	4.42	6.33	6.10	6.41	5.00	4.65	4.59	4.78	4.82	4.35	4.47
8 - Eastern Visayas	8.52	7.27	6.94	10	8.03	6.99	6.51	7.19	6.42	7.97	5.99
9 - Zamboanga Peninsula	10.86	11.19	11.74	11.79	10.40	9.89	10.27	10.21	10.41	9.91	11.75
10 - Northern Mindanao	8.17	8.14	10.29	9.66	8.07	7.23	7.28	8.44	7.95	8.74	9.28
11 - Davao Region	7.54	8.70	9.04	10.93	10.49	8.26	9.09	8.12	8.80	9.35	9
12 - SOCCSKSARGEN	9.23	8.70	9.22	10.16	8.87	8.29	8.33	9.16	8.90	8.59	8.29
13 - CARAGA	7.50	7.73	10.01	7.75	8.53	6.42	6.62	8.07	6.72	8.05	6.76
ARMM	14.09	21.93	19.96	20.33	19.76	15.77	17.99	18.63	18.10	22.60	24.93

Source of basic data: Research and Statistics Division Office of Planning Service, Department of Education.

Appendix 23. Dropout rate in secondary level by region, 2002-2012

Regions	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012
Philippines	8.45	8.16	7.99	12.51	8.55	7.45	7.45	7.95	7.79	7.82	9.2
NCR	8.36	7.28	6.03	10.61	7.36	6.06	5.60	6.93	6.74	5.77	8.06
CAR	9.72	7.79	7.94	12.41	4.19	7.77	5.14	7.89	8.07	6.36	7.7
1 - Ilocos Region	6.81	6.56	6.17	8.77	4.10	4.85	5.39	5.53	5.94	7.02	6.6
2 - Cagayan Valley	10.75	6.92	8.14	10.45	7.11	6.74	6.06	6.88	6.67	6.27	7.14
3 - Central Luzon	9.46	8.00	6.67	8.67	7.27	6.83	6.86	7.02	6.67	7.64	8.3
4A - CALABARZON	8.09	5.85	7.05	9.96	5.35	5.46	5.35	6.55	5.95	4.54	6.61
4B - MIMAROPA	8.52	8.07	8.45	16.71	9.13	8.81	8.24	8.56	9.44	8.91	8.15
5 - Bicol	8.07	9.40	8.67	16.02	9.18	8.38	8.77	8.54	8.63	9.28	9.9
6 - Western Visayas	9.77	6.98	7.86	12.67	8.86	7.09	7.38	7.08	7.50	7.52	8.52
7 - Central Visayas	5.65	9.31	9.00	15.92	10.42	8.97	8.41	8.49	7.81	8.5	8.56
8 - Eastern Visayas	10.78	9.44	8.48	16.53	10.21	9.84	9.65	9.89	9.94	11	10.41
9 - Zamboanga Peninsula	8.66	12.69	9.62	18.89	9.50	10.06	10.54	9.97	10.15	9.85	12.64
10 - Northern Mindanao	6.79	11.57	12.72	14.33	10.69	9.04	9.77	11.21	5.99	11.59	11.64
11 - Davao Region	8.91	11.83	8.90	16.62	12.08	8.90	8.54	10.30	9.23	9.26	10.92
12 - SOCCSKSARGEN	7.06	10.25	5.39	18.29	10.44	9.10	10.15	8.14	8.70	9.61	10.5
13 - CARAGA	7.08	11.69	9.37	14.49	9.97	8.85	8.72	9.77	9.32	10.08	10.57
ARMM	13.07	10.06	14.57	13.61	24.76	9.30	10.85	11.44	11.24	11.4	21.27

Source of basic data: Research and Statistics Division Office of Planning Service, Department of Education.

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Numbers have strong stories to tell, especially about children. *Child Poverty in the Philippines* thus banks on these numbers---rather than on anecdotal evidences—as it analyses, among others:

- The impact of the country's past efforts on the situation of Filipino children;
- Which regions or provinces child-related policy efforts should be targeting;
- Which age groups have the highest risk of dropping out of school and why;
- What the government's *Pantawid Pamilyang Pilipino Program* (4Ps) was able to accomplish, and what else its education component can potentially do.

It has been said that statistics should inform decisions. Like many other studies before it, this is what this book attempts to do.